



Off the rack: This month's travel magazines

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

I really like what The Sunday Times Travel did with their California section in the September issue (still available at many shops). They've got a nice bit on four killer national parks in the state: Joshua Tree, Yosemite, Redwoods and Death Valley. And those four places really help encapsulate the incredible diversity of the Golden State, where you can find damn near anything.

They mention the Press Club in San Francisco, a great place for a glass of wine and a nosh if you don't have time to tour wine country, or even if you do, as well as some of my favourite coastal spots. I find it weird that one of their writers dubs Santa Barbara the most sophisticated city in the state, as it can't come close to the cosmopolitan charms of San Francisco. And it's hardly the land of permanent summer, as winters in southern California can be cool and occasionally rainy. But it's nitpicky stuff, really, as the section is definitely worth checking out if you're headed to California anytime soon.