

Words Mark Chipperfield

final call



Posh Phuket With menus designed by Neil Perry, dazzling ocean views and its own private bay, Trisara, located on the island of Phuket, is a cut above the average five-star Asian resort. The estate offers just 42 villas and suites – each has its own infinity-edge pool and all are equipped with the latest technology and, supposedly, the world's most comfortable king-size beds. There is also a six-room spa and water sports, such as scuba diving and sailing, are available. Doubles from \$600 a night. Trisara, Phuket, Thailand. Phone: 0011 66 76 310 100 or email reservations@trisara.com.

Dublin Digs Ireland's most celebrated hotel, The Shelbourne, has re-opened after a lengthy refurbishment. Renamed The Shelbourne Dublin, A Renaissance Hotel, the grande dame retains many of its original features (such as the much-loved Horseshoe Bar) but now offers a luxurious spa and a new restaurant. First opened in 1824, the hotel has hosted literary figures such as Patrick Kavanagh, Brendan Behan and Seamus Heaney. Doubles from \$360 a night. The Shelbourne, 27 St Stephen's Green, Dublin, Ireland. Phone: 0011 35 316 634 500; www.marriott.co.uk.



The latest travel news and products...



Trabi Time The Trabant, the ugly duckling of Cold War engineering, is making a comeback as a tourist icon. Now you can drive around Berlin in one of these smoke-belching but loveable little vehicles. Trabi Safaris has a fleet of restored Trabants and a range of touring options. The Berlin Classic (from \$87) is a 90-minute self-drive city tour, while the four-day Taste of Berlin package (from \$461) includes airport transfers, a city tour, hotel accommodation and breakfasts. For more information, contact Tempo Holidays on 1300 558 987 or visit www.tempoholidays.com.



Flash Gear Sick of buying me digital camera? SanDisk has a player that allows you to download photographs on the road. More the Sansa e200 series (picture and still images – plus your of available in 2GB, 4GB, 6GB a by a durable metal backing, th on-the-fly FM recording, built-colour screen and superior so at \$199 (2GB).

Glenn's Place Sydney architect Glenn Murcutt has created a rural masterpiece, Moonlight Head, on the Great Ocean Road. This luxury wilderness lodge was designed to fit harmoniously into its environment and features a distinctive saw-tooth roof, bluestone floors and skylights open to the stars. The lodge, which is three hours' drive from Melbourne, comes with its own concierge, private chef and regional wine selection. It sleeps up to eight people. Doubles from \$3,500 a night, with a minimum two-night booking. Moonlight Head Lodge, Yuulong, Victoria. Phone: 9363 8870; www.moonlighthead.com.



Howe Now Orion Expedition 2008 sailing schedule, which adventure that takes in Lord H Islands, Hauraki Gulf, Taurang Marlborough Sounds. It departs 30, 2008 (fares begin at \$957 five-star purpose-built expedit 75 crew and just 106 passeng 11-night trip exploring New Ze departs on November 19, 200 email info@orioncruises.com.

