



All That Glitters

In the tiny rural town of Wattens, Austria, **Swarovski Crystal Worlds** is a hidden gem **BY ABBY KINSINGER**

THERE IS A GIANT who dwells in the trenches of the gnarled Alpine peaks that preside over Austria's Tyrolean region. Legend says that, after setting out on a journey to experience all of the world's finest treasures, he finally settled in the rolling hills of the small, scenic town of Wattens, where he currently resides and watches over the 16 Chambers of Wonders that lie behind the doors he protects. The Chambers are a part of a 19-acre campus that makes up Swarovski Crystal Worlds, an interactive museum that pays homage to the namesake headquarters just steps away. The idea behind the unusual and immersive museum is the crystal itself: that what makes it special is not the material but the inspiration it creates. Coming off its 20th-anniversary year — which yielded a redesign of Chambers, a vast expansion of the park; refurbishments; and an unprecedented outdoor installation called the Crystal Cloud — here's a peek at what's not to be missed.

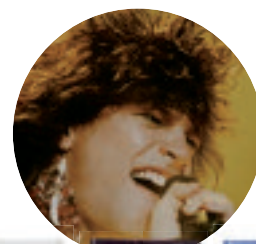
IN THE GIANT

A journey through the museum offers total sensory immersion. Crystalcentric works by artists like Andy Warhol and Salvador Dali can be found in the Blue Hall, which transitions into the Mechanical Theater, where mundane objects dance. Built with 595 mirrors, the geodesic Crystal Dome gives the effect of being inside a giant crystal. In the Eden chamber, shining brass shoots make up a fantastical and archaic gem-filled "forest," which evolves into a room of seemingly endless mirrored walls. The Timeless chamber displays Swarovski's most noteworthy creations, including Cinderella's glass slipper.



IN THE GARDEN

Surrounded by towering Alpine peaks, the garden offers ample space to explore. A four-story play tower connected entirely by a climbing net gives an architecturally stunning place for climbing, sliding, swinging and "floating." Recently reconstructed Roman Excavations are just steps from the Crystal Cloud, the garden's crown gem. The enormous installation consists of 1,400 square meters of shimmering "clouds" made up of around 800,000 crystals that cast thousands of tiny rainbow flecks of light onto the opulent reflecting pools below.



CELEBRITY TOMES

Unmask the true personas of these iconic celebrities with these riveting biographies and autobiographies out this month
BY KRISTY ALPERT

Last Girl Before Freeway: The Life, Loves, Losses, and Liberation of Joan Rivers

BY LESLIE BENNETTS
(LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY, \$26; NOV. 15)

Before the Tina Feys and Amy Schumers of the comedy world, there was Joan Rivers. This pioneering woman made a career of mocking what she craved, and her dramatic story is as captivating as she was.

Bon Jovi: The Story

BY BRYAN REESMAN
(STERLING, \$24; NOV. 1)

Regular *American Way* contributor Reesman conducted nearly 40 interviews to pen this book, with stories from early band members and stars that knew the band well. The book covers each member, from Tico's painting to David's Broadway and film work, making this definitive biography a must-have for true Bon Jovi fans.

Scrappy Little Nobody

BY ANNA KENDRICK
(TOUCHSTONE, \$16; NOV. 15)

Anna Kendrick is just as known for her witty humor as she is for her starring roles in *Up in the Air*, *The Twilight Saga* and *Pitch Perfect*. Her first book is full of humorous accounts and memorable moments that have defined her life and career.