

VOLUME 15 NUMBER ONE 2004  
TRAVEL FOR THE CONNOISSEUR

# ART *Express*

## ENGLAND SAFARI ENGLAND

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Suzanne Paulson & Constance Glenn.

Safari...in England? Yes, but this time the objective is art! With countless sculpture trails, parks, and manor house collections in both city and country, the British have elevated the popular national pastime of walking in the countryside to an art form — literally. So put on your hiking shoes, call Mrs. Bumble to pack your farm-fresh picnic, and you'll be off, combining beautiful, scenic rambles with great art and music, fascinating history and literature, and, as always, outstanding food.

You must establish a base camp, of course. Ours was **Bruern Stable Cottages** in the **Cotswolds**, near the charming village of **Burford** in the heart of western England. This is a perfect central location from which to explore such classic market villages as **Broadway** and **Chipping Camden** along the celebrated "**Cotswolds Way**," a 100-mile walking trail which runs from **Chipping Camden** to **Bath**. Proximity to great gardens, including **Hidcote** and **Sudeley Castle**, and larger cultural centers, such as **Worcester**, **Stratford-on-Avon** and **Oxford**, also make Bruern's setting perfect. The Bruern cottages are built into a converted 18th-century stone stable/carriage house that was part of nearby Bruern Abbey. Constructed of the famous golden Cotswold stone, with antiques-filled interiors by **Lady Judy Astor** and **Jocasta Innes**, the cottages are well-appointed, warm, and inviting both inside and out. The nearby "cutting" garden provided fresh herbs and flowers for our table, and Bruern's efficient and welcoming manager, **Frances Curtin**, was always on call to meet our needs. On rainy evenings we spent time with a cozy fire in the Gothic stone fireplace of our drawing room as we planned our adventures. Our essential resource for planning daily art excursions was the *International Directory of Sculpture Parks* at [www.artnut.com](http://www.artnut.com) (click on Sculpture Parks and Gardens, follow map prompts to the UK. This site also provides links to individual art sites). Another valuable resource is *Art Sites, Britain and Ireland*, by Sidra Stich. **ARTexpress** used both to combine our unique art experiences with excursions into England's rich history and literature.

Our art trek began at the **Forest of Dean**, located near **Gloucester** on the English/South Wales border, approximately 120 miles west of London. A popular vacation destination, this forest has beautiful trails and vistas, with trees dating back to the 17th century. Once inside the forest, signs to the **Sculpture Trail at Beechenhurst Lodge** are well-marked, and you can pick up a guide in the lodge. At any given time there are 15 to 20 site-specific artworks along the trail, created mainly from natural, local materials designed to respond to weather, climate, and time. Artworks are placed through a commission process, and many thematically reflect the forest's industrial past of coal mining and lumber production. Noted British sculptor **David Nash** is represented by two works here, *Black Dome* and *Fire and Water Boats*, both alluding to the forest's coal-producing heritage. Completed in 1986, *Black Dome* is well along in the process of decaying into the life cycle of the forest. *Raw*, by South African artist **Neville Gable** was a graphic reminder of the vulnerability of the forest environment. A 200-year-old oak tree with trunk and branches, was felled and cubed to make a solid 6-foot-square block, leaving a vast clearing in the forest canopy as a reminder of the area once filled by the living tree. We

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ended our 4-mile hike back at the lodge with a well-deserved picnic prepared by Mrs. Bumbles of Burford — sandwiches of pesto, tomato and mozzarella or smoked salmon and dill, with fresh fruit and scones for dessert.

Continuing into **Wales**, we headed for the **National Botanical Garden** (recently renamed **Middleton**) just off the A40 in Carmarthenshire. Our objective was to see the new greenhouse designed by **Sir Norman Foster** (one of England's millennium projects), but we were astounded by the beauty and complexity of the gardens themselves. The curvature of Foster's dome, the largest single-span glasshouse in the world, complements the curves of the surrounding valley slopes, and it is encircled by grass so that it appears to be rising out of the hillside. The current garden projects link horticulture, scientific research, and environmental awareness with the reinterpretation of the grand 18th-century garden formerly located on the site. In addition to permanent sculptures in the garden, Middleton sponsors a changing exhibition program of large-scale sculpture by artists inspired by the landscape and architecture of Middleton. Since its opening in 2000, a decline in visitor numbers has left the garden in financial difficulty, however, as we go to press, the gardens remain open for public viewing and special events; we recommend you call ahead for open dates and times.

If time permits, head south, as we did, to that jagged little peninsula at the southwestern tip of England known as **Cornwall**, where you will find several unique and wonderful art destinations — plan to spend at least four or five days exploring this beautiful area, as the roads are not conducive to easy travel. Known for the golden beaches on the north coast, while the south boasts of world-class subtropical gardens and great sailing, one can combine both with artful venues. We started our Cornwall sojourn on the north coast, staying in the minute beach town of **Crackington Haven** at the most delightful **Manor Farm** where we explored **Tintagel Castle**, said to be the birthplace of King Arthur, and then on to the nearby fishing town of **Padstow**, for a scrumptious lunch at **The Seafood Restaurant**. Enroute to the north coast, where we stayed in **The Lugger Hotel** in the tiny fishing village of **Portloe**, we stopped to see **The Eden Project** — the world's largest plant conservatory consisting of a series of immense transparent biomes (glass house domes) designed by leading British architect **Nicholas Grimshaw** and filled with endangered botanical species (we preferred Middleton). Our favorite art experience was in the little seaside town of **St. Ives**, where the studio and garden of the late **Barbara Hepworth**, one of Britain's most famous sculptors, can be found. Nearby is **The Tate St. Ives**, specializing in 20th-century art in the context of Cornwall and housed in a very contemporary building, designed in 1993 by **Eldred Evans** and **David Shalev**, which overlooks the beautiful beach of **Porthmear**. For our delicious seafood lunch we chose **Porthminster Café** at the opposite end of the village.

On another adventure, an hour's drive from **Bruern** took us to **The New Art Centre Sculpture Park** near Salisbury, a private sculpture collection located on a 20-acre parkland surrounding the

## Focus England

### MANOR HOUSES & INNS IN THE COTSWOLDS

**Buckland Manor Country House Hotel**, Buckland, Gloucestershire (near Broadway), Tel. 44-(0)1386-852626, Fax 44-(0)1386-853557. A member of Relais & Chateaux, this beautiful hotel is set on a hillside overlooking magnificent landscapes and gardens. It is an ideal location for walks along the "Cotswold Way."

**Lords of the Manor**, Upper Slaughter (near Burton-on-the-Water) Gloucestershire, Tel. 44-(0)1451-820243, Fax 44-(0)1451-820696. Formerly a 17th-century rectory, the manor house is set within eight acres of secluded gardens and parklands in the picturesque village of Upper Slaughter.

**Lower Slaughter Manor**, Lower Slaughter, Gloucestershire, Tel. 44-(0)1451-822150. Set in one of the prettiest villages in the Cotswolds, this 17th-century manor house is a good choice for your stay in England.

**Lygon Arms**, Broadway, Worcestershire, Tel. 44 (0)1386-852255, Fax 44-(0)1386-858611. In the very heart of England, Lygon Arms was established as an inn in 1532 during the time of the infamous King Henry VIII. Located on the main street of the little shopping village of Broadway, it is one of our favorites.

**The Bay Tree Inn**, Sheep Street, Burford, Tel. 44-(0)1993-822-791, Fax 44-(0)1993-823008. A charming old favorite for many travelers—far more reasonable in price than the much touted manor houses, the inn is very old and very quaint. The atmosphere coupled with distinctive cuisine make this a great choice.

### IN CORNWALL

**Manor Farm**, Crackington Haven, North Cornwall, Tel. 44-(0)1840- 230304. This bed & breakfast is described as one of the loveliest houses in the area. The part whitewashed stone and slate manor house is secluded and surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens and rolling countryside.

**Trevigie Farm**, High Cliff, Crackington Haven, North Cornwall, Tel./Fax 44-(0)1840-230418. A superb 16th-century farmhouse overlooking over two miles of spectacular coastline. The restaurant is lovely and serves the best food in this area.

**The Lugger Hotel**, Portloe, Truro, Cornwall, Tel. 44-(0)187-250-1322. The hotel can be found in the tiny little harbor of Portloe and has been featured in *Architectural Digest* and other top magazines. Although the setting was delightful, we were not impressed by our room and found the location difficult to navigate, but enjoyed the excellent dining room.

**Tresanton**, St. Mawes, Cornwall, Tel. 44-(0)1326-270-055, 44-(0)01326-270-053. Considered one of the finest seaside hotels in England with elegantly furnished rooms overlooking a glorious setting of the harbor and sea. Very good restaurant as well!

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**Ennys**, St. Hilary, Goldsithney, Penzance, Cornwall, Tel. 44-(0)1736-740-262, Fax 44-(0)7136-740055. A beautiful, 17th-century Cornish manor house located almost at the end of the Cornish peninsula. Not only is it an idyllic rural retreat, but it is ideal for visiting Penzance and St. Ives. This would be our number one choice for exploring Cornwall.

## IN WEST SUSSEX

**Gravetye Manor**, Near East Grinstead, West Sussex, Tel. 44-(0)1342-810-567, Fax 44-(0)1342-810-080. This 16th-century Elizabethan manor house has been one of our favorites for years. The service is impeccable—the manager provided a tuxedo at the last minute for attending the Glyndebourne Opera. Beautiful grounds and excellent food.

**Horsted Place**, Little Horsted, Uckfield, East Sussex, Tel. 44-(0)1825-750581, Fax 44-(0)1825-750459. A luxury country-Victorian mansion with Elizabethan overtones, set in an English garden—an ideal location for attending the opera (7 miles to Glyndebourne).

## LAKE DISTRICT

**Grey Friar Lodge**, Clappersgate, Ambleside, Cumbria, Tel./Fax 44-(0)15394-33158. A delightful bed & breakfast inn, formerly a Victorian vicarage built in 1869, with a location that affords breathtaking views of the Brathay River and the mountains beyond. The food is prepared by the owner, Pamela Veen, to perfection and husband David is helpful with ideas for sightseeing and tours.

**White Moss House**, Rydal Water, Grasmere, Cumbria, Tel. 44-(0)15394-35295, Fax 44-(0)15394-35516. A tiny, charming little bed & breakfast in a perfect location to explore William Wordsworth's famous home, as well as Beatrix Potter's Hill Top Farm.

**Low Fell Country House**, Bowness on Windemere, Cumbria, Tel. 44-(0)15394-45612, Fax 44-(0)15394-48411. Another small bed & breakfast that oozes with charm and is perfect for exploring the many attractions in the Lake District.

## NORTHUMBERLAND

**Lord Crewe Arms**, Blanchland, County Durham, Tel. 44-(0)1434-675251, Fax 44-(0)1434-675337. Nestled in a little valley amidst moors and forests, the Lord Crewe Arms is set around a cobbled square with a church, cottages and a tiny store/post office. It has been in the Crewe family since 1721 and could not be more charming. We used it as our base to explore the northern coast as well as Hadrian's Wall.

## RENTAL COTTAGES

**Bruern Stable Cottages**, Red Brick House, Bruern, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, Tel. 44-(0)1993-830415, Fax 44-(0)1993-831750, Website: [www.bruern.co.uk](http://www.bruern.co.uk). The former stables of the 19th-century Bruern Abbey have been converted into

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19th-century Roche Court house. The collection includes works by major international artists, including **Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore, Louise Nevelson, Richard Deacon, David Nash, and Richard Long**, in a changing exhibition of works which are available for sale. Equally interesting is the award-winning contemporary gallery space designed by architects **Munkenbeck + Marshall**, and the adjoining artist's house designed by **Stephen Marshall**. The artist's house is a small contemporary space for use as both a living space for visiting artists and for display of smaller works of art — it is available for a private viewing upon request. In our tradition of uniting contemporary art experiences with sites of historical interest, we fit in visits to both **Stonehenge** and the magnificent, Gothic landmark — **Cathedral Salisbury** — both nearby!

Another excursion from Bruern took us to **West Sussex** (just south of London), where we combined **Sculpture at Goodwood** with an amazing experience at the **Glyndebourne Opera** with its great new 1994 design by British architect **Michael Hopkins** (information regarding the 2004 opera season and booking tickets can be found at [www.glyndebourne.com](http://www.glyndebourne.com)). On the day of the opera, we booked an early lunch and a lovely room at our favorite country hotel, **Gravetye Manor**, an Elizabethan stone mansion built in 1598 in **East Grinstead** located 45 minutes from Glyndebourne. Attending the opera, you must arrive at 3:30 PM in formal attire to enjoy Pimms and snacks before the performance. A long intermission after the first act allows you to picnic on the grounds or have dinner in one of the on-site restaurants (be sure to make reservations well ahead). Both the opera and the luscious gardens and grounds were an experience not to be forgotten. Also in West Sussex near Chichester is **Sculpture at Goodwood**, a twenty-acre park — the vision of British art patrons **Wilfred and Jeannette Cass** — designed to allow selected artists to create site-specific works that will eventually be for sale. During our visit, we saw works by **Allen Jones, Anthony Caro, Tony Cragg, Bill Woodrow** and others. For more information visit [www.sculpture.org.uk](http://www.sculpture.org.uk) and call ahead for directions and hours: 44-(0)1234-538449.

We departed Bruern again — this time for visits to northern England, stopping first in **Liverpool** to check out yet another Tate satellite museum, which we found in **Albert's Dock** — a new complex of restaurants and shops on Liverpool's waterfront. This is the largest English gallery of modern art outside of London and well worth the stop. Comfortable shoes, a picnic, and an umbrella are a must to tour the **Yorkshire Sculpture Park**, located near **Wakefield**, our next stop located approximately two hours from London. YSP is one of Europe's leading open-air art organizations showing modern and contemporary work by leading UK and international artists. A vibrant, changing program of exhibitions, displays and projects is held throughout 500 acres of 18th-century landscaped grounds and in two indoor galleries. We especially enjoyed the adjacent sheep field (watch your step!), with "dog-friendly" walking paths, filled with major works by Henry Moore. If time permits, call to visit the **Henry Moore Studio** in nearby **Halifax** to see works in progress by artists such as **Christian Boltanski, James Turrell, Jannis Kounellis, and Ulrich Ruckriem**.

Venturing further afield, we visited the northern counties of

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**Northumberland** and **Cumbria**, on a mission to see as much art as possible in a short week. Away from our Bruern Cottage home, we relied on *Karen Brown's England: Charming Bed and Breakfasts*, and we weren't disappointed in the quality of both lodgings and exquisite meals. In the **Lake District** near **Ambleside**, we stayed in the **Grey Friar's Lodge**, formerly a Victorian vicarage, boasting cozy rooms with stunning views of the Lake District and outstanding local food (including our favorite desserts — sticky toffee and Grasmere gingerbread). In Northumberland, our home was the charming **Lord Crewe Arms**, formerly a 12th-century monastery in Blanchland (definitely off the beaten track, but we loved it!).

In the Lake District, we hiked in **Grizedale Forest Park**, not a sculpture park, but a commissioning and residency program which supports artists in making new works that relate to the context of the area. Works created on site must use materials from the environment; they are considered part of the forest and will decay over time. With a choice of over 200 sculptures on several trails (maps are available at local visitor centers for about 5 euros), we chose the 3-mile **Bogle Crag** trail to find *Taking A Walk For A Walk* by **Andy Goldsworthy**. Other than works by Goldsworthy, **David Nash** and **David Mach**, don't expect works by major artists in Grizedale; DO expect a rigorous hike amidst diverse landscapes of mountains, moors, and streams, with a bonus treasure hunt for enchanting works of art in the woods and clearings. And, if you have enough energy, **Beatrix Potter's Hilltop Farm**, **Wordsworth's Dove Cottage**, and historic **Holker Hall and Gardens** are all nearby! *ARTexpress* also recommends the **Abbott Hall Gallery** in **Kendall** — check for changing contemporary exhibits by artists such as **David Hockney** and **Lucien Freud** in a stately Georgian house.

Our art safari highlight was a search for *Sheepfold Sculptures* by **Andy Goldsworthy** located in this area. Sheepfolds are small, usually circular pens used for gathering and counting sheep. Inspired by the centuries-old stacked stone walls, Goldsworthy has worked extensively with local farmers in the Lake District, building, rebuilding or restoring more than 100 sheepfolds to call attention to the culture and history of the region. We visited the *Fellfoot Drove Folds*, a series of sixteen small square enclosures along a two-mile track, each containing a large boulder; the *Deadman Gill Touchstone Fold*, unique because of its balanced river-stone sculptures built into three walls; and three Pinfolds: Bolton, Brough, and Warcop, each with a signature Goldsworthy stacked "pine cone." The Cumbria County Council has published a free map and guide to all sites, available at most tourist offices, or go to [www.sheepfolds.org](http://www.sheepfolds.org) for information on location and accessibility. Even with directions, finding each site is a small adventure through fields and along remote roads — be prepared to ask local farmers for assistance!

From the Lake District, a drive along **Hadrian's Wall** took us from coast to coast. Running for 73 miles near the Scottish border, the wall was built in 120 A. D. to mark and defend the northwest boundary of the Roman Empire. With more time, we recommend exploring the entire **Hadrian's Wall Path**, an 84-mile walking trail which is

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charming little one-two-three and four-bedded cottages—each uniquely decorated with chintzes and antiques and as well stocked with all you could ask for. It is in the country, but close to Burford, Chipping Norton and Stow-on-the-Wold for shopping. It is ideal for children. We loved it.

### RENTAL AGENCIES

**Blandings**, Tel. 44-(0)20-7947-3290, Website: [www.blandings.co.uk](http://www.blandings.co.uk). The best agent is Warren de Long with properties ranging from Jane Seymour's Tudor outside Bath to family-size manors in Cornwall.

**Noteworthy Events**, Tel. 44-(0)20-7824-8995, Fax 44-(0)20-7824-8545, Website: [www.noteworthyevents.com](http://www.noteworthyevents.com).

If it is a castle or stately house you want, ask for Susie Worthy, who offers the best in England.

**English Country Cottages**, Tel. 44-(0)8700-781100, Website: [www.english-country-cottages.co.uk](http://www.english-country-cottages.co.uk). Here you can choose between over 3,000 properties—from converted farmhouses to Medieval castles.

### RESTAURANTS

#### IN THE COTSWOLDS

**The Lamb Inn and Restaurant**, Sheep Street, Burford, Tel. 44-(0)1993-823155, Fax 44-(0)1993-822228. A quaint 16th-century building with cozy little sitting rooms for cocktails and a dining room with large leaded windows overlooking a garden; make this a special dining experience.

**Buckland Manor Country House Hotel**, Buckland, Gloucestershire, Tel. 44-(0)1386-852626, Fax 44-(0)1386-853557. This is the place to have that special dinner. The ambiance cannot be beat and the service is impeccable.

**Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons**, Church Road, Great Milton, Oxford, Tel. 44-(0)1844-278881, Fax 44-(0)1844-278847, Website: [www.manoir.com](http://www.manoir.com). Raymond Blanc's world-renowned manor house is set in elegant gardens in the Oxfordshire countryside and his magical cuisine makes this restaurant the top on anyone's list for that special event.

**The Horse and Groom Village Inn**, Upper Oddington, Gloucestershire, Tel. 44-(0)1451-830584, Fax 44-(0)1451-831496. A delightful 16th-century inn where one feels comfortable dining with the locals and the food is very good.

**The Kings Head Inn**, The Green, Bledington, Near Kingham, Oxfordshire, Tel. 44-(0)1608-658365. For a real local flavor and atmosphere, plus delicious food, we loved this country inn located close to Bruern Cottages.

**Hamiltons Brasserie**, Park Street, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, Tel. 44-(0)1451-831700. This was our favorite lunch spot when shopping in Stow. The salads and sandwiches are simply delicious.

**Huffkins**, 98 High Street, Burford, Tel. 44-(0)1993-822126. One of the best bakeries in the area and our number one choice for breakfast where they serve delicious cappuccinos.

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**Mrs. Bumbles of Burford**, 31 Lower High Street, Burford, Oxfordshire, Tel. 44-(0)1993-822209. This delicatessen provides the best ingredients for a wonderful picnic or a delicious pasta dinner.

## IN CORNWALL

**Seafood Restaurant**, Riverside, Padstow, Tel. 44-184-153-2700. Rick Stein's restaurant has a reputation for imaginative cooking of the very freshest fish and shellfish. It is located across the quay from the fishing boats and the fish literally comes straight off the boats to the kitchen.

**Porthminster Beach Café**, St. Ives, Tel. 44-1736-795352. This popular and fun restaurant overlooks the beach of Porthminster where the view is superb, people watching is fun, and the seafood cuisine is divine. If weather permits, book an outside table.

## ART VENUES

**Forest of Dean Sculpture Trail**, Situated near Coleford, on the England/South Wales Border. Website: forest-of-dean-sculpture.org.uk.

**The Great Glass House**, by Sir Norman Foster, National Botanic Garden of Wales, Middleton, South-Central Wales, Website: www.gardenofwales.org.uk.

**New Art Centre Sculpture Park & Gallery**, Roche Court, East Winterslow, Salisbury, Wiltshire, Website: www.sculpture.org.uk.

**Sculpture at Goodwood**, Chichester, West Sussex, Website: www.sculpture.org.uk.

**Tate Liverpool**, Albert Dock, Liverpool, Website: www.tate.org.uk. Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Bretton Hall, West Bretton (near Wakefield), Website: www.ysp.co.uk.

**Grizedale Sculpture Park**, Grizedale Forest Park, Ambleside, Lake District, Website: www.artcumbria.org.

**Sheepfold Sculpture**, by Andy Goldsworthy, 1996-2001. Contact Cumbria Public Art, Birbeck House, Duke Street, Penrith, CA117NA, Tel. 44-(0)1768-899014.

**Kielder Forest Sculpture Forest**, Located near Hexham in Kielder, Northumberland, Tel. 44-(0)1434-250209. For more information contact: Hexham Tourist Information Centre, Tel. 44-(0)1434-652220.

**BALTIC**, Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, Northumberland, Website: www.balticmill.com.

**Tyne Millennium Bridge**, Between Newcastle and Gateshead. Architect: Chris Wilkinson.

**Angel of the North**, by Antony Gormley, located on the A167 south of Gateshead.

**Tate St. Ives**, Porthmear Beach, St. Ives, Cornwall, www.tate.org.uk.

**Barbara Hepworth Museum & Sculpture Garden**, Baroon Hill, St. Ives, Cornwall, Tel. 44-(0)1736-796226.

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designated a World Heritage Site. We chose instead to turn north at **Hexham** to visit the **Kielder Water and Forest Park**. We hiked up a hill to find our favorite piece — *Skyspace*, **James Turrell's** homage to "the skies of Constable and Turner" — a spectacular addition to the English public art scene. Constructed of stone from local quarries, Turrell's structure creates a careful balance between the qualities of exterior and interior light (our experience included the bluest sky we've seen in England complete with brilliant, dramatic storm clouds).

Opened in July of 2002, **BALTIC**, the major new center for contemporary art, is the focal point of the Newcastle/Gateshead urban revitalization projects along the River Tyne. Housed in a 1950s grain warehouse (part of the former Baltic Flour Mills) renovated by **Dominic Williams**, Baltic's original industrial building has been redesigned to include six floors of exhibition space, artists' studios, restaurants, and retail space, a theater, media lab and library/archive. With no permanent collection, Baltic emphasizes the "art factory" approach — a constantly changing program of exhibitions and events, with a heavy emphasis on commissions and artists-in-residence producing works on-site. We were fortunate to visit during a major exhibition by **Antony Gormley**, which included **Domain Field**, his remarkable collaboration with local residents. Check the website, www.balticmill.com, for upcoming exhibitions and programs. Just outside Baltic's front entrance, walk across the **Tyne Millennium Bridge**, a pedestrian and bicycle drawbridge designed by **Chris Wilkinson** as part of the Tyne riverfront renewal. From here you can see **The Sage Gateshead**, **Sir Norman Foster's** spectacular new performing arts center, due to open in the winter of 2004-5. Both Newcastle and Gateshead have initiated riverfront sculpture-trail projects, however we found the artworks were in remote industrial areas and difficult to find. But do take the short drive down the motorway to Gormley's *Angel of the North*, a breathtaking, monumental work (65 feet tall with a "wingspan" of 175 feet, made with over 100 tons of steel), prominently visible to approximately 90,000 motorists daily.

As on all of our excursions, visits to heritage sites in Northumberland rounded out art experiences; we chose **Holy Island**, inspiring because it is the place where Christianity began in Britain (be sure to check the tide tables for crossing at low tide, like the monks who once lived there!); a tour of **Alnwick** (Say "Annick") **Castle**, home of the **Duke and Duchess of Northumberland**, better known as the site used in filming the Harry Potter movies; **Durham Cathedral** (extraordinary Romanesque architecture, and another Harry Potter site). An overnight stop in the ancient walled city of **York** with a walk along the wall which encircles the city, as well as a visit to **York Minster**, the beautiful cathedral in the center of the city, rounded out our English art safari.

The English countryside is filled with wonderful concerts in castles, churches, and historic landmarks throughout the entire summer. The gardens are in bloom everywhere and the sheep are ready to welcome you on the wonderful paths designed for walkers.

**ARTexpress** urges you to book a cottage or manor house in the Cotswolds (or your favorite spot in England), go online for information, book tickets now for hard to get venues, and have a "lovely" time in jolly 'ole England!

# ART AROUND THE WORLD

## News

Once again, it's time for **ARCO** — ARCO 04 International Contemporary Art Fair, Madrid, February 12-16 — and **Madrid** is blooming, as is Spain at large. The invitational ARCO opening will be February 11 at 7 PM and the previews are scheduled for the 11th from 4-7 PM and the 12th from 11-2. At 2 PM the fair — at Parque Ferial Juan Carlos I — opens to the public. Always thought of as an essentially Spanish fair, with a European, and finally, international flavor, in its 23rd year ARCO remains one of the most focused and popular fairs on the continent. This year, the featured country will be Greece and fifteen prominent Greek galleries will be special guests of the fair.

Elsewhere in Spain, a new Picasso museum has debuted in the artist's native Málaga. Housed in a 16th-century palace recreated by **Richard Gluckman** — known for pristine museums and galleries — it houses a family collection consisting of works primarily from the artist's daughter-in-law **Christine Ruiz-Picasso** and her son **Bernard**. The museum includes galleries for the permanent collection, plus spaces for temporary exhibitions, a library, bookshop, and education center.

Food is in the news lately too, as renowned Spanish chefs **Ferran Adrià (El Bulli)**, **Juan Maria Arzak (Arzak)**, **Martin Berasatequi** (who initiated the once-spectacular food service at the Guggenheim Bilbao), and other stars hosted the first **International Gastronomy Congress in Madrid**. The big names from around the world were on hand.

Near **Elciego**, in Spain's wine-producing Rioja region, all eyes are on the new **Frank Gehry** project for **Marqués de Riscal**, the most venerable vintner in the region. Billed as a company headquarters/hotel, the limestone and titanium 'rosé'-tinted structure will house a restaurant, private dining rooms, a tasting room, and forty-four guest rooms with custom-designed Gehry furnishings. It's slated for completion in late 2004.

And even though it's located in Spain's off-shore paradise, **Tenerife**, capital of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, no one is passing up **Santiago Calatrava's** waterfront opera house — an astonishing, soaring sculpture that more than rivals the Sydney opera house. Swiss architects **Herzog & de Meuron** have designed a nearby marina and port complex to open by the end of the year and are also at work on a central residential/cultural center. Santa Cruz is bound — with idyllic beaches and fine music and art venues — to become a must-see destination.

**Havana** is basking in the light of a very successful Bienal — a success even though significant European funds were withdrawn in protest to the latest round of imprisonments and government censorship. The artists, soon to be cut off from

## Great Addresses

### IN MADRID

At last there are some serious hotel choices beyond the Ritz and the Palace, and not only are they luxurious, they house some of the city's grandest new restaurants.

**Santceloni**, Hotel Hesperia, Paseo de la Castellana, 57, Tel. (34) 91.210.8840. This new Madrid one-star cousin to the renowned three-star Racó de Can Fabes in the Catalan village of Sant Celoni is a showplace for chef Oscar Velasco. On the lower level of the Hotel Hesperia, the look is chic country kitchen and the food ranges from classic to experimental, accompanied by a fabulous wine list.

**La Broche**, Hotel Miguel Ángel, Calle Miguel Ángel, 29, Tel. (34) 91.399.3437, Fax (34) 91.399.3778. The influence of the wildly innovative Ferran Adrià is palpable in Madrid and La Broche is no exception. Chef Sergi Arola's two-star treasure pays tribute, but in an entirely original way. The setting is elegant, in keeping with the contemporary elan of the hotel, and the small menu is long on creativity — think carpaccio of duck foie with prawns, scallops and apple puree or boned roast squab sprinkled with sunflower seeds presented on a bed of fresh melon!

**Europa**, Hotel Villa Real, Plaza de Las Cortes, 10, Tel. (34) 91.369.3310, Fax (34) 91.420.2547. Enter through the hotel in order to see the art collection, ranging from Roman mosaics to Warhol. The restaurant itself features fine lithographs by Antoni Tàpies — the theme for simple but stylish contemporary décor. Chef Joaquín de Felipe focuses on the Mediterranean and Catalan flavors of the moment without the high-wire style of the followers of El Bulli. Great breads to the sampled with Catalan olive oils are a favorite.

Also try **El Chaflán** at the Hotel Aristos and **Goizeko-Wellington** at Hotel Wellington, and of course tea in the garden at the **Ritz** never grows old.

### IN MALAGA

**Museo Picasso Málaga**, [www.mpicassom.org](http://www.mpicassom.org). Through February, the inaugural exhibition, *El Picasso de Los Picasso*, highlights the restored Mudejar-style palace.

### IN ELCIEGO

**Hotel Marqués de Riscal**, Tel. (34) 945.60.6590, [www.marquesderiscal.com](http://www.marquesderiscal.com). Tours are by reservation one month in advance; \$6.00. Although the hotel is a year away from completion, it is already possible to tour the site and taste the great reserves.

### IN SAN FRANCISCO

**Four Seasons Hotel**, 757 Market Street, Tel. 800.332.3442, 415.633.3000. Close to SFMOMA,

# ART AROUND THE WORLD

## Great Addresses...more

this sleek, contemporary skyscraper with arguably the largest rooms in the city, studded with floor-to-ceiling views, is the number one choice.

**Delfina**, 3621 18th Street, Tel.

415.552.4055. Craig and Anne Stoll opened their neighborhood Italian restaurant in the Mission District in 1998 and it wasn't long before it became a cult favorite, beloved still for its simple fare full of rustic delights.

**Restaurant Michael Mina**, Westin St.

Franics Hotel, Union Square. The news in San Francisco is the projected opening of chef Michael Mina's — of **Aqua** fame — new space, the one that was once the site of the late, lamented Compass Rose Restaurant. Plan to be first in line!

## IN VENICE

**Fiaschetteria Toscana**, Cannaregio 5719, San Giovanni Grisostomo, Tel. (39) 041/528.5281. Taste the particularly Venetian risotto called *go e bevarase* — lagoon fish broth mingled with sweet clams. And, while you're traversing the canals, remember **Do Forni**, where lamb with white truffles is in season, plus, stop by **Anticlea Antiquariato** for coveted glass beads or **Ca'del Sol** for Carnivale masks.

## IN ST. LOUIS

**Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis**, 3750 Washington Blvd., Tel. 314.535.4660. Now is the time to plan a visit — perhaps in the spring — to the site of the new contemporary art scene here. Just opposite Tadao Ando's Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, and sharing a courtyard terrace, is the newly opened Contemporary Art Museum by Brad Cloepfil (formerly the Forum for Contemporary Art). The 27,000 square-foot building with galleries, performances space, media lab, and café is a minimalist concrete structure wrapped in wire mesh. With the giant, torqued Richard Serra anchoring the space between the two museums, the complex is subtle but spectacular.

## IN HAVANA

Rather than provide tempting addresses of forbidden places, **ARTexpress** suggests that you seek a licensed travel provider (such as U.C. Berkeley Extension, offering a trip April 23 - 30) whose license may have an early 2004 expiration date, as there are a few legal trips remaining. Once the current licenses expire there will be no more people-to-people programs until either Congress overrides the Bush government policy (which almost took place this fall), or until the present administration relaxes the restrictions (an act which seems very unlikely).

## News...more

visits by American collectors, made every effort to assure that their own projects were their best efforts and that they and their studios were open to all. The primary site — the monumental 18th-century stone fortress of **San Carlos de la Cabaña** at the mouth of the harbor — featured largely solo exhibitions inventively installed in a warren of rooms that recalled the linear layout of the spaces of the Arsenale in Venice — although the fortress rooms are completely closed off from one another. Additional sites included **Casa de las Américas**, **Centro Wifredo Lam**, the **Ludwig Foundation**, **Alamar Spaces at Africa Square** and the **Museo de Bellas Artes/Cubano**, where solo shows by **Los Carpinteros**, **Tania Bruguera** and **Francisco Rodriguez** were a big draw. The resiliency of the Cuban creative community is remarkable and we can only hope that it won't be too long until "people-to-people" exchanges are allowed once more.

In **Venice**, the sound of many hands clapping is a sign that, at last, the historic **La Fenice** opera house has reopened after burning to the ground in January 1996. Originally designed by **Giannantio Selva** in 1792, La Fenice first burned down in 1836, was rebuilt, and finally remodeled in 1937. After considering the possibility of returning the house to its 18th-century origins, when it was found that no records existed, it was decided that the restoration would reflect the beloved 'wedding-cake' décor of the mid-19th century. After a week-long inaugural festival in December, 2003 — initiated with an orchestra and chorus concert led by **Riccardo Muti** — the house closed for final 'tuning' before the fall operal season begins, with **Lorin Maazel** conducting *La Traviata*, which was one of five Verdi operas to premiere at **La Fenice**.

To celebrate the new year, the **City by the Bay** is gearing up for the 6th Annual **San Francisco International Art Exposition**, January 16-19, 2004. A Blackman fair, and thus a cousin to Chicago's popular May exposition at Navy Pier, this one is beginning to gather a steady following. The opening celebration (tickets begin at \$300) on Thursday, January 15th from 5-10 PM will benefit the **San Francisco Art Institute**; tempting art and architecture tours are being offered as well as trips to the wine country, and the host hotel is the elegant new **Four Seasons**. For more information, call 312.587.3300 or visit the fair's website, [www.sfiae.com](http://www.sfiae.com). Visitors to the fair will be just in time to take in the landmark **Diane Arbus** retrospective at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, which closes February 8, 2004. Save a day, too, for a trip to see the survey of the work of the once-radical **Bay Area Collaborative Ant Farm** (1968-1978) at the **Berkeley Art Museum**, through April 26, 2004.

# ART EXPRESS ART EXPRESS

## Calendar

Through	Feb. 5	Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin	<i>Katharina Sieverding</i>
Through	Feb. 8	SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>Diane Arbus: Revelations</i>
Through	Feb. 14	California College of Arts and Crafts, San Francisco	<i>Capp Street Project: Brian Jurgen</i>
Through	Feb. 18	Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid	<i>Alexander Calder</i>
Through	Feb. 21	Newlyn Art Gallery, Penzance, England	<i>Porth Kurt Jackson</i>
Through	Feb. 22	Musée d'Orsay, Paris	<i>Origins of Abstraction 1800-1914</i>
Through	Feb. 22	Galeria dell'Accademia, Venice	<i>Giorgione</i>
Through	Feb. 29	Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, England	<i>Eduardo Chillida: 1972-2000</i>
Through	Feb. 29	Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt	<i>Andy Warhol's Time Capsules</i>
Through	Feb. 29	Museo Correr, Venice	<i>Neo-Classical and Romantic Scenery from the Fenice Theater</i>
Through	Feb. 29	Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid	<i>Hannah Höch: Photomontages</i>
Through	Feb. 29	Castello di Rivoli-Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Turin	<i>William Kentridge</i>
Through	Feb. 29	Whitechapel Art Gallery, London	<i>Gerhard Richter: Atlas</i>
Through	Mar. 1	IVAM Institut Valencia d'Art Modern, Spain	<i>Francis Bacon</i>
Through	Mar. 7	Centro Galego de Arte Contemporánea, Santiago de Compostela	<i>Vik Muniz</i>
Through	Mar. 8	Louvre, Paris	<i>Jean-Honoré Fragonard</i>
Through	Mar. 14	Saatchi Gallery, London	<i>Jake and Dinos Chapman</i>
Through	Mar. 14	Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, England	<i>Immaterial: Brancusi, Gabo and Moholy-Nagy</i>
Through	Mar. 14	Museo del Prado, Madrid	<i>Rubens: the Story of Aquiles</i>
Through	Mar. 21	Tate Modern, London	<i>The Unilever Series: Olafur Eliasson</i>
Through	Mar. 23	SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>Supernova: Art of the 1990s from the Logan Collection</i>
Through	Mar. 28	Kunstforum, Vienna	<i>Kandinsky</i>
Through	Mar. 29	Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris	<i>Cy Twombly</i>
Through	Mar. 31	Tate Britain, London	<i>Lynn Chadwick</i>
Through	Mar. 31	IVAM Institut Valencia d'Art Modern, Spain	<i>Miguel Barceló</i>
Through	Apr. 12	Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf	<i>Bernd and Hilla Becher</i>
Through	Apr. 18	Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, England	<i>Nancy Spero &amp; Kiki Smith</i>
Through	Apr. 18	SFMOMA, San Francisco	<i>California Landscape: Photos by Jones &amp; Lange</i>
Through	Apr. 18	Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao	<i>Dubuffet: Trace of an Adventure</i>
Through	Apr. 18	Contemporary Art Centre, Málaga	<i>Gerhard Richter</i>
Through	Apr. 25	Tate Modern, London	<i>Donald Judd</i>
Through	Apr. 25	Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf	<i>Julian Opie</i>
Through	Apr. 25	Schim Kunsthalle, Frankfurt	<i>Julian Schnabel: Paintings 1978-2003</i>
Through	Apr. 28	Contemporary Art Center, Málaga	<i>The Randstad Photography Collection</i>
Through	May 3	Tate Liverpool, England	<i>Mike Kelly: The Uncanny</i>
Through	May 3	New Art Center Sculpture Park and Gallery, Salisbury, England	<i>B.Woodrow &amp; R. Deacon</i>
Through	May 9	Tate St. Ives, England	<i>Karl Weshke</i>
Through	May 9	Museu d'Art Contemporani, Barcelona	<i>Vito Acconci</i>
Through	May 16	Hayward Gallery, London	<i>Roy Lichtenstein</i>
Through	May 23	Fundació la Caixa, Barcelona	<i>Dali and Mass Culture</i>
Through	May 31	National Portrait Gallery, London	<i>Cecil Beaton: Portraits</i>
Through	Aug. 7	Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Düsseldorf	<i>Thomas Schütte</i>
Through	Sept. 6	Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal	<i>Out of the Box: Price Rossi Stirling + Clark</i>
Jan. 24 -	Apr. 12	Royal Academy, London	<i>Philip Guston</i>
Jan. 29 -	May 23	Tate Modern, London	<i>Constantin Brancusi</i>
Jan. 31 -	Apr. 18	Royal Academy, London	<i>Vuillard</i>
Jan. 31 -	Aug. 22	National Building Museum, Washington, D.C.	<i>Symphony in Steel: Disney Concert Hall</i>
Feb. 5 -	Jun. 6	Kunsthalle, Vienna	<i>Eve Hesse</i>
Feb. 7 -	May 9	Mori Art Museum, Tokyo	<i>Yayoi Kusama</i>
Feb. 8 -	Jun. 20	Fondation Beyeler, Basel	<i>Francis Bacon and the Tradition of Art</i>
Feb. 11 -	May 23	National Gallery, London	<i>El Greco</i>
Feb. 12 -	16	ARCO 04 (International Contemporary Art Fair), Madrid	
Feb. 12 -	May 3	Tate Britain, London	<i>Pre-Raphaelite Vision: Truth to Nature</i>
Feb. 14 -	Apr. 18	Berlin Biennale for Contemporary Art, Martin-Gropius-Bau Museum	
Feb. 14 -	May 31	Museum Kunst Palast, Düsseldorf	<i>Andy Warhol: The Late Work</i>
Feb. 15 -	Mar. 15	Palazzo Fortuny, Venice	<i>Anton Corbijn</i>
Feb. 19 -	23	The Art Show (Art Dealers Association of America), New York	
Feb. 19 -	Apr. 25	Museu d'Art Contemporani, Barcelona	<i>Antoni Tàpies: Retrospective</i>
Feb. 27 -	Aug. 8	Albertina, Graphische Sammlung, Vienna	<i>Pop Art and Minimal Art</i>
Feb. 28 -	May 16	Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice	<i>The Era of Michelangelo</i>
Feb. 29 -	Jun. 27	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston	<i>Gauguin-Tahiti</i>
Mar. 3 -	May 31	Tate Britain, London	<i>Angus Fairhurst, Damien Hirst and Sarah Lucas</i>
Mar. 11 -	May 30	Whitney Museum, New York	<i>72 Whitney Biennial</i>
Mar. 12 -	15	The Armory Show (International Fair of New Art), New York	

## Travel Bookshelf: England

### Guides

*Eyewitness Travel Guide Great Britain.*  
Richard Sale. *A Guide to the Cotswolds, 1998.*  
*Insight Compact Guide: The Cotswolds.*  
*National Trust Handbook, 2003-2004.*  
Automobile Association, *Illustrated Guide to Britain, 2000.*  
Sidra Stich. *Art Sites: Britain & Ireland* (Contemporary Art + Architecture Handbook), 2000.  
Karen Brown. *England: Charming Bed and Breakfasts.*  
*Sculpture Parks and Gardens, International Directory*, www.artnut.com.  
Sally Varlow. *A Reader's Guide to Writer's Britain.*  
Melanie Wentz, *Once Upon a Time in Great Britain.*  
Colleen Dunn Bates, *Susan LaTempa.*  
*Storybook Travels.*  
*The Literary Traveler*, www.literarytraveler.com.

### Art & Architecture

Andy Goldsworthy, David Craig. *Arch*.  
Andy Goldsworthy. *Wall*.  
Andy Goldsworthy. *Stone*  
Andy Goldsworthy. *Stone Andy Goldsworthy.*  
Antony Gormley. *Making an Angel.*  
Julian Andrews. *The Sculpture of David Nash.*  
Christopher Reed. *Bloomsbury Rooms, 2004.*  
E. Neumann. *Archetypal World of Henry Moore. A Vision for 21st Century British Sculpture* (Sculpture at Goodwood).  
David Jenkins and Hashim Sarkis. *Norman Foster Works.*  
Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd. *Manor Houses of England.*  
Marcus Binney. *Glyndebourne: Building a Vision. Contemporary British Sculpture from Henry Moore to the 90s.*

### Fiction

Ken Follett, *Pillars of the Earth.*  
Daphne du Maurier, *Rebecca.*  
Phillipa Gregory, *The Other Boleyn Girl.*  
Dodie Smith, *I Capture the Castle.*  
Lindsay Clarke, *Alice's Masque.*

There is no limit to the outstanding literature which describes both the society and scenery of Britain; we enjoyed reading C.S.Lewis, Jane Austen, and E.M. Forster. For children, we liked the *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling, Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*, and Beatrix Potter's charming tales set at her Hilltop Farm.

### And...strictly for fun

#### Mysteries

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, (with wonderful photos by Michael Kenna), 1986.  
Michael Frayn, *Headlong & The Copenhagen Papers.*  
M.C. Beaton, *Hilarious Adventures of Agatha Raisin.*