

Heavy Petting

Anthropologists say we pet hair or fur out of affection, intimacy, and sheer curiosity. Perhaps it's the last point that explains the latest viral-video phenom, the Hair Petting Game, in which a group of New York City women sneak up on unsuspecting passersby and attempt to stroke their hair without getting caught. A tongue-in-cheek scoring system awards one point for the basic palm-to-fingertips pet; five points for grabbing a ponytail; 1 million

for a celebrity's hair; and 1 billion for the ultimate trophy—a bald head. Hair-petting videos have attracted over 200,000 views on YouTube and can also be found at hairpetting.com. Hairpetter Emily Grace explains the game's appeal: "Touching someone's hair is illicit without being perverted."

—SUNSHINE FLINT



A hair-petter in action

Stockholm that way.

- **Eat out for one.** I don't like to have big three-course dinners when I'm traveling alone, but I do a lot of sitting in cafes for small meals throughout the day. It's ideal for people-watching, and it's a good way to try new places. For

dinner, it's crucial to get out of your hotel. Once you find a good restaurant, eat at the bar or sit at a table outside so you can leave yourself open to mingling and talking to people.