

DETAILS

June - July, 2012

KNOW & TELL / TRAVEL



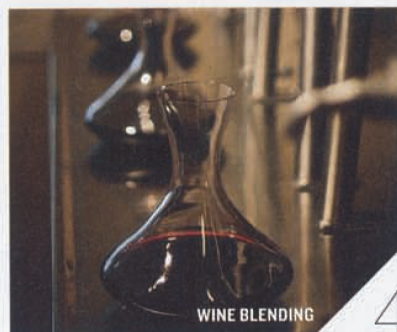
RALLY-CAR DRIVING



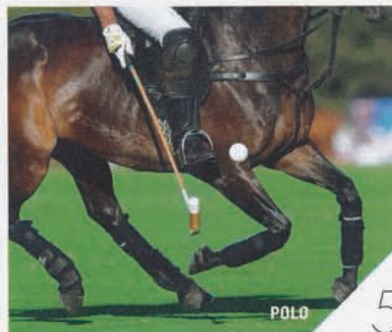
SHOE-MAKING



COOKING



WINE BLENDING



POLO



SURFING

DESTINATION: SUMMER SCHOOL

COME BACK FROM VACATION WITH MORE THAN JUST A TAN. PLAN YOUR NEXT HOLIDAY AROUND A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME COURSE, AND YOU'LL RETURN THE MASTER OF A NEW DOMAIN.

CLASS / PLACE	SYLLABUS	WHERE TO STAY	AFTER-CLASS ACTIVITY
1. RALLY-CAR DRIVING AUSTRALIA	In Brisbane, would-be speed demons learn rally techniques before being strapped into a Subaru Impreza WRX STI to practice "drifting," "sliding," and "flicking" around a twisting dirt course. globalracingschools.com	The Ruffles Lodge & Spa is a deluxe spot with private timber-and-stone villas, rain-forest trails, and nearby golf courses. ruffleslodge.com.au	Drive the scenic Pacific Highway and stop at Surfers Paradise for the great waves, dramatic skyline, and unbeatable nightlife.
2. SHOE-MAKING ITALY	You love Italian loafers, so where better to learn the art of cobbling than Florence? Study the techniques with a trained artisan and handcraft your own leather souvenir—a belt, a billfold, or an iPhone case. selectitaly.com	Luxury-goods maven Salvatore Ferragamo has a few nearby hotels, including the well-appointed Gallery Hotel Art. lungamocollection.com	Open your new wallet at Le Volpi e l'Uva, the city's home of esoteric Italian wines and decadent charcuterie. levolpieluva.com
3. COOKING MEXICO	In Puebla, a two-hour drive from Mexico City, La Purificadora chef César Sánchez teaches the secret recipe for his family's mole and other Mexican crowd-pleasers like chalupitas and poblano-fried tortillas. lapurificadora.com	Housed in a former factory, La Purificadora has a glass-walled rooftop pool deck with spectacular views of the 481-year-old city.	Head to Puebla's La Pasita bar for the proprietor's potent concoctions. Just reserve a taxi back in advance. Avenida 5 Oriente 605
4. WINE BLENDING ARGENTINA	Forget a sommelier course—at Vines of Mendoza you get to create your own wine. The intimate class includes a varietal briefing, a blending session, and a blind tasting. Trip trophy: a bottle of your creation. vinesofmendoza.com	Only 10 minutes away, Fuente Mayor is a posh resort for drinking in the scenery—and trying your luck at the casino. hotelfuentemayor.com	Burn off the plentiful asado (Argentine BBQ) with some hiking and horseback riding in the Andean foothills. www.discovertheandes.com
5. POLO ENGLAND	Here's your chance to infiltrate the sport of kings. Even if you've never ridden a horse, the Ascot Park Polo Academy outside London will have you saddled and partaking in "stick and ball" practice in no time. polo.co.uk	The Dorset Square Hotel recently got a swanky makeover, and it has a lush garden and a classic British drawing room. firmdalehotels.com	Head to London Fields park in the hip Hackney nabe for a swim in its heated outdoor pool and a picnic alongside pickup cricket matches.
6. SURFING PHILIPPINES	Near Cloud 9, one of the world's most famous breaks, Dedon Island resort offers instruction at a mellower location. How long is the class? As long as it takes you to stand up on your board, dude. dedonisland.com	Dedon Island provides a Robinson Crusoe-like experience, albeit one with luxe amenities like an infinity pool and an outdoor movie theater.	Charter a boat for some incredible fishing along the Philippine Deep, a 35,000-foot-deep trench just offshore. siargaofishing.com