DETAILS lucia van der post

If there's a more versatile garment for the traveller headed for sun and beach than the sarong, I've yet to come upon it. A sarong manages to add an air of glamour to beach attire, whilst at the same time doing an admirable job of providing an air of respectability should you want to take refuge in a restaurant. And, of course, most of us love them because they can be deployed to cover up those areas that we feel less than happy about (dimply thighs, wobbly tummies and all the rest).

Lotty Bunbury is the wife of the doctor on Mustique and she handpaints on silk, turning out hand-hemmed, deliciously pretty sarongs, kimonos, kaftans and fulllength cover-ups. Since she's based in a very chic spot, she knows exactly what her picky customers are looking for. Anybody heading for Mustique should buy them in the little shops on the island, such as the Pink House. Otherwise, you can buy through her website. I like the diaphanous sarongs in chiffon silk best (from \$105), but those who want a more serious covering will find she does them in cotton and linen as well.



