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A MAGAZINE FOR THE GET-UP-AND-GO GENERATION

TRAVELLER

AUGUST 2015



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WET AND WILD

EXPLORE CROATIA'S UNSPOILT
ISLANDS BY KAYAK



No taxes. No rules. Your face on the money... Who wouldn't want their own country? Photographer **Léo Delafontaine** met the would-be

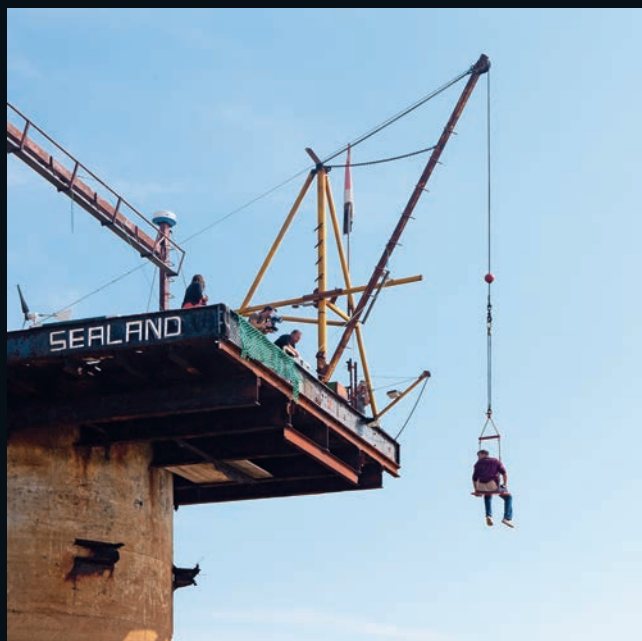


royals who are living the dream



and setting up micronations

WORDS SARAH WARWICK



Clockwise from top left The Principality of Sealand can only be entered by winch; the border of Saugeais, a faux-country that was started as a joke in the 1940s; the distinctive blue-and-white branding of the town of Seborga, which claims to be independent from Italy; Elleore, off the Danish island of Zealand, which evolved from a children's summer camp



STATE OF THE NATION

NAME The Principality of Seborga

FOUNDED 1963

AREA 14km²

HEAD OF STATE Prince Marcello I

POPULATION 352

LANGUAGE Italian, Ligurian and French

WEBSITE principatodiseborga.com



"You have to be courageous to come to this village," says Delafontaine, "because it's at the top of a long and winding hill." However there are two reasons for braving the journey: first the food – "it's delicious!" – and, second, its history. A hamlet on the Franco-Italian border, was a protectorate of the Catholic Church, which eventually led to it being left out of a list of territories included in Italy's 19th-century unification. In the 1960s, Giorgio Carbone, a local florist, reasoned that this meant the town had a claim to independence, leading a successful referendum and becoming the first president. The main impact of sovereignty? A roaring trade in novelty ashtrays and snowglobes.

