

# TATTLER



**MARTIN SUMMERS'**  
URUGUAY

**FIRST THING I DO**

Have a glass of clerico, a South American drink of white wine, fruit and soda water.

**MUST-PACK ITEM**

Skippy peanut butter – the local variety isn't anywhere near as good.



**PERFECT DAY**

Birdwatching near Pueblo Garzón – I've seen fabulous birds like the roseate spoonbill, below.

**FAVOURITE NIGHTSPOT**

Lucía Soria's charming restaurant Lucifer in Pueblo Garzón.

**TOP THING TO TAKE HOME**

Uruguayan clothes from the delightful Alium boutique in Pueblo Garzón.

**I'LL ALWAYS MAKE TIME FOR**

A visit to the Bodega Garzón winery and a meal at Francis Mallmann's Garzón.

*Martin Summers is the owner of Martin Summers Fine Art*



**WHILE YOU'RE THERE**

*Head to Estancia Vik to ride with gauchos or hit a ball on the Vik polo ponies.*



## BAHIA VIK JOSE IGNAZIO, URUGUAY

Cork, marble, zinc or gold leaf – you choose. Each room is differently, gorgeously, lined at Bahia Vik, the fourth and youngest in the artsy Vik clan. These hotels have something of a star quality to them: Katy Perry had just checked out of Playa Vik along the beach when we arrived; Estancia Vik (10 minutes inland, past what was until recently Shakira's ranch) was being taken over for a month by the Rockefellers; and it's just another day at Viña Vik in Chile when the pool is lined with giraffe-like models. The group is basically a micro art movement too, with each room snazzed up by a different artist: oversized portraits, bits of driftwood, a sculpture of a reclining nude inspired by Mrs Vik (with a typewriter representing her nether regions), that sort of thing. Days are spent munching fresh seafood with quinoa salad, local beef and homemade chocolate ice cream before surfing, paddleboarding and wandering along the beach into José Ignacio, where the bold and beautiful summer. **BOOK IT** The Explorations Company ([explorationscompany.com](http://explorationscompany.com); 01367 850566) offers seven nights from £2,375, including breakfast and transfers.



PHOTOGRAPHS: REX FEATURES, ALAMY, GETTY IMAGES, VIK RETREATS