

Travel bulletin

Giving agents the edge

BLACK
FRIDAY

**Blink and you'll miss travel discounts this
Black Friday and Cyber Monday**

MORE IN...

News

All the latest, including limited-time Black Friday bargains Pg. 4

Exploration & Adventure

Push the boat out Pg. 15

Jetset



*This December, Business Class tickets
to Iceland, Light up...*



December Spinning, Sponsored by **ICELANDAIR** 



Star Flight Only Specialist

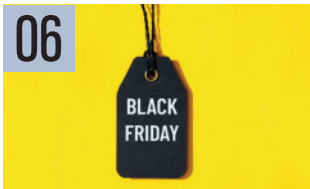
jetsetholidays.co.uk

jetsethighfliers.co.uk

THIS WEEK



NEWS
An industry round up for the top stories across the sector.



BLACK FRIDAY DEALS
Time is nearly up to grab your clients a Christmas deal!



EXPLORATION & ADVENTURE
Get the blood pumping with our selection of adrenaline-fuelled itineraries.



INDIAN OCEAN
A quick glimpse into a region known for its laid-back luxury offering.



CANADA
New routes, bolstered itineraries and more in the Great White North.



FEARLESSNESS AND FAMILY FAVOURED

Bold adventures and family heritage are high priorities for UK travellers according to Marriott Bonvoy’s new research.

THE APPETITE for global exploration remains strong within the UK market according to Marriott Bonvoy’s latest ‘Ticket to Travel’ research.

With more than 2,000 UK travellers surveyed, research shows that 36% of UK holidaymakers are planning to take more holidays in 2025 compared to this year, with another 41% expecting to maintain their current levels of travel. One demographic in particular is full of the travel bug, with 55% of the 25-34 age group aiming to travel more next year.

Bravery is taking the wheel for UK travellers as 62% are reported to feel more courageous on holiday. Travellers are embracing bold pursuits in their ‘brave-cations’, including experiencing exotic cuisines (47%), hiking to scenic viewpoints (40%), connecting with local communities through conversation (35%) and engaging in adrenaline-fuelled activities (27%).

Trips to connect to family heritage are

growing in popularity, particularly among the younger generation with 41% of 25-34 year-olds planning journeys to explore their ancestry. The main driving factors for this rise in roots tourism is the desire to understand family origins (48%), visits to ancestral homes (45%) and the chance to reconnect with long-lost relatives (29%).

Sustainability continues to be a priority for UK travellers, with 43% opting for eco-friendly travel alternatives such as rail journeys or other forms of public transport over flights. Additionally, 41% of travellers say they evaluate the sustainability credentials of their accommodation before they travel.

Phil Andreopoulos, chief sales & marketing officer at Marriott International EMEA, said, “2025 promises to be a transformative year for UK travellers, blending a thirst for bold exploration, seeing connections to their family heritage and a desire for value-conscious, thoughtful travel.”

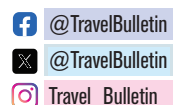


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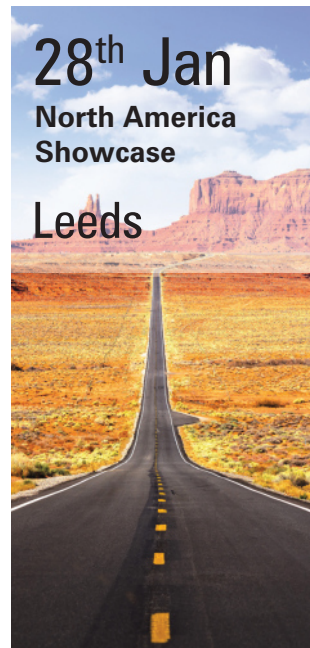
20th Jan
Africa Showcase
Basingstoke



27th Jan
Train & Gain
Guildford



28th Jan
North America Showcase
Leeds



21st Jan
LGBTQ+ Holidays Showcase
Bristol



Travelbag heads to the jungle with £100,000 prize

LUXURY TRAVEL agent Travelbag are heading Down Under for a second year as it has been revealed to be the prize provider for hit ITV show *I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out of Here*.

As the new cohort of celebs continue to fight their fears in the jungle, one lucky winner will be in with a chance to win the show's largest-ever cash prize: £100,000.

Alongside the huge cash prize, the lucky viewer will also win a 12-night luxury Australian adventure with three guests. Guests will stay in the Shangri-La in Sydney, enjoy a Captain Cook 'Gold' dinner cruise, ride the historic Ghan train into the Outback, travel to the world's oldest rainforest, and visit the Great Barrier Reef. www.travelbag.co.uk



CATA launches new tourism campaign

THE CENTRAL America Tourism Agency has announced its latest campaign 'Central America, Safe for Sure' which aims to emphasise safety, diversity and culture within the region.

The heart of the campaign showcases the reasons why 24 million visitors explored the

regions of Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and the Dominican Republic last year, with the narrative highlighting landscapes, culinary experiences, ancient cultures and biodiversity.

www.visitcentroamerica.com

Shearings rebrand hope to give the brand a "personality"

SHEARINGS HAS revealed its new rebrand, marking the first major changes to the branding since Leger Holidays acquired the brand in June 2020. A new logo, hoping to convey a more casual and playful message, will be joined by a repositioning of layout, photography style and copy tone when it launches on December 19th, 2024.

Leger Shearings Group CEO Liam Race said the redesign hopes to make the brand "stand out and be the first choice."

"We have been quietly researching customer opinions, including consultations with 'old' Shearings' customers, and they have helped shape the future of the brand (...) edges were becoming blurred between coach holiday companies, we were all looking the same... we've given the brand a personality!"

www.shearings.com

Just Go! launches coach breaks to Live Aid musical

AFTER A limited run at The Old Vic, *Just For One Day – The Live Aid Musical* will take to the West End next year, and Just Go! Holidays has launched a series of coach breaks including tickets to the show.

As the 40th anniversary of Live Aid approaches, the musical will earn its West End debut at the Shaftsbury theatre in 2025.

Just For One Day tells the story of the live TV concert, viewed by an estimated 1.5 billion

people, set to music by Bob Dylan, Diana Ross, David Bowie, Queen and more.

Coach breaks start from £189 per person, with departure dates in May, August, September, November and December 2025.

Packages cover tickets to the show, return coach travel from select pick-up points, one night's accommodation with breakfast, and free time in London.

www.justgoholidays.com



CV Villas makes trade strides ahead of 2025 surge

CV VILLAS has reported a 27% increase in trade sales for October 2024 against the same month last year, plus an increase in order value and bookings for 2025.

Chris Etheridge, CV Villas' business development manager, described October as a "phenomenal month in trade sales," noting the recent addition of Lucy Gwinnell to the team earlier this year and a focus on improving trade engagement. Twice the number of trade training events took place this summer against 2023, likely fuelling such "phenomenal" results.

Notably, Greece maintains its place at the top of the sales ranks (up 27% year-on-year, too) with Turkey surging by 166% against 2023. With all eyes on 2025, CV Villas has also noted advance trade bookings are up 38% and average booking value is up 9% for the year ahead.

www.cvvillas.com

MENA expansion for Marriott

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL has expanded its branded residences portfolio in the Middle East and Africa region with 41 projects within the collection, including 29 projects in the pipeline.

Over the last two years, the hospitality group has signed 19 agreements in the Middle East and Africa to bring its branded residences to more destinations. Some of the signings include Africa's first branded residences under JW Marriott; the first W Hotels branded residences in Africa; the Ritz-



Carlton Residences in Palm Hills, Cairo; the Ritz-Carlton Residences in Creekside, Dubai; and the St. Regis Residences on Financial Centre Road, Dubai.

www.marriott.com



Playa kicks off peaks early

FAM TRIP places, double rewards and spot prizes are on offer throughout Playa Hotels & Resorts' early peaks campaign, running until the end of March 2025.

Six places are on offer on Playa's fam trips next year to the Dominican Republic and Mexico. Every booking logged via the Playa Rewards platform will be entered into the prize draw, with the winners chosen at random.

Bookings made and logged by March 31st, 2025 are valid for entry.

www.playarewards.com



Eva Air and TAT renew partnership

EVA AIR and the Tourism Authority of Thailand have announced the renewal of their strategic partnership to build on the success of their previous collaboration and provide a comprehensive plan to further boost tourism to Thailand from key market across the globe. The renewal underlines the commitment both parties have to best position Thailand as a must-visit destination. www.evaair.com

Azamara boosts booking conversions with contact centre

AFTER OPENING its UK-dedicated contact centre in June, Azamara has boosted its booking conversions by 67% across trade and consumer channels, with agent call handling time down 25%.

On a recent visit to the centre, David Duff, managing



director, said, "I'm delighted with the early success of the UK call centre, and want to thank all of the team for their fantastic efforts."

"Through investing in localised support for agents and guests across the UK & Ireland, we are able to offer an enhanced service, which is now proving to drive sales and boost business performance in our second largest market."

As well as the 25% call handling time reduction and 67% increase in booking conversions, the call centre has improved the average speed of answer by 40% and reduced the call abandonment rate by 17%.

Stuart Pearce, head of trade sales, added, "Since its launch, the contact centre has become a trusted resource for our trade partners and a valuable asset to our team."

www.azamara.com



PATRICK HARRISON, Visit Tampa Bay's chief marketing officer, kicked off the new \$1.1 million 'Ready to Play' campaign, noting that, despite "zero damage" from the recent Hurricane Milton, the destination still "need[s] to change perceptions" about its readiness to welcome tourists. Hear more from Patrick at <https://shorturl.at/IgAYH>

Windstar reinstates Pick Your Perk offer

'PICK YOUR Perk' is making its return throughout the festive season and well into the New Year. Guests can enjoy either a free overnight hotel stay or up to US\$1,000 in onboard credit.

Available for bookings made now through to March 31st, 2025, Windstar's 'Pick Your Perk' offers allows guests the chance to enjoy a free night stay in a hotel either post- or pre-cruise, or up to US\$1,000 in onboard credit

that can be splashed out on shore excursions, spa services or celebratory cocktails.

Guests who stay in a Premium Suite have an additional option of an upgrade to the All-Inclusive Fare which includes unlimited alcohol and Wi-Fi.

More information on the 'Pick Your Perk' offer can be found on Windstar's travel advisor hub.

www.advisorhub.windstarcruises.com/perks

Win your way to Cape Verde

TRAVEL BULLETIN has teamed up with easyJet Holidays to offer one lucky reader the chance to join a fam trip to Cape Verde in 2025, exploring all three Meliá properties and everything the island of Sal has to offer.

Year-round flights will operate from London Gatwick three times a week, with a choice of all-inclusive Meliá hotels including VIP level, and other four to five-star hotels. Holidaymakers can set off from March 31st, 2025.

The operator's first fam trip to its newest destination will take place in 2025 and offer a group of lucky agents the opportunity to experience the island's Meliá hotels, including VIP Level, across three properties.

www.travelbulletin.co.uk/easyjet-holidays-sal-cape-verde-competition



Jet2 confirms new base for 2025

JET2.COM WILL take flight on its first service from London Luton Airport on April 1st, 2025 with the inaugural Majorca service. Up to 36 weekly flights will operate from the new base at the peak of summer season next year.

www.jet2.com

AGENT INCENTIVES

- **EVERY SCENIC** Luxury Cruises & Tours and Emerald Cruises booking confirmed before December 5th, 2024 will include a bonus incentive of £50 in reward points. Nick Hughes, Scenic Group's sales, strategy and partnership director, noted, "We want to incentivise trade partners via brand campaigns that are simple, that not only benefit their customers across both Scenic & Emerald Cruises, but also reward them for their efforts during this key period." Agents can redeem the £50 rewards by emailing rewards@scenic.co.uk with applicable booking references.
- **G ADVENTURES'** Change Makers programme will offer 15 agents from the UK and Ireland the chance to earn a spot at the next GX Summit in Jordan next year. Each booking made for any G Adventures trip will qualify for one entry. The top 10 sellers per region will secure their spots, with an additional five 'wildcard' spaces up for grabs. Wildcard challenges for 2025 include fundraising for G Adventures' non-profit partner Planeterra, and completing G-Learning modules. www.gadventures.com
- **TWO WEEKS** remain on Riviera Travel's Christmas incentive. Booking any Riviera trip this week or next will see agents entered into a prize draw for a £200 M&S voucher. Vicky Billing, head of trade and partnerships UK & Ireland, said, "Giving back to our agent partners is a core part of what we do and it's never too early to get into the festive spirit. We hope this fabulous prize... will give Christmas just that little bit more magic and sparkle." www.rivieratravel.co.uk



ALULA HOPED to capture the magic of its rich heritage and living legacies of its ancient history with the **Ancient Kingdoms Festival** held this month. Highlights included a 'Stories from the Sky' projection and drone show and **Ancient Kingdoms Parade** through the streets of Alula's old town (pictured).

Travel **bulletin**

COMPETITION

Win two return flights from the UK or Dublin to Barcelona, courtesy of Vueling Airlines and the Catalan Tourist Board

Find out more at www.travelbulletin.co.uk/catalan-tourist-board/



AGENT TRAINING

- **VISIT CENTRAL** Florida's new Tourism Institute platform blends classic e-learning opportunities with sales and marketing tools purpose-built for agents. The Visit Central Florida Tourism Institute stars two multi-modal chapters showcasing the region's attractions, accommodations and experiences as well as exclusive insights from top-selling agents. Completing the training course earns agents certified Central Florida Insider status and access to the Sales Companion, a resource to maintain their expertise, find resources and assets to market, and confirm bookings. Any agents completing the course by December 6th, 2024 will be entered into a prize draw for one £100 gift voucher and two £50 vouchers the following week. www.centralfloridatourismintitute.com
- **RIVIERA TRAVEL** has added a 'Primed for Peaks' training module to its new e-learning platform, Riviera Explorer, helping agents prepare for the upcoming peaks period. Instructions on how to order brochures, direct assistance with marketing plans and tips on how to book are all covered via the new module at www.rivexplorer.com
- **PRINCESS CRUISES'** newly-refreshed OneSource platform has been described as "a significant milestone in our commitment to supporting our valued travel agents" by sales director Hayley Moore, with several features added or enhanced to help boost agent sales. Agents can now access a wide range of FAQs, guides and 24/7 customer support, hopefully reducing the time agents spend on the phone or live chat when faced with customer queries. The training library now features upgraded how-to guides for the POLAR and Plane Sailing booking systems, as well as new content spotlighting the cruise line's destinations, and marketing toolkits. www.onesourcecruises.com

Send clients across the Channel from £47

20% DISCOUNTS APPLY to select LeShuttle fares this Black Friday weekend.

The discount applies to all ticket types bar Flexiplus fares, with select fares from £47 each way.

Select blackout dates apply.
www.leshuttle.com



FRED. OLSEN fares aboard *Bolette*, *Borealis* and *Balmoral* include savings worth up to £300 per person. 19 sailings from Southampton, Portsmouth, Liverpool and Newcastle are included to a whole host of destinations such as Arctic Norway, the Caribbean and Iceland. www.fredolsencruises.com/black-friday-cruise-deals

Bag Ambassador bargains this Black Friday

AMBASSADOR CRUISE Line is swapping Black Friday for Purple Week, offering Free Drinks on 18 select sailings when booked by December 2nd, 2024.

Bookings will include a free Explorer drinks package, which covers all house brand spirits and wines, non-alcoholic beverages (including unlimited soft drinks) and gratuities and service charges. Upgrades to Ambassador fares, which cover all of those drinks plus premium wines, beverages, teas and coffees, costs £10 per person per day.

During the promotion, the nine-night 'Hidden Gems of The Netherlands, Belgium and the British Isles' sailing starts from £989 per person with the Explorer package, or £1,079 per person with the upgraded Ambassador fare.

www.ambassadorcruiseline.com

Marvel at APT savings this Black Friday

APT & TRAVELMARVEL'S Black Friday saving sees 2025 departures slashed by £200, with extra chances to save up to £200 off breaks of 10 days or more. The £200 discount applies to any 2025 river cruises, Croatia yachting holidays, small-ship sailings, escorted tours, and Small Group journeys.

On top of the £200 saving, breaks of nine days or fewer are eligible for an extra £100 off, and those 10 days or longer can save an extra £200.

All Black Friday offers can be applied on top of the ongoing 25% off sale, meaning agents can save as much as £1,200 per person on select breaks.

www.aptagentclub.co.uk

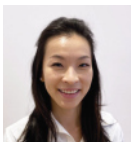


MOVERS & SHAKERS



RIVIERA TRAVEL has appointed its first-ever

head of brand, campaigns and PR: former Travelopia head of brand Katy Potten.



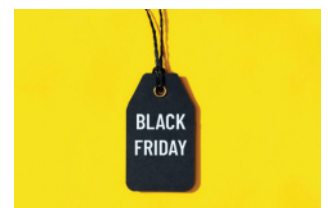
SINGAPORE TOURISM Board has appointed

Marissa Sim as its new area director for Northern Europe.



DARREN LANCASTER has been appointed as

UK market representative for Le Méridien Maldives.



Expedia's biggest TAAP sale of the year

Black Friday discounts have launched on Expedia TAAP, bookable until December 4th, 2024.

Discounts apply to thousands of hotels across a host of the platform's best-performing destinations.

www.expediataap.co.uk

SUDOKU

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

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

competition@travelbulletin.co.uk

Closing date for entries is Thursday, December 12th. Solution and new puzzle will appear next week.

November 15th Solution: A=5 B=4 C=6 D=9

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



WHERE AM I?

HOME TO the 'Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth' and more than 120 languages, this Canadian city is known as Cowtown for its prominent role in the country's western culture.

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

1				2		3		4		5
		6				7				
8					9			10		
					11					12
		13					14			
15						16				
17		18				19				
20					21					

Across

- 1 Operator specialising in tours to Asia and Latin America (5,2)
- 4 Month in short (3)
- 6 London Heathrow airport code (3)
- 7 State capital of Idaho (5)
- 8 One of the Great Lakes (4)
- 9 Florida coastal city, popular for its Art Deco District and Little Havana (5)
- 13 Country perfect for safari holidays (5)
- 14 This fruity sounding Professor is a Cluedo murder suspect (4)
- 17 Major hospitality company (5)
- 19 Estimated time of arrival, initially (3)
- 20 Seattle-Tacoma international airport code (3)
- 21 Caribbean island, home to the landmark Pitons (2,5)

Down

- 1 Musical fantasy film, sounds really naughty, at a cinema near you (6)
- 2 Historic English city on the River Ouse (4)
- 3 Perugia is the capital of this Italian region (6)
- 4 First name of professional dancer and judge, recently seen in the celebrity jungle (3)
- 5 Arduous journey (4)
- 6 The longest river in France (5)
- 10 This island has two little sisters, Gozo and Comino (5)
- 11 Legendary island home of Aphrodite (6)
- 12 English actress ___ Fox (6)
- 15 The UK's largest independent travel agent (4)
- 16 Pretty Kent coastal town and castle, close to Dover (4)
- 18 Czech Airlines, initially (3)

CROSSWORD

Across: 1 WENDY WU, 4 OCT, 6 LHR, 7 BOISE, 8 ERIE, 9 MIAMI, 13 KENYA, 14 PLUM, 17 ACCOR, 19 ETA, 20 SEA, 21 ST LUCIA. Down: 1 WICKED, 2 YORK, 3 UMBRIA, 4 OTI, 5 TREK, 6 LOIRE, 10 MALTA, 11 CYPBUS, 12 EMILIA, 15 HAYS, 16 DEAL, 18 CSA. Mystery Word: WALES



YAS ISLAND
A B U D H A B I

EXPLORE

YAS ISLAND ABU DHABI

Experience record-breaking thrills at **Ferrari World** Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, enjoy splash-tastic fun at **Yas Waterworld** Yas Island, Abu Dhabi and embark on heroic adventures at **Warner Bros. World™** Yas Island, Abu Dhabi.

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Business Class customers are treated to fully lie-flat seats, a luxury dining menu featuring the finest produce, complimentary Wi-Fi and more.

Book via your GDS or visit aerlingus.com

Three flights
per week to
Barbados



Save 15% across Newmarket's collection

SAVE UP to 15% across Newmarket Holidays' complete collection of escorted tours, including 2027 holidays, as part of the operator's Black Friday campaign.

Available until December 9th, 2024, the incentive features 15% off across more than 50



best-selling tours, including brand-new itineraries such as 'South Korea & Japan Discovered', 'National Parks of the Great American West', and 'India – Tigers, the Taj Mahal & Goa Beach'.

15% can also be saved across a range of African safaris, European culture and cuisine tours and musical journeys within the US. 2027 holidays featuring the discount include unforgettable journeys in Canada, India, South America, Japan and Southeast Asia.

Hayley Morris, head of trade and partnerships, said, "This Black Friday Sale gives our travel agent partners the perfect opportunity to emphasise the incredible variety and value of group tours, with the combination of eye-catching discounts and a wide range of departure dates making every wishlist holiday more affordable than ever." www.newmarketholidays.co.uk



HOLLAND AMERICA Line is offering guests who book a cruise departing between December 2024 and May 2026 for six nights or more up to \$250 per person in onboard credit. Reduced fares are also included in the sale for children, with fares leading in from £149 per person when booked as a third or fourth guest sharing a cabin. www.hollandamerica.com

Enjoy Maldivian luxury for 45% off

THIS BLACK Friday period, guests at either of Coco Collection's resorts can enjoy up to 45% off bookings made before December 4th, 2024.

Alongside the savings, guests can enjoy a complimentary meal plan upgrade to All-Inclusive and a range of exclusive excursions.

Those who book within the Black Friday window can enjoy 45% off Coco Bodu Hithi's bed-and-breakfast rates and 50% off return

transfers, while travellers preferring to stay at Coco Palm Dhuni Kolhu can enjoy 45% savings on the resort's half-board rates.

Both resorts offer a complimentary meal plan upgrade to All Inclusive with the above rates, and are offering a complimentary Sunset cruise or Sunset Fishing experience for guests who stay for seven nights or longer.

www.cocollection.com

Bargain breaks with Jet2holidays

BIG SAVINGS are up for grabs across Jet2holidays' entire collection as the operator is offering £100 off per person for all holidays booked through the trade. Couples can save £200 while a family of four can enjoy savings of £400 during the Black Friday sale when booking through an agent. The offer is also combinable with Jet2holidays' Free Child Place Holidays meaning families can save even more this festive period.

Holiday offers are available with Jet2holidays, Jet2Villas, Jet2CityBreaks, VIBE by Jet2holidays and Indulgent Escapes by Jet2holidays. The sale is valid on holidays departing until November 15th, 2026. www.trade.jet2holidays.com



20% off staterooms with Azamara

AZAMARA is offering a 20% discount on the total stateroom price for select 2025 sailings for bookings made by December 4th, 2024. Guests can also combine this with the November Brand Offer, which includes \$750 onboard credit per cabin. www.azamara.com

Celestyal's celebratory savings

CELESTYAL IS offering seven-night cruises from £319 per person when booked before December 3rd, 2024.

The Black Friday discounts apply to 65 departures across the Mediterranean and Arabian Gulf seasons.

CCO Lee Haslett described the Black Friday sale as "an unbeatable opportunity to explore the world on these incredible voyages, all at exceptional value."



£319 fares apply to the new 'Desert Days' cruises, sailing for the first time this month, aboard *Celestyal Journey*. Departures between November and March 2025 sail roundtrip from either Dubai or Doha, calling at Abu Dhabi; Sir Bani Yas Island; Khasab; and Bahrain. The £319 seven-night fares represent a 67% saving.

Celestyal's Med season sees 'Heavenly Adriatic' sailings, which debuted earlier this year, on offer throughout April and May. Sailing roundtrip from Athens, *Celestyal Journey* will call at Kefalonia, Dubrovnik, Kotor, Bari, Corfu and Katakolo. Prices lead in at £499 per person during the sale, saving 65%.

www.celestyal.com



CUNARD IS chipping in on the Black Friday fun with savings on Early Saver fares, meaning sailings booked before December 5th, 2024 start from £599 per person. Transatlantic sailings to New York, Caribbean itineraries and continental cruises across the Cunard fleet are included. Agents can earn double Shine points when booking throughout the promotion. www.cunard.com

TUI savings on sea, sand and snow

WHISTLE-STOP SAVINGS are available across TUI, First Choice, Crystal Ski Holidays, Marella Cruises and TUI River Cruise breaks.

Until December 3rd, 2024, up to £300 can be saved on TUI and First Choice packages departing between January 1st, 2025 and October 31st, 2026.

Select Marella cruise departures between January 1st, 2024 and April 30th, 2026 are eligible for similar savings up to £300.

Crystal Ski Holidays' savings this year represent the brand's biggest-ever Black Friday saving, with up to £75 per person off ski holidays to a choice of over 150 resorts between December 2024 and April 2026.

Rounding out TUI's Black Friday festivities is a £300 discount on TUI River Cruises departing between January 1st, 2025 and October 31st, 2026.

www.tui.co.uk

Bajan Black Friday bargains

WYNDHAM GRAND Barbados Sam Lord's Castle is offering beachfront Black Friday bargains until December 4th, 2024.

15 minutes from the Grantley Adams International Airport, the beachfront resort encapsulates the laid-back island lifestyle that Brits continue to crave from Barbados. Along with the all-inclusive food and beverage offering, the resort is home to a state-of-the-art spa and fitness centre, pickleball and tennis courts, six lagoon-style swimming pools, a kids' club, specialist rum bar, and wedding facilities.

20% savings are on offer for travel until December 15th, 2025.

www.wyndhamhotels.com



Direct transatlantic fares from £379

AER LINGUS' foray into Black Friday sees festive discounts on return flights from Manchester to New York, Orlando, or Barbados until April 2025 start from £379. The sale runs until December 3rd, 2024.

www.aerlingus.com

CONTIKI'S PRICE CUT

Over 140 trips are included in Contiki's largest-ever Cyber Sale.



YOUNG TRAVELLERS can save up to 25% on 145 worldwide trips during Contiki's month-long Black Friday celebration. The sale includes several brand-new trips including 'Albania Beaches & Peaks' and 'Ancient Wonders: Rome, Athens and Cairo'.

Several trips from Contiki's 'Ultimate'

collection are included in the sale, as well as a selection of the popular 'In a Week' itineraries.

The sale follows the huge price rollback Contiki included for the vast majority of its European trips, where travellers could save up to £159 on the fan-favourite 'Italian Espresso' tour amongst others. Now, with the added Black Friday deals, travellers can earn an additional £440 in savings for that tour.

A recent survey conducted by the youth operator revealed that 77% of over 5,000 respondents aged 18 to 35 are living, or have considered living, with

their parents to save money for travel. Such results fuelled the operator's decision to roll back pricing and offer such extensive Black Friday deals.

Kelly Jackson, managing director at TTC Tour Brands, said, "There is no denying that the increased cost of living has implications across every demographic, but by resetting our prices on most Europe trips and significantly increasing the number of trips included in this year's Cyber Sale, we hope that the trip of a lifetime becomes more accessible to young travellers around the world."

www.contiki.com

Fred. Holidays expands rail range for 2025

NEXT YEAR will see Fred. Holidays go all aboard on UK & Ireland services and bolster options in Scandinavia and Italy. Next year will see the addition of La Dolce Vita Orient Express in Italy, a wider choice of overnight pre- and post-journey stays, and a choice of Rail & Sail packages in partnership with Oceania and Explora Journeys.

Close-to-home options include a new four-night break, with a return journey aboard the Caledonian Sleeper, from London to Edinburgh, starting from £799 per person.

www.fredholidays.co.uk

Walk this way into 2025

RAMBLE'S NEW 164-page brochure and coinciding programme for 2025 stars 30 new holidays of a 300-plus itinerary roster across six continents. One such new itinerary is a 12-night Cuba with the Locals option, taking in the local life of the island with walks in the Viñales Valley and Topes de Collantes among others. Prices lead in at £2,999 per person. www.rambleworldwide.co.uk



G Adventures sets sail on the spirit of adventure

FIVE NEW state-of-the-art yacht vessels have been purpose-built to cater for G Adventures' small-group adventures in Greece.

The vessels will take to the seas for the operator's European sailing season next year. G Adventures' director of global sailing, Vince Donnelly, said the boats' solar panels and minimal-impact engines and generators represent a "commitment to the environment and spreading tourism dollars to lesser-visited communities on smaller Greek Islands, [which] really sets the bar high for operators in the region."

The near-57-foot-long vessels can accommodate up to 10 guests in five twin or double cabins. Both vessels will be deployed in Greece between April and October 2025.

Each itinerary will be led by a 'Skipper CEO' (chief experience officer) qualified by the operator.

Itineraries aboard the new boats include eight-day Santorini to Mykonos options starting from £1,229 per person and 15-day Santorini to Athens voyages from £2,379 per person.

www.gadventures.com



Around the World in luxury

RAILBOOKERS' 'AROUND the World by Luxury Train' journey is back and ready to take travellers across four continents for an unparalleled luxury adventure full of cultural experiences.

The 59-day once-in-a-lifetime itinerary includes travel aboard some of the world's most luxurious locomotives, including La Dolce Vita Orient Express in Italy.

The departure is scheduled for September 3rd, 2025.

www.railbookers.co.uk



Cruise the Fjords for half the price

HURTIGRUTEN IS offering up to 50% off selected Coastal Express sailings and 25% off North Cape Line all-inclusive voyages as part of its Black Friday sale.

Savings apply to the popular 12-day 'Coastal Express' voyage from Bergen to Kirkenes for departures between December 1st, 2024 and May 13th, 2025.

The Black Friday sale ends on December 2nd, 2024.

www.hurtigruten.com

The best of the West

ADVENTURERS CAN take in the glitz and glam of Las Vegas and the tranquility of the region's national parks on Newmarket Holidays' new US tours, which shine the spotlight on the icons of the West Coast.

Holidaymakers can hit the hotspots in the new 11-day 'Hollywood, Vegas, Palm Springs and the Grand Canyon' escorted tour, where the adventure will start in Buena Park with a visit to the famous Santa Monica Pier and the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



The tour will include stops in Las Vegas and the iconic Strip; the Hoover Dam and the vintage town of Seligman; the Grand Canyon; Palm Springs and San Diego.

Prices lead in from £2,499 per person with departures in October and November 2025.

For those looking for a more relaxing tour of the coast, the new 18-day 'National Parks of the Great American West' allows travellers to take in the huge skies and vast vistas of the region's 10 national parks.

The tour will begin in San Francisco before offering guests the chance to explore Yosemite, Sequoia, Death Valley, Monument Valley, Bryce Canyon, Zion, Capitol Reef, Canyonlands, Arches National Park, and finally the Grand Canyon.

Prices lead in from £4,249 per person.
www.newmarketholidays.co.uk

MARVEL AT MAURITIUS

Clients can leave those wintry blues at home and escape to Mauritius with Inspiring Travel's luxurious packages.

ENJOY SOME last minute winter sun in the luxurious haven of Mauritius with Inspiring Travel's latest packages to two resorts which place guest relaxation above all else.

The Dinarobin Beachcomber Golf Resort & Spa resides on a platinum white beach underneath the Le Mourné Mountain, offering guests the chance to sample the simple joys of coastal living

Wild at heart: Sri Lanka style

DISCOVER THE wild side of Sri Lanka with Tropical Sky's seven-night 'Animals of Sri Lanka' tour. Kicking off in Colombo, visitors will explore the cityscape by tuk-tuk before heading into the wild with safaris in Udawalawe and Yala National Parks where they will hope to encounter a wide range of wildlife including elephants, leopards and sloth bears. To close the trip, guests will explore the fort walls and charming streets of Galle, with options to tailor the experience with an added beach stay. Prices lead in from £2,279 per person including international return flights. www.tropicalsky.co.uk

with the frills of complete luxury. Whether families are looking for a Christmas away from the oft-dreaded UK winter or couples are looking for a romantic getaway in paradise in the adults-only Zen Suites, the resort offers a luxury escape away from the 'real' world for all guest-types.

Inspiring offers a seven-night package from £1,905 per person based on two sharing a Junior Suite on a bed and breakfast basis. Bookings must be made by December 13th for travel between December 1st to 27th, 2024.

Tucked away on an isolated peninsula, the Constance Prince Maurice Hotel offers guests to chance to bask in the tranquil lagoon-side

location surrounded by tropical greenery. Guests can take part in a range of adrenaline-inducing activities including water sport options and tennis, before soothing their aching muscles in the U Spa. In the evenings, guests have a selection of restaurants to choose from, including the only floating restaurant in Mauritius surrounded by mangrove trees.

Inspiring offers a seven-night package from £2,020 per person based on two adults sharing a Junior Suite on a bed and breakfast basis. Bookings must be made by April 1st, 2025, for travel between January 7th and December 6th, 2025.

www.inspiringtravel.co.uk

The Coral Residences change the game

WITH A meticulous attention to detail, The Coral Residences, Kandima mark a first-of-its-kind for the destination and promise to redefine luxury living in the Maldives. Comprising 40 two-bed and three-bed apartments, the Coral Residences offer exclusive access to premium facilities including a private beachfront pool, a gourmet restaurant and a dedicated fitness facility. www.coralresidencesmaldives.com





Sail the Seychelles for less

VARIETY CRUISES is offering up to 50% off its 2024/2025 winter collection and 2025 summer voyages. The cruise line's Seychelles sailings are included in the offer, with prices leading in from £995 per person for an eight-day cruise. Aboard *Pegasos*, guests will sail roundtrip from Mahe with highlights including a guided tour of the uninhabited island of Curieuse, snorkelling and swimming at St. Pierre Island and a tour to Vallee de Mai, often compared to the Garden of Eden. www.varietycruises.com



Relax and rejuvenate at Adaaran

ALL-INCLUSIVE MALDIVES resort Adaaran Select Meedhupparu invites spa-lovers to embark on an unforgettable journey of relaxation in the heart of the island paradise. For regular spa-goers, the resort offers The Ultimate Indulgence spa treatment featuring head-to-toe pampering, an aromatherapy foot bath, a traditional body scrub and a facial. Prices for the treatment lead in from £295. www.adaaran.com

Spas and serenity in Sri Lanka

LOCATED ON the southern coastal belt of Sri Lanka, Heritance Ayurveda offers a sanctuary of holistic wellbeing for guests. The practice of Ayurveda has been passed down for generations in Sri Lankan culture, and guests can participate in their own journey of self-discovery and restoration in a picturesque five-star resort.

The journey begins with a personalised consultation with the in-house doctors who will assess guests individually and design a tailored programme to best benefit them with treatments to balance the mind, body and soul.

Each guest will receive 11 complimentary yoga sessions during their stay regardless of the number of nights spent at the resort. Guests who stay longer than seven nights will receive one complimentary meditation session during their visit.

The resort offers an advanced purchase offer for the winter season. Guests who book any Ayurvedic holiday in Sri Lanka 75 days in advance of travel for a minimum of four nights can enjoy 15% off the price of the total package. The offer is valid for stays until April 30th, 2025.

www.heritancehotels.com



Seasonal celebrations with a Maldivian twist

IT IS festive vibes all round at Alila Kothaifaru Maldives as the luxury resort is inviting guests to experience a winter season like no other as celebrations are fused with Maldivian traditions.

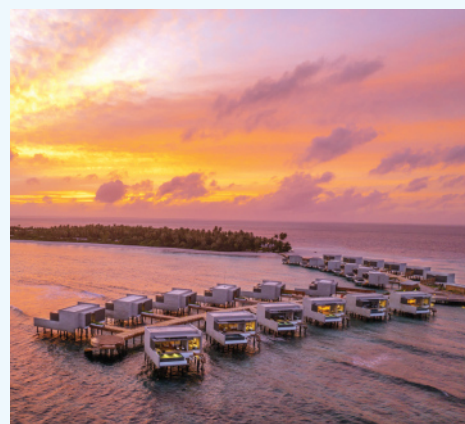
Between December 22nd, 2024 and January 7th, 2025, Alila Kothaifaru is offering a 'Festive Voyage' for all guests, promising a fun-filled line-up of events and activities for all ages to get into the spirit of the season.

The celebrations will kick off with a tree

lighting ceremony and cocktail party, followed by a Christmas Eve dinner and a visit from Father Christmas himself on the big day. Families can also engage in a range of festive activities including nature scavenger hunts, craft-making sessions and themed family nights.

As it is the season of giving back, the resort is offering guests the chance to take part in a charity treasure hunt snorkel, island run and kayak race to support local businesses, schools and other meaningful causes.

The resort will come alive with musical performances from local musicians performing Christmas carols with a Maldivian twist before guests ring in the New Year with an exclusive cocktail reception at the Seasalt Beach Gala Dinner. www.alilahotels.com



EXPLORE THE TRUE NORTH

Cosmos & Globus offers big savings across its Canadian collection.



EMBARK ON an adventure of a lifetime in the Great White North with Cosmos and Globus' winter sale. In between bites of poutine and bannock, travellers can explore the world-renowned Canadian Rockies, immerse in the cultural richness of Quebec and enjoy

One in 100: Canadian Affair launches loyalty scheme

CANADIAN AFFAIR and American Affair have launched a new loyalty programme for agencies who achieve £100,000 of revenue within a one-year period. Club members will receive exclusive benefits including monetary incentives, priority access to fam trips, exclusive competitions, event sponsorships, marketing support and Agent Advocate trips. The 100 Club will open to agencies who hit the £100,000 target between December 1st, 2023 and November 30th, 2024. Once the Club opens in January, other agencies will be able to join immediately once they generate £100,000 revenue within a calendar year. www.canadianaffair.com

the lively streets of Montreal for much less next year, offering savings of up to £600 per couple on its 2025 Canada tours.

One of the tours on offer is the 13-day 'The Canadian Rockies' itinerary which takes guests of a roundtrip adventure from Vancouver with overnight stops in Kelowna, Banff, Jasper, Sun Peaks, Whistler and Victoria. Highlights of the tour include a wine tasting in Kelowna, a chance to ride the Ice Explorer on the Columbia Icefield – the largest expanse of ice in the Canadian Rockies – where the ice is 750ft thick, and the opportunity to show off those skiing skills on the slopes in Whistler. Prices

lead in from £2,019 per person.

Over on the eastern side, the eight-day 'Ontario & French Canada' itinerary takes guests from Toronto to Montréal with overnight stops in both destinations as well as Ottawa and Québec City. Guests will take part in a sightseeing tour in each city, taking in the must-see sights off Toronto's CN Tower, the Canadian Mint, Québec City's Place Royale and Montréal's Mount Royal. Other highlights include a scenic cruise through Thousand Islands National Park and a chance to get up close and personal with Niagara Falls. Prices lead in from £1,319 per person. www.cosmos.co.uk

Canada gets the Princess treatment

PRINCESS CRUISES is offering something for everyone in its newly-launched 2026 Canada & New England season. *Sapphire Princess* will sail her first-ever season in the region alongside *Majestic Princess* with options to explore ports in New York, Boston and Québec City. Guests also have the chance to explore more of the region with two in-depth cruisetours, including the 'Maple Explorer' itinerary with visits to Niagara Falls, Ottawa and Montréal. www.princess.com





Air Canada connects the capitals

IT IS not long now until Air Canada will resume its direct route from Ottawa to London Heathrow following a four-year hiatus.

The service will operate four times per week from March 31st, 2025, strengthening the Canadian capital's ties with the UK and European market.

While initially the route will be a seasonal offer, there is scope for further development and expansion to a year-round service in the future.

www.aircanada.com



Holland American takes on the Yukon

HOLLAND AMERICA Line has launched its 2026 Alaska Cruisetours which allow guests to combine a cruise to the Last Frontier with a journey into the Yukon Territory.

A total of 18 itineraries are available within the collection, with prices leading in from £1,899 per person. Each sailing will range from nine to 17 days and will depart from May to September 2026.

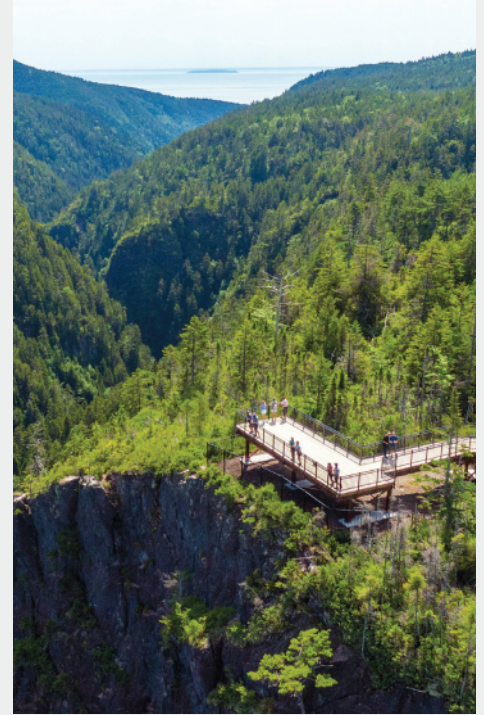
www.hollandamerica.com

Destination BC goes beyond the map

AFTER THE successful launch of the Rainforest to Rockies route earlier this year, Destination BC has now turned its attention to the north of British Columbia with the release of The Great Wilderness as part of its 'Invest in Iconics' strategy.

The Great Wilderness stretches from the Coast Mountains in the west to Alberta's border in the east, and from Highway 16 up to the Yukon border. The strategy has been designed to inspire travellers to forgo the map and travel into the unknown along some of British Columbia's most otherworldly landscapes.

Within the region, travellers can embark on epic road trips into the vast unknown or enjoy a multi-day adventure in the wild, taking on frozen glaciers, volcanic terrain and alpine peaks. For those who want to immerse themselves fully into the landscapes, travellers can paddle Atlin Lake,



the largest natural lake in BC, or marvel at the sights at Kinuseo Falls. Travellers can also learn the history of the land from Indigenous communities throughout the region and take a step back into prehistory with visits to geological wonders.

www.hellobc.com

All aboard the savings train

THERE IS still time to enjoy up to £775 off per person with Rocky Mountaineers' Black Friday promotion which covers all 2025 packages of five nights or more. For new bookings made before December 5th, 2024, travellers can save up to £575 per person on any 2025 Canadian package for six nights or more. An example package is the six-night 'First Passage to the West Excursion Banff' where guests will spend two days aboard the Rocky Mountaineer travelling from the Rain City of Vancouver to Banff, passing through Fraser Valley, the



slopes of Thompson River and the snow-capped peaks of the Canadian Rockies.

The itinerary includes two nights in Vancouver, one night in Kamloops, two nights in Banff and a final night in Calgary. Prices lead in from £1,574 per person for the SilverLeaf Service package.

For its Canadian routes, Rocky Mountaineer offers a choice between SilverLeaf or GoldLeaf service. SilverLeaf features spacious single-level coaches where guests can enjoy their meals in their seats, whereas GoldLeaf features bi-level coaches with a seating area on the upper level and a lower-level dining area. Each package includes a sightseeing transfer, luggage handling, accommodation and all meals aboard the train. Optional add-on activities are also available, allowing guests to build a longer itinerary to suit their needs.

www.rockymountaineer.com

Daily flights to Canada with Westjet.

You're right - a winter trip for your clients to Canada would be magical. They can explore snowy mountain peaks in the Canadian Rockies, meander picturesque mountain towns and experience iconic Canadian experiences like dog sledding and watching the northern lights.

With daily direct flights onboard our 787 Dreamliner from Heathrow to Calgary, Alberta, your client's next Canadian story starts with Westjet.



View our flight schedule at [westjet.com](https://www.westjet.com).

WESTJET 

Destination Canada rolls up its sleeves

DESTINATION CANADA'S new 2025-2027 leisure market strategy strives to "move the dial" in global markets, with the UK as "a key part of that transformational growth," according to Rachel McQueen, Destination Canada's UK managing director.

Planning a course for sustainable growth to unlock as much as CAD\$160 billion in annual revenue by the end of the decade, the 2025-2027 Leisure Market Plans revealed strong intent from Destination Canada to strategise its travel and tourism intent globally.

While generally, the destination hopes to enhance its autumn and winter programming, it revealed specific intent to increase UK visitor dispersal in the summer, growing

yields during peak periods and increasing revenue in non-peak periods.

Rachel continued, "Over the next few months there will be an intensive period of working with partners to develop the next phase of our plans – it is a definite case of rolling up our sleeves to move the dial."

www.destinationcanada.com



Boundary-pushing ice hotel to open in Québec

JANUARY 17TH, 2025 will see the opening of the only restaurant made entirely of snow and ice in North America. Combining the culinary skills of the Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac with the craftsmanship of the Hôtel de Glace de Québec, the restaurant will craft an experience that, according to Jean-François Vary, general manager of the former, "constantly pushes the boundaries of hospitality, offering our guests experiences that highlight what makes our destination unique, while maintaining world-class service standards." www.fairmont.com

What has been your 2024 highlight?

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Going on a Med cruise.



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Man Utd winning the FA cup.



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My girlfriend's graduation and visiting Niagara Falls.



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Planning my wedding.



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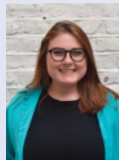
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Invites you to an

LGBTQ+ HOLIDAYS SHOWCASE

Agent Networking Evening

TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2025

BRISTOL

Travel Bulletin is delighted to invite you to our LGBTQ+ Holidays Showcase! This is a fun filled evening dedicated to providing you with more knowledge about the diverse range of destinations, resorts and hotels, fantastic facilities and exciting itineraries available. 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!

TIMINGS

Registration &
Drinks
5:45^{PM}

Travel Bulletin
Welcome
6:10^{PM}

Client
Presentations
6:15^{PM}

Hot
Dinner
7:15^{PM}

Client
Presentations
8:15^{PM}

Product Quiz
and Prizes
9:15^{PM} - 9:45^{PM}

FEATURES



Love a little paradise
-for real



To confirm your place at this amazing event, email the name, company and contact details by Tuesday 21st January 2025 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.



WELCOME TO OUR HOME

Now featuring
Almafi Coast &
other 'Bellissimo'
parts of Italy



ALL part of our unique villa packaging tool



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For Creating
Dream
Packages

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VILLA HOLIDAYS