



GET PACKING: SHORTS

Amy Adams SOLVES YOUR TRAVEL GEAR PROBLEMS

COMIC SHORTS

They're called OTT boardshorts. No prizes for guessing why. You're certain to stand out from the crowd in these Santa Cruz shorts, unless you find yourself in a comic store where you'll be nicely camouflaged.

They're available in three colour schemes.

THE DAMAGE: £42

WHERE: extremepie.com



WELL PLAID

"It looks great on the ground, so why not take plaid to the pool?" ask the powers that be at Vans. But it's not just the fabric that makes the Galley boardshorts special – they come with a wax comb and bottle opener to maintain your board and your thirst.

THE DAMAGE: £40

WHERE: vans.co.uk



LYCRA FREE

Tell your girlfriend you'll be wearing your Speedos on the beach, and see her face crumple with shame – until you march across the sand in these camouflage Boundary shorts. Extra long and quick drying, they also feature a mesh lining.

THE DAMAGE: £30

WHERE: speedo.com



FLOWER POWER

For those who prefer a shorter pair of shorts, check out the '60s range at AussieBum. As the Rhythm design below, the shorts combine the colours and prints of the decade with more modern attributes, such as a partial lining and tie cord for extra support.

THE DAMAGE: £34.14

WHERE: aussiebum.eu.com



MARKET KNOWLEDGE

In a recent survey, 31 per cent of respondents (who are they?), voted Speedos the number one beachwear faux pas. Worse even than the Borat-style mankini, or nothing at all.

Poor Speedos, how can they seriously be more offensive than a lime green one-piece, or wrinklies in their birthday suits?

You shouldn't judge a swimwear company by its signature tight, lycra trunks, though. Speedo doesn't just create the kind of swimwear that can only be justified by Olympic athletes. Its latest collection includes an acceptable range of boardies, some with prints, others with simple stripes.

Christiano Ronaldo might argue that these would interfere with your bronzing. "What's wrong with wearing tight pants?" the world's most expensive football player recently told *The Sun*. "They look good and it's better than having tan lines down your legs."

But, as anyone who's seen Ronaldo's poolside look knows, the main piece of advice when it comes to choosing swimwear should be: don't, under any circumstances, take your cue from multi-million Euro earning footballers.

THE INSIDER

MICHAEL BACK, OWNER, BACCHUS & BEYOND

The best part of my job is ... Eating great food, drinking world-class wines and enjoying the Italian way of life.

My first big trip was ... My first trip by myself – two weeks driving and backpacking around the wine regions in

South Australia, annoying winery staff.

My most memorable travel experience was ... Deep sea fishing in the Persian Gulf as a guest of the rulers of Dubai. Champagne and lobster all day, but didn't catch a thing.

My favourite place in the world is ... I haven't found it yet, but there are a few in contention. Piedmont, where I run my wine tours, has to be right up there.

The next destination on my travel wishlist is ... Jerez, the home of sherry in Spain. What's not to like about a week of drinking sherry and eating tapas?

My top travel tip is ... Pack light, travel with an open mind and be willing to embrace the unexpected.

I always pack ... A credit card and passport.

My guilty travel pleasure is ... I'm a guilt-free traveller.

