

FREQUENT FLYER PAUL GILES

This creative director of a winery sleeps when he gets home.

Q What's involved in your job at Bird in Hand winery in Woodside, South Australia?

A Bird in Hand is a luxury brand encompassing wine, olives and oils, weddings and events, concerts and a luxury range. It's for this luxury collection that I source materials from around the world to design a collection from Italian leather (handbags, purses, wallets), Nepalese cashmere (scarves and shawls), Chinese silk (scarves) and Australian merino wool (knitwear).

Q Where does the job take you?

A This year it's been Kuala Lumpur, Beijing, Guangzhou and Dalian in China, Sydney and Melbourne.

Q Best insider tips?

A Carry a power adaptor for any electrical items. On my last trip in Guangzhou I phoned down to reception for an adaptor for my electric shaver and within 90 seconds there was a doctor and nurse at my door.

Q What's in your hand luggage?

A Book, iPod, pen and writing pad, toothbrush, hand wipes, eye drops, earplugs, PK chewies, four magazines and two newspapers.

Q Best packing advice?

A Place your toilet bag inside a plastic bag and seal tight.

Q Best travel advice given to you?

A Enjoy all different cultures to the fullest with an open mind and warm heart and sleep when you get home.

Q What has travel taught you?

A Independence, confidence and acceptance. Things you don't learn in a book.

Q Dream destination?

A The Amalfi Coast.

Q Where is home?

A Woodside in the Adelaide Hills. It offers a diverse, tranquil rural environment of vineyards, pastures and market gardens with a beautiful community spirit along with my loving family.

Q Your favourite places in Beijing?

A To stay it's the Peninsula Beijing and Crowne Plaza Beijing

Wangfujing; for shopping it's Qianmen, Wangfujing and Xidan streets for malls; to eat it's Wangfujing Snack Street.

Jane Reddy

See birdinhand.com.au.

