

# The Best Travel News

With autumn fast approaching, there's still time for a few weeks in the sun (or snow). Here are some ways to make your holiday the trip of a lifetime



## THE BEST... YACHT CHARTER

Everyone loves a sailor and you won't be short of admirers if you charter Elysia, a fully-crewed four cabin Ferretti 780 yacht. From £6,745 per person if eight people share for

seven nights. Price includes full board, fuel for three hours cruising per day, port fees, watersports and gratuities. All beverages, fuel for jet skis (if used) and special requests (additional transportation, massages, dry-cleaning, and so on) at an extra cost. Flights not included (Elysia sails out of Monaco). Valid from 18-25 October 2008 inclusive. [elegantresorts.co.uk](http://elegantresorts.co.uk)

## THE BEST... CLUBBING

The idea of Ibiza is always pretty fantastic but how do you ensure you get a Jade Jagger experience, not a Jade Goody one? Icon Ibiza is a new concierge service set up by Charlie Chester (creator of Circo Loco) and his wife, DJ Jo Mills (Space, Amnesia, Pacha). They've put together packages including luxury flats, yachts, chauffeur-driven Hummers and VIP tables at Pacha. Past clients include P Diddy, Sienna Miller, Nelly and, of course, Jade Jagger. [iconibiza.com](http://iconibiza.com)



## THE BEST... LONDON HOTEL

Whether you need a holiday but haven't got time to get beyond the M25, or because you need to impress a client/mother-in-law/mistress, there's only one place to choose: The Jumeirah Carlton Tower Hotel in Knightsbridge. As it's right next to Harvey Nichols and a hop, skip and jump from Harrods, you'd best take the Presidential Suite: then you can be sure of enough room for your shopping bags. The 1,830 sq ft of plush comfort includes a separate living room, bedroom, dressing room and kitchenette. Not to mention the private sauna, four-poster bed and even 24-hour butler service if you want it (and who wouldn't?)



## SPECIAL OFFER ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS

Excedo arranges exclusive tailor-made adventures in style, from five-star accommodation to private planes. Its Extreme Chile 14-day trip starts in Santiago, taking in nights in the Bohemian town of San Pedro, the Atacama Salt Lake, El Tatio Geysers, vineyards, skiing through the Andes and the historic port city of Valparaíso.

Prices are from £3,999 per person. On luxury adventures throughout Latin America, North Africa and South Africa, **square mile** readers are offered 10% off any trip booked by 1 December 2008 (quote SQM 1). Go to [excedotravel.com](http://excedotravel.com)

## THE BEST... GLAMPING

There's no such thing as simply camping anymore. And the best thing about glamping (glamorous camping, geddit?) is that it doesn't involve you getting your hands dirty – someone does that for you.

Go to Cuckoo Down Farm in Devon for the best in yurts, each with a woodburning stove and campfire.



Furnished with carpets, proper beds and sofa beds, each 18ft yurt sleeps up to six, but is best for romantic couples (they'll even light the tea candles for you). If your *amour* doesn't have the right touch, you can even book an in-yurt massage or yoga class. You have the run of a 30-acre private farm with woodland and a small lake. From £60 per yurt per night. (01404 811 714; [luxurydevonyurts.co.uk](http://luxurydevonyurts.co.uk))

## THE BEST... APRÈS SKI

Milk & Honey is New York and London's hottest members' club and now there's no need to miss out on its delicious infusions even when skiing in Chamonix. Founder Jonathan Downey has opened The Clubhouse on the slopes – a boutique hotel, restaurant and bar in a magnificent Art Deco mansion.

There's an Ivy-trained chef, 19th century armagnacs, specially-blended whiskies to commemorate the opening and BMW X5 transfers from Geneva airport. Even the ice in your drink is twice-frozen Evian.

There's not a detail it hasn't covered – you better hope your slalom skills are just as perfect. [clubhouse.fr](http://clubhouse.fr)



## THE BEST... LUGGAGE

If you're going to go on the best holidays – whether you've earned it or are a 'house bandit' (aka the Blairs) – don't spoil the effect by turning up with a battered suitcase that crumples your carefully-chosen outfits. Tumi excels in stylish travel and this Ebury Wardrobe Trunk is the ultimate in luxury. The case is lined in linen, with hand-polished nickel hardware that should impress the check-in girl enough to upgrade you to First Class. Which is just as well – after you've forked out the necessary £5,475 for the case you'll only be buying Economy tickets. Available from Harrods or the Tumi store, 170 Piccadilly, W1.



## THE BEST... GOLFING & SPA IN ONE

This looks odd but there's a method in Square Mile's madness. If you love golfing but your entourage doesn't, this is the easiest way to keep everyone happy. Hotel Villa Padierna is owned by the Ritz-Carlton Group and is just as comfortable and elegant as you would expect. The restaurant is guided by a Michelin-starred chef and you can swim off the excess tapas with a dip before breakfast in the pretty pool surrounded by jasmine flowers. While you tee off, your partner can be perfectly pampered in the spa. The hotel garden is the golf course itself, and overlooks the sea. Close by (30 mins drive) is the excellent golf course of Valderrama, among others, in Sotogrande. Come the hot summer nights, you can dine out in Puerto Banus or Marbella. For more information, go to [ritzcarlton.com](http://ritzcarlton.com)

