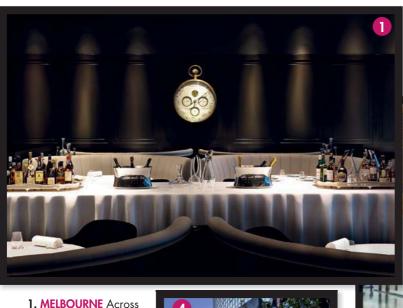


### travel talk



rom Batman Park and the aquarium is South Wharf, on the bank of the Yarra River. It boasts some of the city's finest eateries, including the latest establishment, Fat Duck, whose nitro-poached green tea and lime mousse are well worth trying.

www.thefatduckmelbourne.com

2. MADRID, SPAIN SHA Wellness Clinic, known for its exquisite property in Valencia in the southern part of the country, has added an Esenza Mini-Clinic at Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport. Travellers can experience the finest therapies, beauty and styling, as well as healthy, organic food, while waiting for their flights.

www.shawellnessclinic.com

**3. LISBON, PORTUGAL** In the heart of the capital, the Four Seasons has everything you want in a city hotel –

dreamy beds,
a heavenly spa
and comprehensive business amenities.

and comprehensive business amenities.
The Ritz bar, by Portuguese artist Pedro
Leitão, now also has a sushi bar from
Wednesday to Friday, while over
weekends, live music on the terrace
makes for a lot of fun. www.fourseasons.
com/lisbon

4. BEIJING, CHINA The Rosewood Hotel, in the eminent Chaoyang District, opens its Sense® spa next month with an indulgent accent – balconied spa suites for overnight stays. Melbourne design agency BARstudio interpreted native details of mineral-rich limestone



By Daniel Scheffler



and local shady woods with muted beige and grey tones for deep soul-soothing within the secluded 10 000m². www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/beijing/wellness

**5. PANAMA CITY** With the forefathers of the ACE Hotel, Danilo Perez has opened the best dedicated jazz spot in the city. Located in the American Trade

Hotel, its proceeds are used to fund music education for youngsters – and, of course, local artists. www.acehotel.com/panama

- **6. TORRANCE, USA** Award-winning luggage company Pelican has released ProGear Elite, its latest offering of lightweight, watertight, crush-proof luggage. In carry-on, weekend and vacationer sizes, the range is available in a range of colours and is ideal for travelling, whether you're shopping in Hong Kong or horse-riding in Mongolia. www.pelican.com
- **7. EL SEGUNDO, USA** Manduka has the complete yoga-for-travel kit, including a biodegradable, super-light travel mat, a skidless Yogitoes towel with patented silicon nubs and a Go Free backpack with special pockets to keep all of it together. The kit's also easy to order online, anywhere. www.manduka.com





# **FOOT-LOOSE**

Loafers and flats are the best travel shoes – we love the range by Frances Edwards, founder and Designer at House of Cinnamon

"Like many women, I've always worn flats, both casually and in the office. They have universal appeal because they're feminine, versatile and practical. They can be worn with any outfit and make a strong statement," says Edwards.

▶ On the range: "I love velvet and floral designs, so I combined these elements to create my AW15

> loafers. The collection is classic, with a modern, feminine touch."

- On brogues: "The brogue's gone from being a trend to a staple that works equally well with classic and more daring outfits."
- On giving back: "We sponsor a child in the care of the Bokamoso Education Trust and aim to sponsor more this year. I believe education is key and we should do everything we can to support it. We also offer a discount on a pair of Cinnamons to those who bring in a pair of second-hand children's shoes which are still in good condition." www.houseofcinnamon.com - Helen Clemson



## **PORTS OF CALL**

Think winter warmer and you may well consider port, the legendary dark wine from Portugal. It's traditionally made from grapes with exotically musical names: tinta barroca, touriga nacional, souzão.

Today many of these grapes can be found in the vineyard dales of the charming Klein Karoo village of Calitzdorp. How it got there is a lovely story and is the reason the town's become known as the country's "port capital".

It all happened a generation or so back, when the well-known Nel family's patriarch, Oom Danie, made a mistake in the vineyard. Thinking he was putting Shiraz vines into the soil, the grapes turned out to be tinta barroca. Thus the foundation for the Portuguese connection was established. Port-style wines (and there are a number of classic styles, faithfully

replicated here) are still the highlight of production from local cellars, but a new trend's also unfolding from these mellifluously-named grape varietals: super-smooth and sensual dry wines that acknowledge the Portuguese link. As it happens, Portuguese dry wines are currently riding an international wave of popularity. And local connoisseurs are noting that the good cellar masters from Calitzdorp are finely in tune with that trend.

Experiencing these newbies, as well as sipping the tawny, vintage and other "ports" from the local "houses", will be only one of the joys of the visitors' month dubbed

"Winter in Calitzdorp". From 13 June to 19 July, local cellars Axe Hill, Boplaas, Calitzdorp Cellar, De Krans, Du'SwaRoo, Peter Bayly, TTT and Withoek will offer winemakerled tastings at the wineries. There'll also be unusual food and wine pairings and various other festive events, as well as the chance to take a slow walk along the enchanting rural roads. - Melvyn Minnaar



## 5 minutes with

JEREMY GORING, OWNER OF LONDON'S RECENTLY REVAMPED THE GORING

TRAVEL TIPS? I rely on Big John, our award-winning concierge, for travel tips. Personal recommendations are usually best.

HOW DO YOU FLY? I invest in a good seat and prescription knockout drops.

### BEST WAY TO SPEND A WEEKEND?

If you're going to drink rum, get out of town. Hangovers are much easier to deal with on the beach!

NEVER PACK... Your own suitcase. Get one of The Goring footmen to do it for you. - Daniel Scheffler

### **ONE GOOD BEAD DESERVES ANOTHER...**

Got a bit of room in your suitcase? A great gift – even if it's just to yourself! – is a colourful Ndebele prayer bead tassel necklace by Cape Town jewellery designer Tanya Wheeler. She describes her creations as personalised, "expressing the identity of the wearer and the spirit of freedom", and each of her distinctive necklaces comes with a tag explaining the meaning of the colours used in the design. "The Ndebele people pride themselves on wearing traditional attire, with the colours of both their garments and houses denoting aspects of their tribal lifestyle," says Wheeler. Available from Gloss Nail & Beauty in Johannesburg (011 447 9273), as well as the Grande Beach Café (021 425 0551) and Africa Nova (021 425 5123) in Cape Town. - Helen Clemson

