

FIELD GUIDE · A WORLD BY TANGLED THISTLE

Après, With Extra Altitude

A fictional mountain opens its slopes for the night shift. You have done absolutely nothing strenuous, and the finest après of your life is waiting anyway. This is your first look inside.

TANGLED THISTLE · EDITION 1.0 · NOVEMBER 2026

FREE FIELD GUIDE · 16 PAGES

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A first look at the mountain

Sixteen pages to read with a coffee: the story, the rooms, the colors, the supper, and a handful of ideas to borrow tonight.

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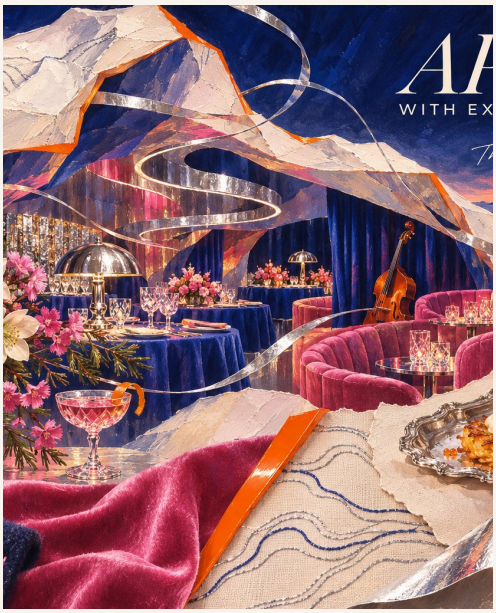


The mountain, all at once. Concept visualization. The World's first board: room, flowers, cloth and supper; its title lettering is decorative.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Read it straight through once, the way a guest would walk the mountain. Then go back to the ideas on pages 12 and 13: each one works on its own, at a dinner for six or a party for sixty, with nothing to buy. It is free to keep, print and pass to anyone you might host with.

Every picture here is a concept visualization, not a photograph of an event; lettering inside the pictures is decorative.

WHAT THIS BOOK DOES NOT DO

It shows the idea and how it feels. It does not give measurements, counts, plans, recipes or a schedule; those live in the paid World package and the Salt Notes culinary kit. Nothing in this World has been built, cooked or tested.

Engineering, fire, structural, electrical, rigging, acoustics, accessibility code, permits, insurance and food safety belong to your venue and your own qualified professionals.

Tangled Thistle designs Worlds: complete, original occasions, documented for whoever will make them. This one is an imagined resort with no real brand, trail map or film set behind it.

THE WORLD · THE INVITATION

You have finished absolutely nothing strenuous

...and still deserve the finest après of your life. That is the whole promise, and the mountain keeps it.

A fictional mountain has opened its slopes for the night shift. Its orange contour lines stop describing descent and start describing how people gather.

The early room has the crisp appetite of a high-altitude terrace: cobalt snow shadows, lipstick-pink booths, brushed aluminum, hot potato and a bitter citrus drink. Dinner arrives at contour-shaped islands below a huge cutaway peak. When the main plates are cleared, the contour seams become the score for a live percussion-and-bass phrase. The peak does not move. The switchback floor beside supper becomes the place to dance, the booths remain good places to talk, and potato rösti arrives exactly when a second wind is wanted.

This is an unapologetically sociable winter party, with witty ski-club confidence and excellent clothes, without requiring anyone to ski.

It borrows from three places: the exuberance of après-ski, late-1960s alpine graphic design, and the blue-to-pink change of mountain light at the end of a day. The result is a world of cobalt piste, lipstick ridge and unusually thoughtful hospitality.



Through the Boot-Room Bluff. Concept visualization. The quilted cobalt arrival, with a first look at the room beyond.

AT THE DOOR

"Welcome to Après, With Extra Altitude. Let us take your coat. Would you like Pink Piste, water, or a seat first? There is plenty to notice, and nothing you need to complete."

THE HOST'S WELCOME

Extroverted

Every sightline ends somewhere convivial, usually at a bar. The room wants you to find your people.

Sportingly vain

Saddle stitching, enormous chevrons and very good tailoring. It dresses for the slope it never skis.

Generous

A second helping is called another run, never a reward. Nobody earns anything here; it is simply offered.

"The mountain is a social landscape."

The evening gains altitude through confidence, music and generosity, not through sporting ability.

THE WORLD · ITS RULES

What the mountain will not do

A party this sociable needs a few firm refusals. These are the ones that keep it generous.

No sport. Nobody skis, races, climbs or competes. The altitude is a mood, and the only slope is the one on the menu.

No performance required. No guest has to stand, dance, touch a surface, drink alcohol, tell a personal story or pose for a photograph to receive the full evening.

No borrowed mountain. No real resort, brand, trail map or film. The peak is invented, and so is its altitude.

No moving scenery. At the big moment of the evening, nothing rises, spins or slides. Light, music and service change instead.

No pictograms. The World never repeats a little skier symbol. Its mark is a stepped chevron, always in threes.

No scores. There is a rhythm game in one side gallery, and it has no score, no winner and no losers. Watching counts as joining in.

No costume. Dress is an invitation to a palette, never a rule. No ski boots, no technical gear, nothing to buy.

No fondue theatrics. The food tastes of a mountain appetite: cheese and potato, apple and mustard, sour cherry. Nothing bubbles in a pot at the table.

No open flame. No candelabras and no candlelight. Lamps glow from the convex edges of the tables, and the late room has a steady amber light.

No food held for a cue. Supper is never kept waiting for a moment; the kitchen's timing comes first.



The Soft Landing. Concept visualization. A quiet seat with the whole supper beside it.

THE GUEST I DESIGN FOR FIRST

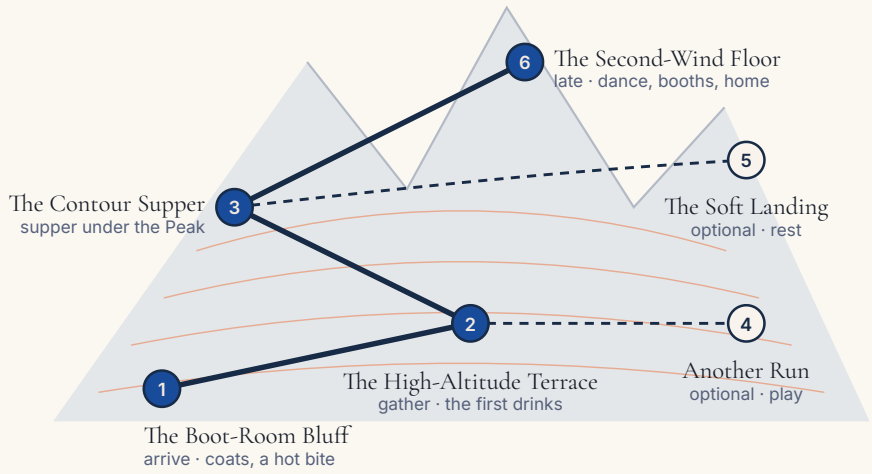
The guest I design for first is the one who declines everything. On this mountain the quiet room is open from the moment you arrive, with chairs that have arms, tea and water, the full menu, and a view slot to the peak. Every dish, every drink and every farewell reaches it at the same time as everywhere else.

When a host offers anything, the question is the same: *"Would you like to try, watch, or have me show you?"* A decline is treated as perfect form, the way a good skier knows when to stop.

THE EVENING · THE ROUTE

The journey in brief

Four rooms climb from the coat check to the dance floor. Two more open to the side, for anyone who wants them, all night.



AT THE TURN

"The mountain is open for another run."

- sip — 1 · the bar
- sway — 2 · the dance floor
- sit — 3 · the quiet room
- stay — 4 · supper, a second helping

Steady lines of light, in order.

Solid line: the main climb, street to dance floor. Dashed: optional side routes, open all evening.

The trail, read as a hospitality score. CONCEPT The main route climbs from 1 to 6; the dashed side routes stay optional all evening. Concept design — not for construction. Nominal dimensions in millimetres.

ARRIVE

1 The Boot-Room Bluff

Cobalt quilted walls under an orange chevron soffit, a pink padded bench, numbered coat shelves. Your coat is taken; something hot and something cold arrive; an off-center first peek of the peak pulls you on.

GATHER

2 The High-Altitude Terrace

Silver ribbed screens instead of railings, and no drop at all. A peach-and-blue sky cloth, triangular sails, hot-pink semicircular banquettes, pine, and orange anthuriums placed like trail markers.

SUP

3 The Contour Supper

Kidney-shaped cobalt islands step diagonally across a cream floor, under fixed orange contour planes. The north wall is the Cutaway Peak, and every table sees an uninterrupted face of it.

SECOND WIND

6 The Second-Wind Floor

An orange-to-cobalt zigzag in the floor, a horseshoe of booths, a faceted ceiling with steady amber light. Coats come back from their own alcove, ready when you are.

OPTIONAL · PLAY

4 Another Run

A switching gallery with orange-lacquer rails and a cream felt ceiling. Three sliders set a rhythm; a musician answers in a short original phrase. No score, no winner.

OPTIONAL · REST

5 The Soft Landing

A navy wool canopy, scalloped cream linings, pink pocket walls and chairs with arms. Tea, water, the full menu and late rösti, and a hand-sized mountain to hold.



ONE SIGNATURE · THE CUTAWAY PEAK

A mountain that stays perfectly still

At the north end of supper stands a huge cutaway peak: a cream satin face over a cobalt felt shadow, with a thin orange line drawn through it like the edge of a trail. It is the one thing everybody in the room can see, and the one thing that never moves.

ITS TWO COMPANIONS

1. **THE ALTITUDE BAR.**
   A zigzag of brushed, corrugated aluminum with a pink top and a seated return, so a drink never requires standing.
2. **THE SWITCHBACK RIBBON.**
   Orange planes high overhead, turning back on themselves like a mountain road. Nothing moves.
3. **NO CLIMBING.**
   The peak is for looking at, from every seat; nobody climbs it.
4. **ONE SHARED VIEW.**
   The supper islands are placed so that no table loses its view of the peak face.

INSIDE THE CUTAWAY PEAK.
Concept visualization. The great contour plane rising over velvet and winter flowers.

THE EVENING · THE TURN

The mountain is open for another run

One line, four phrases of music, and the room changes its mind without moving a thing.



The second wind opens. Concept visualization. Booths, dance floor and the music corner, ready for the late hours.

FROM YOUR CHAIR

The main plates have been cleared. A host says to the whole room, *"The mountain is open for another run."* A percussionist answers with four ascending phrases. With each one, a steady contour light finds a destination: first the bar, then the dance floor, then the quiet room, then the supper islands themselves, and the tempo rises.

Nothing moves. The peak stays exactly where it was. For a while there is dance music, and then the groove settles into something you can talk over. Late rösti starts its round, and it reaches every booth and every quiet seat.

Whatever you choose next is the right choice. Supper is now a choice of late pleasures: the bar, the dance floor, a quiet room, or another helping.

FOUR WORDS, HIDDEN IN THE CONTOUR EDGE

sip
THE BAR

sway
THE DANCE FLOOR

sit
THE QUIET ROOM

stay
SUPPER, AND A SECOND HELPING

If the lights are not available, a host names the four places in the same order and the music stays acoustic. The evening is whole either way.

DESIGN DNA · COLOR AND MARK

Cobalt piste, lipstick ridge

Twelve colors from a mountain at the end of the day: large calm fields of blue and cream, pink for the places you sit, and orange only where something points.

Cobalt Piste
#194B9B
The big architectural field

Snow Cream
#F3EADF
Light fields, ceilings, plates

Lipstick Ridge
#BC315D
Booths and principal upholstery

Aluminum
#B3BAC5
Metal edges and screens

Midnight Wool
#172B47
Shadow and lining

Signal Orange
#E96328
Direction and contour, only

Butter Yellow
#EFC75B
Small warm accents

Pine Shadow
#244C43
Evergreen masses

Rose Reflection
#E8A0AE
Light on pink

Glacier Blue
#8FCBD7
Cool highlights

Walnut
#63412D
A little warm wood

Ink
#171D28
Type and fine line



Room
architecture and soffits



Seat
seat backs and upholstery



Hand
small objects in the hand

Always stepped, always in threes.

The motif changes how it is made at each scale; it is never a logo printed on everything.

The stepped chevron, at three scales. CONCEPT The same mark for the room, the seat and the hand, always stepped and always in threes. Concept design — not for construction. Nominal dimensions in millimetres.

WHAT IT IS MADE OF, IN WORDS

Navy wool melton, quilted cobalt cotton, pink velvet and cream linen; brushed and ribbed aluminum; felt appliqué and saddle stitching; a single bevel on every coaster. Orange piping runs only along edges that point somewhere, so the colors do the wayfinding before any sign does.

The flowers keep to four: cut pine, orange anthurium, pink carnation and cream hellebore, set low in water-held vessels. Evergreen needles never touch a plate.



Switchback tailoring. Concept visualization. Quilted cobalt, navy chevron and pink saddle stitch.

THE TABLE · ONE

A mountain appetite, without fondue theatrics

Bright apple and mustard cut through cheese and potato; bitter leaves reset richness, sour cherry carries the finish.



Warm cheese custard. Concept visualization. Leek ribbons and rye crumble over a baked custard.



Apple and mustard at altitude. Concept visualization. The braise, crushed potatoes and red cabbage.



The mountain table, plant-based. Concept visualization. The mushroom and white-bean equal.

WHAT IS ON THE TABLE

Potato rösti square with cultured cream and chive
AT THE DOOR

Warm Comté-style cheese custard, leek and rye crumble
ON THE TERRACE

Chicken braised in apple and mustard, crushed potatoes, braised red cabbage
SUPPER

Mushroom and white-bean braise with the same apple-mustard finish
SUPPER, ITS PLANT-BASED EQUAL

Bitter leaf, pear and toasted oat salad
SUPPER

The food tastes of a mountain appetite: the kind you have after a day outdoors, enjoyed here by people who have spent the day doing something else entirely.

Supper reaches every seat at once, and the plant-based braise arrives at the same moment and with the same finish as the chicken, never as an afterthought. A second helping is not a reward. It is called another run, and it is always offered.

There is no course shaped like a mountain and no pot bubbling at the table. The altitude is in the light and the company; the plate is just very good supper.

Menu names and descriptions only. Developed recipes, not kitchen-tested: every recipe lives in the Salt Notes culinary kit, *Absolutely Nothing Strenuous*.

THE TABLE · TWO

Sour cherry carries the finish

Dessert, a late round for the second wind, a shortbread for the morning, and three drinks with excellent posture.

AFTER SUPPER

Sour-cherry and cocoa spoon cake
DESSERT

Pitted sour cherries with vanilla oat cream and crisp oat crumble
DESSERT, ITS PLANT-BASED EQUAL

Late rösti with paprika yogurt
THE SECOND WIND

Morning apple-oat shortbread
GOING HOME

AT THE BAR

Pink Piste
GRAPEFRUIT, CRANBERRY, VERJUS, ROSEMARY, SODA · ZERO-PROOF

Altitude, After Dark
GIN, DRY VERMOUTH, GRAPEFRUIT, MEASURED SODA · FOR ADULTS WHO WANT ONE

Warm Descent
APPLE, GINGER, BLACK TEA · WITH A CAFFEINE-FREE APPLE ALTERNATIVE



Sour cherry at the summit. Concept visualization. The spoon cake, with cherries and vanilla cream.



Another run. Concept visualization. Late rösti for the second wind.



Pink Piste. Concept visualization. The zero-proof signature, at the bar.

NOTHING NEEDS A DRINK IN HAND

Pink Piste is the first offer at the door, and water is offered alongside it. The one drink with alcohol is optional and never the only choice. Warm Descent has a caffeine-free route for the end of the night.

THREE WAYS TO SET THE TABLE

The culinary kit sets this menu three ways: the Signature Table for the full evening, the Host's Table for six to eight, and the Gathering Menu for a shorter, lighter party.

Ask your host for ingredient information whenever you need it. Developed recipes, not kitchen-tested; they are in the Salt Notes culinary kit, *Absolutely Nothing Strenuous*.

DETAILS · FOR THE CURIOUS

Something worth noticing

Six small things the mountain hides in plain sight. Nobody is quizzed; a host mentions one only if you ask.

AT THE BAR

The orange seam deliberately climbs uphill at the bar return.

UNDER YOUR CHAIR

A chair's saddle stitch changes from pink to orange on its underside.

IN THE QUIET ROOM

The quiet-room mountain has the same profile as the tallest peak, at hand scale.

ALONG THE EDGE

Four tiny destination words hide in the contour edge: sip, sway, sit, stay.

ON THE MENU

A summit altitude on the menu is fictional, and openly described as the party's invented measure of appetite.

AT THE COAT CHECK

The coat sleeve opens onto the late-room color, linking arrival and departure.



Snow shadows after dark. Concept visualization. A small mountain made to be held, in felt and aluminum.

What to wear

If you would like an idea: cobalt wool tuxedo trousers, a cream satin shell, a cropped pink quilted jacket, an orange enamel cuff, and low block-heel or flat evening shoes. Or a navy suit with an orange diagonal pocket welt.

Coats are checked; no ski boots or technical gear is expected.

Choose the comfortable version of the idea. A familiar outfit with one beautiful color is enough; no costume or new purchase is expected.

The team dresses in the palette too: midnight wool, a snow-cream layer, one lipstick accent, and closed, stable shoes for a long night on their feet.

AT HOME · ONE

Ideas a home host can borrow

You do not need a cutaway peak to keep this World's promise. Each of these works at a kitchen table, with things you already own.

1 Take the coat first

Before anyone has to decide anything, take the coat. Then offer three things in one breath: a pink drink, water, or a seat. Every guest has said yes to something within a minute of arriving.

2 Call seconds another run

Offer every second helping by its mountain name. “Another run?” turns more food into an invitation rather than a test of appetite, and nobody has to earn it.

3 Use orange only where something points

An orange ribbon on the door to the kitchen, an orange napkin by the drinks, an orange card at the coat hooks. Keep it off everything else, and your guests will follow it without being told.

4 Put up one still mountain

One mountain shape the whole room can see: a cut paper profile on the longest wall, a folded cream cloth over a sideboard, a painting turned to face the table. It does not move, and everyone can see it from their seat.

5 Set a cobalt, pink and cream table

Blue for the large field, a cloth or a runner; cream for the plates; pink for the napkins, the cushions, the chairs. Add one orange line and stop.

6 Give the evening a turn

When the plates are cleared, stand and say, “The mountain is open for another run.” Then name four places in order, the drinks, the space to dance, the quiet chair and the table, and put on music that rises.

THE RULE UNDER ALL OF THEM

Nobody has to do anything to receive everything. Whatever you borrow, the guest who would rather sit still is fed first, warm and seated, with the same supper at the same time.



Supper on the contour. Concept visualization. Cobalt, cream and pink, with one orange line.

AT HOME · TWO

Six more, for the late hours

The second half of the evening is where this World is most generous, and where it is easiest to borrow.

7 Make the quiet chair the best chair

Choose one comfortable chair with arms, in a calmer corner with a view of the room. Bring it the full menu, at the same time as the table. It is a seat of honor, not a waiting room.

8 Print an invented altitude

Write a summit height on the menu that no mountain has ever had, and say so in small print: the party's own measure of appetite. It is a joke your guests are in on.

9 Serve something hot at the second wind

When the music lifts, send round something hot and crisp. In this World it is late rösti; at home, anything warm, salty and easy to eat standing or sitting.

10 Suggest one beautiful color

On the invitation, ask for one beautiful color rather than a theme. Cobalt, pink or orange will do. Nobody needs to buy anything to look as if they planned it.

11 Send everyone home with the morning

Wrap a square of shortbread for each guest to take home for breakfast. The evening ends kindly, and it continues a little the next day.

12 Keep the flowers low and the needles off the plates

A few stems of pine, orange anthurium, pink carnation and cream hellebore, low enough to talk over. Keep the evergreen well away from where food is served.



Trail markers after dark. Concept visualization. Pine, anthurium, carnation and hellebore, set low.

AND ONE THING TO LEAVE OUT

Leave out anything that asks a guest to prove something: a game with a winner, a dance they must join, a toast they must give. On this mountain, joining in is always a choice, and watching is a perfectly good way to join.

THE WORLD · ITS SIZES

Beyond one evening

The same mountain at three sizes, for one night or for three days. The story, the colors and the promise do not change.

24	72	168
GUESTS · SMALL	GUESTS · STANDARD	GUESTS · GRAND
One peak and four supper islands, with an acoustic duo. A private dinner that still has its turn.	The reference evening: the full cutaway peak, a separate rhythm gallery, four booths and three musical voices.	Two peak faces sharing one ridge, four neighborhoods of islands, two dance pockets joined by a promenade, and one turn for everyone.

The three sizes are alternatives, never added together. The smaller ones keep the same shapes and the same order; there are simply fewer of them.

Three days on the same mountain

DAY 1

A high-terrace aperitif

The warm cheese custard and the bitter leaf salad, a first drink, and the terrace in its early light.

DAY 2

Lunch, then the principal evening

A seated contour-and-rhythm lunch using the braise and rösti, then the full après evening, with its turn.

DAY 3

A second-wind breakfast

Warm spoon cake, fruit, yogurt and tea. The pink cloth becomes cream at breakfast, and the late floor is a reading lounge.

The peak stays up for all three days. What changes is the cloth, the light and the hour. The big moment happens only once: there is no replay of the turn, so the evening that has it keeps it.

The World works in a city as well as at a resort. The promise is altitude of mood, not an actual mountain outing.



The morning after. Concept visualization. Breakfast on the third day, on cream cloth under the same peak.

THE PACKAGES

If you want the whole World

This guide is free. If you want to make the evening, everything I designed for it is in the Complete World Package.

APRÈS, WITH EXTRA ALTITUDE — COMPLETE WORLD PACKAGE

Design and planning documentation for whoever will make the evening: the whole idea, every room and object, the counts at three sizes, the clock and the crew, the paper your guests will hold, and the complete menu. It is concept design, ready to brief your venue, makers, florist, printer and kitchen.

It includes the Salt Notes culinary kit, *Absolutely Nothing Strenuous — Complete Menu Collection*.

Start Here

A short welcome: what is in the package, who opens what first, and a plan for the first week.

Complete Design Concept Guide

The promise, the rules and the three signatures; the six rooms; the journey and the turn; the scales and the three days.

Floral & Tablescape Detail Pack

The four botanicals and where each one stands; every supper island laid, from runner to menu.

Materials & Object Guide

Every material, finish and object, from the Cutaway Peak to the chairs, with briefs for your makers.

Planning & Scaling Toolkit

The three sizes compared, plans, the run of the evening, staffing and quantities, with a live workbook and templates.

Event Artwork & Paper Collection

Invitations, signs, menus, cards and keepsakes in the World's own graphic language, ready to personalize and print.



The paper, folded like a mountain. Concept visualization. Invitation and menu; the lettering in the picture is decorative.

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING STRENUOUS

The Salt Notes culinary kit for this World, also available on its own. Every dish and drink in this guide as a developed recipe, set three ways: the Signature Table for the full evening, the Host's Table for six to eight, and the Gathering Menu, with planning, purchasing and hosting notes. Developed recipes, not kitchen-tested.

Both are for your own occasions and projects, and are digital downloads: no venue, staff, catering, printing or installation is included.

Hotels, restaurants and venues: ask about a hospitality edition at tangledthistle.blog/contact/.



“The mountain is open for another run.”

THE HOST'S LINE, WHEN THE PLATES ARE CLEARED

If the mountain has your attention, the rest of it is on the World's page at Tangled Thistle: the Complete World Package, and the Salt Notes culinary kit, *Absolutely Nothing Strenuous*.

WHERE TO FIND IT

tangledthistle.blog

Après, With Extra Altitude

1

Take the coat

Then a pink drink, water or a seat, before anyone decides anything.

2

Keep the peak still

Let light, music and service change the room instead.

3

Offer another run

To every seat, the quiet one first. Nobody earns it.

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