

STEPHEN BAYLEY

'French reason, French completeness'
in a glass of red Bordeaux

page 5

ANTHONY HOROWITZ

'My trip to Crete has the feel
of a true adventure'

page 3

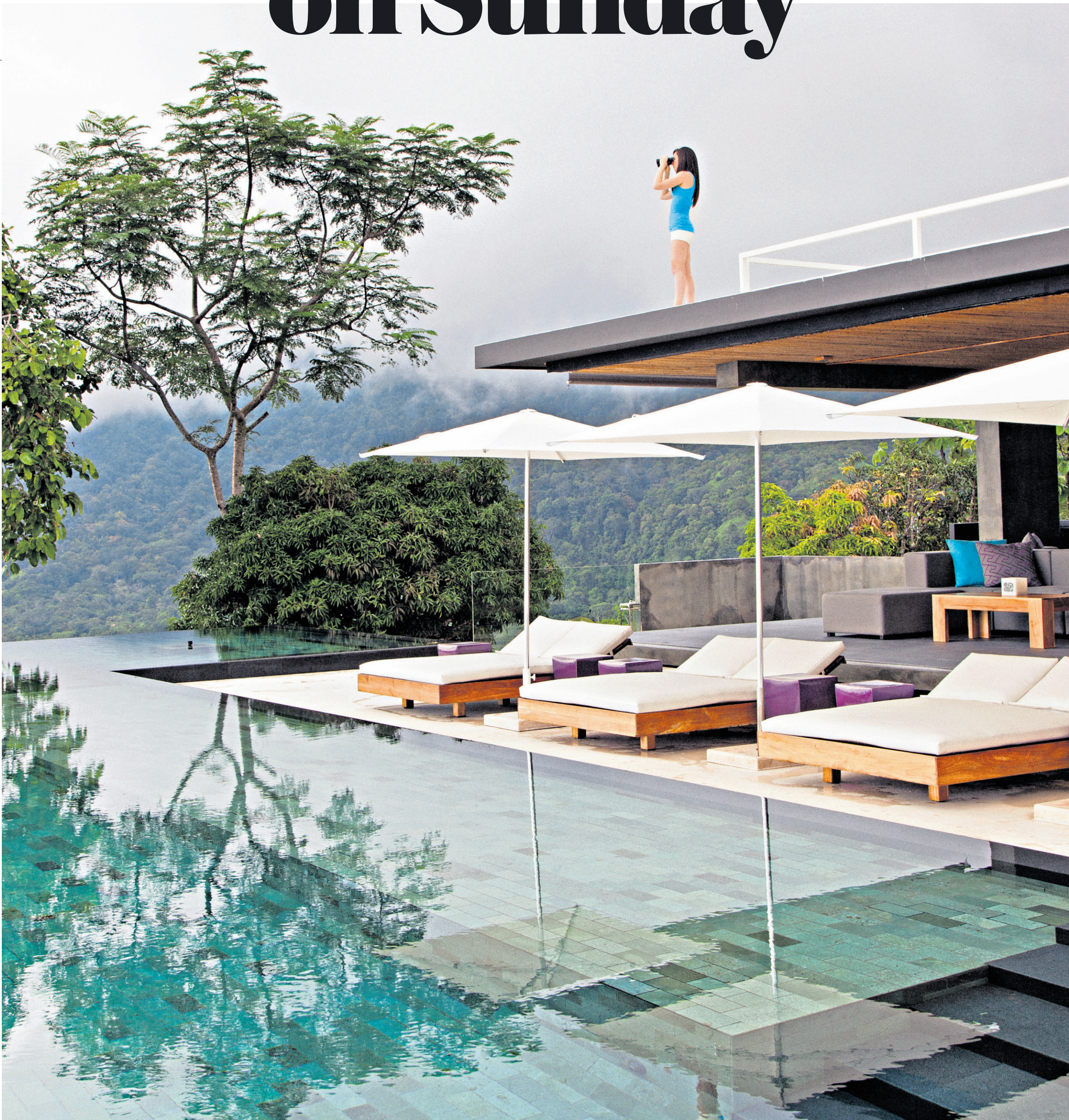


TO BE A PILGRIM

Springs and spirituality along the
Glastonbury Water Way

page 6

Travel on Sunday



OTTO NATURE PICTURE LIBRARY

Spread your wings

Inspired by the birdsong that defined our lockdown spring? Then grab your binoculars, pack your bags and head to some of the world's great birdwatching hotspots, says Stephen Moss

One of the very few silver linings of lockdown has been the way the nation has connected with nature. As the sound of spring birdsong displaced the noise and bustle of city life, many people noticed the wildlife around them for the very first time, while in others the passion for all things wild and wonderful was reignited. We have woken to the dawn chorus, fed birds in our gardens, and enjoyed the wildlife we encountered on our daily exercise outings. Now that the breeding season is over, though,

the volume and intensity of birdsong has sharply declined, while some visitors to these isles, such as swifts and cuckoos, are already heading back to Africa. It might still be summer, but autumn migration is well and truly under way: on our coasts, wading birds are stopping off to refuel on their journey south from the Arctic; swallows are gathering on telegraph wires, in preparation for their long voyage to South Africa. So, if you're beginning to miss your daily nature



TAKE FLIGHT
Costa Rica, above, will reward with sightings of the toucan, right

fix, why not take a leaf out of the birds' book, and head abroad? The best way is by joining an organised bird tour, with expert leaders and a company with a track record in finding a good range of birds with the minimum of fuss. The operators we recommend are already taking bookings for their 2021 trips and, despite travel restrictions, plenty of countries are still welcoming visitors.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 →