travelbulletin

October 23 2020 | ISSUE NO 3,159 | travelbulletin.co.uk

Giving agents the edge

NEWS BULLETIN

Industry news to keep agents in the know

BULLETIN BRIEFING

Cherie Richards, Not Just Travel, on self-care for travel agents

LATA EXPO 2020

Updates from the virtual event, as well as an interview with chairman Colin Stewart

CRUISING

Your one-stop guide to ocean and river cruises





IN ASSOCIATION WITH







TENERIFE

Benidorm

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

TRAVEL BULLETIN'S SPAIN WEBINAR

THE SECOND IN OUR SERIES OF THEMED WEBINARS

MONDAY 26th OCTOBER at 2PM

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

TIMINGS

2pm

Webinar Welcome From Your Travel Bulletin Host

2:05pm - 2:45pm

Supplier Presentations

2:45pm

Live Q & A Session and Prizes

3pm

Webinar Ends

FOR FREE REGISTRATION CLICK HERE

OCTOBER 23 2020 | travelbulletin.co.uk

THIS WEEK



NEWSIndustry-wide updates to keep you informed.



BULLETIN BRIEFINGCherie Richards, Not Just Travel, on the importance of maintaining good mental health.



ADVENTURE & ACTIVITYAction-packed holidays to sell to your clients.



Idyllic escapes to the Mediterranean island country.



LATA EXPO 2020 Updates from the virtual four-day event, covering all things Latin America.



CRUISEOcean and river cruises on offer for next year and beyond.

ISLANDS IN THE SUN

Post Office Travel Money looks at some practical choices for UK holidaymakers who are considering an autumn or winter break abroad.



Madeira proved to be the cheapest island for a sunny European escape, the survey found.

FOR AGENTS looking for autumn and winter sun holiday inspiration for their clients, a new survey by Post Office Travel Money may help clinch the sale.

Post Office Travel Money's first 'Islands in the Sun Holiday Barometer' study compares the average prices for commonly purchased items at popular destinations to determine where clients can get the best value for money.

Among the Eurozone 'islands in the sun', with Madeira, Rhodes and Sicily surveyed for the first time, Post Office Travel Money found that the low-cost of alcoholic and soft drinks helped to make Madeira the cheapest option. A popular autumn break choice among flora and fauna enthusiasts,

the so-called 'garden islands' barometer total of £65.53 made it slightly less expensive than runner-up Paphos (£66.40), where prices in the Cypriot resort have risen 3.7% year-on-year.

Although they remain under quarantine rules, Post Office Travel Money also researched three Canary Islands and found that none of these could compare with Madeira on price. The cheapest of the three, Lanzarote, was almost 12% higher than in Madeira, with Tenerife and Gran Canaria more expensive still.

The report also revealed big price differences between resorts in the same country. Visitors to Cyprus can expect to pay around 20% more for the eight items in Limassol (£79.72) than in

Paphos. In Greece, prices in fourth-placed Rhodes were 19% lower than in Corfu at £77.52, compared with £95.72. This made Corfu the most expensive European island in the sun.

The Caribbean islands surveyed for the report were more expensive than any of the European destinations. Prices in Antigua were 41% higher than a year ago, at £107.80 for the eight tourist essentials. This is most likely because cheaper restaurants remain closed in the island capital St John's. By comparison, the barometer cost in St Lucia was only 9% higher than 2019 levels in Rodney Bay (£111.58).

www.postoffice.co.uk/island barometer

travelbulletin

Published by : **Alain Charles Publishing (Travel) Ltd** University House, 11-13 Lower Grosvenor Place London, SW1W OEX







Brochures bonanza with Classic Collection Holidays

CLASSIC COLLECTION Holidays has launched a suite of new brochures which are now available to agents.

The nine brochures showcase new destinations such as Costa Rica, offer improved pricing and highlight an expanded portfolio of luxury resort hotels and boutique properties, private tours and pre-bookable experiences.

The operator has seen a 30% increase year-on-year for the month of September, in agent requests for brochures for next summer.

Expansion of its short-haul programme sees the operator adding 20 new boutique hotels across Italy and offering personalised private tours which highlight the culture, history, food and wine for which Italy is known and loved. New destinations



A new destination featured in the brochure is Elba Island in Italy.

include the city of Matera in southern Italy, a relatively undiscovered gem that's rich with history and architecture, as well as Elba Island, the biggest of the Tuscan Archipelago. With its tranquil nooks, boat-only accessible bays, azure waters and a myriad of beautiful beaches, Elba is tailor-made for a secluded break.

Deals for autumn and winter 2020 and summer 2021 are available now, and Classic Collection Holidays' account managers are supporting agents in the UK with the latest news, new product information and training.

www.classic-collection.co.uk/ brochure-request

Stylish Scottish breaks with Osprey **Holidays**

SHORT BREAK specialists, Osprey Holidays has collaborated with Visit Scotland to increase their portfolio of hotels, itineraries and attractions.

The most popular package, Scotland's North Coast 500, consists of a self-drive route covering 516 miles of scenic coastline. Two-night breaks at fivestar property, Gleneagles Hotel in Perthshire, or the four-star Kinloch Lodge on the Isle of Skye, as well as the four-star Kingsmill Hotel & Spa in Inverness are also popular.

Prices start from £315 per person, for a five-night self-drive North Coast 500 trip, and £99 per person for a two-night bed-andbreakfast stay at four-star Kingsmill Hotel & Spa in Inverness, Scotland.



Michael Bennett, managing director of Osprey Holidays, says,"With a peak in demand for holidays in the UK from our loyal travel agent partners, it's been the perfect time to grow our Scottish product, and we're delighted to add such a great selection of hotels and itineraries to our programme."

www.ospreyholidays.com/travelagents/latest-agent-offers

Latin Routes launches new 2021/2022 itineraries

LATIN ROUTES has launched its 2021/2022 Latin America programme.

The updated itineraries have been designed to cover Latin America's most popular destinations, including Peru, Argentina, Chile, and Costa Rica.

This year's range of itineraries was created to appeal both to first-time visitors who want to experience the main highlights of a country, and those who are looking to escape the crowds and get off the beaten track. All itineraries were designed to offer guaranteed

prices where possible, allowing Latin Routes to provide trade partners with same day quotes.

An example of one of the new itineraries on offer is the 'Highlights of Costa Rica' holiday, which combines the rugged, rainforested country's main tourist attractions with a relaxing stay at Manuel Antonio on the central Pacific coast.

Visit www.latinroutes.co.uk to view the itineraries being offered.



Hellenic holidays with Jet2

JET2HOLIDAYS HAS quickly responded to Crete coming off the government's quarantine list, by adding holidays in October and November from six of its UK bases. With Greece also coming off the Scottish government's quarantine list, the tour operator has moved quickly to give holidaymakers in Scotland a choice of holidays to Crete (Heraklion) and Rhodes.

A series of weekend flights offered by the company are perfectly timed for those looking for a getaway to the Greek sunshine, away from the cold autumn weather of the UK. Jet2holidays' latest expansion to Greece means that over the past few weeks, the company has now added over 80 additional October and November services to Rhodes, Kos, Corfu and Crete (Heraklion). www.jet2holidays.com/mmb/agent/login

OCTOBER 23 2020 | travelbulletin.co.uk

Riviera Travel aims high for the travel trade

IN RECENT years, travel agents have often been seen as under threat – whether from the increase in online booking, the growth of the direct channel, or now the COVID-19 pandemic. But, Riviera Travel has such confidence in the future of travel agents in the UK that they have invested in new leadership and a growing trade team.

At the start of 2020, Stuart Milan joined Riviera Travel as channel director, with the aim of accelerating growth in trade sales.

Stuart says, "I believe that travel agents are the great survivors of our industry – because they know their clients, they can give a personal service, and they are so enthusiastic about our wonderful industry. For those that emerge next year, their



Stuart Milan, channel director, Riviera Travel.

services will be in huge demand, as people look for trusted advice and guidance when selecting their muchneeded holidays. Stuart went on: "These are not just ambitious words. We are investing in our team. Whilst times have been tough, and some in our industry have cut back on their trade teams, we have grown our agency sales team. This means the Riviera team can now spend more time with travel agents," he added.

Going forward, Riviera is planning a comprehensive programme of incentives and FAM trip opportunities, to reward the agents who have continued to show their support through this challenging period.

This focus is already paying dividends. Sales through travel agents are on the rise, and engagement levels of agents with Riviera have increased dramatically.

New global travel industry platform 'Bonailie' launches

TOURISM INDUSTRY stalwart,
Julie King, has unveiled
Bonailie — a tourism industry
community platform to allow
global industry collaboration and to
positively shape the future of
tourism and create a positive
impact on the world.

Bonailie is a global platform that will deliver weekly engagement and collaboration through webinars, panels, and the ability to connect with global sector partners and peers, providing growth indicators and showcasing innovation.



Bonailie will house the world's largest engaged global directory — a community of leaders across the complete travel, tourism and hospitality supply chain, specifically for purpose-driven decision makers who want to see a shift in the industry.

Agents can sign up for the webinars via www.bonailie. world and Bonailie's private Facebook Group.

Eurostar opens sales on rail to the slopes

EUROSTAR, THE high-speed rail link between the UK and mainland Europe, has opened sales for connecting journeys from London to the French Alps.

Tickets are now available for travel from December 13 until January 3, 2021. Travel for the remainder of the ski season, between January 4 and March 28, 2021, will be on sale from Thursday, November 5.

Travellers looking for a comfortable and relaxing journey with space to unwind and move around can travel with Eurostar direct

to Paris, before connecting to a high-speed TGV service to Chambéry, Albertville, Moûtiers, Aime-la-Plagne, Landry or Bourg-St-Maurice

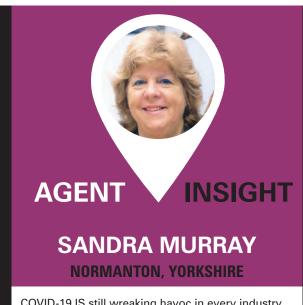
To provide more flexibility on bookings, all Eurostar fares are now available to exchange with no fee, up to 14 days before departure. The flexible fares apply to all bookings until the end of March 2021 and are valid for any dates of travel at the time of purchase.

Tickets are available from www.eurostar.com



Eastern Airways and Aurigny announce codeshare partnership

EASTERN AIRWAYS will enter a codeshare partnership with Aurigny, helping both regional airlines offer travellers comprehensive connectivity benefits across each other's expanding networks. The operators are aligning booking systems by working with the developers of Worldwide by easyJet, to allow a seamless single point of booking for each other's services to or from Guernsey, as well as benefiting from the expansive Southampton network offered on Eastern Airways. This will be bookable from this month, as schedules become aligned to allow connectivity. www.easternairways.com



COVID-19 IS still wreaking havoc in every industry, we just have to hang in there and try different ways of coping with it – you know the saying, 'when the going gets tough, the tough get going.'

I recently listened to a great podcast on world tourism by Ged Brown, CEO of Low Season Traveller. He made some insightful comments on the travel industry. He said that a large number of people still had the desire to travel and we have to encourage this. If there are precautions, we can cope with them. He went on to say that some people will be more interested in long-haul travel, as well as villas and cottages, because they might seem like a more secure alternative to busy hotels. Focus on new beginnings and try to recommend more low-season travel; your clients will be surprised at how much more they can experience during different travelling circumstances.

I also sat in on the ABTA Virtual Regional Business Meeting - Yorkshire & North Midlands. Den Ashby, member engagement manager at ABTA, did a great job at making sure everyone was heard, starting with Paula Macfarlane, senior solicitor at ABTA, who covered a lot of points, including refunds, packages, restrictions in destinations and more. She talked about flight refunds due to COVID-19 - if they are not cancelled, there is no refund, even if people are advised not to travel to that specific destination!

Luke Petherbridge, director of public affairs at ABTA, talked about the government's inaction, and mentioned the 'Save Future Travel Campaign' have a look on www.savefuturetravel.co.uk if you want to get involved, ABTA have premade templates and letters.

Tony Mann, of Idle Travel, talked about the need to rebuild customer confidence. We in the industry all need to work together, utilising social media if need be, to inspire customers and remind them about all the amazing experiences one gains while travelling. To read more on this, visit www.abta.com/partnersupport.



Abercrombie & Kent to resume small group travel to Africa

ABERCROMBIE & KENT will resume operating small group journeys in Africa.

Bucket-list journeys to the continent, for the remainder of 2020, include the 'Great Migration Safari in Style' and 'Egypt & the Nile.'

"After months spent at home, travellers are ready to get away but are asking 'where can we go that is safe?" said Abercrombie & Kent founder, Geoffrey Kent. "Our guests are looking for places that offer wide open spaces and lend themselves to physical distancing, or the novelty of exploring a completely new destination, knowing they're safe in the A&K cocoon."

East Africa and Egypt are some of the most popular enquiries for future travel, including Botswana, Southern Africa, Morocco, Jordan & Israel, and the Galapagos Islands.

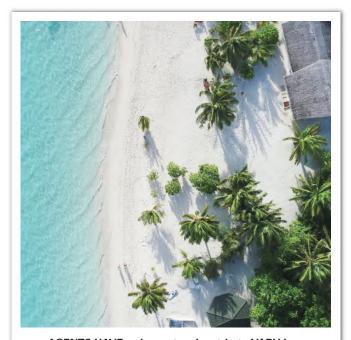


"This is Africa's moment," said Kent. "Safaris are a natural fit as we begin travelling again, featuring small boutique camps with plenty of space and privacy. Plus, tourism plays an important role in protecting endangered wildlife, not only by keeping poachers at bay, but also bringing much-needed funding to local conservation projects."

On the back of continued success and increased demand with its 'Luxury Small Group Journeys' programme, Abercrombie & Kent is introducing 18 new trips to Africa for the UK market.

www.abercrombiekent.co.uk

OCTOBER 23 2020 | travelbulletin.co.uk



AGENTS HAVE a chance to win a trip to VARU by Atmosphere in the Maldives, with a five-night, all-inclusive stay up for grabs. To enter, agents have to make as many bookings as possible with If Only... for Atmosphere Hotels & Resorts, from now until December 31, 2020. Winners will be selected at the beginning of January 2021, and announced on the If Only... Partners Facebook Page.

AGENT TRAINING

SCENIC LUXURY Cruises and Tours has refreshed its online Agent Portal to provide its agent partners with more tools to support them with sales and customer enquiries. The new content – The Scenic Online Travel Showcase – includes a series of insightful online presentations, offering detailed product training, editable PDF brochures for agents to overbrand, and new virtual training modules covering Scenic's luxury offerings, spacious fleet, and its itineraries and inclusions.

www.scenic.co.uk/agent-portal/agent-academy

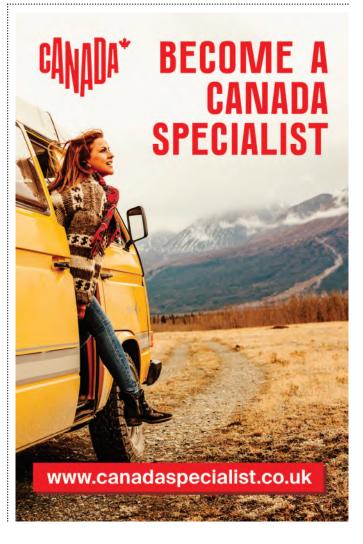
THE OLD Royal Naval College is launching a virtual 'Sales Training Platform' specifically for the travel trade. The platform is a complete resource to help sell the iconic, award-winning UNESCO World Heritage attraction in Greenwich. Existing and potential travel trade partners will have the opportunity to become specialists in the Old Royal Naval College by completing four modules, taking up to one hour in total. On completion of all the modules, participants will have their new-found knowledge tested with a fun quiz. Agents who achieve 80% and over will be rewarded with a well-earned certificate of achievement. As an extra incentive, everyone who registers and completes the course and a short survey before November 30, 2020, will be entered into a prize draw to win a £50 Amazon gift card. The platform is available from the TravelBeat Academy homepage at www.ornc.org/training-platform

.....

AGENT INCENTIVES

- MALAYSIA AIRLINES is offering travel agents who complete its online travel training course, MH Expert, the chance to win a £300 voucher to use on an aviation experience from Red Letter Days. Agents who successfully complete the airline's e-learning course before November 30, 2020, will be entered into a draw to win a Red Letter Days voucher. This can be exchanged for a range of aviation experiences in the UK, from flying lessons on a fixed-wing aircraft or a helicopter, to an aerobatic stunt flying adventure, to a flight in a glider or microlight. Visit www.mhexpert.co.uk to learn more.
- AMAWATERWAYS WILL be paying agents an advance on their commission when they make a new booking on 2021 European sailings, with immediate effect. Agents making a booking on 2021 European departures will earn £135 per guest as soon as they collect the deposit, as an advance on their commission. Full terms and conditions are available on www.amawaterways.co.uk.
- THE JAMAICA Tourist Board has launched 'Jamaica One on One', a trade sales initiative that uses the Jamaica Rewards platform and the growing digital communications space to engage, update and incentivise UK and Irish agents. For further information, visit: www.jamaicarewards.co.uk/ or www.visitjamaica.com.





Sandals and Beaches Resorts reopen four resorts

SANDALS AND Beaches Resorts has reopened four more resorts this month, as part of the group's phased reopening across the Caribbean.

The reopening dates were: Sandals Grenada Resort & Spa (October 1); Sandals South Coast, Jamaica (October 1); Sandals Royal Plantation, Jamaica (October 8); and, Beaches Turks & Caicos Resort Villages & Spa (October 14).

Karl Thompson, managing director of Unique Caribbean Holidays Ltd. (UCHL), UK tour operator of Sandals and Beaches Resorts, said, "The reopening of four of our resorts across October is another positive milestone for the brand. The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown us a lot of challenges, but it's great to see guests and agents getting back out to



the Caribbean and enjoying our resorts once more. Grenada which is on the UK Government's travel corridor list, is a great option for clients looking for some lastminute winter sun, as well St Lucia, Antiqua and Barbados. Clients looking to plan holidays further ahead in 2021 or 2022 can make the most of some great offers for Jamaica or Turks & Caicos knowing that they have a long time to pay off their balance."

Holiday prices can be secured and guaranteed now, with a £175 per person deposit and the full balance is due 71 days before departure.

www.sellingsandals.co.uk

Go for Grenada with **BA and Virgin Atlantic**

BRITISH AIRWAYS and Virgin Atlantic are recommencing direct flights to Grenada this month.

While British Airways has resumed flights, from October 14, with departures from London Gatwick on Saturday and Wednesday, Virgin Atlantic is planning to start services from October 26, with departures from London Heathrow on Monday and Friday.

The revised entry requirements include a negative PCR test within seven days of travel, and a minimum of a four-day reservation at any approved accommodation.

To be allowed into the country,



visitors may get the PCR test done on day four, or they can remain at the hotel, resort or villa for the duration of their visit. Downloading the Contact Tracing App is mandatory prior to arrival - visitors without smartphones or unable to use the app may be required to wear a monitoring device.

Visitors must complete the relevant paperwork upon arrival and may be interviewed by a health or immigration official.

www.puregrenada.com/traveladvisory/

Anguilla highlights its winter sun offering for Brits

ANGUILLA IS kicking off a focused promotion to highlight its winter sun offerings, as it moves into the next phase of reopening, as agents seek to make late 2020/early 2021 bookings.

As the island welcomes visitors back, following its all-ports closure since late March, the Anguilla Tourist Board is working on new ways to attract visitors in a post-COVID-19 world, such as welcoming long-stay travellers to the island for up to a

vear to work beach side.

Slated to begin with arrivals from November 1, phase two will see the introduction of a new 'island bubble' concept, to ensure that your clients can enjoy their holidays while in quarantine at their chosen accommodation.

With interest in Caribbean breaks on the rise, due to the number of viable travel corridors, Anguilla is set to be a popular destination this winter.



Titan launches 2022 holidays

TITAN TRAVEL has released part of its 2022 escorted touring programme earlier than ever before, to keep up with demand from travellers looking to book in advance.

Available to book now, Titan has released more than 50 new departure dates for 2022 holidays. From African adventures, to travelling across Canada, or exploring Australia, some of its most popular tours are now on sale for travellers looking to book early and secure a future holiday at the best price.

www.titantravel.co.uk/best-tours-in-2022

Win a £50 M&S voucher in the

travelbulletin Su Doku 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, November 5th. Solution and new puzzle will appear in our next issue.

The winner for October 9th is Karen Barley, Barrhead Travel, Frenchgate Shopping Centre.

October 9th Solution: A=9 B=7 C=8 D=2

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



CROSSWORD

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

- 1. Carrier operating from Warsaw airport (3)
- Actor, Adrian whose surname sounds like an English city (6)
- Capital of Georgia (7)
- Edinburgh airport code (3)
- Strictly dancer, ____ Du Beke (5)
- 11. Native New Zealander (5)
- 13. Currency of Japan (3)
- 15. Roman emperor who built a famous wall (7)
- 17. Airline that recently sold out a flight to nowhere, in minutes (6)
- 18. Winning shot in tennis (3)

Down

- 1. Band currently searching for a new band to join them on their 2021 tour (6,3)
- Tenerife Mount (5)
- Hawaiian garland (3)
- Popular Red Sea resort (5)
- European country (5)
- Scenic Lake, known as Bodensee in Germany (9)
- Dublin to Holyhead operator ___ Ferries (5)
- 12. Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)
- 14. Currency of Nigeria (5)
- 16. Dusseldorf international airport code (3

Mystery Word: Lebanon Where am I? - Cloud Gate, Chicago

10





Cherie Richards, chief business development officer, Not Just Travel, and the Travel Franchise, on the importance of mental health during these times.

AUTUMN - YOU can feel it in the air. The crunch of the leaves under your feet on the school run, the frosty breath on your evening run, October is definitely here. And while sweater weather may be a wonderful excuse to snuggle up on the sofa, indulging in a bit of Netflix, it means winter is around the corner and for many this is a particularly tough time of the year. Longer nights, colder temperatures and the prospect of a winter dominated by news of Covid-19 and Brexit is enough to make anyone feel like drawing the curtains and hiding under a duvet.

The travel industry has had it tough and we have been working hard to make sure that our travel consultant

family feels heard and supported through it. It's not just about making people feel more confident or selfcare, it's about giving practical advice and help so people can implement to make a genuine difference in their mindset. Let's face it, when you feel down, you

may not want to put yourself out there and sell holidays no matter how incredible the deals and destinations are. So, we have teamed up with mind and body coach Nic Wood, to offer our Travel Consultants a range of exclusive workshops and webinars to help them. Our

While we in the travel industry are used to planning dream breaks and holidays for customers, it's us who are very much in need of a break right now.



team have said she was truly inspiring at our recent virtual travel conference - full of motivation and encouragement. Nic will be working her magic with our travel family across the winter, covering how to communicate clearly, becoming more conscious and making sure old behaviours and habits aren't getting in our way of achieving what we want to and how to destress and build confidence through hypnotherapy.

While we in the travel industry are used to planning dream breaks and holidays for customers, it's us who are very much in need of a break right now. With the end of the furlough scheme and the new winter jobs plan needing close inspection, in regard to the amount of help it will provide, as an industry, we need the government to give us some good news. While our industry continues to help our customers, we are not seeing much change and practical help coming our way. We will continue to fight for and support our wonderful travel community, but we are calling on the government to do their bit and help us now.



COWBOY COUNTRY

Traverse the wilderness, gaze upon native wildlife and take a once-in-a-lifetime floatplane ride on Exsus Travel's new holiday to explore the nature-rich province of British Columbia.

EXSUS TRAVEL'S 'British Columbia by floatplane' trip offers an array of activities and landscapes that are ideal for a luxury adventure holiday with a difference.

Guests will be able to experience British Columbia in style on this adventure, which takes in cosmopolitan Vancouver, a lakeside cowboy ranch, where they can explore on horseback and go on wildlife safaris, and the chance to stay at one of the world's top glamping resorts in the pristine wilderness of Clayoquot. Along the way, guests can enjoy the thrill of scenic floatplane rides.

British Columbia is a region known for its natural riches – from pristine forests and glassy waterways to hidden islands and wildlife, such as



Grizzly bears are a regular sighting in certain areas of British Columbia.

grizzly bears and whales.

Exsus Travel offers a 10night holiday to British Columbia from £18,750 per person, including accommodation, international business class travel and local floatplane flights and transfers, as well as some meals and experiences.

Call 020 7563 1303, or visit www.exsus.com

Ski-tastic breaks with Inghams

INGHAMS HAS launched its winter 2021/2022 programme, offering skiers and snowboarders the chance to pursue their winter passions on and off the snow, at a choice of 78 hand-picked resorts across eight countries.

Your clients can look forward to carving up the slopes in France, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Canada, Andorra, Slovenia or Lapland.
Agents can book customers on their 2021/22 winter holiday with a deposit of £155 per person.

When booked today, skiers can indulge in a taste of the Alps for seven nights, flying from Gatwick on March 19, 2022, to France, with a stay in the self-catering Le Cervin Apartments in La Plagne, from £499 per person (based on five people sharing). Alternatively, the Haus Edelweiss, Alpbach in Austria is available from £609 per person, and in Italy the Banchetta Apartments in Sestriere are available from £509 (based on four people sharing).

Visit www.inghams.co.uk to see all the deals.

TAKE IT OUTSIDE

As the trend towards adventure travel grows, coupled with the increased desire for adrenaline-filled activities, Black Diamond has compiled a list of thrilling experiences from around the world.



AS ACTIVE travellers will emerge from being locked inside, brimming with energy for their next adventure, agents can begin planning their action-packed holidays to Tahiti, the US and Japan.

Swimming with sharks

There are hundreds of species of marine life in the crystal clear warm waters of French Polynesia, including 19 species of shark. Clients can head to the waters surrounding Fakarava Island, listed as a UNESCO Biosphere, and experience the Wall of Sharks. Although sharks are present here year-round, July sees an influx of sharks descend on this narrow passageway, creating opportunities for brave divers to get up close and personal. www.tahititourisme.uk/en-gb

Get a bike dirty in Pittsburgh

Your clients can celebrate Pittsburgh's new ordinance that officially permits bicycles off the pavement and onto city parkland by taking a two-wheeler to Frick Park - the city's best public space for pedalers who prefer their rides extra-bumpy. The downhill Iron Gate and Bradema trails are "must-rides" that mix the fast and fun with tough technical challenges. For mountain biking without the long drive, the Dr. J Freeride Trail in North Park is a well-maintained, quarter-mile downhill with BMX-style jumps on the hill behind the pool. www.visitpittsburgh.com

Ski the crater of an active volcano

Niseko area, southwest of Sapporo in Japan, is known for its powdery snow, while Mount Yotei is the highest mountain in Hokkaido and offers the longest vertical descent in the region. Those who wish to attempt skiing from the mountain, must first scale the edge to the mountain peak, which takes between six to eight hours. Around 100 skiers attempt this thrilling experience each year. The après ski Hokkaido experience, with a dip in volcanic hot spring baths and the famous Hokkaido plum wine, should not be missed. www.japan.travel/en/uk/

Off-the-beaten-path with G Adventures

G ADVENTURES has added four. adventurous tours to Cuba, Madagascar, Australia and New Zealand, to its 'Travel with Confidence Plus' collection.

The collection features smaller groups with a maximum of 12 members, and cheaper solo rooms, private transportation, and enhanced sanitisation and hygiene protocols.

The collection of itineraries combines a trip to beaches, rain forest hikes and wine tastings in Australia and New Zealand, local homestays and salsa lessons in Cuba, as well as observing the wildlife in Madagascar. The new tours bring the 'Travel with Confidence Plus' collection's total number of tours to 41, across 28 countries, with departures running up to December 31, 2021.



G Adventures has also extended its 'Book with Confidence' policy, offering flexible rebooking for all bookings made up to December 31, 2020. Under the policy, travellers departing before December 31, 2020, can cancel and rebook up to 14 days prior to departure, while travellers departing between January 1 and December 31, 2021, can cancel and rebook up to 30 days prior to departure.

www.gadventures.co.uk



A whole new (surfing) world in Costa Rica

PLAYA HERMOSA in Costa Rica has been awarded the next 'World Surfing Reserve' title by Save The Waves, an international non-profit organisation dedicated to protecting surf eco-systems across the world. It is the first beach in Central America and the world's thirteenth to hold this title. Playa Hermosa, located on the central Pacific coast of Costa Rica, has won the title due to its consistent waves, rich biodiversity, clear conservation vision and strong community support.

Every year, a wide variety of surf communities submit an application to receive the WSR title, which is awarded to just one destination. www.visitcostarica.com/uk







Serenity redefined... The Seychelles Islands ...another world.

Seychelles Tourist Office - UK & Ireland

Ground Floor, 130-132 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SA seychelles@uksto.co.uk | www.seychelles.travel

To become a Seychelles expert please visit www.seychellessuperstar.co.uk



SWIM, SWING & SAIL

The diverse natural beauty and landscapes of 115 islands, alongside its 'eternal summer' climate, make the Seychelles the ideal sports destination.



HAVING JUST reopened its borders to UK travellers, from October 1, sun-soaked Seychelles offers a host of activities for your energetic clients to enjoy.

Go for golf

As well as the outstanding nature and perfect weather, friendly hospitality and world-class golf courses make the Seychelles a golf lover's dream. Travellers can choose from the spectacular 18-hole Constance Lemuria on Praslin island and the nine-hole Seychelles Golf Club on Mahe.

Serene swimming

Different to most island groups around the globe which are volcanic, the Seychelles are predominantly coralline, with 74 of the islands being made of coral. All of these are low-lying and uninhabited, retaining their remarkable beauty. Meanwhile, 41 of the inner islands are known as being granitic. Still a beauty to behold, this ultimately means the coastline is

more irregular, with many boulders dotted along the shores, which offers up some great coastal swims.

Snorkelling and diving are fantastic activities too because of the beaches' warm, clear waters and the diverse marine life, both above and under the ocean's surface.

Smooth sailing

Since the Seychelles' 115 islands are outside of the cyclone belt, it's all smooth sailing. The Seychelles' inner islands offer miles of scenic coastline with safe anchorages and many stunning beaches, secret coves and grottoes. With less than 32 miles between mooring grounds, the inner islands offer safe and easy sailing too. There are various boat charter companies on Mahe and Praslin, which offer bareboat, crewed boat and day charters. Full gear and amenities on board for a safe and comfortable cruise are provided.

www.seychelles.travel

Windjammer Landing launches breathwork programme

WINDJAMMER LANDING Villa Beach Resort on the Eastern Caribbean island of St Lucia, has created a unique programme combining wellness, breathwork and diving for the ultimate, therapeutic underwater experience.

Working together, the wellness and diving teams at the property have created a powerful programme designed to harness the power of breathwork to enhance the diving experience and the beauty of the underwater environs. The 'Underwater Breathwork Programme' is an offering for experienced divers, or wellness enthusiasts looking for a unique experience.

Based around a sunrise dive, which takes place in the early morning in calm and tranguil waters, the programme starts with an initial briefing. This takes place on the boat with expert instructor Eget Martyr, the Windjammer



Landing resident dive expert, who has over 25 years of experience in the scuba diving and hospitality industry.

www.windjammer-landing.com



Under the desert sky at AlUla

ALULA, AN open-air museum in the north-west of Saudi Arabia, which includes the country's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, will officially reopen and welcome visitors.

Adventure tourists are specifically catered for at this destination, whether it's tearing around the sandscapes in a desert buggy, or taking to the skies in a vintage light aircraft to see volcanic craters and keyhole tombs in the lava fields of Harrat Khaybar.

For families, Hijrat Noura, or Princess Noura Farm, located close to Hegra, offers a chance to get up close and personal with the local flora and fauna.

Winter Park, an experience developed for the Winter at Tantora festival, will also make a comeback as a more permanent attraction, offering a casual open-air atmosphere for food trucks and art installations. www.experiencealula.com



72 GranCanaria



Discover the full storu

CYPRUS



DIVE INTO LARNAKA

Shipwrecks, fascinating sea caves and a rich marine life

– a look inside Larnaka's underwater world.

ENTITLED 'LARNAKA'S fascinating underwater world', Larnaka Tourism Board (LTB) has launched a new video on various social media platforms to showcase five of the most popular shipwrecks, as well as the rich marine life that draws divers to this Cyprus region's shores each year.

The video begins with HMS Cricket, a WW1 British survivor ship that was later used as a target practice for the British Air Force, RAF, in Larnaka Bay before sinking in 1947 due to bad weather. It is now surrounded by a rich marine life, including octopuses, lionfish, starfish, and sea bream.

There are a further two recently acquired vessels shown in the clip: LEF1 and Elpida. They were sunk in December 2019 and have already attracted marine life.

Elpida sank to a depth of 32 metres, while LEF1 is at a



depth of just 13 metres, aimed at creating the first swimming reef in Cyprus.

In the caves located in the sea area of Pyla, divers can marvel at stalagmites and stalactites, plus gorges and see larger fish among the rocks.

The video also shows the legendary shipwreck Zenobia, listed in the top 10 diving wrecks of the world.

"Zenobia was a Swedish roll-on-roll-off ferry that sank on her maiden voyage in 1980 and nicknamed, 'The Titanic of the Mediterranean'. She is in the port of Larnaka, lying on her portside on a flat bed of sand and rock. The

165-metre ferry was carrying 108 articulated lorries with a variety of cargo from military equipment to cars, food and including one million hen eggs, most perfectly preserved. Over the four decades, a large variety of marine life has colonised this wreck, including lionfish, barracuda, starfish, turtles, and octopuses," added Nana Asmeni Paylou from the LTB.

Larnaka continues to welcome British tourists, provided they test before they travel.

To view the video, visit the LarnakaTourism official YouTube channel.

'All Year Sun' with Olympic Holidays

OLYMPIC HOLIDAYS released its new 'All Year Sun' brochure, with more traditional hotels to meet customers' demand for smaller, authentic stays in the company's heartland — Cyprus.

Managing director, Michael Vinales, said, "Demand for Cyprus has remained strong for 2020, despite the requirements to provide a negative COVID-19 test on arrival, as it remains on the UK travel corridor list, so no quarantine is required. Winter sun 2020 and bookings through into 2021 are looking strong for the destination and we feel that Olympic's price parity with our trade partners, our deposits from £89 and the variety of airlines (including BA), durations and departure airports we can offer customers makes us an appealing option. Cyprus also has the appeal of being a popular vear-round destination, with its climate, plethora of beaches and with it being just a four-hour flight from the UK, it's an attractive choice in winter, as well as the summer months."

www.olympicholidays.com/destina tion/cyprus OCTOBER 23 2020 | travelbulletin.co.uk CYPRUS 17

APHRODITE'S ISLE

Newmarket's trip to Cyprus will see your clients enjoying a mix of both cultural and historical sights, as well as plenty of opportunities to soak up some sun.



TRAVELLERS CAN discover the delights of Aphrodite's Isle on Newmarket's escorted holiday to one of the Mediterranean's most favoured corners – the island of Cyprus.

From your client's base in the coastal resort of Paphos, on Cyprus' south west coast, they will enjoy three excursions in the company of their tour manager. They will be able to discover Paphos' fascinating history and its UNESCO-listed old town, explore the snow-capped Troodos Mountains, journey to Aphrodite's birthplace, and visit lively Limassol.

With plenty of time for relaxation, and the chance to get to know even more about

Cyprus and its charms on two other optional excursions, Newmarket's holiday is the perfect break in the winter sun.

For departure dates in 2021, the tour consists of eight days, and is priced from £515 per person.

The price includes, seven nights' dinner; bed-and-breakfast accommodation at your client's chosen hotel, with upgrade hotels available; return flights to Paphos; comfortable, air-conditioned coach travel and transfers throughout; and, travellers will be fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager.

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk

Luxe-living in Paphos with Planet Holidays

PLANET HOLIDAYS is offering a stay at the five-star Almyra Hotel in Paphos.

Almyra is set across eight acres of lush gardens on a sun-drenched coastal landform on Cyprus' southwest coast, with sprawling views across the bay.

The hotel is a family-friendly destination, catering to guests of all ages. In particular, they offer age-specific kids' clubs and adventure outposts (from four months to teens) to ensure maximum 'time-out' for children, meaning that parents will get well-earned rest. The hotel's philosophy of personalised care means that hotel staff will actively pride themselves on individualising every experience for each guest — whatever the age or needs.

Planet Holidays offers a holiday for the family from £3,365, in a Family Inland View Room, with flights from Gatwick to Paphos departing March 31, 2021.



The hotel currently has an offer whereby all bed-and-breakfast packages are upgraded to half-board.

www.planet-holidays.co.uk



Jet2 NissiBlu Beach Resort in Aiya Napa

PART OF the Luxe Collection, Jet2holidays is offering a stay at the NissiBlu Beach Resort, which provides modern accommodation in a stunning location, overlooking the Blue Flag Nissi Beach in Aiya Napa.

The hotel promises a stay within a tranquil atmosphere, enhanced by amazing views and direct access to the beach. Located just 300m from the nearest shops, bars and restaurants, and 2.5km from the lively centre of Ayia Napa, the resort offers activities for families and couples.

A sample package with Jet2holidays is seven nights, bed-and-breakfast, with departures from Stansted, flying out on November 21. The price is from £379 per person, based on two sharing.

www.jet2holidays.com

In the hot seat with...

Colin Stewart

LATA Expo



FUTURE FORERUNNERS

At the LATA Expo, Natalie Chalk spoke to LATA chairman, Colin Stewart about the role of travel agents in bringing back business to the travel and tourism industry

AS THE travel industry goes through one of the most challenging times, the LATA Expo moved online this year. The week-long conference, that promotes travel and tourism in Latin America, heard from tourism ministers, tour operators and travel experts.

LATA chairman, Colin Stewart, said earlier on, that airport testing was the solution to restarting air travel, but he also revealed the importance of the travel agent's role in the industry.

Speaking exclusively to

Travel Bulletin, he said that travel agents are the key that will unlock the industry.

Travel Bulletin (TB): What role does the travel agent play in the recovery process?

Colin Stewart (CS): "Trust is the new currency. People have been hurt and burnt and the impact of Covid has meant that people's confidence has been damaged and their ability to travel freely. They will be looking for reassurances from experts. Travel agents

provide that expertise. Their influence and their relationship with airlines and tour operators puts them in a position to rebuild confidence in travel and help the consumer. Some of the biggest concerns are: Is it safe to travel and am I going to be safe? People will flock to agents for their expertise."

TB: What more could the industry be doing?

CS: "We need to be one voice. It's an industry issue. If we look at the campaigns out there to save travel they are all good. They are all trying to instil change. If I'm a decision maker in government and I have 12 different messages then that's not a unified industry and where do we start? What is the key driver to restarting? For me it's testing pre-and-post-testingdeparture. Saving jobs is important and reducing costs. There is work to be done. But I think it's an opportunity and I don't think it is happening now to bring it all together."

TB: What's been great about LATA Expo this year after having to go online?

CS: "It's getting people back to thinking about travel. We have had 2,500 scheduled meetings, engagement is high and the feedback has been positive. It's been great."

www.lataexpo.travel

LATA Expo fast facts

2025: The forecast recovery date for travel. 1 in 10: 10% of all jobs on the planet are in travel. \$300,000/£235,000: The amount airlines are losing per minute. 97%: The drop in air traffic in Latin America in April 2020. 2.500: The number of LATA Expo Zoom meetings over five days. \$3.6trillion/£2.8trillion: Spending power of the LGTBQ+ market. *Figures from LATA Expo,

IGLTA



OCTOBER 23 2020 | travelbulletin.co.uk

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

2021 will be a crucial year for shaping the future of travel across every market. Natalie Chalk reports on the trends from LATA Expo 2020, with Latin American operators keen to meet the challenges.



2021 WILL be a pivotal year for the travel sector, if it is to meet its 2025 recovery target, according to industry leaders who participated in this year's LATA Expo 2020. This year, the event for the Latin American travel sector was held online.

Patterns will emerge to help travel agents sell holidays that travellers will feel confident to book and safe to take in the New Year.

Trends such as putting health first are already shaping the future of the industry.

Another change coming to light is a move to a travel by "invitation not inspiration" model, whereby holidaymakers select destinations where they are welcomed back by locals.

Aviation and tour operators will have learned lessons and will be able to react quickly to adapt to Covid-19 outbreaks and

regional lockdowns – and not shut down, as was the case in April, where 97% of air traffic stopped across Latin America, according to figures from PR agency MMGY Hills Balfour.

Managing director, Caroline Moultrie, said the industry needs to "hone in on what's working" if it is to meet the forecast 2025 recovery date, when the industry is thought to return to 2019 levels.

Speaking at LATA Expo 2020, she said, "This is the nut we have to crack. We have to look at this as a "we will come out of this", to hone in on what it is that will help restart travel. 2021 is going to be a pivotal year for everyone – the airlines particularly – but if we don't get a strong 2021, the foundations for 2022 and beyond start to get ever more worrying." www.lataexpo.travel

Peru gets ready to unlock Machu Picchu in November

AFTER BEING locked down for eight months, Peru's most iconic tourist destination, Machu Picchu, looks set to finally reopen next month.

Visitors can once again trek to the "lost" Incan citadel high up in the Andes in the region of Cusco.

The reopening comes as the Peruvian government announced that the UNESCO World Heritage Site had received a "Safe Travels" seal of approval from the World Travel and Tourism Council. An exact November date for the reopening was not given.

Minister, Rocío Barrios, said, "We are going to come back, it is time. Tourism is the economic activity that has suffered the most from the coronavirus pandemic. For this reason, and for its reactivation, we want to offer visitors the best



possible travel experience, with quality tourist destinations and services and complying with strict biosecurity protocols."

To be able to visit Peru and Macchu Pichu, visitors will require a negative PCR coronavirus test on arrival.



Pack for Panama: Holidaymakers welcomed back after seven months

PANAMA WELCOMES back tourists from around the world last week, seven months after flight routes were shut down due to the pandemic. As the Latin America region begins to open up, the Central American destination resumed international flights on Monday, October 12. A negative COVID-19 test is required on arrival, or a seven-day quarantine in a hotel provided by the Panamanian government, at no cost to travellers. With sandy beaches, ancient ruins, wildlife and the famous canal, the country has reopened having received the stamp of approval from the World Travel & Tourism Council. The country's authorities have also implemented health and safety protocols throughout the country. www.visitpanama.com/information/travel-guidelines



EUROPEAN WONDERS

A tour of Artstetten Castle in Austria, visits to traditional Dutch windmills, or viewing WWI memorials in Belgium, Scenic's 2022 European river cruising programme has something to suit all tastes.

SCENIC LUXURY Cruises and Tours has opened bookings for its 2022 European river cruising programme, six months ahead of schedule, providing agents with further flexibility for rebooking and selling.

The early release of the 2022 programme provides guests with more access to their preferred river cruise itinerary, sailing dates and choice of spacious suite. All future bookings are covered by the luxury cruise line's 'Deposit Protection Plan.'

Romantic Rhine & Moselle

History buffs will have the chance to visit the poignant WWI memorials in the Belgian towns of Ypres and Passchendaele, as part of the 'Romantic Rhine & Moselle' river cruise. A visit to the Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial near Maastricht provides insight into the WWII American soldiers who fought here, followed by a visit to the Eben Emael Fortress, which was built to protect from German invasion. The price starts from £3,920 per person.

Jewels of Europe

The 15-day 'Jewels of Europe' voyage allows guests to journey outside of Amsterdam to the village of Schermerhorn for authentic windmills and idyllic views of



the Dutch countryside. Prices start from £3,820 per person, based on the November 7, 2022 departure on the Scenic Opal Space-Ship, travelling from Amsterdam to Budapest.

Gems of the Danube

Guests can enjoy a behind the scenes tour of Artstetten Castle (Austria) to hear family tales, directly from one of the current owners, while taking a look inside the family crypt on the eight-day 'Gems of the Danube' itinerary. The price starts from £2,370 per person, based on the April 18, 2022 departure on the Scenic Crystal Space-Ship, travelling from Nuremberg to Budapest via Austria.

www.scenic.co.uk

Celestyal Experience to debut in 2021

CELESTYAL CRUISES' new ship, Celestyal Experience, will set sail on March 6, 2021.

The ship's first sailing of the 2021 season will be the seven-night "Three Continents" itinerary, calling on Greece (Athens and Rhodes), Turkey (Kusadasi), Israel (Ashdod), Egypt (Port Said) and Cyprus (Limassol).

Beginning on April 3, 2021, Celestyal Experience will set sail on the seven-night "Idyllic Aegean" itinerary, visiting Athens, Rhodes, Crete (Agios Nikolaos), Santorini, Milos, Mykonos and Kusadasi (Ephesus).



For a limited period, the company offers an all-inclusive launch price, which starts at £519 per person.

www.celestyalcruises.uk/en-uk

CRUISING OCTOBER 23 2020 | travelbulletin.co.uk

PREVIEW THE WORLD



REGENT SEVEN Seas Cruises has given its trade partners an exclusive insight into their 2022/2023 new season launch, with a short video series.

The series of 10-minute educational videos are now live on the RegenTrade Facebook page, offering sales tips and insights into the new season voyages.

Paul Beale, senior director of sales UK, Regent Seven Seas Cruises, said, "The recent launch of our 2023 World Cruise shattered the previous world cruise opening day booking

record, so we know there is incredible pentup demand for the Regent all-inclusive, ultra-luxury cruise experience.

"We want to put our travel partners in the best possible position to capitalise on this ahead of the launch of our new 2022-2023 season. We believe these short videos, packed with sales tips and exclusive insights, will stand agents in good stead for the launch of the new season to their customers keen to return to the seven seas with Regent," he added. www.RSSC.com

Festive cheer with Tui **River Cruises**

TUI RIVER Cruises revealed details of its winter 2021 programme of four, new Christmas Day and New Year itineraries, in addition to their two Christmas market itineraries, 'Mistletoe & Rhine' and 'Yuletide Wonders', all taking place on the Rhine.

Onboard, your cruisers can expect traditional mulled wine, festive film screenings and a decorated Christmas tree in the atrium. The river cruise line will also be offering delicious regional Christmas dishes in the restaurants and your guests can enjoy local traditional Christmas entertainment.

River cruise bookings come with £85 credit per five-night itinerary and £120 credit per seven-day itinerary to put towards any shore excursion bookings. For more information, visit www.tui.co.uk





Mediterranean & Adriatic

Departure Date Enchanted Princess 22 May 2021

INSIDE TO BALCONY UPGRADE* **INCLUDES FLIGHTS & TRANSFERS**

PRINCESS FARE

£1,217_{PP}

OFFER FROM 22 SEP - 23 NOV







Salute the sun on Princess Cruises' new sailings

PRINCESS CRUISES has announced a new summer season of cruises, departing from Los Angeles in 2021. Offering a variety of voyages to Mexico, California Coast and Alaska, travellers can choose from seven-day, getaway adventures and longer, 14-day voyages.

On sale now, the cruise line with the longest history of sailing from the Port of Los Angeles, is offering its summer season of sailings, perfect for those looking for holidays onboard MedallionClass Crown Princess. The summer 2021



season includes 23 departures, and Princess is currently the only west coast cruise line offering port stops in San Diego and Monterey in California, with an opportunity to stay overnight in Cabo San Lucas.

www.princess.com

Dreaming of Dover

HURTIGRUTEN HAS added a new adventurous British Isles itinerary to its Dover departures programme, with sailings departing on April 27, July 4 and August 1, 2021, onboard the refurbished MS Maud.

The cruise will take guests to a range of inaccessible places in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man, the Republic of Ireland, Scotland and the Hebrides, visiting picturesque villages, towns and isolated islands, along with the ability to enjoy a series of excursions during the voyage.

www.hurtigruten.co.uk

Recommend one adventurous activity in the UK



Jeanette Ratcliffe
Publisher
jeanette.ratcliffe@travelbulletin.co.uk
Climbing to the top of Tintagel Castle in Cornwall.



Matt Gill Senior Account Manager matt.gill@travelbulletin.co.uk Cycling around the Lake District.



Georgia Lewis
Managing Editor - News
news@travelbulletin.co.uk
Bamburgh Beach followed by a night out in Newcastle!



Bill Coad Account Manager bill.coad@travelbulletin.co.uk Port Isaac walk in Cornwall.



Mariam Ahmad Assistant Editor - News news@travelbulletin.co.uk Hiking around the Lake District, it's stunning there.



Sarah Terry Account Manager sarah.terry@travelbulletin.co.uk Scottish dancing.



Simon Eddolls Sales Director simon.eddolls@travelbulletin.co.uk Zip World in South Wales.



Hannah Carter Events Coordinator hannah.carter@travelbulletin.co.uk Kayaking to Looe Island.



Tim Podger
Account Manager - Far East
tim.podger@travelbulletin.co.uk
Climb up Snowdon in the dark to then see the sunrise.



Ashweenee Beerjeraz Events Assistant ashweenee.beerjeraz@travelbulletin.co.uk Sea kayaking in the Isle of Man.



IN ASSOCIATION WITH







YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

TRAVEL BULLETIN'S LUXURY HOLIDAYS

VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER AT 2PM

Join Travel Bulletin and their supplier partners for a informative networking opportunity where you can catch up the latest news and top selling tip. You will also have the chance to win some fantastic prizes.



