

travelbulletin

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Giving agents the edge

AGENT INSIGHT

Ben & Toni Rood, Not Just Travel, discuss the increasing confidence for holiday bookings

IN THE HOT SEAT

Abdullah Al Dakhil, Saudi Tourism Authority, on Saudi being the next holiday hotspot

GREECE & CYPRUS

Grecian hotel stays and holidays to book for your clients

MEXICO

Venture away from the beaten path with our unique picks

ADVENTURE & ACTIVITY

Land or sea, get your clients' adrenaline pumping!



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Supplier
Presentations

2:35pm

Live Q & A Session
and Prizes

3:00pm

Webinar
Ends

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DESTINATION DREAMING

New research from Holiday Extras has found that Brits want to visit new places when international travel opens up, rather than return to old favourites.



Many travellers have their eyes set on holiday adventures a little further afield.

THE PANDEMIC has created a nation of adventurers, it appears. New research by Holiday Extras has revealed that four-in five-Brits (81%) plan on heading to new destinations when international travel is permitted, and are open to being adventurous with their choices, rather than returning to trusted holiday destinations.

The study of 1,000 UK holidaymakers, carried out by Holiday Extras, found that people planning on visiting somewhere new wanted to enjoy a change of scenery (44%), with a fifth (20%) putting it down to lockdown giving them itchy feet and an urge to explore. 17% said

that they have used the past year to save up in order to take a "special" holiday when leisure travel is permitted.

Before the pandemic, more than half (53%) of those surveyed said they would usually take an overseas trip to the same destination, either because of having property, friends, or family members in that location (22%), or because they liked the familiarity (19%). One in 10 (7%) went as far as to say they didn't like new places, and 5% of those polled said they want to travel back to past favourite destinations.

While almost a third of Brits (29%) plan on having a short break in the UK, many have their eyes set on

adventures a little further afield. A third (33%) of Brits dream of island hopping in Greece once they are able to do so, and 28% claim they are most likely to be found relaxing on a beach in Fiji on an upcoming trip. A further 21% hope to go surfing in Hawaii, and an adventurous 17% dream of going on safari in South Africa.

Seamus McCauley, head of communications at Holiday Extras, said: "...with confidence in travel returning, and many people more flexible on their choice of destination, they are simply waiting for the government to lift the ban on overseas travel so they can jump on a plane."

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P&O Cruises introduces short-break UK voyages

P&O CRUISES has launched its 'Ultimate Escape' UK voyages, aboard its flagship Britannia and new ship Iona, setting sail this summer.

The cruises, departing from Southampton for roundtrip sailings between June and September 2021, are open for bookings now, but only for UK residents who have received complete vaccination dosages against COVID-19.

Britannia will sail on three- and four-night cruises and one six-night holiday, from June 27, 2021 through to September 19, 2021, with prices starting from £449 per person for a three-night break. This price includes full board meals and entertainment, departing from Southampton, with the cruise exploring the south coast of England.



Image Credit: P&O Cruises

P&O Cruises offers flexible booking transfers until 30 days prior to departure.

Iona will offer seven night itineraries, between August 7, 2021 and September 18, 2021. Iona's inaugural cruise, 'Scottish Islands', is priced at £1,199 per person, based on a August 7, 2021 departure date, with a roundtrip departure from Southampton, cruising around Scotland, including the Inner Hebrides and the island of Iona.

Another seven night cruise

on Iona, titled 'Voyage to the Sun', starts at £779 per person, on a full board basis with on-board entertainment. This roundtrip voyage from Southampton includes coastal cruising past the Channel Islands, and sailing along the coast of France. Travel insurance will be mandatory for all guests.

www.pocruises.com

Saudi Tourism Authority launches UK & Ireland office

THE SAUDI Tourism Authority (STA) has opened a commercial office for the UK and Ireland as part of its strategy to engage the worldwide tourism trade and raise awareness of Saudi's tourism offerings.

The expansion is part of a plan to have representative offices in 15 markets around the world, including China, India and the GCC, among others, and expand the reach of the STA's activities. The UK and Ireland office will be responsible for trade marketing activities, expanding the reach and relevance of Saudi

as a tourist destination, working with tour operators, travel agents and other industry stakeholders to build awareness and drive conversion in line with STA's strategy and mission.

To support the international tourism trade, STA is building a comprehensive digital infrastructure that will provide partner companies with data, insights, destination information and creative assets in real time.

www.sta.gov.sa/en/

Visit the Jane Austen Festival in Bath with Just Go! Holidays

JUST GO! Holidays is offering a new, four-day 'Jane Austen Festival' self-drive break in September 2021, as part of its Historic Houses range.

Every autumn, a large gathering of Jane Austen enthusiasts visit Bath to celebrate the life and achievements of the author. The festival includes events such as the Grand Regency Costumed Promenade, public readings, theatricals and discussions on food and 18th-century fashion.

Guests will get the chance to attend two special events at the Jane Austen Festival, as well as guided tours of Bath, Bowood House, the family home of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne, and the Ilford Manor Gardens.



Image Credit: The Jane Austen Festival - Owen Bensson

Prices start at £525 per person, based on two sharing with a 10 September, 2021 departure date, and includes three nights accommodation at the four-star Meure Bristol Holland House & Spa, with breakfast and dinner, and four excursions with transfers.

www.justgoholidays.com/agents



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Jet2 adds more flights to summer 2021 hotspots

JET2.COM AND Jet2holidays have added more flights for summer 2021 holidays to the Canary Islands, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Turkey and Cyprus.

Clients from Belfast International, East Midlands, Leeds Bradford, Manchester and Newcastle Airports can now enjoy even more choice when it comes to booking holidays this summer.

Flights to Tenerife, Lanzarote, Gran Canaria and Fuerteventura will be available between the end of June and early November.

www.trade.jet2holidays.com

Intrepid unveils premium adventures for 2022

INTREPID TRAVEL has introduced a new choice of tours, dubbed Intrepid Premium. This collection of tours features hand-picked accommodation, private transportation, train journeys and a wealth of signature experiences.

The Intrepid Premium range spans 40 countries, giving guests more than 70 new trip options, with departures from January 2022. Every itinerary includes a featured stay and signature experience that will not be available on any other Intrepid trips. The featured stays include the Orient Star, a former madrasah in Khiva, Uzbekistan; Nkuringo Bwindi Gorilla Lodge, an eco-friendly jungle hideaway with views over Uganda's Bwindi



Hot air balloons rising over Cappadocia.

Impenetrable Forest; and Splendid Cave Hotel, where guests have a front row seat to view hot air balloons rising over Cappadocia.

Signature experiences include a sand dune dinner under the stars in Pushkar, India and a community stay in Peru that includes a visit to

see the Ese Eja people, an indigenous community considered the stewards of the Peruvian rainforest.

The Premium tours will be led by Intrepid's most experienced leaders and destination experts.

www.intrepidtravel.com

Wendy Wu celebrates end of lockdown with 'flash sale'

WITH THE UK now given a restart date for international travel, agents can plan their clients' next worldwide trips with Wendy Wu Tours' end of lockdown flash sale.

This 10-day sale sees the operator offering savings of up to £1,000 for holidays in 2022 and 2023 throughout Japan, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, India, Sri Lanka, Middle East, China and Latin America, all of which can be booked and secured with a £99 early deposit.

The flash sale savings are on offer until March 29, 2021.

Visit

www.wendywutours.co.uk/agents for more information.

CLIA to host virtual ship seminars throughout April and May

CRUISE LINES International Association (CLIA) is set to hold a series of webinars, inviting agents to learn about the cruise lines that are ready to restart sailings in 2021.

The hour-long sessions will be held on the following dates: May 13 with Carnival Cruise Line and Holland America; May 27 with Scenic Cruises and Avalon Waterways; June 3 with Royal Caribbean and P&O; and June 10 with AmaWaterways and another line to be confirmed.

CLIA is also reintroducing a round of virtual ship tours. These sessions launch on April 8, 2021 and will be held on Thursdays at 9:30am over four weeks in April and May. The sessions will be co-hosted by four cruise lines on the following: April 8

(Carnival Cruise Line, AmaWaterways, Fred Olsen Cruise Line, APT); April 15 (Celebrity Cruises, Holland America Line, Marella Cruises, Seabourn); April 29 (A-Rosa, Oceania Cruises, Princess Cruises, Nicko); and May 6 (Amadeus, MSC Cruises, Silversea, Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection).

Andy Harmer, CLIA UK & Ireland director, said: "We are delighted to announce these sessions. With cruise now firmly on the travel agent agenda, and all of us looking forward to its phased return, now is the perfect time to learn more about the amazing ships that will begin taking to the water soon."

Agents can register at www.cruising.org/en-gb/events



Get a taste of Formentera with a digital map for foodies

WHILE FORMENTERA prepares to re-open their borders and welcome back tourism, the Formentera Tourist Board has unveiled a new food map to help visitors savour the best of the island's offerings.

Highlighting the island's traditional cuisine and distinct flavours, the map showcases a number of locally owned businesses across the island where tourists will find the best local flavours and learn about Formentera's culinary history.

Download the map and explore what else the island has to offer at www.formentera.es/en.



AGENT INSIGHT

BEN & TONI ROD NOT JUST TRAVEL

THERE IS some real positivity in the air at the moment. Ever since Boris Johnson's road map announcement we have seen a huge spike in enquiries for holidays, both for this year and next year. Customers definitely have more confidence now. Those that were sitting on the fence in January and waiting to see what happened are starting to book now as confidence returns.

This summer, the UK staycation market is massive, which we thought it would be, but we are seeing lots of overseas bookings as well. Not Just Travel's Book and Relax policy has helped to reassure people that they will be taken care of, and together with our Covid Travel insurance, customers now have the confidence to say yes to booking. They know that their money and booking is safe even if the worst happens and if travel isn't given the all-clear for this summer and beyond. Also, they know they have Covid travel insurance, which really helps to boost confidence.

We are seeing lots of enquiries for a variety of destinations. Lapland is still popular, as are Greece, Dubai, Crete and Cyprus. Another trend we are seeing is people's renewed confidence in bookings to America since Biden's inauguration. Biden seems to be saying the right things and they are cracking on with their Covid vaccination plans. We've read recently that they hope to get all adults vaccinated by the end of July and that's giving people more confidence. The US is a big market for the UK travel industry, so that's good news as we head back to normality.

We are also seeing people booking bigger and more adventurous holidays, as they have saved money. We have seen several bookings for holidays over £10,000. With the UK starting to hit the key road map dates – such as children going back to school, people will gain more confidence and things will keep getting better and better. It feels a bit like we are going into peak season, which is really nice. There is a real sense of positivity in the air.



ADVENTUROUS HOLIDAYMAKERS can head to Timanfaya National Park on an expansive exploration of Lanzarote's volcanic landscapes with ToursByLocals. Exploring sunken gardens and volcanic caves or cycling to remote spots and hidden corners, ToursByLocals can totally customise their tours based on guests' requests. Agents earn 5% commission with every booking made. www.toursbylocals.com

Princess Cruises unveils 'Princess Plus' all-inclusive package for 2021

A NEW all-inclusive option is set to launch aboard Princess Cruises' fleet this year; the 'Princess Plus' package will allow guests to upgrade their cruise from £30 per person, per day.

The new 'Princess Plus' offering is an onboard saving package which includes premium drinks, unlimited high-speed MedallionNet Wi-Fi, and onboard gratuities, meaning the package saves guests £35 every day.

The premium drinks upgrade includes cocktails, wine, beer, spirits, fruit juices, mocktails, smoothies, coffee and tea.

Adding Princess Plus to cruise fares is commissionable for travel agents, and can be applied to both retail and net fares. Agents are able to add the package to existing bookings.



Guests booking with Princess Cruises can now upgrade their bookings for £30 per person, per day.

Tony Roberts, Princess Cruises' vice president, UK & Europe, explained: "We're confident that Princess Plus will be even more appealing to guests, as there's little difference between the standard cruise fare and the Princess Plus price. We're excited that agents will be able to provide their customers with even better value for an all-inclusive cruise with Princess."

For more, visit www.princess.com



TO ENSURE travel agent partners are kept up to date with the latest product and information from Jamaica, the Jamaica Tourist Board will be hosting an 'Easter Traditions in JAMAICA' webinar on March 31, 2021 at 3:30pm. Agents can register for the webinar [here](#).

AGENT TRAINING

CELEBRITY CRUISES has launched a trade-dedicated podcast as part of its ongoing drive to find digital solutions that support agents working from home.

'Conversations with Celebrity', hosted by Leon Hand, training manager at Celebrity Cruises, is specifically aimed at educating, inspiring and entertaining travel agents. Each monthly episode will provide an update of the latest brand news and quick-fire training, plus Leon will welcome a compelling guest from the brand to dive deeper into their personal story and discuss what they love about travel. The podcast is now available to stream on Spotify and SoundCloud.



AGENT INCENTIVES

- ATLANTIS, THE Palm, the expansive Dubai-based resort, is extending its points-based agent incentive, giving handpicked UK trade partners the chance to collect online shopping credits, redeemable at Amazon, with every room booked. The programme lets agents sign up with a quick registration at the resort's dedicated Booking Rewards portal followed by an account activation. Upon registering, eligible agents can log each online booking onto the rewards portal. www.atlantisresortsincentives.com
- SOVEREIGN LUXURY Holidays and Citalia have launched a trade booking incentive called 'Here Comes The Sun'. Agents can earn a £20 Love2shop voucher per new booking made with either company. The minimum booking value to qualify is £4,000 and all bookings need to be made before April 12. All claims need to be sent within seven days of the closing date of the promotion to tradesupport@travelopia.com and agents must state their name, address, agency name, ABTA / Consortia number and relevant booking reference.

HERE COMES THE *Sun*

EARN £20 LOVE2SHOP PER BOOKING

*Valid for any new bookings made between 08.03.21 and 12.04.21 inclusive. Booking value must be a minimum of £4000. All claims need to be sent within 7 days of the closing date of the promotion to tradesupport@travelopia.com and state your name, address, agency name, ABTA / Consortia number and relevant booking reference.

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SATA will connect the Azores (via Ponta Delgada) to London, from June 3 to September 30, 2021, on Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays.

For Nature lovers, for adventure lovers, for foodies and for those who need a break, the Azores are a magical place in the middle of the Atlantic where you can take a deep breath.

www.sata4agents.com

A-ROSA River Cruises adds new voyages for 2022



The cruise line is set to debut both new voyages and a new ship in 2022.

A-ROSA RIVER Cruises UK & Ireland has expanded its programme for 2022 with a number of new voyages.

Lucia Rowe, managing director, A-ROSA, UK & Ireland, commented: "Agents and partners can sell our cruises, safe in the knowledge that even during Covid last year, we sailed Covid-free successfully for five months. For 2022, we have some great new product on sale..."

The programme will see the inaugural sailings for A-ROSA's new E-motion ship from spring 2022. A range of itineraries aboard the new ship will launch along the Northern Rhine, including the seven-night 'Rhine Experience: Amsterdam & Rotterdam' programme. The ship departs from Cologne for a roundtrip, calling at Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Dordrecht, and Antwerp along the way. Guests can enjoy the cruise on a premium all-inclusive basis from £1,190 per person; departure dates range from May 21 to October 22, 2022.

Partnered A-ROSA agents can book through the brand's extranet, or contact A-ROSA at hello@arosa-cruises.co.uk

Railbookers releases two new rail journey brochures

AS GUESTS look ahead to a return to staycations and luxury worldwide travel at some point this year, Railbookers has unveiled two new brochures, focusing on independent UK rail holidays and luxury railway journeys throughout 2021 and 2022.

Railbookers' sales and marketing manager, Anna Davies, explained: "...we have seen demand increase from customers looking for a holiday closer to home, within the UK."

Railbookers can work alongside agents to customise rail breaks based on their clients' needs.

Explore the new offerings across two brochures at www.railbookers.com

Sandals Resorts launches a package for lockdown lovers

WITH VIDEO calls being the only interaction for some couples in lockdown, and those self-isolating together undoubtedly looking forward to a romantic getaway, Sandals Resorts has collated a special package offer for lockdown lovers to enjoy just that.

The 'Meet Me in the Caribbean' offering includes a seven-night break at Sandals Grenada Resort & Spa, with Luxury Included (Sandals' all-inclusive offering) accommodation in a Lover's Lagoon Hideaway Walkout Junior Suite with Patio Tranquility Soaking Tub, return economy flights with Virgin Atlantic from London Heathrow, resort transfers, and more. Agents have the option to enhance their clients' holidays with a private candlelit dinner for two or a Red Lane Spa massage.



The package starts from £1,855 per person, including all-inclusive accommodation, flights and transfers. This price is valid for travel between September 1 and September 30, 2021 when booked before April 28, 2021.

www.sandals.co.uk



Canadian Affair unveils US sister brand

CANADIAN AFFAIR is set to launch a US-focused operation, American Affair, on March 29, 2021, offering package holidays to destinations across the States, principally through trade sales.

The operator will offer a price match guarantee against all other operators on its tailor-made packages across a wide variety of destinations, from New York to Chicago and Miami to California.

Agents will earn £20 in Love2shop vouchers with every booking made throughout April 2021.

www.americanaffair.com

SUDOKU

Win a £50 M&S voucher in the **travelbulletin** Su Doku prize puzzle A

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, April 1st. Solution and new puzzle will appear in our next issue.

The winner for March 12th is **Mike Richardson from Villair Travel.**

March 12th Solution: A=5 B=4 C=9 D=8

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



WHERE AM I?

Located on the north coast of its country, this place is a major cruise ship port as well as being home to many popular beach resorts. The coral reefs are popular with snorkellers and divers, and its name is thought to have come from the Spanish word for 'lard'.

CROSSWORD

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

1			2		3					4
5		6						7		
				8	9					
10					11					12
13				14						
	15									

Across

- 1 Hotel chain (7,3)
- 5 Cruise ship ___ Princess, sounds like a gem (7)
- 7 London City airport code (3)
- 8 Isle of Wight tourist attraction, ___ House (7)
- 10 West African country (7)
- 13 Travel by way of (3)
- 14 Capital with a Forbidden City (7)
- 15 Everyone is talking about this Netflix Regency drama (10)

Down

- 1 First name of outspoken GMB presenter who recently quit his job (5)
- 2 Rocky Mountain state (5)
- 3 Cross-Solent operator ___ Funnel (3)
- 4 Devon/Dorset Bay, sounds like a fruit (4)
- 6 Tallinn is the capital (7)
- 7 Famous rock on the Rhine river (7)
- 9 Therapeutic health resort or hotel (3)
- 10 Capital of Fiji (4)
- 11 French river and valley (5)
- 12 Manchester town featured in the title of a George Orwell book (5)
- 14 Reality TV show, Four in a ___ (3)

Mystery Word: PENANG Where am I? - Montego Bay, Jamaica
 Down: 1 PIERS, 2 IDAHO, 3 RED, 4 LYME, 5 ESTONIA, 7 LORELEI, 9 SPA 10 SUVA, 11 LOIRE, 12 WIGAN, 14 BED.
 Across: 1 PREMIER INN, 5 EMERALD, 7 LCY, 8 OSBORNE, 10 SENEGAL, 13 VIA, 14 BEIJING, 15 BRIDGERTON.

Solution:

In the hot seat with...

Abdullah Al Dakhil

STA spokesperson



As Saudi Arabia opens its doors to tourism for the first time ever, *Travel Bulletin* speaks with Abdullah Al Dakhil, spokesperson for Saudi Tourism Authority, on what the travel trade can expect to see...

Tell us a bit about the upcoming Saudi Roadshow on March 30-31?

As it relates to leisure tourism, Saudi is a relatively new destination.

Our focus is two-fold. While it is fundamental to drive awareness about Saudi amongst travellers around the world, we must also engage, educate and inspire our travel trade partners about the diverse products and experiences that Arabia offers.

The Saudi Roadshow is an opportunity for our partners to meet one-on-one with senior representatives from key destination, experience and hospitality brands. It is a platform for them to ask questions, build relationships and stimulate conversations around potential commercial partnership opportunities. This is the first time we are engaging trade at this level. The response to date has been extremely positive and we look forward to increasing activity to further showcase the Saudi offering.

How is Saudi planning to increase tourist numbers?

We aim to achieve 100 million annual visits to the

“ We are investing in developing strong relationships with key partners in the travel trade sector... ”

Kingdom by 2030, made up of both domestic and international travellers.

To achieve this goal, we have developed a strategy to drive the number of visits, increase spending and to build a leading tourism brand for Saudi.

Our campaigns highlight what Saudi has to offer – its rich culture, deep heritage, diversity of landscapes and hospitality. This is what we want the world to discover about Saudi.

You mention culture and heritage – how is the STA planning on showcasing this to tourists?

Saudi has a diverse offering when it comes to culture and heritage. The country is

home to five UNESCO World Heritage Sites, and a further 11 sites on the UNESCO tentative list.

As we develop this aspect of our offering, Hegra in AlUla and Diriyah on the outskirts of Riyadh are spotlight projects for tourists considering a visit to Saudi in the coming months.

Hegra, once the southern capital of the Nabataean kingdom, officially opened to leisure tourism in October 2020. Located in AlUla, there are several infrastructure projects in the pipeline, such as French architect Jean Nouvel's luxury resort in the Sharaan Reserve and luxury hotel group Aman's three eco-focused resorts.

Diriyah, the birthplace of the Saudi state, aims to become one of the region's foremost destinations for historical and cultural activities and international events.

How does STA plan to engage with the travel trade?

We are investing in developing strong relationships with key partners in the travel trade sector in all of our priority source markets.

We are in the process of building a network of international offices, responsible for both trade and consumer marketing activities, to expand the reach and relevance of Saudi's tourism offer.

Each market will be tasked with developing a tailored, strategic approach to most effectively engage with their target audiences, whether it be workshops, roadshows, training, marketing campaign or FAM trips.

Register to attend the Saudi Virtual Roadshow at www.JourneysinArabia.com

INDIA & INDIAN OCEAN



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

TRAVEL WITH PURPOSE

Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa has introduced its 'Adopt a Coral' experience for guests, as part of 'Good Travel with Marriott Bonvoy'.

WITH TRAVELLERS increasingly aspiring to make a positive impact on the communities they visit abroad, Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa has introduced its 'Adopt a Coral' programme, as part of Good Travel with Marriott Bonvoy.

Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa joins 14 other Marriott International properties across the Asia-Pacific as part of the programme's pilot launch. Good Travel with Marriott Bonvoy is a programme offering meaningful travel, aiming to create opportunities for guests to forge first-hand connections with local communities and the environment during their stay, promoting both cultural understanding and positive change.

'Adopt a Coral' at Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort &



Image Credit: Sheraton Maldives

The 'Adopt a Coral' experience is available to all guests.

Spa invites guests to participate in the coral-fragment plantation activity in an effort to promote reef habitats and generate new coral. The resort has teamed up with Reefscapers, a coral propagation organisation appointed by the Maldivian Government as custodians of the coral colonies in the Gulhi Falhu lagoon, which was slated to be destroyed as part of a reclamation project. The activity is led by experts and offers a hands-on experience to participants

while also providing an alternative business to the 250 inhabitants, whose sole previous source of employment was fishing.

The experience is available for guests to experience year-round.

Nightly rates at Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa start from £315 per night based on two people sharing a Deluxe Garden View King Room on a bed-and-breakfast basis.

www.marriott.co.uk

Marvel at Mauritius with Saga Holidays

SAGA HOLIDAYS' 16-day itinerary, 'Enchanting Mauritius: An Island Discovery,' takes guests through the major tourist attractions of Bel Ombre, Turtle Bay and Belle Mare.

The holiday allows guests to explore the culture and history of Mauritius at a leisurely pace. Travellers will visit the sacred Lake of Grand Bassin, the Chamarel Waterfalls, the Naval Museum in Mahebourg, and the beautiful Casela Nature Park, home to different species of birds, giant tortoises, tigers, monkeys, lemurs and fruit bats.

Hikers and nature enthusiasts can also visit Trou aux Cerfs, a dormant volcano located near Curepipe, the historic village of Souillac, and the botanical garden developed by the Irish botanist Charles Telfair.

An underwater safari at Trou aux Biches beach submerges tourists two-and-a-half-metres underwater (fitted with helmets and diving weights) to experience the fascinating marine life of the Indian Ocean.

Prices start from £3,449 per person based on two sharing and a June 6, 2022 departure date.

www.travel.saga.co.uk

INTRODUCING INDIA

Riviera's 11-day India tour is an ideal introduction to the nation's heritage and history, ticking off all the highlights, from the Taj Mahal to the Golden Triangle, along the way.



RIVIERA TRAVEL'S 11-day India tour spotlights cultural highlights and historical hotspots on an eye opening trip for guests.

Upon arrival in New Delhi, guests check in to the five-star Taj Palace Hotel before a guided tour of the city, exploring notable landmarks along the way, including the Qutub Minar, India's tallest stone tower, as well as the former Viceroy's Palace.

The following day sees guests explore Old Delhi before continuing on to Agra, checking in to the four-star Oberoi Trident Hotel.

Day four encapsulates one of the highlights of the trip, as the group watch the sunrise and sunset over the Taj Mahal.

Continuing on from Agra, the tour visits the ancient abandoned city of Fatehpur Sikri, which hosts centuries of history including the Laxmi Vilas Palace, where guests enjoy lunch.

Another highlight awaits the tour on day six, with an open-top, four-wheeled adventure at Ranthambore Tiger Safari. As well as the elusive tigers, the safari is also home to over

300 species of birds.

India's 'pink city', Jaipur, is the next stop, with a visit to the famous Hawa Mahal, or Palace of the Winds, and the City Palace, home to the Maharajah of Jaipur, and an overnight stay at the four-star Hilton Jaipur.

The group then ventures just outside of Jaipur to visit the expansive Amber Fort.

After a final night in Jaipur, the tour continues to Rajasthan, which showcases India's merchant history, including the former site of the Silk Road.

Enjoying an overnight stay in Rajasthan, the tour ventures back to New Delhi for the final day of the tour, at guests' leisure.

The holiday starts from £1,699 per person, and can be secured with a £200 per person deposit. All bookings include daily breakfast and seven meals, return flights, all transfers, and nine nights accommodation in three- to five-star hotels.

www.rivieratravel.co.uk

Say hello to Hilton: Seychelles Labriz Resort & Spa

THE HILTON Seychelles Labriz Resort & Spa, secluded on the remote island of Silhouette, offers a variety of excursions, spa treatments, a kid's club and a whole island for guests to explore at their leisure.

The resort itself sits along a 2.5km stretch of picturesque coastline, meaning that guests at the resort have a number of beaches along the island's perimeter to relax on. Each of the luxury villas on offer are situated either along the shoreline, or deep in the island's lush jungle.

For children aged four to 12 years old, the Little Island's Kids Club offers professional supervision and a programme of memorable experiences, including cooking and towel art lessons and beachside activities.



Turquoise Holidays offers seven nights in a King Garden Villa at the resort with daily breakfast, transfers and return flights from £2,099 per person, based on a June 2021 departure. Currently, all arrivals must provide a negative PCR test result taken less than 72 hours prior to travel.

www.turquoiseholidays.co.uk



Summer of fun at Aitken Spence's Maldives resorts

AITKEN SPENCE'S Maldivian properties host a summer of family fun and romantic relaxation as it looks forward to re-welcoming guests this year.

The Adaaran Prestige Vadoo hosts the diverse Dhoni Bar, serving a range of beverages and tropical cocktails, and the Mandara Spa, letting guests kick back and relax on their well-earned holidays.

The family-friendly Adaaran Select Meedhupparu offers a dedicated Kid's Club and tropical beachside barbecues.

A Beach Villa, on an all-inclusive basis, starts from £393 per night, and a Sunrise Villa at the resort starts from £502 per night, on a bed-and-breakfast basis. www.aitkenspencehotels.com

REST AND RECOVER

With Accor's latest offer, 'Recharge in the Maldives', guests can enjoy complimentary room upgrades, flexible cancellation conditions and all meals included within select hotels and resorts.



Image Credit: Accor

TO ENCOURAGE guests to book a getaway to look forward to in the Maldives, Accor has launched its 'Recharge in the Maldives' offer. Guests who book the deal benefit from three complimentary meals a day, as well as an upgrade to the next available room category at the time of booking.

The offer is available at four of Accor's resorts in the Maldives – Raffles Maldives Meradhoo Resort, Fairmont Maldives Sirru Fen Fushi, Mövenpick Resort Kuredhivaru Maldives, and Mercure Maldives Kooldoo Resort.

Fairmont Maldives Sirru Fen Fushi is surrounded by white sandy beaches peppered with thatched-roofed villas. The resort also hosts the Maldives' longest infinity pool, at 200 metres, as well as a thriving marine ecosystem and coral reef. Fairmont Maldives Sirru Fen Fushi is the sole resort on this pristine atoll, and its untouched location has allowed marine life to flourish.

Mövenpick Resort Kuredhivaru Maldives serves as a playground for thrill seekers

looking to explore the underwater world and take part in water sports. The hotel also offers four dining features, which showcase a number of restaurants that boast a diverse menu year-round, and, a daily Chocolate Hour for those with a sweet tooth.

Raffles Maldives Meradhoo is perfect for your clients looking for seclusion – it is a haven away from the hustle and bustle of the popular tourist spots. Set across two private islands, the resort offers a number of popular marine excursions, including snorkelling tours and interactions with the islands' native green turtles.

Mercure Maldives Kooldoo Resort is the only beachfront resort, directly accessible via a domestic flight with no speedboat transfer necessary. The resort showcases Maldivian culture and traditions through regionally-inspired villas.

The offer is valid for bookings made until April 30, 2021 for stays until September 30, 2021.

www.all.accor.com

Seychelles opens up to the world

THE SEYCHELLES is now welcoming visitors from across the globe, irrespective of their vaccination status.

Visitors will now only be required to present a negative PCR test taken 72 hours prior to departure. There will be no quarantine requirement nor restriction on movement upon entry into Seychelles.

Additionally, the minimum stay in establishments upon arrival will no longer be applicable. However, visitors will still be required to adhere to other public health measures put in place. In view of the pandemic, these will include wearing face masks, social distancing, and regular sanitisation or washing of hands.

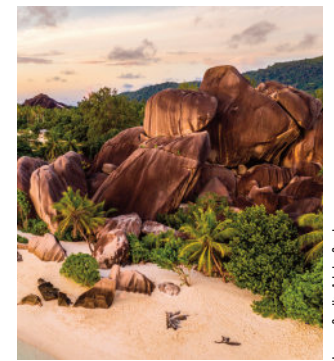


Image Credit: Adobe Stock

The new measures give visitors access to all communal areas within their resort's premises, including bars, swimming pools, spas and kid's clubs.

More details will be available through the updated travel advisory on www.tourism.gov.sc.

Safety first in Sri Lanka

SRI LANKA Tourism is ensuring that every precautionary measure has been put in place to make visitors' holidays as safe as possible for visitors.

As per the published safety protocols, Sri Lanka does not require a minimum number of days to stay. Sri Lanka also offers a 'quarantine free' visitor experience whereby travellers can enjoy all facilities in their respective hotels, including the swimming pools, spas, and gym.

The only requirement put in place is that travellers must stay at a 'Safe and Secure' certified Level 1 hotel or hotels in the initial 14 days of their stay. This accreditation is given to selected hotels.

www.srilanka.travel



Image Credit: Sri Lanka Tourism

OCEANS OF LUXURY

Cruise through the warm waters of the Indian Ocean and its atolls on Regent Seven Seas' 'Exotic & Iconic' itinerary.



Image Credit: Regent Seven Seas

TAKING IN eight countries over 22 days, guests explore the Indian Ocean from the comfort of the Seas Explorer on Regent Seven Seas' 21-day 'Exotic & Iconic' itinerary.

Travellers will voyage from the United Arab Emirates through India and the idyllic islands of the Maldives before continuing their journey with a collection of Southeast Asian destinations.

On this itinerary, guests will view some of the Indian Ocean's atolls, which are encircled by lagoons, from a seaplane, with the chance of spotting dolphins and other creatures in the region's vibrant marine life.

With up to 60 free shore excursions, visitors will be able to fully immerse themselves in the culture of each destination. Guests will have the option to visit a spice farm in Goa to discover India's flavours and participate in Hindu ceremonies before watching a priest perform a Yagna rite to eliminate negativity

and ensure happiness. Travellers will also have the opportunity to practise yoga on a palm-shaded beach before learning to cook Thai cuisine in a hands-on class at one of Phuket's oldest restaurants.

Seven Seas Explorer's luxurious accommodation can host 750 guests as they make their voyage across the Indian Ocean. Guests will also be gaining insight from expert lecturers, and enjoy a variety of dishes prepared by trained culinary experts.

The Seven Seas Explorer will depart on November 21, 2022. Prices start from US\$11,489 per person, based on double occupancy of the Deluxe Veranda Suite. Guests have access to free unlimited shore excursions. Additional fares are applicable for the Scenic Seaplane Tour, Yagna Encounter and Yoga, as well as the Thai Cuisine Class.

www.rssc.com

Discover Kerala with Wendy Wu

SHOWCASING DIVERSITY, cultural riches and a variety of landscapes, Wendy Wu is offering its 'Kerala Experience' itinerary for those looking to explore Southern India.

The nine-day tour package will offer an in-depth look into the southern Indian state, where your clients will discover hill stations, lakes, modern cities and peaceful backwaters.

One highlight of the holiday comes on day six, where guests will be able to visit the Periyar Wildlife Sanctuary. While on the tour, travellers can enjoy a boat ride on the lake and observe the wildlife and birdlife of the region. If lucky, guests will also be able to witness a herd of elephants play in the lake. The day ends with a visit to a spice plantation.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

The group tour includes all meals, flights and accommodation, as well as tour guides and entrance fees.

The holiday is priced from £2,190 per person, based on a November 5, 2021 departure date from London Heathrow.

www.wendywutours.co.uk

Head off the grid to Huvafen Fushi, Maldives

ELEGANT RESORTS is offering an eight-night stay at Huvafen Fushi resort, located in a secluded North Malé atoll setting within a private lagoon.

Guest can book for a stay in a Beach Bungalow with Pool at Huvafen Fushi from £3,645 per person. The price includes a 40% rate reduction, complimentary half board, and speedboat transfers, saving up to £6,795 per couple. The package also includes economy flights and UK lounge passes.

This offer is valid until October 31, 2021 and needs to be booked by March 31, 2021. The price is based on a September 5, 2021 departure.

www.elegantresorts.co.uk

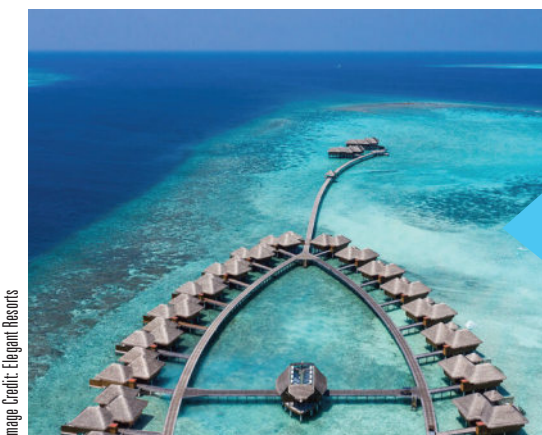


Image Credit: Elegant Resorts

ADVENTURE & ACTIVITY



Image Credit: Pongthong

MAKE A SPLASH!

Centara Hotels & Resorts is set to open its Centara Mirage water park resort, and now offers stays at a hilltop resort in Khao Yai National Park, with a number of hiking trails and outdoor activities to choose from.

CENTARA HOTELS and Resorts is launching new resorts in Vietnam and Bangkok, catering for travellers looking for some adventure on their holiday. The new Centara Mirage Resort Mui Ne water park resort is based on Spanish-Mediterranean nautical adventures and will open in late April.

Located at a popular beach destination in southern Vietnam, the hotel hosts plenty of family-friendly facilities, such as the observatory tower café, kid's clubs for children of all ages and the Spa Cenvaree, which offers child-friendly treatments.

In addition, there will be a waterpark with a lazy river, water slides, splash pool and cliff jumping pool.

The Roukh Kiri Khao Yai Hotel, in Thailand, is another



Image Credit: Centara Hotels

The new Centara Mirage Resort Mui Ne is a water park resort.

of the latest additions to Centara's portfolio, offering plenty of unique experiences, such as jungle trekking and canoeing in Khao Yai National Park, and opportunities to stargaze in lush wilderness.

Nestled within the mountainous landscape of Khao Yai National Park, the hotel features twelve barn-style villas perched on the hillside, offering an idyllic seclusion amidst nature.

While staying at the hotel,

guests can visit the Scenical World amusement park and waterpark, the Primo Piazza gardens, also known as 'the Italy of the East' or explore the colonial and traditional Thai houses at Villa Musée.

Prices start at approximately £1,328.85 for six nights in a Mountain Villa, at Roukh Kiri, Khao Yai, based on a September 23, 2021 departure date.

www.centarahotelsresorts.com

Take a deep dive into the natural haven of the Galapagos

GADVENTURES' 10-day itinerary, 'Galapagos Multisport with Quito,' takes guests around three Galapagos Islands – Santa Cruz, Floreana and Isabela Island, with plenty of hiking, biking, kayaking and snorkelling activities included.

A large part of the trip will focus on discovering the unique nature of flora and fauna found in this part of the world, especially the Galapagos tortoises, land iguanas, and other species on the verge of extinction.

Guests can visit the highlands of Santa Cruz and see the natural habitat of the giant tortoise or go kayaking and snorkelling in the Itabaca Canal to explore the underwater world, where schools of yellowtail surgeonfish, king angelfish and parrotfish swim.

A speedboat ride takes guests to Isabela Island, where they can go hiking around the Sierra Negra Volcano, the second-largest crater in the world, and take a thrilling downhill bike excursion on the way back. Prices start at £1,682 per person, based on a February 26, 2022 departure date.

www.gadventures.com

SIGNS OF SPRING

Great Rail Journeys has unveiled its expansive spring 2022 programme, with a number of adventurous trips, including visits to the once-in-a-decade Floriade Expo.



Image Credit: Great Rail Journeys

AS THE first signs of spring have started to appear, clients are undoubtedly looking forward to getting back on holiday. Great Rail Journeys is encouraging their guests to look ahead to 2022, unveiling its spring 2022 programme, including a new tour encapsulating the Floriade Expo and the Keukenhof Gardens.

Five days at the Floriade Flower Show and Keukenhof Gardens

Beginning at London St. Pancras, this tour whisks guests aboard the Eurostar to Rotterdam before a coach transfer to Delft, a classic and picturesque Dutch town. After an entire day to explore Delft at their leisure, guests continue on to the Keukenhof Gardens via coach transfers, exploring the expansive gardens, and its rare flower species, that are only open to visitors two months out of the year. The following day, the tour arrives at the itinerary's highlight, the once-in-a-decade Floriade flower show, set across 66 hectares of garden space. 30 different countries come together to showcase rare and exotic flower

species at the event. The following day, the tour returns to Rotterdam.

This package starts from £875 per person, including four nights in three-star accommodation and six meals, based on a departure date of April 17, 2022.

The Majestic Rhine (Rail and Cruise)

This itinerary showcases the Rhine River, encapsulating the highlights of Switzerland, the Netherlands, France and Germany. Guests arrive in Paris by Eurostar, before continuing to Basel and boarding the cruise that kickstarts the tour. From the Floriade Flower Show to German heritage rail journeys, and French city tours to historic Dutch steam trains, this package offers a number of exciting and unique excursions.

Starting from £1,995 per person, this tour includes a seven-night cruise aboard the MS Amadeus Silver III or Imperial, and 20 meals, based on a July 14, 2022 departure date.

www.greatrail.com

Adventure for the whole family at Wild Wadi Waterpark

WITHIN REACH of Burj Al Arab Jumeirah and Jumeirah Beach Hotel, Wild Wadi Waterpark offers adventure for the whole family.

The 32 metre high Jumeirah Sceirah whisks riders away at almost 50mph while Tantrum Alley launches them across downhill waterslides and rapids. A 360-metre long lazy river turns the thrill down for those in search of a leisurely float.

Each ride is awarded a thrill rating, making it easy for children to decide if they dare to brave the rides on offer.

Parents can enjoy a VIP Wadi Cabana, guaranteeing a relaxing day out with private sun loungers.

The park offers a range of dining options, from oven-baked pizza to street food-style stalls.



Image Credit: Wild Wadi

Jumeirah Group is currently offering a 'Jumeirah Escapes' promotion on bookings made before March 31, 2021, for stays until December 18, 2021. Agents can save up to 20% with certain bookings. All reservations can be amended or cancelled up to three days before arrival.

www.jumeirah.com



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Durmitor National Park: the mountains of Montenegro

MONTENEGRO IS home to a number of hiking and rafting trails for the adventurous holidaymaker.

Durmitor National Park is the nation's largest national park, and holds UNESCO status. The glacier-formed setting offers a number of lakes, gorges and forests to explore, with 20 trails of various difficulties.

The Tara Canyon, at 1.3km deep, offers one of the best views in Montenegro. While here, guests can enjoy guided tours navigating rapids, swim underneath a hidden waterfall or brave the 152 metre high zipline across the Tara River.

www.see.montenegro.com

SLEEPING UNDER THE STARS

Your adventurous clients can now journey across the remote Makgadikgadi salt pan with Desert & Delta Safaris, as part of the company's new package for 2021.



Image Credit: Desert & Delta

DESERT & DELTA has launched a new experience for 2021: the Makgadikgadi Salt Pan Sleep Out.

Guests staying three nights or more at Desert & Delta's Leroo La Tau Lodge are offered a complimentary experience of their choice. As part of the company's new package, travellers can venture onto the Makgadikgadi Salt Pan and spend a night under the stars.

Sleep-out under the stars

For guests who choose to sleep-out under the stars, the staff at Leroo La Tau will prepare a bedroll that will provide a cosy haven protecting guests from the cold desert night. The Makgadikgadi Salt Pan is one of the world's largest salt flats, a remote place with no sound or light pollution. Around an open fire, a bush menu will be traditionally prepared under the stars. Excursions occur from July to October, when the dry season transforms the

flats into a shimmering landscape of white salt.

Leroo La Tau

The Leroo La Tau lodge offers an authentic Botswana experience. 12 thatched and glass-fronted suites sit on a raised wooden platform to showcase views of the African bush. Guests can sip cocktails at the picturesque bar or cool off in the large swimming pool surrounded by river vistas. Located on the edge of the Boteti River, the lodge offers game drives and river viewing activities. This location is the best place to witness Botswana's abundance of wildlife such as lions, zebras, wildebeest, leopards and cheetahs.

Seven nights at Leroo La Tau, on an all-inclusive basis, with transfers, park fees and a sleep out in the pans, starts at £6,250 per person. This is based on travel between July and October 2022.

Visit www.africacollection.com

Experience 'Wild Costa Rica' with Titan

TITAN HOLIDAYS is offering its 'Wild Costa Rica' trip for those looking to take an adrenaline-fuelled adventure to one of the most biodiverse regions of the world.

The itinerary will see guests trekking through cloud forests, sailing down crocodile-infested rivers and spotting some important species of wildlife.

Titan Travel is offering its 16-day 'Wild Costa Rica' escorted tour from £3,499 per person. The tour includes 14 nights accommodation, 32 meals and 19 excursions, including a Tortuguero Canals wildlife cruise and a La Tirimbina Biological Reserve night walk.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

The price also includes Titan's VIP door-to-door travel service, services of a local Titan tour manager and return international flights from London Gatwick.

Listed price is based on a November 12, 2022, departure.

www.titantravel.co.uk



Image Credit: Universal Orlando

Universal's Epic Universe is back

WORK IS resuming on Universal Orlando Resort's Epic Universe, after development on Epic Universe paused in July 2020, as the company adjusted plans in the midst of the pandemic. The restart will begin immediately, but is expected to take several months before reaching full-speed, as Universal re-staffs for the project and reassembles its vendor and contractor teams.

Epic Universe will feature a new theme park, an entertainment centre, hotels, shops, restaurants and more. It will be located on a 750-acre site, a few miles from Universal Orlando's two existing theme parks.

www.universalorlando.com

GREECE & CYPRUS



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

CELESTYAL'S COMEBACK

Celestyal Cruises will resume operations in May, starting with its seven-night Idyllic Aegean Cruise.

WITH THE summer travel season approaching, Celestyal Cruises has announced that it will resume operations on May 29 from Piraeus in Greece.

The first sailing will travel to Athens, on the seven-night Idyllic Aegean itinerary. Prices for the seven-night cruise start from £549 per person and will call at Kusadasi, Rhodes, Santorini, Lavrion (for Temple of Poseidon), Mykonos, Milos and Crete.

Celestyal Crystal will utilise two embarkation ports, Piraeus and Lavrion in Athens, providing the ability to offer shorter three- and four-night Idyllic itineraries in addition to the seven-night sailing. The shorter three and four-night sailings will operate on a Wednesday from Lavrion and Saturday



Image Credit: Celestyal Cruises

Celestyal Cruises will utilise two embarkation ports in Athens.

from Piraeus respectively.

Guests currently booked on the cancelled late April through May voyages will have the option to receive a refundable Future Cruise Credit (FCC) equivalent to 100% of the amount paid, plus an additional non-refundable bonus FCC equal to 20% of the actual cruise fare paid. As an added element of flexibility, Celestyal has announced that

it will allow guests currently holding FCCs, as well as guests about to receive FCCs, the opportunity to apply the FCC towards Celestyal's soon-to-be-announced 2023 itineraries in addition to 2021 and 2022 itineraries as a result of the new recommencement date.

For more information or to book, visit:
www.celestyal.com/uk/

Discover Western Greece with Jet2holidays

FOR YOUR clients looking to explore a lesser-known region of Greece, Jet2holidays is now offering a stay in Skafidia, on Western Greece's scenic mainland.

The area comprises kilometres of coastline, with views across the Ionian Sea to Zante and Kefalonia – which can be reached by daily ferry boats from the port of Kyllini.

The five-star Aldemar Olympian Village in Skafidia, Olympia, has plenty of family-friendly offerings.

The hotel offers an animation programme for children, teenagers and adults, a 93-metre long waterslide and dedicated pool, and three more outdoor pools. There are also plenty of activities to choose from, such as five-a-side football, volleyball, horseriding, cycling, tennis and watersports classes. Holidaymakers can have a go at windsurfing, waterskiing, parasailing, kitesurfing, pedal boating, wakeboarding, canoeing, and banana and rings riding.

Two adults and two children can share a family apartment, departing from Stansted on August 29, 2021, from £3,409.

www.jet2holidays.com

READY, SET, CRETE

As Greece is set to reopen its borders, Olympic Holidays spotlights the best of Crete – an island set to become a hotspot for UK holidaymakers this summer.



Image Credit: Olympic Holidays

FROM THE birthplace of the Minoans and the Palace of Knossos, to a 14th century harbour and a wealth of vineyards and wineries, Crete has history, heritage, and the classic coast that Greece is celebrated worldwide for. Olympic Holidays offers a number of packages across the island.

Aqua Sun Village

This four-star family friendly hotel hosts its own water park, indoor and outdoor playgrounds, a buffet restaurant, poolside bars and nearby Greek taverna. This all-inclusive resort blends adventure with laidback Greek hospitality.

Olympic Holidays offers seven nights at the four-star property from £469 per person based on two adults and a child sharing, including return flights from London Luton departing on July 7, 2021. This price includes a 30% saving of £210 per person.

Sunset Hotel apartments

In the picturesque village of Bali, this hotel is located close by to the beach, but offers on-

site pools and restaurants. The property hosts a recently renovated selection of rooms and apartments, ideal for a laid back, serene break.

Seven nights at the four-star hotel, on a half-board basis, including return flights from London Luton, starts from £369 per person based on two people sharing, including a 38% saving.

Stella Island Luxury

This resort sits on the coastal haven of Analipsi, 15 minutes from the closest beach. With a lagoon-style outdoor pool, spa, fully-equipped gym with personal trainers and a choice of five restaurants, this property offers secluded luxury.

Seven nights on a half-board basis at the five-star luxury resort starts from £845 per person, based on two sharing, including return flights from London Gatwick, departing on October 18, 2021, including a 21% saving.

To explore Olympic Holidays' other offerings, visit www.olympicholidays.com

New specialist tour operator, Escape to Greece, launches

ESCAPE TO Greece has launched this month, offering bespoke holidays to 27 destinations in Greece, with over 400 hand-picked properties.

Aiming to attract discerning independent travellers looking mainly for four-star boutique hotels and eclectic villas, Escape to Greece launches under renowned ski operator, Holiday World.

Founder, Peter Brennan, said: "Escape to Greece has been born out of our love for Greece, its islands and the hospitable people. We have personally chosen our properties from the simple-style Lemon Tree Houses in Folegandros to the latest in stylish luxury such as Cayo Resort & Spa in Crete with its minimalist tones and incredible design influences.



Image Credit: Escape to Greece

"Many of the properties are exclusive to us and our aim is to fill the gaps between the large operators who don't offer the smaller islands and other Greek specialists who cannot always offer the depth of accommodation choice in each destination nor instant live availability..."

www.escapetogreece.com



Image Credit: Elounda Peninsula

Comfort in Crete with Elounda Peninsula All Suite Hotel

PERCHED ON the edge of the Crete coastline, Elounda Peninsula All-Suite Hotel offers panoramic views of the Aegean Sea and Sitia Mountains.

Ideal for honeymooners in search of a romantic island getaway, guests can enjoy private suites and residences with luxurious finishes, including saunas, massage rooms and private pools with sea views.

Elounda Peninsula All Suite offers accommodation in a Peninsula Collection suite room with a private heated pool from £640 per night for a family of four.

www.eloundapeninsula.com

GREECE'S HIDDEN GEM

Exsus takes guests off the well-trodden tourist paths of Greece to the Peloponnese, one of the country's best kept secrets. This self-drive adventure showcases the region's unique offerings.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

FOR VISITORS looking to break free from the well-trodden path of Greece and explore historic sites and postcard-perfect spots, Exsus Travel's self-drive 'Lazy Day in the Mani' itinerary dedicates seven days to the authentic experience of the southern Peloponnese.

Beginning in Kardamili, guests can explore the coastal village's old town or frescoed Byzantine churches buried deep in the forests of Eucalyptus trees. Kardamili is one of the oldest regions in the Peloponnese, referenced by Homer in the Iliad.

Day trips north to Olympia offer insight into the ancient history for which Greece is celebrated; remnants of past worlds are dotted throughout the town, most notably the Palaestra, a gymnasium thought to be used for athletes training for the Olympic Games, which were hosted in Olympia from the 8th century BC to the 4th century AD.

Continuing to Gerolimena, visitors stay in a converted 19th-century watchtower for three nights, with panoramic scenery

accompanying the stay. Boat trips offer a unique view of the town, which is protected by ancient stone towers, and its surroundings, sailing around local coves and cliffsides, including up-close views of the ruins of a temple dedicated to Poseidon.

The trip draws to a close with two nights in the romantic Kinsterna Hotel, seven kilometres away from Monemvasia, which serves as a picturesque example of Greece's Byzantine, Ottoman and Venecian past. Popular spots in the area include the Simos beach on the island of Elafonisos, offering a glimpse at classic Greek seaside serenity, and the underground caves of Kastania, a natural marvel of limestone stalactites for adventurous explorers on the tour.

The package starts from £950 per person, based on two adults sharing, including return economy flights, accommodation on a bed-and-breakfast basis, car hire and taxes.

www.exsus.com

The Grace Hotel offers a Grecian getaway to Santorini

AS THE UK government is set to review international travel this May, and talks are underway about a Greece travel corridor, Auberge Resorts has announced its plans to reopen its sole European property. The Grace Hotel sits on the picturesque clifftops of Santorini, and is set to reveal newly refreshed villas and a new collection of authentic experiences for international visitors this year, including honey tasting and sandal making.

18 of the property's 20 rooms and suites offer a heated plunge pool and panoramic clifftop views, with certain self-contained villas offering private pools, kitchens, outdoor fireplaces and split-level terraces.

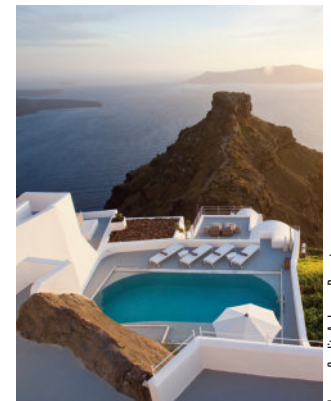


Image Credit: Auberge Resorts

Deluxe rooms with plunge pools start from approximately £562 per night, with private chef and butler options also available throughout the hotel's rooms and suites.

www.aubegeresorts.com/gracehotel



Image Credit: Domes Resorts

Escape this summer to Domes Resorts

DOMES RESORTS' portfolio includes a selection of five unique resorts across Greece, offering luxury service and experiences.

The adults-only Domes Miramare on the Corfu coast hosts a selection of luxury pools and a choice of five restaurants. An Emerald Retreat room with a terrace or patio starts from €238 per night, based on two sharing.

The wellness-focused Domes Noruz Chania offers bike rides and RIP training, or more relaxing choices at the Soma Spa. A wellness loft pool-view room, with an outdoor jacuzzi, starts from €254 per night, based on four adults sharing a twin or queen room with a sofa bed.

www.domesresorts.com



PUSH THE BOUNDARIES

A seven-day getaway to the Riviera Nayarit with Journey Latin America lets guests get up close to native crocodiles and swim through an underwater cove to access a hidden beach.

WHILST THE beaches of Cancun and culture of Mexico City remain popular draws for tourism, those seeking adventure can enjoy the Pacific Coast and Riviera Nayarit on Journey Latin America's holiday.

La Tavoara National Park is one of the most expansive national parks in Mexico, hosting an abundance of nature and wildlife. Animal lovers will undoubtedly enjoy exploring the Kiekari Crocodile Preserve, a constructed, sustainable environment for crocodiles. Guests are invited to visit the preserve and discover its repopulation and conservation programme. Visitors can also enjoy La Tovar's natural fresh springs and the crystal-clear waters of Camalota Lagoon, where



A beach formed by volcanic activity is a bucket-list stop for many.

thousands of fish, bird and reptile species thrive.

Mexcaltitán has been dubbed Mexico's 'Magical Town' and the 'Mexican Venice'; a hub of Mexican culture and history dating back to the Aztec period and often regarded as the birthplace of modern Mexico. Guests can enjoy a 30-minute canoe ride around the island, passing a wealth of traditionally colourful houses and street art.

The UNESCO-recognised Marietas Islands National Park is a bucket-list destination for

adventurous guests in Mexico; home to a hidden beach formed by centuries of volcanic activity that is accessible by a 45-minute boat journey. Guests will be able to jump off a boat and swim to the hidden shore via an underground passage.

Journey Latin America offers seven nights in Riviera Nayarit at Casa Velas Grand Resort from £2,533 per person, including flights, transfers and breakfast.

www.journeylatinamerica.co.uk

Nobu Los Cabos launches private experience menu

NOBU LOS Cabos has unveiled a selection of private experiences for guests looking to enhance their luxury getaways. The offerings include:

Beverage experiences: a two-hour session with the resort's mixologist; Japanese-style Sake, tequila, mezcal, and Mexican wine tastings; cocktail classes; and in-room mixology sessions from US\$85 to US\$100 per person.

Culinary experiences: a two-hour cooking class at the resort's Mexican restaurant (US\$175) and private Sushi classes at the resort's Nobu restaurant (US\$250).

Private dining experiences: a farm-to-table organic menu (US\$75); a five-course Italian menu (US\$95); a nine-course BBQ menu (US\$135); and an eight-course Nobu style menu (US\$210). All private dining experiences can host between two and six guests.

Private bonfire experience: groups of up to 20 people can gather around a fire on the beach, overlooking the Pacific (the set up fee is US\$200 and the s'mores fee is US\$40 per person).

www.loscabos.nobuhotels.com

Punta Mita packs a punch for luxury holidays

WITH HOTELS and villas, restaurants, spas and two Jack Nicklaus signature golf courses, the gated community of Punta Mita, in Mexico's Riviera Nayarit, offers a luxury-focused getaway for your clients.

Punta Mita features a combination of Pacific surf beaches and tranquil bays, as well as hundreds of acres of protected tropical forest, rich with palm trees and native plants. Guests get access to four beach clubs, various water sports and cultural activities within the gates. Beyond the limits into the wider Punta de Mita area, the luxury continues with restaurants in Punta de



Image Credit: Journey Mexico

Your guests will have the opportunity to enjoy various water sports within Punta Mita.

Mita town and hotels tucked away among the tropical trees. It's a 30-minute drive from the airport in Puerto Vallarta.

Journey Mexico offers a seven-night trip to Punta Mita, staying in the beach villa, Casa Majani, from

US\$7,535 per person. The trip includes an in-villa yoga experience, a detox cooking class, a chance to meet and learn from local artisanal families, and private transfers.

www.journeymexico.com

Cruise the Mexican Riviera with Princess

FOR GUESTS looking to take a cruise around Mexico, Princess Cruises is offering its seven-day, Mexico Riviera holiday. The Majestic Princess will be making a Mexican Riviera round-trip sailing starting from Los Angeles, California and will make its way through the ports of Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan and Cabo San Lucas.

The cruise will include various on-board activities and a speaker series from experts, offering insights into the places that guests will visit.

The cruise package starts from £499 per person, based on two people sharing an inside cabin.

www.princess.com

Who would play you in a movie of your life?



Jeanette Ratcliffe
Publisher
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Toyah Wilcox in the musical version!



Bill Coad
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Norman Wisdom.



Mariam Ahmad
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Yvie Oddly from Drag Race.



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Vicky Pollard.



Simon Eddolls
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Nick Knowles or Robbie Coltrane.



Hannah Carter
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Tim Podger
Account Manager - Far East
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Mackenzie Crook for early years and then Albert Steptoe!



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