



VOGUE

AUSTRALIA

LIVING

the new wave of

women

in design

FANTASTIC VOYAGES

Cruise Portugal, Spain, France, Japan, China and the South Pacific

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

The ultimate in inspirational luxury

Small pleasures

Had your eye on a prestige piece? A cruise is a chance to snap it up.

Styled by Anna Delprat Photographed by Victoria Zschommer



Ship shop

Boutiques on board dazzle with displays of duty-free items, and you can come away with a great find or two if you follow a few rules.

CHOOSE WISELY

Do your research before the trip so you'll have an idea of what you're looking for and be less likely to buy something simply on a whim.

PERUSE THE SHOPS

Cruise lines are great places for retail therapy, and larger luxury ships devote entire decks to shopping malls — Cunard, for example, has the Royal Arcade in the style of London's Burlington Arcade. Prices are legitimately duty-free, without local taxes, as the ships don't trade on shore. In fact, they're open only on sea days and closed in port.

FIND THE DEALS

Prices can be competitive with onshore retail, and you're unlikely to come across a fake handbag or diamond ring, as cruise lines have reputations to uphold. Make sure you know the recommended retail price of an item before you buy, though.

Prices fluctuate throughout the cruise, too, so it's smart not to buy everything in a mad rush on your first day on board. Check your daily cruise guide to find out about special sales and promotions.

MAKE SURE YOU LOVE IT

Before you buy a big-ticket item, such as fine jewellery or art, make sure you really want it. You'll still have to declare any items to customs that exceed your personal limit when you return.

1. Pearl sunglasses, \$940; Chanel. 2. Wicker shoulder bag, \$2315; Gucci. 3. Carrera Lady watch, \$2700; Tag Heuer. 4. Louis Vuitton treasure chest, \$6000; Vintage Luggage Company. 5. Small leather belt bag, \$2850; Burberry. 6. Sea, Surf and Fun silk twill scarf by Filipe Jardim, \$695; and 7. Goatskin envelope wallet, \$1985/set of 3; Hermès. 8. Wild Rose ear clips, \$9150 each, and a Shooting Stars pearl drop, \$3250; Ole Lynggaard Copenhagen. 9. Nantucket double tour band watch, \$3560; Hermès. 10. Cartier Panther De Cartier watch in yellow gold, \$33,200; Kennedy Luxury Group. 11. Sandal with braided ribbon and fringes detail, \$1050; Christian Dior. 12. Toran bangle in yellow gold, \$5300; Georg Jensen. 13. Blossom chair, \$3935; James Said. **BACKGROUND** Agra rug in Duchess, from \$4000; Armadillo & Co. *Details, last pages.*