





THE SLEEP DETOX

Tired Deputy Fashion Editor Charlie Lambros went to Italy in search of better, deeper sleep



WHAT YOU GET:

A bespoke sleep program that uses Western and Chinese medicine.

HOURS FROM THE UK: Flight

takes one-hour and 45 minutes.

PRICE: £1,544 for a five-day programme, with treatments and consultations with a doctor and PT. lefayresorts.com

FLIGHTS: From £101.31pp. ba.com ou might not expect a sleepy village in Lake Garda to be a go-to destination for Chinese medicine, but this hillside resort overlooking Italy's most famous watering hole now plays host to a new sleep programme - 'sogni d'oro' or 'sweet dreams'. As a troubled sleeper, the idea of curing my

ills with a bit of R&R in the sun appealed.

My trip began with a chat with the on-site spa doctor, Professor Corradin. He explained how different types of insomnia are linked with the body's 'meridians' - or energy lines. I wished I'd packed Chinese Medicine For Dummies. You might want to. Seriously.

The time you wake at night indicates which meridian needs work. Mine was 3-4am, so I worked on breath and energy. I was prescribed a personalised Chinese

tea to drink three times a day. It was made with angelica root, nettle, mallow and horsetail. The spa keeps your blend on file, so you can reorder your prescription.

Beats counting

sheep, right?

Over the five days, I had daily Qigong classes - meditation that focuses your mind through a series of gentle exercises - and tried a Moxibustion treatment that applies heat to areas of the skin near acupuncture points. I spent the evenings meanwhile soaking in the indoor saltwater lake pool under a makeshift moon and stars. That, plus a few glasses of local Bardolino wine and, you know what? I had no trouble sleeping at all.

RESULTS: I drink my tea whenever I can and have a bath 90 minutes before bed to wind down. Waking up at 4am seems to be a thing of the past, fingers crossed. WHAT YOU CAN TAKE HOME... Professor Corradin, resident sleep expert at Lefay, gives his failsafe tips for deeper sleep

Plunge pool with a view

Just before bed, lie on your back and put your index fingers on your temples. Gently massage them with your eyes closed. Draw an imaginary line between your ears and another from the centre of the forehead meeting that line. Move left, right, back and forth from this point by one centimetre and massage with your fingers for 10 minutes. It's heaven!



WHAT I TOOK WITH ME...

1. Travel candles, £18, Green & Spring; 2. Pyjamas, £429, Equipment at Harvey Nichols





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