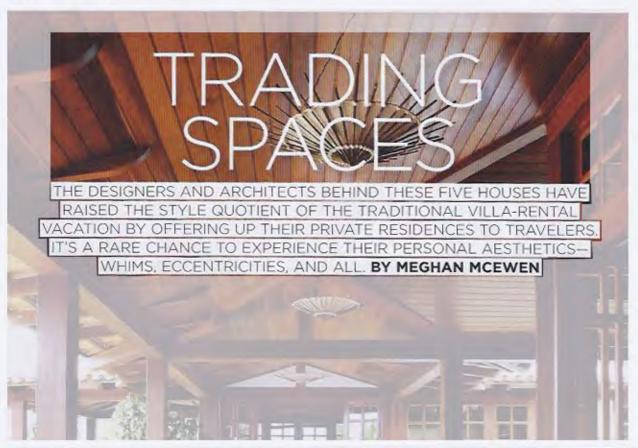


CARIBBEAN ISLAND HIDEAWAY

HOW NOT TO PACK

ITALY'S MOST ROMANTIC CITY







reconnect with his native Italy. A top-to-bottom renovation transformed the five-bedroom hilltop retreat near the village of San Casciano dei Bagni into a stylish country escape with minimalist, Donald Judd-like installations (a wall decorated with individual hardware drawers, for example) and traditional post-and-beam ceilings, stone walls, and clay tiles. The lush gardens are filled with olive trees and herbs, and a heated infinity pool overlooks the countryside. 773/425-5730; poderepalazzo.com; from \$3,950 per week. INSIDER TIP "Spend an afternoon at the private gardens of the sprawling La Foce estate (61 Strada della Vittoria, Chianciano Terme; 39-57/869-101; lafoce.com), with magnificent views of the Val d'Orcia."—PATRIZIO FRADIANE