

PASSAGE TO POMPEII

If the British Museum's Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum Exhibition (which opens later this month) whets your appetite for Pompeii, take advantage of the Grand Hotel Excelsior Vittoria's 'Discover Pompeii Package'. Follow the footsteps of Romans on a specially guided tour of the ruins, which offers guests a fascinating insight into the ancient city. Back at the hotel, soak up stunning views of the bay of Naples and Vesuvius, surrounded by olive groves, inhaling the scent of heady orange trees. *Three nights at the Grand Hotel Excelsior Vittoria, Sorrento for £849 per person, based on two adults sharing a classic garden view room on a bed and breakfast basis, including flights, private transfers and a guided half day tour of Pompeii, +39 081 877 7845; exvitt.it*

TRAVEL NOTES

ART ATTACK

Art lovers take note – if you want to experience The Springtime of Renaissance Exhibition at Palazzo Strozzi, Villa La Massa's Arts Package is the way forward. Just 15 minutes from Florence, this beautiful 16th-century Medici villa is offering a two night stay, entry to the exhibition and a complimentary three course dinner at Il Verrocchio. All for just £471 per person, that's what we call a bargain.

Package valid from 23 March–18 August, +39 055 626 11; reservations@villalamassa.it

MMM... MARRAKECH

At the foot of the Atlas Mountains lies Les Cinq Djellabas, a luxury boutique hotel comprising ten individual eco lodges. Nestled in five acres of luscious garden, complete with emerald tiled pool, each lodge boasts its own Berber; a delightful helper on hand so you don't have to lift a finger. Camel riding in dunes, cooking classes and canyoning? They offer it all, but a trip to Marrakech's first and oldest restaurant, Le Foundouk, is a must. Think tangines and aromatic spices.

Rates start at €230 per lodge per night, based on two people sharing; hotel-les5djellabas.com / foundouk.com

A FARM IN AFRICA

On a plateau near the Great Rift Valley surrounded by 9,000 wild acres of unfenced Kenyan bush, where African game well and truly roam free – here sits Kamogi. Home to Nick and Heather Day, and where their three children spent a childhood Gerald Durrell would've envied, Kamogi is rented out throughout the year. Rustic, beautiful, idyllic – it has the spirit of old Colonial Kenya. Including a pool and tennis court, it sleeps 10 and along with the Day's charming household staff (namely culinary wizard, Mungai, whose Italianate dishes are famed for 1,000s of miles) – the place is yours! A yearly favourite of Max Hastings.

Price on request. Contact Original Travel, 1b The Village, 101 Amies Street, SW11, 020 7978 7333; kamogi.com