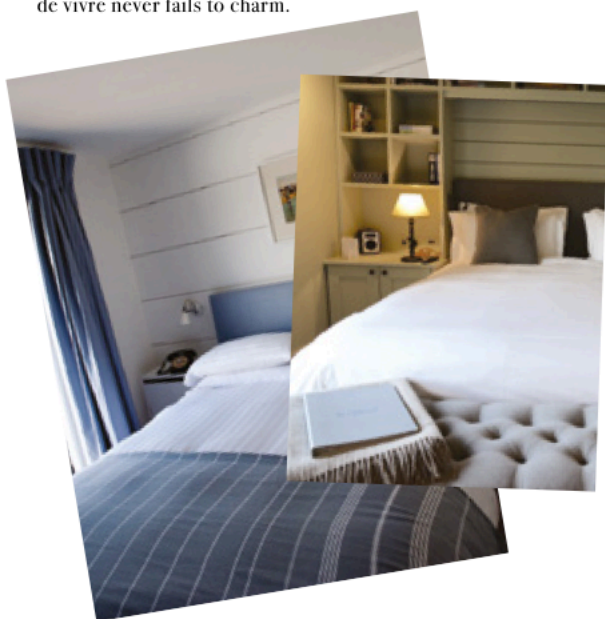

Seaside Sojourn

THE SCENE

When day-to-day stresses seem too much the answer is always the beach. A spontaneous trip to realign and reclaim some of that elusive Zen calls for East Sussex coastal shores of Rye. Run away to Camber, where the beach is windswept and the water, crisper than Granny Smith apple. It's the instantly refreshing effect this underrated pocket of England has on the soul than can revive even the weariest of travellers. And a few days at the Gallivant is all you'll need to kick off this complete body renewal.

The converted 1960s motel has recently been revamped, where it is now an even better reflection of its seaside location. Fronted by Camber Sands, the Gallivant is the beach shack you always wished for: With its dune views, rugged shrubbery and upcycled furnishings, this eco-friendly hotel's 'Gone surfing' joie de vivre never fails to charm.



A weekend getaway demands Rye's breezy boutique hotel, the Gallivant

By Stephanie King

THE SLEEPING SITUATION

The overall aesthetic here is 'England does the Hamptons.' The classic blue-and-white and cool neutrals is very much the go, and is easily a contributing factor to the Gallivant's inherent calming atmosphere. There's an elegance, but without the side of pretension, so rooms look fabulously cosy and inviting thanks to their 300-count linen sheets, Hypnos beds, and leather accents. All the mod cons are modern iterations of retro designs – from pendant lamps to DAB radios and dial telephones – where the slick, white marble bathrooms are light and fresh.

Boutique to a tee, choose from 20 rooms to suit your style: Baby Hampton, Luxury Garden, Deck, and Snug Cabin. The latter is ideal for romantic getaways in cooler months, as the exposed dark wood panelling, plush sheepskin rugs and overall darker palette is perfect for snuggling on chilly days. While it's warm however, the Deck and Luxury Garden are wonderful for sunning Vitamin D-hungry skin on their respective decks' teak furniture. The Luxury Garden room looks onto the Gallivant's landscaped coastal garden, where the Deck room is slightly larger and comes with a bath as well as its ability to interconnect with other Deck rooms and welcome four-legged friends.

All rooms come with a TV, DVD player, complimentary WiFi, a mini library, extra fluffy bathrobes, and, most importantly, a Larder of Guilty Pleasures stocked full of goodies, which makes it all too easy to stay holed up inside. Although the Gallivant's food offerings make emerging from your private beach haven all the more worthwhile...