

CONFESSION: THE UNCENSORED DIARY OF MY AFFAIR

GRAZIA

£2

February 2017 graziadaily.co.uk

THE POWER
OF WOMEN
PIONEERING
POLITICAL
CAREERS



BREAKING NEWS

**KYLIE'S
'HEARTBREAK' AS
FLANCE ACCUSED
OF CHEATING**

Angelina's MARRIAGE REGRETS

**CAN I EVER REPAIR
THE DAMAGE I'VE DONE?**

PLUS Exclusive interview with the
woman behind Brangelina – the movie

**YOUR DENIM
DIRECTORY**

NEW TRENDS

COOL BRANDS

**HELLO
YELLOW!**
STYLE THE
SEASON'S
HAPPIEST
HUE



PLUS
CHECK INTO
THE SHAPE
CLINIC

SPAN £3.50 GREECE €6.00
9 7722 222222

Shopping & spa girls weekend in MARRAKECH

The great thing about a girls' long weekend is that you can achieve as much in three days as you would in a week with a dithering other half. Marrakech is just a three-and-a-half hour flight from London – and it's amazing just how much shopping you can pack in!

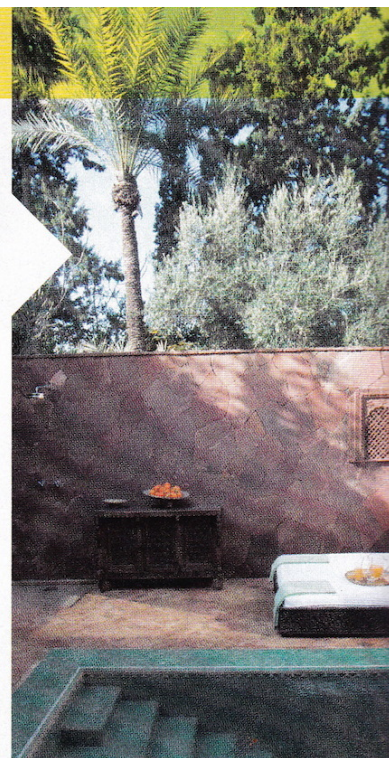
THE PLACE TO STAY Ezzahra is a glorious estate set in 20,000 sq m of gardens in the Palmeraie area of Marrakech, a 15-minute drive from the medina. Three exquisite villas, surrounded by date palms, pomegranate trees and endless lawns make it the perfect oasis for a house-party weekend. Swim in one of the two enormous pools, kick back with drinks in the Moroccan bell tent on the lawn, sit down for a film screening in the cinema room and eat Moroccan food prepared and served when and how you like it. The estate even has its own hammam to scrub away any shopping aches, followed by a massage, pedi or mani from one of the on-site beauticians.

THE VIBE It's all very A-list-tastic, like walking on to the set of a Bond film. A chauffeur is on standby to take you into the medina, or on an escorted personal shopping trip, or to the Atlas mountains for a day's hiking or out clubbing (Club 555, beachclub555.com; Pacha, pachamarrakech.com, and the swanky rooftop bar at the Pearl Hotel, thepearlmarrakech.com/en). A sneaky look at the visitor's book reveals Daniel Craig stayed here recently and wrote: 'A touch of paradise, I'll count the days until

I return.' Hopefully when we're there too, Daniel. **EAT** It's all healthy and delicious, from piles of fresh dates, pomegranate and home-made yogurt for breakfast to fresh khoubz bread with aubergine salad and monkfish tagine for supper.

SHOPPING Marrakech's best-kept shopping secret is in the outlying industrial district called Sidi Ghanem. Behind inauspicious warehouse doors lie chic French interiors and ceramics companies. Head to Fenyadi (Route de Safi) and Chabi Chic (chabi-chic.com) for richly-glazed ceramics and Les Sens de Marrakech (lessensdumonde.com) for bath products. While trawling the medina is still a must-do – stop for lunch at Café Des Epices (cafedesepices.net) – steer clear of the tat and instead hunt out exquisitely embroidered kaftans and blouses at Aya's (ayasmarrakech.com) and Akbar Delights (akbardelightscollections.com).

THE LOWDOWN Easyjet flies to Marrakech, from £179. Villas start from £375pp per day, including meals, treatments, plus a chauffeur (ezzahra-morocco.com).



The pools at Ezzahra are suitably A-list



The beach at Shanti Maurice lies between lush rainforest and azure ocean

Take a hike in MAURITIUS

Nothing beats the pristine, sandy shores on this idyllic island and who doesn't love to swing in a hammock between two palm trees? But if the intrepid explorer inside you wants to venture into the wild, there's plenty to keep you busy on this island's lovely west coast.

THE PLACE TO STAY The luxury Shanti Maurice Hotel is a short drive from the Black River National Park and Le Morne peninsula. Miles away from the hustle and bustle further north, Shanti, with its mix of beachfront suites and private villas, is rustic, secluded and dense in rainforest foliage – just what you need during those sweltering summer months.

THE VIBE Stylish adventure. Trek through the gorge or get the ultimate high scrambling up Le Morne's mountainous peak for a 360° view of the glistening shores. Afterwards, massage away the aches in the

hotel's humongous spa – one of the largest in the Indian Ocean – and enjoy the surprise sorbet or ice cream that will magically appear the second you sit down on a sunlounger. Whatever the watersport, they have the boat/snorkel/skis for you and it's all included. Or if you'd rather gaze out to sea from the comfort of your ocean-facing, king-sized bed, you can do that too.

EAT Choose between casual beach barbecues or fine dining at the oceanfront restaurant. And don't forget to try Aquacasian cuisine, bringing together the very best of recipes from the Indian Ocean region, at Stars restaurant – Mauritian Smoked Blue Marlin Salad is not to be missed.

PACK Hiking boots, your swimming cossie and a glamorous maxidress for the evening.

THE LOWDOWN Rates at Shanti Maurice start at €385 per room per night (approx £296.30) for a double Junior Suite Ocean View Room. Visit shantimaurence.com. Air Mauritius (airmauritius.com) depart from London Heathrow twice a week, flights from £800 return. For more info visit tourism-mauritius.mu.

