

Travel **bulletin**

Giving agents the edge

Caribbean Preview

See in the New Year Caribbean-style
with our picks

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Agent Bulletin

Training and incentives to capitalise
on Peaks **Pg.7**

Spain and Her Islands

Top choices from city break
highlights to seaside escapes **Pg.18**

USA

New openings, attraction offers and
more Stateside selections **Pg.20**



St Kitts

The CEO of the island's Tourism
Authority on a new campaign
and UK potential. **Pg.15**



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HOLIDAYS

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friendly Sales Team today!



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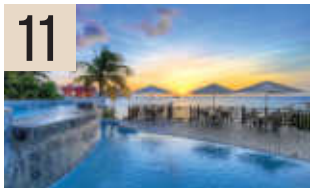




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NEWS
A 'Drinks On Us' package from Riviera Travel and the latest updates.



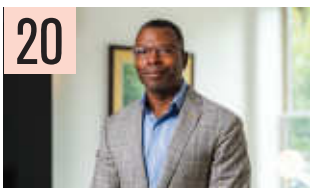
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TRAVELLERS FAVOUR FLEXIBILITY IN 2023

Titan Travel's latest 'Travel Trends' report reveals the latest buzz word for travel in 2023: flexibility.

CELEBRATING ITS 45th anniversary, Titan Travel has drawn on its wealth of in-house experts and customer data to collate its 'Travel Trends' report for 2023.

The report takes an up-close look at the trending destinations and holiday styles, uncovering how customers feel about travel in 2023.

Andy Squirrell, managing director, Titan Travel, explained: "2023 is set to be an incredibly exciting year for travel and for Titan, as we celebrate our 45th anniversary.

"Once again, we're delighted to share our annual research that uncovers our bestselling destinations and tours for 2023, examines the current patterns and touring trends that continue to drive new bookings and what else we can expect to see over the next year."

The report spotlights the appetite for

travel in 2023, with 9 out of 10 respondents declaring their intent to travel in the next 12 months. 56% intend to travel between two and four times and 64% want to experience new places, spotlighting the importance of finding that hidden gem or off-the-beaten-track destination for clients.

Almost a quarter of those surveyed reflected a desire to travel solo. Agents can keep an eye out for waived solo fee offers or dedicated solo itineraries to capitalise on the burgeoning solo market.

One common thread among all responses was the importance of flexibility: clients will feel reassured and inspired in knowing their bookings are protected with flexible reschedule or cancellation clauses.

The report is available to download at www.titantravel.co.uk

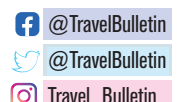


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Tour 'Around the World' with Travelpack

TRAVELPACK HAS launched its 'Around the World in 42 Days Peak Campaign', featuring a showcase of top-rated bucket list destinations every traveller wants to tick off, as well as special incentives and negotiated offers tailor made to create the best travel experience to those once in a lifetime locations. Exclusive offers and extra-value add ons are announced twice a day throughout the campaign.

The campaign highlights a range of destinations, from Japan to Costa Rica to Australia.

Jet2Holidays reveals new advertising campaign

JET2HOLIDAYS HAS LAUNCHED a new version of its national advertising campaign in time for the peak booking season. The message 'Contact your local independent travel agent' remains at the heart of the campaign.

Three different adverts have hit the TV screens across the UK after their launch on December 23, 2022. Each advert has been created to target young couples and families.

www.jet2holidays.com



Lisbon Tourism Association launches promotional video

LISBON TOURISM Association has launched a new promotional video with the slogan, 'Lisbon: close to you, close to life' to highlight the unmissable experiences on offer.

The video spotlights various museums, river and city walks, nature trails and golf spots.

AmaWaterways celebrates a successful 2022

LUXURY RIVER cruise line AmaWaterways had reason to celebrate this New Year as the company received a record number of reservations in November 2022 as well as a high occupancy in its 'Christmas Market' cruises.

Kirsten Karst, co-founder and executive vice president of AmaWaterways, said: "We are so appreciative of the show of support we have received and the recognition... by our travel agents who play an instrumental role in our success."

www.amawaterways.co.uk



Air Transat launches New Year Seat Sale

AIR TRANSAT has launched its 'Canada and USA New Year Seat Sale', with return fares from London to Toronto as low as £379pp.

The sale runs until January 25, 2023 on select flights departing between January 5 and October 31, 2023, offering passengers reduced prices on flights departing from London Gatwick, Manchester and Glasgow to Toronto, and from Gatwick to Montreal and Quebec City. Return fares for



these journeys range from £379pp to £469pp.

The sale includes Air Transat's new services from the UK to California and Florida, with prices starting from £535pp return to Orlando. www.airtransat.co.uk

Titan Travel welcomes the New Year with 'Worldwide' brochure

TITAN TRAVEL has rung in the New Year with its latest 'Worldwide' travel brochure, featuring a collection of the company's bestselling tours, experiences and offers.

Spread across 260 pages, the brochure includes 25 brand new tours, including 'Grand Tour of Japan' and 'Secrets of Southern Italy and Sicily', which have been added to the 2023 and 2024 roster.

Andy Squirrell, managing director, said: "After an incredible year of holidays, we're delighted to launch our latest Worldwide brochure to help our customers plan their new travel adventures for 2023 and 2024."

To celebrate the launch, Titan will offer every customer a free airport lounge pass at No1 and Aspire Lounges on every new international booking made between December 28, 2022 and January 31, 2023. www.titantravel.co.uk



Ambassador unveils Turn of Year Offers

TO CELEBRATE the New Year, Ambassador Cruise Line is offering bucket list destinations deals in its 'Turn of Year Offers'.

The cruise line is offering up to 30% off, drink package upgrades, and up to £840 in onboard credit on bookings made by January 31, 2023 for selected sailings between April 2023 and March 2024.

www.ambassadorcruiseline.com

Riviera Travel raises a toast with new drinks package

RIVIERA TRAVEL has launched a free drinks package on all European river cruises departing in July and August 2023.

Available now, the deal is valid on bookings made until February 28, 2023, with 82 different departures to choose from across 11 different itineraries, ranging from seven to 14 nights in length.

The free drinks package includes a selection of wines, draft beer and soft

drinks available at both lunch and dinner onboard the cruise.

Katja Hildebrant, Riviera Travel head of product river and ocean cruise, said: "River cruises already offer such great value for money – with regional flights, transfers, tours and visits along with all meals included in the price – with free drinks, there's never been a better time to book."

www.rivieratravel.co.uk



Image Credits: Riviera Travel, Top Right, Bottom Right and Bottom, Adobe Stock

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The Sarojin says goodbye to single-use plastic

THAILAND'S BOUTIQUE residence, The Sarojin, has removed all single-use plastic from the resort as part of the establishment's ongoing commitment to sustainability. All guests will be provided with a complimentary reusable water bottle at check in and amenities at all residences have been replaced with ceramic refillable dispensers.

Several bottle refilling stations have been set up around the resort, all installed with a selection of normal or flavour-infused water to choose from, including jasmine and lime on Mondays and green apple and thyme on Sundays.



One-use amenities, such as hand soap and hair products, have been replaced with ceramic dispensers which hold luxurious products from sustainable skincare brand JUKU, which aligns its ethos with The Sarojin's, offering a natural experience to balance the mind and body.

The resort is dedicated to being as sustainable as possible, having run several initiatives since its inception and recently being awarded 'Best Hotel' at the Responsible Thailand Awards 2022.

www.sarojin.com



SPECIALIST LUXURY travel company Unforgettable Croatia has reported a 71% uplift in bookings following Croatia's third-place performance in the Qatar World Cup, compared to the same period last year. Google searches for Croatia shot up by 157% during their competition run, with the final match provoking the highest user numbers of 2022.

HotelPlanner expands inventory with new partnership

GLOBAL TRAVEL technology service HotelPlanner has announced a service agreement with ZentrumHub, an India-based technology platform, to expand its net rate inventory to clients around the world.

ZentrumHub is a unified API which provides access to all hotel suppliers on a single service. Its vision is to provide an all-inclusive database to travel aggregators and become the fastest-growing travel hub in the world.

"ZentrumHub's single API connection will help us connect more efficiently and broadly with hotel suppliers as we continue to expand HotelPlanner's footprint globally," said Tim Hentschel, CEO of HotelPlanner.

Bhushan Tamhankar, co-founder and COO, ZentrumHub, said: "Using our distribution channels, HotelPlanner can now enable faster hotel inventory streaming and better booking conversion."

JetBlue expands bumper Big Apple schedule

JETBLUE HAS announced plans to launch a new daytime flight from New York to London.

The airline is introducing a new morning departure from JFK Airport on March 25, 2023 to Heathrow, giving travellers the all-new option to arrive in the United Kingdom the same day they depart the United States

The new flight is made possible through an additional pair of slots obtained by JetBlue, which further boosts the airline's presence at the U.K.'s busiest airport.

Seats for JetBlue's new Heathrow flights are now on sale.
www.jetblue.com



ABTA launch latest travel campaign

ABTA HAS launched the second phase of its annual flagship 'Travel with Confidence' campaign, featuring testimonials from regular customers about what holidays mean to them and the benefits of booking through a travel company.
www.abta.com

AGENT INCENTIVES

- STAR CLIPPERS is offering agents the opportunity to win Eurostar vouchers, spa days, team nights out and a £200 wine voucher with bookings made by February 3, 2023. The four-week 'Star Prizes' promotion enters agents making bookings for sailings departing before October 2024 into the prize draw. Agents can visit Star Clippers' Trade Facebook page, 'Star Clippers UK Travel Agents – Fred Olsen Travel' for more information.
- TITAN TRAVEL'S January incentive scheme features £10 and £20 lifestyle voucher giveaways, free airport lounge passes for customers, and four £500 lifestyle vouchers to select winners.
www.titantravel.co.uk/trade-agent/login
- THE DANNA Langkawi Resort & Beach Villas is celebrating its 12th anniversary with monthly giveaways throughout 2023. Every month, the five-star luxury property will select one agent to win a three-night stay for two. General manager Karan Singh commented: "Our agent partners are integral to our success and have been for the last 12 years. To thank them for their support, we are giving 12 lucky agents the chance to come and celebrate with us in person, having the opportunity to experience our resort and villas first hand." *For more details and to enter, visit www.thedanna.com/thedanna-12th-anniversary-agents*
- WINDSTAR CRUISES is including a £30 voucher of agents' choice on any bookings made by January 31, 2023. There are no limit to the number of bookings made or vouchers earned. *Register bookings to anna.perrott@windstarcruises.com*

AGENT BULLETIN



A group of 11 Travel Counsellors jetted off to sunny Los Angeles in December to celebrate LA Tourism's new 'Now Playing' campaign, inviting guests onto LA's centre stage. The group stayed at The Conrad, a new opening, and family-favourite The Garland, enjoying a packed week of activities including a visit to Grand Central Market and a bike tour of Venice Beach.

Travel **bulletin**

WEBINAR

Join Travel Bulletin, Visit Malta, Baja Hotels, and Eagles Palace for our Luxury Holidays webinar on February 23, 2023!

Register at www.travelbulletin.co.uk/webinar

AGENT TRAINING



- WENDY WU Tours has updated the WUniversity with a number of new modules, helping agents become experts on the escorted tour specialist. Upon completion of the module tests, agents will earn a 'Specialist Wendy Wu Agent' badge. Along with the new modules for WUniversity, Wendy Wu Tours' updated 'Agent Matrix' is the one-stop document for quick facts and tips on all 41 of its destinations, along with the most frequently asked questions.
www.wendywu.com/agents/login.htm
- COMPLETE THE Malta Training Programme to be entered into monthly prize draws to win a £50 Amazon voucher or Maltese gastronomy goody bag. The more courses agents take, the more entries they earn.
www.malta-training.com
- THE CELESTYAL Stars training scheme gives agents everything they need to know about selling the cruise line's itineraries around Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean. There are five training modules: 'The Celestyal Experience', 'Pre-Bookable Extras', 'Three, four & five night cruises', 'Seven nights+ cruises', and 'Our Ships'. Agents will also find assets to help them sell to clients including current campaign offers, commissionable pre-bookable extras and industry rates exclusively for Celestyal's travel partners.
www.celestyalstars.com
- THE NEW Smryna Beach area of Florida's East coast is home to a small number of hotels, alongside a variety of guest houses and holiday homes bookable through the trade. The destination's new training course spotlights the unique propositions of this Floridian haven, and offers every agent who completes the course in January or February the chance to win a £50 High Street shopping voucher in a monthly prize draw.
www.tourismgivesback.com/course/travel-agents/

Travel Counsellors kickstarts new campaign

TRAVEL COUNSELLORS has launched into the Peaks season with its 'Let yourself go' campaign.

The multi-channel campaign showcases the confidence customers have when booking holidays through a personal Travel Counsellor.

Dave Callan, customer director at Travel Counsellors comments: "We want to emphasise what is special about the Travel Counsellors brand which is the care each Travel Counsellor puts into crafting unique experiences for their customers."



CORENDON AIRLINES has launched its summer 2023 early booking campaign, featuring up to 50% off fares booked by January 29, 2023 for travel between April 1 and October 31, 2023. Summer 2023 will see the airline operate flights to Antalya and Dalaman from Gatwick, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, Glasgow, and, in a 2023 first, Bristol Airport. Gatwick will host a daily flight to Antalya (AYT) from March 18 to October 31, 2023, along with a five-times-weekly flight to Dalaman (DLM) from April 30 to October 29, 2023. Glasgow sees a twice weekly service (Mondays and Fridays) to Antalya from March 10 to October 30, 2023. Six flights (daily excl. Wednesdays) will run from Manchester to Antalya from March 5 to October 31, 2023, with five weekly services to Dalaman from April 30 to October 29, 2023. See the full summer schedule at www.corendonairlines.com



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 Thursday, January 26. Solution and new puzzle will appear in the next issue.

The winner for December 9 is Jason Winter, from Charter Travel in Newbury Berks.

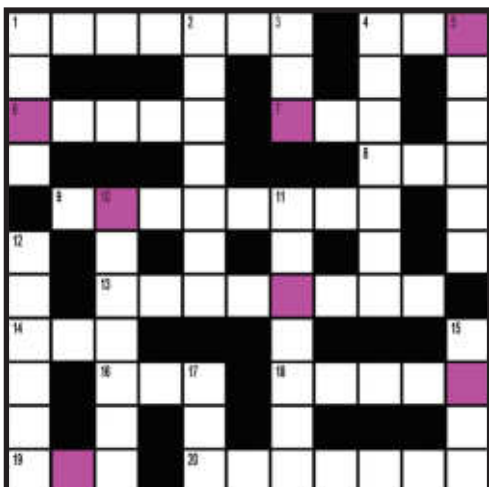
December 9 Solution: A=6 B=8 C=4 D=2

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



The most populated Nordic city, dubbed the 'Venice of the North' welcomed 9 million overnight guests in 2021.

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



Across

- 1 Miami based and part of NCL Holdings, they offer cruises on seven small luxurious ships (7)
- 4 Airline initially, with hub at Václav Havel Airport (3)
- 6 Rome's famous fountain (5)
- 7 London Heathrow international airport code (3)
- 8 Flows through 20 Across (3)
- 9 Capital of American Samoa (4,4)
- 13 Rock guitarist created a knight in the New Year's honours list (5,3)
- 14 Abu Dhabi is the capital (3)
- 16 Popular movie genre, in short ___ Com (3)
- 18 Country nicknamed the "Roof of the World" (5)
- 19 Flag carrier of South Africa, initially (3)
- 20 English city with the oldest racecourse in the world (7)

Down

- 1 Tom Hanks is A Man Called ___ at a cinema near you (4)
- 2 East African capital city (7)
- 3 Auckland international airport code (3)
- 4 Historic Andalusian city on the banks of the Guadalquivir river (7)
- 5 The Acropolis is the most visited tourist attraction in this city (6)
- 10 Canadian province (7)
- 11 Scottish actress, best known for her role as Mrs Meldrew, ___ Crosbie (7)
- 12 Popular city-break destination in Flanders (6)
- 15 Airline alliance (4)
- 17 The largest privately-owned cruise line in the world (3)

CROSSWORD

Across: 1 OCEANIA, 4 CSA, 6 TREVIL, 7 LHR, 8 DEE, 9 PAGO PAGO, 13 BRIAN MAY, 14 UAE, 16 ROM, 18 TIBET, 19 SAA, 20 CHESTER. Down: 1 OTTO, 2 NAIROBI, 3 AKL, 4 CORDOBA, 5 ATHENS, 10 ALBERTA, 11 ANNETTE, 12 BRUGES, 15 STAR, 17 MSC. Mystery Word: ATLANTA Where Am I?: Stockholm



AGENT INSIGHT

SANDRA MURRAY

NORMANTON, YORKSHIRE

HAPPY NEW Year to everyone, I hope you all had a great time and here's hoping 2023 is going to be tons better for us all.

I honestly think that after all that's happened in the last few months it is the time and opportunity for agents to shine. To capitalise on peaks, get some super bargains and different options in your windows, branch out with some new ideas – maybe think about coffee mornings with clients or other promotional events?

Now we are into 2023 let's get planning for the year – just to remind you all the 25th Yorkshire Travel Ball will be on July 20 at the Village Hotel (Junc. 28 on M62) and they have given us a good rate for the night's B&B, do email me for more information. If you haven't got enough people for a table of 10 you can always share and individual tickets are available. E-mail me at s.murray922@btinternet.com for more information and ask your favorite operators if they have booked a table!

The charities we raise money for need us more than ever, and since the first Yorkshire Travel Ball I am pleased to report that we have raised £107,000 for various charities, so well done everyone.

I think after Covid-19 and everything since, people are readier than ever to go on holiday, and especially to try a new type of holiday or travel style. Cruises seem to be more popular than ever – there are lots of cruises and river cruises coming onto the scene, as well as different types of exploring and adventure holidays.

Let's make it a year to remember!

Cultural tour operator Jules Verne begins trade partnerships

JULES VERNE, the cultural escorted tour operator, has officially started working with trade partners to expand its customer reach.

The tour operator currently offers almost 200 tours, including river cruises, for those looking for small-group cultural experiences.

Revoking its past as a direct-to-consumer brand, Jules Verne has set its sights on trade relationships for 2023, already signing with Hays Travel, Travel Counsellors and Co-op Travel to offer a competitive commission level.

Agents can reach out via a trade-dedicated Facebook page (Jules Verne Agents) and email address (agents@jv.co.uk).

News Bites

- ALISON CRYER, founder of Representation Plus, was awarded with an MBE for services to hospitality and tourism as part of the New Year's Honours List.
- MALAYSIA AIRLINES' New Year sale offers return fares from £595 per person, with discounts on Australasia and Southeast Asia flights.
- ORASCOM HOTELS Management's newest property, The Chedi, El Gouna, Red Sea has opened its doors to guests.



INGHAMS HAS kicked off its 'Step into Summer' promotion for 2023, with savings of up to £200 per person available on bookings made by February 5, 2023. For the summer 2023 season, Inghams is offering two free guided walks per week across 10 of its summer destinations. Head of walking product, Laura Mason, said: "Our experienced team and agent partners will ensure guests can make the most of the new booking offer." www.ingham.co.uk

SPICE UP YOUR CARIBBEAN LIFE

Six Senses is debuting a new property in Grenada this year: Six Senses Residences La Sagesse.



SIX SENSES is set to open its first-ever property in the Caribbean later this year on the island of Grenada.

With a focus on wellness, sustainability and experiences, the Six Senses Residences La Sagesse will

Casa de Campo to host new spa and wellness facility

CASA DE Campo Resort and Villages in the Dominican Republic is preparing to open a new spa and wellness centre this year.

The new facility will have an extensive hydrothermal circuit, a sauna, steam room, vitality pool, cold plunge pool, Laconium loungers, outdoor spa pool, private garden and outdoor rain shower.

Best at Travel offers seven nights (all-inclusive) from £1,749 per person, including return flights with British Airways and return airport transfers. This price is based on selected dates between May 1 and October 31, 2023. www.casadecampo.com.do

span a total of 28 acres, with 56 guest rooms, seven one-bedroom villas, and five two-bedroom villas.

The architecture and design will reflect the authenticity of a typical Grenadian village and the gardens around the resort will pay homage to Grenada's history as 'Spice Island' with the inclusion of cocoa, nutmeg plants and more.

In addition, the hotel's spa and wellness offerings are set to include a multitude of age-old Caribbean practices and treatments, while the

multiple on-site restaurants and bars will offer up seasonal fare.

Younger guests are catered for with a teen's lounge and children's play centre, along with a programme of 'Grow With Six Senses' activities, where children are invited to reconnect with nature and gain useful life skills through play.

Alongside the on-site facilities, the island also offers shipwreck dives, waterfalls, spice trails, chocolate factories, hiking, and an underwater sculpture park.

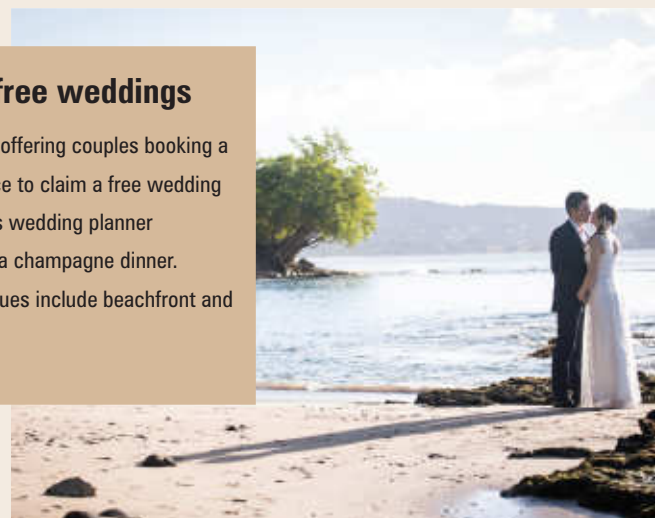
www.sixsenses.com

St Lucian resort offers free weddings

EAST WINDS, the St Lucian resort, is offering couples booking a seven-night (or longer) stay the chance to claim a free wedding package worth US\$1500 that includes wedding planner services, a venue, flowers, cake, and a champagne dinner.

The resort's choice of wedding venues include beachfront and garden gazebos.

www.eastwinds.com



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Please note: JAN125 cannot be used in conjunction with any other promo code at the time of booking. Minimum stay: 7 nights. Prices are correct at time of submission/distribution, are subject to availability and can change or be withdrawn without notice. Available when booking through Unique Caribbean Holidays Ltd. *Based on upgrading from a Riviera Bamboo Grove Deluxe to a Butler Village Poolside One Bedroom Villa Suite at Sandals Ochi in Jamaica in Sep '23. †Applicable when travelling outside of 71 days, with the exception of select suites at Sandals & Beaches and select dates at Beaches. *September 2023 sample price is based on a 7-night holiday to Sandals Ochi, Jamaica, staying in a Riviera Bamboo Grove Deluxe, including flights from London Gatwick with British Airways. Price is per person based on 2 adults sharing.



Savour a sweet tooth in Grenada

THE GRENADA Chocolate Festival is celebrating its 10th anniversary by twinning the delights of chocolate and rum produced on the island.

The Festival will run from May 17-21, 2023, and is a great way of exploring Grenada with visits to cocoa plantations, chocolate factories and rum distilleries as well as waterfalls and beaches.

New activities for 2023 include learning how to make 'under the counter' cocoa-infused Grenadian rum, pairing the fragrance and flavour of chocolate with rum and a cocktail making competition.

True Blue Bay Boutique Resort will be the host hotel, offering guests free access to some events. The festival is open to all visitors to Grenada.

www.grenadachocolatefest.com

Antigua and Barbuda: small-screen stars

ANTIGUA AND Barbuda made a splash on the small screen, starring in the opening episode of 2023's *The Apprentice*.

Cherrie Osborne, director of tourism UK & Europe for the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority said: "This exciting episode will be sure to inspire millions of British travellers to visit the destination for years to come."

Fort Young Hotel adds new rooms, spa and gym

FORT YOUNG Hotel and Dive Resort is putting the finishing touches to a renovation project, which includes the addition of new rooms, spa and gym.

Sixty new ocean-front rooms are due to be added to the current inventory of 40 renovated rooms by early April 2023. There will also be a new reception, art gallery, and courtyard bar as part of the project. The hotel has recently opened the new Zemi Spa and state of the art gym.

The property, situated on the Dominican coast, recently launched the new 'All-Inclusive, Island-Included' experience that includes new experiences every day, connecting visitors to the island and the local community with food and drink packages on offer. Rates for the 'All-Inclusive, Island-Included' option start at



£294 per person per night based on double occupancy in a newly reimagined Oceanfront room.

www.fortyounghotel.com

Cap Maison refreshed with US\$2.5 million refurbishment

CAP MAISON Resort and Spa has recently undergone a \$2.5 million refurbishment, which includes all 50 rooms and suites, the reception, lobby and the Club Room and spa.

The hotel's restaurants have also been renovated along with The Cliff at Cap, which includes a new remodelled bar area

and seating area with a permanent roof awning over the outdoor seating area.

The bar at the Naked Fisherman has also been extended and has new furnishings.

Rates lead in at £526 per room per night based on two people sharing a Garden View room on a half-board basis.

www.capmaison.com



St Kitts: 'Venture Deeper', trade plans, and more

ELLISON 'TOMMY' Thompson, the CEO of the St. Kitt's Tourism Authority, spoke exclusively to *Travel Bulletin* about the potential of the UK market, the destination's new 'Venture Deeper' campaign, and trade interaction plans for 2023.

"We see the UK has an excellent potential growth market for St. Kitts. The consumer research is telling us that consumers are looking for richer and authentic experiences, and new destinations. We're finding that St. Kitts ticks all those boxes."

On exactly how the organisation is going to capitalise on the market, Thompson elaborated: "The strategy that we've got in the UK is to make sure that we're firing on all cylinders, making sure that we've got the advertising in

the marketplace, via the trade, and via social media."



"We have got someone on board to be the face of St. Kitts for the UK trade, they'll be visiting the agents, handling the appropriate sales calls, conducting webinar and in person seminars with agents.

"This year is actually the 40th anniversary of independence in St. Kitts, so we're planning to take 40 travel agents over five trips.

"We also have a travel trade training program that educates the agents on the island, and that's complemented by the £50 year-round booking reward via the St. Kitts rewards program. For every agent who books a holiday to St. Kitts can register it at www.stkittsrewards.com and earn £50."



Wellness at Windjammer Landing

WINDJAMMER LANDING Villa Beach Resort in St Lucia has launched a new programme to support its ethos of holistic wellness and beautiful experiences.

The new wellness programmes taking place are island-inspired, tapping into the tranquility of the Caribbean and invite guests to connect with their mind, body and spirit during their travels.

From Hummingbird Yoga, Full Moon Rituals to three new Detox, Immunity and Weight Loss Retreats, wellness programmes are available daily.

Kuoni offers seven-night stays, including flights with British Airways from London Gatwick, from £2,599 per person, based on a May 2023 departure.

www.windjammer-landing.com



Emerald savings on Caribbean yacht cruises

EMERALD CRUISES' all-new luxury yachts, Emerald Azzurra and Emerald Sakara, will take to the Caribbean and Central America in 2023.

Guests booking by January 31, 2023 can save up to £1,600 per couple and enjoy free Premium Economy flights.

Itineraries include the 10-day 'Eastern Caribbean with St. Barths' sailing, starting from £6,120 per couple, departing in December 2023.

www.emeraldcruiises.co.uk

Image Credits: Top: St. Kitts Tourism Authority, Bottom Left: Windjammer Landing, Bottom Right: Emerald Cruises



Save £125 with Sandals & Beaches

AGENTS CAN save their clients up to £125 in the Sandals & Beaches Resorts sale.

The sale runs across all new bookings to any Sandals or Beaches resorts of seven nights or more when booking by January 31, 2023.

To unlock the savings, quote 'JAN125' at the time of booking. Seven-night stays at the Sandals Grande Antigua, in a Caribbean Honeymoon Grande Luxe Poolside Room, start from £2,145 per person including flights. www.sandals.co.uk



St Lucian savings from Harbor Club

THE HARBOR Club, Curio Collection by Hilton, is offering a free night on seven-night bookings made by February 6, 2023.

The 'Stay Seven Nights, Pay for Just Six' offer is applicable on bookings made for travel up to December 23, 2023. Gold Medal offers seven nights from £1,469 per person, with two adults sharing on a bed-and-breakfast basis.

www.theharborclub.com

Direct flight boosts Cayman Islands' 2023 fortunes

THE CAYMAN Islands is looking forward to a boost in visitors from the UK this year following the launch of a fifth direct weekly flight from Heathrow to Grand Cayman on January 19, 2023. Flights will operate on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The fifth new flight is being operated by British Airways.

Two new hotels are scheduled to open in the Caymans this year. The Vida Ocean Adventure Lodge will focus on healthy adventure with lots of outdoor activities for guests to do.

The property will have 18 individually-designed, apartment-style accommodations that range from studio size to a 2000+-square-foot three-bedroom apartment.

Slated to open in November 2023, Kailani, A Curio Collection by Hilton Hotel is located between George Town and Seven Mile



Beach, with a stylish vibe across its 80 guestrooms, comprising of studios to three-bedroom suites, as well as amenities such as yoga mats and a beverage bar.

Scheduled to open in 2024 is Hotel Indigo Grand Cayman, a 282-room beachfront property with multiple restaurants, a pool deck and a rooftop bar.

www.visitcaymanislands.com

Jamaica to celebrate its musical heritage

JAMAICA IS gearing up for a busy year of events celebrating its great musical history kicking off with 'Songs for the Soul – Back with Bob Marley' as the tourist board encourages travellers to 'Come back to Jamaica'.

In February, music fans will be treated to a dedicated, week-long celebration of reggae. An island-wide celebration of Bob Marley takes over the island from February 1-6, commemorating the life and achievements of the legendary superstar. Festivities begin with a ceremonial laying of a plaque at the Bob Marley Museum in Kingston followed by concerts, lectures, karaoke contests, a fashion show, movies and exhibitions around the city and at the Bob Marley Museum.

From April 12-16, Kingston and Ocho Rios will host the Carnival Jamaica Event Series at multiple venues. This event is an expression of the island's unique spirit, and will feature performances by carnival bands.



The summer sees the arrival of the Reggae Sumfest in Montego Bay from July 16-22. The festival showcases the best of reggae music, and will be featuring multiple lead events across various venues. The first week of August is lined up with events to commemorate Jamaica's independence. The Mobay Jerk & Food Festival will kick off on August 1 followed by a parade and grand gala.

www.visitjamaica.com

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*Resorts are joining World of Hyatt in phases. Learn more at hyatt.com/new.

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MALLORCA GOES ALL IN WITH IKOS RESORTS

The island haven is set to welcome Ikos Resorts' first Balearic property, opening on June 16, 2023.



MALLORCA IS gearing up to welcome a luxurious new opening this year, as hotel group Ikos Resorts opens its first property in the Balearic Islands, Ikos Porto Petro.

The brand's second property in Spain will open its doors to guests from June 16, 2023.

Spread along a kilometre of pristine coastline on the southeast coast of Majorca, Ikos Porto Petro will feature an exclusively serviced beach, five heated pools, spa facilities by Anne Semonin and a selection of à la carte restaurants and bars.

In-resort activities include tennis, table tennis, aqua aerobics, beach volleyball,

yoga and basketball; for guests looking to venture outside of the resort, there are nearby hiking trails, as well as mountain bikes, non-motorised water sports and the Ikos Local Drive Adventure offered by the resort.

Ikos Porto Petro will offer a range of child-friendly experiences for families, including a mini disco, movie nights and child-friendly pools, with waterfront childcare and children's menus.

Elegant Resorts has added the property to its 2023 portfolio. The operator offers seven nights all-inclusive in a family room with a garden view from £9,265 per family of four. The price includes economy flights, private

transfers and UK lounge passes. The price is based on September 9, 2023 departure and two adults and two children sharing.

www.ikosresorts.com/resorts/ikos-porto-petro/

Majorca retreat to welcome back guests following large-scale refit

A HOTEL LOCATED in the foothills of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Tramuntana Mountain will be reopening this spring following a large-scale refurbishment.

The luxury boutique retreat, Son Net, will host 31 guestrooms and suites that showcase original architectural features such as rustic wooden beams, stone floors, and antique fireplaces, in addition to an extensive curated private art collection, an outdoor pool, and an onsite spa. Guests can enjoy the surrounding nature, which includes vineyards and mature forests, with tailored experiences and excursions organised by the hotel team.

www.preferredhotels.com/hotels/spain/s-on-net-opening-spring-2023

All aboard Intravel's Camino rail experience

SLOW HOLIDAY specialists Intravel has introduced a new tour for 2023 – the 'Journey by Rail Along the Camino de Santiago'.

The trip starts in the Biscay Hills, and navigates some of Spain's most dazzling landscapes, passing through the vast plains of the central region to the rivers and slopes of the Ribeira Sacra region and Galicia, finishing in the UNESCO World Heritage city of Santiago de Compostela. The trip also includes visits to four cities: Bilbao, Burgos, Leon, and Montforte de Lemos.

Prices lead in at £1,095 per person based on two sharing.

www.intravel.co.uk



National adds Costa Brava tour

NATIONAL HOLIDAYS has added a new nine-day coach break to the Costa Brava, which will take in the region's golden beaches and many sun-soaked seaside towns and idyllic harbours along the coast.

The new break visits the picturesque town of Tossa De Mar, the beautifully preserved medieval town of Besalú, plus Figueres, the birthplace of artist Salvador Dalí.

For those who want to explore even further, an optional excursion to Barcelona can be added from £22 per person.

This 9-day holiday departs on selected dates in June and September from a range of pick-up points in the north of England.

Prices lead in at £649 per person and include return coach travel and ferry

crossings, six nights' accommodation on the Costa Brava with dinner and breakfast, a free bar from 3pm-10pm, excursions to Tossa de Mar, Besalú and Figueres en route, and return overnights in France on a bed-and-breakfast basis. The price is based on two sharing.

www.nationalholidays.com/agents



Ibiza campaign keeps it in the family

IBIZA HAS launched a new campaign to showcase the island as the ultimate family tourist destination.

The 'Discover our Way of Life' campaign focuses on the island's year-round sunshine and quick accessibility from the UK. Top activities for families include: water sports; discovering secret paths and unusual activities in the great outdoors; and stepping back in time with workshops and rural museums

www.ibiza.travel/



Classic Collection makes a Spanish splash

CLASSIC COLLECTION'S summer 2023 brochure hosts a number of Spanish breaks. According to the operator, the Villa Leblanc brings a new level of luxury to Menorca, while the Costa del Sol features luxurious additions such as La Zambra, SO Sotogrande Resort and METT Hotel and Beach Resort Marbella. High end all-inclusive offerings come courtesy of the new Paradisus Gran Canaria and Ikos Porto Petro in Majorca.

www.classic-collection.co.uk/



Tenerife to welcome four new properties in 2023

FOUR NEW hotels are opening in Tenerife this year, starting with the five-star Tivoli La Caleta in Costa Adeje which will launch in the spring.

The resort will have 284 guest rooms, including 20 suites, four restaurants, two bars and 10 meeting rooms, as well as three swimming pools, a fitness centre, plus tennis and paddle tennis courts.

The property will also be home to an Anantara Spa, a space where ancient spa and wellness traditions are combined with modern techniques, to offer an incomparable experience. The resort was previously operated under the Sheraton brand.

Casa Emblemática Hi Suites will be opening its doors in the capital, Santa Cruz. A heritage hotel, the property dates from the turn of the last century.

The eco-friendly MYND Hotel Adeje will also be opening later this year along with the Hacienda el Terrero in a Canarian hamlet overlooking the ocean on the coast of the municipality of Los Realejos, in the north of the island.

Hacienda el Terrero is an old farmhouse converted into a small rural ecotourism complex, consisting of 12 houses of different sizes.

www.webtenerife.co.uk

DISCOVER DC

Destination DC's President and CEO, Elliott Ferguson, on the importance of the UK trade and hidden DC gems.



TRAVEL BULLETIN spoke to Destination DC's CEO and President, Elliott Ferguson, as the American capital looks to make its mark as a must-do Stateside destination.

On the importance of the UK market, Ferguson explained: "As a destination in the US, the international visitors stay longer and spend more. As we look at recovery, the UK has already been extremely important simply because of the number of non-stop flights. From an international perspective, this is the largest market right now for Washington, DC."

Discussing the board's aims for 2023, Ferguson added: "The goal is always to showcase Washington in a way in which the global community will see its diversity. Of course we've got the three Ms: monuments, memorials, and museums. We're also looking to showcase the experiences that people may not traditionally associate with Washington: theatre, nightlife, outdoor activities, the food scene, sporting events, the walkability of it all, and how green it is. We want to spotlight all these things that visitors often don't expect from DC."

The UK trade carries a similar



significance, as Destination DC's CEO and President elaborated: "Last year alone, we trained over 130 agents, through a mix of virtually on the travel agent training platform and in person. We also launched our 'Meet the

Storytellers' webinar series. That's a little bit different in terms of the types of people that we have training the agents, like local restaurateurs and members of our community.

"We'll be doing more webinars of that ilk in the 'Meet the Storytellers' series this year for agents, and we're running a fam trip in March of this year, in partnership with United Airlines and coinciding with the National Cherry Blossom Festival."

On his personal must-do in DC, Ferguson suggested: "The one thing that I enjoy doing is a bicycle night tour of the city: the sights, the monuments, and the memorials. We also have a large number of theatres, so tying a show into the classic DC experiences with some hidden gems is a must."

New in Newport: 295-room Pendry property

PENDRY HOTELS and Resorts is set to open its newest property in the heart of SoCal's Newport Beach.

The 295-room Pendry Newport Beach will offer 82 suites, three dining options, Spa Pendry, an outdoor pool with sundeck, and meeting and event spaces.

Rooms will boast harbour and bay views.

www.pendry.com/newport-beach/



Rentyl Resorts to increase Orlando capacity by 75% in 2023



RENTYL RESORTS, the world’s first branded residential-resort property blend, is gearing up for a busy 2023 as it prepares to increase its residence numbers by 75% in Orlando.

The Embassy Suites by Hilton is set to open in May at Fins Up Circle, adjacent to Margaritaville Resort Orlando. The 300-unit development will offer studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments alongside a wide range of new facilities.

Spectrum Resort Orlando, alongside Eagle Trace Resort Orlando and The Bear’s Den Resort Orlando, are now available for agents to book via Kenwood Travel and US Airtours for the first time.

Talking about the expansion, Suzy Trott, director of Rentyl Resorts’ retained trade sales agency in the UK, SILVA LINING, said: “This is an exciting time for Rentyl Resorts and

its Orlando property portfolio and we’re delighted that the UK will be able to reap the rewards of such significant expansion. Adding the Hilton brand name to the portfolio speaks to Rentyl Resorts’ success and having it woven into our offering will certainly resonate with UK holidaymakers.

“Margaritaville Resort Orlando and Encore Resort at Reunion are extremely popular within the UK market and we are also excited to see the Eagle Trace Resort Orlando, Spectrum Resort Orlando and The Bear’s Den Resort Orlando coming online with UK operators.”

In total, Rentyl Resorts will see some 75% increase in the residence numbers available across its now six Orlando based properties: Eagle Trace Resort Orlando, Encore Resort at Reunion, the new Embassy Suites by Hilton, Margaritaville Resort Orlando, Spectrum Resort

Orlando and The Bear’s Den Resort Orlando.
www.rentylresorts.com



The modern Moxy Williamsburg to add 216 keys in the Big Apple

BROOKLYN IS welcoming a new hotel in Q1 2023.

The 216-room Moxy Williamsburg has a restaurant serving Israeli and Levantine cuisine; a destination lobby cocktail bar and all-day café; a serene garden courtyard; and an indoor/outdoor rooftop bar whose terrace has views of the Williamsburg Bridge and the Manhattan skyline.

Laid-back luxury - feels as good as it looks.

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A trio in Texas: new 2023 openings

TEXAS IS set to welcome three new properties in the year ahead.

The 17-storey, 126-room Fairfield Inn and Suites is scheduled to open in April in the popular Rainey Street District, less than a mile from the Austin Convention Centre. The high-rise hotel will offer downtown views, a rooftop terrace, balconies and a central location within walking distance to the Austin Convention Centre, attractions, nightlife and dining.

Dutch hotel brand citizenM is set to open its first Texas project later this year. Positioned in downtown Austin, the 17-storey, 344-room property will function as a cultural centre and hub for travellers seeking the best of affordable luxury. Amenities will include a gym, pool and glamorous rooftop bar.

The La Salle Hotel is a historic boutique hotel in Downtown Bryan and was recently acquired by Marriott at a Tribute Portfolio Hotel. The hotel will undergo renovations early this year with a plan to reopen later on in 2023.

www.marriott.co.uk
citizenm.com



Ski in style at the new Buttermilk base area

NEW FOR this season, one of the Aspen Snowmass mountains, Buttermilk, in Colorado, has unveiled a base area with a new fully-electric skier services building, renovated Buttermilk Mountain Lodge restaurant, and an expanded bar and outdoor patio, The Backyard.

This major renovation creates a more seamless experience for guests as they make their way onto the mountain, with an intuitive skier services building with ski school, rentals and ticketing all in one location.

www.aspensnowmass.com

What's your New Year's resolution?

Jeanette Ratcliffe Publisher

jeanette.ratcliffe@travelbulletin.co.uk
To lose weight (it's the same every year!!)



Matthew Hayhoe Editor

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To save more money... there's always next year.



Simon Eddolls Sales Director

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To eat less cheese.



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To travel more.



Tim Podger Account Manager - Far East

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To get fit!



Melissa Paddock Events Coordinator

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To travel more (snap!)



Holly Brown Events Coordinator

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Learn to drive and or buy a car!



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SHOWCASES

INVITES YOU TO AN

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AGENT NETWORKING EVENING

MONDAY 23RD JANUARY - OXFORD

Agents, come and join the Travel Bulletin team and leading suppliers at one of our fun and informative Showcases where you can improve your product knowledge of this beautiful part of the world. The evening will involve lively presentations, as well as amazing hot food, drinks, action packed entertainment and a free prize draw for many lucky winners!

TIMINGS

Registration

6:00^{PM}

Travel Bulletin

Welcome

6:25^{PM}

Client
Presentations

6:30^{PM}

Hot Dinner

7:30^{PM}

Client
Presentations

8:15^{PM}

Product Quiz &
Free Prize Draw

9:15 - 9.30^{PM}

To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by

Monday 16th January to:
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SOUTH AFRICAN TOURISM



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*Spain
and her Islands
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AGENT NETWORKING EVENING

MONDAY 30TH JANUARY - BRISTOL

Agents, come and join the Travel Bulletin team and leading suppliers at one of our fun and informative Showcases where you can improve your product knowledge of this beautiful part of the world. The evening will involve lively presentations, as well as amazing hot food, drinks, action packed entertainment and a free prize draw for many lucky winners!

FEATURING:



To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by **Wednesday 23rd January** to: events@travelbulletin.co.uk or Telephone: **020 7973 0136**

TIMINGS :

Registration	Travel Bulletin Welcome	Client Presentations	Hot Dinner	Client Presentations	Product Quiz & Free Prize Draw
6:00PM	6:25PM	6:30PM	7:30PM	8:15PM	9:15 - 9.30PM



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