

Travel bulletin

Giving agents the edge

Sustainable Travel

Tours that support communities, environments and economies across the globe.

MORE IN...

News

All the latest **Pg. 4**

Escorted Touring

Touring classics or hidden gems? Picks from a sector beaming with success **Pg. 13**



How Celestyal strikes a 'sweet spot' of cruising: hear from the cruise line's CEO (Pg. 6)



POLISH
TOURISM
ORGANISATION



POLAND.
More than you expected

MEET US AT WTM

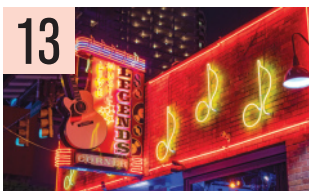
THIS WEEK



NEWS
Catch up on the recent developments from across the sector.



AGENT BULLETIN
The latest training and incentives to help your selling!



ESCORTED TOURING
Learn from the best on these tailor-made tours.



FAMILY HOLIDAYS
The very best generational jaunts across the globe.



SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL
Putting a green foot forward with environmental experiences and eco accommodations.



DESTINATION DEMAND

Adido CEO breaks down the destinations and holiday types faring well this year, and those falling short.

SPECIALIST TRAVEL marketing agency, Adido, has shared its insights on how this year of travel is faring up after continued reports earlier on this year stating 2024 will be a record breaker.

Adido CEO, Andy Headington, has analysed the trends across the last few years to determine which holidays are growing in popularity and which are beginning to fall by the wayside.

On the high-end side of the scale, searches for 'luxury yacht charters' jumped 81% this year, with a peak across April and May. Other searches relating to luxury holidays has grown at an average rate of 10% throughout the year.

Specialist holiday searches have shown an increase of 24% over the last three months, with searches for holidays to see the Northern Lights skyrocketing by over 400%, thanks to their recent appearances over the UK.

Skiing holidays remain steady, showing a 27% increase compared to 2023, and the cruise wave of growth doesn't appear to have reached its crest yet, with reports showing a 20% increase in searches.

Overall, country searches were up 10%, however this figure was not evenly spread. Albania searches were up 137%, with Montenegro (up 71%), Austria (up 62%), Belize (up 86%) and Rwanda (up 112%) following behind. On the other side of the coin, searches for the Seychelles were down by 22%, as well as searches for Vanuatu (down 52%), and Jordan (down 29%).

It has been a see-saw effect for searches to popular destinations this year, with regions such as the Far East witnessing continued popularity (Thailand, Japan and China have seen a 30% uplift over the last six months), whereas 'traditional' hotspots like Greece and Türkiye have experienced a more modest growth rate.

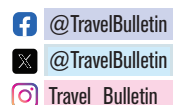


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www.travelbulletin.co.uk

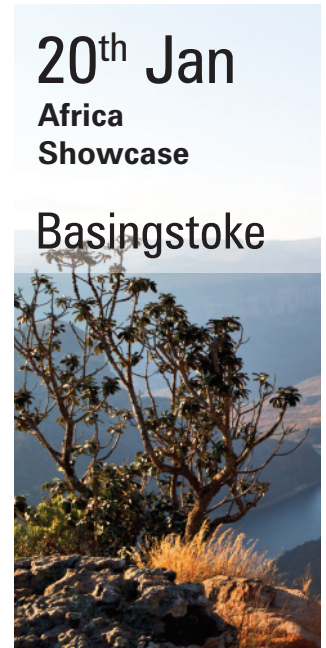




18th Nov
Indian Ocean Showcase
Southampton



25th Nov
Australasia & Pacific Islands Showcase
Maidstone



20th Jan
Africa Showcase
Basingstoke



19th Nov
Indian Ocean Showcase
Guildford

Scary low fares from Ambassador Cruise Line

MORE TREATS, fewer tricks from the cruise line, which has celebrated Halloween by slashing 13% off a choice of 13 cruises until November 5th, 2024.

Cut-price departures are spread across both *Ambience* and *Ambition*, and set sail between April 6th and December 4th, 2025.

Slashed-price sailings include 'A Taste of Ireland' from £278 per person. The cruise, departing from London on April 11th, 2025

aboard *Ambition*, sees a four-night weekend itinerary bring guests to Cobh, Cork and Holyhead. 'Midnight Sun Marvels' sends guests on a 14-night hunt for the natural phenomenon aboard *Ambience*, with highlights in the historical Viking town of Haugesund and landscapes of Andalsnes. Prices lead in from £931 per person.

The code 'LOW13' unlocks the savings.
www.ambassadorcruise.com



Winter sun and snow from Manchester

Two new easyJet services from Manchester are catering for both extremes of winter holidays.

November will see services to Djerba in Tunisia and Akureyri in Iceland launch from the Northern hub, with return fares starting from £45 and

£38, respectively. Both services will operate twice weekly, and mark the first services to their respective destinations outside of London. Djerba flights commence on November 11th, with Akureyri services from November 12th.
www.easyjet.com

2025 sees new additions to CroisiEurope cruise-hike roster

Two new itineraries see the addition of the Rhine Valley and Gironde to the river cruise operator's cruise-hike lineup for next year.

The first itinerary, fittingly titled 'The Rhine Valley', plots a five-day roundtrip course from Strasbourg through the Rhine Valley, which will see *MS Gerard Schmitter* call at Rudesheim, Koblenz, Mainz and Rastatt along the way. Hikers will take their hobby to new heights with a treetop walk in the Black Forest and capture picturesque views at the Rhine and Hibou trails when the cruise departs on August 28th, 2025. Prices lead in from £1,791 per person.

Prices for the four-night roundtrip itinerary 'The Gironde', departing on October 13th, 2025 aboard *MS Cyrano de Bergerac*, lead in at £1,558 per person.
www.croisieurope.co.uk

£150 discounts celebrate Scenic trade success

Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours and Emerald Cruises have collectively reported impressive growth amongst group bookings by agents (up 85% from January to June 2024 against 2023), celebrating with a range of offers across group tour itineraries exclusive to travel agent partners.

Savings apply to a range of itineraries, including £50 per person off group bookings of five cabins or more on the 'Christmas Time

on the Danube' sailing, departing on December 18th, 2024. Prices currently lead in from £1,249 per person for the five-night itinerary.

Nick Hughes, Scenic Group's director of sales, partnerships and strategic growth, said, "It is encouraging to see the marked increase in group bookings and growth in the popularity of sailings for larger parties."

www.scenic.co.uk



Brand USA Travel Week smashes records

2024'S EDITION of the famed Brand USA Travel Week, which took place in London in October, hosted a record number of meetings between over 180 exhibitors and guests. Fred Dixon, Brand USA's president and CEO, noted that the UK and European markets "are critical to driving travel to the US," adding that the show "provided a unique opportunity for U.S. destinations and attractions to share their story with tour operators and travel agents who will help book those trips." www.thebrandusa.com



Air Sierra Leone announces maiden UK service

THE NEW flagship airline for Sierra Leone will take to the skies from December 2nd, 2024, providing the only direct service to the UK.

Taking off from London Gatwick, the service will fly direct to Freetown in a bid to expand Sierra Leone's aviation sector and open the destination up to more tourists. The service will operate three times a week.

www.tourismsierraleone.com



Premier Inn integrated into Sabre GDS

THE UK'S largest hotel brand is now bookable via the Sabre GDS, with access to over 95,000 rooms across the UK, Ireland and Germany now live. Those rooms are spread across more than 900 properties across the three destinations. Chinmai Sharma, Sabre Travel Solutions' global head of Lodging, Ground & Sea, said the integration of Premier Inn represents "another step in [Sabre's] ongoing efforts to enrich lodging content for our travel advisor partners."

"We are thrilled to bring [Premier Inn's] content directly onto our platform for our agency partners, especially at a time of strong hotel room demand in Europe." www.sabre.com

Returning stars join Uniworld celebrity lineup

TOM KERRIDGE, Sir Ian Botham and Rosemary Shrager, Raymond Blanc and Monica Galetti will head aboard Uniworld river itineraries for 2025, each paired with a destination that aligns best with their expertise and interests.

The celebrity hosts will host onboard cooking demonstrations, gala



dinners, Q&A panels and more while on board.

Agents can book the range by contacting their local sales manager.

www.uniworld.com

P&O Cruises donates £10,000 to Teenage Cancer Trust on behalf of agents

DIVERTING FUNDS previously allocated for promotional items at agent conferences, P&O Cruises has donated £10,000 to its charity partner, the Teenage Cancer Trust. The initiative joins on-board fundraising activities.

The cruise line hopes to raise £1 million for the cancer charity by the end of 2024.

www.pocruises.co.uk



Image Credits: Top Left: Scenic Group, Top Right: Brand USA, Bottom Left: P&O Cruises, Bottom Middle: Uniworld, Bottom Right: Sierra Leone NTB

Azamara CEO highlights the cruise line's "sweet spot"

AZAMARA CRUISES' CEO Dondra Ritzenthaler sat down with *Travel Bulletin* to reflect on her first four months within the company and discussed the importance of moving forward with a "lion's mentality" – the mindset at the heart of Azamara's strategy.



"What does it mean to have a lion's mentality? The lion is not the fastest, the strongest nor the largest, but he is the king of the jungle.

"I wanted to make sure that the team has a mentality that says 'I don't care if we're the small brand, I don't care that we're not part of a big corporation, we're going to have a lion's mentality and we're not going to be overlooked."

As the cruise industry continues to top the travel charts, Dondra feels that Azamara has hit the "sweet spot" in the market.

"People are craving authenticity. We're going to continue down the path of destination immersion cruising, doubling down and going to even more places, staying later and curating a very authentic cultural experience."

Read the full article here:
www.travelbulletin.co.uk



AER LINGUS' seasonal route to Nevada has landed, marking the beginning of a thrice-weekly service which will serve the Silver State until April 2025. The non-stop service will depart from Dublin on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and fly to Harry Reid International Airport with fares leading in from €499 return. www.travelnevada.com

Jet2Holidays trades flights for mics

JET2HOLIDAYS HAS launched its first-ever podcast, *Partners2Success: The Podcast!*, which has been designed exclusively for agents.

The podcast, hosted by GM of trade sales Lloyd Cross, will be available across Spotify and Apple Podcasts, with every episode starring guests from both inside and outside of the travel industry.

Insights gathered from Lloyd's conversations hope to wow agents with trend

analysis and actionable tips to boost their selling with the package operator.

Lloyd said, "We believe this is a great way to interact with agency partners and what better way to learn how to succeed than to listen to other amazing success stories."

The first episode aired last week, starring Don Bircham from Don Bircham Travel, Greig Avinou, a franchise owner at Barrhead Travel Falkirk and entertainer Nathan Turner.

www.tradeportal.jet2holidays.com

Holland American enhances booking benefits

HOLLAND AMERICA has enhanced its early booking benefits by offering guests complimentary onboard spending of up to US\$300 per person, and upgraded 'Elite' beverage packages, enhanced premium Wi-Fi packages, up to US\$300 credit for shore excursions, and up to three complimentary meals in the onboard speciality restaurants.

The 'Have It All Early Booking Bonus' is available on Holland America's Autumn 2025 Caribbean, Asia, South American and Australia itineraries; and Spring 2026 Alaska, Europe and Canada & New England itineraries. Bookings must be made by December 4th, 2024.

www.hollandamerica.com



Radisson reaches major milestone in Italy

RADISSON HOTEL GROUP has reached a major milestone in its Italian expansion with five new signings and seven upcoming openings for 2025. The hotels will add 1,000 rooms to its portfolio which has grown from three to 20 properties in six years.

www.radissonhotels.com

AGENT INCENTIVES

- AS EMERALD Azzurra** gears up for its starring role in ITV's *Judi Love's Culinary Cruise*, Emerald Cruises has unveiled two exclusive incentives. Any agents booking Mediterranean sailings between November 1st and 29th, 2024 will earn £75 in points, redeemable against a range of gifts and vouchers via the River Rewards platform. Along with the booking incentive, the first 20 agents to complete the Emerald Cruises Luxury Yacht Cruises module on the Agent Academy can earn an Emerald Cruises branded bag. Agents must sign up and send their completion certificates to agency-sales@emeraldcruises.co.uk to claim their prizes.
- HURTIGRUTEN'S NEW** rewards platform hopes to recognise and reward the role of trade partners in its success. Noting a 107% year-on-year increase in B2B sales, head of sales James Howlett says the reward scheme "reflects [Hurtigruten's] commitment to building strong, lasting relationships between Hurtigruten and UK travel agents."
www.hurtigrutenrewards.co.uk
- ELEGANT RESORTS** has unveiled its new Connoisseur loyalty programme, with Gold and Platinum tiers offering agents FAM trip places, free lounge passes for clients, and joint marketing opportunities. Tracy Docherty, Elegant Resorts' sales director, hopes "that this new scheme will entice more to work with us as it reaffirms our commitment to the travel trade."
www.elegantresorts.co.uk

AGENT BULLETIN

VAS ISLAND
ABU DHABI

EXPLORE YAS ISLAND ABU DHABI

Yas Island, in association with Travel Bulletin, would like to invite you to learn how to 'Stay & Play' on Yas Island. Come and meet Yas Island partners, update yourself on all their latest openings and win prizes! All this whilst also enjoying a sumptuous 3 course dinner on the South Bank in London.

Brasserie Blanc, 9 Belvedere Road, London SE1 8YL

Thursday 7th November
REGISTER HERE

HEADING TO London for World Travel Market? Join Travel Bulletin and Yas Island Abu Dhabi, plus a whole host of suppliers from the home of 'Stay & Play', for an exclusive three-course meal, speed networking and prize giveaway. Registration is open at www.travelbulletin.co.uk/events/agents

Travel bulletin COMPETITION

Win a stay for two adults and two kids at the Gennadi Grand Resort!

Enter now at www.travelbulletin.co.uk/lindos-competition

AGENT TRAINING

- FRED. HOLIDAYS'** new agent portal collates marketing assets, video content, training webinars and information about Fred. Holidays' GSA and preferred partners, including American Cruise Lines and Amadeus River Cruises.
www.agentfred.co.uk
- THE 15 islands of the Cooks** lie halfway between New Zealand and Hawaii in the South Pacific. Learn how easy each island is to reach and what is in store for your clients when visiting these idyllic Polynesian islands.
www.shorturl.at/7z2oT
- RIVIERA EXPLORER** aims to help agents with their brand knowledge whether they are experienced sellers or new to the Riviera Travel product. Agents can become a certified Riviera Expert by completing the training programme, and those who do so by December 31st, 2024, will be in with a chance of winning a place on a Sri Lanka escorted tour FAM trip departing in 2025 or a Blue Danube cruise on *Riviera Radiance*.
www.rivieratravel.co.uk
- AZAMARA'S TRAVEL** agent portal not only features the cruise line's revamped reservation system, ReZA, but hosts a range of engaging marketing content and the Azamara World Academy online training platform, which promises agents a better understanding of the cruise line.
www.connect.azamara.com
- MIRAGGIO THERMAL Spa Resort's** B2B learning course for travel agents is designed to provide you with incentives and deeper knowledge about Miraggio Thermal SPA resort in Halkidiki, Greece. Once you sign in, you can complete an online training course, learning about our latest news & offers and earn a complimentary stay at the luxurious 5* resort in Halkidiki for yourself.
www.miraggio2b.com

Newmarket Holidays launches 2027 programme

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has launched its 2027 programme, featuring African safaris and long-haul escorted tours to Southeast Asia now available to book.

The early launch follows agent feedback who state that their customers want to book



wishlist holidays even further in advance.

Tours now available within the collection include South African safaris, Southeast Asia adventures and exclusive itineraries exploring the US. The operator is expected to announce additional destinations in the upcoming weeks.

Hayley Morris, head of trade and partnerships at Newmarket Holidays, said, "We're already seeing strong interest from agents who are eager to secure 2027 holidays for their customers.

"By booking now, agents can lock-in their customers' preferred dates, which is especially important for tours such as the African safaris where availability goes quickly, and secure the best rates as flight prices tend to increase the closer they get to departure."

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk



FIVE NEW state-of-the-art vessels have been purpose-built to cater for G Adventures' small-group adventures in Greece. The vessels, which can accommodate up to 10 guests in five twin or double cabins, will take to the seas for the operator's European sailing season between April and October 2025 throughout Greece. www.gadventures.com

Finnair sets ambitious climate target

FINNAIR has redefined its climate commitment by setting a new target to reduce its carbon emission intensity by 34.5% by 2033.

Validated by the Science Based Targets Initiative, the target equates to a reduction of approximately 13% in absolute CO2 emissions.

In order to reach this target, Finnair is investing in Sustainable Aviation Fuels

beyond regulatory requirements, improving operational efficiency, optimising its network and in the longer term, updating its fleet renewal plan.

Turkka Kuusisto, CEO of Finnair, said, "The Finnair team is committed to doing our part to address the challenges involved, and we will work with dedication and determination towards our new science-based target." www.finnair.com

Marriott marks major milestone

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL is celebrating a huge milestone for the brand after opening its 500th property in the Caribbean and Latin America region.

The Almare, a Luxury Collection Resort, Isla Mujeres, Adult All-Inclusive underscores Marriott's dedication to continuing its expansion within the region. Over the past three years, the brand has grown from 300 properties to 500, equalling approximately 10% of Marriott International's global luxury portfolio.

The property boasts 109 elegant suites, each offering ocean views, private balconies and luxurious amenities. www.marriott.com



Sunshine guaranteed with City of Dreams

CITY OF Dreams Mediterranean is launching a 'Sunshine Guarantee' offer, promising guests a complimentary future stay if they choose to visit during the winter months and don't have a sunny holiday.

www.cityofdreamsmed.com.cy

SUDOKU

WIN A £20 M&S VOUCHER IN THE *Travel* bulletin SUDOKU PRIZE PUZZLE

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 November 13th. Solution and new puzzle will appear next week.

October 18th Solution: A=2 B=3 C=1 D=9

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



WHERE AM I?

NESTLED IN the banks of the Waikato River, this city, dubbed 'the most beautiful large city in New Zealand' is known for its award-winning gardens, gourmet eateries and colourful street art.

FILL IN THE CROSSWORD TO REVEAL THE MYSTERY LOCATION HIGHLIGHTED BY THE PURPLE SQUARES.

1				2		3		4		5
6						7				
			21-22							
8	9			10						
				11						12
	13					14				
15						16				
17						18				
19				20						

- Across**
- 1 Specialist ski operator, part of TUI (7)
 - 4 Global gaming and entertainment resorts company (3)
 - 6 Major UK airport (5)
 - 7 Capital of the northernmost country in North Africa (5)
 - 8 Actor Idris, sounds like an island (4)
 - 10 Star sign symbolised by the scales of justice (5)
 - 13 Joint presenter of Strictly-It Takes Two, ___ East (5)
 - 14 Beautiful Indonesian destination, dubbed the Island of the Gods (4)
 - 17 Guest accommodation (5)
 - 18 Country known as the tiger capital of the world (5)
 - 19 Scenic valley and river, sounds like a question (3)
 - 20 Capital of Kenya (7)

- Down**
- 1 Wayne Rooney's wife, rumoured to be entering the celebrity jungle (6)
 - 2 Flows through Newcastle (4)
 - 3 Riga is the capital (6)
 - 4 One of the Balearic islands (7)
 - 5 Niagara Falls tourist boat, Maid of the ___ (4)
 - 9 Fred. Olsen's flag ship (7)
 - 11 Popular city-break destination on the river Liffey (6)
 - 12 Capital of Rwanda (6)
 - 15 Traditional Arab sailing vessel (4)
 - 16 Small flightless bird and nickname for a New Zealander (4)

CROSSWORD

Mystery Word: TALLINN

Across: 1 CRYSTAL, 4 MGM, 6 LUTON, 7 TUNIS, 8 ELBA, 10 LIBRA, 13 FLEUR, 14 BALI, 17 HOTEL, 18 INDIA, 19 WYE, 20 NAIROBI
Down: 1 COLEEN, 2 TYNE, 3 LATVIA, 4 MENORCA, 5 MIST, 9 BOLETTE, 11 DUBLIN, 12 KIGALI, 15 DHOW, 16 KIWI.



YAS ISLAND
A B U D H A B I

EXPLORE

YAS ISLAND ABU DHABI

Experience record-breaking thrills at **Ferrari World** Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, enjoy splash-tastic fun at **Yas Waterworld** Yas Island, Abu Dhabi and embark on heroic adventures at **Warner Bros. World™** Yas Island, Abu Dhabi.

**CALL THE GOLD MEDAL SPECIALISTS
TO BOOK ON 0800 0147 777**



Carnival introduces additional Bahamas sailings

CARNIVAL CRUISES has expanded its 2026/2027 programme with the addition of new sailings to the Bahamas from Miami and Port Canaveral.

The new itineraries will take place aboard *Carnival Conquest* from Miami and *Carnival Glory* and *Carnival Freedom* from Port Canaveral.



Carnival Conquest will homeport in Port Miami throughout 2026 and early 2027, offering three-day voyages to Celebration Key and four-day itineraries to additional destinations including Half Moon Cay and Princess Cays. The ship will also depart on an 11-day 'Southern Caribbean Journeys' cruise in January 2027.

From Port Canaveral, *Carnival Glory* will operate a range of three- and four-day itineraries, with calls at Celebration Key, Nassau, Princess Cays and Half Moon Cay.

Four-day cruises are available aboard *Carnival Freedom* with visits to Half Moon Cay and Celebration Key, while five-day itineraries will call at Celebration Key, Nassau, and either Half Moon Cay or Princess Cays.

www.carnival.com



FOR THE first time ever MSC Cruises will set sail to Alaska for the 2026 summer season, offering a series of seven-night sailings now available to book. *MSC Poesia* will homeport in Seattle for the season and embark on weekly sailings to Alaska and Canada beginning from May 11th, 2026. www.msccruises.co.uk

Cruise Croatia unveils new ship

CRUISE CROATIA will welcome a new vessel, *MV Aretis*, to its fleet in the early spring next year where it will offer 19 seven-night departures from Dubrovnik to Split.

Departures are scheduled between June 7th to October 11th, 2025, while the ship will offer a full summer schedule of 24 departures for 2026. The 36-guest vessel will feature 18 ensuite cabins, a restaurant and bar area, a sundeck and a covered outdoor lounge area with sofas, sun loungers and a jacuzzi. *MV*

Aretis will call for swim stops throughout its itineraries and offer guests a range of paddleboards, sea kayaks, floaties, goggles and snorkelling equipment.

Graham Carter, chief commercial officer at Cruise Croatia, said, "Demand for luxury small-ship cruising is growing, as guests seek out holidays with a difference, exploring destinations that larger vessels simply cannot visit."

www.cruisecroatia.com

Manchester heads to the top of the world

TRAVELLERS from Manchester Airport are now able to visit the world's most northerly city as two airlines are offering new services to Tromsø from the UK airport. Norwegian flights launched on October 30th and will serve the city twice per week, while the new easyJet service will take off from November 19th, also on a twice-weekly basis.

Stephen Turner, chief commercial officer at Manchester Airport, said, "These new services to Tromsø are a really exciting addition and give people planning their next city break or adventurous holiday a truly unique option. Tromsø is the most northerly destination available from Manchester and visitors will get a true taste of life inside the Arctic Circle."



Etihad brings more to North America

ETIHAD AIRWAYS' marked further development of its daily services between Canada and Abu Dhabi after the airline's first Airbus A350 landed in Toronto last week. Etihad has also begun a daily service to Boston, just six months after its inaugural flight to the city.

www.etihad.com

BEST IN THE WEST

Newmarket Holidays has expanded its US collection with two new tours showcasing the best of the American West.



FROM HOLLYWOOD highlights and the glitz and glam of Las Vegas to the sweeping beauty of the USA's West Coast wonders, Newmarket Holidays is offering guests the chance to see it all with its expanded range of US tours.

Holidaymakers can experience the best of the American West in the new 11-day 'Hollywood, Vegas, Palm Springs

and the Grand Canyon' itinerary, taking in iconic sights such as Santa Monica Pier, Hollywood's Walk of Fame and Vegas' famed Strip.

The tour will begin in Buena Park before travelling through the Mojave Desert towards the dazzling lights of Las Vegas where guests will be offered an optional helicopter ride over the city. The tour will continue to Hoover Dam onto the vintage town of Seligman before reaching the Grand Canyon. It is then time to unwind in Palm Springs with the option of riding the famous Aerial Tramway to the summit of Mount San Jacinto Canyon before heading to the final stop of San Diego. Prices lead

in from £2,499 per person for departures in October and November 2025.

For travellers looking for a more laid-back tour highlighting the natural beauty of the region, Newmarket has also added the 18-day 'National Parks of the Great American West' tour. Guests will visit 10 of the region's most picturesque national parks, including Yosemite, Sequoia, Death Valley, Monument Valley, Bryce Canyon, Zion, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands, Arches and the Grand Canyon.

The adventure will wrap up in Palm Springs and Hollywood. Prices lead in from £4,249 per person.

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk

Magari Tours cooks up a foodie focus

MAGARI TOURS is offering travellers the chance to immerse themselves in the Italy's storied culinary scene with a range of food-focused tours in Lombardy, Puglia, Umbria, Sicily and Tuscany, each offering tastings, cooking classes and fine dining experiences.

The 2025 programme features locations often overlooked from mainstream itineraries and instead focuses on curated experiences which place food, authenticity and sustainability at the forefront of traveller experiences. Each small group tour will feature a maximum of 19 guests.

www.magaritours.com

Coyote Trip heads coast to coast

COYOTE TRIPS has announced a new and improved collection of stateside tours, from New York to San Francisco and everything in between. Guests can embark on their US adventure coast to coast from £1,675 and discover historic landmarks on the six-day East Coast Tour, embrace the vibrant life of Vegas and LA in the seven-day West Coast Tour, or enjoy the best of both worlds in the 12-day Full Coyote USA Group Tour. www.thecoyotetrip.com

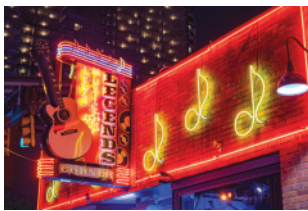




Railbookers announces luxurious return

RAILBOOKERS HAS announced the return of its 'Around the World by Luxury Train' itinerary for 2025. The 59-day tour will take travellers across four continents, 12 countries and more than 20 cities. President and CEO Frank Marini said, "Our 2025 Around the World by Luxury Rail itinerary has been refined and tailored to maximize our guests' time and experiences while enjoying the culture, cuisine and activities that these renowned destinations offer."

www.railbookers.co.uk



Tauck traces a musical legacy

TAUCK IS tracing the roots of country music, jazz and rock 'n' roll in its new nine-day 'Music of America: Nashville to New Orleans' itinerary ready to depart in 2025. Guests will enjoy a guided tour of Nashville's Country Music Hall of Fame, attend a live performance in the Grand Ole Opry, and visit the legendary Sun Studio. Prices lead in from £4,875 per person.

www.tauck.co.uk

Wendy Wu launches largest-ever brochure collection

WENDY WU Tours is staying ahead of the Southeast Asia boom currently sweeping through travel with the announcement of its largest-ever brochure showcasing its collection of fully-inclusive tours throughout the region.

Covering 2025 and 2026, the brochure stars a wide range of adventures across Borneo, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Some of the tours included in the brochure are the 17-day 'Vietnam & the Reunification Express' from £4,990 per person; the 15-day 'Singapore to Bangkok by Rail' from £5,690 per person; and the 12-day 'Loas: Top to Toe' from £4,690 per person.

Alongside these tours, Wendy Wu Tours is also launching its Tailormade Southeast Asia Collection, offering travellers the



chance to design their own dream itineraries. The collection allows guests to craft their perfect Southeast Asia adventure, whether they wish to relax on the tranquil beaches of Thailand or lose themselves into the vibrancy of the bustling cities of Vietnam.

www.wendywutours.co.uk

Learn the essentials with Titan Travel

MARKING THE first in a series of interactive guides, Titan Travel has launched its Essential Guide to Japan booklet, offering travellers and agents a bespoke guide specifically design to entice people to the destination.

Within the 14-page guide, readers can find a range of information divided into 10 'must do' carefully curated experiences, including a traditional tea ceremony and cheering on a sumo wrestling championship.



Titan's tours Japan range includes a 13-day 'Japanese Winter Wonderland' tour from £4,246 per person, where travellers will venture into the alpine regions of Kyushu and Hokkaido to bathe in the hot springs; and the 14-day 'Essence of Japan' from £5,795 per person which is designed to give tourists a taste of the heart of the country.

Ben Davis, product director at Titan Travel, said, "We're excited to bring the first of our Essential Guides to our customers. Japan continues to be one of our best-selling destinations, as its unique culture, language, art, cuisine and traditions attracts the curious traveller. With passenger numbers on some of our Japan tours increasing by nearly 50% year-on-year, we advise customers planning to visit the country to book sooner rather than later."

www.titantravel.co.uk



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From Cairo to California with Riviera's new tours

AS PART of its largest-ever solo programme for 2026, Riviera Travel is offering four new long-haul itineraries for single travellers to go further and explore more.

The 11-day 'Maritime Canada for solo travellers' includes a journey along the Cabot Trail; a drive through Cape Breton Highlands National Park; and tours of colonial towns such as Charlottetown and Lunenburg in Halifax from £4,999 per person. The 13-day 'Costa Rica for solo travellers' will visit Tortuguero National Park and the Arenal Volcano from £5,999 per person, while the 14-day 'Classic California for solo travellers' will take holidaymakers to the historic Yosemite National Park as well as LA, San Francisco and San Diego from £6,299 per person.

Finally, the 13-day 'Classic Egypt, Cairo, Luxor & Nile cruise for solo travellers' will visit the Great Pyramids and the Sphinx, as well as the Valley of the Kings and the Luxor temples with prices leading in from £5,199 per person.

www.rivieratravel.co.uk

Walk Japan launches new Noto gastronomy tour

COMBINING PICTURESQUE landscapes with the region's renowned local cuisine, Walk Japan is offering a new tour through the Noto Peninsula, famed for its food, onsen hot springs and fine Wajima lacquerware crafts.

Highlighting the natural beauty and cultural prestige of the region, the tour not only aims to showcase this serene corner of the world, but also raise awareness and support Noto as it recovers from the 2024 New Year's Day earthquake.

In an effort to rebuild and place emphasis on the positives – the resilient local communities, delectable cuisines and reopened accommodations – Walk Japan has launched the five-day 'The Onsen Gastronomy: Noto Tour' with a maximum group size of 12 people. The tour will begin at Kanazawa Station and end at Wakura Onsen, covering mostly flat terrain enabling



tourists of all abilities to enjoy the landscapes.

Prices lead in from approx. £2,300 based on double occupancy. There is no minimum occupancy for this tour.

www.walkjapan.com

Seeing the world: solo style

SOLOS HOLIDAYS is offering a range of new itineraries for 2025, from city breaks to active treks throughout Europe.

The four-night itinerary to Vilnius, Lithuania allows travellers the chance to experience the Baltic charm of the country and immerse themselves into the medieval streets of an Old Town full of historic gems. Guests can escape to the fairytale setting of Trakai and indulge in a true taste of a local Karaim lunch. Prices lead in from £1,125 per person for a

September 2025 departure.

The seven-night 'Walking in Albania' tour offers guest four guided walks through a diverse mix of mountains, national parks, nature reserves and old towns. Travellers will hike up the mountains of Cajupi to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Gjirokastra; embark on a guided tour of Berat; walk along the town of Krujë; explore Karavasta Lagoon Park; and take in the views from Mount Dajti. Prices lead in from £1,359 per person for an April 2025 departure.

The seven-night 'Stories of Vesuvius – Pompeii, Paestum & Herculaneum' tour is designed for history enthusiasts, showcasing the ancient ruins of Pompeii and the Roman villas of Oplontis as well as guided tours of Pozzuoli, Baia and the Temple of Jupiter in Cuma with prices leading in from £2,895 per person for a September 2025 departure.

www.soloholidays.co.uk



SUNSHINE GUARANTEE

City of Dreams Mediterranean promises guests a free stay to those visiting this winter who do not have a sunny day.



A CONFIDENT move from City of Dreams Mediterranean, as stays not living up to the hotel's 'Sunshine Guarantee', which promises at least 70% direct sunlight between 9 am and 5 pm, will include a one-night complimentary stay per sunless day.

Grant Johnson, senior VP and property general manager at City of Dreams

Mediterranean, explained the thinking behind the complimentary stay promotion.

"There's nothing worse than planning your holiday to escape the cold and having the weather turn when you arrive at your destination. We're blessed with sun almost every day in Cyprus, but to put our guests' minds at ease, we'll invite them back (on us) if they don't get sun while they're here."

Until November 30th, 2024, stays until December 20th, 2024 are eligible for discounts worth 15%.

The striking 500-room resort in Limassol, on the island's coastline, is usually home to around 340 days of sunlight a day, providing a pretty safe bet

for families looking to shed the sadness of winter for sunny spirits in Cyprus.

Complimentary excursions await guests, who can enjoy winery tours, hiking in the nearby Troodos mountains and visits to notable sights including the Kourion archeological site and Kolossi Castle. If that weren't enough to keep the whole family entertained, the resort hosts Waverider, an adventure park with climbing walls, rope courses, and miniature golf; a 12-court Tennis Academy; live entertainment shows and more. Rates start from £228 per night for a Superior King room on bed-and-breakfast basis.

www.cityofdreamsmed.com.cy

ABTA: the parent pound is strong

ABTA RECENTLY unveiled its 2025 Holiday Habits report at its conference in Greece. Graeme Buck, the association's director of communications, reported that "the parent pound is strong" with both brackets of families surveyed for the report (younger families with kids under five and older families with kids over five) reporting an above average (6.5 and 5.3, respectively) number of holidays annually.

The number of families heading aboard has almost doubled over the past half-decade (from 8% in 2019 to 15% this year). www.abta.com

easyJet Manchester duo caters for both extremes of winter family forays

TWO NEW easyJet services from Manchester are catering for both extremes of winter holidays during the upcoming season. November will see services to Djerba in Tunisia and Akureyri in Iceland launch from the Northern hub, with return fares starting from £45 and £38, respectively. Both services will operate twice weekly, and mark the first services to their respective destinations outside of London. www.easyjet.com





Jumeirah welcomes new family rooms

JUMEIRAH BEACH Hotel, Dubai's ultimate family hotspot, has introduced its new Ocean Family Club and Ocean Balcony Club room categories. Both room types are ideal for families seeking luxurious comfort and can accommodate up to three adult and one child or one adult and three children. Guests who reserve these rooms will be granted exclusive access to The Family Club which includes daily breakfast, afternoon tea and access to a kids' corner.

www.jumeirah.com



Tickets open for Epic Universe

TICKETS ARE on sale for the highly-anticipated Universal Epic Universe. The park will open on May 22nd, 2025, with new lands including The Wizarding World of Harry Potter: Ministry of Magic, Super Nintendo World, How to Train Your Dragon: Isle of Berk, and Dark Universe. A Universal 3 Park Explorer ticket with one day's admission to Epic Universe leads in from £482 per adult and £472 per child.

www.DoSomethingDifferent.com

G Adventures offers family holidays with an immersive twist

FAMILIES CAN come together and connect with the wider world as part of G Adventures and National Geographic Expeditions' additional 'National Geographic Family Journeys with G Adventures' trips in Ecuador, Spain and Mexico.

The collection is designed for parents, children and extended families to connect with the world around them in a culturally immersive way.

Each itinerary within the programme features unique, interactive activities set around National Geographic's expertise in photography, storytelling, wildlife, culture, history and exploration.

The three-strong range includes the 'Ecuador Family Journey: Volcanoes and the Amazon', 'Mexico Family Journey: Ruins and Cenotes of the Yucatan', and 'Spain Family Journey: Vibrant Cities and



Artistic Icons'.

The new trips in the collection bring a total number of 93 trips across both 'Journeys' collections, with 19 specifically designed for families. Each trip is available to book now, with the first departure scheduled for 2025.

www.gadventures.com

Celebrate the festive season with Velas

FESTIVE ACTIVITIES, luxury experiences and special promotions await with Velas Resorts' festive offers.

Throughout the festive season, Velas Resorts will offer a wide range of family friendly activities, including gingerbread decorating, themed shows and traditional Mexican posadas.

Guests can bring the festive spirit into their suites with a pre-decorated Christmas tree or instead decided to decorate one together as a family. Pre-wrapped gifts can also be delivered on Christmas morning.



To celebrate the festive season, each Velas resort is offering special promotions for bookings made by November 15th.

Grand Velas Riviera Maya, Grand Velas Los Cabos and Grand Velas Boutique Los Cabos are offering US\$50 in spa credit per adult per night, with the latter two properties also offering a two-for-one discount for children and teenagers during the week of Christmas.

Casa Velas is offering a guaranteed room upgrade, US\$50 spa credit, 25% off green fees at Marina Vallarta or Vista Vallarta golf courses and 20% off at the hotel boutique. The Mar del Cabo resort is offering 50% off roundtrip airport transfers and 20% off spa services, day passes and dining experiences. Finally, Velas Vallarta will offer reduced Festive rates, US\$300 resort credit per suite, and complimentary airport transfers.

www.velasresorts.com

Free Disney dining: blink and you'll miss it

LIMITED TIME remains to take advantage of the Free Disney Dining and Drinks promotion at Walt Disney World Resort.

Agents book a stay at participating Walt Disney World Resort Hotels along with a Park Ticket package by November 7th, 2024, can unlock the offer, which covers the meal plan.

Disney Dining Plans offer a whole host of quality, variety, value, and flexibility for guests at Walt Disney World Resort hotels and theme parks, granting them access to over 170 dining locations throughout the resort.

Guests can indulge in a diverse range of cuisines, from French and Italian to Mexican and Moroccan, including fine dining and quick-service options, plus meals with Mickey and his friends.

In addition to the free dining and drinks, guests can enjoy the Disney 14-Day Magic Ticket for the price of seven days,

granting access to all four theme parks and water parks across Walt Disney World Resort in 2025.

The deal is valid for stays of five to 21 consecutive nights, with selected arrivals between January 7th and December 17th, 2025, covering most school holidays.

www.disneymagicexpo.com



Festive fun and seasonal savings from Velas Resorts

466 LUXURIOUS all-inclusive rooms have opened in the Emirate, promising the ultimate locale for an indulgent beachfront break in Ras Al Khaimah.

Accommodation ranges from one- and two-bedroom suites to expansive family and royal suite options.

Along the private 1.5km stretch of beach the property calls home calls home, Rixos Al Mairid Ras Al Khaimah will be home to 10 food and beverage outlets opening over the next several months and pulling inspiration from the cuisines of Italy, Turkey and beyond. www.rixos.com



Summer 2026 in TUI's sights

TUI'S SUMMER 2026 range includes free kids' places at 18 hotels in Florida and multiple other destinations and 64 tours including safaris in Kenya and sailings along the Turkish Coast.

Phillip Iveson, TUI commercial director, noted that the schedule represents the operator's "widest range of destinations," with new managing director Neil Swanson adding that previously not working with agents was "an opportunity that we were missing... we want to work with you." www.tui.co.uk



Nostalgic-ations on the agenda

HILTON UNCOVERED eight new trends that will drive travel forward (or in one case, into the past) into 2025 in its 2025 Trends Report. Amongst them was demand for 'nostalgic-ations', with 45% of Brits stating they intend to take their kids back to places they visited as children. 60% said they centre plans around their kids interests and demands. www.hilton.com

Image Credits: Top Left: Disney Destinations International, Top Right: Adobe Stock, Bottom Right: Adobe Stock, Bottom Left: Rixos Hotels

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER

World Sustainability Day last month provided a platform for Trafalgar to spotlight its sustainable Make Travel Matter range, with 170 tours across the globe.



TRAFALGAR'S MAKE Travel Matter experiences strive to leave a positive impact on their respective destinations' environment and community.

A key component of the tours is crafting a connection between guest and local communities and cultures whilst always promising a staunch fulfilment of one of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Shannon Guihan, the operator's chief sustainability officer, noted that the range "really contribute[s] to the tour experience for our travellers, as once-in-a-lifetime, memorable moments that are consistently flagged as highlights of the tours.

"The programme shows that

sustainability initiatives can be fun, exciting and elevate the guest experience."

Hoping to cater for a growing demand for indigenous travel experiences is one of the 170 Make Travel Matter experiences, featured on the 11-day 'Southwest Native Trails' experiences.

Amidst their exploration of New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Colorado, guests call at the Tesuque Pueblo Community Farm, affording themselves an insightful and intimate glimpse into how the Indigenous people there strive for food sovereignty by continuing generational traditions and self-sustain their community by growing and harvesting locally.

An equally powerful glimpse into the impact of travel and first-hand glimpse into generational traditions comes with the 'Best of Egypt' itinerary, which stars local artisans who offer a glimpse into safeguarded weaving methods and a first-hand chance to partake in Egypt's oldest art form for themselves.

www.trafalgar.com

Mundy Cruising swaps sea for steam

A NEW collection of luxury collection sees Mundy Cruising collate the world's most iconic rail journeys with its fine range of cruise itineraries.

Alex Loizou, Mundy's director of sales, marketing & operations, said, "We have handpicked only the very best options to create this magical collection, and we can't wait to share these journeys with our clients."

That "magical collection" includes The Eastern & Oriental Express and a journey to Japan from £12,695 per person, blending three nights aboard the Eastern & Oriental Express with a Silversea journey through the Far East. www.mundycruising.co.uk

Walk this way

INGHAMS WALKING have launched tours by foot to Norway for the first time, with guests setting their compasses to the Land of the Midnight Sun from next year. Itineraries include seven nights in Bergen, on the doorstep of such rewarding walks as a hike atop Mount Løvstakken. Prices lead in from £1,170 with flights, accommodation and transfers.

www.inghams.co.uk



Beyond Green expands global footprint with seven new members

SEVEN NEW members have been added to Beyond Green’s global portfolio, spanning across Africa, Latin America and Europe.

These properties have shown a strong commitment to adhering to more than 50 sustainability indicators aligned with global standards and the UN’s Sustainable Development goals.

The properties include Swindon Park Hotel, UK; SCP Corcovado Wilderness Lodge, Costa Rica; Bio- and Wellness Resort Stanglwirt, Austria; and Beyond Nxabega Okavango Tented Camp, Botswana; and Beyond Sandibe Okavango Safari Lodge, Botswana; and Beyond Xaranna Okavango Delta Camp, Botswana; and Beyond Kichwa Tembo Tented Camp, Kenya.

Lindsey Ueberroth, CEO of Beyond Green, said, “With each addition, we continue to uphold our commitment to using travel as a

positive force for change, these properties strengthen our shared vision of fostering a more sustainable and responsible future for both travellers and the planet.”

Beyond Green’s portfolio now consists of almost 50 hotels, resorts and lodges across 20 countries which remain committed to upholding initiatives and values that cover the key sustainable pillars of Nature, Culture and Community.

www.staybeyondgreen.com



Local talent at the heart of IZZA

MARRAKECH HOTEL IZZA

continues to offer a selection of charitable programmes in a bid to give back to local communities and remain socially sustainable. One of the initiatives in place is the Associate Arts Programme which aims to support emerging local artistic talent to help progress their careers. Each programme lasts for one year, during which IZZA collaborates with each artist and also offers them a monthly allowance to spend on food and drink at the hotel. www.izza.com



Ocean Cay coral resortation is firmly underway

THE MSC Foundation has neared completion of the first phase of its new Marine Conservation Centre at Ocean Cay. The project centres around a coral nursery with fragments growing from five distinct species. Phase Two of the construction is scheduled to be complete by April 2025 and will significantly accelerate resortation efforts of its Super Coral Programme. www.msccruises.co.uk



AIUla releases benchmark Sustainability Report

THE ROYAL Commission for AIUla has issued its first annual Sustainability Report to benchmark the progress made to further its journey to greater environmental, cultural, social and economic sustainable practices in line with the Saudi Green Initiative, Vision 2030 and the UN’s

Sustainable Development Goals.

Waleed Aldayel, RCU’s chief of strategy and digital, said, “Our first-ever Annual Sustainability Report is an important opportunity to transparently share details on RCU’s journey in establishing a sustainable destination.” www.rcu.gov.sa

Image Credits: Top: Beyond Green, Top Right: Adobe Stock, Bottom Right: MSC Cruises, Bottom: Royal Commission of AIUla

Wizz Air to trial sustainable fuels on two routes

AHEAD OF the EU's upcoming RefuelEU regulations, Wizz Air is partnering with Airbus to integrate sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) on its Barcelona and Brussels Charleroi to Budapest routes.

RefuelEU will see select EU airports offer a minimum share of SAF, with percentages expected to increase over time. The regulation will also require airlines operating in the EU to refuel with 90% of fuel needs from the legislated airports.

Wizz Air's corporate and ESG officer, Yvonne Moynihan, said, "This cross-industry collaboration with Airbus is a demonstration of the commitment of the aviation community to reduce emissions intensity. It's crucial for all actors in the aviation ecosystem to play their

part and join forces to reach the industry goal of net zero by 2050."

The integration of SAF on the two routes to/from Budapest is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The airline will purchase 16 and 18 metric tons for the Barcelona and Brussels services respectively. Wizz Air has committed to powering 10% of its flights with SAF by 2030.

www.wizzair.com



Intrepid partners with marine life charity

INTREPID TRAVEL has joined forces with the wildlife charity Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC). The WDC works to find solutions to protect whales and dolphins alongside governments, businesses and local communities. The partnership will see WDC become the first UK-based charity partner in the Intrepid Foundation, which has made an initial donation of £5,000. Additionally, BBC presenter and WDC's patron Julia Bradbury will make an appearance on the February 2025 departure of Intrepid's 'Journey to the Antarctic Circle' itinerary. www.intrepidtravel.com

What would be your 'I'm a Celeb' luxury item?

Jeanette Ratcliffe

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The TB Team photo at the Star Awards!



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INDIAN OCEAN SHOWCASE

Agent Networking Evening

Tuesday 19th November Guildford

Travel Bulletin is delighted to invite you to our Indian Ocean Showcase! This is a fun filled evening dedicated to providing you with more knowledge about the diverse range of destinations, resorts and hotels, fantastic facilities and exciting itineraries available. Look forward to engaging professional networking groups, hot meal and drinks, enjoying the entertainment and being in with a chance to win some truly incredible prizes in our free prize draw!

TIMINGS

Registration &
Drinks
5:45^{PM}

Travel Bulletin
Welcome
6:10^{PM}

Client
Presentations
6:15^{PM}

Hot Dinner
7:30^{PM}

Client
Presentations
8:15^{PM}

Product Quiz
and Prizes
9:15^{PM} - 9:45^{PM}

FEATURES



Abercrombie & Kent



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To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by Friday 15th November 2024 to: events@travelbulletin.co.uk or Telephone: 020 7973 0136

THESE EVENTS ARE BY INVITATION ONLY and will be booked on a first come first served basis with limited space available.



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