



**NOTES ON CAMPING**  
*Heidi Mount  
takes a hike in Utah*

**Winter Travel** with stops in BALI, Colorado, ECUADOR, Florida, KIEV, Kolkata, MARSEILLE, New Orleans, SWITZERLAND, Vermont and THE SELBY VISITS PARIS.

# THE NEW NEW LIST

Tracking the latest ideas in travel and where they'll take you next. **ANDREW SESSA**



## MYANMAR IS THE NEW BHUTAN

Another largely unvisited land of Buddhist temples and lush landscapes, totalitarian Myanmar had its longtime travel boycott lifted in May. Now high-end hotels are popping up, like the Amara Ocean Resort ([amaragroup.net](http://amaragroup.net)) and Malikha Lodge ([malikhalodge.net](http://malikhalodge.net)) in the Himalayan foothills, and in February, Abercrombie & Kent will begin trips there from the United States ([abercrombiekent.com](http://abercrombiekent.com)).

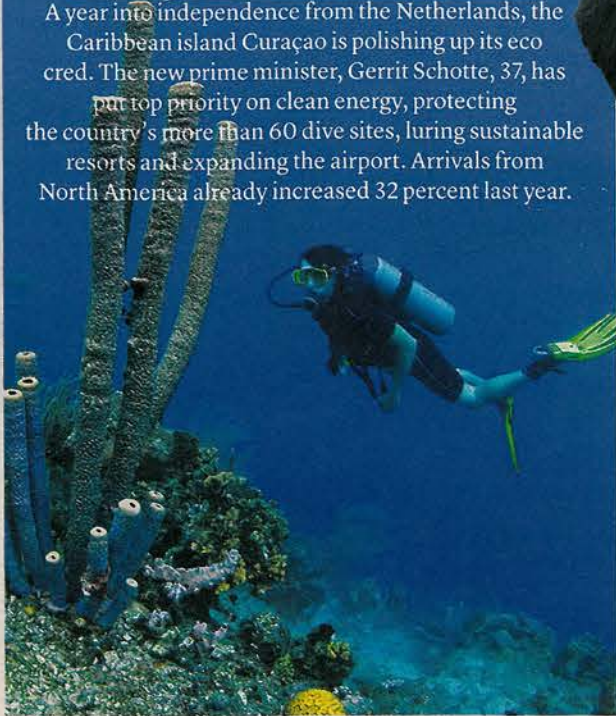


## LIBRARIES ARE THE NEW LOBBIES

Hotels around the world are betting that books are the social lubricant of the future. Le Meridien's new Hub concept and the W Hotel's (W)riter's Library in London both configure common space around books selected by notable figures. And at Ian Schrager's Public Chicago (pictured), communal worktables and computer stations fill "chat rooms" called the Living Room and the Library.

## Curacao Is the New Belize

A year into independence from the Netherlands, the Caribbean island Curaçao is polishing up its eco cred. The new prime minister, Gerrit Schotte, 37, has put top priority on clean energy, protecting the country's more than 60 dive sites, luring sustainable resorts and expanding the airport. Arrivals from North America already increased 32 percent last year.



## GORILLAS ARE THE NEW ELEPHANTS

Africa's Big Five might soon become the Big Six. Micato Safaris ([micato.com](http://micato.com)) added a five-day gorilla trek in Rwanda this year; next year Wilderness Collection will open its Odzala camps ([odzala-kokoua.com](http://odzala-kokoua.com)) in the gorilla-filled rain forests of Congo; and Uganda has increased the number of daily visitor permits for the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest reserve — guests of Sanctuary Gorilla Forest Camp get priority ([sanctuaryretreats.com](http://sanctuaryretreats.com)).

## Dubai Is the New Dubai

After boom, bust and bailout, Dubai is back and noticeably humbler. Average nightly hotel rates, which peaked at \$310 in 2008, now stand at \$218, and visitors, while still flocking, are just as likely to go camping in the desert as they are to carouse in the nightclubs. Expect the buzz to build back up when Emirates adds flights to more American cities next year.



MICATO SAFARIS; DUBAI: GETTY IMAGES.