

Jody Bear's BEST BETS

Condé Nast Traveler "Top Travel Specialist Award" 2001-2005

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'Spa' is OUT, 'Day Resort' is IN

When **Cornelia Zicu** was growing up in her native Romania, her passion for skincare was encouraged at an early age and...voilà...she is now New York's premiere Day Spa Diva!!!

Located on the top floors of **Salvatore Ferragamo's** flagship store, this 22,000 square foot urban retreat is luxury personified and home to 11 palatial treatment rooms, private couple spa suites, soaking tubs, a full-service hair salon, barbershop, rooftop café and tented garden cabanas.

Before each treatment, unwind in the Relaxation Library on plush chaise lounges accented with cashmere throws and heated herb-scented neck pillows or relax in the Men's or Women's changing rooms equipped with plasma TV's, towel warmers, complimentary shoe shines, saunas or Eucalyptus-infused steam rooms. A butler is on hand to serve that passion fruit Frothie you ordered! (even these changing rooms are a class act; you are assigned a wooden locker with a combination number of your choosing, personalized name plaque, slippers to fit your feet with tiny wedges for a lift (it's all about looking good), drawstring trousers, silk Tees and iPods.

Ahh, the treatments... don't get me started; they are truly to die for (figuratively speaking, of course)! **Cornelia** customizes treatments to your specific needs ranging from 'microablation' facials (she pioneered this technique) to signature scrubs and a multitude of massages.

And, because the **Cornelia Day Spa** is on the cutting edge, they have introduced the **Watsu Flow Massage** that takes place in Manhattan's only **Watsu** floating pool which, by the way, is hand-filled with 22,000 1 liter bottles of EVIAN! Not only does this treatment promise to reduce any tension, pain or stress in your life, it's the most expensive bottle of water you'll ever swim in...

Because you deserve the best *from* the best, one very lucky individual will experience the **Watsu** aquatic body massage or a treatment of your choice.

To partake in this game of chance, please email us at: info@jodybearsall.com or send in a written postcard to **Jody Bear** at **Bear & Bear Travel**. Indicate 'Cornelia Day Spa'. Drawing will be held Dec 28, 2005. Some restrictions apply. Valid for 6 months.

The winner of the Sept 'Capri Palace' 2005 raffle is Tina Goldberg of Jil Sander America.

www.JODYBEARSALL.com

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Something new and exciting is happening in the **Dominican Republic**...**Sivory**, the first upscale boutique hotel in **Punta Cana**, is opening its doors on December 20 and what a special place it will prove to be. This small, luxury beachfront property is completely private and completely different for **Punta Cana**. There is a wine cellar with over 8,000 bottles of selected wines (every room has a custom-made wine cooler), 3 fantastic restaurants(Mediterranean, gourmet and Asian Fusion), a Cigar lounge, wellness spa and infinity-edge pool. With only 55 deluxe suites(all with private terraces, flat screen Satellite TV's, two person tubs and custom bath products by Etro) and over 150 in-staff to serve you, this definitely is the new 'it' destination!!!

BearFlash...From the hoteliers that own **The Soho, Charlotte Street, Covent Garden, Knightsbridge, The Pelham** and **Number Sixteen** in **London**, look for **The Haymarket Hotel** opening in 2006...**Tim** and **Kit Kemp** are always on the cutting edge of the new, hip area and each hotel gets better and better; with such 'wow' amenities like a 20 metre swimming pool complete with its own bar and lounge, Shooting gallery, 24 hour gym and technological gadgets that are even the envy of **Bill Gates, The Haymarket Hotel** will be the new darling of **London**...

Do you want to know a secret ? **Palmasola**, located in an exclusive gated community near the **Four Seasons Resort** in **Punta Mita, Mexico**, is a 7 bedroom, 7 bath private home with a full- time staff of nine. With a 200 foot long swimming pool, two outdoor hot tubs, private beach with fire pit, pizza oven and grill, family room with a full media center, gym and the most luxurious accommodations you've ever seen, this is, by far, the mother of all villas!!! If you're looking for over-the-top luxury and a vacation only dreams are made of, **Palmasola** has your name on it...

The newest, coolest cruising craze is '**Microcruising**' ...traveling in high style on your own mini-cruise ship with no more than 20 cabins. **The Four Seasons Explorer** with all-sleek white interiors is a sexy way to see the **Maldives**, yachting on the **Orient Express Bora Bora** cruises is the only way to see **French Polynesia** and **Oberoi's** new **M.V. Vrinda** is the perfect vessel to cruise the **Indian Ocean**, including the **Seychelles**, of course. Life just got sweeter!

You are important to us... we don't want you to be put on hold... we don't want you wait for your vacation details; after all, you deserve the best!

We have, therefore, taken our lead from you and expanded our Leisure Department. In addition to **Jody Bear**, please contact:
Erika: erikac@vwti.com – phone: 212-592-1224 or
Melissa: melissar@vwti.com – phone: 212-592-1232

You've heard it here first...**Bocadileone Suites** are **Lungarno Hotels** first property in **Rome** and it doesn't get better than this...owned by the Ferragamo family, this exclusive boutique hotel is a few steps from the Piazza di Spagna (have you heard the expression, location is everything ?)! Opening in January 2006, this intimate hotel will only have 14 suites and studios (all with WI-FI and high speed internet, satellite TV, VHS/VCR/DVD players and espresso/cappuccino machines in each room). Since personalized service is their priority, you can now live *la dolce vita*.

South Beach comes to **Shoal Bay**...**Kú** is the new, chic resort that just opened in **Anguilla** with the young-and young at heart-in mind. **Kú** is fabulous, fun and affordable with only 27 whimsical suites, a beachfront restaurant, gym, pedi-spa, gourmet market run by a young French woman and an incredible dive center (with 2 reefs right there, the snorkeling is brilliant). **Shoal Bay** has lots of trendy restaurants, boutiques and the best nightlife in **Anguilla**. And, since I believe in the best of both worlds, why not 'chill' at **Cap Juluca** for the day since **Kú** is their sister property...kudos are definitely in order, won't you agree ?!

Old Hotels That Are New Again

The old **Sereno Beach Hotel on St Barth** was good, but the new **Le Sereno** is better!!! **Christian Liagre**, the famed Parisian designer, totally re-designed, rebuilt and repositioned this property into a 37 all – suite and villa beachfront masterpiece!!! All rooms have sensational amenities ranging from personal ipods, plasma TV's, private terraces and picturesque ocean views. Although the hotel is on one of the 10 most beautiful beaches in the world, **Le Sereno** is not just a pretty face; the kite and wind-surfing options are superb!!! A spa is opening shortly—I'll keep you posted!

...the story begins in 1940 when **Felix Benitez Rexooh**, a wealthy businessman from **San Juan**, Puerto Rico, met and fell in love with an aristocratic French woman aboard the transatlantic crossing of the **SS Normandie** from **France** to **New York**. To show his love for her, he created a replica of the **SS Normandie** as a hotel and, alas, the **SS Normandie Hotel** was christened. Now, all the glamour and glitz of yesteryear is back and more brilliant than ever!!! **The Normandie** is a 173 room oceanfront property and the only Art Deco Hotel in **San Juan**. There's a 24 hour café, the Italian Restaurant '**Cru**' (same owners as **Cru** in **LA**), a sexy new lounge, spa and health club. And, if this weren't enough, a casino and golf are nearby. Ahh, the power of love....