

... to ... time and stardom ten years ago. She will be performing as P&O's **ORIANA** crosses the Atlantic from Southampton to Barbados.

Jane was singing aboard **CELEBRITY GALAXY** when BBC show *The Cruise* launched her into the limelight in 1997. Her debut album went straight to No1.

She will join **Oriana** on December 15, with the ship arriving in Barbados on December 28.

On Christmas Day it will be sailing from Tortola in the British Virgin Islands to St Kitts in the West Indies.

Before that, Jane is having a non-singing holiday – on (what else?) a cruise ship.

She boarded Silversea's six-star **SILVER SHADOW** in London this week, for a trip



ever to be based in Britain touched water for the first time yesterday.

A dry dock containing the half-finished hull of **INDEPENDENCE OF THE SEAS** was flooded in a traditional ceremony.

Other ships in the port of Turku, Finland, blew their whistles to welcome the £410million Royal Caribbean ship into the water.

It will take a further eight months to finish the ship, which will feature a surfing machine and an ice rink.

The huge, 158,000-ton ship, capable of carrying 3,643 passengers, will be based in Southampton when she enters service in May.

She is the biggest of ten new ships being launched next year. **STEVE READ**

KELLY JAIL N' HEARTY

WHILE her mum tackles the X Factor wannabes, Kelly Osbourne, below, is showing them how it's done in West End smash Chicago.

Make a weekend of it with Theatrebreaks.

They have packages from £89 including a top-price ticket for a Friday evening or Saturday matinee, plus one night's B&B at the four-star Grange Hotel. Call 0800 458 3408 or see theatrebreaks.com/chicago

BUTLINS have a fantastic lineup for adults-only breaks this autumn with a host of celebrity shows and gigs.

Big Brother 8 winner Brian will be MC at the Butlins Ultimate Weekender at Minehead from Friday October 5 –

introducing a host of great acts including Chico, Ben Mills, 2 Unlimited and Sash as well as Dick and Dom and Dane Bowers. Prices start at just £79 per person including three nights half



board accommodation. The United Kingdom of Dance Weekender at Bognor on October 12 will feature a host of big-name DJs including Judge Jules and Dave Pearce. Prices start at £99 per person for two nights room-only accommodation and passes for all the weekend's entertainment.

For details, log on to butlins.com or call 0870 998 2255.

BE a part of the action as British boxing sensation Ricky Hatton takes on US ring king Floyd Mayweather in Las Vegas on December 8.

Airline Network have four nights' stay at the five-star Orleans Hotel and Casino for just £529 per person, including return flights with Delta Airlines from Gatwick on December 7. Call 0871 700 8630 or visit airlinenetwork.co.uk



PARK LIFE . . . caravan site has plenty to keep you busy

IT was a just mobile home on a hillside – and became one of the best holidays ever.

Not just any hillside, you understand. This was Chianti country.

The sun-dappled hills which made the heart glad when you woke every morning were as enticing as the painted vistas on the labels of a delicious bottle of Italy's finest.

To taste Tuscany is to live for a while in a little corner of heaven.

Folds of brown and green hills, criss-crossed with vines. Ancient farmhouses with terracotta tiled roofs gently baking in the big golden sun. Mediaeval villages perched high on distant hills . . . and another . . . and another.

You know how you get a picture in your head of your dream holiday destination? This was mine – and boy did it live up to my imagination.

Views

Thomson Al Fresco holidays sent us to a three-bedroom mobile home at their wonderful Norcenni Giralose Club site – perched on a mountain above the traditional Italian town of Figline Valdarno.

The luxuriously kitted-out, air-conditioned Vivaldi was all we needed for a comfortable base. We looked on to a hill opposite stocked with deer, goats, horses – and a lone **OSTRICH**.

To the left and down the hill was a mountain range where you could watch the sun rise of a morning, colouring this gorgeous paint-by-numbers landscape.

And just along the way was free adventure for the kids – a gorge carved by a tumbling stream, its banks full of little caves and enticing nooks and crannies.

The site itself offers enough action-packed activities to ensure you don't leave. Two pools with a lazy river and spa baths, three fantastic restaurants (we didn't cook a meal all holiday), pizzeria and takeaway. The Thomson reps will help you hire bikes, arrange



GO: TUSCANY

SCOTTISH Sun World travelled with Thomson Al Fresco. Prices start at £382 for two adults and up to four children stay-

ing in a Rossini mobile home at Norcenni Giralose Club, Tuscany, for seven nights between May 1 and May 22, 2008.

Flight options available with Thomson at a supplement. Call 0870 166 0366 or log on to thomsonalfresco.co.uk

fishing, pony-trekking or golfing – and they're brave enough to grapple with the little 'uns at the childrens clubs.

And for adults in this Little Europe of caravans, tents and camper vans, there's a club.

But, if like us, you go abroad to explore and experience, Norcenni Giralose is perfectly placed for daily manoeuvres. For a start, you're only about 90 minutes away from Pisa Airport.

So, Pisa it is then. Strangely attractive little city, this.

Yip, crossed another landmark off my list of buildings to see before I die – the Leaning Tower. It's awesome

walking down a little modern Italian street, then turning the corner to see this freak of architecture.

A two-mile ride down the hill from the site and into Figline Valdarno, there's a main train station.

This is a hub that can whisk you the length and breadth of Italy. Rome's only a three-hour jaunt away – and it's less than half an hour to Florence.

I have always wanted to see glorious Firenze . . . its Duomo, Ponte Vecchio, the winding River Arno. I like to think of myself as a bit of a Renaissance man (geddit?!) – and this city didn't disappoint. However, I much preferred