

The GREAT ESCAPE

Grab your best mate, sister or mum (it is Mother's Day soon, after all) and break away for an all-girl adventure.

By **JO LINEHAN** and **ROSALEEN McMEEL**.



SPAIN

WHERE An art course in Spain **WHY** Been to Spain on a girlie getaway? Not like this. The mediaeval village of Trujillo is the real deal; a quiet, rustic setting and authentic for an altogether creative rush. Stay here and indulge your forgotten artistic side, where the team is ready to guide you and your friends through an exploration of your creativity. It's laid-back, the food is exquisite, and you'll get a taste of real Spanish life. How very fabuloso ... **THE DEAL** The seven-night courses cost £975 (€1,180) per person and price includes accommodation, all tuition and all meals at the villa, cooking ingredients and limited art supplies, plus the three guided tours. Trujillo is approximately three hours' drive from Madrid **DETAILS** For more information and bookings, visit trujillovillasespana.com; 0044 207 385 5345.

ESCAPES
FOR ART
LOVERS

TOKYO

WHERE Tokyo **WHY** From fashion to food, Tokyo is taking over as the newest destination *du jour*. The city's tenth art fair, Art Fair Tokyo, will be held from March 7-9 at the Tokyo International

Forum, and from the art galleries to the installations, it's an art lover's Mecca. Located on the moat side of the Imperial Palace lies The Palace, a super-luxe hotel that prides itself on authentic Japanese service. The views from the suites are incredible, stretching as far as the Imperial gardens, and the options in-house for fun are endless; ten restaurants, a cake and pastry shop, and Japan's first Evian spa to name but a few. The hotel always hosts a selection of art during the fair, so you'll be immersed from the get-go **THE DEAL** The hotel's Art Fair Tokyo VIP Access stay package includes three nights in a deluxe or club deluxe room, daily buffet breakfast, VIP access to the AFT 2014 invitation-only preview event taking place on March 6, and daily admission to AFT 2014 for March 7-9, from €1,124 **DETAILS** For more information, call Mason Rose on 0044 207 201 8060; masonrose.com and see en.palacehoteltokyo.com.



For the day ...

Check out learncraftdesign.com – they have a host of cool craft courses and offer one-day tasters to whet your appetite. Try the ceramics skills and design course in March for a day date with a twist. In Dublin's Smithfield, the Block T collective is a hotbed for creative courses and workshops. See blockt.ie for ideas.