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KP IS NUTS ABOUT CAPTAIN'S ROLE

KEVIN PIETERSEN GETS CRICKET'S TOP JOB PAGE 20

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Financial
spread betting

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HSBC profits hit as bad debt surges

Europe's largest bank announces a 28 per cent drop in earnings as crunch bites

► **BANKING**
By **ROB DAVIES**

graphic regions.
In a conference call, finance director
Douglas Flint said delinquencies in its US

ROCK BOTTOM Northern Rock set to reveal £500m loss



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CMC Markets

Imperial in
takeover bid p2

Crispin Odey
bags £28m p3



Delsey's 1930s style Carisma bag
Price: £335 www.delsey.com
With heavy hard shell case and traditional toe leather trim. Perfect for that stately lausanne cruise.



Tura's bengal tiger print holdall
Price: £545 www.tura.com
For the glamorous safari.

Aspinal of London's Buffalo bag
Price: £725
www.aspinaloflondon.com
Lightweight, regulation-sized carry-on with two straps. Handmade from black calf skin leather. Available in all sizes.



Eagle Creek's Switch Back trolley case
Price: £260 www.eaglecreek.com
Has a detachable backpack on the front with pockets for water bottle, sunglasses, food etc. Backpack's heavy.



Tura's Frequent Traveller Theorum Case
Price: £795 www.tura.com
Selling points are an arched frame and wheels set on the outside which allows for up to 30 per cent more packing space. Perfect for the shopping trip to LA.

Bric's Pinetarina 60cm trolley case
Price: £295 At Harrods
Shin and lacquer: the City slider's drum tote for up-to-our full weekend of travel.

A case odyssey

Choosing the right luggage is a vital part of looking good on holiday, says Zoe Srimpel

Style

Classy luggage comes in all shapes and sizes.

ANY traveller will tell you that your suitcase is just as important as what you put in it. It's no good packing a gorgeous Gucci jacket or Versace ballgown if it arrives crumpled or imprinted with the shape of the toilet case you had to squeeze in next to it. Clever construction is a must. The right pockets and compartments, wheels if you like a smooth tug, expandability and durability are all integral to a good piece of luggage.

SIZE: Too large and it's difficult to manoeuvre and get into the boot of your car. Too small and you can be sitting on the lid to get it closed. Choose a practical size - try Zorcher's (above) for two weeks. An expandable case is key. Tura has a range with an internal expansion system that adds an extra 20 per cent volume.

WHEELS: Always choose a four-wheeled system for larger suitcases - crucial for manoeuvrability. Try the Dribury Passporter case, which inches through 360 degrees so can be wheeled beside you in the check-in queue.

COLOUR: Avoid black as it can be confusing

when it comes to spotting your luggage on the carousel. Think olive or caramel and show green for a mark of difference.

COMPRESSION STRAPS AND COMPARTMENTS: Lighter summer clothes travel better under straps. Compartments are a matter of taste. Try Delsey's Carisma - this contains every garment, laundry and shoe bag, for holder, wet packs and built-in section dividers.

HARD OR SOFT-SIDED: Doesn't matter as long as the brand is reliable.

STYLE: Unlike clothes, luggage comes in

no timing when it comes to collection at the carousel. Who hasn't sniffed at other people's mishapen, hulking sacking going round and round the belt? Attractive luggage not only makes you feel good, it's a necessary part of being chic.

Of course, one bag fits all just doesn't apply here. Any self-respecting jet-setter will want a luggage wardrobe: different trips have different requirements. A week-end in Paris requires something quite different from a trek in the Himalayas, or a business trip to New York. Here is our pick of the best cases for looking cool, professional and comfortable in transit. Bon Voyage.

WEIGHT: As light as possible. 3.7kg should be the upper limit.

PRICE: The saying that you get what you pay for applies here. Anything from £200-£700 should see you through a few years.

CARRY-ON LUGGAGE: Make sure your bag falls within the BAA allowance, currently 45x56x25cm. The Tura International is as supple as they come and will be allowed onto any plane in the world.

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