

VIRTUOSO LIFE

\$5.95

DESTINATION DINING

MAGICAL MOROCCO
URUGUAY'S WINERIES
A TASTE OF VALENCIA

PLUS: WHERE THE CHEFS EAT,
HONG KONG AT NIGHT & MORE



PASSPORT

BOOKS



THE HOUSE IN FRANCE BY GULLY WELLS (*Alfred A. Knopf*, \$27). This gimlet-eyed memoir, wrapped around summers in a run-down, lively farmhouse in La Migoua, France, is no lavender-drenched *Year in Provence*. How could it be in a household headed by professional wit and full-time harridan Dee Wells and renowned philosopher and womanizer A.J. Ayer? With side trips to Oxford (with boyfriend Martin Amis), Paris, Spain, and, eventually, New York, Gully Wells' unorthodox American-abroad existence is beautifully observed. Two favorite moments: a teen's razor-sharp comparison of British and French bathers on Bikini Beach, and preparing authentic bouillabaisse with the great Lulu Peyraud.

LEAVE NO TRACE: THE VANISHING NORTH AMERICAN WILDERNESS BY JIM WARK (*Universe*, \$55). From snow-dusted mesas peeking through Monument Valley fog to a dendritic Colorado River drainage resembling a leaf under a microscope, Jim Wark's aerial landscapes capture the enormity and beauty of unpeopled places with surprisingly visceral emotion. Accompanying essays by Roderick F. Nash provide context and history on the idea of wilderness, but Wark's short, concrete field stories pack the real punch.

SIDWAYS ON A SCOOTER: LIFE AND LOVE IN INDIA BY MIRANDA KENNEDY (*Random House*, \$26). Don't let American-travels-to-India-in-search-of-love-and-enlightenment fatigue keep you from Miranda Kennedy's memoir of five years in Delhi. The NPR reporter brings a journalistic integrity to her experiences, shedding light on the lives of the women in her orbit and revealing how many are trapped by India's traditional ideals (see Bollywood heroines) despite the country's modern reputation. For anyone who has dreamed of dropping roots in a mysterious country, Kennedy's adventures as a perennial *feringhee* (foreigner) are simultaneously sobering and inspiring.

AMERICAN FASHION TRAVEL: DESIGNERS ON THE GO BY THE COUNCIL OF FASHION DESIGNERS OF AMERICA (*Assouline*, \$45). This is a crackerjack idea: Collect travel advice from designers who treat even the simplest jaunts as creative safaris. Compiled scrapbook-style with photos, doodles, and handwritten ideas on everything from jet-lag remedies ("Pilates, Bloody Mary, long walk," Sophie Buhai) and carry-on essentials ("bikini and a cocktail dress," Nanette Lepore) to counsel on where to shop and eat, it will have you sketching plans.

ART & CULTURE

CALI PRIDE

More than 60 Southern California institutions collaborate on **Pacific Standard Time**, a giant show collectively telling the story of LA's art-world ascendance from the post-WWII era to 1980. September 30 through April 2012, PST exhibits range widely from pop art to modernist architecture, Chicano performance art, Japanese-American design, and more. Heavyweights include the Getty Center and Los Angeles County Museum of Art, as well as more offbeat destinations such as the Watts Towers Arts Center. www.pacificstandardtime.org.

La Chaise by Charles and Ray Eames and (above) Dora De Larios' **Fallen Warrior** feature in LA's big show.



(BOOKS) IRIDIO SEATTLE; (CHAIR) GRANT TAYLOR/JF CHEN; (SCULPTURE) DALE STRUMFELL