



bed matters...

Where? Set in the heart of the Cotswold Valley, the Titanic Spa and Apartments are located at the foothills of the Pennines. Sounds Beautiful. It is. It's also the UK's first eco-spa, and both the spa and apartments have been elegantly converted within a traditional textile mill. Each of the eleven apartments is different, but all come with their own modern kitchen facilities, plasma TV, DVD player and great views of the hills.

Why eco? Where do we begin? For starters it uses it's own natural water source via a 100-metre borehole, bringing purity to the pools and hydrotherapy treatments. Photovoltaic solar panels catch daylight to generate electricity, even on cloudy days, and a combined heat and power unit (CHP) takes chippings from sustainable trees to keep the apartments warm on chilly evenings. Isn't it all Muesli Bars and mung bean salads, though? Not when you settle into your apartment, you'll get to rifle

through your welcome pack, which, in addition to coffee, tea, orange juice, fruit basket and mineral water, also includes an indulgent chocolate treat. And because you have your own kitchen you can basically eat what you like. What if I don't fancy cooking? There is a bistro that sources food locally, in-keeping with its eco profile. Choices are a little limited, however, and alcohol is restricted to wine.

Ouch! Well, you're really here to detox, so give the demon drink a miss for once, slip on your robe and head down to the spa for a swim in the 18m salt-regulated swimming pool, a romp in the Mud Chamber or a signature treatment like hands-on Japanese Reiki, Hopi Ear Candie Treatment (it clears your head of impurities) or an exotic fragrant body wrap. Then flop in the relax room among a play-pit of cushions. ■

Titanic Spa and Apartments, Low Westwood Lane, Lindwale, Huddersfield, G64 4JG 5553, www.titanicspa.com

New on www.gaylinstravel.co.uk this month:

Bed Matters: OLO in Holland
 Blythwood Long stay residential
 Venetia: Italy's Riviera
 Stilly: Sexy nights
 Green: More info to keep it green ■



HOW GREEN IS YOUR PLANE?

There are those who would ground all air travel with immediate effect, but that's neither practical nor the most efficient way to reduce carbon emissions. Much better, surely, to look at ways of making flying less eco-unfriendly, whether through CO2-emission off-set schemes or greater investment in new technology. A group of aerospace engineers in Holland, part of the CleanRa Project at Delft University, have completely reinvented the architecture of contemporary jetliners and come up with something that resembles a spaceship from a 1960s' B-movie. If successful, it'll kick Boeing's new 787 Dreamliner and the Airbus A380 into dust.

But the project is years away from completion. Let it end up in the dustbin still marked DeLorenz,

we need to ask our airlines today: "How

green are your planes?" easyJet claims to be one of the most eco-friendly, but admits that it's because it crams passengers in - per person, it's less comfortable - which is hardly a sustainable solution. More comfortable, perhaps, is an initiative championed by Virgin Atlantic for the introduction of "starting grids" in which planes are towed to the end of a runway before starting their engines. Meanwhile, regional carrier Air Arann has just announced flights from Luton using a turbo-propeller ATR 72-600, which, the airline claims, emits 18 times less carbon monoxide than a typical European family car. ■



CleanRa Project - www.delftworks.tudelft.nl