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THE BOLD MAN AND THE SEA

A STYLISH VACATION STORY
BY BUSTLE CLOTHING'S SHAWN HEWSON

"Magnus doesn't even need an oxygen tank," says Amanda Blakley, co-founder of Toronto-based culture club The Society. "He probably just takes a deep breath and goes down for 45 minutes." Fair enough: Magnus Lewin, CEO of TradeWinds Cruise Club, is a yacht captain, pilot and international man of mystery. He's a bit quiet, and a lot brave. After all, he decided to take a group of Toronto friends—including me and my wife, Ruth, and Blakley and her business partner, Ashleigh Dempster—on a five-day Antillean cruise.

This day in May, we're on board a 70-foot, six-bedroom catamaran, moored in the calm turquoise waters off the coast of Iles des Saintes, Guadeloupe. The sun is blazing, and the only shade comes from the towering mountains of Terre-de-Haut Island. At the top is Fort Napoleon, which in this light looks impossibly distant and menacing, like the lair of a James Bond super-villain.

All our eyes are on Magnus, who is eyeing the water with a grin. He dives in, followed by Ruth. We won't see them again until lunchtime, when we'll trade stories about the depths of the Caribbean Sea and the heights of the summit (some of us will scale its narrow, winding roads by scooter).

But our physical adventures pale in comparison to our gastronomic ones. Chef Lu Godden has prepared a spectacular meal; we return to find our dining table covered with fresh fruit, cheese platters, baguettes, salads with grilled pineapple and curried chicken, Bordeaux wines and fresh-pressed juices.

In a sun-and-cheese-induced stupor, I suddenly dread the long flight home. If only I were Magnus—I'd just hold my breath and dive in, and no one would be able to find me. *Tradewinds Cruise Club offers trips to 12 Caribbean and Mediterranean destinations. tradewindscruiseclub.com.*



LOOKBOOK

TRAVEL

Leaving town doesn't mean abandoning style



Sweet Boutique

If its hotels are any indication, Brussels is poised for a cultural reawakening at any moment. Tenbosch House (actually two art nouveau townhouses in the fashionable Ixelles district) brings to mind the art-centric Brussels of Magritte rather than the finance-centric Brussels of the EU Commission. The lobby is a revolving exhibition, with art on rotating loan from the city's leading galleries. The seven guest rooms are decorated with a museum-like medley of mid-century modern furniture by designers such as Bruno Mathsson and Finn Juhl, Alvar Aalto and Georg Jensen. This hotel alone is worth the trip over. Also, we hear there's great chocolate. *Rooms start at €240. 131-133 Rue Washington, 1050 Brussels, Belgium, tenboschhouse.be.*

Stow Baggage in the Overhead Museum



Every whimsical piece of Sarah Williams' luggage collection looks like a craftily misshapen Globe-Trotter trunk and is handmade—of brass and bridle leather—to order by a team of expert artisans.

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