The Tastemaker

Lucia van der Post's favourite things



«AMERICAN DREAM

Heidi Klein has long been the go-to boutique for those searching for gladrags for beach or pool – in or out of season, they can always be relied upon to come up with the goods. This summer they've made it easier than ever to buy a capsule beach wardrobe

with a series of co-ordinated designs, so that you can choose from a bikini, a one-piece swimsuit, a tunic and a variety of cover-ups that all work together. Take Nantucket - there's a bikini, a one-piece swimsuit and a long-sleeved top (for when the wind blows), all in chic white with a navy stripe. Over the bikini or swimsuit you could slip a plain navy dress or a square-necked jumpsuit. Nantucket is merely one of a series of beautifully worked out co-ordinated collections. Hollywood, for instance, offers an alternative aesthetic all pink and flowery. From £85. heidiklein.com

LUXURY IN BRIEF



COCKTAIL COOL

You may think it daft to be thinking of knits in August but Alex Gore Browne, a knitwear designer who has long created unique one-off knitted pieces for brands like Alexander McQueen, has launched a capsule collection called Cocktail Knits. They are perfect for unpredictable British weather in that they offer a way of adding warmth as well as glamour - two qualities not always found together. From £365 to £1,250. Preorder now from alexgorebrowne.com

THE SCENT OF GOLD »

You'll also need something fine and gold nestling against the suntanned neck. Diane Kordas has a new take on the pendant, into which you can pour a tiny amount of your favourite perfume and then close it off with a finely-wrought, sometimes diamond-topped, stopper. In fine 18 carat gold, with an accompanying gold chain, there is a variety of designs and prices vary depending upon the number of diamonds incorporated into the piece. They're delicate and pretty and come with a new and charming riff on the standard pendant. From £1,900. dianekordasjewellery.com

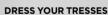


☆ POMPETY POM

This year the summer sandal needs a pom-pom or three. They have an easy laidback, somewhat joyous boho feel that's perfectly in tune with this year's slightly retro vibe. Look no further than Etsy.com, which has a vast number to choose from. For a riot of different coloured pom-poms, interposed with some semi-precious stones and the odd coin, go for LeLaBla's multi-coloured version. A perfect foil for sun-kissed legs. £90. etsy.com

SUN SENSE

Sisley's tinted suncare range has been reformulated this year but the combination of SPF30 with a tint means that this little tube is all you need to protect your face and cover up blemishes (£103 for 40mls). Should your skin be so unblemished that you need a clear version it comes in a larger tube (60mls) for £134. sisley-paris.com



For bad hair days that are a by-product of summer. nothing adds glamour like a silk headband. Good ones are hard to find, but this year Gucci has some truly gorgeous versions in a variety of patterns. Perfect for dealing with damp tresses when wafting from pool to lunch to dinner table. £190. gucci.com

