

COLOGNE CALLING

Self-styled 'Urban Explorer', travel writer and photographer **Duncan J. D. Smith** has been spending much of 2010 preparing the seventh volume in his unique 'Only in...' series of guidebooks. And what an adventure it's been so far! As with previous volumes – Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Berlin, Munich and Hamburg – "Only in Cologne" will tell the story of the city using locations that are less well known. Since such places attract fewer tourists they offer independent travellers that rare opportunity of really 'discovering' a place for themselves, and thus taking away a more indelible memory.



As Germany's fourth-largest city, as well as its most historic, Cologne is both workaday and cosmopolitan. The book reflects the two aspects, with chapters detailing a Roman sewer system, Europe's first art hotel, abandoned Second World War bunkers, the world's first motor factory, a city lighthouse, a ruined medieval synagogue, Germany's oldest mustard mill, holy relics of the saints, and the airfield where the Red Baron learned to fly. The result is a heady mix that should be of interest to both visitors and natives alike.



"Only in Cologne" will be published by Christian Brandstätter Verlag (Vienna) in April 2011 (a German edition will be published simultaneously as "Nur in Köln").

View articles and photos: www.duncanjdsmith.com
Discover the 'Only in...' guides: www.onlyinguides.com
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ROAMING ROUND THE INDIAN OCEAN

Katerina Roberts produced several pieces for Travel & Leisure Magazine (US version) on Mauritius and Seychelles earlier this year and an article on Mauritius including hotels for the Indian Ocean Guide for Sunday Times Travel Magazine. Following a quick trip to UK she's returned to the Mauritian winter and is knuckling down to updates on her Thomas Cook Travellers Seychelles Guide and Thomas Cook Beach Pocket Guide to Mauritius. But she doesn't plan to stay in Mauritius forever. After seven years of residency she's decided it's time to move on and by 2011 will be making UK her permanent home. She will, of course, be making regular visits back to the Indian Ocean and is still determined to muddle round Madagascar one of these days so if anyone wants copy and pictures, contact her now on roberts@orange.mu