

Travel **bulletin**

Giving agents the edge

AFRICA

From safaris to luxury, this continent has it all!



MORE IN...

Greece & Cyprus

The perfect summer getaway staples have more to offer. (Pg. 12)

Short & City Breaks

Elevate your clients' weekend getaways with our top picks. (Pg. 20)



There truly is a perfect holiday for everybody, no matter the group size. (Pg.10)

You are invited to attend the

AUSTRALASIA & PACIFIC ISLANDS SHOWCASE

Agent networking evening

Travel Bulletin is delighted to invite you to our Australasia & Pacific Islands Showcase! This is a fun filled evening dedicated to providing you with more knowledge about this beautiful part of the world. Look forward to engaging professional networking groups, hot meal and drinks, enjoying the entertainment and being in with a chance to win some truly incredible prizes in our free prize draw!



WEDNESDAY 1ST JULY, BEST WESTERN CHILWORTH MANOR, SOUTHAMPTON

TIMINGS:

5:45pm Registration	6:10pm Travel Bulletin Welcome	6:15pm Supplier Presentations	7:30pm Hot Dinner
8:30pm Supplier Presentations	9:10pm Product Quiz & Prizes	9:30pm Event Ends	

FEATURING:



To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by **Thursday 25th June 2026** to: events@travelbulletin.co.uk or Telephone: 020 7973 0136

THESE EVENTS ARE BY INVITATION ONLY and will be booked on a first come first served basis with limited space available.



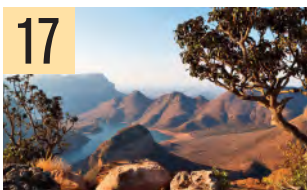
NEWS
The latest headlines as the summer season officially kicks off.



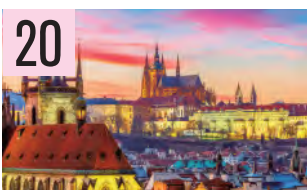
12 GREECE & CYPRUS
New openings, new tours and new discounts are up for grabs in the British summer staple destination.



15 ROADSHOW ROUNDUP
See what we've been up to on the road this month!



17 AFRICA
The latest headlines from the Mother Continent to help you sell a dream holiday.



20 SHORT & CITY BREAKS
A long weekend awaits in some of Europe's most desirable cities.

THE APPETITE FOR TRAVEL REMAINS

ABTA says the appetite for overseas travel remains, but the data shows a preference for late bookings this summer.

NEW RESEARCH released by ABTA shows there is still a strong appetite for overseas travel, with 64% of people planning to travel abroad during the next 12 months.

Holidays also continue to be a spending priority, with over a third of people planning to spend even more on getaways over the next year. When asked which necessities would need to be cut back to cover the cost of living, holidays remained the last thing to go. People would rather cut out eating out (55%), leisure activities (45%) and clothes (41%) before cutting back on their holidays.

ABTA has noted the booking period for overseas travel has changed: while the intention to travel is there, it is expecting to see a surge in late bookings over the coming months, with many people planning to book just weeks before travel.

Of those planning to take a trip over the next 12 months, 38% of people have

delayed booking their holiday. People are waiting for updated flight costs (43%), and holidays (31%), and waiting to see if the cost of living improves (33%) are among the top reasons for delaying bookings.

Other reasons include the uncertainty of travel through the Middle East (36%) and the concern over jet fuel availability (26%).

Mark Tanzer, chief executive of ABTA, said, "Our research shows the appetite and interest to travel remains, and we continue to be hopeful for a strong summer season.

There is plenty of competition in the market, which will ensure customers continue to get good value for their money.

"Global and economic uncertainty pose challenges for any business, with travel often feeling them more acutely; the conflict in the Middle East has not only had an operational impact, it's also affected consumer confidence, both when it comes to travel and confidence in their finances."

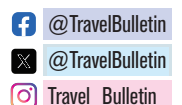


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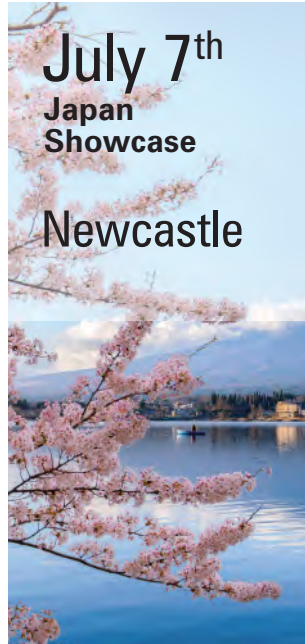
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July 1st
Australasia & Pacific Islands Showcase
Southampton



July 7th
Japan Showcase
Newcastle



July 29th
Around the World Event
Hurlingham Club



July 6th
Japan Showcase
Edinburgh



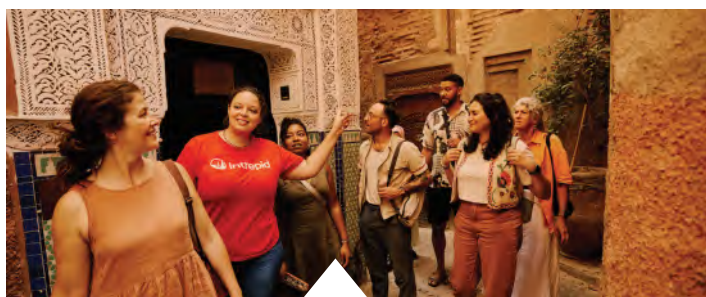
Iberia connects Madrid to Toronto

IBERIA HAS launched new direct flights between Toronto and Madrid, which strengthens the flight schedule between Canada, Spain, and the rest of Europe.

This new connection is also part of the international promotion initiatives led by Madrid Turismo by IFEMA Madrid, a programme driven by the Madrid Regional Government and Madrid City Council to

further strengthen Madrid's global positioning as the main gateway between Europe and the Americas. It is estimated that during the first year of operation, the route will generate an economic impact of around €31 million.

The airline will operate five weekly services between the two cities, using the Airbus A321XLR.



Intrepid's largest-ever agent training event

INTREPID TRAVEL, has announced its largest ever in-person training event for UK agents to take place in the beginning of September.

With support from the Moroccan National Tourist Office, the tour operator plans to host 60 agents in Morocco

for small group adventures and immersive training on the business, its positive impact, and how to sell responsible travel.

The experience will culminate in a dynamic summit day, which will have presentations from the MNT.

CroisiEurope launches nine new river escapes

CROISIEUROPE REDEFINES autumnal travel with the launch of its new November Cruise Escapes collection, which is designed specifically for the quieter travel season.

The exclusive departures take advantage of the mild late-season climate by offering the opportunity to explore iconic destinations in a more relaxed and intimate atmosphere.

The new itineraries embrace the relaxed philosophy perfectly, with fewer crowds, richer experiences, and authentic encounters.

A seven-night cruise between Amsterdam and Basel, which calls in Cologne, Bonn, Koenigswinter, Mainz, Strasbourg, and Breisach departs on October 31st, 2026, with prices leading in from £949 per person.

Virgin Voyages announces new groups programme

VIRGIN VOYAGES has launched a new unified groups programme as part of its 'Brilliant for You' trade commitment.

The new programme allows agents to hold up to 75 cabins with no deposit required, split across two distinctions: a Small Group of eight to 16 cabins with a 120-day recall period, or a Large Group of 17 to 75 cabins with a 150-day recall period.

Fares and promotions are locked from the

moment the group is created. Guests can receive a Group Bar Tab per cabin that scales with voyage length, and agents can choose how they earn: one free cabin for every 16 sold, or 2% additional commission.

To celebrate the launch of the new programme, new groups created before June 30th, 2026, can earn either one complimentary cabin for every 12 cabins booked or the additional 2% commission.



Discover Dominica's seasonal initiative

THE DISCOVER Dominica Authority has launched 'Summer the Nature Island Way', a new seasonal travel initiative under its 'Nature of Love' destination campaign.

The initiative features eight curated itineraries designed to help visitors explore Dominica through adventure, wellness, culture and nature-based experiences.

Chief executive officer Marva Williams said, "These itineraries provide inspiration and practical guidance for exploring the island while connecting with our people, culture and natural environment."



Norse expands Thai network

NORSE ATLANTIC Airways has expanded its Thailand network for the winter 2026/27 season.

With the recent addition of Bangkok to Norse's network last winter from London Gatwick and Manchester, an additional Thai destination was necessary. Starting on December 4th, 2026, Norse will run a new service three times per week to Phuket from London Gatwick through to April 16th, 2027.



VIVA unveils themed sailings for 2027

RIVER CRUISE operator VIVA Cruises has released its full 2027 themed river cruise programme, featuring 19 departures.

The new programme will run from February to November, with itineraries ranging from four-nights to seven-nights onboard *VIVA ONE* and *VIVA RUBY*.

Examples of itineraries in the new programme include the six-night 'Jazz Cruise of Brussels' sailing roundtrip from Dusseldorf from £1,395 per person; and the six-night 'Mystery from the Spree to the Rhine' sailing from Berlin to Dusseldorf from £1,695 per person.

Just You launches new solo social channel

THE NEW online platform, Kindred, has been introduced to connect solo travellers, provide reassurance and offer support to those doing it alone for their holidays.

Kindred features dedicated 'trip chats' where customers can connect with fellow travellers on their itinerary before, during and after the trip.



Trade sales director Tom Morgan said, "Kindred perfectly demonstrates that travelling solo doesn't mean travelling alone."

THE ST Kitts Tourism Authority has announced the return of its 'St. Kitts Yourway' programme for 2026. The programme offers travel agents exclusive rates for stays between June 1st, 2026, and December 15th, 2026, at accommodation ranging from intimate boutique hotels to world-class luxury resorts, alongside a host of on-island benefits.

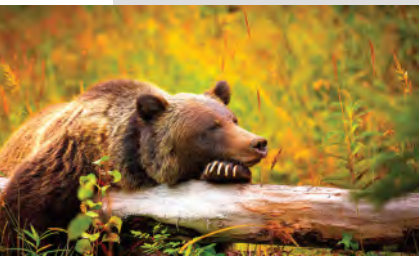


Image Credits: Top: Virgin Voyages, Top Right and Bottom Left: Adobe Stock, Bottom Right: Adobe Stock, Bottom: Just You

Newmarket launches two new tours to Canada

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has added two new Canadian options for 2027/2028 with the aim to uncover wishlist destinations and offer the chance for guests to discover the lesser-known areas of the Great White North.

The new 14-day 'Spirit of the Atlantic Coast & Eastern Canada' leads in from £3,918 per person, while the 14-day Canada's Pacific Coast Wildlife & the Rockies' is priced from £4,105.



RIVIERA TRAVEL has shared a promising update on its dedicated solo cruising strategy, with the trade driving significant booking momentum for its *MS George Eliot* solo-exclusive programme. Peak 2027 departures are showing high demand, with one of the first June dates already sold out.

Go beyond the shore with Azamara's new programme

AZAMARA CRUISES has unveiled its 2027 Overland Experiences programme, featuring 18 curated journeys across seven countries that allow guests to immerse deeper into some of the world's most captivating destinations.

Designed to unlock deeper levels of exploration beyond the ship's reach, the programme allows guests to temporarily leave their cruise for a multi-day land

adventure before meeting the ship at a later port.

Some of the itineraries featured in the 2027 programme include the three-day 'Bora Bora Overwater Bungalow Escape' available on the 18-night 'Pacific Islands Cruise to Oahu, Kauai & Bora Bora'; and the five-day 'Shanghai, Xi'an & Beijing' option available on the 14-night 'East Asia Cruise to Hong Kong, Shanghai & Beijing'.

MOVERS & SHAKERS



THE DISCOVER Dominica Authority has appointed Wendy Lake as Destination Marketing Manager where she will oversee

strategic marketing systems designed to elevate Dominica's presence on the global stage and drive visitor growth.



ROBIN GRIFFITHS has been appointed as the first-ever Strategic Account Manager at Havila Voyages to support the UK travel trade.

Robin will bring more than 20 years of experience to the role, including roles at Kuoni, Emirates and Gold Medal.

A new era of loyalty at Sandals and Beaches

THE LAUNCH of the rebranded loyalty programme marks the next chapter for Sandals and Beaches Resorts by offering an elevated experience with a more immersive approach to awards and recognition.

Effective from July 1st, the new Islands Insiders Club will preserve members' current status and existing benefits, while expanding access to enhanced rewards, exclusive events and enriched experiences.

The Club features flexible credit for members to choose the experiences that best match their holiday style, a private online store, exclusive Insider events, 20% off the Manager's Wine List, \$200 Laundry Service credit, and a complimentary seven-night stay after every 70 paid nights.



G Adventures returns to Jordan

AFTER A three month pause, G Adventures is resuming operations to Jordan. Departures will commence from August 1st, 2026, allowing travellers to once again explore the ancient locations of Petra, Wadi Rum, the Dead Sea, and the city of Jerash.

AGENT INCENTIVES

- **TRAFALGAR IS** giving agents the opportunity to earn £100 per passenger on eligible bookings made this summer. The top-selling agent will also secure an air-inclusive place on *Trafalgar Harmonie's* inaugural 'Best of the Seine with Paris & Normandy' sailing, departing on April 18th, 2027. The incentive will run until July 31st, 2026.
- **TO CELEBRATE** the FIFA World Cup 2026, Newmarket Holidays has launched a brand-new trade incentive giving agents the chance to secure one of two places on an exclusive 2027 fam trip. The campaign challenges agents to score a hat-trick with three bookings across the operator's touring collection during the World Cup booking window to have the chance of winning a place on either a US or Canada trip.
- **AAT KINGS** has revealed the location for its 'A-Listers on Locations' fam trip taking place in September: the Top End and The Kimberley. The official qualifying period for the incentive includes all Guided Holidays and specified Short Breaks bookings made until July 31st, 2026, departing before March 31st, 2027.
- **JETSET HAS** been cleaning their boots, sharpening their skills and learning their tactics in time for the highly-anticipated FIFA World Cup. As part of the partying, Jetset has launched a four-week mega Lotto campaign, named 'World Cup Wipeout' where one agent will win £966 weekly to honour the feat England achieved in 1966. Every booking generates one Lotto ticket.

AGENT BULLETIN



EARLIER THIS month, the Croatian National Tourist Board invited guests for an afternoon of food, culture and community at its dedicated Peka Party. Centering around one of Croatia's most traditional dishes, the afternoon brought a taste of the Adriatic to London, with Croatian chef Ante Bozikov and British chef Layla Powell providing a live demonstration on how to prepare the dish.

Travel **bulletin**

COMPETITION

Win a five-star escape to Cyprus at Louis Hotels' new Imperial Island Resort in Paphos!

Find out more at www.travelbulletin.co.uk/competitions



AGENT TRAINING

- **VIRGIN VOYAGES** has reduced select First Mate rates for eligible travel agents, with voyages now available from \$100 per person, per night. The exclusive rates are available to agents who have completed the Silver or Gold tiers of Seacademy, Virgin Voyages' online agent training platform. SJ Walker, director of sales UK, said, "Seacademy is designed to help First Mates build their knowledge and grow their sales, so these rates are available to those who have invested time in our training."
- **EXPLORE VISITBRITAIN'S** travel trade website for resources and advice to help you sell Britain better. The website houses a host of tools to help, including practical information about transport links, event guidance and accommodation options, as well as insight and research reports focusing on key trends set to influence the industry for years to come. Agents can also access the VisitBritain asset library, featuring images and downloadable videos to help promote travel in the UK.
- **UPSKILL IN** selling Australia with the Aussie Specialist Program, designed to help you attract more clients and sell higher value holidays. The Program has allowed agents to sell 35% higher value bookings to Australia, with 62% of leisure travellers returning to the destination within five years, making it easier for a double sale. The Program is easy to complete, with one 90-minute introduction session. Once qualified, the programme offers several ways to continue your learning, from self-paced learning resources to instructor-led face-to-face sessions and short product training videos.

AI vs Google: travel marketing in the age of artificial intelligence

CEO OF Adido, Andy Headington, delves into the differences in search traffic for travel-specific websites from AI platforms vs traditional search engines, and how conversion rates compare in a world where AI is changing the game in every aspect.



"A year ago, I set out to separate hype from reality when it came to Large Language Models (LLMs) and AI in travel. Were travellers really flocking to ChatGPT, Claude, Perplexity and others to find their next trip, as the headlines would have it?

The narrative was that Google was on its way out and travel was about to change overnight. Yet the data told a different story, with less than 0.12% of all traffic to travel websites coming from LLMs.

One year on from my original research, I expected the share of traffic from LLMs to have jumped dramatically, but did this prediction play out? Analysis of 41 UK-based travel websites, using Google Analytics data, shows that traffic from AI tools still only accounts for 0.37% of overall visits."

Head over to the Travel Bulletin website to read the full article.



ETIHAD AIRWAYS is entering its largest summer season to date, operating more than 300 daily flights and carrying near-record passenger loads. This month, the airline launched four new routes connecting Abu Dhabi with Krakow, Palma de Mallorca, Damascus and Zanzibar, as well as the return of five popular seasonal destinations, including Mykonos, Malaga, Santorini, Nice and Al Alamein.

Qantas to launch history-making flight to London

QANTAS WILL launch the world-first non-stop services between London and Sydney from October 2027, marking the first time the Kangaroo Route has ever flown without stopping.

Qantas Group CEO, Vanessa Hudson, said, "Qantas was built on the belief that Australia's distance from the rest of the world should never stand in the way. The pioneering spirit of generations of our people has forged that path

ever since, and today is the most significant step in that mission in our 105-year history.

"Since we first flew the Kangaroo Route in 1947, where we stopped seven times on the way to London, every generation of aircraft has taken a stop out of the journey. Today, we're taking out the last one."

The announcement comes as the airline revealed its first Airbus A350-100ULR in Qantas livery.

JTA Holidays simplifies Maldives holidays

JTA HOLIDAYS has enhanced its Maldives programme by including resort transfers as standard on all package holidays, making it easier for travel agents and customers to book one of the world's most sought-after destinations.

The new offering covers transfers between Malé International Airport and customers' chosen resort, with arrangements tailored to each property's location.

The initiative has been introduced to simplify the booking process, provide greater cost transparency and ensure customers enjoy a seamless journey from arrival through to resort check-in.



Enjoy 50% reduced deposits

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC-Lindblad Expeditions is making it easier for guests to plan ahead for their next adventure by offering a 50% reduced deposit on all active voyages departing from October 1st, 2026, through to December 31st, 2027.



AGENT INSIGHT

LOUISA CRABTREE

HAYS TRAVEL

IN MY 30 plus years as a travel agent, I have always enjoyed putting together multi-centre itineraries for clients looking to travel to Africa—I like to live my life vicariously through the itineraries that I plan!

One that has stayed with me is a multi-generational trip to South Africa for Christmas and New Year. The process was long and involved—I'd never needed a spreadsheet for a travel quote before, however, each family involved was looking to do something slightly different—and honestly, I couldn't have got it over the line without my trusty spreadsheet and my trusted contact at the tour operator. When there are multiple families and destinations involved, it is always great to have someone who just understands the logistics.

The main trip is Cape Town, Camps Bay, two different properties in Franschhoek, Hermanus, back to Cape Town for New Year's Eve, and then four of the group are going on safari. The total number of travellers is 10 adults and five children—ages from two to 76! Thankfully, having done similar itineraries—but not for that many people—I had a good insight into which properties would suit them. To keep things different for the Cape Town stays, we chose a city location for the first stay and then the V&A Waterfront for the second. Getting enough rooms in Franschhoek and Hermanus was a challenge. Thankfully it all came together in the end, and I'm now just hoping they all have an amazing holiday. I'm sure they will.

Over the years I have put together some beautiful African itineraries including safaris in Namibia, the Rovos Rail train, Zambezi River cruises, as well as trips and tours to various countries. Africa is an amazing destination as it has so much variety—there really is something for everyone, no matter what age or how intrepid you are!

Flying Blue rewards members for Apple purchases

FLYING BLUE, the loyalty programme of the Air France-KLM Group, has announced a new way for its members to earn rewards and miles.

Members can now earn Miles on eligible Apple purchases made through dedicated platforms in the UK, France, the Netherlands, and the US.

Benjamin Lipsey, senior vice president of loyalty, digital & data at Air France-KLM and President of Flying Blue, commented, "Flying Blue rewards on Apple devices is a strong example of our ambition to make Flying Blue increasingly relevant in our members' everyday lives."

News Bites

- ATLAS OCEAN Voyages has launched a new Inner Circle programme that rewards and recognises returning guests with \$250 Future Cruise Credit per first-time sailor referral.
- THIS SUMMER marks a milestone of accessibility to AIUa, with the oasis having 18 weekly flights that link it to major travel hubs. Travellers can reach the destination smoothly via Saudia and flynas services from Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam.



H10 HOTELS has released a new mobile app that will elevate the guest experience. The new tool allows guests to fully personalise every stage of their journey, all the way from check-in to booking services during their stay. The app has a fully integrated H10 Rewards members' area, which allows users to manage their points more effectively, and view their stay history.



MTTC Summer Ball

IT WAS once again a night of good food, drinks and questionable dance moves at the Midlands Travel Trade Club's Summer Ball, held on June 11th at Hogarths.

We are proud to sponsor this event, alongside JTA Travel, Emirates, Birmingham airport, and Belleair Holidays.



MINDSET OF THE MED

MGallery and Globetrender have created a trends report outlining why the Mediterranean makes holidaymakers return year after year.



THE SUMMER season is officially underway, and MGallery is staying ahead of the curve by releasing its new trends report in partnership with Globetrender.

The report highlights three key trends shaping how the Mediterranean is being experienced by holidaymakers in 2026: Micro-Cultures of the Med, Blue Mind Experiences, and the Comeback Effect. Together, these trends reflect that the region is still expanding in terms of visitors, but is also entering into a more calm and considered era, where growth is matched by a deeper focus on exploration and immersion.

The Mediterranean functions as an

archipelago of different cultures, even within the same country. Greece itself has thousands of islands, with each one offering a different flavour of life and culture unlike anywhere else. Holidaymakers are eagerly seeking different cultural experiences while on holiday, and there is nowhere that fine tunes these differences into an idyllic summer getaway like the Med.

'Blue mind' describes the meditative state people enter when they are in vicinity of water. This concept has slowly become mainstream travel behaviour, with travellers eager to be in close proximity to water. The Mediterranean is well-suited to

this phenomenon, and MGallery properties across the region reflect this shift in the value of water.

The Mediterranean is considered one of the world's great 'repeat' destinations according to the European Travel Commission, with 90% of European travellers, including Brits, planning to travel within the destination this summer.

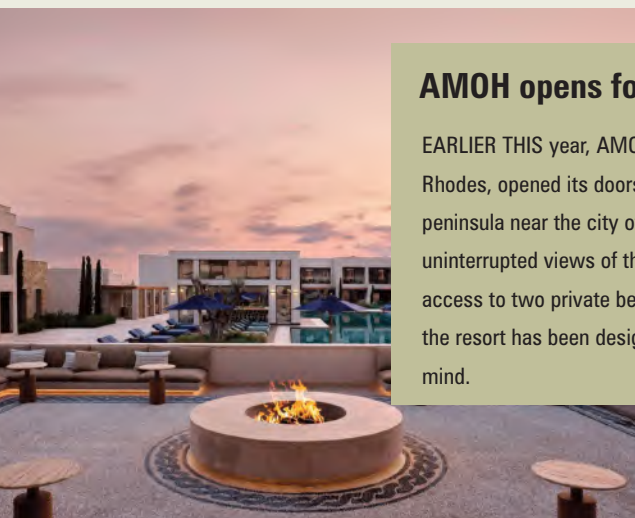
Save big on a Grecian cruise with Celebrity

UNTIL AUGUST, travellers can save up to £400 with Celebrity Cruises Europe sale, as well as enjoy up to 60% off second guest fares and direct flights to Europe from £99 per person.

One of the sailings included in the sale is the seven-day 'Best of Greece' itinerary in July onboard *Celebrity Infinity*, with port stops scheduled in Athens, Hydra, Santorini, Rhodes, Mykonos, and Ephesus. Prices for the sailing lead in from £529 per person. As the summer season arrives, the offer gives travellers the best opportunity to enjoy Celebrity's cruises in some of Europe's most sought-out destinations.

AMOH opens for the summer in Rhodes

EARLIER THIS year, AMOH, a Luxury Collection Resort, Rhodes, opened its doors on the island. Located on a private peninsula near the city of Lindos, the resort offers uninterrupted views of the Mediterranean Sea and direct access to two private beaches. Offering 197 rooms and suites, the resort has been designed with privacy and exclusivity in mind.



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Winter sun indulgence

JET2 HAS put its winter sun programme for 2027/28 on sale, with 4.5 million seats on sale across 14 UK airports.

Travellers can take advantage of this sale with flights to Cyprus that are easily booked from airports including Bristol, Glasgow, Gatwick, Leeds Bradford, Manchester, and Newcastle International.

The release of the programme comes in response to demand from holidaymakers looking to book ahead and enjoy some winter sunshine.



Embrace solo travel in Rhodes

ON THE west coast of Rhodes lies an adults-only haven, The Ixian Grand & All Suites.

The resort is ideal for solo travellers seeking peace, rejuvenation, and indulgence. It offers a serene setting to recharge from the stresses of daily life, with a private beachfront overlooking the serene waters of Ixia Bay. Prices lead in from approx. £253 per night for an October 7th check in.

Journey with Odysseus through ancient Greece

EXODUS ADVENTURE Travels invites guests to follow in the footsteps of Odysseus after the release of Christopher Nolan's anticipated retelling of one of history's oldest literary tales, *The Odyssey*.

The nine-day 'Highlights of Ancient Greece' tour is priced from £2,349 per person. This history-packed destination is where the myths behind Homer's *Odyssey* were born.

Guests will begin in Athens with a walking tour that includes the fabled Acropolis. A visit to Nafplio will allow guests to visit ancient Corinth and Mycenae on the way.

The tour will continue to Mycenae Palace of Nestor, and explore the birthplace of the Olympic Games in Ancient Olympia.

The preserved monuments of Messene marvels at the foot of Mount Ithomi, an icon for all Greek epic enjoyers.

The world heritage site of Delphi and its



ruins awaits travellers, with the Temple of Poseidon in Cape Sounio being a highlight.

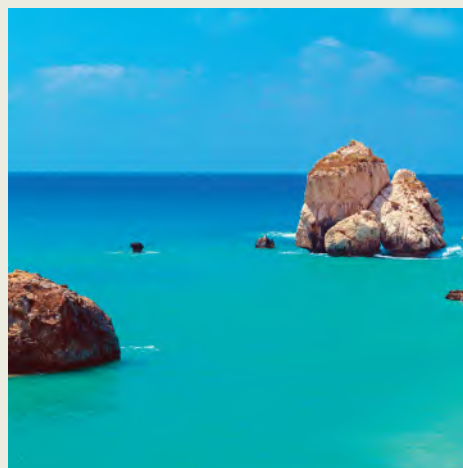
With all accommodation, transport and transfers included, and an expert tour leader to act as an archaeological guide, prices lead in from £2,089 per person for a departure date of September 5th, 2026.

Enjoy Paphos in Luxury

IMPERIAL ISLAND by Louis Hotels is surrounded by lush gardens and set right on the beach of Cyprus' beautiful coastal resort of Paphos. The five-star resort is perfect for families, friends, and couples looking for a comfortable and elegant holiday.

The resort's expansive Paphos grounds, which are located right on the beach, creates an idyllic setting for a sun-centric getaway and offers a tranquil escape.

The outdoor swimming pools are



designed for both adults and children. A variety of water-based entertainment and activities for families are available to ensure hours of leisurely fun is always available.

Gastronomy is varied, with three restaurants to choose from, as well as a pool bar service with drinks and snacks. The Exclusive Access Pass unlocks enhanced dining privileges that can elevate an entire holiday.

Drinks are always readily available, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

The main restaurant boasts rich buffets and live cooking stations, which are available throughout the day. A reservation at a themed restaurant, with curated Asian fusion dishes, will add the necessary sparkle for a holiday dinner.

A seven-night stay in a Suite Made for Two Sea View room leads in from £1,964 with a check-in date of July 23rd, 2026.



Mediterranean Islands Showcase

THE MEDITERRANEAN vibes were shining brightly at Basingstoke and Kingston last month as our suppliers shared their latest updates with agents ahead of what is shaping up to be a busy summer season for the destination.

A big thank you to our suppliers: Visit Cyprus, Sandos, Hyatt's Inclusive Collection, SkyExpress, Palladium Hotels, Mayor Hotels & Resorts, Jet2, Expedia TAAP, Princess Cruises, Iryo, Travelsphere, and Fred. Olsen.

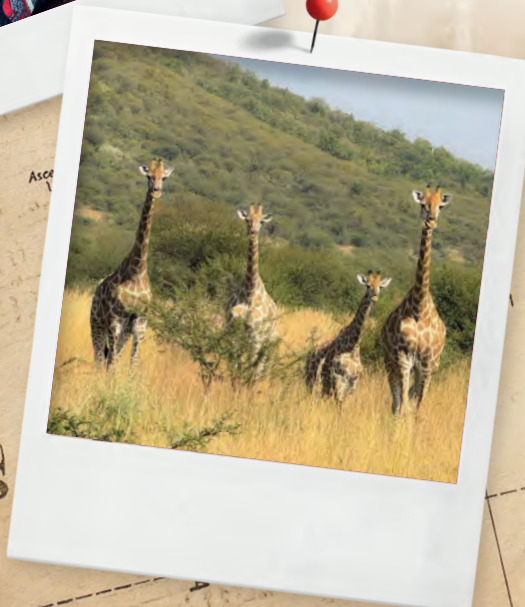


Our next event will be the Australasia & Pacific Islands Showcase taking place in Southampton on July 1st. To confirm your place or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you contact events@travelbulletin.co.uk



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A CONTINENTAL CENTENNIAL

Radisson Hotel Group has reached a significant milestone in Africa by surpassing 100 hotels throughout the continent.



RADISSON HOTEL Group has popped the champagne to celebrate more than 100 hotels in operation and under development across Africa.

Ramsay Rankoussi, regional chief development officer for Radisson Hotel Group, said, "We've crossed the 100-hotel mark in Africa by staying true to our plan, focusing on where we can

Journey along West Africa's Atlantic coast

TRAVELLERS CAN embark on an enriching journey along West Africa's Atlantic coast with Swan Hellenic.

The cruise will begin in Tema, Ghana, and end in Luanda, Angola, with plenty of stops and activities along the way. Highlights include visits to Togo's voodoo markets and the stilt village of Ganvie in Benin. Guests can relax on idyllic beaches and explore the rainforests of Gabon, as this cruise promises both adventure and rejuvenation.

Prices for the 13-night 'West Africa from Ghana to Angola' cruise lead in from £10,375 for a September 29th departure.

lead, moving fast on quality conversions, and partnering with owners who share our ambition."

Over the last 12 months, the Group set a new benchmark with more than 2,500 rooms signed.

Radisson continues to place priority on the growth markets in Morocco, South Africa and Nigeria. The Group is currently holding a strong position in Nigeria, with 13 hotels in operation and in the pipeline, while the focus is shifting in South Africa towards Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria.

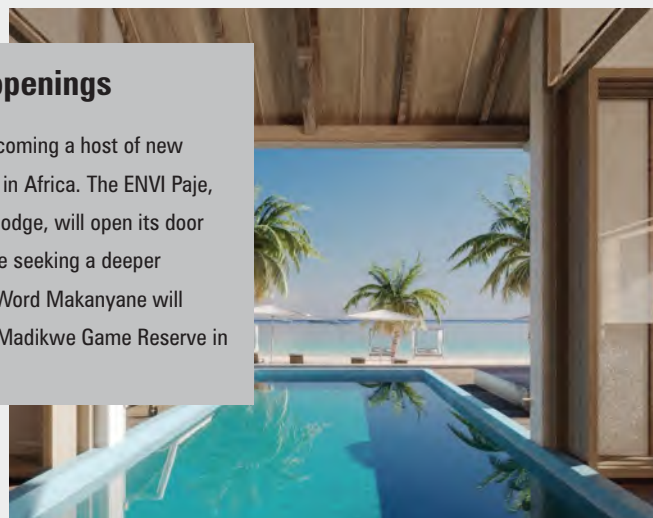
Radisson has a full roster of properties in the pipeline across the

continent, including a selection of key signings.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Radisson Blu Hotel, Kinshasa is set to open late 2026 in the Gombe district, offering 110 keys as well as a Presidential Suite. In Egypt, Radisson Resort Ain Sokhna Groove is planned to welcome guests from 2029, offering 469 rooms along the Red Sea coast. Over in Nigeria, Radisson Hotel Abuja is targeted for 2031, introducing 120 rooms in a prime riverside location along the Abuja River. This property will become the first Radisson-branded hotel in Abuja, and the Group's third in Nigeria.

Preferred unveils new openings

PREFERRED HOTELS & Resorts is welcoming a host of new properties this summer, including two in Africa. The ENVI Paje, Zanzibar's latest beachfront wellness lodge, will open its door this month, welcoming guests who are seeking a deeper connection with nature; and the Last Word Makanyane will launch next month in the heart of the Madikwe Game Reserve in South Africa.





Luxury developments in Rwanda

TWO NEW luxury openings in Rwanda put the country on the map for luxury-seekers.

LUX Lake Kivu is located on the shore of its namesake, and offers an intimate 14-key retreat that overlooks one of Africa's Great Lakes. Guests can indulge in water-based activities.

SALT of Akagera brings a new eco-luxury safari experience to Akagera National Park and overlooks Lake Ihema. The reimagined 60-key lodge offers game drives and conservation-focused experiences.



Connect with Nature in South Africa

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS is offering a 10-day itinerary for people who seek to connect with nature.

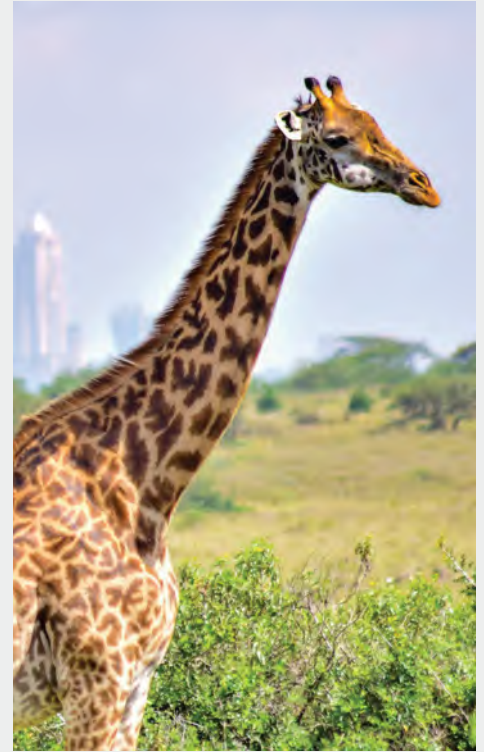
'On Safari in South Africa - Rhino East Lodge' is an immersive tour that explores the extraordinary South African wilderness which features opportunities to connect with nature, engage with local culture, and gain insight into the destinations history.

Kenya, the tourism magnet

THE WORLD Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) has revealed that Africa is entering a new era of tourism growth, with travel and tourism outperforming the wider economy and positioning the continent among one of the world's fastest-growing regions in 2026.

According to new 2026 Economic Impact Research data from WTTC, Kenya continues to strengthen its position as one of the continent's most strategically important tourism markets. Travel and tourism contributed \$12.7 billion to Kenya's economy in 2025, which represents 9.3% of national GDP.

Kenya is also emerging as a global leader in sustainable tourism. The travel and tourism sector sources 19.9% of its energy from low-carbon sources, significantly outperforming both the global average of 5.9% and the African average of 2.9%, positioning Kenya among the world's



leading destinations in advancing tourism's energy transition.

Kenya's success story forms part of a broader transformation taking place across Africa. WTTC's latest research shows that travel and tourism contributed \$228 billion to Africa's economy in 2025.

The best of South Africa

INSPIRING TRAVEL is offering travellers the chance to explore the very best of South Africa with its 'Classic South Africa' tour.

The 13-night itinerary begins in Cape Town, with local cuisine, spa treatments and dreamy gardens. Visit the Cape Peninsula on a private tour and experience the uniqueness of Cape Point to soak up gorgeous ocean views and see the local wildlife.

A private transfer will take guests to Mount Rochell in Franschhoek to explore



the surrounding winelands and indulge in a complimentary wine tasting activity before a private tour will show the best of the winelands.

Grootbos Lodge is perfect for those who want to connect with nature, as Walker Bay is South Africa's premier marine and flora destination as it is perfectly positioned between mountains, forest, and sea.

Dive into history and wellness at The Old Rectory Hotel & Spa for a two-night stay. The hotel has a vibrant history dating back to 1777 and offers world-class service.

Kruger National park is on everybody's bucket list, and guests can stay in Lion Sands Ivory Lodge while enjoying two private game drives per day.

Prices lead in for this 13-night adventure from £11,715 per person, with all accommodation, meals, and flights included.



Train & Gain

WE BROUGHT our Train & Gain event to Wilmslow earlier this month where we were joined by our wonderful suppliers: SPL Villas, Intrepid Travel, JA Resorts & Hotels, Prestige Travel, Sky Express, and Barbados.

Agents spent the day gaining insightful knowledge and walked away with some amazing prizes, including return tickets to Athens, a three-night stay in Dubai, and £100 vouchers.



Want to get in on the [#TBShowcases](https://twitter.com/TBShowcases) Train & Gain action? Our next event will be on September 8th in Solihull. To confirm your place or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you contact events@travelbulletin.co.uk

HOTEL, HOTEL, HOTEL!

Handwritten Collection has opened inaugural properties in the UK and Austria in a milestone moment for the brand.



HANDWRITTEN COLLECTION, an anthology of carefully curated hotels, has announced the signing of a new hotel in the UK and the opening of its first Austrian hotel.

In the heart of Vienna, Handwritten Collection has made its debut with the opening of Hotel Rathouspark Wien. Originally built in 1882 as an elegant Viennese city residence, the conversion hotel is close to Vienna's City Hall. The property has recently completed an extensive renovation and now offers an inviting blend of period charm and the personal touch of the Handwritten Collection brand.

Following the Viennese opening, Handwritten Collection has announced the signing of The Queen at Chester Hotel, which is the brand's first acquisition in the UK.

The hotel is expected to open this summer after an extensive, developer-led renovation project that will reimagine the property by introducing the brand's signature blend of personality, warmth and heartfelt hospitality to one of Britain's most historic and culturally rich cities.

The Queen at Chester Hotel will feature a diverse range of 218 guest rooms alongside the V&A Restaurant,

which serves British cuisine and offers signature cocktails as well as afternoon tea.

The launch in Austria and the signing in the UK marks a milestone step in the brand's international expansion, which encompasses over 30 hotels and 35 additional addresses in development.

A direct flight from the UK to Armenia

WIZZ AIR has launched the only direct flight between the UK and Armenia, flying from London Luton to Yerevan.

The inaugural flight departed earlier this month and marked the beginning of a connection between British travellers and access to one of the Caucasus region's most captivating destinations.

The launch also follows Wizz Air's latest 'Let's Get Lost' campaign, which saw dozens of lucky winners depart from Luton on a mystery getaway before discovering Yerevan as their final destination upon arrival.

Explore London and Paris in style

SOLOS IS offering travellers the chance to explore two of Europe's most iconic and timeless capitals in one itinerary.

Guests will begin in London with a panoramic city tour, before taking the Eurostar to Paris and visiting the Eiffel Tower and the Palace of Versailles. A seven-night 'London and Paris Multi-City Break' leads in from £3,525 per person.

PARIS

LONDON

Check in to Hungary at MOXY

MOXY HOTELS has debuted in Hungary with the opening of Moxy Budapest Downtown.

The new hotel is located on the lively Kazinczy Street in one of Budapest's most energetic neighbourhoods, which perfectly compliments Moxy's playful hospitality.

The new addition to Marriott Bonvoy's portfolio is set in a former dance institute, where Moxy's playful side subtly showcases references to ballet, movement, and the free-spirited legacy of Empress Elisabeth.

Bar Moxy is where the fun begins for guests, as they can enjoy a welcome cocktail during their check-in. The hotel boasts 281 rooms that centre around modern comfort, and functional technology. The 24-hour fitness centre is fully-equipped for guests to connect with their wellbeing and the multi-purpose-built meeting and

events space allows functions and conferences.

The development was made by Hungarian real estate developer and investment firm Forstay Group, and the project forms part of a broader urban revitalisation vision for central Budapest. The development contributes to the ongoing transformation of the surrounding district into a vibrant mixed-use urban destination for everyone.



Pegasus Airlines' new Gatwick route

THE AIRLINE'S new route will operate between London Gatwick and Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen International, enhancing connectivity between the UK and Türkiye.

The new Gatwick service joins Pegasus' existing daily flights between Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen International and London Stansted, giving passengers across London and the southeast greater flexibility and choice.

The route will operate daily, with fares leading in from £54.99 each way.



Manchester: a gateway to the world

MANCHESTER AIRPORT has a dozen new routes that are opening this summer that range from Med hotspots to major global hubs.

easyJet has new services to Bari, Montpellier, and Preveza from £79 per person. Jet2 is offering flights to La Palma, Palermo, Pula, and Samos, with fares from £96 per person.

Air Algérie now offer direct flights to Algiers and Lahore.



St Regis comes to London

THE ST. Regis London is set to debut in the heart of Mayfair this Autumn. The hotel occupies a landmark position at the intersection of Bond Street and Conduit Street.

The property will debut with Le Perroquet, an all-day French brasserie by

acclaimed chef Daniel Rose, which marks his first venture in the city.

Sarabande Foundation's House of Bandits gallery will curate and display the property's entire art collection by more than 80 artists for the hotel's bedrooms, suites, and public spaces.

Image Credits: Top Left: Marriott International, Top Right and Bottom Right: Canva Pro, Bottom Left: St Regis Hotels and Resorts

IHG's Summer Sale is here

IHG HOTELS & Resorts has revealed details of its Summer Sale event, offering travellers the chance to save on stays across the UK and Europe.

The campaign has been designed to help families, couples and staycation seekers make the most of their travel budgets this summer, while highlighting the benefits that can be had with an IHG One Rewards membership.

IHG One Rewards members can earn up to 15% off across a wide range of properties when booked before August 31st, 2026, for travel before March 2027.

The offer is valid at participating Crowne Plaza, Garner Hotels, Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express,

Holiday Inn the niu, Hotel Indigo, InterContinental Hotels and Resorts, Kimpton Hotels and Restaurants, Regent Hotels and Resorts, Ruby Hotels, Vignette Collection, and voco properties located across Europe.

Guests can also take advantage of IHG's flexible saver rate which offers free cancellations or amendments up to seven days before arrival.



Sofitel brings family into the heart of Rome

SOFITEL ROME Villa Borghese now offers guaranteed connecting family rooms and suites for travellers, as well as a new three-night Family Experience that weaves together luxury accommodation with culture. Every aspect of the Family Experience has been crafted to connect families with the culture, art and flavours of Rome. The Experience includes a guided tour of one of Rome's most exclusive 17th century residences, and access to the interactive Explora Children's Museum. Prices lead in from £4,840.

What is the best beach you've ever been to?

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You are invited to attend the

JAPAN SHOWCASE

Agent networking evening

Travel Bulletin is delighted to invite you to our Japan Showcase! This is a fun filled evening dedicated to providing you with more knowledge about this beautiful part of the world. Look forward to engaging professional networking groups, hot meal and drinks, enjoying the entertainment and being in with a chance to win some truly incredible prizes in our free prize draw!

MONDAY 6TH JULY, EDINBURGH

TUESDAY 7TH JULY, NEWCASTLE

TIMINGS:

5:45pm Registration	6:10pm Travel Bulletin Welcome	6:15pm Supplier Presentations	7:30pm Hot Dinner
8:30pm Supplier Presentations	9:10pm Product Quiz & Prizes	9:30pm Event Ends	

FEATURING:

ABERCROMBIE & KENT

Explore!



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KEIO PLAZA HOTEL

To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by **Friday 3rd July 2026** to: events@travelbulletin.co.uk or Telephone: 020 7973 0136

THESE EVENTS ARE BY INVITATION ONLY and will be booked on a first come first served basis with limited space available.



Invites you to a

LUXURY HOLIDAYS SHOWCASE

Monday **28th** September
Chester

Tuesday **29th** September
Kidderminster

Wednesday **30th** September
Reading

Agent networking evening

Travel Bulletin is delighted to invite you to an exclusive and engaging evening, offering a unique insight into the luxury holidays industry from leading suppliers, and the opportunity to connect with industry experts and like-minded professionals. The evening will feature informative presentations and valuable networking opportunities, complemented by a delicious dinner and drinks. To round off the evening, enjoy our free prize draw, with an array of fantastic prizes to be won.

TIMINGS:

5:45pm
Registration

6:10pm
Travel Bulletin
Welcome

6:15pm
Supplier
Presentations

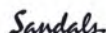
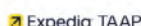
7:30pm
Hot Dinner

8:30pm
Supplier
Presentations

9:10pm
Product Quiz &
Prizes

9:30pm
Event Ends

FEATURING:



To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by **Thursday 24th September 2026** to: events@travelbulletin.co.uk or Telephone: 020 7973 0136

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