



Seven wonders

Aston Martin driving holidays, intelligent suitcases, apps that make journeys easier, superyacht charters and private island escapes — Luxx uncovers what's hot in the world of travel

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WHEEL DEALS

Rather than merely selling cars, many luxury car manufacturers are offering experiences to enjoy the vehicles in exotic locations around the globe. Bentley's Power on Ice experience, for instance, takes customers to the edge of the Arctic Circle for sideways thrills in the snow in between husky sled rides and smoke saunas. For those who fancy a slightly more leisurely pace, Porsche will arrange a tour of Tuscany that replicates the route of the Mille Miglia, which conveniently carves its way through one of the finest regions for food, wine and scenery in the world. Aston Martin (*the new DB11 is pictured right*) has created a new Art of Living programme, taking in places such as Cuba and Cape Town. And if that sounds too far flung, Small Car Big City offers original Mini Coopers for hire in London and will provide itineraries. A Mini mini-break.

DAVID GREEN



02

PLANE CLEVER

With its aggressive nose, steeply raked wing tips and three rear-mounted engines, the Falcon 8X looks like a cross between a fighter jet and a commercial plane. That's because it is. Created by the French company that makes Rafale combat aircraft, it can whistle eight passengers along at almost Mach 1 (Concorde territory) from London to Singapore nonstop (Airbus A380 territory). Although it's the must-have plane for the get-there-fast, ritzy and private classes, you don't have to buy one to join the jetset. Firms such as Victor, Stratajet and PrivateFly have taken a leaf out of Uber's book and are using apps to try to match passengers with jets or place them on empty legs — when a plane returns to its home base. Thanks to technology, jetting privately is now more accessible. Pay a joining fee to Surf Air and JetSmarter, and you get unlimited flights between a handful of short and mid-haul destinations. You will be sharing, but it beats queueing at the airport.

JOHN ARLIDGE