

HOT LIST

Where to go now, where to go next, what to take and all the travel trends to know about for the year ahead By Kate O'Donnell



DESERT HEAT

Las Vegas is turning into the epicentre of all things culinary, cultish and cool as the starriest of star chefs, restaurateurs, hoteliers and club owners open up all over town. Guy Savoy has a restaurant in Caesars Palace; there's a L'Atelier de Joël Robuchon at the MGM Grand, *above*; Wynn Las Vegas boasts Daniel Boulud; Alain Ducasse has opened Mix at Mandalay Bay's THEhotel; American über-chef Wolfgang Puck has offshoots of his LA eateries Spago and Chinois at Caesars; Nobu is at the Hard Rock Hotel; Jean-Georges Vongerichten has Prime at the Bellagio; and so it goes on. Add Rande Gerber, Cindy Crawford's club-owning husband, who, along with George Clooney, is opening a hotel, Las Ramblas, just off the Strip later this year, and Amy Sacco and André Balazs, all checking out new club venues.

WORLD TRAVELLER

Find your way with these navigational aids:

1. Moleskine City Notebooks with Lonely Planet maps, £11.95 each, from pedlars.co.uk
2. Atlas Maior Italia by Dr Peter van der Krogt (Taschen, £19.99)
3. Art Deco printed canvas bag with leather handles, £190, by Shanghai Tang (020 7235 8778)
4. Vintage-look notebooks, £9 each, at Heal's (020 7636 1666)
5. Leather-covered pocket atlases, £45 each, at Paul Smith (020 7379 7133)



NEW LOOK

Closed for four years but now newly nipped and tucked, the superior beach huts and cabanas at Compass Point, *above*, on Love Beach, near Nassau in the Bahamas, are sure to become an irresistible Hollywood magnet (00 1 876 960 8134; islandoutpost.com).



MIAMI MAKEOVER

The once austere Delano hotel, which kick-started the white-on-white room trend when it opened ten years ago, has had a makeover. Fans can relax: the new look, above, is just as elegant, but the rooms are now, dare one say, much more comfortable (0845 054 6060; trailfinders.com).

HIGH LIFE

Jet charter company Jeffersons offers mere mortals day trips or short breaks to such suitably starry destinations as Monaco, Nice or Sardinia in a Learjet 45, below, the celebrity private jet of choice. For details, call 0870 850 8181 or visit jeffersons.com



LEATHER FORECAST

Channel your inner adventures and buy leather-trimmed, retro-chic gadgets and goodies. The ultimate treat? A leather-clad Riva yacht, **Sophia Loren** and **Brigitte Bardot**'s preferred transport on their Mediterranean jaunts.

1. Custom-built Aquariva boat with leather seats, from about £375,000, to order, at Ventura (020 7647 9000)

2. D-Lux 3 10-megapixel camera in leather case, £490, by Leica (01908 256 400)

3. Tan leather holdall, £995, by Tanner Krolle (020 7823 1688)

4. Brass travel clock in leather case, £320, by Ralph Lauren Home (020 7535 4600)

5. Orient fibreboard cases with leather straps, from £950 to £1,175, all by Globe-Trotter (020 7529 5950)



POOL PARTIES

The "pool scene" – the phenomenon whereby glamorous urban hotel swimming pools attract equally beautiful visitors (viz the basement pools at Hotel QT in New York, the rooftop pools at Murano Urban Resort in Paris, above, the Hotel Claris in Barcelona and Unique hotel in Sao Paolo) – is coming to the UK. The lower ground floor swimming pool at London's Haymarket Hotel, due to open this month, is accessorised with a bar, lounge and has a nightclub vibe. Only strip if you and your swimmers are very good looking indeed (020 7470 4000; haymarkethotel.com).

CZECH MATE

Want to go to Prague, but worried your hotel will be filled with hen and stag parties? Then make a beeline for the new Mandarin Oriental Prague, below, a supremely elegant converted monastery close to the must-see sights such as the Charles Bridge and St Nicholas Cathedral, but just out of the way of the rowdy tourist hordes (0870 112 3333; kirkerholidays.com).

