

EXPERT SHORTLIST

Make the most of your
hard-earned wages

Classic cigars for every occasion



Ranauld Macdonald,
managing director
at Boisdale.co.uk

Rafael Gonzalez Coronas Extra, £13

"I do not normally smoke in the morning, but on a beautiful day after breakfast I occasionally treat myself to a delicate cigar. This one is perfect with freshly ground coffee and a sensible newspaper."



H Upmann Petit Coronas, £9

"After a little wine and a couple of light courses with an afternoon of work ahead, this is my favourite light cigar. The H Upmann is elegant and complex with a hint of nutty sweetness and spice."



Hoyo de Monterrey Epicure No 2, £17

"There are so many wonderful Cuban cigars for after dinner. This is my favourite post-red wine smoke; my father first introduced me to it as a boy. It is medium to light-bodied and very aromatic with remarkable complexity."



Montecristo Edmundo, £20

"My favourite cigar is enjoyed in the company of a carefully made malt whisky with amusing friends or a good novel. This has a salty tang and more than a hint of spice. The considerable girth makes for a slow but meaningful smoke."



Computers with looks to match their performance



Mark Hotter,
brand director,
Equanet.co.uk

Apple iMac, £1,790

"From any view, the iMac is impressive. What is even more striking is the sheer amount of useful technology packed into a 24-inch all-in-one unit. The top-of-the-range iMac comes with a quick Intel processor, 4GB of RAM and a huge 1TB of hard drive."



ASUS EeeTop PC, £450

"Add a touch of fun to your home or office with the EeeTop PC, an easy-to-use, one-stop desktop that puts the internet at your fingertips. It features a touchpanel that allows you to do everything you can with a regular desktop by simply pressing the screen with your fingers."

Sony VAIO LN, £1,125

"Entertainment comes into its own with a big screen, high-res display. A dedicated media centre, this allows you to enjoy pin-sharp images, bright pictures and excellent colour fidelity with Sony's world-class LCD technology."



Acer Aspire Predator Crusader II G7700, £2,610

"This offers an outstanding experience for users whose priorities lie with gaming. The Predator G7700 features an aggressive chassis design that conceals the latest-generation technologies. In summary, it's a great machine."

Hiking boots for a spring stroll



Richard Shepherd, buyer
for Ellis Brigham Mountain
Sports at Ellis-brigham.com

Asolo Powermatic 200 GTX, £150

"Offering a superb-quality leather upper combined with a waterproof yet breathable Gore-Tex liner and a high-traction sole, this offers year-round performance, even in harsh conditions."



Salomon Quest 4D GTX, £130

"A real all-rounder – this new, cutting-edge backpacking boot design offers excellent protection against the elements, all-day comfort and a high degree of foot stability without any excess weight."



Mammut Scout XT GTX, £100

"This lightweight boot features a cosy fabric-and-leather upper, has all the necessary levels of support, a Gore-Tex liner for waterproof performance and a rubber sole to absorb abrupt shocks."



The North Face Hedgehog MID XCR, £90

"A popular multisport design perfect for fast-paced hiking in a variety of conditions, the Hedgehog's breathable upper is weatherproof in all conditions, while the sole provides cushioning."

