

Travelbulletin

Giving agents the edge

Solo Travel

An independent exploration of solo travel opportunities



MORE IN...

Winter Sun

Beyond the heatwave to this winter's hottest selling opportunities **Pg. 17**

Far East

Connectivity has rarely been better to this bucket-list region **Pg. 19**



David McKerry, from We Do Travel, on his transformative Latin America fam trip (**Pg. 10**)


Jetset



The next Chapter...

The Magnificent 7

Not so much a breakout...
just 7 tiers of reward payout !

 **Generosity**

 **Flexibility**

 **Immediacy**

jetsetholidays.co.uk

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★ Incentive Reward Tier is linked to the package booking value ★



THIS
WEEK

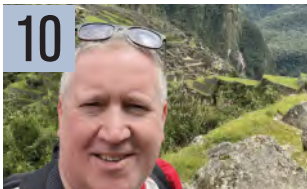
04



NEWS

Keeping you up to date with the latest headlines across the industry.

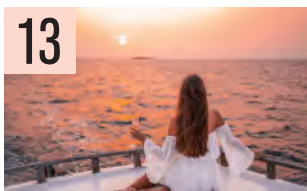
10



AGENT INSIGHT

We Do Travel's David McKerry shares his Latin American experiences.

13



SINGLE TRAVELLERS

Solo explorations in bucket list destinations.

17



WINTER SUN

Help your clients chase the sun year-round with our top picks in the winter heat.

19



FAR EAST

Continental classics and authentic adventures await in this popular region.

SHIFTING SUMMERS

Luxury specialist Elegant Resorts is witnessing a significant shift in travellers' habits when it comes to booking summer holidays.

THE WAY travellers are spending their summers is changing, with research by Elegant Resorts highlighting the notable difference in booking trends.

The luxury operator has noted a significant surge in September bookings as more travellers are eager to escape the school holiday crowds and price hikes that coincide.

On this subject, travellers are becoming more mindful in how they are spending their holiday funds, and in turn tour operators are noticing an uptick in holidaymakers exploring long-haul alternatives when European hot spots are not available. Destinations such as Dubai and the Caribbean have seen a rise in summer interest, but while travellers are becoming more cost-conscious, Elegant Resorts has noted that its clientele budget has seemingly increased to £23,000 compared to the £19,500 figures last year.

There is a disparity emerging in regards to last-minute versus carefully planned

bookings. From the late enquiries made in June, 15% were for travel in the same month, 40% for July and August departures, and 20% for September dates, showing there is a strong demand for shorter lead to summer bookings compared to previous years.

However, Elegant Resorts has also noted a 18% increase in booking numbers for 2026 holidays compared to this time last year for 2025 departures, indicating there is a desire to secure the best booking price when it becomes available.

Finally, long-haul holidays remain a popular choice with travellers, with Elegant Resorts reporting a 68% year-on-year rise in bookings. Destinations including Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Kenya and Australia are all up over 200% compared to last year, with holidays to Morocco up 77%. Thailand, Vietnam and Japan still command a strong appeal, and island-hopping in French Polynesia is proving a popular option.

Travel
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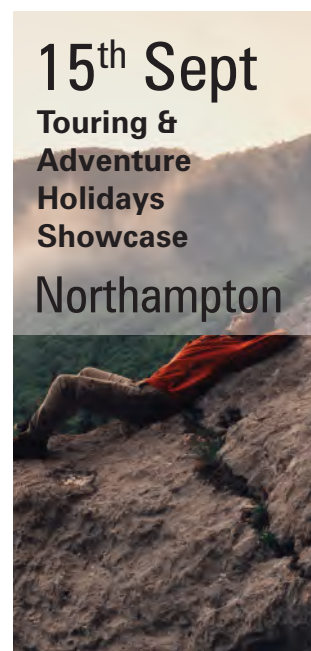
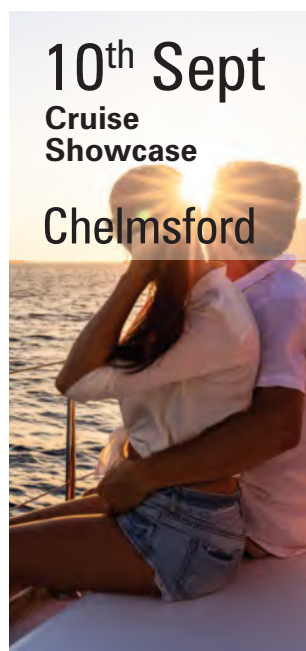
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Jetset begins new chapter of HighFliers

AFTER RELEASING High Fliers on July 4th last year, the next chapter of the programme has now been unveiled, rewarding agents for all package bookings with credits for over 80 High Street retailers. High Fliers has now been bolstered to reward agents for all package bookings, however they are made.

Agents will be greeted with a pop-up

upon logging into the High Fliers platform, prompting them to fill in their details and receive a Jetset HighFliers Card by post.

Once up and running, all eligible package bookings, whether they are made through JETS or the operator's call centre, will earn rewards automatically. Seven tiers of rewards are available based on booking value.



Just Go!'s new Paddington musical breaks

COACH BREAKS including tickets to the new Paddington musical, with songs penned by McFly's Tom Fletcher, are now on sale.

The two-day coach breaks to the capital, with several pickup points around England, include admission to the show's

evening performance and free time in London—prices lead in from £179 per person.

Promising to bring the charm of Britain's favourite bear to the Savoy Theatre in the capital, the musical is due for its opening night on November 30th, 2025.

Trafalgar's first-ever river cruise sale is here!

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30th, 2025, Trafalgar is offering the chance for travellers to save up to £1,100 per couple in its first-ever river cruise sale, after launching the new product in May this year.

Agents will also be rewarded during the limited-time offer period where they will earn a £350 gift card per couple booked on 2026 departures.

Kelly Jackson, managing director of TTC Tour Brands, said, "We're incredibly proud of the strong response to Trafalgar's first-ever river cruises, which launched this May. This offer keeps that momentum going while reinforcing our commitment to putting agents first [...] Agents are already showing great enthusiasm, and this offer gives them even more reason to book."

Discover the Canadian Arctic on new cruise

ATLAS OCEAN Voyages is offering a new once-in-a-lifetime sailing which will depart from Greenland and offer guests the rare opportunity to discover the remote regions of the Canadian Arctic few rarely see.

The 17-night 'Canadian Arctic Discovery' will depart on September 21st, 2026, from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland and end in St. John's, Newfoundland, giving guests access to some of the most remote landscapes in the

world.

The Arctic itinerary includes Zodiac safaris in Disco Bay and Button Islands – prime habitats for polar bears, walrus and whales. Guests will also embark on ice cruises and black bear sightings in Nachvak Fjord, immerse in the cultures of Sisimiut and Qikiqtarjuaq, discover ancient Inuit traditions, and enjoy several Captain's Choice days where the day's activities remain a mystery.



HX expands Antarctica activities

FOR ITS upcoming Antarctica season, HX is enhancing guest experiences by expanding its kayaking and camping activities across its fleet.

Launching in October, HX will increase kayaking capacity by 188% as well as double the amount of camping slots available, giving guests more opportunities to explore the vast frozen landscape in small, intimate groups. The launch follows HX's biggest-ever agent incentive 'Sell Three, Sail Free', which is valid for bookings made until October 31st, 2025.



£150 savings for 2025 travel with Sandals

THERE IS only a short time left to secure up to £150 savings per booking on all-inclusive Caribbean holidays in Sandals Resorts' new offer. The promotion includes savings available for stays in nine destinations: Antigua, Barbados, Curaçao, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & The Grenadines, The Bahamas, and Turks & Caicos, to enjoy by the end of 2025. Bookings must be made by July 29th, 2025.



reaching the levels of foreign tourist arrivals that our country deserves, at a growth rate that is the highest in the world today."

Swan Hellenic unlocks luxury for guests and agents

SWAN HELLENIC'S new 'Luxury Unlocked' promotion not only offers guests a wealth of upgrades and benefits, but also rewards agents partners with £100 extra commission for every stateroom they book for their clients.

Mario Bounas, general manager UK & Ireland, said the cruise line is "committed to supporting the travel trade as true partners [...] This enhanced promo reflects our gratitude, and our belief in the power of early, collaborative success."

As part of the promotion, guests will be rewarded with a free balcony upgrade, gold Wi-Fi packages and \$250 onboard credit when they book from a selection 2026 cruises by September 15th, 2025.

Brazil smashes tourism record with 48% increase

BRAZIL HAS set a new tourism record, welcoming 5.3 million international visitors in the first half of 2025. This figure represents a huge 48.2% increase compared to the same time period last year, and 77.3% of the target set out in the National Tourism Plan 2024-2027 for this year.

President of Embratur, Marcelo Freixo, said, "We are



EARLIER THIS month Manchester Airport welcomed the addition of its first direct year-round service to India. Airline IndiGo joined Manchester Airport's growing international portfolio with its new route to Mumbai.



Dusit International eyes the upper-scale market

ONE OF Thailand's leading hotel development company's Dusit International has expanded its global portfolio with the official launch of Dusit Hotels – designed to deliver tailored upper-scale experiences.

With three properties



already open under the new brand moniker – Dusit Hotels Doha, Dusit Le Palais Tu Hoa, and Dusit Hotel AG Park – with another set to open in 2026 (Dusit Hotel Greenhills), Dusit Hotel has already marked its presence in key markets across Asia and the Middle East.

Gilles Cretallaz, chief operating officer for Dusit International, said the latest brand has been “carefully developed to meet the evolving needs of both hotel owners and modern travellers alike. This new brand allows us to bring our unique Thai-inspired gracious hospitality to a broader range of properties, while giving owners the scope to tailor experiences to their specific markets.”

Dusit's current global portfolio comprises 294 properties across 18 countries, with 14 new properties already signed and over 60 in the pipeline.



RECORD-BREAKING bookings, surging demand and a growing portfolio are all the ingredients needed for a very strong start to 2026 for Avalon Waterways. With sales up 17% compared to 2024 and already 7% higher than 2025, Avalon continues to cruise at high speed towards the new year.

Luxair presents strongest network to date

LUXIAR HAS launched its Summer 2026 season, with tickets now available for the airline's most diverse schedule in its history.

Operating to a total of 101 destinations throughout 2026, the summer schedule, which runs from March 29th to October 24th, 2026, boasts the addition of nine new locations for guests to choose from.

Included in the launch is a new route from Luxembourg to Edinburgh which will take to

the skies twice-weekly from July 3rd, 2026.

Other new destinations include Girona, Helsinki, Bilbao, Porto Santo, Zakynthos and Araxos, with relaunched services to Tunis and Alicante.

The new routes and expanded schedule has been carefully curated to meet the growing demand for sun destinations, cultural getaways, and off-the-beaten-path adventures.

Explore the Arctic in peak season

SECRET ATLAS is announcing the last call for its 2025 Arctic season by encouraging those travellers eager to witness the hunting skills of polar bears and the sounds of more than 100 beluga whales to book onto one of two Expedition Micro Cruises the line offers during the peak season.

Sailing from August 25th to September 4th, 2025, the 11-day 'Svalbard Autumn Photo Tour with Piet van den Bemd' will cruise through the autumnal hues from £13,900 per person; and the 14-day 'Northeast Greenland National Park Micro Fly & Cruise' will take guests on the ultimate expedition from £15,900 per person.



Seabourn enhances loyalty club

SEABOURN IS enhancing its 'Seabourn Club' loyalty programme following guest and agent feedback. Launching on October 20th, 2025, the upgraded platform will feature new benefit options, accelerated access to loyalty status and a refined rewards scheme.

AGENT INCENTIVES

- **DOUBLE REWARDS** are up for grabs for every booking made at Blue Diamond's Saint Lucia properties from now until July 31st, 2025. Agents can earn up to £40 per booking at either the Royalton Saint Lucia, An Autograph Collection All-Inclusive Resort or Hideaway at Royalton Saint Lucia, An Autograph Collection All-Inclusive Resort – Adults Only. Stays must be for seven-nights or longer. Double rewards of £20 per booking are available for the first 10 bookings made, with £40 available from number 11 onwards.
- **FOR EVERY** Universal Orlando Resort booking made throughout July, agents will receive vouchers that can be redeemed at over 140 brands, courtesy of DoSomethingDifferent.com. the incentive is valid for all bookings of two tickets or more for the resort. Agents will receive £10 Virgin Leisure Choice vouchers per booking. Booking references must be sent to WIN@DoSomethingDifferent with EPIC in the subject line to be counted.
- **RIVIERA TRAVEL'S** new Vault incentive programme, integrated into the Riviera Explorer platform, offers up prizes from High Street retail vouchers to an all-inclusive voyage aboard Resplendence. Vicky Billing, director of trade and partnerships, believes the incentive "is going to set us apart... this is a first for the river cruise and touring sector. Everything we do is designed with the trade in mind, to make working with us seamless, rewarding, and exciting." After booking Riviera product, agents can log in to Explorer and unlock The Vault, with rewards paid out instantly. Agents can also access marketing materials.

AGENT BULLETIN



A NEW specialist social media agency is already making waves with its first client. Social42, led by Rachel Poultney and David Sanders, has been built to aid with the rising demand for expert social media management and content creation within the travel, and specifically cruise, sectors. Celestyal is the first cruise line to appoint the start-up to oversee its global social media strategy.

Travel **bulletin**

COMPETITION

Win admission to Frameless, an immersive art experience, and an overnight stay in the capital for two!

Find out more at
www.travelbulletin.co.uk/frameless-competition



AGENT TRAINING

- **THE ST. Kitts Tourism Authority's** revamped agent training platform, launched in May, sees agents rewarded with a £50 Love2shop voucher with every booking to the destination. Additional benefits on the platform include a refresh to the St. Kitts Yourway (SKY) initiative for travel agents, which offers exclusive rates and discounts until December 15th, 2025, for stays from August onwards. Marsha T. Henderson, Minister of Tourism, said the continuation of SKY and revamp of the overall platform "reinforc[es] our commitment to strong partnerships with travel agents."
- **BECOME A specialist** in everything El Gouna as the destination has launched its new AI-based training platform, complete with five knowledge-building modules, quizzes, AI-powered coaching sessions and roleplay scenarios. Agents who complete all the modules will be entered into a prize draw to win a spot on an El Gouna fam trip.
- **RIVIERA EXPLORER** has been bolstered with dedicated modules around solo and group travel, plus a 'Why Riviera?' module to clarify exactly why the company's values and offering align with current consumer demands. Vicky Billing, director of trade and partnerships, hopes the expansion of the learning platform "underlines [the operator's] unwavering commitment to support agents and trade partners..."
- **BRAZIL TRAVEL Specialist** hopes to showcase the destination's authentic and sustainable experiences, with personalised training modules and marketing materials exclusively designed for agents.
- **MONACO EXPERT** has welcomed a new module centred around 'Incredible Itineraries'. The module covers the varying travel styles on offer across Monaco alongside existing sections around the destination's hotels and experiences.

European trio joins Newmarket's portfolio

THREE NEW tours have been added to Newmarket's European Collection for 2026, with new options in Italy, France and the Adriatic Coast.

Hayley Morris, head of trade sales and partnerships, said the three new itineraries "offer the combination of popular single-centre stays, local experiences and excellent regional flight options, making them easy for travel agents to sell and perfect for customers seeking something new and hassle-free."



MOVERS & SHAKERS



ANEX TOUR has appointed Amanda Schofield as the new Business Development

Manager for its expanding UK division, where she will bring over 30 years of experience to the role.



ATLAS OCEAN VOYAGES is pleased to welcome Kristian C. Anderson as

the new Executive Vice President of Global Sales.



TOM BELL has been appointed as the new CCO of Gekko Group's

Leisure division, which includes the brands of Teldar Travel, Infinite and Miles Attack.



LUXURY GOLD is hitting the Highlands in its new 10-day itinerary 'Spectacular Scotland', crafted in collaboration with Visit Scotland. On sale now for travel in 2026, the tour will encompass a series of MAKE TRAVEL MATTER experiences, including a Highland Tartan demonstration, a guided visit to Glencoe National Nature Reserve, and a chance to learn more about marine wildlife on the Isle of Mull. Prices lead in from £6,125 per person.

Emerald announces 'most expansive' deployment to date

EMERALD CRUISES has launched its 2027/2028 Yacht Collection, and to celebrate, the cruise line is offering a 'Sell Four Sail More' incentive, giving agents the chance to win a place on a 2026 fam trip.

Comprised of 170 departures and visits to more than 70 countries, Emerald Cruises' 2027/2028 Yacht Collection marks its most expansive deployment to date.

25 new voyages will join the roster, including

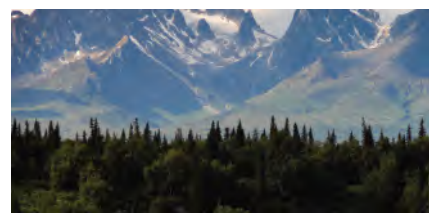
19 new ports of call in Greece, Italy, Türkiye, Corsica, France, the Caribbean, Costa Rica, Panama and more. The season will also be witness to the debut of *Emerald Raiya* who will take her maiden voyage on April 8th, 2027, on a 10-night itinerary from Valetta to Athens.

Jonathan Davies, head of sales at Scenic UK, said, the cruise line is "continuing to push boundaries" and agents will be supported when it comes to selling the new season."

Last chance for Canadian discounts

CANADIAN COOLCATIONS call with Air Transat's sale on fares from London Gatwick to Montreal and Toronto, with reduced fares valid for travel until October 31st, 2025. It is the last chance to take advantage of the reduced fares as the booking deadline is penned for July 29th, 2025 for select travel dates between July 15th and October 31st, 2025.

Fares start from £319 on the Montreal route, which operates up to eight flights weekly during the sale period. Toronto fares lead in at £329 during the promotion – up to 14 flights a week are due to operate this year.



From passage to the peaks

FOR A limited time next summer, Rocky Mountaineer is offering guests the chance to journey into the heart of the Canadian Rockies on its new two-day journey 'Passage to the Peaks', with prices leading in from £2,301 per person for GoldLeaf Service.

SUDOKU

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

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3 x 3 squares contains the digits 1-9. Once you have completed the puzzle, simply identify the numbers that relate to the letters, A, B, C and D then e-mail the solution, with your name, company name, and full postal address plus phone and ABTA number if applicable to:

competition@travelbulletin.co.uk

Closing date for entries is Thursday, August 7th. Solution and new puzzle will appear next week.

July 11th Solution: A=7 B=5 C=6 D=8

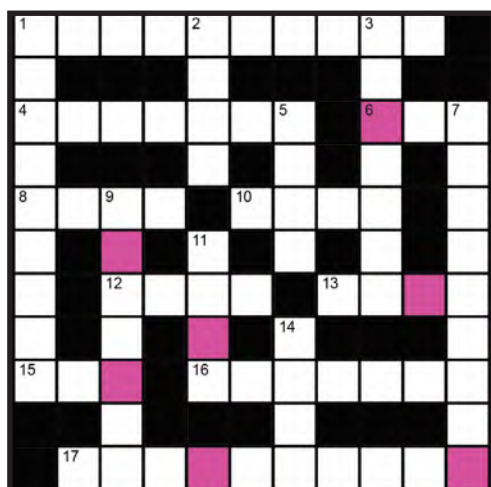
A	8	1	4			3		7	5
		3		7	5			6	4
		7				9			
B				3				9	7
		5			2			1	
C	9	6				7			
				6				8	
	5	2			9	8		3	
D	7	9		1			4	5	6



WHERE
AM I?

KNOWN FOR its year-round warm weather, volcanic landscapes and countless TV and film appearances, this island is the fourth-largest of the Canaries.

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



Across

- 1 C4 TV reality show where accommodation providers compete to be crowned best hosts (4,2,1,3)
- 4 Princess cruise ship, sounds like a green gemstone (7)
- 6 Portuguese carrier (3)
- 8 London international cricket ground (4)
- 10 First name of comedienne/actress whose surname is a European language (4)
- 12 The largest desert in Asia (4)
- 13 Popular TV series Big ____ Theory (4)
- 15 Lynden Pindling (Nassau) international airport code (3)
- 16 Irish city, river and airport (7)
- 17 Sacramento is the state capital (10)

Down

- 1 Cruise company with a Norwegian heritage (4,5)
- 2 Baghdad is the capital (4)
- 3 Country on the Baltic (7)
- 5 This Sea between Israel and Jordan is the earth's lowest point (4)
- 7 Region at the southern tip of South America, spanning Chile and Argentina (9)
- 9 State capital of Maine (7)
- 11 Hotel brand, with a distinctive pillow logo (4)
- 14 Algarve resort city and airport (4)

CROSSWORD

Mystery Word: TUNISIA

Across: 1 FOUR IN A BED, 4 EMERALD, 6 TAP, 8 OVAL, 10 DAWN, 12 GOR, 13 BANG, 15 NAS, 16 SHANNON, 17 CALIFORNIA
Down: 1 FRED, OLSEN, 2 IRAQ, 3 ESTONIA, 5 DEAD, 7 PATAGONIA, 9 AUGUSTA, 11 IBIS, 14 FARO.



AGENT INSIGHT

DAVID MCKERRY

WE DO TRAVEL

I HAD a preconceived idea — based mainly from watching *The A-Team* in the 80s — that Latin America was dangerous, inhospitable, and expensive. So it was never a destination I actively encouraged or promoted. All that changed when in early 2024 I was invited to Peru on the Latin Routes Training Academy.

Exploring Lima on day one we found stunning coastal routes, modern architecture, baroque churches, amazing cuisine, some really specular rooftop bars in Miraflores, and the amazing art of Barranco. We found friendly faces, welcoming locals, and a city that was so different to what I expected.

On the second night came my surprise highlight when a handful of agents took a midnight stroll down Bulevar San Ramon, also known as Pizza Steet! With its rainbow umbrellas hanging from above and every bar filled with people enjoying local life, it was here I fell in love with the culture. With typical Latin American music playing everywhere we went, I loved seeing couples getting on the dance floor, doing the marinera (or its modern equivalent), friends getting together with their pisco sours, and a culture of happiness, inclusion and dance.

The flight to Cusco was awe inspiring, with its backdrop of the Andes. From here we visited llamas, took the most incredible train I've ever been on, and of course I will never forget the absolute wonder of Machu Picchu. Four days after arriving in Lima and I was hooked — I vowed to see more.

In November last year I took an amazing trip to the end of the world in Ushuaia, Argentina. The Tierra del Fuego National Park is stunning with its dramatic landscape of forests, mountains and lakes. It's also home to the gateway to Antarctica.

If Latin America isn't on your, or your customers' list, bump it up — you might just love it too!



Cunard's Caribbean Iconic Collection receives upgrade

NEW AND exclusive shore excursions await Cunard guests sailing aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* during her maiden season through the Caribbean later this year. The curated collection includes 32 experiences spanning across 12 destinations within the region, including a private catamaran trip around Antigua's coastline; visits to a secluded island in Anguilla; and an off-road 4x4 adventure in Barbados.

Katie McAlister, Cunard president, said these new experiences "go beyond the usual tourist spots – they're designed to create lasting memories and deeper connections with each place."

News Bites

- DELTA AIRLINES unveils elevated dining options onboard this summer season, including upgraded snacks, more refined dishes and a refreshed wine programme.
- RIVIERA TRAVEL sees a new era of growth for the Irish market after reporting a 64% increase year-on-year for passenger numbers.



TO CELEBRATE 80 years servicing the skies of Scotland, Icelandair is offering passengers who fly from Glasgow exclusive limited-edition tartan luggage tags and cake. Travellers can also take part in an online competition where they can win an Icelandair Stopover adventure for themselves and up to three companions. Details can be found on Icelandair's Facebook site.

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booking in
2025

£50

AMAZON VOUCHER
for package bookings
with MGA August-
October 2025

£75

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for package bookings
with MGA in
July 2025

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Jetset Golf Day

JETSET'S ANNUAL Golf & Spa Day event was in full swing last week, and with help from the sponsors Flexible Autos, Air Canada, Stuba, United Airlines, Travelport, Etihad Airways, Qantas, Uniworld Boutique River Cruises, Air New Zealand, Singapore Airlines, and of course Jetset and Travel Bulletin, the event was a hole-in-one success for all!



SEPTEMBER SAFARIS: SOLO STYLE

Take in the wonders of South Africa, from the Big Five drives to the vast culinary scene with Solos.



SEPTEMBER OFFERS the perfect time for solo travellers to tick off a bucket-list adventure as the school holidays draw to a close and peak season crowds dwindle. Solos is offering the opportunity for travellers to experience a once-in-a-lifetime safari as the season hits its stride away from the crowds.

The 10-day 'Safari, Wine and Mother city' group tour combines Big Five

drives in Cape Town with the historic Stellenbosch wine region, allowing guests to delve deep into the wilderness before savouring the flavours of authentic African cuisine and uncover the stories behind the country's culinary traditions.

After arriving into Hoedspruit Airport from the UK, guests will be transferred to a private game lodge that sits within the Karongwe Private Game Reserve inside the Greater Kruger National Park. Travellers will embark on three game drives through the park, keeping an eye out for the Big Five as they roam the natural habitat.

Afterwards, guests will head to Cape

Town to sample a culinary journey in Africa's 'Mother City' on a Foodie Tour. Guests will also explore the Cape Peninsula and take a helicopter tour over the city before heading to Robben Island to immerse in the history of the World Heritage Site.

The itinerary will end with a wine and food tour through the Cape Winelands with visits to the Afrikaans Taal Monument, the Fairview Wine Farm for tastings, and time to explore Stellenbosch's foodie scene.

The 10-day tour leads in from £5,985, including return flights, internal flights, all excursions, accommodations and transfers.

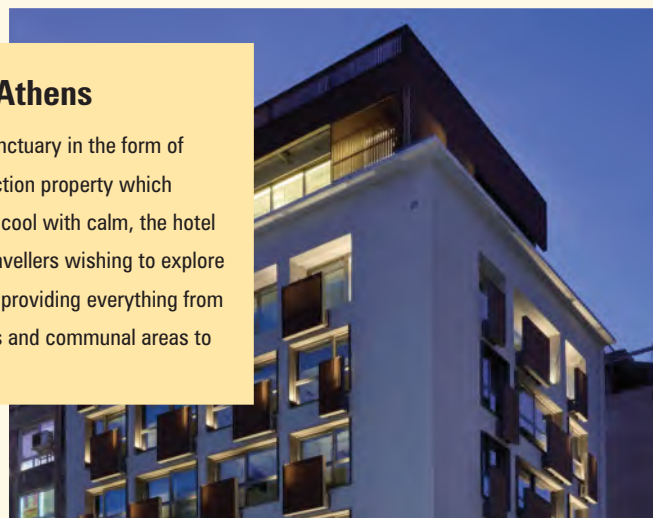
Solo searches soar in new cruise data

OVER THE last five years, Google Searches for 'solo cruise' has reached a worldwide high, soaring by up to 129%.

This trend, researched by Croatia Cruises, reflects the ease that comes with this travel type, allowing solo travellers to visit multiple destinations in one trip. Senior travel advisor Anastasia Tretjakova, said, "It's clear from the findings that solo travellers are opting for a hassle-free way to visit their bucket list destinations [...] Safety can be a huge concern when it comes to exploring the world alone, but thanks to the controlled setting and 24/7 staff that cruises offer, solo travellers are given the peace of mind."

The ultimate escape in Athens

THE HEART of Athens offers a solo sanctuary in the form of Twinn, a new four-star Santikos Collection property which opened its doors last year. Combining cool with calm, the hotel boasts the ultimate escape for solo travellers wishing to explore the ancient city at a low price of €65, providing everything from lavish breakfasts, private single rooms and communal areas to get to know like-minded travellers.





Just You's summer solo sale

SOLO SPECIALIST Just You has launched a limited time summer sale with savings of up to £500 up for grabs.

The campaign is available until July 31st, 2025, offering discounts across more than 500 European and Worldwide tours departing in 2025, 2026 and 2027.

Managing director Adam Kemp said this sale presents the "perfect opportunity for solo travellers to secure their next adventure and enjoy the exceptional value."



Ambassador to offer 50% off single fares

AS PART of Ambassador's 2027/2028 season launch, the cruise line is offering up to 50% off single supplements for solo travellers.

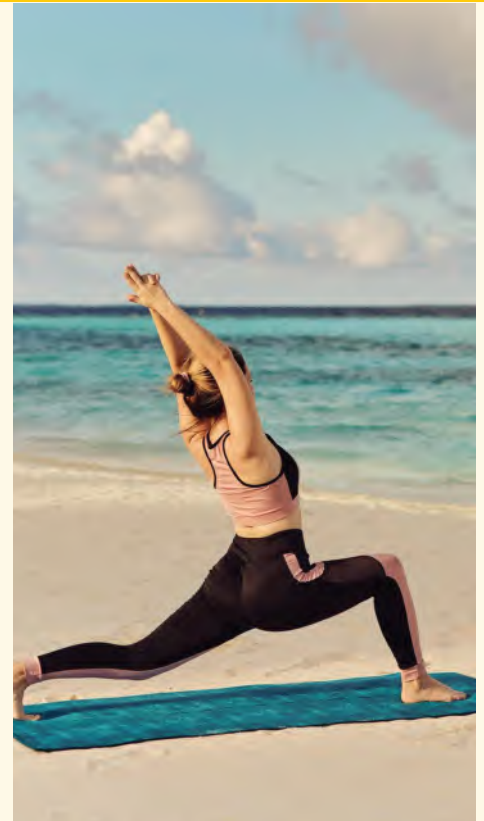
The season was officially launched last month in the form of a 116-page brochure filled with the latest sailings to popular destinations including the British Isles, Mediterranean, the Caribbean, the Americas and Scandinavia.

Soulful September for solo travellers

THIS SEPTEMBER Nova Maldives is inviting solo travellers to reconnect with themselves in the resort's Solo Traveller Month initiative — shining the spotlight on experiences and wellness programmes centring around those travelling alone.

In Forbes' 2024 Travel Trends Report, it was found that 76% of Millennials and Gen Z are planning a solo getaway for this year, mostly fuelled by their desire for mindful experiences. Nova is capitalising on that demand by offering a series of initiatives throughout September dedicated to solo travellers.

At the heart of Solo Traveller Month is the week-long 'Flow Retreat' led by Nova's resident yogi and guest practitioner. Each day will comprise of a complimentary sunrise session as well as sunset experiences including cacao ceremonies, ecstatic dance, sound healing and silent discos under the stars.



Guests will also attend wellness talks on healthy nutrition and yoga philosophy with optional one-on-one sessions. The Flow Retreat will run from September 15th to 21st, 2025.

'Moments for Me' at The Sarojin

WITH THAILAND being ranked one of the safest destinations for solo travellers, The Sarojin has launched a brand-new five-night summer package titled 'Moments for Me' — designed for those who wish for a restorative retreat.

The package includes a no single-supplement rate on a five-night stay before the end of September, alongside a series of exclusive experiences designed to make solo travellers feel right at home.

Guests will be greeted at Phuket Airport



by a member of The Sarojin team and privately transferred to the hotel where they will be checked into a Garden Residence room for five nights. A series of indulgent experiences await, including one-on-one Thai cooking classes; local market tours; a half-day Khao Lak excursion; 'me-time' massages in the Pathways Spa; and participation in the property's 'Yoga for the Community' sessions where the proceeds go to local causes.

Prices for the 'Moments for Me' package lead in from £1,100 per stay. There is the option to upgrade to the half-board option for approximately £1,230 per stay, where guests will be able to choose between daily lunch or dinner at either of the resort's restaurants: Edge or Ficus. Half-board credits can also be used towards a private dining experience, including dinner under a candlelit waterfall or on a private island.



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Japan Showcase

SOUTHAMPTON AND Dorking played host to some of the finest destinations and operators specialising in Japan this month!

Joined by the JNTO, Explore Shizuoka, ANA, Keio Plaza Hotel, Newmarket Holidays, Explore!, Japan-San, Korean Air, HIS, Miki Travel, Wendy Wu Tours, JR-Central, Riviera Travel and Glamping Villa Hanz, our Japan Showcase maintained its popularity with Southampton and Dorking's finest—several of whom left with some incredible prizes, including trips to the iconic destination!



The [#TBSHOWCASES](https://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/showcase) action returns in September! Northampton and Birmingham are playing host for our Touring & Adventure Holidays Showcases on September 15th and 16th, respectively. Confirm your place now by contacting events@travelbulletin.co.uk

PEACE IN THE CANARIES

A new luxury adults-only resort will open in Tenerife this December.



SCHEDULED TO open this December, the newly renovated Bahia Principe Luxury Tenerife has committed to offering high-end hospitality in the warmth of the largest Canary Island.

The new opening has earned a number of accolades for the brand, including its first luxury property in Spain, and its first adults-only all-inclusive resort in Tenerife, alongside the

Bahia Principe Sunlight Coral Playa in Mallorca.

The resort, formerly known as Bahia Principe Sunlight Tenerife, has undergone a vast series of changes, not just physical differences, but an altered concept centred on bringing natural harmony can be found throughout. The design has been inspired by the islands grand volcanic geology, with natural textures and earth tones running through the resort to connect guests with the location and create balance between the building and the land.

The resort itself houses 268 rooms, alongside the introduction of the new premium THE CLUB category which includes a private check in, an infinity

pool with private solarium, daily restocked mini fridges, premium amenities and more for guests who want elevated exclusivity with their stay.

The luxury resort also houses two new speciality restaurants: one dedicated to Canarian cuisine and the other a steakhouse. Both eateries are joined by the Aqua Pool Bar and the Teide Lobby Bar. Half-board options are available as well as the signature all-inclusive package.

There is still time to take advantage of Bahia's special booking offer to celebrate the opening of the resort, which is valid for bookings made by July 31st, 2025, for stays between December 1st, 2025, and October 31st, 2026.

Spend winter down under

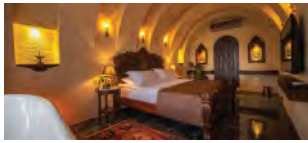
INSPIRING TRAVEL offers a combined tour across Australasia where guests will enjoy the wonders of Australia in the summertime with the 10-night 'Sydney, Rock and Reef' itinerary before heading over to spend 10 nights exploring the exotic islands of Fiji.

During the Australian leg, guests will embark on a series of tours including a small group tour of Sydney with a Lunchtime Harbour Cruise; tours at Kata Tjuta and Uluru; and a Quicksilver Great Barrier Reef Cruise. Over in Fiji, guests will spend five nights on the Coral Coast before heading to the Mamanuca Islands. Prices lead in from £7,555 per person for departures on November 3rd, 2025 or April 16th, 2026.

Tee off this winter under the Mauritian sun

A NEW addition to Sunlife's Mauritian portfolio is Anahita Golf & Spa Resort, offering travellers an elegant escape under the winter sun. Offering expansive suites and villas with up to five bedrooms, the resort promises a perfect hub for multigenerational holidays or group escapes. Beyond the resort, guests can tee off on the world-class Ile aux Cerfs course, unwind in the spa and dive underneath the marina waters.





Wyndham's cave of wonders

NESTLED IN the heart of Türkiye's Cappadocia region, Wyndham has opened debuted its first-ever cave hotel in the form of Signature Cave Cappadocia, Trademark Collection by Wyndham. The grand 27-suite property celebrates the regions traditions through its furnishings, breathing new life into an ancient past.

Experience Oman this winter

OMAN OFFERS an alternative to the average winter sun destination, allowing travellers a taste of everything from beach fixes to desert adventures and immersive cultural journeys.

In A'Sharqiya Sands, located a couple of hours from Muscat, visitors can enjoy camel rides, dune bashing and stargazing under the unspoilt night sky, with the option to stay in the Desert Nights Camp from £127.

In the Al Hajar Mountains, travellers can escape the heat with views from the Wadi Ghul, known as the 'Grand Canyon of Arabia'. Visitors can opt to partake in a 'Balcony Walk' around the rim of the canyon. For those looking for a more relaxed cultural break can take a tour through Muscat and explore the Qaboos



Grand Mosque and the Royal Opera House.

With direct flights from most UK cities and temperatures of up to 30 degrees from October to March, the destination is an ideal place to avoid the frigid UK temperatures.



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British Airways connects the capitals

BRITISH AIRWAYS has made its first connection between London and Rabat, bringing its total operations to Morocco up to three just in time for the winter season.

Departing London Gatwick from November 5th, 2025, the service will depart to Rabat twice-weekly with British Airways' Gatwick subsidiary airline BA Euroflyer.

Karen Hilton, managing director of BA Euroflyer, said Morocco is "ideal for those seeking off-season escapes without a lengthy flight time. The addition of Rabat means we now fly to three fantastic destinations in Morocco – an excellent choice for families, couples and friends alike."

Prices lead in from £70 each way.



SENSES OF SUMMER

InsideJapan's summer campaign pushes off-peak travel—not just for the savings.



THE NEXT phase of InsideJapan's mission to reduce overtourism to Japan arrived earlier this summer in the form of the operator's 'Senses of Summer' campaign.

Highlighting the value and largely uncompromised experience of the destination in the summer, tailor-made

product manager Kate Samuel iterated that the summer is "one of the best times of year to experience popular sights with fewer crowds."

The campaign was followed by a spotlight on five 'undertouristed' destinations—the first of which is the Toyama prefecture. Sitting two- and-a-half hours from Tokyo by bullet train, Kate believes the prefecture's rice fields and rural landscapes are "the embodiment of picture-perfect Japan."

Toyama can be seamlessly integrated into any of InsideJapan's tailor-made tours, but also stars alongside Tokyo, Kamakura and Fukui in the self-guided

'Hidden Zen' itinerary, leading in from £7,180 per person.

Inside Travel Group co-founder, Simon King, invited agents to "save up to £920 per person on some tours, just by doing them in the summer months."

"Japan is probably one of the few places in the world that is a little bit cheaper and quieter on the ground during the summer months and in some ways, it is a better time to travel."

At the turn of the year, the operator reduced off-season prices by 15% overall and shoulder season rates by 7% to combat overtourism fuelled by incredible demand for Japan.

Audley's Southeast Asia Seabourn partnership

TAILOR-MADE LUXURY specialist Audley Travel has extended its partnership with luxury cruise operator Seabourn.

That extension sees the introduction of new luxury rail and cruise combinations; a sample 24-day Southeast Asia by train and luxury Seabourn cruise itinerary blends a 14-night all-inclusive sailing between Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Singapore and a three-night luxury train passage through Malaysia. Prices lead in from £15,310 per person including flights, transfers, accommodation pre- and post-cruise, rail passage and select excursions.

Emirates bolsters regional connectivity

DA NANG, Vietnam and Siem Reap, Cambodia have been made more accessible via Bangkok thanks to two new Emirates connections, which took flight in June.

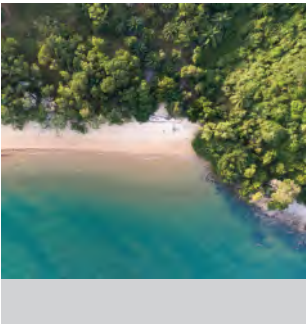
VP of passenger sales and country management, Nabil Sultan, described the routes as "a significant milestone in strengthening Emirates' presence in Southeast Asia and reinforcing our long-standing commitment to Thailand."





Focus on High-Value, Sustainable Tourism

While growing arrival numbers remains a goal, Thailand is focused on attracting high-value travellers who stay longer, spend more locally, and seek immersive experiences. This includes travellers looking for authentic cultural connections, regional cuisine, local tours, and off-the-beaten-track adventures.



Promoting Hidden Gems

TO SUPPORT this, TAT is promoting at least 15 lesser-known destinations to UK and European markets. In Northern Thailand, Nan province—home to the award-winning Bo Suak Village—is emerging as a standout for community-based, cultural tourism. In the South, tranquil spots like Ranong, Khanom (Surat Thani), and Nakhon Si Thammarat offer peaceful alternatives to Thailand’s more commercial beach hubs.

UK-Thai travel is up 20% —and it’s set to grow

BETWEEN JANUARY and May 2025, Thailand welcomed 508,000 visitors from the United Kingdom—a 20% year-on-year increase. This momentum is expected to build further into the peak season, helped by expanded airlift and targeted marketing. Double daily services from London to Bangkok by Thai Airways and daily EVA Air flights have been instrumental, alongside the return of British Airways’ and TUI’s seasonal flights. From October 2025, Norse Atlantic will launch a new London Gatwick–Bangkok route, adding further capacity. Carriers such as Etihad are expanding their networks to include connections to Chiang Mai and Krabi via Abu Dhabi, improving access to secondary cities and supporting efforts to disperse tourism more evenly. Thailand’s rising profile, including starring as filming locations for *The White Lotus* and the upcoming *Jurassic Park* sequel, is also drawing attention from new travellers or



inspiring repeat visitors to explore Thailand in a different way. The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) continues to work closely with UK tour operators and airlines through joint marketing campaigns, agent training, and consumer promotions.

Policy Updates: Visa, TDAC & Tourism Tax

IN TERMS of visa policy, there is no confirmed extension yet to the free visa stay. Decisions on this remain with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. However, Thai officials are optimistic that policies will continue to evolve in ways that support longer stays and easier access for international visitors. One important recent change is the introduction of the Thailand Digital Arrival Card (TDAC), now a mandatory entry requirement from May 1st, 2025. Most

visitors have adapted well to the new system, with help desks available at major airports to assist with any issues. The TDAC enhances national security and aids in tourism management. Discussions continue around a potential tourism tax, though no implementation date has been announced. Still under review by the Thai Cabinet, the proposed tax aims to fund sustainability projects, enhance visitor safety, and provide insurance coverage for tourists.



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A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER 

From Manchester to East Asian masterpieces

AFTER MUMBAI joined IndiGo’s roster from Manchester Airport this month, the airport has highlighted its connectivity to some of the most in-demand destinations across East Asia.

Among them is Singapore Airlines’ direct service to Singapore Changi, which is not only the city-state’s gateway to a stacked roster of international destinations, but is, in itself, worthy of exploration. Its famously photogenic waterfall, The Jewel, easy access to the Marina Bay Sands Hotel and location on the doorstep of Singaporean adventure makes it a prime pick for the futuristic Far Eastern adventure of your clients’ dreams.

Beijing has been directly connected

from Manchester since 2016, with the best-preserved stretch of the Great Wall of China on the airport’s doorstep.

Phuket maintains its place as one of TUI’s most popular picks for winter sun, with direct flights operating between November and April to some of the most pristine beaches in the world.



Fuji Dream Airlines unveils standalone charter

THIS SUMMER is the first time that Fuji Dream Airlines is offering its exclusive scenic charter, promising guests an unmatched view of Mount Fuji, as a standalone experience.

Previously available as part of an inclusive tour package, the charter flight operates on either a 76- or 84-seat plane, departing at 7:30am and returning around an hour later. Fares for the standalone charter lead in from approximately £101 per person, inclusive of local tea and Japanese snacks.

Any summer holiday plans?

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Vegas trip then retiring on my winnings!



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Away for a holiday after our 50th Anniversary Round the World party!



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Go to the beach now my son’s chemo has finished.



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After a very busy June and July ... nope!



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To become Godmother to Holly’s new puppy!



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Getting my new puppy!



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Nothing as of yet, I’m saving for a big family holiday next year!



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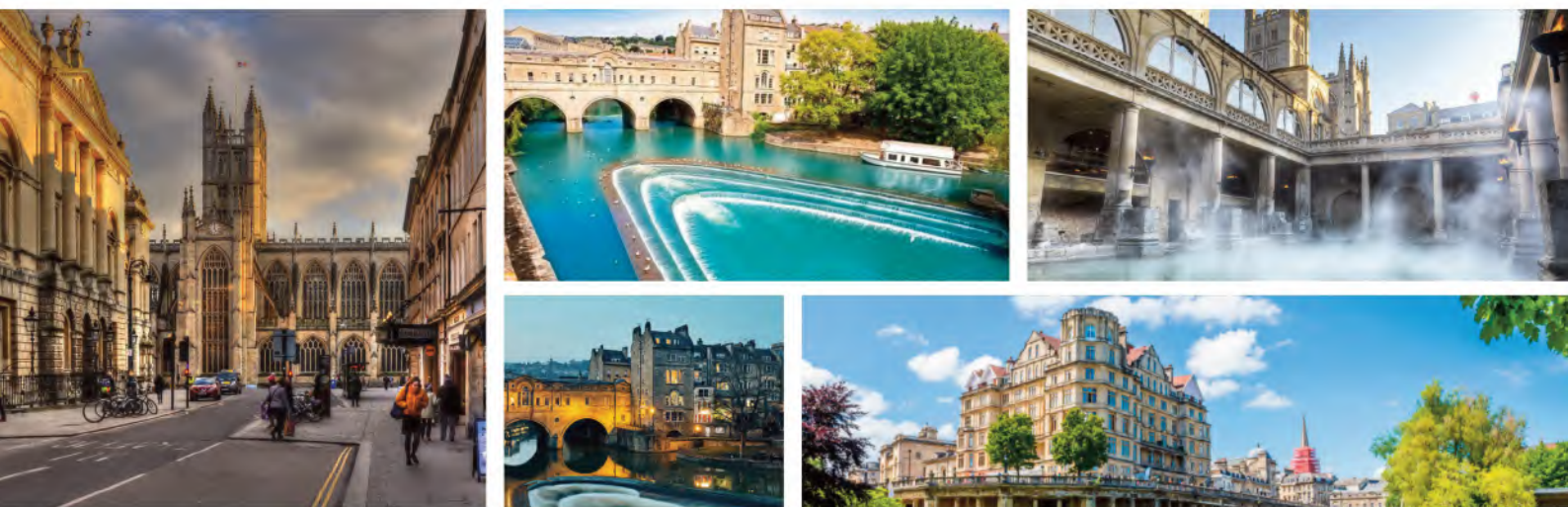
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TIMINGS

10.00am Registration, coffee & biscuits	10.30am - 12.45pm Presentations from 4 leading suppliers	12.45pm Lunch	1.30pm - 2.30pm Presentations from 2 leading suppliers	2.30pm - 3pm Free prize draw.
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#TBSHOWCASES

To confirm your place at this amazing event, email your name, company, and contact details by **Friday 5th September** to events@travelbulletin.co.uk or telephone:

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