

style home mini trend

Just beachy

Sizzle on the sand with these hot items, writes **Susan Redman**.

You've put on a new bikini, applied sunblock, sunnies and hat but what else should you take to the beach? Rummage through your sea chest – such as this retro-cool, hand-painted one from Miss Tati & Friends – to find this season's best beach buys.

Country Road towels are always summer favourites. With thick, velvety pile and colourful, stripy patterns, these towels are big enough for two.

Throw one into a large beach bag, such as this Balinese seagrass tote from Citta Design, and head surfside.

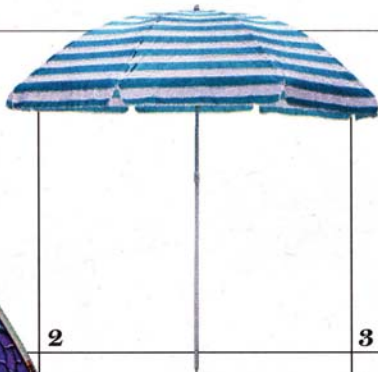
Don't forget your surfboard. Custom-designed "sticks" are hot this season. More than 30 surfboards, illustrated by northern beaches artists for the inaugural Manly Festival of Surfing, can be bought at the festival's final charity auction at 6pm on Monday at The Steyne Hotel in Manly.

Serious surf dogs and Gidget girls set up all-day camp at the beach and like to furnish their sand castles with a few home comforts.

A collapsible chair and pretty umbrella are mandatory. Add a little music – SunnyLIFE's funky ukulele and chunky radio will do the trick – and get your own beach party going on.



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1. "Wise surfer" surfboard, by Ishi Neve, attend auction or bid online at manlyfestivalofsurfing.com.au/event_art.html. 2. Freedom Ripple beach umbrella, **\$34.95**, 1300 135 588, freedom.com.au. 3. SunnyLIFE Maui deck chair, **\$139.95**, David Jones, (03) 9421 6325. 4. SunnyLIFE Beach Sounds, **\$49.95**, David Jones, (03) 9421 6325. 5. Surf's Up Hibiscus Shirt chest of drawers, **\$840**, Miss Tati & Friends, 1300 6477 8284, misstatiandfriends.com. 6. Country Road beach towels, **\$59.95 each**, 1800 801 911. 7. SunnyLIFE Sardinia Ukulele, **\$29.95**, David Jones, (03) 9421 6325. 8. Citta Design Bali beach bag, **\$27.95**, 9317 5511.