

THE BEST PLACES ON EARTH – AND HOW TO GET THERE IN STYLE

# GO **Travel**

Issue 2 April 2008

## HOW MEN TRAVEL

THE GLOBETROTTERS' GUIDE TO GETTING IT RIGHT EVERY TIME

## TAKE ME BACK TO CÔTE D'AZUR LANGKAWI SHANGHAI

PIERS MORGAN  
ROD LIDDLE AND  
TONY PARSONS  
ON THE PLACES  
THEY JUST CAN'T  
LEAVE BEHIND

**TOP 50**  
DESERVING  
DESTINATIONS  
2008

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Heathrow Terminal 5

**THE GQ TRAVEL STYLE GUIDE** THE WHO, WHAT AND WHERE OF GLOBAL GROOMING





# GQ TRAVEL'S TOP 50 DESERVING DESTINATIONS 2008

Your next trip, and 49 others to whet your appetite for adventure: from desert storming in Namibia to deerstalking in the Highlands of Scotland, we bring you the most rewarding reservations you'll ever make. By **Darius Sanai**

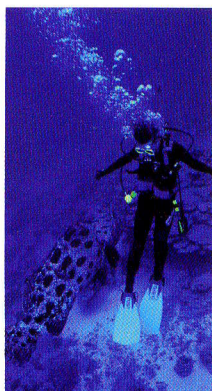


Rio de Janeiro's Ipanema Beach, home to arguably the world's most enjoyable spectator sports



5

50 HOT SPOTS



## 2 Paraglide into the Six Senses Hideaway, Zighy Bay, Oman

The hotels in and around Dubai can be fabulous, but they all offer pretty much the same arrival experience, which is a five-metre dash from the climate-controlled limo into the air-conditioned lobby, over some marble paving. Efficient, yes, spectacular, no. Which is just one good reason for visiting the Six Senses Hideaway Zighy Bay (formerly Evason Hideaway). It's in an "exclave" of Oman that's nearer Dubai than it is the rest of Oman, a rocky finger jutting accusingly towards Iran across the Straits of Hormuz. Ringed by steep, arid mountains, the luxury resort's preferred method of arrival is to strap you to a paraglider (with instructor) at the top of a mountain, and watch you sail all the way down to the resort in the bay. Unforgettable.

**Don't forget** To get the hotel's photographer to take a picture of you in mid-air.

*Seasons In Style offers seven nights in a pool villa, from £1,810 per person, including flights. 01244 202000, www.seasonsinstyle.com*

## 3 Burn the autobahns in Germany

If you want to put pedal to the metal and keep it there, there's only one place for it: Germany's derestricted autobahns. See the world blur as the engine sings for miles on end, with no fear of the police (only of instant death if you lose control). But remember, at 150mph, a curve becomes a treacherous corner. Take your own car or rent a Mercedes S-Class (top speed: 155mph) or Porsche 911 (180mph plus) at Munich airport and head for the straight, generally quiet highways.

**Don't miss** 2008. Green pressures mean this could be the last year of no-limit autobahns.

*S-Class rental from Hertz. 08705 996699, www.hertz.com. Porsche 911 from HoGaTours. 0049 725 155 011, www.leihauto.de*

## 4 Charter a party schooner in the Croatian islands

In terms of a balance between sea and scenery, relaxation and play, sailing Croatia's



Clockwise from left: Desroches' deep blue dives; Oman's Six Senses Hideaway; Panama City

island-infested coastline beats more traditional Med destinations hands down. On board Dalmatian Destinations' 30-metre schooner, you and nine friends get a water-ski boat, canoes, snorkelling gear, air-con and contemporary-chic bedrooms, and a crew that knows every cranny of this striking but tortuous coastline.

**Don't miss** The table they'll book for you at Carpe Diem Hvar, currently the hottest nightclub between Ibiza and Mykonos, and harder to get into than the Vatican's account ledgers.

*Dalmatian Destinations offers a week, from £1,850 per person, based on a party of ten, including lunch and drinks. 020-7730 8007, www.dalmatiandestinations.com*

## 5 Disappear in Panama

Panama is a strange destination. Part of it is the kind of Americanised non-place you'd flee to if you were pretending to be dead, part-transit zone and part-central American wilderness – making it a very compact place to visit for an all-in-one experience. It all starts in the excellent jazz bars of Panama City, whose old town is UNESCO listed and as pretty as anything on the mother continent; then you spend the night in a volcano crater, and finish off at Coral Lodge, where those who don't want to dive can take glass-bottomed kayaks around a network of waterways and reefs.

**Don't miss** The sloths hanging from their trees. We want their life.

*Black Tomato offers 12 days in Panama City, from £2,499 per person, including flights. 020-7610 9008, www.blacktomato.co.uk*

## 6 Dive Desroches, Seychelles

Diving. In a word, that's why you go to Desroches. Sure, the suites are lovely, the pool is blue and it's luxurious, yada yada, but diving is the differentiator. And you don't need to be a pro. Coral tunnels and walls abound, and the sea life is astounding. Intermediate divers should head for the canyon, formed from stone blocks; experts to the 60 metre-long tunnel, which ends in a coral room where nursery sharks snooze. All divers will see gorgonian fan corals, shoals of snappers and fusiliers, sweetlips and turtles, seagrass pipefish, Napoleons, bumphead parrotfish... and the colours are positively Disney.

**Don't miss** The barracudas in the Pipe.

*Seasons In Style offers seven nights in a Junior Suite from £2,575 per person, including flights and transfers. 01244 202000, www.seasonsinstyle.com ▶*

