



spaces, restaurants and condos in the area. Among the tenants nearby will be André Balazs's Standard hotel ([www.standardhotels.com/new-york-city](http://www.standardhotels.com/new-york-city); from about £120), in early spring, with over 300 rooms, and John Dory, the latest restaurant helmed by April Bloomfield with Ken Friedman and Mario Batali, partners from the Spotted Pig. The menu will be fish-centric, with an emphasis on British dishes such as smoked haddock and leek tart and cockles in vinegar. It's sure to be Manhattan's hottest reservation this winter.

In **SWITZERLAND** Rocks Resort ([www.designhotels.com/rocksresort](http://www.designhotels.com/rocksresort); from about £80), a new boutique hotel, has just opened in Laax, close to some of the country's best skiing. And in **MARRAKECH** a stylish rental property seems ideal for families and groups of friends. La Palmeraie, Ezzahra ([cazloyd.com](http://cazloyd.com); from £1,075 per person for three nights, based on eight guests) comes with seven en-suite bedrooms (each with a terrace and dressing room), two screening rooms, a large swimming pool, a spa with hammam and gym and a staff of 12 including two beauty therapists, a house manager and chef. Excursions include horseback riding in the desert and shopping at the Medina with a guide.

Talking of shopping, for last-minute Christmas presents consider a trip to **PARIS** on the now almost fully-back-in-service Eurostar. Stop by Colette following its revamp under the guidance of Masamichi Katayama, and browse the new shops in Palais Royal. Chic handbag designer Corto Moltedo, glove maker Maison Fabre and the first shop from Stella McCartney are among the tenants that have recently found a home here. ♦



Above: pick up an Elizabeth bag, by Corto Moltedo, one of the new arrivals in Paris's chic Palais Royal. Right: a traditional longhouse in Borneo.