

## THE OFF DUTY SUMMER 50



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## Float Your Beat

This portable Bluetooth speaker isn't just waterproof; using the inflatable mini floatie that's included, you can pop it (and the Weekend) right into the pool or lake next to you. Roughly the size of a pancake, this cordless companion can play for nine hours per charge and operates on a 100-foot wireless radius. Generously sized volume controls on the top (those big plus and minus signs) allow for easy adjustments when fumbling with wet fingers. *UE Roll 2, \$100, ultimateears.com* —K.B.

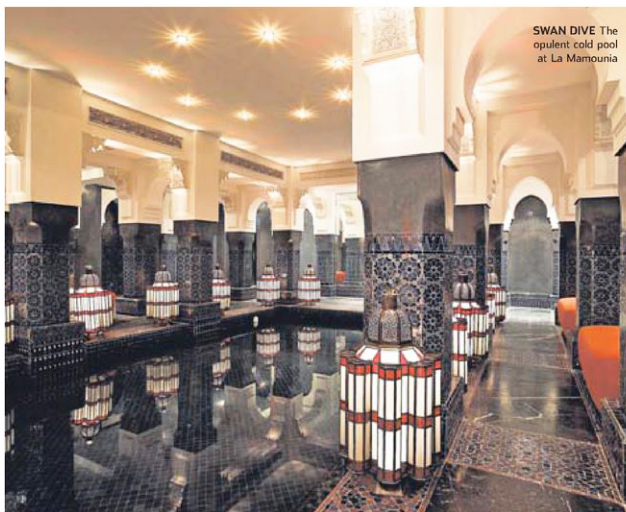
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## Plant a Wall

You probably can't seed a rain forest on your backyard patio. But with this shade- and oxygen-producing living wall, you



can try to counter the warming of your terrace's microclimate. The treated-steel frame resembles a library stack—one where every book is "The Secret Life of Plants"—and the free-standing structure, which includes an integrated irrigation system, can be moved for optimal sun or shade, giving herbs, ivies, orchids and bulbs a chance to thrive. *Paola Lenti Greenery Wall, about 64 inches tall, from \$7,359, ddc, 212-685-0800* —M.T.



SWAN DIVE The opulent cold pool at La Mamounia

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## Take the Waters

At these three overseas spas, treatments are as cooling as they are pampering (and you get to say you're 'summering in Zurich' or 'Marrakesh')

**Bagni Vecchi, Bormio, Italy**  
To escape the heat (and drama) of ancient Rome, Pliny the Elder used to flee to this mineral bath in the Italian Alps. The baths are now part of a sleek wellness center that offers umpteen ways to shave degrees off your temperature, including freezing plunge pools, buckets of icy water and a room full of ice chips for an invigorating skin scrub. Once refreshed, ensconce your blissfully shivering self at the Hotel Bagni Vecchi, adjacent to the baths. *Day pass from about \$47, bagnivibormio.it*

**Dolder Grand, Zurich, Switzerland**  
The Swiss take their snow seriously, even in summer. In the sprawling spa of the hilltop Dolder Grand hotel is a room modestly christened "Snow Paradise," a faux igloo ornamented with icicles, twinkling lights and piles of snow for brisk rubdowns. If an igloo isn't your idea of heaven, skip it and book an ice-crystal facial where serums are made from alpine plants and you're massaged with chilled crystals. *Day pass from about \$260, thedoldergrand.com*

**La Mamounia, Marrakesh, Morocco**  
This may be the land of steamy hammams, but this famed hotel's spa also has tricks for keeping the dry, North African heat at bay. Among them: the roughly \$93 Lightness Treatment, which includes a full-body massage that wraps up with the therapist tracing chilled stones over your legs and feet, said to boost circulation and energy. Even a routine swim in the spa's Moorish-style indoor pool is sure to revive the most wilted traveler. *Day pass about \$50, mamounia.com* —B.M.



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## Lace Up

Canvas flats let you stay light on your feet in August, but dressy occasions require some transparency. Why not bare your soles in black lace? An airy alternative to satin slippers or confining leather pumps, the sheer material offers glimpses of a graceful arch or toes painted a playful hue. *From left: Jimmy Choo Ballerinas, \$675, mytheresa.com; Elodie Pumps, \$795, Gianvito Rossi, 646-869-0201* —B.S.

## MY PLAN TO OUTWIT THE HEAT

"I'll take club chairs from inside, slipcover them in outdoor fabric and put them under one of those wonderful collapsible cabanas you can buy. You can create your own little environment outside—with real, comfortable furniture—that keeps you out of the sun."

Martyn Lawrence  
Bullard  
Designer and  
author of "Design  
and Decoration"  
(Rizzoli, \$50)



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**Pack A Coolerful** From Colorado's Oskar Blues Brewery comes Beerito, a beachside brew tasty enough to swig au naturel, so spare the limes. Crisp lager yeast and a mix of lightly toasted German malts with a Colorado strain called Troubadour make for an earthy chew and refreshing snap.



## Bottle a Fragrant Bouquet

Chive blossoms are a fleeting wonder this time of year, as we head into high salad season. Snip them into pretty much anything and their delicate flavor—neither floral nor onion-y but gently suggestive of both—provides an apt alternative to bolder bulbs. Preserve the flowers' essence as well as their season by infusing a handful in a jar of white-wine or rice vinegar for a couple of weeks—no cooking required. The pretty pink result will add depth to vinaigrettes for months to come. —A.C.

## Chive-Blossom Vinegar

Wait for the buds of chive plants to burst open into full flower, then snip them off and collect them (or gather some at the farmers' market). It's best to harvest on a clear day, when the blossoms are dry. Pack a handful of blossoms into a clean jar and fill with rice vinegar or white-wine vinegar. Secure lid tightly on jar and let vinegar rest until color and flavor is extracted from blossoms, 2 weeks. Pour through a fine-mesh sieve, then bottle. In a sealed container, vinegar will be stable at room temperature. —Adapted from Claudia Butler of Ambrosio Nantucket, Nantucket, Mass.



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## Fight the Frizzies

When heat and humidity rise, so do hair frizz and hackles. Avoid the further irritation torrid blow-drying brings, and air-dry hair with rich texture-enhancing creams. Jen Atkin, the stylist behind the Kardashians' formidable manes, tames frizz with a cocktail of Oat Hair Oil and Oat Finishing Crème (\$28 and \$24, respectively, at sephora.com). Or apply a quarter-size amount of Bumble and Bumble's Don't Blow It (Hair Styler to define tresses without leaving them stiff—the dreaded Ramen-noodle look. \$31, bumbleandbumble.com —Alev Aktar

