

Express check-in

Gossip, hot topics and other news you'll use

WYNN OR LOSE

MISSING in all the hoopla over Steve Wynn's new Las Vegas resort (for those of you emerging from under a rock, it's called **Wynn Las Vegas**) is the answer to one burning question: What's it like to stay there? Undercover operative (and NYP Travel contributor) **Andrea Bennett** was one of the first to check in to the hotel when it opened to overnight guests on Sunday afternoon. She reports that the experience, so far, is a bit hit or miss. "Michaelangelo took four years to complete the Sistine Chapel. Your room took five," brags the hotel's Web site. The wait to check in was nearly that long — so long, in fact, that \$100 credits were automatically given. Spotty service and filthy windows didn't entirely obscure the bright spots though, which included stellar food at **Daniel Boulud's** new brasserie, a gorgeous pool complex and a sexy lounge scene. **Pick up next Tuesday's Post** for a full report.

GET OUT!

RESIDENTS of California's Santa Ynez Valley are mad, and there's no need to



"Housewives" hunk James Denton (right) digs Sydney.

guess why as we're going to tell you the reason right here: The bucolic region has been overrun with crowds ever since the release of the buddy pic "Sideways."

Our spy in **Santa Barbara** reports that on a recent winery tour, tasting room pourers and other locals were not exactly in good moods. They were caught blaming the movie for, among other things, causing huge traffic jams, making local women look like "sluts," and spawning a rash of immature behavior. One winery report-

ed that visitors were grabbing bottles to pour their own, and another has had to stop people drinking from the spit bucket (both were actions taken by **Paul Giamatti's** character in the famous meltdown scene). Says our spy, "It's a big mistake to mention the movie, trust me."

FOLLOW THAT STAR

WHEN "Housewives" hunk **James Denton** isn't busy getting matrons all

across America hot and bothered, he travels. The **Tennessee** native tells contributor **Lisa Arcella** that his favorite destination is **Australia**. "I went to Sydney, Alice Springs and the rain forest with my wife, Erin. All three areas are so different."

Actress **Katie Holmes**, just spotted in **Rome** with **Tom Cruise**, also gets around. The last time we spoke with her, she'd been in **Banff, Alberta**. This time it was **Paris**. "It's just so romantic and old." She's had a lot of experience with old things lately.

TOLD YA!

MAZEL TOV to contributor and low-fare expert **George Hobica**, whose blog, *newyorkairfares.blogspot.com*, is in the spotlight after NYPT reported on the launch of the discount airfare site on March 15. Recent hits include **USA Today**, **The New York Times** and NBC's **Today** show. Beginning today, our **Best Fares** column will feature fares directly from the blog.

by NYPT staff, with reporting by Lorin Gaudin

TICKER | DRINK UP: Song Airlines is partnering with Rande Gerber for a new inflight cocktail menu, to be rolled out by August.

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