LUXE LUGGAGE

Lately when traveling, it's hard to miss: the surge in popularity of colorful, new hard-sided cases. Nothing like the old, heavy cases from years past, these lightweight, compact, new carry-ons with magical Mary Poppins'-like storage capabilities have become a must for frequent flyers hoping to avoid paying a fee for checked luggage. But more than just function, these suitcases, available in such colors as gunmetal gray, hot pink, lemon yellow, cobalt blue, and lipstick red, have become somewhat of a rolling fashion statement. The brighter, the better, in our opinion.

Our favorite new "It Bag," recently seen trailing behind the likes of Kelly Ripa, Ivana Trump, and Rachel McAdams, is the sophisticated Briggs & Riley "TORQ International Carry-On Spinner," a roller board case that's big enough to

hold all our fashion essentials, but

not so big as
to warrant a
test drop into
the dreaded
luggage sizer.
Not to say
it wouldn't
pass—the case
fits perfectly
into the overhead

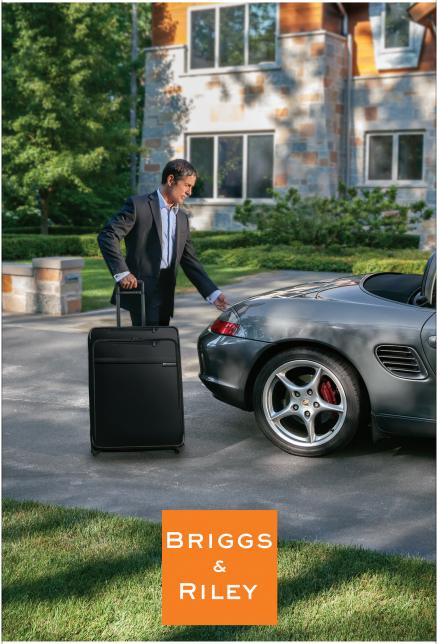
bin. The TORQ's soft-

sided handle adjusts at three different levels, making it easy for little people to manage their own bags—and its wide, tilt-resistant wheel base and recessed spinner wheels make for effortless, almost weightless schlepping for both young and old. Made of Makrolon, a material known for its resilience, the case can withstand the roughest of handling. But if anything should go wrong, just like a Hermès bag, it's fully covered by Briggs & Riley's unconditional lifetime warranty.

—Lisa Lubin

For more information, visit briggs-riley.com or worldtraveler.com.





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