



ECO-TRAVEL

travel patterns

found that nearly nine out of 10 respondents are keen to opt for environmentally- and culturally-sensitive travel. In Visa's Asia Travel Intentions Survey 2007, these respondents said that they would choose tourism products that showed concern about tourism's impact on local cultures, while protecting the natural environment. They're even willing to pay up to 10 per cent more for such experiences.

Earth-consciousness is certainly growing, and travellers are eager to play their part. A recent survey by Visa International Asia Pacific

DID YOU KNOW... *The largest employer in the world is the Indian railway system, employing over a million people to deliver 14 million passengers daily across India.*

REVIEW

the right stuff

If you want to combine doing good with feeding the travel bug in you, then you might want to pick up *Volunteer: A Traveller's Guide to Making a Difference Around the World*.

The comprehensive Lonely Planet guidebook tells you all you need to know about international volunteering, from the qualities needed (patience, open-mindedness, tolerance) to volunteer schemes (190 organisations reviewed), from the practical (insurance, health issues) to the idealistic (start your own charity). You'll also learn how to deal with homesickness and culture shock, from first-hand accounts by seasoned volunteers.

This book may just be the push you need to get started. (www.lonelyplanet.com)



TREND

hat in the bag

Keep out harmful UV rays, and still look ravishing with these travel sun hats.

Renowned Australian milliner Miranda Green, in response to requests, has developed hats that can be rolled up to form a cone – for easy packing – without damaging their shape. Flat-stitching and a reversible trim allow each hat to be twisted or folded in different ways to create various styles.

(www.mirandagreenmillinery.com.au)



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