

Sheridan beach towel, \$60.




SunnyLife beach tote, \$60.



Ecieltica "Alisa" sandals, \$399.

Mexico



While most travellers heading to Mexico's unrelenting sunshine traverse the well-worn route straight to the Mayan Riviera, getting off the beaten track has its benefits. The southern state of Oaxaca provides beachside accommodation with the added bonus of experiencing the real culture of the country. According to *Condé Nast Traveller*, the five-room Casa Pan de Miel is an insider's secret. Visit www.casapandemiel.com.




Dermalogica Extra Rich Faceblock, \$67.



Hawaii

Birthplace of Barack Obama, Oahu is the hub of the idyllic Hawaiian Islands, the home of Pearl Harbour, a disturbing number of extinct volcanoes and the celebrated Waikiki beach. Book the orchid suite at the sumptuous Halekulani hotel and watch the goings on from your own private garden. Visit www.halekulani.com.



Seafolly bikini top, \$110, and bottom, \$70.



Saint Barts

Where the jet set come to snatch some R&R between movie commitments, world tours and multi-million dollar endorsement deals, this Caribbean island is the place to be seen in the sun. The hottest of the hotel hot spots is Hotel Saint Barth Isle de France. Visit www.isle-de-france.com.



Brazil

There is not much more to do in the Brazilian region of Bahia apart from lie back and breathe deeply, so grab a hammock and make yourself comfortable at Villas de Trancoso, a five-villa resort with its own private beach rimmed by lush tropical gardens. Visit www.mybrazilianbeach.com.



Tahiti

The South Pacific island of Tahiti has been mesmerising visitors to its white-powdered shores for centuries; from Captain Cook to Paul Gauguin to Marlon Brando. Its impossibly blue waters provide the ebbing and flowing foundation for the 100 over-water bungalows that make up the divine Four Seasons Resort Bora Bora. Visit www.fourseasons.com/borabora.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAM BILBECHER; GARDEN: DAVID COOPER; DRESS: CECILIE; SANDALS: ECIELTICA; SUNSCREEN: DERMALOGICA; TOWEL: SHERIDAN; TOTE: SUNNYLIFE; BIKINI: SEAFOLLY; RESORT: VILLAS DE TRANCOSO; RESORT: FOUR SEASONS; RESORT: BORA BORA