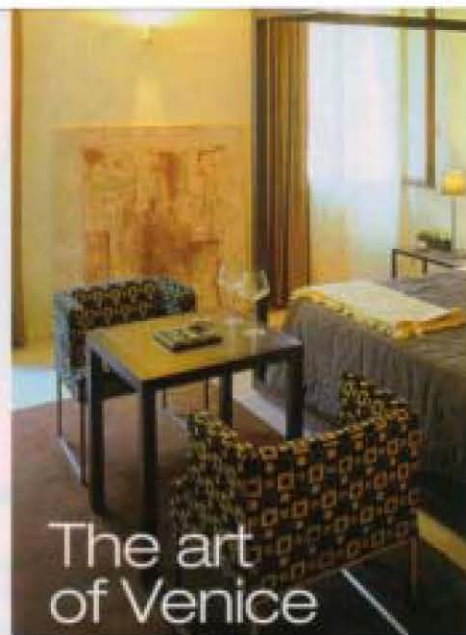




Kicking Horse's new resort



Visitors to Kicking Horse Mountain Resort in Golden, BC can actually stay on the mountain now. The new Glacier Lodge, which opens December 17, is right at the base of the gondola, so you can ski in and out. The self-catering accommodations come with full kitchens, fireplaces, private decks and separate living rooms. Guests also have access to the outdoor hot tub, a health club and sauna. Rates are \$154 per person, per night, for a one-bedroom suite and lift ticket. Two-bedroom suites and condos that sleep between four and 10 people are also available. Offered from December through April. (866) 754-5425; www.kickinghorseresort.com. *INT*



The art of Venice

Venice's DD.724 — a shortened version of the hotel's street address, Dorsoduro 724 — is a breath of fresh air in a city filled with velvet and gilded everything. The seven-room B&B has plenty of light, cream-coloured walls and dark brown woods and leather. Paintings and photography by contemporary Italian artists save the decor from being too stark. The Arts in Venice package gets you a room, two tickets to the Peggy Guggenheim Collection (which is within walking distance), a generous buffet breakfast and afternoon tea. Rates start at €240 per night, double occupancy. A minimum two-night stay is required. The offer is valid through March 24. (011-800) 3746-8357; www.designhotels.com. *INT*

Take me to Libya

When the US lifted its embargo on Libya, American oil execs rushed in to find Canadians already established there. Among them was Quebec-based tour operator Club Aventure. In 2000, a year after the UN ended its air embargo, Roger Bérubé led the first Club Aventure group to Libya. The tours explore the breadth of the country's diversity, from the thyme-scented highlands and ancient Greek settlements of the Cyrenaic coast to the ruins of the Roman city of Leptis Magna and the desert interior. All modes of transport are used: air, minibus, 4x4 and camel. Accommodation ranges from western-style hotels in Tripoli to what Bérubé calls "thousand-star accommodation" under the night sky of the Sahara. Club Aventure's 19-day tour in October was priced at \$3850 per person, not including airfare to Tripoli. For future tours, call (800) 361-9043. For general info: www.clubaventure.com. *INT*

