

# TATLER

TRAVEL

## Hitting the peaks: why Gstaad is beyond seasons

Bikinis and martinis or fur coats? Summer or winter in Gstaad offers pure high-octane glamour, especially at Le Grand Bellevue, a pleasure-dome palace that also takes its wellness offerings to dazzling heights

By Camilla Fitz-Patrick  
28 September 2022

There's no question. Gstaad, the lesser-known Swiss Alpine cousin of St. Moritz and Verbier, is having a moment. While a mention of the Alps conjures up visions of snowy landscapes and Moncler ski suits to many, the Swiss elite have been summering in Gstaad for over a century – and it makes for a great autumnal break, too. Sir Roger Moore famously moved to Gstaad in the 1970s, often joking that 'the residents are more interested in my car than me'.

That car – a vintage Bentley S3 – is now owned by Le Grand Bellevue. The 110-year-old building burst, once again, onto Gstaad's glamorous hotel scene eight years ago with a new and surprising look, the traditional exterior masking the eclectic design within.

Hand-picked by owners Daniel and Davia Koetsler, every bold fabric, clashing print and bespoke furniture item is a result of the love story that the couple share after meeting and marrying in Gstaad.

Housing a mere 57 rooms, yet with amenities to serve an exponentially larger guest base, Le Grand Bellevue serves up a form of understated and inviting luxury that ensures that guests feel taken care of, without being suffocated.

Take Le Grand Spa, which houses no less than 17 wellness zones. There are moments you'd be hard-pressed to come across another person as you saunter between the Salt Inhalation Grotto, the Infrared Sauna and the Laconium. With a new-found push towards holistic wellness, it's unique experiences like SUP yoga on a nearby lake or Tai Chi in the garden that drive guests to Le Grand Bellevue during the summer.

In the winter months you can often find the likes of Madonna dining at Leonard's or posing for photos in the in-house club, Bouquet.

Yet, this is a resort that offers the utmost privacy and respect, not because it's inaccessible or guarded, but simply because those that go there are part of a set unfazed by the world of celebrity.

*[bellevue-gstaad.ch](http://bellevue-gstaad.ch)*