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Dubai
holidays!**

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دبي





NEW HEIGHTS...

MALAYSIA AIRLINES recently took a group of key travel trade partners away on an exclusive fam trip to Kuala Lumpur, travelling on the Airbus A380 in Business Class. The trip included a varied programme of activities including a Harley Davidson city tour and a visit to the Petronas Twin Towers, organised by Destination Asia. Pictured enjoying a tour of the Petronas Twin Towers are, from the left (back row): Tony Russell, Trailfinders; Jasmin Lee, Lees Travel; Ray Block, Carlton Leisure; Simon Lee, Lees Travel; Mariah Hamid, Emerald; Kizemaria Henry, Lotus Travel; Rob Kinnersley, TUI; Helen Breen, Opodo; Vicky Askew, lastminute.com; Robert Emerre, Dnata Group; Rachael Wilson, Expedia Group; Andrew Fielding, Kuoni; Isabelle Saber, Powerscourt; Ali Geagea, Flight Centre; and Mohd Shahrir Mohd Ali, Tourism Malaysia; with (front row) Toni Roberts, STA; Adrian Keating, Malaysia Airlines; PS Kang, Moresand Group; Dave Brett, Travel Dave; and Sheikh Abdul Rahim Zainal Abidin, Destination Asia.

Brits continue to splash the cash on holidays despite Brexit concerns

NEW RESEARCH from VoucherCodes.co.uk has revealed that 26 million Brits are set to head off on a summer getaway this year, spending an average of £1,253 per person, per trip.

The figure considers all the associated costs, including travel, accommodation and food and drink - and is an increase on the 21.9 million holidaymakers who went away last year, shelling out an average of £1,315 on their travels.

Despite concerns around Brexit, it appears travel is something Brits remain committed to spending their money on - with 74% of consumers confirming that their travel plans will not be altered this year considering Article 50 and ongoing political uncertainty.

Nearly one third (28%) of UK adults are opting to go on a staycation in the UK this year, spending a total of £667, with more over 55's planning a trip on home turf than any other age group. The research also found that UK country escape staycations were netting a higher average spend than a city break abroad, with an average of £301.45 spent in the country, as opposed to £292.66 abroad - great news for UK travel providers and local businesses alike.

Meanwhile, more than a quarter of holidaymakers are planning a beach holiday abroad, setting aside an average outlay of £1,348. Families with children are the most likely to hit the beach, with 35% planning an overseas beach holiday, however it seems those with children under four prefer to stay home and avoid the travel hassle, with four in ten settling for a UK trip.

The soaring popularity of city break destinations including Barcelona and Copenhagen is evident from the research, with more than one in ten (13%) going on a city break abroad this year, spending an average of £1,167. Shorter trips appear to be a popular choice for students and younger Brits, with more 18 to 24 year olds planning a city break than any other age group in the UK.

The study also revealed that Brits are primarily driven by price when deciding where to go on holiday, with a quarter revealing the cost of a trip to be the most important factor when choosing a suitable destination, followed by the locations' cultural offering (20%) and the quality of accommodation (18%).

Nearly three in ten UK adults have also gone away for an odd length of time (e.g. six or 13 days) to avoid pricey fares, while more than one in ten have booked indirect flights with long stopovers to help save money.

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Jerusalem Development Authority aims to attract millennial travellers

Research reveals Harry Styles is celebrity that most inspires travel

MORE THAN any other celebrity, Harry Styles has been found to be the most inspirational public person when it comes to travel, new research has revealed.

The former One Direction crooner is joined in the top-ranking celeb wanderlust influencers by Prince William and the Duchess of Cambridge, and Justin Bieber – with the Canadian pop star featuring twice.

The list was put together by Bolsover Cruise Club, using research into the number of Google searches of popular travel destinations before and after celebrities have been photographed in them.

It showed that the Sign of the Times singer's 2013 infamous jaunt to Necker Island, where he was snapped in a hot-tub with island owner and Virgin boss, Richard Branson, caused the biggest increase in people searching for that location, more than any other.

Like fellow singer Justin Bieber, Harry Styles can also lay claim to being twice named in the top ten thanks to his holiday last year to St Barts with Kendall Jenner, where the two were 'papped' embracing on a yacht.

Will and Kate's visit to the Maldives in 2014 takes second spot in the rankings – and the Indian Ocean islands account for three of the most celeb-affected locations in the top ten.

Africa's Travel INDABA 2017 event hailed as a 'resounding success'

AFRICA'S TRAVEL INDABA 2017 resulted in more than 20,000 meetings being held over the three days – an increase of more than 20% on last year – and has been deemed an 'outstanding success'.

New developments at this year's event, which was held at Durban's Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre, were plentiful and included the rebranding and renaming of Indaba to Africa's Travel INDABA, as well as the launch of South Africa's 'I Do Tourism' marketing campaign, which will highlight how tourism has the potential to change people's lives for the better by making a

direct and tangible contribution to inclusive economic growth.

In addition, the trade show's debut Business Opportunity Networking Day (BONDay) session for exhibitors took place to give exhibitors the opportunity to share international best practice in marketing and communications.

South African Tourism's chief executive, Sisa Ntshona, said: "This year was all about listening to the feedback from exhibitors and partners that resulted in some fundamental changes, to ensure the event stays fresh and relevant. These ranged from the show's

updated diary system that provided more matchmaking and meeting opportunities to a brand-new INDABA app as the show's primary source of information about news, meetings and events.

"Other event enhancements included the new Lap of Luxury pavilion, showcasing five-star products, and the Hidden Gems pavilion showcasing small tourism businesses."

Tourism KwaZulu-Natal and Durban have been awarded Africa's Travel INDABA for the next five years. Next year's event will take place from May 8-10, 2018.



TEA FOR TWO...Cruise and Maritime Voyages (CMV) has teamed up with Whittard of Chelsea to coincide with the launch of its new flagship Columbus. Whittard will supply its range of tea and chocolate drinks on board Columbus, Magellan and Marco Polo, with gift products also offered in the shopping areas. Pictured marking the new partnership on Magellan is Justine Perrin from Whittard with CMV's Alistair Sellers. For details see cruiseandmaritime.com

Window dressing the right way: tips from the expert

SPEAKING AT last week's TGTG conference at Spain's La Manga, Helen Goodwin, managing director of Made You Look – a visual display and window dressing company, offered her top tips for agents on how to dress their agency windows to attract customers. They included:

- Think about your message: a display needs to let people know who you are, what you're about, what your promotions are and what you are selling.
- Know your customers: different demographics will have different dreams and wants from their holidays so try and get inside their heads to create the opportunity to tell them what the best deal is for them.
- A lot of good displays are based on pyramids: This is where the focal point is in the middle at eye level, such as a poster, with props and lifestyling around it that flow down to the products on sale.
- Space is also important in a display as it leads a consumer's eye in and down fairly quickly. Keep it simple and keep it focused.
- If you have room, create a display that has a backdrop, middle ground and fore ground with height at the back working forwards and outwards. You can use blocks, furniture, boxes and travel related props to bring excitement into a display and to get height. Don't stick things on the glass!

Goodwin said: "If you have a wow window people will take notice. They may not buy holidays every day but they need to know that you are there so that when they do they will come to you."



Air Europa agrees partnership with Ryanair

AIR EUROPA has signed a deal with Ryanair, which makes the Spanish airline's long-haul flights available for booking on the Irish carrier's website. It gives Air Europa unprecedented visibility among the low-cost carrier's 130 million customers.

From today, Ryanair customers can now book flights on Ryanair.com to Air Europa's 20 long-haul routes from Madrid to destinations in North, Central and South America. These include Lima, Bogota, Havana, Buenos Aires, and newly introduced San Pedro Sula in Honduras. The airline has six Dreamliners in operation on long-haul routes, with 16 more on order.

Future plans between the two airlines include the ability to book Air Europa's direct Spanish domestic and European flights to those destinations not already covered by Ryanair. This tie-up will also double Air Europa's connectivity in Europe by adding an additional 53 cities on the Ryanair route network.

In addition, it paves the way for customers to book connecting flights from Europe via Madrid to Air Europa's long-haul destination on a single ticket, with luggage checked all the way through.

KOS WE CAN... Mark Warner took a group of agents on a fam to Kos, staying at the Lakitira Beach Resort. Activities included paddleboarding, a bike tour and tennis, and the group also enjoyed a traditional Greek evening meal, an introduction to sailing, shopping and a tour of Lakitira and Helona Beach Resort. Pictured on their bike tour are, from the left: Jo Joyce, Go Travel; Ann Taylor, Wotton Travel; Jodie Connell, Tui; Nina Wright, Bellingham Travel; Kelly Farrell, Flight Centre; Gemma Dicker, Travel With Kitts; and Gabby Burden and James Garcia Sierra from Mark Warner.

'Two for one' sale from Sandals & Beaches on Luxury Included holidays

SANDALS AND Beaches Resorts' has announced the return of its 'two for one' sale, which offers 50% discount off all Luxury Included air inclusive holidays.

For a limited time only, the offer features a variety of room categories, including Butler and Club Level suites as well as Sandals Resorts' new Over-The-Water Bungalows in Jamaica and Saint Lucia, for select travel dates through to March 2019.

The sale runs until June 6 and also includes Sandals Resorts' popular twin-centre holidays, plus a choice of airlines and cabins with British Airways, Virgin Atlantic and Thomas Cook Airlines, No1 Lounge Passes at Gatwick as well as free island excursions at selected resorts and dates.

Agents should book their clients a holiday by June 6 for travel up to spring 2019 to take advantage of the offer.

Christmas comes early at Jet2.com & Jet2CityBreaks

IN THE run up to Christmas, Jet2.com and Jet2CityBreaks have put a total of 12 dedicated weekend trips on sale to some of Europe's most stunning winter destinations.

This year's Christmas market trips depart from more bases including Leeds Bradford, Newcastle, Belfast International and Manchester, as well as Jet2.com's new Birmingham base.

Each of the two-night breaks departs on a Friday and returns on a Sunday, making them ideal as a weekend getaway.

Examples include Berlin from Newcastle; Vienna: from Leeds, Newcastle, Birmingham, Belfast and Manchester; Copenhagen from Leeds and Newcastle airports; Munich from

Newcastle; and Prague from Belfast.

Agents can book a flight and hotel together for their clients with Jet2CityBreaks from £259, secured for a £60 per person deposit.

In addition to the return of the Christmas market trips, more flights to a number of popular winter wonderlands have also been added. In total, almost 110,000 seats (an increase of 36% on last year), are on sale now offering flight only and flight and hotel options to a host of other Christmas market destinations such as Budapest, Krakow, Prague and Salzburg.

For further information or to book call 0800-408 5587 or visit tradesite.jet2holidays.com

New walking options from SuperBreak

SUPERBREAK HAS launched a range of new short break walking tours around the UK.

Each package includes a two-night breakfast stay with dinner on the first night and a packed lunch on one of the days to allow more time to explore. Locations available include Snowdonia & North Wales, Peak District, Cotswolds, Lake District, Shropshire, North Yorkshire, Northumberland, Sussex, Warwickshire and Wiltshire.

Each booking will also receive a local AA walking guide worth £11.99 to help customers enjoy key walking routes and discover off-the-beaten-track places.

Prices start from £99 per person for a Peak District Walking Tour staying at the three-star Makeney Hall Hotel in Derbyshire, ideally located close to the Peak District for exploring.

For more information call 01904-436000 or visit superbreak.com/agents



MANCHESTER MATES... Airline Saudia is launching a new twice-weekly service from Manchester to Riyadh at the end of this month, and Manchester Airport invited agents to a Saudia Trade Event in the city's Harvey Nichols to celebrate the new Saudia 787 service.

New ocean inspired experiences at Atlantis, Paradise Island Resort

ATLANTIS, PARADISE Island Resort in Bahamas has introduced new ocean-inspired educational experiences at its marine life habitat, Dolphin Cay.

Guests that participate in experiences will play an important and active role in the resort's education and conservation efforts via the non-profit organisation, Atlantis Blue Project, with a portion of the funds directly helping to fund field conservation and other impactful initiatives.

Prices for a seven-night stay on selected dates in September cost from £1,303 per person including a 20% hotel saving and Heathrow flights.

For more information see ba.com/atlantisbahamas and atlantisbahamas.com

No single supplement for independent travellers from Pandaw Expeditions

PANDAW EXPEDITIONS is giving independent travellers a more affordable way to experience the exotic rivers of Southeast Asia by offering cabins with no single supplement on a wide selection of its expeditions.

The operator's founder and CEO, Paul Strachan said: "The demographic of the solo traveller has changed dramatically over the past ten years. We have tailored several of our expeditions in response to the growing demand from independent explorers seeking adventure combined with the personal attention and casual ambience that our elegant, small ships offer.

"We enjoy a loyal following of solo travellers and it's important that we look after those guests by offering them a cabin for single use at no additional cost. Guests travelling alone can safely discover the relatively uncharted territories of Southeast Asia, including The Irrawaddy, The Chindwin and The Mekong rivers, within the secure environment of a small group of like-minded people."

The company has a range of itineraries available for solo travellers, with departure dates right up until 2019, including cruises on the Mekong, from Halong Bay to the Red River and on the Irrawaddy River in Burma.

Cruises range from four to 14 nights in length and, as an example of prices, a ten-night Pagan & the Upper Irrawaddy costs from US\$3,600 per person on selected dates.

Fares include all meals on the line's colonially-styled river steamers; local soft drinks, beer and spirits; crew gratuities; and excursions ashore to local villages, markets and pagodas. For more information and reservations call 020-8326 5620 or see pandaw.com

MOVERS

- **ROCK INSURANCE** Group has appointed Phil Carr as director of sales.
- **REBECCA JONES** has joined Cruise and Maritime Voyages as marketing executive.
- **NATALIE BROWNE** has been appointed trade sales manager for Ripley's Believe It or Not! London.
- **PRINCIPAL HOTEL** Company, which includes the Principal and De Vere brands, has appointed Wendy Martinson OBE to the newly created role of group nutritionist.
- **CARLSON REZIDOR** Hotel Group has promoted Eric de Neef to executive vice president, global chief branding & commercial officer.
- **ROYAL CARIBBEAN** has appointed Melanie Wood as key account manager.
- **MARK RIDDLE** has joined The River Cruise Line as sales and business development manager.
- **ONYX HOSPITALITY** Group has appointed Douglas Martell as chief executive officer.

Horror film, The Shining, makes its debut at Universal Orlando Resort

UNIVERSAL ORLANDO Resort and Universal Studios Hollywood have taken inspiration from the psychological horror film, The Shining, to offer new mazes this September.

The Shining maze at Universal Studios' Halloween Horror Nights will provide guests with the opportunity to relive some of the film's most iconic moments; while venturing through the eerie Overlook Hotel, guests will be thrust into the hotel's tragic history of murder and madness, bearing witness to caretaker Jack Torrance's spiraling descent into insanity.

Nightmarish visions will come to life in this macabre maze, overwhelming guests with the shine of the murderous, ghostly entities that lurk around every turn – all while trying to escape the wrath of Jack Torrance as he violently succumbs to the hotel's paranormal forces.

For more information see halloweenhorrornights.com

Holland America Line sails to Cuba on roundtrip Fort Lauderdale itineraries

HOLLAND AMERICA Line has received approval to begin sailing to Cuba from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, starting with a 12-day cruise on December 22 on MS Veendam.

The line becomes Carnival Corporation's third cruise line to be approved to sail to Cuba following the company's historic inaugural sailings to the island last year.

The addition of Veendam itineraries will help meet the growing demand for premium cruise experiences to Cuba. Nine seven-day itineraries will feature the capital city Havana, and three of these will add another Cuba call at Cienfuegos, known as the model of early 19th century urban planning in Cuba.

The 12-day holiday showcases both Cuban ports and, depending on the departure day, cruises include the Cuba ports as well as a combination of Caribbean ports including Amber Cove, Dominican Republic; Belize City, Belize; Costa

Maya and Cozumel, Mexico; George Town, Grand Cayman; Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos; Key West, Florida; and Montego Bay, Jamaica.

The company's president, Orlando Ashford, said: "For many, travel is about seeking new places to explore and discovering meaningful new cultural opportunities, and Cuba is one of the most sought-after new destinations for many of our guests.

"We are excited to finally be able to include Cuba in our itineraries, and our guests and travel partners have been anxiously awaiting a premium cruise experience to this relatively undiscovered Caribbean treasure."

Bookings are now open and cruise-only fares for Cuba cruises lead in at £989 per person based on two sharing. *For more information or to book call 0843-374 2300 or visit hollandamerica.co.uk*



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New 2018 brochure launch from AmaWaterways features new AmaLea ship

AMAWATERWAYS HAS issued its 2018 brochure featuring Europe, Asia and Africa river cruises and welcoming its newest ship, AmaLea, to its fleet, along with eight new itineraries, more wine-themed cruises, a 'Sip and Sail' complimentary cocktail hour and an expanded list of active excursions and on-board activities.

Stuart Perl, the company's MD, said: "We are proud to launch our new 2018 brochure which showcases our ever-increasing portfolio of unforgettable river cruises in Europe, Africa, Vietnam & Cambodia. With new destinations and itineraries, on-board activities and enhanced excursions, there are plenty of opportunities to entice seasoned and first time river cruisers to discover some of the most beautiful rivers of the world."

AmaLea, a 156-guest ship, will sail the Danube as well as the popular seasonal Tulip Time itinerary on the Dutch waterways. Modelled after sister-ships AmaKristina, AmaStella and AmaViola, she features connecting staterooms and triple accommodation, signature twin balconies, a swimming pool with swim-up bar, expanded fitness room and multiple dining venues.

New 2018 itineraries include a ten-night Rhine & Moselle Delights from Basel to Amsterdam with an optional three nights in Zurich; a seven-night Medieval Treasures from Basel to Nuremberg with an optional three nights in Zurich and Prague; and a Charms of the Mekong option featuring two nights in Ho Chi Minh City, a seven-night cruise from Ho Chi Minh City to Prek Kdam, two nights in Siem Reap, three nights in Hanoi and one night in Ha Long Bay.

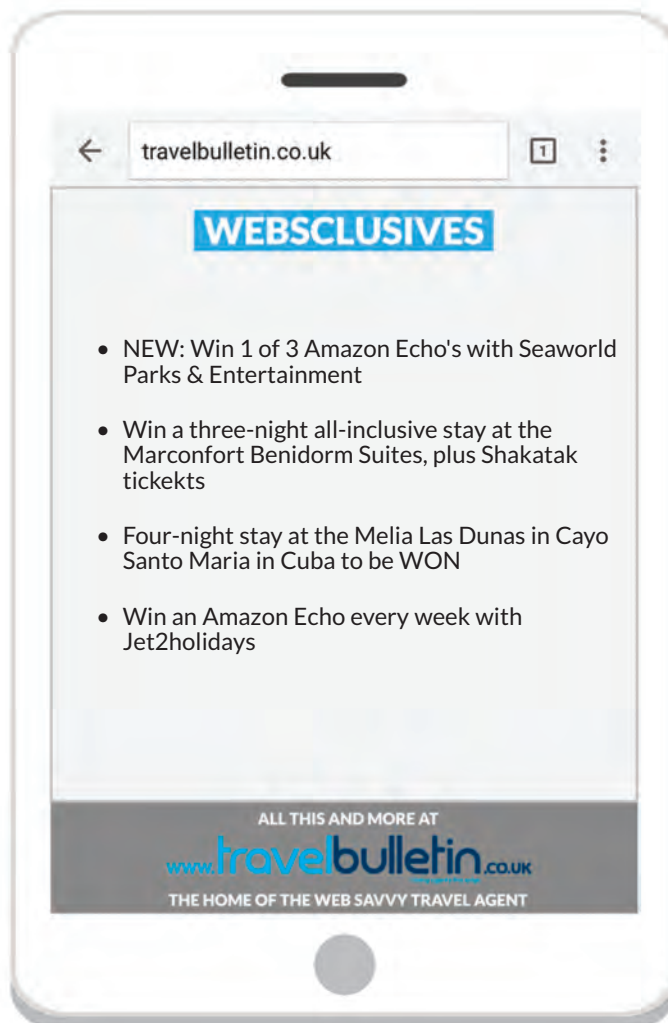


As an example of prices, a seven-night Rhine & Moselle Splendours river cruise leads in at £2,045 per person including all meals on-board (with local wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner); a 'Chef's Table' dining experience; a choice of complimentary daily tours and excursions; complimentary Wi-Fi; use of on board bicycles for active discovery ashore; and port taxes.

Plus, to celebrate the launch of its new 2018 brochure, the company is currently including free flights and transfers on all 2018 bookings made by August 31. For more information visit amawaterways.co.uk or call 0800-320 2336.



GOING DOTTY...Rachel Nicholson (left) from Althams Farnworth won an Echo Dot from Jet2holidays by playing Travel Bulletin's Su Doku puzzle. Presenting Rachel with the prize is the operator's trade sales executive, Leiza Sullivan.



AGENT TRAINING

- AGENTS CAN win a £100 gift voucher for each confirmed booking at LUX* South Ari Atoll. Agents first need to become a LUX* Expert by completing the e-learning programme available at luxb2b.com and confirm their newly acquired expertise by selling holidays to the resort. All bookings made by June 30 for stays until October 31, 2018 will be eligible and, at a minimum, must be for two adults on a seven-night stay.
- MEMBERS OF The Travel Network Group's (TTNG) Cruise Club will have the opportunity to get involved with new cruise-related activities to help improve their product knowledge of cruise ships and increase their understanding of the cruise industry. From July to October, the Group will be hosting a number of VIP days, in conjunction with MSC, Holland America and Saga, inviting Cruise Club Members and their staff and/or their customers to also attend the visit and enjoy a three-course lunch. Other activities include a two-day seminar in Southampton on two Oceania ships with an overnight stay and dinner at the Hilton, as well as a Cruise Forum, that will be staged for agent managers and/or cruise specialists to meet on-board a ship to discuss where the cruise business is heading. Three further forums will take place, called 'Cruise & Maritime Steering Group Visits', which will include presentations, a five-course lunch and a ship tour. These will take place in Liverpool, Hull and Bristol from June to October.
- SISTER RIVER cruise brands Scenic and Emerald Waterways are running 'drop-in' training sessions at coffee shops across the UK designed to bring agents up-to-speed on the company's 'One-Stop Shop for River Cruising'. The sessions start on June 9 and run throughout the month at locations including Altrincham, Chester, Shrewsbury, Solihull, Harrogate, Cheltenham, Cardiff, Swansea, Bournemouth, Chichester, Canterbury, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Newcastle. For details email agencysales@scenic.co.uk

FANCY A FAM?

PAUL GAUGUIN Cruises is giving agents the chance to win a place on a fam trip with its latest booking incentive. Between now and June 30, agents booking any Paul Gauguin 2017 or 2018 sailing will be entered into a draw to win a place on a fam trip to the South Pacific to include scheduled flights from London, the cruise and port taxes for one person. There is no limit on the number of entries. Details on 020-7399 7691 or see pgcruises.com



ROAD RUNNER...Julie Franklin, agency sales manager at Mark Warner, showcases the new-look MW Mobile with branding — to be seen out and about in a town near agents soon. The car features a tag line on the back advising people to see their local travel agent.

AGENT COMPETITION

GREAT RAIL Journeys has launched a new trade competition which runs until June 30 and is valid on any booking made across all three of the company's brands - Great Rail Journeys, Rail Discoveries and GRJ independent. When agents make a booking, their ABTA numbers will be recorded and entered into a draw to win a £100 Ticketmaster voucher, which can be used to purchase tickets for a range of live entertainment across the UK. For enquiries email rebekahamos@greatrail.com

NEWS BITES

- THE LEGENDARY 'Children of the 80's' returns to Hard Rock Hotel Ibiza on June 2 kicking off its weekly fun-filled party which brings 80s vibes to the outdoor stage every Friday night from 19:00 until midnight. The opening event will be headlined by the Village People.
- JAPAN'S LARGEST airline, ANA, has launched ANA Global – a suite of services that gives Mileage Club loyalty members more opportunities to earn and redeem miles. Powered by partner, Collinson Latitude, the new addition allows members to redeem miles online as direct payment for hotels, car hires, merchandise, gift cards and experiences, while also ramping up the number of miles they can earn through the online Mall.
- THE GLOBAL Travel Group is soon to roll out its new technology system to its members which is now web based, enabling users to access it any time on any device and with a host of new features. The consortium has also announced the launch of a new networking group called GNOW: Global Network of Women. The new initiative is designed to promote, develop and support the careers of all women members within the Global Travel Group and will meet once a quarter to discuss a range of business topics and trends, listen to inspiring guest speakers and network.
- EMIRATES IS introducing a second daily A380 service between Dubai and Birmingham from October 29. Flight EK39/40, currently operated by a Boeing 777, will now be operated by the popular Emirates A380, adding to the existing daily A380 already operating on the route.
- ANGELA RIPPON CBE is to be godmother to the cruise ship Columbus, the latest addition to the Cruise & Maritime Voyages (CMV) fleet. On Thursday June 8, during the Naming Ceremony at the London Cruise Terminal in Tilbury, Angela will name the ship.
- THE ISLE of Man has launched a new TV advertising campaign for the peak travel season, continuing its 'Come to your senses' campaign which celebrates the full variety of experiences on offer on the Island. It runs until the end of this month. See visitisleofman.com/iom-tv-advert



FAR EAST FRIENDS... Vietnam Airlines and Anand Collection Hotels (Mia Resorts Vietnam and Navutu Dreams Cambodia) hosted a fam trip to Vietnam and Cambodia for a selection of agents. Pictured outside the newly launched five-bedroom pool villas at Mia Resort Nha Trang Vietnam are, from the left: Kerry Rafferty, Travel 2; Jo Ramsey, Rickshaw Travel; Jas Anand, Anand Collection; Elaine Freeman, Premier Holidays; Gemma Harvey, Kuoni Travel Reading; with (bottom row) Scott Owens, Kenwood Travel and Graeme Dunn, Inside Asia Tours.

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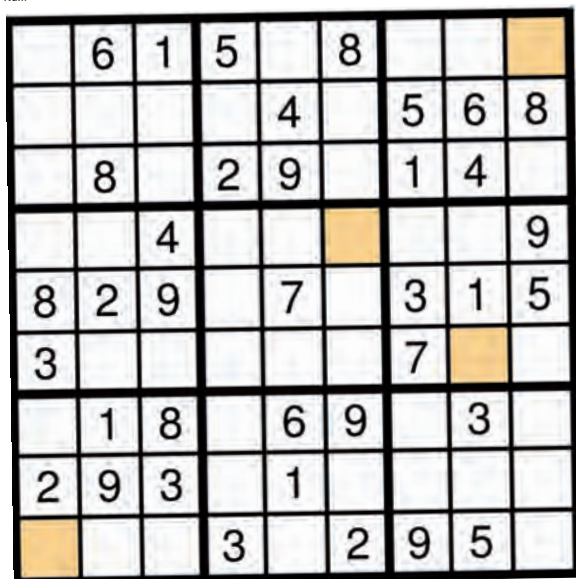
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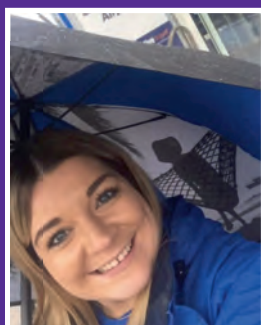
Complete this Su Doku puzzle and then go to the competition section on **travelbulletin.co.uk/competitions** and submit the highlighted numbers.

A... B... C... D...

Closing date for entries is **Friday, June 9th**.

The winner for May 19th is Mandy Jones from The Travel House.

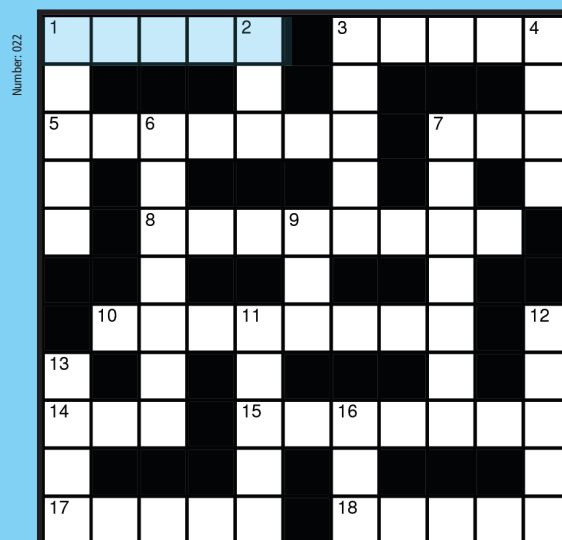
Where is
#Zoe from
the Jet2Holidays'
Tradeteam this
week?



Take a step back in time with Jet2holidays and wonder around the charming Catalan Medieval old town and explore the views from this stunning Medieval landmark.

**For the solution to the Crossword and
Where Am I?
Please see page 28**

Crossword



Across

1. How much is the **Jet2holidays** single parent offer discount in pounds? (5)
3. This island's international airport is based at Luqa (5)
5. Canal separating the Peloponnese from the Greek mainland (7)
7. First name of 12 Down (3)
8. Mysterious North Atlantic region, The Bermuda ____ (8)
10. Former iconic TV series now making a splash at a cinema near you (8)
14. Addis Ababa Bole International airport code (3)
15. State capital of Michigan (7)
17. Known as the Lone Star State (5)
18. Tourist attraction located at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, The House (5)

Down

1. Arsenal recently beat Chelsea to take this trophy (2,3)
2. Currency of Japan (3)
3. Capital of Menorca (5)
4. Flows through Florence (4)
5. England's smallest landlocked county (7)
6. Famous Moscow Ballet and Opera theatre (7)
7. Code for Queen Beatrix International airport, Aruba (3)
8. Dawn French was born in this country (5)
9. Surname of TV adventurer and Animal Park presenter (5)
10. Currency of Thailand (4)
11. Sydney is the capital of this state, initially (3)

Agents can tempt wine lovers with Celebrity Cruises' new in-room tasting tour

AGENTS CAN offer their clients the chance to indulge their inner sommelier aspirations on selected Celebrity Cruises' European sailings, courtesy of the acclaimed international TV series The Wine Show.

The cruise line has developed a limited edition, interactive wine tasting experience in partnership with the TV series' two presenters; Joe Fattorini and Amelia Singer.

Exclusive to Celebrity Eclipse the tasting tour fuses film and wine to deliver a sensory adventure that educates viewers about some of the world's most interesting wines. Guests embark on their own wine tasting journey with a specially produced film accessed via the in-room TV channel before sitting back, relaxing and savouring some of world's most celebrated wines. The wine tasting experience includes a bespoke tasting case and a collection of four specially selected, superior quality wines for guests to sample, along with a tasting mat and tasting notes.

The in-room wine tasting experience costs \$59 for two people.

As part of the company's partnership with The Wine Show, during September and October Joe Fattorini and Amelia Singer will be on board selected sailings and will host a series of educational interactive tasting experiences, including exclusive vineyard visits.

Fattorini will join the 11-night Best of Western Mediterranean fly/cruise on Celebrity Reflection departing from Rome on September 11 and Singer will also be on Celebrity Reflection for the Best of Western Mediterranean cruise with the same itinerary but departing on the later date of October 9.

For more information visit cruisingpower.co.uk

Bateaux Windsor boosts schedule with extra Sunday service on the Thames

BATEAUX WINDSOR'S vessel, The Melody, which launched in April, operates lunch, dinner and Sunday lunch cruises along the Thames at Royal Windsor.

The company is now offering visitors weekly Sunday Supper cruises; a three-course meal prepared and served as The Melody makes her way along the river.

Sunday supper begins with a starter of Oxfordshire asparagus velouté, followed by roasted free range chicken, with roasted potatoes, sage and onion stuffing, spring greens, sprouting broccoli, glazed carrots and sage jus.

Vegetarians can opt for a main course of glazed cauliflower cheese with accompanying vegetables and then, in tribute to the historic Berkshire town – and world famous school – diners will be served Eton Mess slice; a combination of cream and meringue with fresh summer berries.

Samantha Hart, the company's director of sales and marketing, said: "Our Sunday lunches have proved extremely popular so it makes perfect sense to add an additional Sunday cruise to our schedule.

"There's something quite special about a late Sunday afternoon at

summertime – time almost seems to stand still – so where better to enjoy lunch and just let your cares float downstream."

The Sunday Supper cruise boards at 15.45, departs at 16:00 and returns at 18:30 and, to accommodate it, other cruise timings have altered slightly.

The cruise costs £45 per person – children aged under three are not allowed on board – and diners are asked to adhere to a smart casual dress code.

For further information or to book call 01753-202302 or email reservations@bateauxwindsor.com



ROAD TRIP...Vacations to America has commenced its UK campaign to engage more travel agents to 'Experience America in a way that their clients will never forget'. Over the coming months, the operator's ambassadors will visit 1,500 travel agents to deliver a selection of fact sheets containing information and advice about destinations currently enjoying a sales boost following various TV documentaries, along with celebrity travel trips. The company has also teamed up with Brand USA to deliver joint branded travel fact sheets in addition to pens, jellybeans and desk-pads. Pictured is the operator's ambassador Rosie Chapman (right) delivering goodies to Millington Travel in Lutterworth.

AITO announces 2017 conference location

THE ASSOCIATION of Independent Tour Operators (AITO) is going short-haul for its November 2017 conference (from November 23-26) to Portugal's Alentejo region.

AITO chairman, Derek Moore, said: "Considering our chosen destination is so close to home, it's surprising that it's so little-known within the UK travel industry – and thus by our customers. It's a speedy two-hour hop from London, and just 40 minutes more from Manchester. It boasts blue skies and sunshine nearly all year round and we anticipate mild temperatures of around 17°C at the end of November.

"We'll be staying in the UNESCO World Heritage city of Evora, a medieval walled gem of a place with ancient cobbled streets, excellent wineries, a spooky Chapel of the Bones, restaurants and cafés galore.

"It's my guess that a lot of AITO delegates will be keen to stay on after the conference to explore more of this beautiful region which takes up one-third of Portugal's land mass, produces 46% of the country's wine and yet houses just 6% of its population."

The main conference location will be the Hotel Vila Gale Evora, located a five-minute walk from the historic centre of Evora. There's also the opportunity to stay at the Pousada dos Loios in the heart of the old city, adjacent to the Roman temple, if preferred.

For more information see aito.com



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REWARDS

Industry Insight by...



Industry news and views from Neil Basnett, chief executive of the Elite Travel Group...



I think that all of us have been totally numbed by the ghastly incident recently at the Manchester Arena. One can't even begin to imagine what it must have been like to have been there on the night especially for those in the foyer area where the bomb was detonated. Sadly, the world has almost had to come to terms over the last few years with such terrorist activities but it still does not lessen the shock especially as this one was in our own country. I can remember the bomb going off in Manchester city centre in June 1996 which caused devastating damage but luckily with no loss of life as the IRA had at least given 90 minutes' warning. As will be the case with this latest explosion, there is no doubt that it does cause anxiety in the minds of those planning to visit cities, whether for shopping, attending concerts or booking holidays. It worries those having to commute and work in city centres although our traditional bulldog spirit will continue to shine. It hits us in the industry even more when we learn that a teenage travel agent apprentice was amongst those who lost their lives. Chloe Rutherford's family, friends and colleagues at Westoe Travel remain in our thoughts.

Such incidents can inevitably have a knock-on effect on business. Overseas visitors, especially those who go into meltdown mode from the USA, may decide not to travel to the UK where inbound tourism is so important. This is at a time when the UK represents even better value for visitors owing to the current weakness of Sterling so I hope that the impact of this event is not prolonged. UK specialist operators like Superbreak, Newmarket and Omega have extensive programmes incorporating theatre breaks and concerts so sadly they may notice a shortfall in new enquiries while the Manchester Arena bomb blast is so fresh in peoples' minds. It will be difficult for clients to cancel arrangements made for many months hence as I am sure that travel insurers will not pay out as

they will merely deem it as disinclination to travel. It is just an unwanted headache that we will all have to contend with in the highly professional way that we always do.

There still seems to be much dread lurking for when the new Package Travel Directive is introduced. Much is being debated now about the introduction of Linked Travel Arrangements, which will apply when flights are booked via an airline website from which there are links to buy hotel accommodation, car-hire etc. We all know what it is like when we go onto an airline site just to book flights and it seems to take ages to just get to the payment / confirmation stage as you have to wade through the baggage, seat booking and meals facilities before you are bombarded to book hotels, transfers or car-hire! How on earth will the CAA be able to monitor these linked bookings especially when customers book their hotel accommodation first before going on to book flights? A potential nightmare seems to be imminent and all of us just wanting to book clients' holidays with full financial protection just despair that any scheme devised by the EU becomes so complicated. Can we therefore just ignore this directive when we leave the EU? I am sure that airlines who have always opposed being regulated by ATOL will be leading the charge to extricate ourselves from the scheme.

A map has been produced by a UK map-maker highlighting some of the world's most rude and flirty place names. For those of us who have had to listen to clients' mispronunciations of Phuket, I am dreading having to cope with clients who wish to visit Long Dong in China, Bendova in Poland or Six Mile Knob in Australia. Several years ago, I did receive from some clients a postcard of Lake Minnewanka in Canada: they said that they had thought of me as they visited this beautiful lake. I just told them how pleased I was that they had taken time out of their holiday to even think of sending a postcard, which is a dying art!



Berlin welcomes world's largest Hampton by Hilton

THE HAMPTON by Hilton brand recently opened its newest property; the Hampton Hilton Berlin City Centre Alexanderplatz in the heart of Germany's capital.

At 344 guest rooms the property is now the hotel brand's largest in the world and is located close to famous attractions such as the Berlin TV Tower, Museum Island and the Brandenburg Gate. 14 kilometers from Berlin Tegel Airport, with a tram station directly in front and underground stations within walking distance, the hotel offers easy access to Berlin's transport network.

Simon Vincent, the company's executive vice president and president for Europe, Middle East and Africa, said: "International visitors to Berlin exceeded five million for the first time this year, demonstrating the city's increasing popularity as a top European destination. This milestone opening is a testament to the strength of Hilton in Germany and marks the first of five new mid-market hotel openings for 2017 in cities including Frankfurt and Hamburg." Prices start from £77 per night based on two staying in a Queen Room. Visit hamptonbyhilton.com for more details.

GROUND BREAKING...The Arora Group held an official Ground Breaking ceremony for a new 355-room hotel directly linked to Heathrow Terminal 2, 'The Queen's Terminal', which will be the first in the central terminal area. The event, attended by guests of honour including broadcasters Eamonn Holmes and Ruth Langford, marked the start of the hotel build by the Arora Group's construction division, Grove Developments. The new hotel at Terminal 2, which is scheduled to open in 2018, forms part of the Group's pipeline of 1,110 new hotel bedrooms currently under development at Heathrow Airport alone, including a dual-brand 300-bedroom Crowne Plaza and 455-room Holiday Inn Express at Heathrow Terminal 4. Pictured are, from the left: Vincent Madden and Surinder Arora, Arora Group; John Arbuckle, Heathrow Airport; TV presenter Eamonn Holmes; and Sanjay Arora and Sinead Hughes, Arora Group.

Empowering workshops from Marriott Hotels

MARRIOTT HOTELS in Europe has unveiled a new series of Transform with Marriott workshops to empower guests to achieve their full potential and inspire a generation of forward-thinking achievers.

The intimate and engaging evening events will take place at recently transformed hotels that enable the next generation to Travel Brilliantly in London.

The flagship brand of Marriott International is inviting visitors and guests to embark on their own journeys of personal transformation with this programme of sessions designed to boost productivity and creativity. Attendees will discover and develop life hacks with insight from some of the biggest trends from around the world, helping them to unleash

their full potential both on the road and in everyday life.

The next events cover themes such as The Art of Tidying, to demonstrate how a tidy environment can transform lifestyles, and Clean Sleeping, hosted by a sleep guru who will guide guests through transformational sleeping tips.

John Licence, vice president, premium & select brands, Europe, said: "With some of the capital's icons going through their own transformation, it seemed like the perfect time to offer new ways of thinking to those who want to get ahead - both personally and professionally. We've chosen three of our transformed Marriott Hotels in the heart of London to offer the ideal backdrop for these inspiring workshops."

INBrief

- CONRAD ALGARVE, a contemporary five-star haven in Portugal's Quinta de Lago is offering families a range of activities this summer as part of its 1/3/5 initiative which encourages guests to explore the culture of the region with activities that take one, three or five hours. The choice ranges from immersing themselves in the history of the Algarve to surfing the waves on the coastline and activities are available for children aged three-12. Nightly rates start from £219 based on two adults sharing a grand deluxe room on a bed-and-breakfast basis.
- CAMLUX HOTEL has celebrated its grand opening as Kowloon Bay's first hotel, and one of the first factory converted hotels in Hong Kong. Managed by Camlux Hospitality Limited, the 185-room 'factory' Hotel near MegaBox and Kowloon Bay International Trade and Exhibition Centre (KITEC) brings local hospitality with contemporary flair and cutting-edge technology to the new central business district in Hong Kong.
- ALILA HOTELS and Resorts has announced the opening of Alila Yangshuo in July - its second property in China. Located in Guilin - a southern Chinese city - and overlooking the Li River, the former working sugar mill is being transformed into a modern, retro resort with 117 rooms, suites and villas.



Lucia Rowe

Head of A-ROSA UK
& Ireland, A-ROSA
River Cruises

On weekends I like to...

Go out with my children on a nice long hike in the South Downs.

What's your favourite gadget?

My Kindle. I have over 400 books on it and never travel anywhere without it.

What's your favourite movie?

Constantine with Keanu Reeves.

What is the strangest thing you have ever eaten?

Super spicy fondue of fish heads in China – an interesting taste!

What has been your most extravagant purchase?

A pair of Louboutin shoes – they still live in their beautiful red pouch.

What's been your latest DIY project?

Trying to put my children's new bikes together – they came in a flat pack and it was much harder than I thought, but we did it!

What's your most embarrassing moment?

The first time I spoke at an ITT conference. I was so nervous on stage - my knees were trembling and I could actually hear them banging together!

My greatest strength is...

I'm a people person.

My one weakness is....

I'm quite impatient.

What's your favourite quote?

"There's no substitute for being there".



What skill would you like to master?

I always wanted to try rock climbing.

Who is your celebrity crush?

Daniel Craig.

Who would you most like to be seated next to on an aeroplane?

Prince Charles – I think his many engagements in Transylvania and his tireless efforts regarding the conservation of the last standing real forests in Europe are just inspiring.

Which fictional character do you most liken yourself to?

Having been classically trained, I'm an absolute fan of Jane Austen's characters which I find being more contemporary than ever – if I need to pick one it would be Emma Woodhouse.

What other companies/organisations have you previously worked for?

DER Touristik Group Frankfurt, Lueftner/Amadeus River Cruises, Vantage and Beluga Yachts.

What do you love about the travel industry?

I get to work with amazing people who try their very best every day to

make their customers and their guests happy during their valuable time off on holiday.

If you could change one thing in the industry what would it be?

Be more open to change and the requirements of nowadays technology trends and the customers' needs. I think that the 50+ generation needs a bolder, more visionary approach in terms of travel/holiday experiences.

What's the best thing about your job?

It's never the same and I get to meet so many inspiring people. Also, of course, travelling to so many beautiful places either on board one of our A-ROSA vessels or just attending the many travel events during the year.

What is your top travel tip?

South East Crete, the little fishermen's villages around there are untouched and unspoilt by mass tourism.

Where's your next holiday to?

Transylvania for a birthday party weekend and Dubai for a long weekend.





luxury

IN GREECE'S southwest Peloponnese, Costa Navarino features two luxury hotels; The Romanos, a Luxury Collection Resort, and The Westin Resort Costa Navarino. Rooms and suites at The Romanos each feature a private infinity pool and views of the Ionian Sea. Similarly, The Westin Resort Costa Navarino features rooms and suites inspired by old Messinian mansions, featuring terraces and balconies with lounge areas and most ground floor rooms offering private infinity pools. There is a selection of relaxation areas, bars, swimming pools and restaurants, and guests can enjoy a selection of outdoor activities including golf and watersports, as well as spa treatments and cultural experiences such as Philosophy Walks, olive oil tastings and cookery lessons. Visit costanavarino.com

Regent Seven Seas gets social on 25th anniversary voyages

GUESTS NEW to social media or looking to enhance their social media engagement can return more connected with family and friends after a Regent Seven Seas Cruises' voyage.

The line has launched a new 'Social Media Experience – Discover How to Share Great Stories' enrichment programme on select voyages as part of its 25th anniversary celebration sailings.

The programme will focus on using social media and digital photography, helping guests take and edit digital photos; create updates and tweets; share travel pictures and videos on popular social media platforms; learn about social media privacy – and more – as alternative ways for guests to stay in touch with family and friends while travelling. Participating guests can then apply their knowledge and submit photos to the dedicated anniversary celebration website Regent25.com

Jason Montague, president and CEO of the cruise line, said: "We take guests to compelling and remote destinations on our fleet of the world's four most luxurious ships. There are countless picture-perfect moments and the Social Media Experience will help guests take advantage of our free and unlimited Wi-Fi service to instantly share these unforgettable moments with family and friends at home."

In addition to the shipboard enrichment programme, the cruise line will be rolling out the red carpet on select sea days and welcoming guests behind the scenes into the galley of Compass Rose for an exclusive and special lunch buffet.

Guests on these voyages can also join in special Silver Anniversary Tastings designed to help guests appreciate exclusive vintages and premier spirits.

For more information visit rssc.com

UNICO 20°N 87°W launches immersive tour programme

NAMED AFTER its geographical location on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula at 20° N latitude and 87° W longitude, UNICO 20°87° is a new adult-only hotel on the Riviera Maya.

The ethos and design of the all-inclusive resort has been heavily influenced by its locale, and this now extends to the experience of its guests with a selection of new 'Inclusions Tours' designed to immerse visitors in the local landscape.

Guests can choose from several packages; from guided tours around one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Chichen Itza, to swimming with dolphins and dining on the Columbus Galeon in a lagoon beneath the stars. For something a bit

more adventurous, guests can head to Selvatica Extreme and trail the high speed zip-lines, or explore the exotic Garrafon Natural Reek Park situated on the southern point of Isla Mujeres.

The resort also has culturally-inspired activities including cooking classes taught by regional chefs and impromptu pop-up programming; from mezcal tastings and a cocktail hour in a nearby Mayan village. Stays at the hotel include all food and drink, unlimited spa treatments, off-property excursions, unlimited golf and a personal host.

For more information visit unicohotelrivieramaya.com

St. Lucia luxury with Funway Holidays

FUNWAY HOLIDAYS is promoting the new Serenity at Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa in St Lucia.

Malcolm Davies, product destination manager for the operator, said: "We're one of the very first operators to have this just-opened property available to book. It's all about luxury here with plunge pools, soaking tubs, glass-enclosed rain showers, in-suite check-in and checkout, aromatherapy oils, stocked and personalised wet bars and mahogany king beds."

"We recognised a demand from our customers for a luxury product with a high level of quality and service, and Serenity ticks all the boxes representing a new standard for adult-only, all-inclusives on the island."

The operator is featuring seven nights from £1,790 per person including flights with Virgin Atlantic and travel based on July 30. Visit funway4agents.co.uk for more details.

Zoëtry luxury options from AMResorts

ZOËTRY PARAISO de la Bonita Riviera Maya, a boutique resort set on 450m of beach in Riviera Maya, is located within a protected national park with the world's second largest coral reef just offshore.

The resort offers the first certified Thalassotherapy Centre in North America, a private 14m catamaran for guests to enjoy and complimentary green fees at nearby Grand Coral Riviera Maya Golf Club.

Cultural immersion is also encouraged with a complimentary Traditional Temazcal steam room ceremony, and an art tour is also offered to guests featuring an eclectic collection of art, sculptures, artefacts and fabrics from around the world.

Alternatively, for a Caribbean getaway, the Zoëtry Montego Bay Jamaica is a 49-suite boutique resort in the upscale Ironshore neighborhood of Montego Bay. Set on a private beach, the resort has been designed with outdoor whirlpools, an infinity pool and a flowing swimming pool winding throughout. Offering an Endless Privileges concept, suites include a dedicated butler service at no extra cost and an onsite watersports centre is also available with complimentary non-motorised watersports.

Both resorts offer restaurants on site along with bars and lounges serving premium brand domestic and international beverages plus top-shelf spirits – all included with the all-inclusive Endless Privileges concept.

There is also access to evening dining at all the AMResorts properties in both regions with the Sip, Savour & See Dining Experience, allowing guests to enjoy dinner and live entertainment at neighbouring resorts.



Tour & cruise operators team up to create Europe's Finest brochure

INSIGHT VACATIONS, Luxury Gold and Uniworld have partnered to create the 2017 Europe's Finest programme, as data highlights guests' love of luxury touring and cruising.

The programme combines the premium inclusions and explorations of each operator to offer a collection of unique luxury European itineraries for agents to sell.

Featuring six cruise and tour itineraries, including a new 19-day journey from England to France from £6,638, programmes commence with an immersive escorted tour which features Insight's Signature Experiences or Luxury Gold's Exclusive VIP Events, followed by an all-inclusive river cruise.

Each itinerary begins and ends with private door-to-door transfers and, as an added incentive for customers to book with agents, Uniworld has extended its 'You Deserve The Best' offer to June 30 which includes a free Economy Class airfare and a complimentary stateroom upgrade on select itineraries and departures.

Simply Sweden adds new products for a touch of luxury in the Arctic

NEW LUXURY products from Simply Sweden include the Treehotel and Loggers Lodge where the holiday has been updated since launching in January, due to public demand.

Extending the number of nights at Loggers to two for the next winter season, the name of this break has also now changed to 'Ultimate Romance – Swedish Lapland'. A four-night winter break for two, which costs from £3,655 per person, includes flights from the UK to Luleå, transfers, two nights' half-board at Treehotel and exclusive use of Loggers Lodge, including two nights full-board, a bottle of Champagne on arrival and a four-hour guided snowshoe or ski excursion, northern lights evening and use of the sauna and Jacuzzi, skis and snowshoes.

Call 01427-700115 or visit simplysweden.co.uk for more information.

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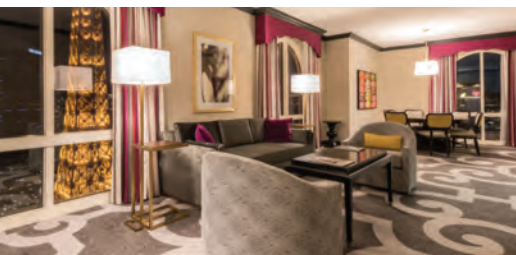
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Loch side luxury at Cameron House

CAMERON HOUSE Resort looks out onto grand vistas of Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, which can now be appreciated all the more with a new loch-side terrace opening this summer.

Guests of the five-star property will be invited to the open air area to take in the panoramic views and enjoy mixologist mixed cocktails with food available from the Great Scots Bar. The new terrace will be used as both an alfresco bar area and an outdoor events space for private celebrations.

The baronial mansion offers five dining options, a spa, golf course, leisure club and swimming pool and, for something extra special, an evening twilight flight is available for guests to enjoy in the resort's seaplane.

Andy Roger, the resort's director, said: "Guests can make the most of the beautiful scenery and watch the sun setting over Loch Lomond from the sky. Alternatively, they can take to the water on board the Celtic Warrior, the legendary Cameron House motor cruiser, which takes you past the various islands of Loch Lomond including Inchmurrin, as well as the hidden coves situated around the banks of the loch."

Packages on offer at the resort include 'A luxury Spa break like no other' from £175 per person, 'Romance is in the air at Cameron House' from £229.50 and 'Enjoy a truly luxurious Michelin-star break on Loch Lomond' from £129. *More information can be found at cameronhouse.com*

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Simply Luxury by T2 adds European getaways

FOR 2017, Simply Luxury by Travel 2 has added a host of new city break getaways.

Lauren Ross, the operator's product and commercial manager for Europe, said: "We have introduced Venice, Florence, Milan, Rome, Paris, Lisbon, Madrid, Barcelona, Berlin and Amsterdam to our European brochure showing a variety of cities with a range of regional departure points for added flexibility."

As an example of packages, the operator has flights from London to Venice, four nights at the four-star Lagare Hotel Venezia, transfers and a free UK lounge pass from £549 per person based on a November 2 departure.

Visit travel2.com



THE ALL-VILLA The 13 is scheduled to open in Cotai, Macau this July. Featuring 200 exclusive villas which measure between 2,000 and 30,000sq.ft, most of the design details of the 'ultra-luxury' property are bespoke, including sculptures, fabrics, furniture and tableware. All villas feature a private lift to the lobby, 24-hour butler service and complimentary transfers to and from Macao via a fleet of 30 Rolls-Royce Phantoms. The hotel will offer six restaurants – including the only outpost of L'Ambroisie, the only Parisian restaurant which has maintained its three Michelin stars continuously since 1988 – and L'Atelier, an invitation-only shopping area featuring bespoke products by the world's leading luxury brands. For details see the13.com

Maritim & presidential stays in Berlin

SITUATED IN the centre of Germany's capital, the Maritim Hotel Berlin's Presidential Suite occupies two floors and now comes with its own dedicated butler.

The lead in price for the suite is 5,500 euros per night, which features an expansive living room, a business area and two bedrooms. A private rooftop terrace provides city skyline views and comes complete with a glass whirlpool.

Additional services include VIP lounge access to the Berliner Salon which serves a selection of soft drinks, beer, Champagne, rare wines and light refreshments; fruit basket and free mini-bar; airport or railway transfers; and a complimentary hour-long massage. Guests can also indulge in some pampering in the hotel's exclusive wellness area which houses a pool, sauna, steam bath, fitness centre, cosmetic services and massage treatments.

For more information see maritim.com







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Quintessentially British brand DUKES opens five-star resort in Dubai

THIS YEAR saw the official opening of DUKES DUBAI, a quintessentially British five-star offering located on the west trunk of Palm Jumeirah.

The property aims to combine luxury with British values and exceptional levels of service, synonymous with the hotel's sister property DUKES LONDON. It also marks the first international property for the brand.

The hotel features 279 guestrooms including 64 suites, with a ladies-only Liberty Duchess floor featuring 20 rooms furnished exclusively by Liberty Fabrics, as well as 227 fully furnished hotel apartments and six distinctive dining experiences.

The setting of the hotel allows guests to take advantage of an entire resort, encompassing a golden sandy beach with views over the Dubai Marina skyline, a temperature-controlled infinity pool and lazy river, kids' facilities and a poolside bar for adults.

For more information visit dukesdubai.com

The Moorings promotes crewed private yacht charters in Dalmatian region

IDEAL FOR luxury customers who like the idea of the freedom a sailing holiday offers, but who are not experienced sailors, The Moorings is showcasing its crewed yacht charters in Croatia.

A crewed charter, which is commissionable to agents, includes a private captain to handle all the sailing and a gourmet chef with all food, snacks and beverages supplied throughout.

Charters run until October from Marina Agana near Split in the heart of the Dalmatian region. Whatever pace guests choose, the small and

large Dalmatian islands that make up this region with their secluded bays and quiet beaches can all be enjoyed on a week-long holiday.

There is no set itinerary; customers select the route but highlights include swimming in the Blue Grotto of Bisevo, a tour of the vineyards on the island of Vis, an exploration of the ancient town of Trogir, mooring up at one of the bays in Brac or Hvar and sailing up to the Kornati Islands National Park, a maze of some 80-plus islands ideal for snorkelling.

Prices in mid-September are from £1,651 per person based on six



sharing for a seven-night yacht charter on a Moorings 4800 crewed sail catamaran.

Call 03303-321520 or visit moorings.co.uk for more information.



SANDALS RESORTS has launched nine new over-the-water Honeymoon Butler Bungalows at Sandals Grande St. Lucia Spa & Beach Resort in St Lucia. Now available to book, the luxury suites are designed to capture the beauty of their surroundings with glass floor panels and illuminated water, allowing day and night views of the turquoise waters and marine life below. Each accommodation offers the utmost in privacy and added touches include 24-hour room service, welcome gifts, private transfers, a room service menu and professionally trained butlers. A total of 12 new over-the-water Honeymoon Butler Bungalows at Sandals South Coast, Jamaica are also scheduled to open in November. Visit sandals.co.uk for details.

SuperBreak boosts portfolio in Portugal

SUPERBREAK HAS boosted its luxury short break offering in Portugal with the addition of three new five-star hotels from the Pestana Hotel Group.

Available in Lisbon, Cascais and Porto, the hotels offer a historic flair for those wanting a short break with a luxury twist and all are fully commissionable to agents.

A three-night break at the Pestana Vintage Porto Hotel and World Heritage Site is priced from £308 per person for an October stay.

Located in Praça da Ribeira in the heart of the historic core of Oporto, the hotel stands on the city's medieval walls and offers views of the river Douro. Its location also makes it possible to cruise down the river (departing from the bank right in front of the hotel) or take the historic tram to Foz do Douro or visit one of the Port wine cellars.

Alternatively, the Pestana Palace Lisbon is located within a 19th century palace in a residential area of the city of Lisbon but close to key attractions and monuments.

The property has an indoor and outdoor swimming pool and a choice of restaurants with prices starting from £385 based on a three-night break in September.

Located in the coastal town of Cascais, the Pestana Citadel Cascais offers views of the sea and marina and is a three-minute walk from the beach and five minutes to the town centre.

A three-night break leads in at £372 based on a September departure and all stays include breakfast. Flights can also be added through the operator.

For more information visit superbreak.com/agents or call 01904-436000.



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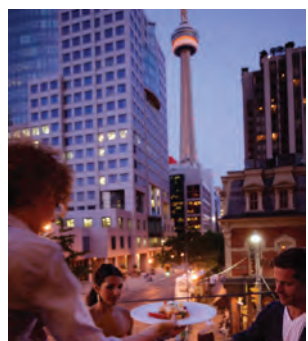
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canada

AIR TRANSAT is extending its summer season with extra flights on routes to Toronto from Manchester, Dublin and Glasgow. For Manchester and Glasgow departures, this extension means a second direct service will fly between Toronto each week until November 30 and November 26, respectively. For Dublin departures, one direct return service will continue running to Toronto until November 24, an additional month after the season was originally scheduled to end. Visit airtransat.co.uk

Premier joins Rocky Mountaineer for Canada campaign

PREMIER HOLIDAYS has teamed up with Rocky Mountaineer for its latest Canada campaign.

The operator has released a number of tactical offers where clients can explore popular destinations in Canada's wild west. They include 'A Journey through the Clouds' itinerary from £2,645, with three nights in Vancouver, a trip on the Rocky Mountaineer to Jasper, where people will stay for three nights, one night in Lake Louise and three nights in Banff. The option also includes a free Rockies Discovery and Glacier Adventure excursion.

Alternatively, clients can choose a 'First Passage to the West' adventure from £2,749, with three nights in Vancouver, three nights in Victoria, a full board trip on the Rocky Mountaineer from Vancouver to Lake Louise, two nights in Lake Louise and three nights in Banff.



The offers are valid for travel this October and include accommodation and flights from Heathrow.

Agents can download posters and images from the operator's website to promote the campaign, and earn up to £150 in shopping vouchers for every inclusive Canada booking.

Visit trade.premierholidays for more details.

Gold Medal adds Sawridge Inn

GOLD MEDAL has added the four-star Sawridge Inn and Conference Centre to its Canadian offering.

Emily Underhill, the company's assistant product manager of Canada, said: "The property is perfect for exploring Jasper town and the national park. It's a great mid-range value accommodation option for families and is located on the edge of the town. It offers spacious rooms, bike rental and a pool which is ideal for families."

As an example of packages, the operator is offering flights from Gatwick and seven nights' stay from £1,169 per person including car hire. Visit goldmedal.co.uk or call 0800-014 7777 for details.

Summer celebrations & anniversary fun in Ottawa for Canada 150

OTTAWA'S MUSEUMS and galleries are to play a starring role in the Canada 150 celebrations, with an unprecedented line up of programmes and exhibitions which will 'Welcome the World' this year.

Jantine Van Kregten, director of communications for Ottawa Tourism, said: "Ottawans are justifiably proud of their role as caretakers of the country's most impressive cultural treasures inside places such as the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Museum of History. And, with 2017 marking Canada's 150th anniversary year, it was only fitting that these institutions are raising the bar even higher than usual to showcase our incredible country."

Entry to national parks and Canada's national historic sites such as Laurier House in Ottawa will be free throughout 2017 to help mark the anniversary year.

In addition, visitors to the capital this summer can immerse themselves in a new multi-media experience called Kontinuum.

The free sound and light show, which features a futuristic time-travel theme, will run for approximately ten weeks over the summer - from late-June to mid-September - and takes place within the former Place de Ville cinema and the Lyon Street Station, part of Ottawa's Light Rail Transit (LRT) network—called the Confederation Line—which is set to launch in May 2018.

For destination information and more details of the events taking place this year visit ottawatourism.ca



MONTREAL IS hosting a year-long city-wide party to celebrate its 375th anniversary this year. The festivities kicked off in December 2016 with a 90-minute variety show and the illumination of Montréal's Biosphere, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Montréal's 'Expo 67'. Running throughout this year, events include music and comedy festivals, outdoor competitions, sports and recreational activities and history exhibitions such as 'Montréal en Histoires', a large-scale multimedia project celebrating the rich history of Montréal. Visit 375mtl.com for more information.

British Columbia creates BC Journeys to inspire visitors

DESTINATION BRITISH Columbia, in partnership with Google, has launched BC Journeys on Google Maps, enabling users to go on a virtual journey to the remote corners and untouched wilderness of the destination.

Complemented by interviews from locals, drone footage, immersive 360-degree videos and featured businesses, images were captured using Google Street View Trekkers - wearable backpacks fitted with 15 separate cameras - by a team who traversed almost 200 treks by foot, horse, boat, floatplane and helicopter.

For the first time, visitors to Google Maps can interactively explore these remote parts of British Columbia, from the Canadian Rockies and the islands of Haida Gwaii through 10,000-year-old ice caves. They can also virtually hike some of the province's vast and untouched wilderness and be inspired by 176 unique treks and trails such as the Sunshine Coast Trail, Kettle Valley Trail (Myra Canyon), Pacific Rim (Schooner



Cove Trail) and Windfall Lake (near Tumbler Ridge), with 14 more to be added shortly.

Marsha Walden, CEO of Destination British Columbia, said: "Through our new interactive platform, BC Journeys, we can give people a window into our wilderness like never before - creating a connection before people even leave their homes.

"Combining this powerful, immersive video footage with compelling, authentic stories creates an augmented reality experience that is a pretty potent recipe for driving visitation."

For more information visit hellobc.com

Nova Scotia enjoys record-breaking 2016

NOVA SCOTIA welcomed a record number of visitors last year, in what was its third successive year of growth.

In total, 2.2 million holidaymakers visited the province last year, representing an increase of 8% on 2015, or an extra 170,000 travellers.

Of the visitors, 56,400 travelled from Europe, with British holidaymakers accounting for approximately half of these.

The proportionately large number of UK figures has been attributed in part to the direct flight access from London and Glasgow to the province capital of Halifax, reachable in six hours.

Located in eastern Canada, the province has a rich and diverse tourism offering spanning outdoor adventure, cultural travel and gastronomy. It features five UNESCO sites and attracts a broad range of visitors through its wildlife-watching, hiking and cycling offering as well as its museums, wineries and events calendar.

Travelsphere traverses Canadian Rockies with Rocky Mountaineer in new tour

GLACIERS, CANYONS, Banff National Park and Lake Louise are all highlights of Travelsphere's new tour of the Canadian Rockies, part of the latest brochure launch from the global escorted tour operator.

'Canadian Rockies with Rocky Mountaineer' is a ten-day journey from Calgary to Vancouver which features a two-day trip on the Rocky Mountaineer train. Banff is the first call on the tour, nested high in the Rockies and surrounded on all sides by Banff National Park.

The tour then heads on to Lake Louise with the next two days spent in Jasper which is reached via the Icefields Parkway, sitting at 7,000ft above sea level. Clients will then board the Rocky Mountaineer to relax and take in the dramatic scenery of the Continental Divide and the river valleys of the Monashee and Cariboo Mountains.

The train follows the Fraser River, home of British Columbia's largest salmon fishing run and here grizzly bears can be seen trying to pluck the fish from the river.

Colin Wilson, the company's sales director, said: "If your customer's idea of a perfect holiday is enjoying some serious natural wonders, then a trip through the Canadian Rockies takes some beating. Our newest tour takes in so many awe-inspiring experiences from Lake Louise to Banff National Park and the Icefields Parkway to Maligne Canyon."

Visit travelsphere.co.uk or call 01858-588406 for more details.



israel

Browns Hotel Group opens new boutique property in heart of Jerusalem

The Villa Brown Jerusalem is a 24-room boutique hotel and the newest addition to the Brown Hotels Group.

The property is located five minutes' walk from Jerusalem's Old City sites and is situated in the bustling city centre with nearby cafes, museums, art galleries, restaurants, bars and famed Mahane Yehuda food market. The hotel itself neighbours the city's Russian Compound and new Bezalel Academy of Design and Arts, while its rooftop offers a bird's eye view of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

Housed within a one-time private

villa from the 19th-century (belonging to a Jewish doctor and general manager of Jerusalem's historic Rothschild Hospital), the original walls of exposed stone within the property date back to more than 100 years ago, and pay homage to the signature architecture for which Jerusalem is known.

The lobby, outdoor spaces, restaurant, underground bar, bedrooms/suites and spa are all furnished in deep and warm hues, soft textiles and vintage accessories, and the whole property has been

reimagined following a complete restoration and the addition of two extra floors.

Amenities at the property include a garden bistro café serving an international interpretation of classic regional dishes, daily breakfast and brunch in an open-air veranda; afternoon tea sessions in the garden; a subterranean 'Cave Bar'; a rooftop spa and open-air Jacuzzi; and a rooftop terrace and lounge overlooking the city.

For more information visit brownhotels.com/villabrown

Monarch highlights Eilat's appeal to British holidaymakers

ALTHOUGH EILAT may be a relatively unknown destination for the UK market, Monarch is highlighting how it can prove to be a good alternative to a typical Red Sea holiday, particularly with its warm climate throughout the winter months.

The operator's flying programme means that it is the only airline to fly into Eilat directly, with flights from Luton every Thursday from November to April.

With 10k of coastline, a host of watersport activities are available to holidaymakers including paddle-boarding and kitesurfing. More adventurous travellers can go on a desert jeep tour or spend a few hours driving through the desert and, for those who like to explore, a day trip to the Dead Sea, Jerusalem or Petra in Jordan is also easy to arrange.

Monarch is the only operator in Eilat which means that the product offering is quite unique in the UK and the number of hotels is growing for the third season.

The operator currently features a total of 21 properties, all of which have high ratings and many with the option for travellers to indulge in spa facilities too. Hotels are based around the lagoons, marina and seafront, with the majority offering bed-and-breakfast facilities, although the wide offering of the destination also means that there is plenty of good food choices away from the hotels.

As an example of packages, the operator is featuring seven nights at the four-star Isrotel King Solomon for two adults sharing a regular room and departing from Luton on November 16 for £785 per person.

Alternatively, clients can opt for seven-nights at the three-star Caesar Premier Israel with prices leading in at £549 based on a January 18 departure for two adults. For more information visit monarch.co.uk



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THE JERUSALEM Development Authority has teamed up with Thomas Cook in an agreement to promote the destination to both trade and consumers, with the aim of attracting wider target markets. Millennials are a key focus as the capital has a lot to offer in terms of its cuisine, art, culture and nightlife, but remains a relatively unknown destination. The authority will therefore be running a range of activities across social media with online and in store advertising, newsletters and more.

puzzlesolutions

Crossword:

Across: 1. FIFTY, 3. MALTA, 5. CORINTH, 7. BEN, 8. TRIANGLE, 10. BAYWATCH, 14. ADD, 15. LANSING, 17. TEXAS, 18. WHITE.

Down: 1. FA CUP, 2. YEN, 3. MAHON, 4. ARNO, 6. RUTLAND, 7. BOLSHOI, 9. AUA, 11. WALES, 12. FOGLE, 13. BAHT, 16. NSW.

Where Am I?: Tossa De Mar Castle, Costa Brava



@TravelBulletin



TravelBulletin

We asked our staff the following question this week:

If you had an extra two hours a day, how would you use the time?



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I'd sleep



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Go swimming



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Gym



Paul Scudamore

Contributing Editor

An extra hour de-cluttering and another hour being creative in the kitchen



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Working or playing golf!



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Go to the pub



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Practise my frog impression



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Expand my mind and Read



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Sleep



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I would sleep or create some artwork



Nelly Mendes

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Tuesday 13th June
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Agents come and join the Travel Bulletin team and leading Mediterranean suppliers at one of our informative and fun agent events. Through a combination of networking and presentations we will enable you to discover the paradise that is Mediterranean Islands. From unique hotels to once in a lifetime experiences, you will learn how to deliver your clients their dreams.

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Buffet, Entertainment & Prizes: 20:00 hours

Carriages: 21:30 hours

To confirm your place at one of these amazing events, email the names and job titles of up to 5 staff members by Monday 5th June 2017 to: oliver.barton@travelbulletin.co.uk or telephone:

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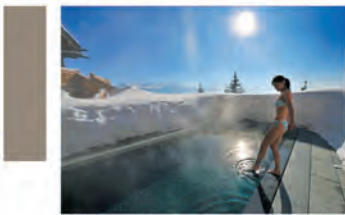
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