

travelbulletin

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Giving agents the edge

AGENT INSIGHT

Ben and Toni Rood from Not Just Travel on what summer 2021 bookings might look like

FAMILY HOLIDAYS

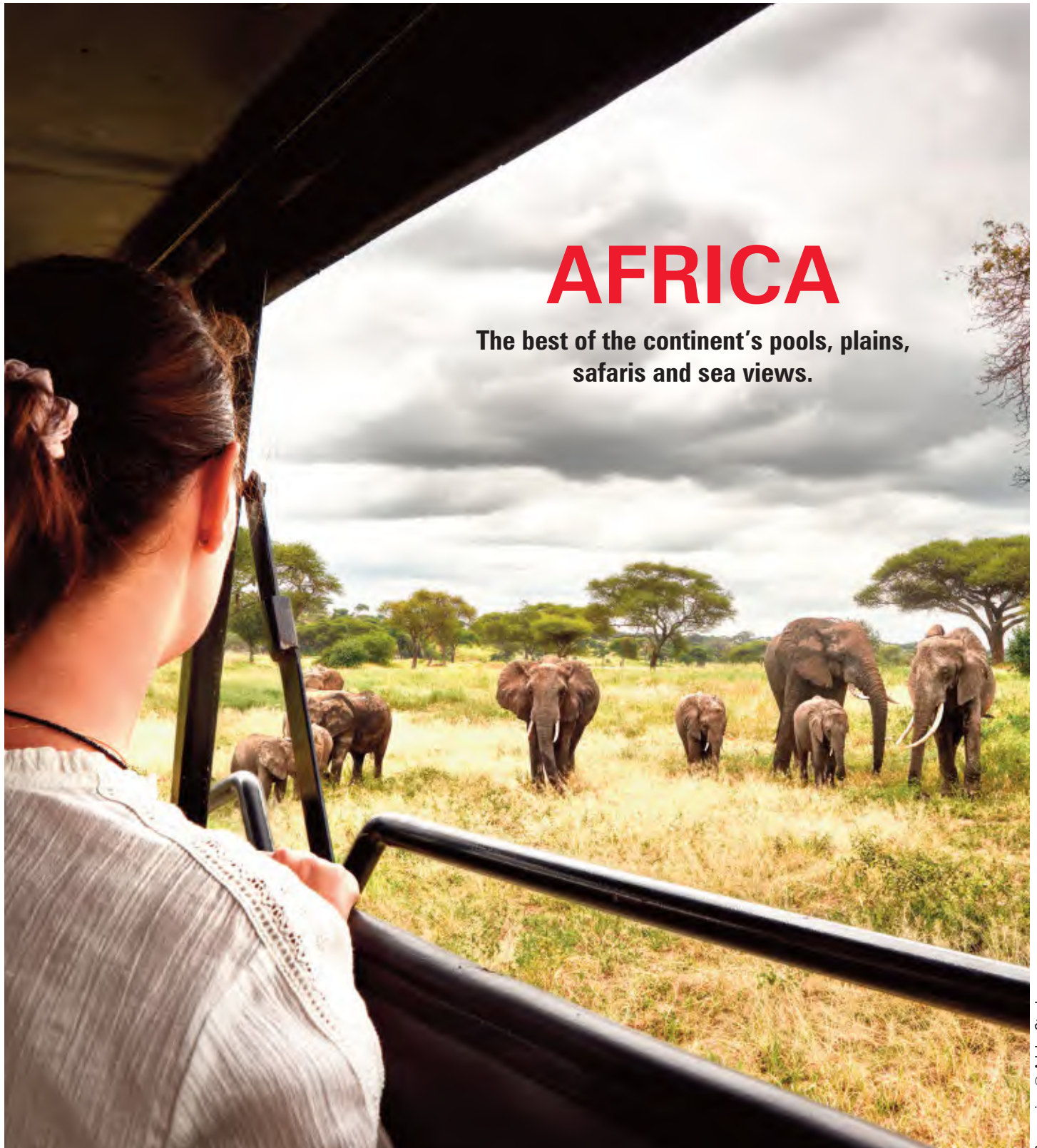
Summer sun meets family fun with these multi-generational adventures

CENTRAL EUROPE

No stone left unturned with this selection of Central Europe escapes

AUSTRALASIA

From the outback to the islands, the best Australasia has to offer



AFRICA

The best of the continent's pools, plains, safaris and sea views.

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TRAINING

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Receive updates and learn top selling tips from leading industry suppliers during their short but informative presentations, then connect with them during a live Q&A session to try and win some amazing prizes!

TIMINGS

2PM : Webinar Welcome from your Travel Bulletin Host

2.05pm – 2.35pm : Supplier Presentations

2.35pm : Live Q&A Session and Prizes | **3pm** : End of Webinar

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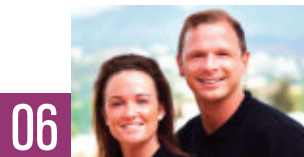
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VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

A new report from AITO has found that over 50s show confidence in taking an overseas holiday in 2021.



Over 50 travellers are eager to book their next holiday.

OLDER BRITISH travellers are eager to take an overseas holiday this year according to the findings of the 2021 Travel Insights Survey by AITO, The Specialist Travel Association.

Over 50 tour operators and travel agent members of AITO surveyed 28,500 customers, 87% of whom are aged 50 and over and who, therefore, have either already been vaccinated or will be vaccinated by mid-June.

The outlook for 2021 is positive, with 80% surveyed wanting to travel again as soon as it is possible, 46% still planning their trip, and 94% planning to spend the same amount or more on a holiday – that’s over £2,000 per person for

half of those surveyed.

Booking directly versus booking with a tour operator

60% of those surveyed are likely to book with a specialist tour operator (up from 38% in 2019) and 64% are likely to rebook with the same operator in the next 12 months. Figures for booking directly with an airline are down from 62% to 39% in 2019 and just 30% of people will book their accommodation directly (down from 39% in 2019), with most respondents opting for the protection of reputable operators.

Spending

The over 50s group has been largely unaffected by the

financial issues of the pandemic, and 83% are the same or better off financially, 77% are happy to pay more for a better experience. Some 82% love planning a holiday and consider travel a part of their lifestyle.

Martyn Sumners, AITO executive director, said: “There is a huge amount of optimism to be taken from the latest AITO Insights Survey. The typical AITO traveller is 50+ and wants to travel as soon as they are able to do so; the current barriers are vaccinations (all being well, this group will all be vaccinated by mid-June), destination infection rates, and Covid insurance...”

www.aito.com

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CLIA launches its new expedition cruise guide

CRUISE LINES International Association (CLIA) has launched its first ever new-to-expedition cruise guide for agents.

The guide outlines the key aspects of an expedition cruise, such as ship specifics, onboard activities and entertainment, shore excursions, and the main differences in ocean and river cruising.

Destination-specific information is also included, with overviews of several destinations, port guides, top tips for visitors to popular local attractions and sites of interest, and regional weather advice.

Andy Harmer, managing director of CLIA UK & Ireland, said: "Expedition sailings are a fantastic way to explore off-the-beaten-track destinations; we're



The guide covers popular destinations, such as Antarctica.

expecting demand to increase as travel continues to open up. Our guide is intended to be a one-stop-shop for agents who are looking to continue selling these sailings, or start capturing a growing market.

"With more people looking to tick off their bucket list

post-lockdown, agents should expect more expedition cruise-related enquiries: now is the ideal time to familiarise yourself with everything they have to offer."

The guide is available for CLIA members at www.cruising.org

The Dominican Republic updates entry requirements

THE DOMINICAN Republic is looking forward to welcoming UK visitors as soon as the UK Government gives the green light for international leisure travel.

The country, one of the most popular in the Caribbean for the British market, will no longer require a negative PCR test to be presented on arrival.

No vaccination is required either, which will mean that younger clients and families (who may not have been fully vaccinated) can still visit the destination this year.

Hotels and resorts across the nation have been open to visitors from other markets for many months and have rigorous health and safety protocols already in place to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

The Dominican Republic has already fully vaccinated more than 754,000 people, with over a million people already receiving their first dose.

www.godominicanrepublic.com/newsroom/coronavirus/

Go for Greece with Azamara's August voyages

AZAMARA HAS announced that Azamara Quest will return to the high seas beginning August 28, 2021, with five back-to-back country-intensive Voyages and one classic Mediterranean sailing. Each cruise is seven days in length with a total of 18 late-night stays in port, including Santorini, Rhodes and Heraklion, Greece.

Voyages will open for booking on May 11, 2021. With the health and safety of guests and crew being the top priority for the return to sail, Azamara has made the decision to require all guests and crew to be fully vaccinated no later than 14 days prior to departure.



"Over the past year, our team – ship to shoreside – continued to connect with our guests and travel partners. Our biggest takeaway is the desire everyone has to sail again, and we are excited to share that we can finally make this dream come true," said president of Azamara, Carol Cabezas.

For additional information, visit www.azamara.co.uk



New culinary creations at MarBella Nido

THE MARBELLA Collection has announced a new culinary experience at the adults-only MarBella Nido Suite Hotel & Villas, situated on Corfu's south-east coast.

MarBella Nido will be introducing a 'Greek Chefs Abroad Culinary Series' throughout the summer, hosting well-known Greek chefs who will showcase their culinary skills at the resort. Additionally, the hotel is launching new cooking classes, expert wine tastings and local 'Dine Out' evenings at nearby tavernas.

To learn more, visit www.marbella.gr

Regent Seven Seas Cruises' return to sailing

REGENT SEVEN Seas has announced its return to sailing, announcing that Seven Seas Splendor will be cruising from the UK, beginning September 11, 2021.

The voyages will mark Seven Seas Splendor's inaugural season after just two cruises last February, as well as the cruise line's resumption of service. The rest of Regent Seven Seas' fleet will be rephased back into service in the following months.

Jason Montague, Regent Seven Seas Cruises' CEO, said of the announcement: "Come September we will have the double celebration of our return to the seas as we also recommence the inaugural season of the ship that perfects luxury, Seven Seas Splendor. With



Seven Seas Splendor will sail an 11-night voyage from Southampton.

immaculate design, luxurious suites, exquisite cuisine and entertainment, and outstanding personalised service, Seven Seas Splendor was one of the most highly anticipated ships to launch in the history of cruising, and my promise to our loyal and eager guests is that without a doubt she will be worth the wait."

Upon its relaunch, Seven Seas Splendor will sail an 11-night voyage from Southampton, with a roundtrip route calling in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Ireland. Following this initial voyage, the ship will sail to the Mediterranean and cross the Atlantic to port in the Caribbean.

www.rssc.com

Malta to welcome Brits from June 1

MALTA WILL permit visitors from the UK who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to enter the country, without the need for a test, from June 1, 2021.

British travellers who can show proof of vaccination received at least 10 days before arrival will no longer have to provide a negative PCR test certificate 72 hours prior to, or upon, arrival in Malta. Passengers will need to show their vaccination card when boarding to be accepted to travel.

British travellers will be able to visit the

archipelago, comprised of Malta, Gozo and Comino, for both leisure and business trips.

With many travellers looking forward to restrictions easing and the allure of future trips to Malta on the horizon, the Malta Tourism Authority will also be launching its new campaign 'Feel Free Again' to inspire travellers to harness their re-established freedom to plan, book and travel to Malta when the time is right.

www.visitmalta.com

City Cruises to resume sailings on May 20

FOLLOWING THE easing of the UK's lockdown restrictions, City Cruises will resume sailings from May 20, 2021. As part of its reopening, City Cruises is welcoming its passengers back with a two-for-one promotional offer on its sightseeing cruises. The offer is redeemable on all sailings from May 20 to May 27, 2021.

City Cruises will enable social distancing by reducing passenger capacity on each sailing. All boats will be disinfected every day before going into service, with customer touch points cleaned every 30 minutes while in operation. Screens will be in place to limit staff and customer interaction, and hand sanitiser will be available on all boats for



Image Credit: City Cruises

customer use. City Cruises' staff will wear masks, gloves and other PPE as required and customers will be asked to wear face masks. Agents will continue to earn a pre-agreed standard commission on sales.

www.citycruises.com



Image Credit: Lux Resorts

LUX Grand Baie Resort & Residences offer beachside exclusivity

LUX GRAND Baie Resort & Residences will open on November 1, 2021, unveiling a new generation of boutique-style resort for the modern traveller. Located in the north of Mauritius, the hideaway is nestled in the Grand Baie lagoon overlooking the beach. Your guests can be the first to experience the unveiling of LUX Grand Baie, and enjoy 30% off the best available rate, by staying between November 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022. Guests can plan ahead to reserve their stay before this year end to enjoy 22% off the best available rate on stays between February 1 and December 31, 2022. www.luxresorts.com



AGENT INSIGHT

BEN & TONI ROOD NOT JUST TRAVEL

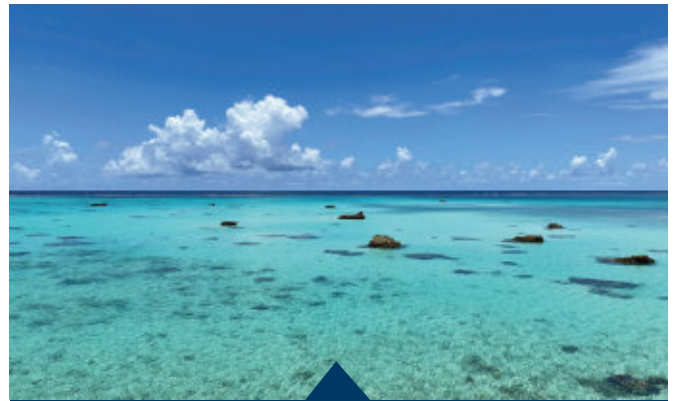
WITH THE Global Travel Taskforce outlining its plan for the travel industry, it seems like we now have a plan and idea of how holidays in the near future will run.

The new Traffic Light system will inform holidaymakers and prospective holidaymakers which countries are considered safe to travel to and which have greater restrictions for now. The Government has said that international travel will start from May 17, with carriers like Jet2 announcing they intend to start flying from June 24.

The roadmap has, again, bolstered consumer confidence. People know that travel will be different this year and that restrictions and safety measures, like face masks, are likely to continue for a while. We all know pre- and post-flight Covid tests are likely; there may be quarantine restrictions and there is still discussion around the vaccination passports, but we have a roadmap now of how the nuts and bolts will work: that's reassuring.

As an industry, travel has changed a lot this year. Whereas before bookings were often inflexible, the industry is now more flexible than ever and able to adapt to the changes around the globe. The knowledge that people won't lose deposits and can reschedule and request refunds more easily than ever is really inspiring confidence in our clients. Our zero percent deposit, flexible booking and Covid-19 travel insurance options have been a hit.

We have seen a lot of bookings for the UK; the staycation will be hugely popular this year, with everyone making the most of the Great British summer and supporting the economy as it reopens, but we are also seen a lot of bookings for traditional holiday spots like Greece and Dubai. We believe that as the industry opens up more, we will see lots of last minute bookings for this year, where travellers choose their destination a few days before, based on what the traffic light system indicates. For next year, they will book ahead for the more traditional favourite holiday spots.



ROSEWOOD HOTELS & Resorts has opened the doors of the Rosewood Miyakojima, on Miyako Island in the Okinawan archipelago, Japan. The secluded collection of 55 villas, 20 minutes from Miyako Airport, is set to open in 2024, and will host private pools, landscaped gardens and sea views to immerse guests in the island's surroundings.
www.rosewoodhotels.com

Great Rail Journeys reveals new Scottish tour for 2021

AS THE surge in Scottish staycation bookings continues, Great Rail Journeys has met the growing demand with a new rail tour across Edinburgh, Inverness and the Highlands. Designed to showcase the scenic landscapes of the Scottish countryside and the expansive history in Edinburgh and Inverness, the itinerary hopes to offer guests an adventure on their home shores.

Julian Appleyard, commercial director of Great Rail Journeys, explained: "We have seen a rise in popularity of rail holidays throughout the UK since the beginning of the year. People are continually looking for a getaway closer to home. Tours including the West Highland line, in particular the Jacobite, are proving to be particularly popular. Seats are rapidly booking up, so much so that we've just added our new Edinburgh, Inverness and the Highlands tour to meet demand."



The itinerary includes a journey along the West Highland Line and across the Glenfinnan Viaduct, famous for its inclusion in the Harry Potter films.

Prices start from £1,595 per person for the seven-night tour, including seven nights' accommodation and all rail and coach travel. Great Rail Journeys offers departure dates from August 31, 2021.

www.greatrail.com



PURE LUXURY, part of the Gold Medal family of B2B brands, has launched a new campaign in response to rising numbers of high value, luxury bookings from agents and customers. Called 'Next Level Luxury', the campaign aims to provide agents with the tools to inspire their higher-spending customers, focusing on premium room types which come with a host of added value benefits, such as Club Lounge access with complimentary snacks and drinks, butler service, activities or private areas, pools, and beaches.

AGENT TRAINING

THE MALTA Tourism Authority has developed and released an agent training course dedicated to the over 50s market.

Six lessons focus on various aspects of Malta's tourist offering, including 'Where to Stay', 'Dining Out', 'Venture Out and About', 'Events Calendar' and 'Recommended Itineraries'. From Malta's Michelin-star dining options to it's sustainable and eco-friendly tourist offerings, the comprehensive course offers a number of tools that agents can share with their clients.

Agents who complete all six modules by May 14, 2021 have the chance to win one of 10 Maltese gastronomy goodie bags in a prize draw. The bags include a selection of Maltese ingredients, from local olive oil, honey, and liquor, as well as a selection of stationery.
www.malta-training.com



AGENT INCENTIVES

- THE KALIMERA Kriti Hotel & Village Resort has launched its latest incentive for agents. Any agent who makes five or more bookings (of five nights or more) via any UK operator will earn a free five-night stay for two on a bed-and-breakfast basis. Complimentary stays earned as part of the promotion are valid for arrival dates from June 4 to June 30, 2021, September 1 to October 31, 2021, and April 21 to May 30, 2022. Agents can earn the complimentary stay on any collection of five bookings or more made by December 31, 2021. Email booking details (including reference numbers and operators booked through) to celine@skhospitality.gr www.kalimerakriti.gr
- THE SOCO House, Saint Lucia, is offering one lucky agent the chance to win a five-night, all-inclusive stay for two. To be in with a chance of winning, agents need to make two bookings for The SoCo House, Saint Lucia, between now and June 30, 2021. Agents can enter by emailing a valid booking reference to suzy@silvalining.org, quoting their full name, ABTA number and company name. Winners will be picked in July 2021. To book now, visit www.agents.travelpack.co.uk



travelbulletin WEBINARS

Register now to attend the

Travel Bulletin Training Webinar

Join us at 2pm on 11th May to learn top selling tips from our supplier partners, the Italian Tourist Board and Ras Al Khaimah Tourism.

CLICK HERE to reserve your space.

MSC Virtuosa's lucky maiden voyagers

WITH MSC Cruises' countdown to cruising well underway, the cruise line is looking ahead to its return to the seas. Its newest ship, MSC Virtuosa, is set to sail on a British Isles mini-cruise from May 20, 2021.

In celebration of the brand's first sailings of 2021, cruisers lucky enough to be sailing aboard the Virtuosa will enjoy a number of limited-time offerings. Guests will be greeted with a welcome cocktail on the promenade, and enjoy an enriched menu served at the ship's Gala dinners.

The first four sailings will host a new West-End style theatre production.

The ship's Carousel Lounge will host two special performances in celebration of the Virtuosa's launch: Soul



Image Credit: MSC Cruises

The ship will celebrate its maiden voyages with some unique entertainment.

Sisters, a singing trio taking guests back to the days of Motown, and nightly stand up from comedian Rikki Jay.

Antonio Paradiso, managing director of MSC Cruises UK & Ireland commented: "I couldn't be more excited for guests to join these first four sailings and experience the celebratory treats we have

curated especially for these maiden voyages.

"We want guests to share in the excitement of our British Isles sailings and we hope that these special touches will make their holiday even more memorable."

For more information on MSC Virtuosa, and to book, visit www.msccruises.co.uk.

Thomas Cook partners with the Sunshine State

NEWLY RELAUNCHED online booking company, Thomas Cook, has entered into its first partnership, joining forces with Florida's official tourism organisation, VISIT FLORIDA.

As part of the collaboration, Thomas Cook and Visit Florida will hope to showcase Florida's lesser-known regions. The campaign will include digital advertising, email marketing, content production, and travel guides.

Phil Gardner, Thomas Cook's chief commercial officer, said: "Our customers are desperate to get back to Florida for its year-

round family fun, world-famous theme parks and stunning nature. Our partnership will help us to promote the parts of the state that are less well-known and entice our customers to spread their wings beyond Orlando and Miami."

Thomas Cook relaunched in September 2019, offering flights and holidays from all UK airports. The company began selling holidays to the US and Florida in December 2020.

www.thomascook.com

Ski Total to trade under the Inghams brand

AFTER OFFERING sister brand Ski Total, and its popular ski chalets, at the start of the 2020/21 season, Inghams has announced that Ski Total's selection of chalets will now operate exclusively under the Inghams brand.

Looking forward, Ski Total will operate solely under Inghams, renamed 'Ski Total by Inghams'. This rebrand aims to clearly signpost clients to the offerings on the Inghams website.

Joe Ponte, Hotelplan UK's CEO, said: "Having Ski Total on board is very exciting for Inghams. By providing the same experienced Ski Total team and popular chalet options under our expert ski tour operator, Inghams, we are able to offer more of what our customers want in one place. With our 'home



Image Credit: Inghams

from home' chalet holidays sitting under the Inghams umbrella, alongside our hotel and apartment options, chalet holidays will remain an important part of our Inghams programme."

The brand's 'In Safe Hands' campaign protects all bookings with a Covid-19 refund promise.

www.inghams.co.uk



Image Credit: Pexels/Jasmine Carter

Cancelled weddings cause spike in honeymoon enquiries

BAMBOO TRAVEL has reported that honeymoon bookings and enquiries have increased by over 100%, in spite of a large portion of weddings being cancelled over the last year.

Robin Ball, director of Asia at Bamboo Travel, explained: "In the first quarter of this year we have seen a five-fold increase in the number of honeymoon enquiries we would normally expect, and bookings are up over 100%."

Explore Bamboo Travel's worldwide honeymoon offerings at www.bambootravel.co.uk

SUDOKU

Win a £50 M&S voucher in the **travelbulletin** Su Doku prize puzzle A

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3 x 3 squares contains the digits 1-9.

Once you have completed the puzzle, simply identify the numbers that relate to the letters, A, B, C and D then e-mail the solution, with your name, company name, and full postal address plus phone and ABTA number if applicable to:

competition@travelbulletin.co.uk

Closing date for entries is Thursday, May 20. Solution and new puzzle will appear in the next issue.

The winner for April 23 is **Eddie Doyle from Pearl King Travel.**

April 23 Solution: A=5 B=9 C=2 D=3

	5	8		4				
1			6	8		5		4
		6	9				1	
B	2	1	3		4	8		
				6				
C			2	9		7	3	1
		3			6	1		
6		9		3	4			8
D					9		5	3



WHERE AM I?

Around half a million people live in this city on the Nile River. It has been described as an "open-air museum" because of its impressive ancient monuments, such as the temple complex of Karnak and the Ramesseum.

CROSSWORD

Fill in the crossword to reveal the mystery location highlighted by the green squares.

1				2		3		4		5
		6						7		
8						9			10	
						11				
12		13								15
						16				
17										
19										20

Across

- 1 Major car rental company (5)
- 3 Blanes is a popular resort on this Costa (5)
- 6 Capital of Jordan (5)
- 7 Abu Dhabi is the capital (3)
- 8 Flag carrier of Spain (6)
- 9 Hotel brand, ___ Inn (4)
- 12 Capital of Fiji (4)
- 14 Scenic lake in Banff National Park (6)
- 17 Famous Moscow square (3)
- 18 Lively Israel beach resort (5)
- 19 Composer who wrote the opera Carmen (5)
- 20 Capital of Morocco (5)

Down

- 1 Sir Anthony, who recently became the oldest actor ever to receive an Oscar (7)
- 2 Landlocked African country (6)
- 3 Irish singer-songwriter and U2 frontman (4)
- 4 P&O cruise ship (5)
- 5 Affirmative response in Scotland (3)
- 6 Arrecife airport code (3)
- 10 Sir Rod, celebrating 50 years as a solo artist (7)
- 11 Currency of Singapore (6)
- 13 Capital of Liechtenstein (5)
- 15 Airport code for Istanbul (3)
- 16 English county (4)
- 17 Highland outlaw, turned folk hero, ___ Roy (3)

Mystery Word: HARARE Where am I? - Vancouver

Solution:
 Across: 1 HERTZ, 3 BRAVA, 6 AMMAN, 7 UAE, 8 IBERIA, 9 DAYS, 12 SUVA, 14 LOUISE, 17 RED, 18 EILAT, 19 BIZET, 20 RABAT.
 Down: 1 HOPKINS, 2 ZAMBIA, 3 BONO, 4 AZURA, 5 AYE, 6 ACE, 10 STEWART, 11 DOLLAR, 13 VADUZ, 15 IST, 16 KENT, 17 ROB.

ToursByLocals extends its booking period

TOURSBYLOCALS HAS increased its booking period, with customers extending their planning horizons into 2022 and beyond. With many cruise sailings cancelled as a result of the pandemic, travellers are looking to use their cruise credits and secure trips in 2022 and want to book shore excursions on the platform.

In the past, travellers could book the tours on ToursByLocals up to 13 months in advance, but with an observed consumer behaviour change, the company has extended the booking window to 26 months. Every tour booked can be cancelled for a full refund up to 15 days before and optional 'Any Reason' coverage is available for purchase and allows the traveller to cancel until the



Guests can witness elephants on the Bayanga national reserve tour.

day of departure.

Agents and travellers can benefit from 24/7 customer support, full access to the individual guides during the trip planning process, and no-risk refunds with cancellation for any reason up to the day of the tour.

With each booking made,

agents earn 5% commission.

Once an agency has booked £5,498 worth of tours, the commission amount increases to 10%, retroactive to the start of the calendar year and going forward for the rest of the year.

For more, visit www.toursbylocals.com

Scenic announces its 2022/2023 Arctic programme

SCENIC HAS announced its 2022/2023 Arctic programme for the ultra-luxury Scenic Eclipse, the world's first discovery Yacht.

The 2022/23 season will see the Discovery Yacht offer expedition experiences in four new destinations, including the Russian Far East, Japan, Northeast Passage and Alaska.

Scenic Eclipse's experiences are complemented by two on board helicopters, a custom-built submarine and a fleet of Zodiacs, enhanced by the insight of the 20-strong discovery team, that includes geologists,

marine biologists, naturalists and glaciologists.

Scenic Eclipse is currently offering a 20% super early bird saving on selected voyages for guests who book and pay in full 12 months prior to departure.

All voyages are all-inclusive, with prices including return flights, transfers, gratuities, up to 10 dining experiences, beverages, butler service for all guests and all excursions covered.

www.sceniceclipse.com

Trade-facing Wilderness Group launches

A NEW trade-facing luxury, active and experiential DMC, Wilderness Group, has launched.

The company covers the UK and Ireland, combining the local expertise of three specialist tour operators: Wilderness Scotland, Wilderness Ireland and Wilderness England.

The group aims to work with custom travel designers, tour operators and travel agents to select or create bespoke itineraries that showcase the best of the culture, wildlife and the great outdoors for their clients. Each trip – whether in the Ready to Book,



Ready to Customise or Beyond Luxury category – includes an element of cultural immersion, and insider experiences that would not be bookable without their team's local contacts and expertise.

The Wilderness Group offers travel agents booking clients on the scheduled range of tours up to 15% commission, and is always ready to work with agents' teams to support content or product training requirements.

www.wildernessgroup.co.uk



Pullman debuts in Khao Lak, Thailand

PULLMAN HOTELS and Resorts has opened the doors to its eighth property in Thailand, the Pullman Khao Lak Resort.

Hosting 253 guestrooms, the resort offers private balconies, spacious living areas, and open bathrooms, with a choice of accommodation. Guests can choose from the 44 sqm Deluxe room, the 62 sqm Family Suite, or the 88 sqm Presidential Suite that offers ocean views. For a more secluded option, the resort offers two-bedroom pool villas for families or couples.

www.pullman.accor.com

FAMILY HOLIDAYS



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

PACK FOR RAK

Ras Al Khaimah, UAE: Why this Northern Emirate should top your client's destination list for their next family holiday...

RAS AL Khaimah is known as a year-round, family holiday hotspot, offering a mix of adventure and leisure activities across its diverse terrain. The northern Emirate has become an increasingly popular choice among holidaymakers, as travel trends show an appetite for cultural escapes, and more nature-centric experiences.

As part of its commitment as a holiday destination, Ras Al Khaimah was the first global destination to offer free COVID-19 PCR testing to all international visitors before departure, reducing holiday costs.

To welcome back visitors, Ras Al Khaimah has collaborated with hospitality partners to create ongoing packages offering guests the chance to take advantage of value-adds.

In addition, the destination has furthered invested in its adventure products, offering first-time and repeat travellers a suite of experiences for the entire family, tailored to different budgets. Among the latest attractions to join the Emirate's adventure portfolio is the Jais Sky Maze and the Bear Grylls Explorers Camp.

Jais Sky Maze: set 10 metres above



Image Credit: RAK Tourism Development Authority

Ras Al Khaimah's Jebel Jais is home to the world's longest zipline.

the ground, navigate through several obstacles including rope swings, wobbly bridges, swinging loops and more. Jais Sky Maze is suitable for adventure seekers of all ages.

Bear Grylls Explorers Camp and accommodation is part of the Bear Grylls Explorers Camp at Jebel Jais, which opened in 2020. The latest addition to the campsite are lodges designed to offer families and groups mountain biking, climbing, self-guided tours and hikes. The accommodation is designed to host up to three adults, or two adults and one child, with basic self-catering facilities including a private

BBQ on a private outdoor terrace. There will also be the daily Bear Grylls Survival Academy each, with special family programmes that teach travellers practical and extreme survival techniques, such as how to make a fire in the wild, how to build a shelter and how to combat extreme weather.

Other must-try activities include:

The Suwaidi Pearls Farm offering visitors a chance to experience the Gulf region's long history of pearling.

Water activities such as scenic cruises, canoe trips exploring the mangroves, and jet skiing.

Desert activities across the Arabian sands, including quad biking, horseback and camel rides, or a family safari with any of the destination's licensed safari operators.

Hajar mountain activities from the Via Ferrata to the world's longest zipline, Jebel Jais Flight; the Hajar mountains offer various hiking, camping or mountain biking terrains.

To begin planning your client's trip or for more information, head to www.visitrasalkhaimah.com

BESIDE THE SEASIDE

As families look closer to home for summer getaways this year, National Holidays' Blackpool offerings can't guarantee sun, but certainly guarantee family fun.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

WITH BRITISH seaside breaks making a comeback this summer, National Holidays' Blackpool holidays fit the bill for clients looking to soak up quality family time by the sea.

Blackpool Seaside Special

This five-day break is a springboard for guests looking to get out and make the most of Blackpool and surrounding areas, offering days out to Southend, Fleetwood Market and the Lake District.

Starting from £219 per person, based on a July 2021 departure from Newcastle, the package includes coach travel, four nights' accommodation, and nightly entertainment.

Blackpool Pleasure Beach & Knowsley Safari Park

This holiday packs all the excitement of Blackpool into a two-day trip. With entry to Pleasure Beach and Knowsley Safari Park

included, this package ticks off the essential Blackpool entertainment.

Clients can enjoy this option for £129 per person, based on an August 2021 departure date, including accommodation, coach transfers and entry to both attractions.

I'm a Celebrity... Jungle Challenge & Blackpool

Guests are whisked into the 'jungle' at MediaCity UK to take part in an interactive attraction based on 'I'm a Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here!' during their stay, with a Blackpool visit included.

This two-day trip starts from £109 per person, including accommodation, coach transfers and admission to the attraction.

With departure points in all corners of the country, National Holidays' packages can be tailor-made to suit clients' needs.

www.nationalholidays.com

Planet Holidays goes Greek for the summer

PLANET HOLIDAYS' collection of Greek Island-hopping itineraries showcase the life of luxury and the greatest in the Greek Islands for families desperate for a Mediterranean escape this summer.

The operator offers six charming Cyprus escapes, including Paphos, Larnarka and Ayia Napa. The Leonardo Cypria Bay has long been a favourite for British families, offering all-inclusive and four-star service. Two adults and two children can enjoy seven nights in a family room on an all-inclusive basis from £4,098, based on a July 21, 2021 departure date, with return flights from Gatwick and transfers.



Image Credit: Planet Holidays

To the east of Paphos, the four-star Blue Ivy Hotel & Suites sits a short walk from the nearest beach, and hosts a separate children's pool and Kid's Suite rooms. Families can enjoy the four-star resort from £269 per person, based on a July 2021 departure date.

Explore all of Planet Holidays' family-friendly offerings at www.planet-holidays.co.uk



Image Credit: Shutterstock

Sunshine Trailblazing with American Affair

AMERICAN AFFAIR takes guests along the Sunshine Coast of Florida on the 12-day 'Sunshine Trails' offering.

Families can relax during the scenic drive from Orlando to Dania Beach, stopping off at Kennedy Space Centre along the way. Onto Everglades National Park, guests enjoy wildlife spotting, sailing, and snorkeling, topping off the trip with a visit to the coastal resort of Sanibel Island. A final day at Lake Buena Vista offers quick stops at Bay Park or DisneyWorld.

This package starts from £1,155 per person, based on two adults and two children, including flights and 11 days' motorhome hire.

www.americanaffair.com

FAMILY REUNION

As European travel restrictions look to be easing this summer, Oliver's Travels has highlighted a selection of family-friendly properties for long-awaited get-togethers and reunions.

FROM THE sunny shores of Greece to the Turquoise Coast of Turkey, Oliver's Travels' villas are ideal hotspots for family getaways.

San Pedro, Algarve, Portugal

This spacious villa comes with expansive gardens and a private pool, as well as access to resort facilities, including golf courses and a kids' clubs.

Seven nights at this property start from £8,564, with accommodating space for eight guests.

Villa Angele, Malta

This four-bedroom property boasts a private pool and a giant outdoor chess set, making it ideal for families with children of all ages.

Villa Angele can accommodate up to nine guests, with seven-night breaks from £4,537.



Image Credit: Oliver's Travels

Palma Rainbow, Mallorca

Alongside 12 individual bedrooms, this villa hosts a bar, outdoor lounge and saltwater pool.

Up to 24 guests can enjoy this property, from £8,933 for seven nights.

www.oliverstravels.com

Endless family fun at the five-star Heritance Aarah

MALDIVIAN SUN and family fun come together at the Heritance Aarah, Maldives. The resort's family-friendly accommodation includes five-bedroom Family Beach Villas, or the Family Pool Beach Villas with plunge pools.

The Koka Kid's Club offers activities such as treasure hunts and Maldivian drumming lessons.



Image Credit: Heritance Aarah

A Family Beach Villa starts from approximately £1,727 per night, based on a October 2021 arrival.

www.heritancehotels.com

SHORT BREAKS AND LONGER STAYS ACROSS THE UK

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EDINBURGH, ISLE OF SKYE AND WEST HIGHLAND LINE



10 DAYS FROM **£1,749** PER PERSON

Fort William > Isle of Skye > Inverness > Edinburgh

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore Edinburgh's history with a Royal Mile tour and skip-the-line entrance to the Castle
- Spend 3 nights in the magical Isle of Skye
- Take one of the world's most beautiful train journeys through the West Highlands on the Jacobite Steam Train (April to October only)
- Enjoy a day trip to Loch Ness and Glen Urquhart Castle

GRAND TOUR OF SCOTLAND



10 DAYS FROM **£1,249** PER PERSON

Inverness > Isle of Skye > Glasgow > Fort William > Edinburgh > London

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Overnight journey on the Caledonian sleeper
- Explore Inverness
- Tour the Isle of Skye and Eilean Donan Castle, the most photographed castle in Scotland
- Take one of the world's most beautiful train journeys through the West Highlands
- Explore Loch Lomond and Stirling Castle
- Discover Edinburgh's charms, such as its medieval Old Town and Edinburgh Castle

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS AND THE ORKNEYS



9 DAYS FROM **£1,349** PER PERSON

Inverness > The Orkney Islands > Inverness > Edinburgh

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Explore Inverness, the gateway to the mesmerizing Scottish Highlands
- Tour the many unforgettable places and landscapes of the Isle of Skye
- Visit the Eilean Donan Castle
- Spend 2 days exploring the Orkney Islands
- Visit Skara Brae, a prehistoric stone circle
- Discover Edinburgh's charms

Call **020 3780 2222** or visit railbookers.co.uk to view all of our holidays and to access our travel agent toolbox with downloadable resources to help you promote what's booking right now!



TAKE A DEEP DIVE

WINDJAMMER LANDING, St Lucia, is partnering with The Perry Institute for Marine Science to launch a diving package, designed to educate families on marine life and the importance of protecting the oceans.

Windjammer Landing is a diving destination set into 60 acres of lush hillside on St Lucia's north-western coast, offering access to 64,000 square feet of white sand and views of the tropical landscape.

The family diving package encapsulates fun, education and adventure. The participating family sets the package's topic; these can include underwater adventures from reef and coral



Image Credit: Windjammer Landing

Windjammer Landing's Family Diving Package includes six dives in total.

dives, fish exploration dives and untouched wreck dives. There is also an option to add the lionfish experience onto each dive package, where families can try catching, cleaning and cooking lionfish with the added benefit of earning a PADI card.

With sustainability a main focus point for the resort, 10%

of all proceeds will be going towards The Perry Institute's research programme.

The Family Experience starts at US\$275 per person, and rooms at Windjammer Landing start at US\$266 per night, with Villas starting at US\$448.

www.windjammer-landing.com

Experience family fun in the Dominican Republic with TUI

PUNTA CANA, in the Dominican Republic is a family favourite, offering great value for money, luxury all-inclusive service and lots of activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Resorts such as Grand Palladium Punta Cana Resort & Spa offer clubs for different ages, mini water parks, gaming rooms and activities for all. Adults can indulge in a pamper session at the Zentropia Spa & Wellness centre or enjoy a cocktail at the Hemingway Bar before uniting for a show at Merengue theatre.

TUI offers a seven-night, all-inclusive stay from £1,234 per person, based on an October 24 departure.

For more information, visit www.tui.co.uk



Discovering Benidorm with your Family

Benidorm is the perfect place for families, as it's both a friendly and a safe destination to enjoy a unique holiday.

Everything you need is nearby for the whole family of all ages to enjoy!

Levante and Poniente are two long sandy beaches, where parents can relax and enjoy the Mediterranean Sea whilst their children play and have fun in the calm, shallow and crystal clear waters.

Benidorm has 5 different theme parks which make the city a singular and incomparable destination. Families will be able to enjoy the shows and entertainment that these independent parks have to offer throughout the day.

The perfect combination of sea and mountain is here in Benidorm. What are you waiting for? Come and discover it with your family!

Discover more at: www.benidormelearning.com



TREASURE ISLAND

AS PART of luxury operator Black Tomato's 'Take Me On a Story' campaign, 1882's 'Treasure Island', by Robert Louis Stevenson, comes to life at the Rosewood Little Dix Bay.

The bespoke itinerary invites families to the British Virgin Islands to follow in the footsteps of the book's characters.

Children and parents alike can take part in a Pirate School with sword fighting, (non-alcoholic) rum-making, and boating lessons. Families can then put their knowledge to the test with a private day charter of a catamaran to the nearby Dog Islands, ending the trip with a stargazing bonfire.



Families will follow in the footsteps of the characters in 'Treasure Island'.

The holiday goes green with a cooking class at Rosewood Little Dix Bay's sustainable farm.

Photographers will capture the Pirate adventure at one of the family's chosen activities.

The Rosewood Explorers children's programme celebrates Caribbean culture, with activities including

landscape painting, Caribbean folk arts and crafts, and nature walks.

The resort team are available to take bespoke requests, and arrange babysitting and nanny services.

Prices are available upon request.

www.blacktomato.com

Palma Tourist Board launches its first family-friendly guide

DESIGNED TO support families planning a post-lockdown escape, Palma Tourist Board has unveiled a guide to the city's family-friendly activities and hotels.

Pedro Homar, manager of Palma Tourist Board, said: "The guide has been designed to showcase how Palma's tourism proposition appeals to all ages, providing endless fun, culture, great weather and a wide range of activities to enjoy."

Family attractions across the city include Palma Aquarium, home to Europe's deepest shark tank, and Pueblo Español, an open-air museum that recreates some of Spain's most famous landmarks.

Browse the 60-page digital guide at the Palma Tourist's Board website: www.visitpalma.com

BRING THE FAMILY BACK TOGETHER

Book a luxury staycation this summer

With 12 central locations in London and Edinburgh, Cheval Collection has family and pet-friendly apartments with fully equipped kitchens, perfect for any length of stay.

BOOK ONLINE: www.chevalcollection.com



AFRICA



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

HOLIDAY LIKE ROYALTY

INSPIRED BY Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, Exodus Travels invites guests to live like royalty on its 'Wildlife and Wilderness' trip to Botswana.

During their time in Botswana, Harry and Meghan spent time wild camping under the stars in a remote bush camp on the western edge of Botswana's Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, away from the prying eyes of the paparazzi. They

visited the Okavango Delta, the king of the African safari, where the 'Big Five' congregate on epic salt flats.

Exodus Travels' 'Wildlife & Wilderness of Botswana' offers a similar experience (minus the paparazzi) taking travellers into the wild, along the Okavango Delta and to the Makgadikgadi Pans to admire the inky skies and stars. There is the opportunity to search for Africa's emblematic wildlife

on the Savuti Marsh and the Moremi reserve before heading to the mighty Victoria Falls.

Exodus Travels' 15-night trip starts from £3,599 per person. The offer includes full-service camping with daily breakfast, selected meals, activities and transport, flights from London and a tour leader throughout.

www.exodus.co.uk

Tunisia announces new entry requirements

TUNISIA HAS announced new entry requirements for package tours' holidaymakers.

As of last month, non-resident travellers presenting a booking form that includes flight, transfer and hotel accommodation, flying on charter or scheduled flights (block seats) as part of organised and supervised trips (inclusive tour) will be authorised to enter the Tunisian territory.



Admission rules include: mandatory presentation of a negative PCR test carried out no more than 72 hours before boarding; committal to remaining in travel bubbles upon arrival in Tunisia; using pre-booked tourist transport and accommodation; keeping movements inside and outside their hotels close to the group; and, strictly complying with the Tunisian Anti-Covid-19 tourism health protocols.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, Botswana

TANZANIAN HEIGHTS

G-Adventures' 'Kilimanjaro, Serengeti & Zanzibar' itinerary leaves no stone unturned as guests venture through Tanzania's cultured heritage and climactic heights on this 19-day tour.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

KICKING OFF with a six-day hike up Mount Kilimanjaro, and drawing to a close as guests snorkel through the tropical waters of Zanzibar, G-Adventures' all-encompassing 'Kilimanjaro, Serengeti and Zanzibar' itinerary offers something for the most trying and the most tranquil of guests.

Beginning in Moshi, guests arrive and acclimatise before beginning the Machame route of Mt. Kilimanjaro, up the lower slopes and through the lower alpine moorland, over the eastern wall and passing the Helm Glacier, arriving at the Stella Point summit on day six.

After the challenge of the tour's first week, the group takes a leisurely passage to the Serengeti National Park, passing through Arusha and Mto wa Mbu en route, with a wildlife safari drive through the latter.

Arriving in the Serengeti National Park, panoramic views of the park and its wildlife, including the 'Big Five', await at the Ngorongoro Crater and its surrounding plains, with two days to soak up the region and its

expansive wildlife.

The group departs the Serengeti, continuing on to an authentic Maasai village and the Clean Cookstove Project, which gives guests a chance to give back to the area's local community.

A leisurely day in Arusha awaits, where the group can kick back and relax at the lodge or explore Arusha at their leisure.

Travelling on to Zanzibar, the tour visits a local spice plantation upon arrival on day 16, before enjoying a nearby beach resort's turquoise coast for the rest of the stay.

As the itinerary draws to a close, snorkelling, sunbathing or strolling along the coast awaits, before a transfer to Stone Town brings guests to their return flight home.

This 19-day tour starts from £3,357 per person, including accommodation, a selection of meals, transportation and all staff and experts along the way.

www.gadventures.com

West Africa awaits for wildlife lovers

VARIETY CRUISES' seven-night 'The Rivers of Gambia & Senegal' itinerary is designed to satisfy the most curious of nature-loving clients, with a roundtrip from Dakar, Senegal or Banjul, showcasing a number of West Africa's wildlife havens.

Guided by a local Gambian River naturalist, the yacht cruise kicks off along the West African coastline and up the Gambia river, into the heart of West Africa.

Along the waterways of Senegal and Gambia, guests will enjoy visits to four nature reserves; the Sine Saloun, a UNESCO Biosphere reserve and ideal location to spot some of the continent's most diverse bird life; River Gambia National Park, home to one of the continent's chimpanzee-reintroduction projects; Bao Baloing Wetland reserve, Gambia's largest protected reserve; and Kiang West National Park.



Image Credit: Variety Cruises

This itinerary will sail from Dakar, Senegal, and Banjul from December 22, 2021 to February 19, 2022, with prices starting from approximately £1,147 per person.

www.varietycruises.com

Image Credit: Adobe Stock



Botswana: romance and wilderness

WILDERNESS SAFARIS offers a romantic safari experience across Botswana, with stays in three remote luxury camps in the Vumbura Plains, King's Pool and Little Mombo.

With the chance for adventurous explorations of the Okavango Delta by boat, helicopter rides over the Linyanti Wildlife Reserve and game hunting at the 'Place of Plenty' in Mumbo, this package blends the wild side of life with romantic luxury at the safari's exclusive base camps.

This romantic wilderness adventure starts from £8,500 per person, with departure dates available from late 2021.

www.wilderness-safaris.com

DISCOVERY AWAITS

Egypt has been a firm favourite among many for its plethora of museums and sites; now, Discover Egypt is offering year-round programmes for your clients looking to delve into the ancient worlds of the Pharaohs.



Image Credit: DiscoverEgypt

THE MONUMENTS of ancient Egypt make for the perfect discovery-fuelled holiday for your clients. Discover Egypt offers a range of packages for holidaymakers to experience the many tours and sites.

Recently, the Pharaohs' Golden Parade took place, with 18 kings, four queens, and 22 royal mummies in total, were transported from the Egyptian Museum in Tahrir Square to the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation (NMEC) in Old Cairo, in chronological order of their reigns.

The mummies were discovered in 1881 and 1898 in two caches in the ruins of Thebes, Egypt's ancient capital – modern day Luxor in Upper Egypt. They are now housed in the Royal Hall of Mummies at NMEC, which opened on April 18. The hall has been designed so that visitors will experience the

illusion of being in the heart of the ancient Valley of the Kings.

Specialist Discover Egypt continues to offer travel agents a choice of year round programmes. On offer are seven-night Nile cruises, with prices from £1,295 per person including return flights, transfers in-resort and a full board cruise, plus 10 guided excursions with an Egyptologist. Additionally, there is the 10-night 'Classic Egypt' trip, which includes three nights in Cairo with time to visit the Pyramids and the museums, plus seven nights on a Nile cruise, with prices from £1,595 per person.

Prices are based on departures in September and October 2021, but the operator is offering dates throughout 2022.

www.discoveregypt.co.uk

Go wild in South Africa with Titan Travel

DUE TO its abundance of wildlife and stunning landscapes, South Africa is a must-visit destination for travellers looking to take a 'Lion King' inspired holiday.

Titan is offering its 12-day 'Sensational South Africa' tour that will start in Johannesburg with a three-night stay in Kruger National Park, one of Africa's largest game reserves, where guests will sleep in the heart of wild. Known for its high density of wild animals, it is only a matter of time before guests can tick off sightings of the Big Five.

Titan Travel's 'Sensational South Africa' tour includes 11 nights hotel accommodation, 16 meals and 10 excursions.

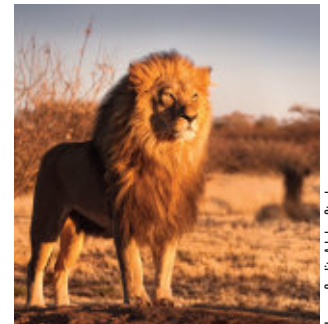


Image Credit: Akobhe Stock

The escorted tour starts from £2,849 per person. The price also includes Titan's VIP door-to-door travel service, services of a local Titan tour manager and return international flights from London Heathrow. This is based on a November 17, 2022 departure.

www.titantravel.co.uk



Image Credit: Orango Parque Hotel

Orango Parque Hotel expands its facilities

THE SUSTAINABLE eco-lodge hotel, Orango Parque Hotel, which is the only establishment located in the Orango National Park (Guinea Bissau), is the perfect fit for your clients looking to take a break amongst nature.

The hotel is building six new bungalows to increase its offer, to a total of 28 beds, as it aims to provide the complex with premium rooms.

The new bungalows are inspired by a classic African model and each has a private bathroom with a shower, beds with mosquito nets and fans, as well as different traditional decorations. All the bungalows are located on the beachfront.

www.orangohotel.com

CENTRAL EUROPE



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

A GLACIAL ESCAPE

Inghams' multi-centre holiday across Switzerland will traverse the breadth of the country by rail, with panoramic views and exciting activities aplenty.

COMBINING STAYS in three contrasting areas of Switzerland, Inghams' 'Glacier Express Switzerland Tour' will provide your clients with an overview of Switzerland's varied scenery and includes a journey on one of the most famous train lines in the world – the dramatic 'Glacier Express'.

Passing icy glaciers, snow-dusted peaks, rivers and rural hamlets, the journey from Zermatt to Davos/Klosters is an unforgettable holiday experience. On board, guests can choose to have their lunch (which must be requested at the time of booking) or plan their own picnic. A minibar service for drinks and snacks is also available on board. Inghams representatives are on hand in each resort to help



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

The holiday will combine stays in three contrasting areas of Switzerland.

travellers make the most of their stay.

One highlight of the trip is a journey on the Gornergrat railway to the Matterhorn glacier, which features a cinema lounge, glacier palace, year-round ski piste, observation deck and Europe's highest gondola lift.

10 nights in three-star hotels in Interlaken, Zermatt and Klosters start from £1,499, departing on July 3 or August 28, 2021, excluding any flight supplements. Departures are every Saturday and Wednesday.

www.inghams.co.uk

Experience a CULINARY hike on Krvavec Mountain, Slovakia

THE SLOVENIA Tourist Board is promoting a culinary hike across the Krvavec mountain as a new tourist product for individuals and groups.

Travellers can discover the beauty of Krvavec and enjoy local culinary delights while also soaking up scenic views. Every meal will be served in a different location, starting with the cable car entrance station and continuing on different attractive locations on the mountain. In the summer, guests will have the chance to see cows and sheep freely grazing on the pastures.

All courses are traditional with a modern twist and are presented in a unique way – in a traditional bindle, that guests can carry with them.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Available all seasons, the tour costs €50 and lasts for a duration of four hours. Bookings can be made on the Slovenia Outdoor webpage.

HUNGRY IN HUNGARY?

Travel Curious' private tour showcases the cream of the culinary crop in Budapest, taking guests to the very best markets, cafés and restaurants in Hungary's capital.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

BUDAPEST'S IMPERIAL history means its food scene is a diverse culinary collage of German, Russian, Turkish, and Slovakian influence. To get the most out of this foodie haven, Travel Curious recommends its 'Foodie Tour of Budapest'.

Along their way through the gastronomic highlights of the city, guests will meet street food chefs, watch kitchens in the throes of creativity, and get to know the city through its culinary offerings. The food along the way will reflect the city's changes in history and culture through a tastebud tour.

The traditional Hungarian goulash is a favourite of many tourists, with paprika

chicken, fisherman soup and dumplings with Hungarian-style spritzers or a glass of Hungarian white wine cultural staples and must-try dishes, too.

The tour isn't all about fulfilling guests' tastebuds, as the route will also cross many of the city's most famous landmarks, including St Stephen's Basilica. Clients on the tour will also have time to roam the Great Market Hall, trying out a number of street food stalls' offerings.

Prices and dates are available upon request on the website.

www.travelcurious.com

Jet2 the Alps

AFTER A winter away from Europe's ski resorts, Jet2.com is seeing high demand for its winter 2021/22 flights from customers looking to hit the most popular ski spots in the Alps.

In response to this pent-up demand, Jet2 has added more flights to Grenoble, Geneva, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Chambery for winter 2021/22, as well as extending the ski seasons to some of these destinations.

The company's winter 21/22 ski programme includes seven new routes: Geneva from Newcastle and Glasgow; Innsbruck from Bristol and Edinburgh; Grenoble from Bristol; and Salzburg from Bristol and Newcastle.

Steve Heapy, CEO of Jet2.com

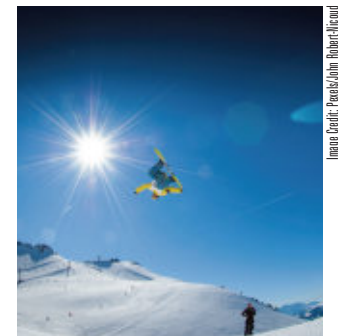


Image Credit: Pexels/John Robert-Hazard

and Jet2holidays, said: "We have responded to demand by adding additional flights and extending the ski season.

"With many missing out on a trip to Europe's best ski resorts last year, we expected that the return of our ski programme would be a huge hit."

www.jet2.com



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Cycle Poland: Gdansk and the Baltic Coast

EXPLORE'S POLAND cycling-centric 'Cycle Poland - Gdansk and the Baltic Coast' offers exploration of Poland's coast on two wheels.

Guests will cycle along dedicated paths and quiet country roads through charming medieval towns, past pristine beaches and along the Hel Peninsula sand bar. A highlight of the holiday is a visit to the giant Teutonic castle of Malbork, a 13th-century Teutonic castle and fortress located near the town of Malbork.

Prices for this eight day trip start from £880 per person, including flights, bed and breakfast, bike hire and an explore leader.

www.explore.co.uk

AUSTRIA AWAITS

A warm Tirolean welcome in Kitzbühel is ready and waiting for leisure travel to resume. Flexiski is showcasing all the region has to offer, both during ski season and all year round.



A HAVEN for British skiers in the winter season, Kitzbühel has just as much to offer in the summer season. With a return to leisure travel looking hopeful, Flexiski offers a selection of breaks and dates for the Austrian Alpine town.

The town is best known for its host of sports facilities, ideal for summer breaks where skiing conditions aren't ideal. From world-class tennis and archery facilities, there's plenty of choice for clients.

Golf lovers can enjoy four local courses, with 30 other courses within an hour-and-a-half's drive from the town. The annual Kitzbühel Golf Festival, running from June 20 to June 27, 2021, brings together over 900 players from around the world to compete in 11 tournaments.

Thrill-seekers are spoilt for choice, with the region's running, e-biking, paragliding and guided hike trails in abundance.

Kitzbühel's medieval town center comes alive in summer, with a number of shops, galleries, and dining options, from Asian and

Italian to traditional Austrian cuisine.

A number of precautionary measures are in place as the town prepares for a return to tourism this summer, including face mask mandates in accommodation communal areas and aboard mountain lifts, with social distancing in place throughout the town. UV-C light disinfecting processes are also in place, including at the Aquarena swimming and spa centre, a facility ideal for families looking to make a splash or couples looking to relax.

Hikers can enjoy the 14-day Kitzbühel Alps Summer Card, giving visitors access to all 38 lifts across 14 mountains in the region, from approximately £84 per person (£42 per child).

Flexiski offers seven nights at the Tirolean ski town from £1,133 per person, including flights, transfers and accommodation at the four-star Hotel Kitzhof, a property boasting an indoor pool, sauna, spa and steam bath complex, as well as an on-site restaurant.

www.flexiski.com

Soak up the culture of Central Europe with a Scenic cruise

FROM AMSTERDAM to Budapest, Scenic Cruises' 'Jewels of Europe' shows guests the best of the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Hungary.

The cruise begins in Amsterdam, with an e-bike tour of the city, before sailing to Cologne for a guided walking tour or visit to the medieval Marksburg Castle.

Onwards to Rudesheim, cruisers enjoy a mini train and cable car ride to soak up the views.

Imperial history awaits amongst the monasteries of Miltenberg, royal heritage of Würzburg, and cobbled streets of Bamberg.

Through the Bavarian towns of Nuremberg and Regensburg, the voyage calls in baroque Salzburg and Vienna, where palaces and arts wait.



The cruise draws to a close with two days in Budapest, where hikes in Buda Hill, classical concerts, or treatments at the Thermal Baths and Spa are at guests' disposal.

This 15-day cruise starts from £3,495 per person, including the all-inclusive tour, local guides, and a choice of activities.

www.scenic.co.uk



Slovenia's enchanted valley: a return to the rural

SLOVENIA MIGHT not spring to mind when clients first consider an Alpine escape in Europe this summer, but the Logar Valley might be the best kept secret in the Alps.

Beyond exploring the region's lush forest and waterfalls, guests can following hiking trails, cycle, and horseback ride amongst the valley and its landscapes, or also venture by car and visit the nearby Velika Planina.

Inntravel offers seven nights at the four-star family-run Hotel Plesnik, giving guests the authentic Alpine experience, from £885 per person, including accommodation and car hire.

www.inntravel.co.uk

AUSTRALASIA



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

ART DOWN UNDER

Coral Expeditions' 11-day trip across the northern tip of Australia combines artistic charm with natural landscapes.

CORAL EXPEDITIONS' 11 day itinerary, 'Indigenous Art From The Tip Of Australia' offers guests the chance to explore Cape York and Arnhem Land and learn more about the ancient, cultural heritages of Australia.

Some well-known places guests visit include the Garig Gunak Barlu National Park on the Cobourg Peninsula, Elcho Island, Lizard Island, and the narrow channel between Raragala and Guluwuru Islands, which is also known as the 'Hole in the Wall'.

The tour commences in Darwin, with a voyage to the Tiwi Islands, where guests will get to experience cultural performances and learn about the history of the islands. A visit to Tiwi Designs, one of the oldest and most artistically diverse art centres in Australia, showcases rich artistic



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

While on the trip, guests will visit Lizard Island for snorkeling and walks.

heritage in terms of stunning carvings, paintings, and fabric printing.

Travellers will visit Maningrida next, located in the heart of the Arnhem Land region, followed by Djomi Museum, the Babbarra Women's Centre and the Maningrida Arts and Culture Centre, which has an interesting cultural archive.

This expedition will have an Indigenous art focus, led by guest artist David Bosun or Brian Robinson. Onboard,

guests will create their own unique pieces with art workshops in totem carving, weaving, lino-cutting and printmaking, and weaving. The art classes will provide insights into the skills, stories, and creative legacy of the northern Australian communities travellers visit.

Prices start from US\$11,990 per person, based on a September 30, 2022 departure date.

www.coralexpeditions.com

Off-the-track in Tasmania with Exsus Travel

EXSUS TRAVEL offers a rare chance to see Tasmania, on its 'Hiking Cradle Mountain' trip. Guests will visit attractions such as Melbourne city, Meander Valley, Cradle Mountain Huts Walk, and Pumphouse Point on this 11-day tour.

The tour starts in Melbourne, which has several popular spots, including artisan cafes, casinos, and aquariums, and even beachside suburbs. The Lyall Hotel, located in South Yarra, is the ideal base for your clients to stay in while they are in Melbourne.

Those interested can also extend their Overland Track walk to a six-day experience instead of four, and enjoy spectacular views from Pelion Gap, with a side trip to Mt Ossa. If city life is what your client seeks, they can spend some time in Tasmania's capital city Hobart, to enjoy the pretty waterfront, markets, and have fish and chips by the sea.

Prices start from £6,300 per person in low season, based on two adults travelling together.

For dates of availability, visit www.exsus.com

Discover New Zealand's best with Just You

JUST YOU is offering an 18-day all-encompassing tour of New Zealand.

Starting in the city of Auckland on North Island, holidaymakers will discover the emerald-green landscapes, thermal springs, and geysers of Rotorua and Napier, then spend some time in the capital of Wellington, before sailing across the Cook Strait to South Island, with time to explore Queenstown and the vibrant city of Christchurch.

Guests will also get a chance to visit the Te Puia thermal reserve, followed by a rail journey on the TranzAlpine train. Later, they can enjoy dinner and wine-tasting at the Mission Estate Winery.

One particular highlight of the holiday is exploring the Milford Sound, where guests can take in



A view of the Milford Sound, New Zealand.

the natural beauty of the area. With its towering peaks, rainforest-clad slopes and waterfalls, travellers will enjoy a cruise in search of fur seal colonies, dolphins and penguins.

The tour price starts from £5,999 per person, with departures from January to November 2022.

www.justyou.co.uk

Stay near Sydney's scenic sites at the Crowne Plaza

HOLIDAYMAKERS SEARCHING for a hotel among Sydney's hotspots: the Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour is the perfect pick. Darling Harbour itself is just a three-minute walk away, with Pitt Street Mall and Westfield Sydney a 10-minute stroll away. Guests can walk to the Barangaroo dining district and the International Convention Centre Sydney, which is about 15 minutes away. The hotel has 152 rooms divided between 13 storeys of a slender inner-city tower. There is a rooftop pool with city views, and a 24-hour gym. Prices start from approximately £132.14 per night. www.ihg.com

Which popular/royal figure would you be for a day?



Jeanette Ratcliffe
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 Cleopatra - it's all about the eyeliner!



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 George VI on VE day.



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