

celebrity traveller **Jamie Cullum**

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MEMORABLE HOLIDAY?

I used to love going to Looe, on the southern coast of Cornwall. I went for years as a child and it was a proper sleepy fishing port. I remember the sporadic sunshine and the amazing fish and chips. Further afield I had a great time in Byron Bay in Australia, probably the most beautiful beach I've ever visited. The vibe of young people having a great time was brilliant too.

AND YOUR WORST?

When I was growing up we took a family holiday to the Costa Del something on the Spanish coast. We went to this resort that looked pristine in the brochure but when we got there it was a building site.

WHICH GADGET IS ESSENTIAL FOR YOUR TRAVELS?

My iPhone has become an indispensable travelling companion and I never leave home without my portable speakers.

WHAT'S THE BEST BOOK YOU'VE TAKEN ON HOLIDAY?

I've always got several books on the go. I'm reading Paul Auster's novel *Invisible* and I've also got on the go the new biography of Billy Strayhorn – who wrote and arranged much of

the music played by the Duke Ellington Orchestra. It is fascinating. Do I read any of my fiancée Sophie Dahl's books on the beach? Not yet, but I may do later, on our honeymoon!

HOW DO YOU SPEND TIME ON YOUR HOLIDAY?

I'm not brilliant at switching off so I try my hardest to unwind when I'm on holiday. I do a huge amount of travelling to perform all over the world so when I have some downtime I try to do as little as humanly possible.

WHERE WOULD YOU REVISIT?

Bali, as I didn't see enough of the place when I performed there. I'd like to find a deserted beach and soak up the atmosphere.

WHERE NEXT?

My schedule is so crazy at the moment that I'm in a different country almost every day of the week, so the next time a break does come up I'm staying at home.

● *Jamie Cullum's new album *The Pursuit* is out now and his new single *Don't Stop The Music* is released on January 25.*



NICK McGRATH