

GO EXPLORE

TOWERING ACHIEVEMENT: Rising over the landscape of Zaragoza, Spain, three and a half hours from **Madrid**, is the aptly named Water Tower. With its floor plan in the shape of a water droplet, the transparent tower serves as the emblem of **Expo Zaragoza**, which is open through September 14. The expo spotlights the importance of water, addressing concepts like responsible water management and water's importance for all life forms. Vying with the Water Tower for iconic status is the Bridge Pavilion, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Zaha Hadid. Her gladiola-shaped structure traverses the Erbo River, bringing visitors from the city proper to the expo grounds. Both buildings reinforce the expo's focus on water and sustainable development, as do the interactive and multimedia exhibits located throughout the grounds. Also supporting the water theme are the freshwater aquarium (the largest in Europe) and more than 3,400 artistic and theatrical performances. Of particular note is



Awakening of the Serpent, a daily parade created by Cirque du Soleil. expozaragoza2008.es

— Claire McGregor

PILLOW TALK: In 1930, renowned dancer Ted Shawn bought a sleepy western Massachusetts farm — dubbed Jacob's Pillow by its previous owners — to pursue his dream of establishing dance as a legitimate art form for men. Beginning with a series of “Tea Lecture Demonstrations,” ➤



Taming the Wild

IT'S AN ENDURING CONUNDRUM — the more advanced civilization becomes, the more people endeavor to escape it a while and return to nature. For historic evidence of this, check out Henry Thoreau's *Walden* (or, for a more recent example, *Into the Wild*). But however badly you may want to ditch your laptop, there's no need to live in a dingy cabin or, worse, eat suspect berries from a strange bush.

A better choice would be to pack a rucksack for the **Clayoquot Wilderness Resort**, located on the mouth of the Bedwell River in British Columbia, inside the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve. Here you can “rough it” to your heart's content, and you won't have to live without your loofah.

Getting to Clayoquot requires a 45-minute flight on a floatplane from **Vancouver**, but the aerial view of untamed British Columbia is worth the extra leg. The deluxe digs that you'll find upon arrival are even more attractive. The facility has 20 tents — including eight family “suite” tents with a lounge area and cots for the kids — appointed with remote-controlled propane stoves, antique furniture, Oriental rugs, oil lamps, and warm beds complete with down duvets. It's rustic luxury at its finest.

Experienced wilderness guides at the eco-lodge, which is open from May through October, gear activities to guests' needs — your days can be as packed or relaxed as you like. Available activities include horseback riding, fishing, and trips to local hot springs, all coupled with a gourmet picnic. Clayoquot also invites guests to take part in its environmental legacy program, which will have you participating in salmon habitat restoration, research into whale acoustics, bear mapping, or raptor rehabilitation in the surrounding alpine rain forest.

Everything at Clayoquot is designed to bring guests back to nature, from the wood-fired saunas in the wellness outpost to the meals, which include organic, vegan, vegetarian, and low-carb offerings. The chef will even prepare a gourmet menu based on your daily catch, whether that's fish or wild mushrooms; guided foraging excursions uncover diverse items like crabs, wild greens, and blackberries — for eating, not e-mailing.

— John Patrick Pullen