

has 20-inch-wide
spruce floorboards
and Moormann's
Siebenschläfer
(dormouse) bed,
built without nails



SAMPLE



The kitchen in the Kampenblick suite has stools that double as drums, each side with its own timber. Below: In the library, Moormann left a section of the original stone wall bare and framed it

ASCHAU IM CHIEMGAU, GERMANY

Berge

THE SETUP When German furniture designer Nils Holger Moormann bought some land in southern Bavaria with an abandoned bakery on it, his plan was to use the building for storage. But that winter, inspiration struck. He decided to make the ultimate gemütlich hostelry for his own witty designs. Three years (a surprisingly amount of custom carpentry) later, Moormann opened Berge.

SAMPLE

SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS All 13 of the rooms are private and have double or queen-size beds, except for the Bergebude (mountain dorm), which has three bunks built into the walls. Although he's constantly adding features and moving furniture around, Moormann resolutely keeps the hostel TV-free.

THE 'HOOD Aschau is a medieval hamlet located 90 minutes by train from Munich and 45 minutes by car from Salzburg, Austria. There's first-rate skiing and snowboarding at the Chiemgau resort, within walking distance of Berge. Come spring, guests can hike through Alpine forests and cycle around Chiem Lake. In the village, the restaurant options range from neighborhood pubs to Residenz Heinz Winkler, a Michelin-starred restaurant with a 25,000-bottle wine cellar.

UNEXPECTED EXTRAS A bookworm, Moormann has planted 1,000-plus volumes throughout Berge. In the library, you can try out his top-selling Bookinist chair, with built-in shelves and a big wheel beneath the seat (right). "I made it when my back was giving me trouble, so I could just roll myself from place to place," he says. ☎ 011-49/8052-904-560, moormannberge.de, private rooms from \$100. —Gisela Williams



Courtesy Nils Holger Moormann GmbH (3)