



SCENT OF A MAN

PERFUME

Two fragrances to acquire this summer: **Burberry The Beat** (Rs 3,700/100 ml/EDT) is masculine and modern. Full of attitude, this fresh woody scent comes in a neat metal and glass bottle, complete with Burberry checks and even a logo on the side. **Issey Miyake L'eau D'Issey Pour Homme Intense** (Rs 3,200/100 ml/EDT) is an update on the classic fume and boasts of a concrete slate grey bottle with a flashy orange signature tag. Both are available at leading departmental stores nationwide.



GETAWAY



At the secluded La Forestière des Maures in France. Below: The breezy interiors of the guestroom. Left: Exploring the area.

PROVENÇAL PARADISE

If exploring the French countryside is on your agenda this year, you might want to look up **La Forestière des Maures** (*Quartier De La Mente, 83680 La Garde Freinet*; for reservations, e-mail jennifer.pouillet@gmail.com; fdm-provence.com; from USD 12,556 per week). The luxury private estate is located in Massif des Maures, one of Provence's most beautiful regions and borders the Mediterranean Sea. Spread over 20 acres, La Forestière des Maures or the forest house, has eight bedrooms that are spread over three beautiful stone houses and boasts of an authentic Provençal-style décor. Perfect for a family sojourn, you even have access to the private vineyard and winery, along



with a 200-year-old olive grove. The heated swimming pool in this secluded sanctuary is an added bonus. When you get tired of exploring the countryside, make a trip to St. Tropez which is located close by, and get a taste of its designer stores and sprawling beaches. Or, you could head for the medieval villages of Grimaud and La Garde. Those interested in the intricacies of French cooking will be happy to know that private classes can be arranged.

BOOKS

TRAVELLING TOMES

Get your hands on these just-out books that could well ignite your wanderlust. ● If you're visiting the Garden City pick up a copy of *Ticket Bengaluru* (*Stark World, Rs 350*) by *Travel + Leisure South Asia's* contributor Roopa Pai. The third generation Bangalorean takes you on an insider's tour of the metropolis in this informative guidebook. ● "I wanted to salute the common and ordinary people of India and this book is my humble tribute to their indomitable spirit," says Sumant Batra, author of the coffee-table book *The Indians* (*Treepie, Rs 8,500*). Ordinary Indian sights like offering prayers, drinking tea and childhood games are vividly portrayed in this tome. ● Written and photographed by Anshuman Sen, *Kerala* (*Prakash Books, Rs 295*) is a travelogue that takes you on a languid journey through the breathtakingly beautiful southern state.

