

BRITISH AIRWAYS 

nightlife

GO UP IN THE WORLD
JANUARY 2007



THE 2007 GUIDE TO ESCAPISM

The year's ultimate travel
secrets - brought to you by the experts

Detox boot camp

Can India Knight survive
a no-nonsense
Austrian health clinic?

ABOUT A BOY

Lucy Cavendish's ten-year old
goes wild in Mozambique

LOCAL HEROES

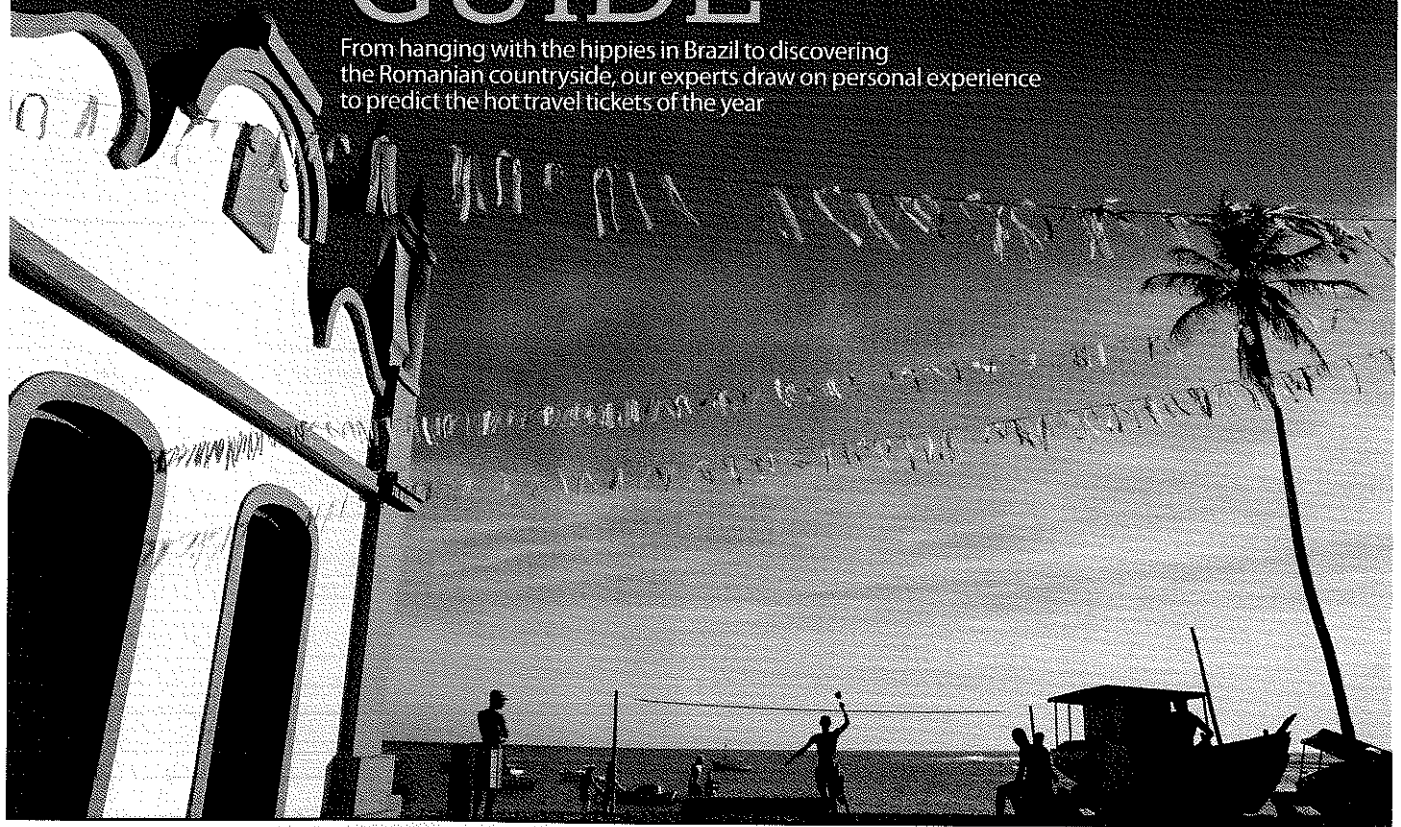
A London football team go
to Iran for a kickaround

**YOUR MOVIE,
TV AND AUDIO GUIDE**
See page 111

2007

THE ESCAPIST'S GUIDE

From hanging with the hippies in Brazil to discovering the Romanian countryside, our experts draw on personal experience to predict the hot travel tickets of the year



THE HIGH LIFE PANEL OF EXPERTS



HERBERT YPMA

Is the man behind the *Hip Hotels* series. In 2007, editions on UK weekend breaks and children's hotels are due



CATH URQUHART

Is travel editor of *The Times* and author of *The Times Holiday Handbook* (Navigator Guides, £12.95)



JUSTIN FRANCIS

Is CEO of www.responsibletravel.com, an online travel agent for people who want sustainable holidays



BRIGITTE LACOMBE

Is a New York-based photographer specialising in travel and portraits. www.brigittelacombe.com



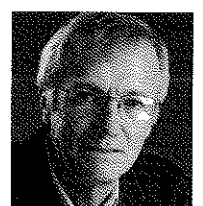
GEOFFREY KENT

Is CEO of Abercrombie & Kent, founder of Friends of Conservation and chairman of the World Travel & Tourism Council



JENNIFER COX

Is an acclaimed writer, broadcaster and the author of *Around The World in 80 Dates* (Arrow, £6.99)



TONY WHEELER

Co-founded *Lonely Planet* guidebooks with his wife, Maureen, back in 1973. He still travels widely

SLOVENIA...IT'S THE NEW TUSCANY

A sleeper destination starting to become popular with middle-class Brits who also holiday in Tuscany or Corfu. The word-of-mouth verdict is that Slovenia's beautiful mountains, hearty farmhouses and bracing lakes offer the classic family holiday of yesteryear. In 2007, there are celebrations marking the centenary of the Bohinj railway linking Vienna to Venice via Slovenia. **JF**

A walking holiday in the Julian Alps, from £335 for three days, is available through www.responsibletravel.com (+44 (0)870 005 2836). Slovenian Tourist Board: (+44 (0)870 225 5305; www.slovenia.info)

PARTY... ALBANIAN STYLE

Of the places I've recently visited, Albania was a huge surprise. Forget the old image of a crazy

Stalinist dictatorship: the new Albania is great value and features good food and wine, some excellent Greek and Roman ruins, an unexplored stretch of Mediterranean coast and the delightfully brooding old town of Gjirokastra. Remarkably, the capital, Tirana, is becoming a bit of a party town. **TW**

Regent Holidays (+44 (0)870 499 0911; www.regent-holidays.co.uk) offers a 12-day group tour of Albania from £1,028 per person, or a three-night Tirana break from £345, with BA flights

DRACULA HAS HIS TIME IN THE SUN

Medieval time-warp villages and a rural way of life unchanged by modernity have attracted Prince Charles to Romania. He's reportedly planning to buy and refurbish a ruined farmhouse in Viscri, one of the Saxon Villages,

to help promote sustainable tourism. You should check it out for the terrific hiking and to see some of the numerous medieval fortresses and castles, such as Bran Castle, which inspired Bram Stoker's famous novel *Dracula*. Romania has a big year coming up as it joins the EU and Sibiu becomes a European Capital of Culture. **CU**

Romania Tourist Board (+44 (0)20 7224 3692; www.romaniatourism.com). Sibiu (www.sibiu2007.ro). Tour operators include Romanian Affair (+44 (0)20 7835 5766; www.romanianaffair.com) and Transylvania Uncovered (+44 (0)845 300 0247; www.beyondtheforest.com)

OLD LAKES, NEW HOTEL

If it's good enough for George Clooney... by now everyone knows that Gorgeous George has a villa on Lake Como, but you can do one better by staying at a

villa on Lake Garda. Why? Very simple: better lake, better villa. I'm talking about the exquisite Villa Feltrinelli at Gargnano, on the shores of Lake Garda. **HY**

Villa Feltrinelli (+39 03 6579 8000; www.villafeltrinelli.com) has rooms from £470 per night per room, including breakfast, drinks and laundry

PARIS, STILL INCOMPARABLE

Have you been to see an exhibition at the Grand Palais yet, since it reopened after recent restoration work? Afterwards, get lost in one of the obscurer galleries in the Louvre, then have dinner at the more obscure Voltaire – possibly the best restaurant in Paris. **BL**

Restaurant Le Voltaire is at 27 Quai Voltaire (+33 1 42 61 17 49). Paris Convention and Visitors Bureau (www.parisinfo.com)



Exquisite shores: Lake Garda in Italy