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OCEAN & RIVER CRUISING

Sail the seven seas or relax on the river with the offers making waves through the industry.



The latest launches, enticing itineraries and more from across the pond.

SOLITUDE ON THE SEAS

Recent research has found that solo travellers prefer an escape at sea.

SOLO TRAVELLERS are bidding 'bon voyage' to land-based holidays as research carried out by Cruise.co.uk has found that more holidaymakers are going it alone on the high seas.

800 people were surveyed and the study found that two thirds (70%) of those questioned would choose to embark on a cruise as opposed to a land-based holiday for a solo trip.

The research also found that 40% of those at employment age would consider taking their work on board with them while working remotely. In the post-pandemic world, hybrid working has skyrocketed in popularity, and cruises offer a unique alternative to those 'working from home' days, creating a convenient way to combine work with pleasure.

When it comes to the preferred destination for solo travellers to embark on their cruise, more than half of those asked said that sailing from the UK to Europe was their top pick for a solo getaway. 32% decided to set their sights further afield and opt to sail in the azure waters of the Caribbean, spending their 'me time' lapping up the rays and witnessing one of the world's most diverse regions for marine life.

Tony Andrews, Cruise.co.uk managing director, commented: "It is clear that cruising is becoming increasingly popular for solo travellers, offering a convenient and safe way to explore the world. Cruises provide so much on board through their entertainment, spa facilities and restaurant choices.

"When combined with the ability to see multiple destinations in the safety and comfort of a cruise ship, it's clear why a holiday at sea is the preferred choice for solo travel."

For all the latest cruising news across the world, check out the Cruising feature on page 13 of this issue! www.cruise.co.uk



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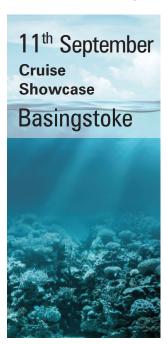
Showcase Calendar

Sign up to our showcases: www.travelbulletin.co.uk/events/agents









Explore Geneva to win big

GENEVA TOURISM has launched its summer campaign by inviting travellers to explore the unexpected sides of the city and win a complimentary weekend for two. Participants must share their favourite activities with Geneva Tourism to be in with a chance to win.

Travellers are urged to discover the hidden wonders of Geneva, from paddle boarding and wakeboarding in the lakes with spectacular mountain views as the backdrop, to enjoying open-air theatres with a loved one and indulging on diverse cuisines. Nature enthusiasts can take a stroll through the parks, take day trips cycling through the countryside, or hike in Moulinde-Vert nature reserve.

www.geneve.com





Balkan launches bustling brochure

BALKAN HOLIDAYS has launched its Summer 2024 brochure, complete with the operator's largest portfolio of Bulgarian holidays on offer for a great value, as well as holidays to Croatia, Montenegro and Slovenia. The brochure contains details on Balkan Holidays' new five-star allinclusive hotels in Sunny Beach and St Vlas.

Chris Rand, marketing manager, said: "Our holidays to Bulgaria continue to be very popular... we look forward to working with our trade partners to make summer 2024 a real success."

www.balkanholidays.co.uk

Jet2.com hits the slopes with Winter 2024/25 programme

SEVEN OF Jet2's ski destinations are now on sale from 10 of its UK bases for its winter 2024/25 programme.

Jet2.com is giving skiers and snowboarders an early choice of skiing destinations in response to strong demand from snow sports fans eager to secure their place on the slopes.

Seven ski destinations (Chambery, Geneva, Grenoble, Salzburg, Innsbruck, Lyon and Turin) are on sale from December 2024 to March 2025.

Steve Heapy, Jet2.com CEO, said: "With seven top ski destinations on sale, it means skiers and snowboarders can book ahead and get access to some of the best ski resorts in the world. With so many customers wanting to book ahead, we are anticipating the early release of the programme to be extremely popular and are confident of another successful and busy ski season next winter." www.jet2.com



Jungfrau - Top of Europe

From Grindelwald Terminal to the Jungfraujoch in just 45 minutes! Take the new Eiger Express tricable car from Grindelwald Terminal to the Eigergletscher and from there continue to Europe's highest railway station.

JUNGFRAU TOP OF EUROPE

Here, icy air sweeps over your face and the panorama almost takes your breath away: on one side the view towards Germany and the Vosges, on the other the Aletsch Glacier, lined with four thousand meter peaks. Standing on the Jungfraujoch 3,454 metres above sea level, you can feel it with your first step: this is a different world. It's one you have to experience.



Immerse yourself in the high alpine wonderland of ice, snow and rock and discover the highlights of the Jungfraujoch - Top of Europe, the highest railway station in Europe.

- + From the Sphinx Terrace you can enjoy a magnificent view of the longest glacier in the Alps, towards Italy, France and Germany.
- + On a mirror-smooth tour through a frosty world, you will discover enchanting sculptures in the niches of the Ice Palace.



You gently float up to First in the security of the gondola. But then it gets airy: On the two Flying Fox version, First Flieger and First Glider, at up to 80km per hour, on the suspension bridge of the First Cliff Walk or on the agile Mountain Carts or Trottibike scooters with the wind in your hair.

You simply cannot plan adventure. You find one. On First that is a certainty.



If Interlaken had a king, he would reside on the Harder Kulm. From the viewing platform at 1,322 metres above sea level he would graciously look down upon Lake Brienz and Lake Thun, or admire the Eiger, Mönch, and Jungfrau.

In fact, the Harder Kulm Panorama Restaurant is reminiscent of a castle. In order to visit it, however, you don't need to be a king just take a seat in the funicular and ascend Interlaken's own mountain.

> To book, order brochures or talk anything Switzerland

CALL: 020 7420 4900 sales@stc.co.uk switzerlandtravelcentre.com





THE JG Travel Group has tripled capacity on its long-stay, no-fly winter sun programme to the Costa Blanca due to high levels of demand.

For the first time this Winter, the Calpe resort will be featured in the programme, as well as more departure dates to Benidorm that ever before.



In previous years, only one date has been offered in January for the 'Winter sun in Benidorm' itinerary, but due to unprecedented demand over the past year, three dates are now available with new November and February options.

Claire Dutton, trade sales manager at JG Travel Group, said: "Benidorm has always had year-round appeal and now the addition of nearby Calpe, we now have even more choice. When you work out the price per day it offers incredible value and I urge agents to ensure they always promote this in any marketing."

Available through National Holidays and Just Go! each coach holiday lasts 29 days and offers six excursions to allow travellers to explore the towns and unspoilt beaches of Spain's 'White Coast'.

www.nationalholidays.com

www.justgoholidays.com



NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has launched its Solo Traveller Collection, offering exclusive tours for guests holidaying alone. The collection features 25 long- and short-haul holidays, with five specially curated itineraries exclusively for solo travellers. Additionally, 20 of the operator's existing tours in the UK, Europe and worldwide have been adapted to offer no single supplements on selected departure dates.

Manchester Airport test-pilots apprenticeship scheme

MANCHESTER AIRPORT has announced a first-of-its-kind apprenticeship scheme which will create a new route for future aviation specialists to begin their career.

The two-year 'Aviation Management' scheme will give students first-hand experience of all the elements integral to airport operations. The scheme was developed by Manchester Airports Group as part of its long-term commitment to

delivering education and skills training across the regions its serves.

Delivered in partnership with Trafford College, the apprenticeship will be the equivalent of a foundation degree or the first year of an undergraduate degree. Manchester Airport will act as a test pilot, and if successful, a further rollout will be introduced to both London Stansted and East Midlands Airports.

G Adventures brings on the world

G ADVENTURES has launched a brand campaign to highlight the travel experiences, deep connections and world-changing ethos the company stands for. 'Bring on the World' features a new anthem video that showcases travellers who want to step outside their comfort zone and learn something new about the world. The campaign will run across TV and radio channels in the UK throughout June and July.

"We've learned so much over the past three years and this is our opportunity to embrace the world in a thoughtful way. This campaign seeks to inspire people to do the same. It's time to Bring on the World," said Kyle Jordan, director of brand and creative.





Queensland renames Fraser Island

THE QUEENSLAND Government has announced the official renaming of Fraser Island to its traditional name of 'K'gari' to formally recognise the Butchulla People's connection to the land and the creation story of the island that has been passed down for generations.

AGENT INCENTIVES

- EXPLORE AND expand your USA knowledge this June by completing badges on the USA Discovery Program to win a prize in the Big Badge Bonanza! Each badge counts as a new entry and each agent must have completed up to four badges/have four entries to be in with a chance to win the big prizes of a £250 Amazon gift voucher. Register or log-in to USADiscoveryProgram.co.uk and complete as many badges as you can to be in with a chance to win: Two badges for a chance to win one of five £50* Amazon gift vouchers; three badges for a chance to win one of four £150* Amazon gift vouchers; four badges or more for a chance to win one of three £250* Amazon gift vouchers (*or the equivalent in Euros). Competition ends June 30th.
- PRESTIGE TRAVEL has kicked off its largest ever incentive. Any agents booking a Prestige holiday between June 1st and October 16th, 2023 will be in with a chance of winning a £10,000 Prestige voucher for a holiday of their own. The winner will be announced on November 1st, 2023. www.prestigetravel.co.uk
- WEEKLY PRIZES are available throughout the remainder of June with Ambassador Cruise Line. A range of prizes are up for grabs, including a sevennight cruise. Agents must make a booking to be in with a chance, and must email their name, agency, ABTA number, and proof of booking to competitions@ambassador cruiseline.com.
- INSPIRING SUMMER+ offers monthly prize draws for booking agents, with June offering a five-night stay at the O2 Beach Club & Spa. www.itcagents.co.uk

AGENT



LOS ANGELES Tourism hosted 25 Travel Counsellors at 'Discover LA in a Day', held at the Biltmore Mayfair Hotel in London. **Partnering with Universal Studios** Hollywood, SoFi Stadium, United Airlines and the Garland Hotel, the event provided training on all things LA and included a special dinner and overnight stay.

Mobiletin

Win a seven-night stay for two to Corsica with flights and transfers courtesy of Serenity Holidays!

Find out more at www.travelbulletin.co.uk/competi tions

AGENT TRAINING

- AGENTS REGISTERING for and completing Rocky Mountaineer's online training programme TRACKS before September 30th will be in with a chance of winning a two-day rail trip in Western Canada or the US Southwest. www.rockymountaineer.com /travel-trade
- BECOME A part of the journey with AlUla's Beginners Training Course to learn more about the region's heritage and find out what is in store for the future. Agents who complete the course before September 2023 have the chance to win a £100 Amazon voucher every month.
- www.alulaspecialist.com
- AGENTS CAN become an Italian specialist by completing the Italy Online Training course and gain first hand tips and tricks in selling the destination to clients. The platform is made up of four modules covering **UNESCO** World Heritage sites, the arts, gastronomy and much more. Upon completion, agents will be able to download an 'Italy Specialist Certificate' and be in with a chance to win some unique prizes. www.italyonlinetraining.co.uk
- MAKE THE most out of the Sandos Smart Agents programme which features online training, a rewards system, in-depth information about Sandos Hotels & Resorts accommodation, all the latest offers for clients and agent assistance. Not only can agents become a certified Sandos Specialist, the platform will also be accessible to log bookings for the chance to win a free www.sandossmartagents.com
- COMPLETE THE Kennedy Space Center UK Travel Agent Training Programme to claim complimentary entrance passes to the visitor complex. The online training platform offers three lessons covering everything agents need about elevating the space experience to the next

www.onlinetraveltraining.com

Radisson Hotels makes Antalya debut

RADISSON HOTEL Group has announced the opening of the Radisson Blu Hotel Kaş, the brand's first property in Antalya, Turkey. This milestone opening marks a significant step forward in the Group's mission to expand its presence in Turkey to more than 45 properties.



The hotel features 50 rooms and suites inspired by the Mediterranean with garden or sea views as well as either a balcony or a private pool for guests to kick back and relax while taking in the serene landscape. The property will offer a variety of culinary endeavours at its à la carte restaurant, Zeugma, showcasing mouth-watering local Turkish cuisine, and at the Terasu'shi Restaurant, guests can savour the flavours of classic Asian dishes. The property also features a sophisticated spa and treatment centre.

Radisson Blu Hotel Kaş general manager, Ümit
Tibukoğlu, said: "It is a great pleasure to open the first
Radisson Blu hotel in the stunning Antalya Kaş region.
Our team is excited to extend our signature hospitality and provide memorable experiences to all our guests."
www.radissonhotels.com



TEL AVIV commemorated the 25th anniversary of its renowned Pride Parade on June 8th, in what is known as the largest Pride event in the Middle East. Tel Aviv Global & Tourism showcased a vibrant Pride float in collaboration with leading drag queen Erika Kisterika Genderika, representing the next generation of drag. The event saw thousands of people lining the streets to show the city's committment to diversity and inclusivity.

Inghams offers 40% savings on Whistler hotels

INGHAMS HAS teamed up with Air Canada and Whistler to bring guests some unmissable early booking offers for the 2023/2024 ski season.

Guests can save up to 40% on select Whistler hotels and will receive a \$250 dining voucher per booking if the holiday is booked before August 31th, 2023 for 10 nights or more. All flights booked with Air Canada for the season will also receive a free ski carriage,

including a ski and booth bag.

Some of the Whistler hotels included in the offer are the Crystal Lodge, Blackcomb Spring Suites, Hotel Aava, Listel Hotel Whistler, Delta Whistler Village Suites, Hilton Whistler Resort & Spa, and Fairmont Chateau Whistler.

Whistler is rated as North America's best ski resort and offers visitors high thrills on more than 200 trails spread out between two peaks. www.inghams.co.uk

Antigua and Barbuda launch 'Why Choose' campaign

THE ANTIGUA and Barbuda Tourism Authority is launching a new TV and digital campaign to promote the unique twin-island destination to travellers.

Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of Tourism, Charles Fernandez, said: "Our people are our tourism ambassadors, and this is easily recognised through the passion and enthusiasm displayed by the Antiguans and Barbudans within this campaign as they proudly speak about their experiences that travellers can have when they visit our country."

The advert 'Why Choose' will run across key travel markets, including the US, Canada, and the UK, and will also appear in print, media and digital platforms. www.visitantiguabarbuda.com





Rocksino by Hard Rock to open this summer

HARD ROCK International will open its one-of-a-kind property, The Rocksino, in the Black Hills
National Forest in South Dakota on August 8th, 2023. The property blends together a boutique hotel, casino and classic rock-and-roll Hard Rock experiences.

www.hardrockhotels.com

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

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3×3 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 email 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, June 29th. Solution and new puzzle will appear next week.

The winner for June 2nd is Matthew Johnson from Midcounties Coop Travel.

June 2nd Solution: A=7 B=8 C=1 D=2

Α	5			4			6		7
				5	7			9	
	7		4			6		2	3
В	8		1		4		2		
	9			7		8			1
С			2		5		7		9
	4	5	- 10	2			1		8
		3	20		9	5			
D	2		6			4			5



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

Across

- 1 City known as the culinary capital of Ireland (4)
- 3 Currency of Mauritius (5)
- 6 City home of the European Parliament (10)
- 8 Code for Amsterdam Schiphol airport (3)
- 10 Apia is the capital (5)
- 11 Probably best known for their TT races, initially (3)
- 12 Polynesian kingdom (5)
- 13 Water barrier (3)
- 14 Recent FA Cup winners City (10)
- 17 Cruise company, sounds like a Spanish beach area (5)
- 18 Singer/songwriter Young (4)

Down

- 1 Long-running TV medical drama (8)
- 2 Rarotonga international airport code (3)
- 3 Brazilian city, in short (3)
- 4 Glastonbury's iconic stage, sounds like it should be in Egypt (7)
- 5 Holiday isle in the Bay of Naples famed for its thermal spas (6)
- 7 Fred Olsen cruise ship, sounds fit for a King and Oueen (8)
- 9 Operator specialising in all-inclusive Caribbean holidays (7)
- 10 Emoji with a happy face (6)
- 15 Flag carrier of the Czech Republic, initially (3)
- 16 Major travel and tourism company (3)

CROSSWORD

NEWS BULLETIN

JUNE 16 2023 | travelbulletin.co.uk



SANDRA MURRAY

NORMANTON, YORKSHIRE

10

WELL IT has been one of those months! I hope you all have had a better one. I'm waiting for injections into my back for my arthritis, the pain is constant. I normally got to Crete about now but daren't book anything in case they send me for my injections! Another thing, I was driving along and noticed a lorry coming towards me and suddenly a huge stone the size of a brick hurtling towards me at face level! It hit my windscreen and smashed it but luckily it was lined so it didn't hit my face. I was surprised how many people asked if I chased the driver, did they not think I had other things on my mind? I'm not mentioning all this for the sympathy vote, just to let you know that these things happen, and it is okay to mention it to your customers – you might be surprised how much advice you get back.

Well, it is getting closer to July 20th – the Yorkshire Travel Ball – I still have some tickets and a couple of tables left so please do pass on the word. There are a lot of charities relying on our help and it has been a horrendous year for them all, generous Yorkshire has raised £207,000 in the last 24 years which I think is a fantastic effort.

I read an interesting article by WHICH about scams and trying to protect ourselves. If you are looking at a holiday company website, make sure it has the prefix 'https' at the start, the 's' is for security and extra protection – I think that is a very useful tip. If it looks too good to be true, or if you're unsure, I usually check the website reviews.

Is it just me or are travellers becoming ruder and more aggressive on flights? There seems to be many more 'touch downs' and diversions, all of which cost a lot of money, and I think we need to be a bit stricter on punishments. It must be horrendous for the flight staff and pilots.

Email: s.murray922@btinternet.com for any questions or comments.

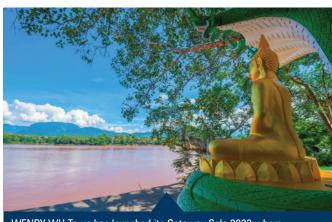


ACCOR HAS strengthened its commitment to sustainable tourism through partnerships with Green Key and Green Globe. These programmes, recognised by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC), evaluate hotels based on sustainability pillars. By endorsing sustainable certification, Accor empowers travellers and promote sustainable destination approaches.

In Marseille, Accor is determined to have all city hotels certified by 2024, aligning with regional ambitions. The partnerships will help Accor reach the target of 100% of their network eco-certified by 2026.

News Bites

- RIVIERA TRAVEL is offering savings of up to £2,000 on two of its most popular European itineraries.
- LUSSO TRAVEL has launched its USA brochure as demand for luxury holidays stateside grows.
- CRUISE LINES International Association has confirmed details of its largest-ever specialist cruise programme.



WENDY WU Tours has launched its Getaway Sale 2023 where travellers can save up to £500 per person on worldwide tours. Whether holidaymakers want to experience the incredible landscapes of Japan in the Autumn, or explore the waterways of the iconic Mekong, their is something for everybody to enjoy. The offer ends June 30, 2023. www.wendywutours.co.uk

JUNE 16 2023 | travelbulletin.co.uk STAR AWARDS

Travel Bulletin is proud to present the latest

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Travelsphere

TRAVELSPHERE IS delighted to be acting as an entertainment sponsor of the *Travel Bulletin* Star Awards 2023. The event promises to be a star-studded evening of celebration with some amazing prizes to be won, we can't wait to see you there!

For more than 60 years Travelsphere has been creating guided tours to destinations around the world. We help travellers discover amazing and authentic experiences by immersing them in those special moments with other like-minded travellers. Whether it's an escape in Europe or a getaway to a farflung destination, Travelsphere has a holiday to suit every traveller. From irresistible Italy and captivating Croatia to an adventure in the

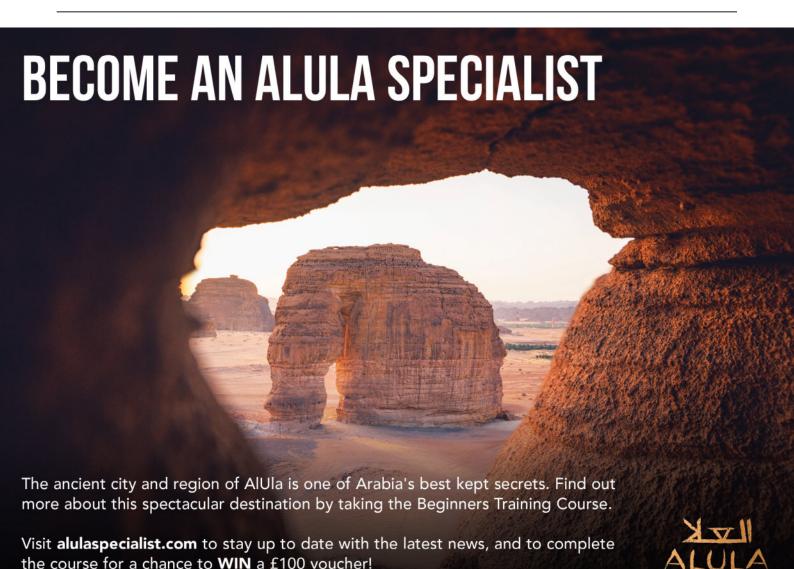
Americas, Africa, Asia and beyond – we do everything we can to make sure we deliver the holiday of a lifetime, every time.

Our expert Holiday Directors and Local Guides take customers beyond the guidebook to discover the hidden gems of a destination as well as visiting the must-see sights, making sure they get the most out of every tour. Our Travelsphere Cares programmes support local projects and social enterprises by helping them earn an income from tourism. We simply donate a portion of the funds from our tours, so it's great to know that our customers are creating a positive impact and helping to change lives of others.

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New qualifying bookings made for any open for sale 3+ night sailings made between 16 and 29 June 2023 for individual FIT reservations and new created qualifying groups (delegates with names) for all stateroom categories. Cannot be held as a new or existing traditional or group block (except 35% discount). Not applicable to affinity / FS group types (except 35% discount). Free at Sea upgrade charge depends on cruise length – £199pp for cruises of 9-11 days. 3rd and 4th guest pay taxes only available on select sailings, and only valid where 1st and 2nd guests on booking pay full fare. 35% cruise discount applies to total cruise only fare cost of all guests subject to exceptions below. 35% offer not applicable to charter or inaugural sailings. Single occupants paying 200% of voyage fare qualify. Up to £250 per person air credit applies to first and second guests (inc single guests) on reservation. Bookings in Balcony staterooms and above receive £250 per person air credit. Bookings in Oceanview staterooms and below (inc IX, OX, BX and MX) receive £125 per person air credit. For new individual FIT (gross) reservations only for select open for sale sailings. Air credit will be applied against cost of flights selected at the time of booking using NCL's interactive air only. Fly and Cruise bookings only, not applicable to cruise only. Not applicable to any other guests on the booking or to child or infant prices. New individual FIT reservations cannot be moved into an existing speculative / traditional / gross group. Cannot be held as a group block and is not combinable with Interline or net rates. Offer is capacity controlled and can be withdrawn at any time. All offers: limits, conditions, restrictions and exclusions apply. Offers non-transferable, non-refundable, have no monetary value and cannot be substituted or customised. **Lead prices are shown in £GBP and based on cruise only and dual occupancy including government taxes, port expenses and fees. NCL reserves the right to correct any errors, inaccuracies or omissions and to change or update fares, fees and surcharges at any time without prior notice. General excise tax (GET), discretionary onboard service charges and gratuities additional. Offers non-transferable, non-refundable, have no monetary value and cannot be substituted or customised. Offers and combinability subject to availability. Full terms and booking conditions available at ncl.com. NCL (Bahamas) Ltd, UK Office, Mountbatten House, Grosvenor Square, Southampton, SO15 2JU. @2023 NCL Corporation Ltd. Ships' Registry: Bahamas and USA. 1070950 06/23

OCEAN CRUISING



DON THE finest outfits and get ready to celebrate like an A-Lister as Princess Cruises has announced the name of its second Sphere Class cruise ship, Star Princess, which will sail her inaugural season of the Mediterranean in August 2025.

Star Princess will join Sun Princess as the largest ships ever built for the

The future of cruising begins at sea

UNWTO IS working with the MSC
Foundation to deliver a series of
educational courses on board the
company's first LNG-powered ship, MSC
Euribia. The initiative will see the
creation of the MSC Foundation Youth
Lab on board the eco-ship, where core
programmes such as 'GYTS for MSC: A
Sustainable Future for Our Next
Generations' will take place.

The programme will deliver 12 daily two-hour activity sessions on key subjects ranging from ocean health, recycling and climate change, all encompassed by the 'sustainability challenge' theme.

www.mscfoundation.org

company, celebrating the romance of the sea and offering a more intimate setting while being 20% larger than the rest of the fleet. The ship will also be the second in the Princess fleet to be powered by LNG fuel technology.

Princess Cruises has also announced its 2025 European programme as the company celebrates its 40th anniversary sailing the Mediterranean. Headlining alongside her sister ship, *Star Princess* will take guests on a European adventure they will never forget.

Star Princess' maiden voyage will depart August 4th, 2025, for a nine-day Italy & Greece roundtrip cruise from Rome, followed by a variety of 10-day cruises visiting iconic Mediterranean destinations such as Florence, Barcelona and Mykonos.

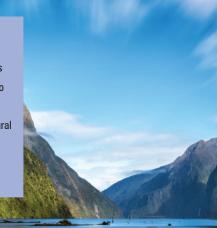
Both Sphere Class cruise ships offer next-generation features to elevate the travelling experience, including accommodation for 4,300 guests, 1,500 balconies to take in the peaceful serenity and 29 restaurants to cater to every pallet.

A glass sphere unites the groundbreaking design, illuminating the Piazza with light, reflecting the dynamic views of the world to the guests. Both ships also house a standout venue, The Dome, an entertainment space inspired by the cliffs of Santorini so the feel of the Mediterranean is never far from reach. www.princess.com

Take the Scenic route in luxury

SCENIC LUXURY Cruises & Tours has released full details of its 2024/25 ocean cruising programme, featuring 60 departures to 355 destinations across 46 countries. Guests will be able to experience Australia's indigenous culture, New Zealand's natural beauty, the World Heritage sites along the Pacific Islands, and the culinary masterclasses waiting in the Mediterranean.

www.sceniceclipse.com





Our Sailors scored epic savings. First Mates earned more commission. So we brought back our airfare credit offer — but not for long. We're offering up to £1000 in voyage credits to offset your Sailors' airfare on all Mediterranean sailings through October 2023, making it even easier for them to experience our amazing voyages in Europe this summer and fall.



We have been nominated for two Star Awards, please vote for us!



JUNE 16 2023 | travelbulletin.co.uk OCEAN CRUISING

The curious case of Silversea's biggest seafaring adventure

HAILED AS its most diverse and immersive cruise to date, Silversea Cruises has unveiled details on its 140-day World Cruise 2026, 'The Curious and the Sea', which promises to connect travellers with the rich history of navigation that led ancient explorers to sail the seven seas.

Guests will embark on January 6th, 2026 from Fort Lauderdale on the *Silver Dawn* before travelling deep into 70 destinations across 37 countries – the most ever on a Silversea World Cruise.

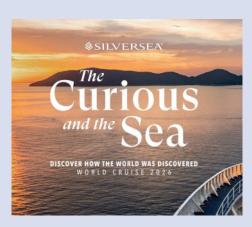
"Appealing to the curious traveller within, we are inviting our guests to experience our planet's beauty with new eyes, while celebrating the rich history of navigation," said Barbara Muckermann, President and CEO of Silversea Cruises.

The odyssey will see guests follow in the footsteps of the great seafarers of the past by traversing onto untouched islands in the South Pacific, sailing in the waters of the ancient Silk Road trade route, and

witnessing the lands that inspired scientific progression, including western Australia which attracted Charles Darwin in 1836.

Priceless experiences await as Silversea destination experts have curated a selection of World Cruise events to highlight the rich cultures and heritages that make up our world and celebrate the differences by uniting together. General sale for the once-in-a-lifetime cruise will open on June 22nd, 2023.

www.silversea.com





Havila sets sail for sustainability

HAVILA VOYAGES sets its sights on an ambitious carbon-neutral future as the company has launched its first ever sustainability and human rights report. The report outlined Havila's plans to be carbon neutral by 2028, as well as its desire to launch an emission-free coastal route by 2030 – all of which is attainable with its current fleet.

"We believe that our sustainable approach to coastal tourism and our focus on climate and the environment are a positive contribution to the transition to a zero-emission society. We look forward to continuing our journey and doing our part to make tourism and shipping more sustainable socially and environmentally," said Havila Voyages CEO, Bent Martini. www.havilavoyages.com



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Croatia's superyacht for super prices

SAIL IN bespoke luxury as Sail Croatia has launched its 2024 programme where guests can cruise on a superyacht from £719 per person. The seven-day 'Spilt to Dubrovnik Explorer' cruise allows guests the chance to sip cocktails in a 15th century turret in Korcula and visit the Blue Cave in Vis, all the while relaxing on the floating luxurious haven of the MS Katarina. The vessel features spacious sun decks and a terrace lounge and bar, boasting the perfect opportunity for guests to enjoy the sun setting over the Adriatic. www.sail-croatia.com



Ambassador launches huge June sale

AMBASSADOR CRUISE Line is offering guests the 'warmest welcome at sea' as it launches its June Sales Campaign, complete with fantastic discounts, solo offers and onboard credit worth up to £500 on all new bookings until July 3rd, 2023. Some of the campaign highlights include single supplements as low as 30% for solo travellers and kids travel for £1 on select multi-generational sailings.

www.ambassadorcruiseline.com



JOIN US FOR A YEAR TO REMEMBER



SAIL FROM £699pp

Our recent savings offer proved very popular with many guests booking their 2023 holidays at great prices. We have extended our savings on a selection of upcoming cruises with sailings from only £699pp. Your customers can experience the beauty, charm and history of the Mediterranean marvel at Norway's majestic fjords, or see the British Isles from a whole new perspective for less when booked by 31st July 2023.



Sail our smaller ships

Our elegant, smaller ships are spacious and uncrowded, with lots of restaurants and lounges for guests to relax in. Smaller also means we can journey to places the bigger ships can't reach.



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Meticulously crafted by our Journey Planners, our itineraries take in the cultural and natural highlights of each destination. Whether that's the Sete Cidades crafter or Northern Europe's stunning architecture.



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Travel in the best of company

There's a phrase we say in Norwegian – 'I det beste selskap' – which means 'In the best of company'. And, on a cruise with Fred. Olsen, our guests really are. From our warm and friendly atmosphere, to journeying with like-minded travellers.



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Share an experience or memory from a ship visit or educational Funny questions or requests you have had about Fred. Olsen!

Photos of your window displays

Any exclusive Fred. Olsen events you've held

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michelle.tingley@fredolsen.co.uk

Visit our Travel Agent Centre at fredolsencruises.com/agent



To join our Trade Facebook group, simply scan this code with your device



Hurtigruten plots a course to zero

IN THE lead up to its 130th anniversary, Hurtigruten Norway has unveiled its initial concept for its first zero-emission ship which will launch in 2030, paving the way for the entire fleet to follow over time.

Under the project name 'Sea Zero', the future ships will harness electric power and be equipped with batteries that are charged with renewable energy when in port. Combining 60MW battery solutions with wind technology, the ship is expected to pioneer the industry into the future of cruising.

www.hurtigruten.co.uk



Set sail on a Grand Voyage of a lifetime

BOOKINGS ARE now open for Holland America's newest Grand Voyages, 'Grand Voyage Pole-to-Pole' and 'Grand World Voyages', both of which will depart in January 2025.

"Our team put together two amazing Grand Voyages so our guests can't go wrong with either. We're excited to offer two distinctly different, yet equally bucket-list itineraries," said Beth Bodensteiner, Holland America Line's chief commercial officer. www.hollandamerica.com

Olympic dips its toe into cruising waters

EXPLORE THE Med like never before as Olympic Holidays launches its inaugural cruise product which combines the joys of island-hopping across the azure waters with the exhilaration of exploring ancient landmarks and bustling cities.

The product allows travellers to twin
Athens with either a three- or four-day
cruise to Greece and Turkey, exploring the
history of the islands, enjoying the
Mediterranean lifestyle and sampling
authentic delicacies.

Michael Vinales, managing director of Olympic Holidays, said: "Following the successful launch and huge appetite we're seeing for our Island-Hopping experiences, our two new cruise itineraries offer guests an alternative way to set sail and explore.

"Dipping our toes into the cruise market and offering this type of experience was the next logical step for us. Not only is it great to expand our portfolio but it goes further to cement our place in the marketplace as the experts in creating bespoke holiday island experiences."

The Cruise & Stay holiday package starts from £1,415 per person, with departures available from June 8th, 2023. www.olympicholidays.com



Viking heads to the polar north

VIKING CRUISES is setting sail for the Arctic as the cruise line has announced three new summer expedition voyages which will debut in July 2025 and will take guests on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the Canadian High Arctic.

The 13-day 'Into the Northwest Passage' sails roundtrip from Nuuk, Greenland, and features destinations including the pristine waters of the Ilulissat Icefjord and the famed Northwest Passage in Pond Inlet, Canada. The 15-day 'Canada & Greenland Explorer'



offers the same dramatic landscapes, but sails between Toronto and Nuuk, while the 27-day 'Canada & the Northwest Passage' combines the two for a more in-depth exploration of the polar north. Sailing dates for the three itineraries are available for July to September 2025.

Torstein Hagen, chairman of Viking, said: "Our guests are curious travellers who are eager to explore new and different regions of the world in Viking comfort.

"From the time of Leif Eriksson and the original Vikings, Greenland and the Canadian High Arctic have fascinated intrepid explorers. Today, there is no better way to experience this pristine area of the world than from the comfort of our purpose-built expedition ships."

The expeditions will take place on the cruise line's Polar Class ships, *Viking Octantis* and *Viking Polaris*.

www.vikingcruises.co.uk

RIVER CRUISING

GENERATION GREEN

Amadeus is set to roll out the next generation of 'green' cruise ships.



AMADEUS RIVER Cruises is set to roll out a new generation of passenger ships on the Rhine and the Danube from Spring 2024 with the introduction of *Amadeus Nova* which will be fully equipped with the latest generation engines that aim to significantly reduce emissions.

Amadeus Nova will have four decks, 12 spacious suites with balconies, 67 exterior cabins mainly with panoramic windows that can be lowered, wind-protected lounge areas, an open Café Vienna, spa and fitness areas and a heated pool on the sun deck. Alongside the luxurious facilities, the vessel will be equipped with a hybrid diesel-electric drive to eliminate pollutants, as well as feature solar panels and an innovative heat recovery system to reuse heat in public areas. The combination of modern luxury

with innovative technology has brought forward a new and environmentally conscious way of travelling.

Wolfgang Lüftner, founder and managing director, said: "Amadeus Nova is our response to the question of whether you can combine ship comfort with environmental awareness. With the new generation, we want to offer the most progressive and environmentally friendly technology currently available. Thus, Amadeus Nova truly reflects our commitment to sustainable travel.

"The ship maintains all the characteristics for which the Amadeus fleet is famous and offers customers a new style of luxury cruising."

www.amadeus-rivercruises.co.uk

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Riviera raises a free glass to its guests

RIVIERA TRAVEL has added a free 'Superior' drinks package to all of its 2024 European river cruises worth £400 per person, per week, marking the first time the cruise line has offered complimentary drinks for an entire season. The package allows guests to enjoy unlimited drinks from a selection of house wines, draught beers, house spirits, soft beverages and more. 'Enhanced' drinks packages are also available on river cruises departing in July and August 2023.



www.rivieratravel.co.uk

Chef legend to host Amazon River cruises

AQUA EXPEDITIONS will run a series of chef-hosted departures with Peruvian legend Pedro Miguel Schiaffino on board Amazon River cruises from October 10-14, 2023. Schiaffino creates Peruvian-Japanese Nikkei cuisine combining native ingredients with traditional cooking techniques. Guests will be able to explore one of the world's most biodiverse regions while enjoying mouthwatering delicacies.

AmaWaterways goes red, white and rosé in latest itinerary

WINE ENTHUSIASTS rejoice as AmaWaterways unveils its latest itinerary which promises to tantalise the taste buds of any aspiring wine connoisseur.

'Flavours of Burgundy' will debut in 2024, where guests will visit some of France's most iconic vineyards and charming chateaux as they sample the best the region has to offer

From tours around the city of Dijon, the 'Birthplace of Mustard', to exploring 'France's Culinary Capital' of Lyon and tasting the fruits of Beaujolais' vineyards, there will be something to appease any pallet. For those who wish to keep the bottles flowing and extend their trip, a land package comprising of three nights in Paris pre-departure and three nights in Geneva post-cruise are available.

Jamie Loizon, managing director of
AmaWaterways, said: "Agents continue to
see strong demand for our cruises through
Europe's wine regions, so we are pleased to
be able to expand the range of itineraries on
offer. This new addition will provide guests
with an unforgettable journey through the
beautiful vineyards of this renowned wine
producing region and make it easy for them
to visit multiple chateaux and wineries in the
space of a week."

Prices for the seven-night itinerary begin at £2,951 per person for a June 2024 departure.





VIVA encourages guests to enjoy latest vessel

VIVA CRUISES is launching its third build ship, *VIVA ENJOY*, in September 2024, which will be sailing on the Danube from September to December 2024.

The new vessel will set off on its 12-night maiden voyage on September 22nd, 2024 from Frankfurt to Vienna.

VIVA ENJOY will be the sister ship of the recently launched VIVA TWO and will be identical in design. It will have 95 cabins for 190 passengers; three restaurants; an open-plan lounge; a spacious sun deck and a fitness and wellness area.

VIVA ENJOY will feature four-, five-, and seven-night itineraries on the Danube, including the seven-night 'Charming Danube' from Vienna to Budapest, starting from £1,395; the four-night 'Cityhopping Danube' calling at Budapest and Bratislava from £650; and the five-night 'Advent and Christmas' cruises that will visit a selection of Christmas markets in Bavaria and Austria from £950.

All VIVA Cruises itineraries are all-inclusive, and include a full board service, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, beauty products from luxury cosmetic brand Rituals, wifi and all tips and gratuities. www.viva-cruises.com

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Forever Curious





APT serves up 45% savings on sailings

APT AND Travelmarvel are offering savings of up to 45% on Mekong River cruises between September to December 2023. The sale is applicable for bookings made between May 10 and July 31.

Prices lead in at £3,895 per person for the 15-day 'Vietnam and Cambodia Highlights' itinerary, including flights, seven nights on the new Mekong Serenity vessel, accommodation, meals and transportation. www.aptouring.co.uk



A-ROSA adds e-bikes on SENA cruises

A-ROSA HAS introduced its own fleet of e-bikes onto its ship A-ROSA SENA, meaning that complimentary e-bike hire is now available across 12 of the company's fleet sailing the Danube, Rhine, Main, Moselle, Seine, Rhone and Saone.

A-ROSA also continues to offer an extensive programme of guided bike tour excursions with more than 50 options across the 2023 season.

www.arosa-cruises.com

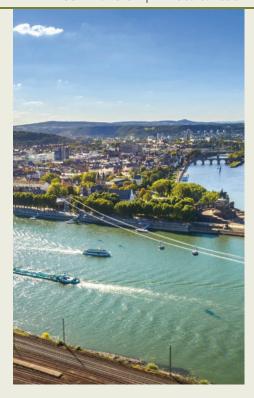
Leger takes to the water

LEGER HOLIDAYS has unveiled a new selection of river cruise holidays in its latest Rail Holidays and River Cruises brochure, featuring flexible travel options on selected river cruises, including travel by Eurostar, high-speed rail and air for the first time.

The new brochure features six cruises on the Rhine, the Danube and the Seine, and a new five-day UK cruise on the Thames, sailing through the heart of 'Wind in the Willows' country on board African Queen.

There are also four new festive cruises on the Rhine, with a four-day 'Cologne and the Rhine Valley Christmas Markets' full-board itinerary priced from £619 with coach travel and a deposit of £50 per person for all cruises in the new programme.

Customers choosing the rail option can tailor their holiday to include pre- or postjourney nights in London, staying at hotels conveniently located near St Pancras International Station. Each cruise featured in



the brochure has a clear travel options reference box, with icons depicting the outbound and inbound transport choices available - rail, air or coach. All holidays feature the services of an experienced cruise manager and cruise director. www.leger.co.uk

Just You to offer river sailings

NICKO CRUISES has announced a partnership with solo holidays specialist Just You to be its exclusive river cruise supplier for the next two years.

As a result of its tie-up with Nicko Cruises, which is represented in the UK by cruise specialist Light Blue Travel, Just You will be offering a choice of 22 departure dates for European river cruises on the Douro, Danube, Rhone, Saone and Rhine from next year as well as featuring a 2023 Danube



Christmas markets cruise programme. The packages will be available and commissionable to travel agents.

The cruises will be operated by six Nicko vessels from the 22-ship fleet, all of which are modern and stylish and feature large panoramic windows, sun decks, spacious cabins, restaurants, and bars.

Just You customers will receive a fully escorted exclusive programme and be accompanied by a Just You guide, and sole occupancy cabins are guaranteed. In line with all Nicko Cruises, Just You customers will benefit from an all-inclusive package.

Prices start at £2,699 per person for cruising the Rhine and Moselle. This includes seven nights on board the Rhein Symphonie, return rail travel from St Pancras, full board and an unlimited drinks

www.justyou.co.uk

Washington D.C.'s Hotel Zena offers a cultural chic escape in the trendy downtown of the nation's capital.



HOTEL ZENA is Viceroy Hotels and Resorts' newest chic complement to the US capital.

Situated in Washington D.C.'s trendy downtown, the hotel is a living art gallery; its 191 rooms are surrounded by global artworks, curated to send a message of female empowerment and civil rights, from a portrait of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg to a curved map of

Romantic breaks in the Rockies

THE BACKDROPS of Colorado's Rockies are primed for romance, with a number of experiences which are ideal for couples.

Romance reaches new heights with a ride on a Fair Winds Balloon Flight, taking to the skies over Boulder. Prices start from £233 for adults.

The skies are also on show with Colorado Tourism's curated 'Colorado Stargazing' self-guided tour, which connects the state's once-in-a-lifetime stargazing opportunities and some of its 10 International Dark Sky Parks.

www.colorado.com/coloradostargazing

the world layered with 8,000 protest badges representing key events from the feminist movement.

Viceroy Hotels and Resorts' CEO, Bill Walshe, said on its opening in 2020: "Hotel Zena was created primarily by women... it is a hotel that offers a haven for all genders, races, and sexualities; where an atmosphere of strength and femininity live in harmony.

"We are looking beyond the power and politics of the city to better position our nation's capital as a hub for culture, unity, and empowerment."

A choice of rooms are available, from Queen and King configurations, to enhanced City View King, City View Two Queens, Circle View King, and Circle View Studio King. The latter two room categories offer impressive views of the nearby Thomas Circle.

On-site, guests will also find the Figleaf Bar and the Hedy's Rooftop bar and pool.

Viceroy Hotels and Resorts' 'The Guild' programme offers a choice of benefits, from reduced response time for bookings to room request priority, as well as reduced agent rates for site inspections.

Summer rates for 2023 start from £161 per night.

www.hotelzena.com /

www.viceroyhotelsandresorts.com

Miami service from Norse on sale now

AHEAD OF the debut service on September 18th, 2023, Norse Atlantic has opened sales on its new London Gatwick to Miami route.

The Miami winter sun route has joined the airline's already-loaded schedule, with choices to Barbados, Kingston and Montego Bay.

The direct, four-weekly flights start from £450 return. www.flynorse.com





Cruiseline rolls out 35-day Civil War tour

AMERICAN CRUISE Lines has announced details of a new cruise that visits nearly every major battlefield of the Civil War. The 35-day 'Civil War Battlefields Cruise' spans across 13 states and will depart on May 4th, 2024 from New Orleans. Prices start at £21,995 per person.

www.americancruiselines.com

Lusso adds Utah, Seattle and Philadelphia for 2023

TRADE-ONLY luxury tour operator Lusso has launched a new printed USA brochure to reflect the growth in the demand for luxury stateside holidays.

The brochure includes some new additions to Lusso's USA portfolio, notably Utah, home to some of America's most dramatic desert landscapes; the must-see cities of Seattle and Philadelphia; and its new range of Tauck Escorted Tours.

The operator also has plans to expand its website with additional regions including the wider Capital Region (Maryland and Virginia) and the Great American West (Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wyoming).

With several Canada specialists also on the Lusso team, the operator now offers



bespoke luxury holidays to the Great White North, including an epic rail-and-road adventure through the postcard-perfect Canadian Rockies.

www.lussotravel.com



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Arizona unveils latest attractions

ARIZONA HAS seen an influx of attractions open in the past month, enhancing the State's offering to visitors looking for something new to try.

The Mescal Movie Set's Summer Sunset Tours have started with tours on select dates until mid-August. On the tour, guests can explore the iconic set where classic Western films took place, such as 'Tombstone' and 'Outlaw Josey Wales' for \$15 per person.

The Last Supper Museum has recently opened in Douglas and features the largest collection of Last Supper art in the world. Every medium of art is showcased, from coal and volcanic ash to mother of pearl.

Looking to the future, JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa has announced its AquaRidge Water Park will open this summer, boasting an enhanced lazy river, a refreshed

nage Credits: Centre: Visit Arizona, Right: Icelandaii

Wildlife Grove and a lively playground featuring three exhilarating slides.

This September, nature lovers will be able to hike within the Texas Canyon near Dragoon in southeastern Arizona for the first time. The 5.7-mile offers geological wonders like tafoni and Whale Rock, with admission being priced between \$10-12.

www.visitarizona.com





Icelandair reveals sizzling winter deals

ICELANDAIR IS offering huge winter savings for UK travellers wanting to experience the wonders of North America.

Some of the competitive rates on offer include a return service to Orlando from £399, Seattle from £425 and Portland from £499 for travel between November 1st 2023 and March 19th, 2024.



Experience a magical Easter with Ocean Holidays

OCEAN HOLIDAYS is encouraging guests to forgo the traditional Easter celebrations as the operator launches its Disney and Universal Easter Holiday 2024 itineraries, complete with a special offer on Ocean Explorer experiences.

The guests opting for seven nights at the Drury Plaza Hotel Orlando Lake Buena Vista will be treated to a deluxe room in a brand new official Walt Disney World Hotel with free breakfast and a '5:30 kickback' every evening with snacks and drinks. Guests will also be entitled to early entry to Disney Parks.

For guests wishing to stay at
Universal's Endless Summer –
Surfside Inn & Suites, they will have
access to early park admission to the

Wizarding World of Harry Potter and Universal's Volcano Bay.

Travellers who book either holiday will receive Ocean Explorer tickets for use on four experiences including 'The Wheel' at ICON Park, the I-Ride Trolley, the Outta Control Magic Comedy Dinner show and a \$20 voucher at the Mall at Millenia. Prices for the packages start at £1,259 per person based on two adults and two children.

www.ocean-florida.co.uk





Feel inspired by the Rhythms of the South

INSPIRING TRAVEL embraces the southern hospitality in its 12-night 'Rhythms of the South' self-drive itinerary, where travellers can try their hand at the music scene with visits to Nashville's Country Music Hall of Fame Museum and to a New Orleans' Jazz Brunch. For those wanting to the step in the footsteps of the King of Rock 'n' Roll, the itinerary includes a guided tour of Graceland with access to the Presley Motors Automobile Museum and Elvis' Custom Jets. Prices start at £3,325 per person, including return flights and accommodation. www.inspiringtravel.co.uk

Who would be your dream dinner party guest?

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JUNE 16 2023



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- Draught beer, including non-alcoholic
- A selection of soft drinks and juices

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