

FOOD *and* TRAVEL



WORLD FOOD

from China, Estonia
and Morocco

Horseback adventures in

Mongolia

CITY BREAKS

France, Germany and Croatia

Raymond Blanc

shares his kitchen secrets

Why it's worth indulging in
California wine

£3.95

BEST OF BRITISH

FOOD FESTIVALS GOURMET TRAVEL SEASIDE RENTALS SAVING HONEY



JUNE 2011

Arrivals

TRAVEL



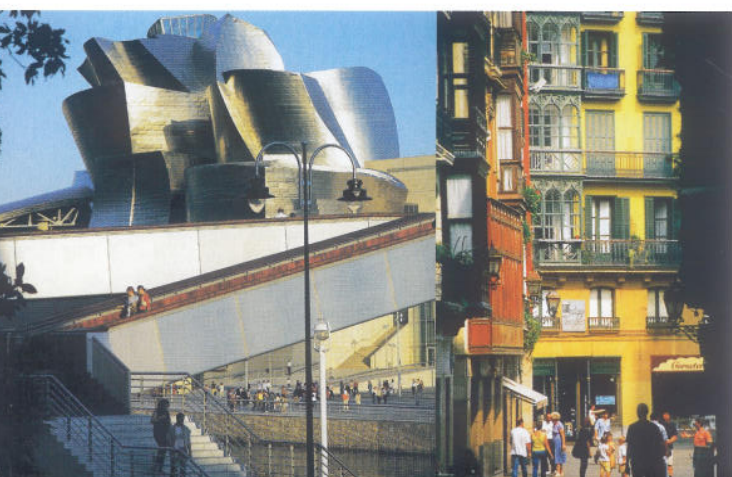
Reef encounters

Baros Maldives has become the first resort in the islands to be awarded Eco Dive Centre status. This means that when you dive there you can do an EcoDiver course, qualifying you to take part in the Reef Check EcoDive programme which involves collecting data on the diver-friendly coral reefs. Do some good for the planet while enjoying its underwater treasures. baros.com

Travelnews

Crossing over

A trio of festivals held in and around Bilbao in June offer just three of the many reasons for heading to the Spanish municipality. A blues music festival in Gexto during the second week of the month, the city's annual summer solstice celebrations of the San Juan Festival on 24 June (legend has it that bonfires burned on the eve of the festival can cure skin diseases and cleanse the body and soul), and the mouthwatering feasts of the 'Semana Gastronómica' (gastronomic week) in San Sebastián on the last week of June provide plenty of incentives to try out a new twice-weekly UK ferry service from Portsmouth to Bilbao. The crossing, the first new port destination that Brittany Ferries has offered in 25 years, arrives at a brand new terminal in Bilbao. brittany-ferries.co.uk



Cookery to capoeira

Get more from your holiday than just a suntan with these learning holidays, suggests Alicia Miller

Capture the sparkle of the **Emerald Isle** on camera when you join a photo tour with professional photographers Nick Meers and Chris Coe. The pair will lead photography enthusiasts through the breathtaking landscapes of County Mayo and County Galway. With their tips and tricks, you'll learn how best to shoot the misty mountains of Nephin Beg, the region's golden beaches and traditional Irish music sessions in lively Westport. The next week-long lessons this year are due to take place on 25-31 July. phototc.com

Get elbow-deep in clay while sculpting your own pottery masterpieces in a luxurious riad in **Marrakech**. Expert Chilean potter Julio Miranda Thiel will teach you the secrets of creating traditional Moroccan pottery at Dar Les Cigones, a 16th-century merchant's house turned boutique hotel in the city centre. The trip also includes visits to galleries and pottery stalls, and a rooftop party. The next confirmed dates for the course are 13-16 June. sanskouicollection.com



FROM LEFT:
COOKING CLASS,
THE NAM HAI;
CHEF PICKING
INGREDIENTS,
HOI AN; ST
AGNES, ISLES OF
SOILLY; GLENCAR
LAKE, IRELAND



GardenLOVERS

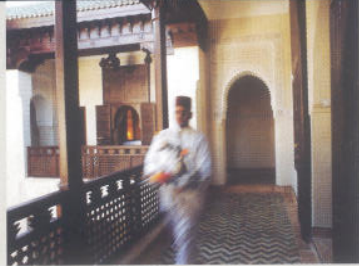
3 FOR

Fans of all things floral are spoilt for choice at this time of year, says Alicia Miller

LA Japanese garden in the heart of Cheshire might not sound like a traditional haunt for flora enthusiasts, but this year Tatton Park's version of an Asian oasis is celebrating its 100th anniversary. Pay a celebratory visit to the newly restored garden, which includes a Shinto shrine, water features and a bamboo grove. tattonpark.org.uk



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: HISTORIC CENTRE OF SALVADOR DA BAHIA, BRAZIL; DAR LES CIGONES, MARRAKECH, AND ONE OF ITS ROOMS



All the colours of the rainbow will be needed to capture the diverse landscapes on the picture-perfect **Isles of Scilly**. Learn how to translate your vision to canvas on a week-long landscape painting tour. You'll master how to depict light and shade while gazing across turquoise waters and lichen-dotted rocks. The ruins of a 14th-century Benedictine abbey, with its floral terraces and subtropical plants, could inspire any inclination. Join the next course, which begins on 18 June. authenticadventures.co.uk

Potter about an organic farm in Hoi An, **Vietnam**, and soak up the scents of its fragrant crop: the red basil, lemongrass, coriander and water spinach grown here will be used in the cookery classes you'll join at luxury resort The Nam Hai. Daily classes, taught by local chefs, suit all skill levels and include market visits. thenamhai.com

Capoeira is paired with Portuguese lessons on a two-week trip to Salvador, home of the martial art-cum-dance form. You'll leave Brazil with two new skills, at least – three if you get involved in the free samba class too. Courses run through the year. golearnto.com



2 The ancient ruins aren't the only reason to visit Machu Picchu. Flower lovers flock to the region annually for a different reason: to marvel over the world's largest private orchid collection. The Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo, a hotel resting on 12 acres of mountain cloud forest, is home to 372 unique species that bloom throughout the year. inkaterra.com

3 Italy is awash with colour from late May to June as many towns and cities celebrate the tradition of Infiorata, a festival that sees flowers turned into art. Enormous mosaics of petals are created along main boulevards to mark Corpus Domini, a holiday celebrated nine weeks after Easter. Head to Genzano di Roma, which has held the festival since the 18th century, or Bolsena. italiantouristboard.co.uk