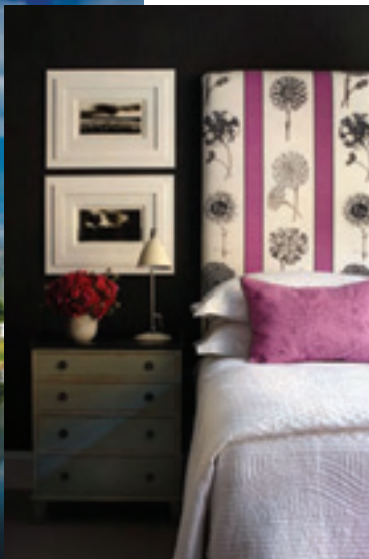


ART AND SOUL

A few black-and-white photos just won't cut it. Bravo Kit Kemp & co for the colourful commissioned pieces in SoHo's new Crosby Street Hotel, NYC, Firdale's first foray out of London (right; [crosbystreethotel.com](http://crosbystreethotel.com)). Pete Clark's collages rule – especially his cheeky British bulldog. For a fuller-on serving of eye candy, head to China. The sculpture park at Hotel of Modern Art (Homa) in Yangshuo makes it more gallery than mere getaway (main picture; [guilinboma.com](http://guilinboma.com)).



ESCAPE ROUTE

*Juliet Kinsman staves off Boxing Day boredom with sophisticated spa action and original artwork*

SCALDING

TWITTER

It's isn't just about celeb-stalking; follow Trazzler, Smithhotels and inoqo.com for top holiday tips

APRÈS-SKI GROOMING

Beauty & the Piste provides in-chalet treatments in Nendaz, Verbier and Crans-Montana. [beautyandthepiste.com](http://beautyandthepiste.com)

CRAFTSMANSHIP

We'll take embellishments handmade over handmade – such as centuries-old frescoes in Florence's Il Salviatino. [salviatino.com](http://salviatino.com)

TRAVEL BAROMETER

SLEEPING ON STRANGERS' SOFAS

Even if it is free. [couchsurfing.com](http://couchsurfing.com)

TACKY HEN NIGHTS

Sign us up for the sybaritic Swan Parties at the Dorchester's new spa [dorchester.com](http://dorchester.com)

BOXING DAY BOREDOM

Head to Central Africa for Imaginative Traveller's 15-day Masai Mara & Mountain Gorillas tour. [imaginative-traveller.com](http://imaginative-traveller.com)

WASH OUT



TRAVEL TREATS

Take one H by Harris's military-style Sh4 weekend bag, £734 ([HbyHarris.com](http://HbyHarris.com)), add Meher Kakalia's fold-up leather Bee slippers, £55 ([meherkakalia.com](http://meherkakalia.com)) and Irwin & Jordan's Buster sunglasses, £225 ([irwinandjordan.com](http://irwinandjordan.com)).



DEVONSHIRE CREAM

Revel in boutique-hotel style amid country-cottage cosiness at Moorland View, a two-bedroom house in North Bovey. Soothing neutral tones, fine linens and Conran crockery means considerate touches such as an all-sizes stash of wellies might not even get used. From £540 for three nights. [moorlandview.com](http://moorlandview.com)



VIP TRAVEL  
KELL SKÖTT

CELEBRATED WEST LONDON HAIR STYLIST; [KELLSKOTTTHAIRCARE.COM](http://KELLSKOTTTHAIRCARE.COM)

DREAM WINTER SUN ESCAPE

A private jet to the Eastern Transvaal where we'd stay in suites at Singita



Boulders (right) in Kruger National Park ([mrandmrsmith.com/luxury-hotels/south-africa/kruger-national-park/singita-boulders](http://mrandmrsmith.com/luxury-hotels/south-africa/kruger-national-park/singita-boulders)). Next we'd fly to Port Elizabeth, hire a Ferrari 250 GTO and take a leisurely drive through the Tsitsikamma national park, where we'd stay in at the Tsala Treetop Lodge in Plettenburg Bay (below). Constantia would be our next stop via the Garden Route and some whale watching; we'd have a long leisurely lunch under the trees at La Colombe, eating melt-in-your-mouth kudu tartare and drinking Veenwouden Merlot 2004. Dessert would come with a bottle of superb Vin de Constance wine, Napoleon's death-bed drink of choice.

FANTASY HOLIDAY HOME

A Bauhaus-inspired glass-fronted house on Lake Como, with functional Danish design and furnishings, Italian fruit trees and a Fiat 500 Arbath in the garage. There would also be an infinity pool, a helicopter pad and a riva moored at the water's edge.

