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Come Fly With Me

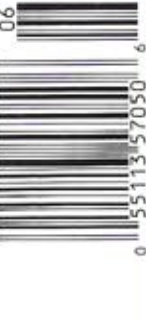
## THE TRAVEL + REC ISSUE



- 029** How to get a great gig overseas
  - 036** Maybe you should just stay home
  - 042** The [deeply contented] mountain guiding life
  - 048** Diary of a roller derby renaissance
  - 076** Budget business trips
- Are jet-setting jobs really that glamorous?

### 068

→ **agnieszka wichniewicz**  
supermodel, frequent flyer, aspiring x-ray technician



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## Moving Parts

You've got an 8 a.m. meeting in Toronto and there's no "I" in red eye. No ZZZs, either. Cattle class does your body no favours, but with the help of some choice gear you'll land ready for business.



### SAMSONITE ULTIMATE TRAVEL SHOE

Panels of leather stitched invisibly to a seam of breathable, stretchable fabric allow these shoes to grow half a size when your feet start to experience in-flight expansion. \$225, [samsoniteblacklabel.com](http://samsoniteblacklabel.com)



### RIISING TIDE FAIR TRADE BAG

Made by women in Kantha, India using traditional embroidery techniques and cruelty-free suede, these fair-trade carryalls are perfect for travel. \$220, [rtfairtrade.com](http://rtfairtrade.com)

### F1 LUGGAGE LOCATOR SET

These colourful and humorous luggage tags will make picking your black suitcase off the carousel easier – and way more fun. \$8, [flight001.com](http://flight001.com)



### BROOKSTONE GET STUFFED SMART TRAVEL BAG

With colour coded tabs, e-pocket for electronics, an ear bud pass-through, a shoe stash and a speed pocket for passport and tickets, fumbling with a carry-on becomes a thing of the past. \$75, [brookstone.com](http://brookstone.com)



### BURTON SLEEPER HOODIE

With built-in earphone compartment, iPod holder, fold-down eye mask and inflatable neck pillow, this hoodie helps snag you some much-needed Zs in the air. \$100, [store.burton.com](http://store.burton.com)

### TOOTHBRUSH SANITIZER

A sanitizing case doubles as a travel case. It kills germs by actually destroying the DNA in E. coli, salmonella and other harmful bacteria. \$21.99, [jet-setter.ca](http://jet-setter.ca)



### CLOTHES SPACEPAK

This handy case maximizes space by compressing your garments. One side for dirty laundry and one for clean means you'll never mix up your unmentionables. \$42, [flight001.com](http://flight001.com)

### OBUSFORME SOUND THERAPY RELAXATION SYSTEM

How hard is it to sleep in a strange hotel room? Ten "environments" make this white-noise maker just the thing to send you off to dreamland before tomorrow's meeting. \$34.99, [obusforme.com](http://obusforme.com)

### EAGLE CREEK ALL TERRAIN MONEY BELT

Goodbye fanny pack! This money belt looks like a belt and works like a belt, but it's got a hidden compartment for stashing your cash. \$16, [jet-setter.ca](http://jet-setter.ca)



## Bangles, Not Bombs

**DIANA DELUCA AND JENEEN GACEK** have a gift for showing up in Indonesia precisely when all hell is about to break loose. The first time was September 11, 2001; the second trip, a year later, was just in time for the Bali bombings. But amid the misfortune the backpacking buddies had an idea that gave rise to both a thriving Edmonton company and a livelihood for 20 Indonesian artisans.

On their first trip, the women befriended a group of locals. That's who they were visiting when three bombs went off in Bali's tourist district in October 2002, killing 200 people and wounding hundreds more. Unlike other foreigners in the area, they stuck around. "We had so many good friends there," says DeLuca, "that to see it through their eyes made a big impression on us."

The Indonesian island province of Bali thrives on tourism. When the women heard their jewelry designer friend, Hariyono, describe how the bombings would hurt his living, they decided to help. DeLuca was vacationing from her job as the director of customer relations at a security company; Gacek was a sales rep for a furniture design studio. Holed up in a rented house in Bali, they created a business plan and, when crunching the numbers, were surprised they could actually make it work. They launched BauXo in November 2002.

The company's chunky, exotic jewelry, along with purses and belts, now sell on four continents. Hariyono still designs, and artists in their Indonesian facility fabricate the pieces using recycled leather, cow horn, sono wood and brass. Though mass produced, each item is handmade. "We try to keep it as hands-on as we can because we'd rather provide employment opportunities than invest in machines," says DeLuca, who slips back to Bali for two months a year. Gacek, who's in Indonesia full time, does the reverse. DeLuca says she would never have made the jump from the corporate world to starting a jewelry company "without the transition of travelling." Creating beauty out of tragedy made that plunge feel all the more right. *\_NM*

