

# es magazine

21 August 2009

**CLASS WAR**  
PRIVATE SCHOOLS  
FIGHT BACK

**MORNING GLORIA**  
THE VANDERBILT  
HEIRESS AND THE  
EROTIC NOVEL

## Heavenly creature

**RACHEL HURD-WOOD:  
A MODERN GOTHIC STARLET**

**PLUS: Richard Branson, Sienna  
Miller and Nicolas Sarkozy**

## ✈️ check in Marais, Paris what to do and where to go



**WHAT TO BUY** Antiques and curiosities in the small shops around rue Vieille du Temple, rue des Francs Bourgeois, rue Charlot and rue Bretagne. Buy art at the many galleries, and get anything from Merci on Blvd Beaumarchais (00 33 1 42 77 10 38), which was started by the founders of luxury children's company Bonpoint. Get shirts at Surface 2 Air (left) on rue Charlot (00 33 1 44 61 76 27; surface2airparis.com).

**WHAT TO WEAR** To be a Bobo, you mix designer clothes with vintage and funky accessories. *De rigueur* are Ray-Ban Wayfarers or Persols (below). Boys are all in shorts, teamed with an Acne T-shirt or a checked shirt (Lacoste polos are back, but have to be the new cut - a bit slimmer and shorter). In the evenings, girls dress in Balenciaga and Chanel. Heels are by Pierre Hardy or Bruno Magli, and the boys wear shining white shirts and driving shoes such as Tod's. And on every fashionable iPod is *Paris is Burning* by Ladyhawke.



**BOOK IN ADVANCE** Quirky and intellectual plays at the little Théâtre Espace Marais (theatre espacemarais.com), once home to poet Baudelaire, where he wrote *Les Fleurs du Mal* in rue Beautreillis. You will find opera, dance, recitals and stand-up comics.

**GO WITH Eurostar.** From £59 return London to Paris in 2½ hours (08705186186; eurostar.com)

**MUST STAY** Hôtel Pavillon de la Reine (right) is the perfect spot to enjoy the elegance and quiet of the Place des Vosges. The entrance is in a courtyard covered with ivy leaves and flowers. The boudoir-style décor is very Parisian warm tones, velvet and tassels everywhere. Fires are always burning in the common parts. It almost feels like a private residence, and you hardly see any of the other guests. The 56 rooms are all different and some have kept the original big beams and tall narrow windows. The Carita spa has a Jacuzzi, steam room and amazing massages (pavillon-de-la-reine.com).



### EAT AND DRINK

Get classic French food at L'Ambroisie (left) on Place des Vosges (00 33 1 42 7851 45; ambroisie-placedesvosges.com). Trendy Chez Janou, 2 rue Roger Verlomme (00 33 1 42 72 28 41; chezjanou.com). Italian at I Vitelloni, 4 rue Dupetit Thouars (00 33 1 48 87 38 45); surprising changing menus at Le Petit Marché, 9 rue de Béarn (00 33 1 42 72 06 67); picnic at Place des Vosges with goodies from the Marché des Enfants Rouge off rue de Bretagne. Swedish dishes at Le Café Suédois at Institut Suédois à Paris in rue Payenne (00 33 1 44 78 80 20).



**Don't miss** [hautmarais.blogspot.com](http://hautmarais.blogspot.com)

The 'official' blog on the Marais, with suggestions and comments by Parisians who love the area.

## ✈️ check out Go green

Edited by Hettie Harvey

● **Branch out...** Hotels don't get greener than a jungle eco-lodge in darkest Peru. Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica has just opened its top suite (literally) the Canopy Tree House. Sitting 90ft above the ground, the platform dwelling, built in the native Ese'Eja style with a palm roof, isn't luxurious (twin beds, folding chairs and a portable loo), but who cares when you're living out on a limb with only monkeys and macaws for company? From £120 per person per night with two sharing (0800 458 7506; inkaterra.com).

● **Shell out...** October is turtle time in São Tomé, a tiny island off Africa's west coast: marine turtle hatching time, to be exact. Black Tomato is offering a trip to this eco-haven, staying at the

Ormai Lodge on São Tomé with a team of expert guides on hand to explain the comings and goings on the beach. Then you'll hop to the island of Príncipe to watch humpback whales swim lazily past from the comfort of a palm-thatched cottage. £5,199pp for seven nights, including accommodation, flights and transfers (020 7426 9888; blacktomato.co.uk).

● **Cabin fever...** For a weekend away that won't cost the earth, Natural Retreats' carbon-neutral eco-cabins in the Yorkshire Dales National Park are just the (recycled) ticket. Each three-bed timber-framed cabin has an evergreen grass roof and uses water from the local spring and clever green technologies to reduce its environmental

impact. Thanks to the floor-to-ceiling plate-glass windows fronting each cabin, the surroundings will have far more of an impact on you than you will on them. Two nights from £360; seven nights from £770 (based on six sharing), including welcome hamper and logs (0161 242 2970; naturalretreats.com).

● **Roll up...** You never know when you'll need to spend a night under canvas unexpectedly, so invest in one of Bill Brown's cotton sleeping bags. Not only are they cosy but they're pretty, too - choose between a patchwork and a paisley print. And everything made in Bill's Indian factory is both environmentally and labour friendly so you can sleep tight with a clear conscience (0870 770 8585; bill-brown.com).

● **Lend a hand...** If social responsibility matters to you then the reopened Swala Camp in Tarangire National Park, Tanzania, could be the place for you. Set in one of the country's most remote game-park areas, the camp is run on eco-friendly lines and also has a community conservation project, including building a local primary school with the villagers. When you're not busy spotting the Big Five, you can get involved in the camp's latest project during your stay (00 255 27 250 98 16; sanctuarylodges.com).

● **In the swim...** The Maldives might seem like a do-nothing destination but you don't have to be lazy to go there. Banyan Tree's Vabbinfaru resort, on a tiny atoll deep in the archipelago, has its own marine research facility where guests can work

alongside scientists on projects ranging from coral reef surveys to turtle monitoring, blacktip reef shark protection and feeding pink whiptail rays. But don't panic, if you don't feel like getting handy with the chum bucket, there's plenty to keep you happy above the waves, too (00800 300 200 00; banyantree.com).

● **Star treatment...** One of the most unspoilt places on earth is the Seychelles, with 115 pristine islands to choose from, fantastic diving, wonderful wildlife and intensely luxurious hotels. Frégate Island Private (left), an island hideaway so glam it's hard to believe that it's an

eco-resort, has just opened a viewing platform, complete with a hi-tech Celestron Ultima 2000 telescope for stargazing in style. They'll set up a candlelit dinner on the platform so you can graze while you gaze (frigate.com).

● **After-effects...** Now that the summer holidays are (whisper it) drawing to a close, it's time to get serious about maintaining that tan. L'Occitane en Provence has a new suncare line, L'Occitane do Brasil, made using organic Brazilian ingredients, in Brazil. We love the aftersun (right) with cupuaçu, an exotic fruit from the cocoa family, which smells delicious and keeps your tan Rio ready (020 7907 0301; uk.loccitane.com).



Alamy, Lonely Planet Images, Sakis Papadopoulos