

Chasing Churchil

Celia Sandys on her grandfather's wanderlust

Ding dong!

The best wedding venues in the Royal Borough

Into the blue THE TRAVEL ISSUE

- Go eco in Malawi
- Five-star Lanzarote
- New York house swap
- The Dorchester's new country house hotel





Down the river

Last month heralded the re-opening of Amsterdam's Canal House, which has been closed for extensive renovation for some three years. Comprising three 17th-century merchant's houses, it retains all of its original timber beams and fireplaces. The last word in boutique hotels. canalhouse.nl



Where the wild things are

Robin Pope Safaris - that most esteemed of Zambian operators - is busily preparing for the July opening of the Mkulumadzi Lodge in Malawi. Striking a happy position between contemporary eco-retreat and colonial sophistication, visitors will be transported to their chalets - of which there are eight - via a footbridge suspended over the Mkulumadzi River.

Rates start from £188 per person, per night, book through Aardvark Safaris, 01980 849 160

Travel news

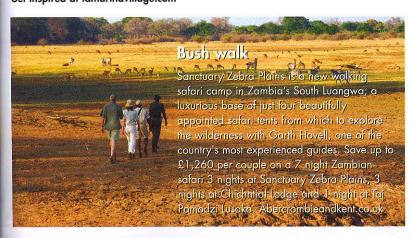
by Nancy Alsop



Bring me flowers

This month marks the launch of FlorESSENCE, an exhibition celebrating the 'essence of modern flower design' at Tamarind Village, Chang Mai. Sakul Intakul is a floral artist whose creations have graced palaces - and now this Thai resort, where a book of his work - published under the same title - will accompany the show.

Get inspired at tamarindvillage.com





On the trail

2011 marks the centenary of the rediscovery of Machu Picchu, and in honour of this, Inkaterra's Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel is harking back to the customs of the Incas. There will be twilight walks to connect with the Incan elements, including a sacred waterfall, and there'll also be tea picking and pressing on the hotel's organic plantation. Inkaterra.com



Latino Loving

If Valentine's Day failed to sate your appetite for la grande passion, you'd do well to head over to Barcelona in April to see how it's done, Latin style. For 23 April marks La Diada de Sant Jordi - the Catalan answer to Valentine's Day, which, according to legend, marks the day that Saint George heroically slew a dragon to save a beautiful princess.

Hotellaflorida.com +34 93 259 3000, rooms from £150 per night