

This issue has more hits than Herbert Grönemeyer...

IF YOU'RE GERMAN, Austrian or Swiss, this headline will probably mean something to you. For the rest of you, it may not. Herbert Grönemeyer, you see, is the most successful recording artist in German history, selling 13 million albums and boasting the first and third bestselling albums in Germany ever. (The second bestseller? Phil Collins.) Impressively, he's also an actor, a former war correspondent and a noted humanitarian.

Grönemeyer is just one thing you should probably know about Europe, but might not. Like: where the continent's best hotel is, where you'll find our very own answer to the Caribbean and where to find the world's best female chef, as crowned by the recent 50 Best Restaurant awards. If you're coming up blank, turn to page 42 now, where you'll find answers to

questions you'd never thought to ask (like, why has a former monk spent his life singlehandedly building a cathedral outside Madrid?).

This is an issue full of surprises. We discover why some of the best tagines in Morocco can be found at petrol stations (page 28), why European wildlife safaris are taking off (page 68) and why the Čezeta scooter (nicknamed 'the pig') is a Czech design icon that's about to get a serious reboot (page 58).

We also meet Grayson Perry, the artist who this month unveils The Most Popular Art Exhibition Ever! Perry reveals not just that he loves motorbikes and almost joined the army, but that he's a self-acknowledged member of the "middle class metropolitan elite". Really, who knew?

The easyJet Traveller team

THIS MONTH,
WE'RE TALKING
ABOUT...



SMOKY

BBQ season has arrived (hooray) and we're loving this nifty little burger press for making our own beef patties from scratch. You'll have them bun-ready in no time.

£3, flyingtiger.com



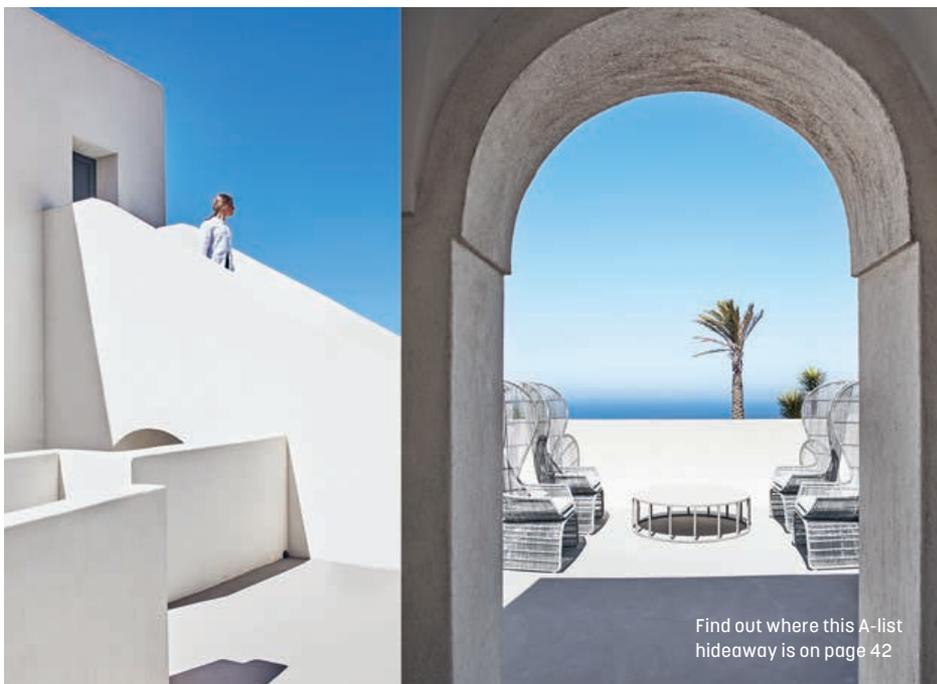
SMOKIER

The biggest, meatiest BBQ festival is back in Bristol on 1-2 July with 30 teams at Grillstock battling it out over the coals. Expect grown men sitting up all night babysitting their brisket. grillstock.co.uk



SMOKIEST

Korean barbecue food is having a moment, and rough-and-ready Berlin café Arirang (+49 30 4502 1248) cooks the most authentic marinated bulgogi beef you'll find right before your eyes.



Find out where this A-list
hideaway is on page 42



→ → → AMAZINGLY ↘

INTERESTING

FACTS

YOU PROBABLY

DIDN'T KNOW

ABOUT EUROPE

BUT ARE ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

JUST ABOUT

TO **FIND OUT**

Where can you find Europe's best hotel? How long is the world's longest art gallery? Why does some air cost €50 and some beer €1.50? Read on. The answers may surprise you...

ILLUSTRATION SOPHIE HENSON ----->



SHE knows
where to go
on holiday



THE A-LIST ARE GOING HERE



THIS SUMMER, THE stars are heading for southern Italy and Sicily. "We've seen a lot of high-profile people wanting Italian escapes," says Gemma Fitchett, of Quintessentially Travel, a luxury concierge service that specialises in VIP experiences. "One of our favourite places to send guests is the Sikelia resort on Pantelleria (*pictured*). It's all gorgeous Arabic-style whitewashed villas and arches, on a remote island between Sicily and Africa, with natural hot springs and mud baths overlooking the sea – bliss!"

Back on the mainland, she recommends the Matera province, between the toe and heel on Italy's southern tip. "Partly due to Francis Ford Coppola's hotel Palazzo Margherita, in the hilltop town of Bernalda, Matera has become a real favourite for actors and film directors, with Mel Gibson making the pilgrimage recently. The hotel offers

authentic local food and wine in the communal kitchen, and guests can choose from 100 classic Italian films to watch in the screening room. The Coppola family have a long history with the place and there's a real romance about it all."

Elsewhere, Fitchett says the Greek islands are becoming *too* hot. "Mykonos, Ios and Santorini are getting so popular that we're recommending people stay on the mainland, where there's more privacy," she says. "We love the Danai Beach Resort, a gorgeous property near Thessaloniki, and – further afield – the Amanzoe hotel, an A-lister favourite."

Her final tip is Comporta village, a 90-minute drive south of Lisbon. "It's like St Tropez was in the good old days, before the hype: lazy beach days, dolphin watching and fresh-caught seafood, all surrounded by sand dunes and rice fields. We always recommend people stay at the Sublime Comporta, a beautiful minimalist design hotel that's simple, but so elegant."