

A WONDERFUL LIFE

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR WEALTH

IAN RANKIN ON THE DEATH OF REBUS LITERARY

FESTIVALS WHY TOP CHEFS ARE ALL HEADING

DOWN THE PUB OUTSOURCE YOUR PERSONAL

LIFE SIGN UP FOR THE FIRST AFTER HOURS

REGATTA LUXURIOUS BUT RESPONSIBLE

HOLIDAYS WHERE TO BUY WINE FILMSET TOURISM



AFTER HOURS

25 WAYS TO LIVE THE GOOD LIFE

WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK

Drive a BMW but long for a Bentley? Dream of a hideaway home on the Maldives when you're at your cottage in the Cotswolds? Don't worry, you are not alone. A growing number of fractional ownership, part-share and affordable luxury schemes and services are available to cater to your every whim. And everything, from a fast car to a £1,000 designer bag, can be yours—for a while, at least. Claire Coleman and Raul Peschiera round up the best ways to live beyond your means

DEALS ON WHEELS

1 Écurie25 “Our clients get the benefit of amazing cars but without having to worry about servicing and insurance,” says Flora Heathcoats (right), founder of super car club Ecurie 25. “We started with six



cars and tomorrow we take delivery of our 13th, a convertible Bentley Continental. Membership works on a points system: every year, you are allocated a number of points to spend, and these are skewed, so a Ferrari F430 Spider is more expensive than a Lotus Exige, summer is more expensive than winter and weekends are more expensive than weekdays. On average, though, you get about 35 to 40 days a year. At the moment, we have around 105 members and we restrict membership to ensure a good car-to-members ratio.

“Members usually have to be between 25 and 65 and have experience of driving high-performance rear-wheel drive cars. If you don't, we can send you on a course—many of our members choose to do this anyway. We'll also look at points on your licence and your no claims bonus.

“We have a mix of members: some live in London and don't have a car at all; others have two or three very nice cars but want the opportunity to drive in something a little more impractical.”

www.ecurie25.co.uk

Full memberships start at £8,450 a year, with a £750 joining fee.

2 P1 international

Founded by Damon Hill, this was the UK's original supercar club. It has just spent £1m on new motors. Joining fee £2,500, plus membership from £11,750. www.p1international.com

3 Bespokes Three UK locations, no membership needed. Hire an Aston Martin DB9 Volante for £1,850 plus VAT for a long (four-day) weekend. www.bespokes.co.uk

4 Xlr8cars London based, no membership needed. A long weekend with the Lamborghini Gallardo Spyder will set you back £3,400 plus VAT. www.xlr8cars.com

5 RPM Based in Scotland, a one-off membership fee of £7,500, gets you access to this “hypercar” club on a pay per drive basis. All cars are owned by the firm. www.rpmclub.com