

Travelbulletin

Giving agents the edge

Solo Travellers

More people than ever are going it alone...
make the most of your solo sales!



MORE IN...

News

Get yourself up to date with all the goings-on. **Pg. 4**

Bulletin Briefing

ANTOR chair Tracey Poggio brings you the latest trends to look out for. **Pg. 12**

Winter Sun

Swap cold days for coastal rays. **Pg. 21**

Lanzarote

A UNIQUE ISLAND



Lanzarote is different than other sun and sea destinations. It's an island where nature and art prevail. A place where the people are as warm as they are active and proud. Where the food tastes of the sea and the earth. Where the essence of the island leaves a mark on your soul long after you depart. Lanzarote's beaches invite the visitor to enjoy the sea that laps the island's shores, particularly since the average annual water temperature is around 19.5° C.



**SOME
PLACES
IN THIS
WORLD
ARE SPECIAL**

The gastronomy of Lanzarote stands out for its simplicity, as the ingredients are more important than the processes, but the results are very tasty. We invite you to make the most of your experience. Lanzarote is a volcanic island with a landscape that changes colour at every step, where nature and art are worshipped while upholding sustainable values. It's well worth exploring to be sure you don't miss a single detail. Get out there and enliven your senses.



#LOVELANZAROTE

Head on over to youtravel.com to see the range of extensive properties we offer, learn more about the destination and special offers we currently have!

 youtravel.com

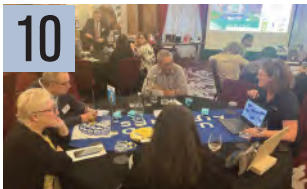
THIS
WEEK

07

**AGENT BULLETIN**

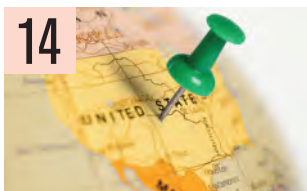
Training opportunities and booking rewards galore!

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**SHOWCASE RECAPS**

Pictures from our Adventure & Activity and Luxury roadshows, guaranteeing that showcase FOMO!

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**USA**

Head across the pond as we roundup all the latest.

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**IN THE HOT SEAT**

Gran Canaria's Katerina Bomshtein heads into the hot seat with a destination rundown...

26

**WINTER SUN**

As summer fades, find the hottest spots for clients looking to escape this winter.



CITY BREAK TRAITS & TRENDS

Jet2 has uncovered the most common city break traits, trends on the radar and typical types of traveller.

THE MOST common city breakers have been revealed: from the 'backpack Brit' to the 'super scheduler', Jet2's new survey has revealed the most common city break traits and trends.

Over 2,000 former city breakers were surveyed, with 13% describing themselves as a 'free and easy' traveller – does that one client who worries about nothing more than a pair of sunnies come to mind?!

16% are self-described 'culture vultures', soaking up all that history and cultural magic around them during their city escape.

43% of guests on city breaks attempt to avoid looking like an obvious tourist.

A Jet2CityBreaks spokesperson said: "There are always certain traits that people inherit when they go on a city break, depending on their personality type.

"Everyone travels differently, with some people wanting to plan every last detail of their trip while others are more spontaneous and will just go with the flow,

"With this in mind, when you go away with someone it's important you either have similar values, or make sure your companion's traits mesh well.

"For example, if you're someone who loves food but isn't great on details, go with someone who loves to plan – that can book the finest restaurants months in advance."

42% of guests believe accidentally getting lost in a foreign city is the best way to discover it – 40% reckon they can spot other non-locals as they do.

The survey also revealed the top 10 cities respondents want to visit: Italy's city break staples topped the list (Venice and Florence), followed by Reykjavik, Barcelona, Vienna, Athens, Dubrovnik, Paris, Prague, and Budapest.

"Our study found that the demand for city breaks is as strong as ever, and just looking at that top ten list of where people want to go really whets the appetite for adventure," concluded the operator's spokesperson.

Travel
bulletin

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Riviera Travel sails into 40th anniversary

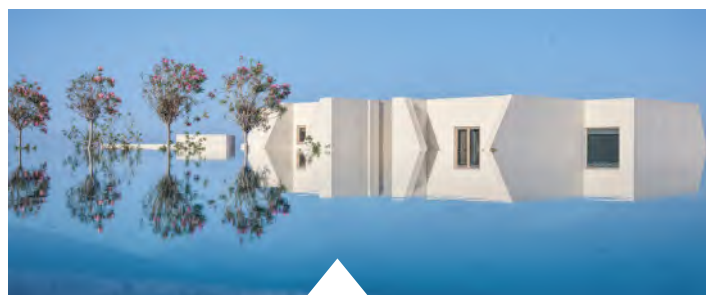
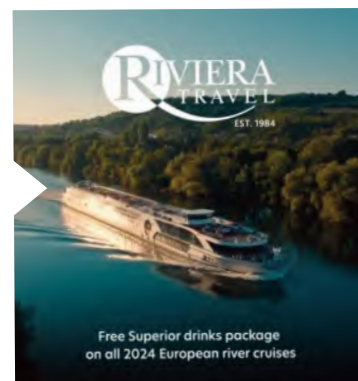
AHEAD OF the operator's 40th anniversary, Riviera Travel has launched a new brand campaign and TV advertising rollout to get the celebrations off to a silver-screen start.

Two television campaigns will ensure viewers can't miss the Riviera rollout: one spotlighting Riviera's river cruise holidays and another spanning the entire

product portfolio.

The full campaign will run into 2024, with Riviera's marketing director Sarah Fowler explaining: "We'll be working closely alongside the trade to help maximise all our activities and want to thank agents for the support we're already receiving."

www.rivieratravel.co.uk



New York trattoria, Santorini-style

YES! HOTELS Group's newest property, the NOÛS Santorini Resort, has introduced a new dining concept: Elio's Italian American Chophouse, bringing metropolitan New York vibes to the Greek island.

The dining option blends the vibe of a New York trattoria,

classic Italian cuisine, and its paradise Cyclades setting.

Elio's brings a nostalgic atmosphere to the resort, with iconic Greek service and a Little Italy-inspired menu with Italian staples made from local ingredients.

www.yeshotels.gr/nous-santorini

Freebird follows up record-breaking summer

HOT ON the heels of its second year of regular service (four-times-weekly) from Gatwick to Antalya, Freebird's 2024 programme will feature daily services from May.

Freebird hit record-breaking passenger carryings and increased its load factor year-on-year this summer, and is doubling down on its Gatwick to Antalya success with daily services from May 20th, 2024 to the end of October.

Carl Denton, from the airline's UK sales team, explained: "Freebird is a trade-focused airline looking to support agents, tour operators and OTAs, and with our earliest summer launch to date, we look forward to building further on these relationships for next summer!" *Summer 2024 flights are now bookable at* www.freebirdairlines.com

Cathay brand launches 'Feels Good To Move' campaign

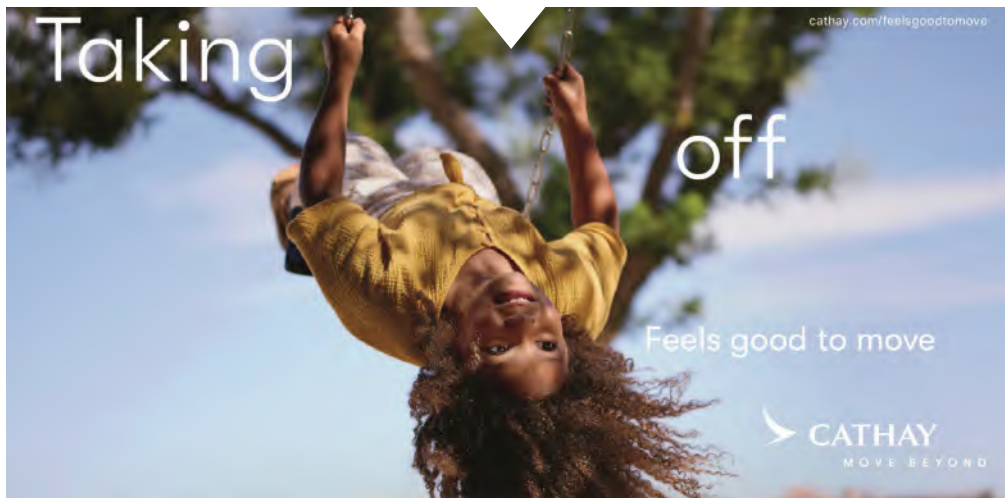
A NEW brand will lead the charge for the wider Cathay family globally, streamlining client interaction with Cathay Pacific.

Cathay's new premium travel lifestyle brand has rolled out to global markets, including the UK, spotlighting passion for travel as a way of life under the 'Cathay' master brand.

CEO Ronald Lam said: "Our evolution into Cathay marks an exciting new chapter in our history and reflects our renewed focus on the

customer and our determination to fulfil our vision of becoming one of the world's greatest service brands."

The brand's first global campaign in three years, 'Feels Good To Move', celebrates that passion for travel, calling on clients to get moving again. The campaign will roll out across the UK through TV, cinema and radio placements, along with key platform messaging. www.cathay.com



Free excursions as Havila reveals £400 value add

FROM HUSKY sledding across the Arctic tundra to a hike through the landscapes of Norway or a winter adventure in search of the Northern Lights, Havila Voyages is ensuring your clients can get the most out of their sailings with an NOK5,000 (approximately £400) onboard credit bonus when booking.

Onboard credit can be put towards drinks or purchases onboard, as well as a host of excursions around the year.

Bookings for Havila's 11-night 'Round Voyage from Bergen (via Kirkenes)' include the NOK5,000 credit, with seven-day 'Voyage North' and six-day 'Voyage South' options including NOK2,500 (£200) per cabin.

The offer is valid on all departures from January 1st, 2024 to March 31st, 2025 when booking by the end of October 2023.

www.havilavoyages.com

Classic Collection unveils new Morocco & Egypt brochure

CLASSIC COLLECTION'S new 'Morocco & Egypt' brochure includes 22 new-to-brand properties and a wider array of flight options.

Alongside the new properties, an expanded Egypt programme features the introduction of Marsa Alam and a new Nile cruise.

On the timing of the brochure's launch, the operator's director of Product and Commercial, Alex Gavalda, explained: "Given recent tragic events in Morocco it is with mixed emotions that we're launching our new brochure. And yet the best way that we can



show our support is by continuing to market the destination."

The brochure is now available via Tradegate.

www.classic-collection.co.uk



G Adventures plants 'Trees for Days' initiative

IN CELEBRATION of last month's World Tourism Day, the operator vowed to plant a tree in every traveller's name for each day they're on a G Adventures trip.

The initiative is already planting seeds across the world, with the scheme backdated for every day a traveller has joined a G Adventures itinerary since January 1st, 2023.

G Adventures estimates the initiative will plant one and a half million trees annually, in partnership with Planeterra and Reforest. www.gadventures.com



Sandals opens bookings for newest resort

SANDALS SAINT Vincent and The Grenadines is set to open on March 27th, 2024, with the property now available to book.

Spread across 50 acres, the property introduces a new island experience, two-storey overwater villas, with a host of more brand 'firsts'. Bookings are open now, with Bamboo Palm Room stays starting from £3,199 per person. www.sellingsandals.co.uk

Bristol Airport pledges £60 million for public transport hub

BRISTOL AIRPORT has confirmed plans to develop a public transport interchange hub and multi-storey car park.

The £60 million-plus investment will also see the construction of a bridge link between the car parks and terminal.

Bristol Airport hopes to welcome 12 million passengers annually.

www.bristolairport.com



NOT JUST Travel has sailed into what CCO Chris has called "the dawn of a cruise boom," with Virgin Voyages sales up 400% in the last 12 months. The homeworking group largely attributes the success to its partnership with the burgeoning cruise line, following its Seminar at Sea in June, and the launch of its Cruise Division, Cruise Mastery Programme and specialist training.

www.notjusttravel.com / www.virginvoyages.com

Responsible tourism on the radar

A STRONG rebound appears to be underway in the responsible tourism sector.

Responsible Travel conducted a survey of 479 of its members, getting a taste for the success of post-Covid-19 recovery.

Over 60% of respondents ranked this year's performance as 'doing well' or 'excellent', with a whopping 12.6% suggesting that 2023 will be one of the best years ever. 27.9% reported business is

'average' so far this year, suggesting a stable if not thriving landscape for travel businesses.

Responsible Travel itself projects 2023 to be its most profitable year to date. Co-founder and CEO Justin Francis explained:

"Customers are clearly prioritising travel amid the cost-of-living crisis. But these results emphasise they're increasingly conscious of getting value for money."

www.responsibletravel.com

MOVERS & SHAKERS



INSIDE TRAVEL has welcomed ex-senior travel consultant

Holly Brown as its new BDM, helping agents capitalise on rapid InsideAsia and InsideJapan momentum.



WILL SARSON has replaced Katja Hildebrandt as

Riviera Travel's head of product river and ocean cruise.



MSC CRUISES has recruited ex-TUI sales manager Daniel

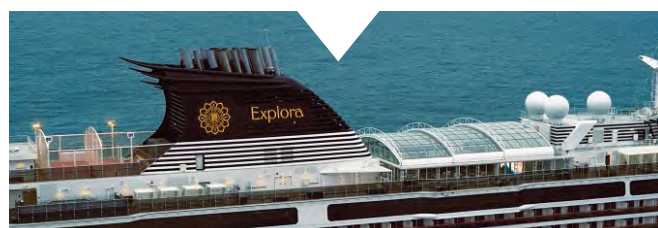
Short, who will cover the Southwest and Wales.

Explora Journeys goes hydro with £3 billion investment

LUXURY OCEAN line Explora Journeys has confirmed the orders of two hydrogen-powered ships as it continues its voyage towards net zero.

EXPLORA V and EXPLORA VI will debut state-of-the-art energy efficiency approaches and be able to utilise alternative fuels like bio and synthetic gas.

Pierfrancesco Vago, executive chairman - Cruise Division, MSC Group, said: "Of course we will continue to deliver the very best luxury travel experience, immersing our guests in the ocean state of mind with a sustainable soul." www.explorajourneys.com



TravelLocal tips top destinations for 2024

BASED ON booking boosts over the last six months, TravelLocal has tipped the destinations with the most momentum going into 2024. Thailand (with a 778% booking boost), Sri Lanka (450%), Vietnam (397%), Jordan (359%), and Malaysia (200%) topped the rankings. www.travellocal.com

AGENT INCENTIVES

- **ALONGSIDE ITS** Autumn sales campaign (*more on that on pg. 4*), Ambassador Cruise Line is offering you the chance to 'Book a Cruise to Win a Cabin' with its autumn incentive. The first 50 agents making a booking for an Ambassador cruise departing before March 26th, 2024 will win a two-night 'A Taste of Ambassador' itinerary, a voyage showcasing the best the brand has to offer. *To claim, email your name, agency name, ABTA number and booking reference to competitions@ambassadorcruiseline.com by October 31st, 2023.*
- **YOU CAN** kickstart your Royalton Rewards earnings with the brand's new Jamaican property, Hideaway at Royalton Blue Waters, opening this November. Up to £20 per booking is on offer when logging seven-night stays at www.royaltonrewards.com.
- **A BUCKET list** India cruise-stay is still up for grabs to the top Uniworld seller by October 31st, 2023. The top prize is a 13-day 'India's Golden Triangle and Sacred Ganges' itinerary, with runner-up prizes including a 'Christmas Market' cruise for two. www.uniworld.com
- **ALONG WITH** earlybird savings of up to £300 per person on JG Travel Group's 2024 river cruise programme, a £24 Love2shop voucher is still on offer with bookings made by October 15th, 2023 for departures next year. www.justgoholidays.com www.nationalholidays.com
- **ONLY A** few weeks left to become a MerMillionaire and earn a million Virgin Points when booking Mediterranean voyages by October 31st, 2023. Points can be redeemed on a host of rewards. www.firstmates.com

AGENT BULLETIN



SANDALS AND Beaches Resorts' BDM, Lorraine Adams, surprised agents on the road with a Sandals Resorts' retro sweets hamper. Pictured here with the Kayleigh Lyness, Nikita Sanders, Chloe Harman and Emma Cater outside the Hays Travel shop in Colchester, Lorraine spread the word on the brand's recent Autumn Sale.

Travelbulletin COMPETITION

Win a two-night stay for two in the Maldives at Mukunudu Resort by answering a series of questions!

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

AGENT TRAINING

- **YOU CAN** win a place on a fam trip to Qatar by completing the eight modules of the Qatar Specialist Programme. Hosting a wide range of content and tools to support you when selling Qatar, the platform also allows you to build tailored itineraries and explore local events to increase the value of your sales. www.travelbulletin.co.uk/travelgym/destination-training
- **TIME IS** ticking on your chance to win Love2shop vouchers worth up to £100 with the Cook Islands training programme. Two £100 vouchers and three £20 vouchers are up for grabs to agents completing the course by October 31st. www.travelbulletin.co.uk/travelgym/destination-training
- **DISCOVER DOMINICA** with the recently-relaunched training programme. The platform spans five key modules, spotlighting the island paradise; land and water adventures; accommodation, events and cuisine; and selling Dominica. Completion earns agents a spot in a prize draw to win a place on a fam trip. www.discoverdominica.com/en/travel-trade
- **LA DOLCE Vita** awaits with the Italy Online Training course. You'll find everything you need to know: from the destination's must-visit attractions, to its history, culture, and gastronomy. www.italyonlinetraining.co.uk
- **THE ROCKY Mountaineer** team await to spotlight their life-changing experiences, with a trade-specific rundown on the Rockies and American Southwest's train journeys to put you in a prime position to get selling. www.communities.rockymountaineer.com/agent/s/login
- **WITH INCENTIVES** and educational modules, Miraggio Thermal Spa Resort's trade portal includes the chance to earn a free stay for yourself. www.miraggiob2b.com



AGENT INSIGHT

SALLY O'HARA

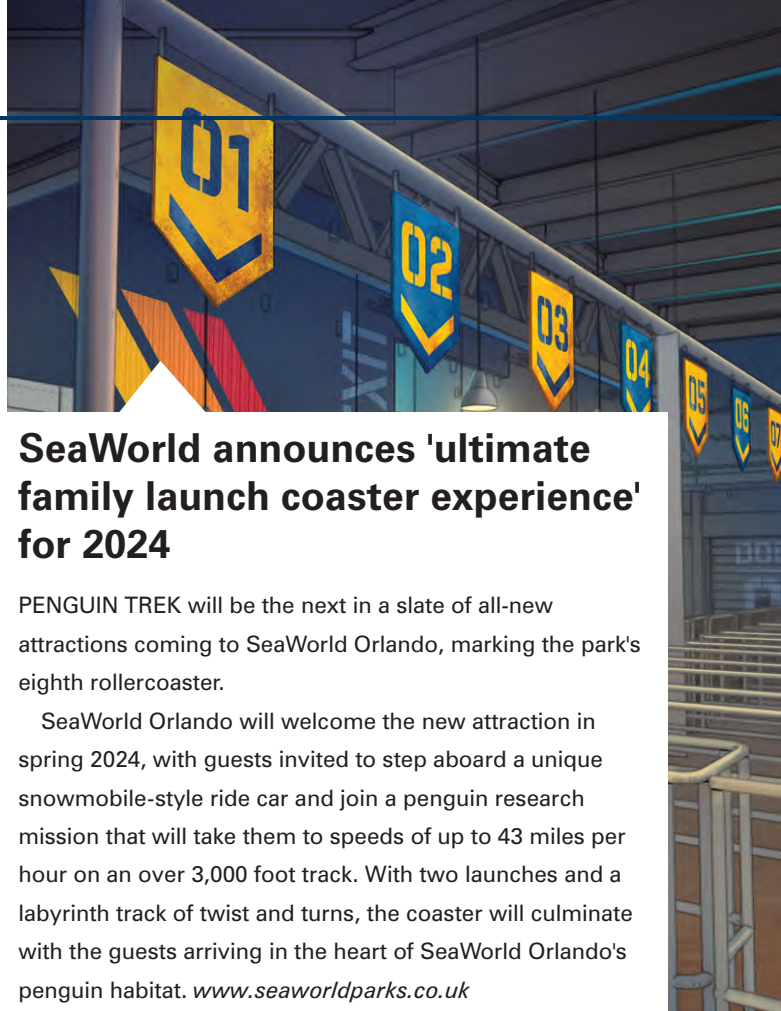
THE PERSONAL TRAVEL AGENTS

ONE OF the trips that really catches my clients' attention is a six-night, twin-centre holiday that combines Iceland and New York City. I sell this itinerary a lot and I've learnt a few tips that keep my clients happy and coming back for more.

The first stop is Reykjavik, and my first advice is to add airport transfers to the package, as it's so expensive to hail a cab on arrival. I tell my clients to book a Northern Lights Tour for the first night – if the Lights are a no-show, then customers have two more nights to try to see them. I also recommend that, rather than visiting the Blue Lagoon, clients to go to the Sky Lagoon. It's a fraction of the price and has beautifully warm geothermal waters and incredible views out to the sea.

The best time to see the Northern Lights is between November and March which is, of course, a bitterly cold time to visit both Iceland and NYC. Winter clothes and accessories are bulky, so this is not the holiday to scrimp on paying for hold luggage.

After time in Iceland, the next stop is NYC. This time I advise my clients to hail a cab at the airport, as it's cheaper than pre-booked transfers. For the best use of time in NYC, I book my clients into hotels in the heart of the action, close to Times Square. The hotel prices are higher than staying further out, but it saves lots of time, money and hassle to be staying centrally. I also advise they buy a New York Pass from me, which gives them huge savings of up to 30% on attractions. I round up my advice by telling them to use the hop-on hop-off bus services as they offer such an easy and great way to see the city.



SeaWorld announces 'ultimate family launch coaster experience' for 2024

PENGUIN TREK will be the next in a slate of all-new attractions coming to SeaWorld Orlando, marking the park's eighth rollercoaster.

SeaWorld Orlando will welcome the new attraction in spring 2024, with guests invited to step aboard a unique snowmobile-style ride car and join a penguin research mission that will take them to speeds of up to 43 miles per hour on an over 3,000 foot track. With two launches and a labyrinth track of twist and turns, the coaster will culminate with the guests arriving in the heart of SeaWorld Orlando's penguin habitat. www.seaworldparks.co.uk

News Bites

- FURU ISLAND Maldives held a surprise opening ceremony as the all-beach resort welcomed its first guests.
- OVER 300 Co-op members are set to head aboard MSC Virtuosa for the consortium's annual conference.
- SAMOA HAS scored big with its Rugby World Cup campaign, with all eyes on the Polynesian island.



AS BALDWIN'S Travel nears its 130th anniversary, it has started the celebrations early with a new branch in Haywards Heath. Joining the Lewes and Uckfield branches in Sussex, the county focus aims to signal a new chapter in the agency's growth journey. Further expansion is expected in the future. www.baldwinstravel.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 October 19th. Solution and new puzzle will appear in the next issue.

**The winner for September 22nd is
Justine Sutton from Hays Travel**

September 22nd Solution: A=2 B=7 C=1 D=5

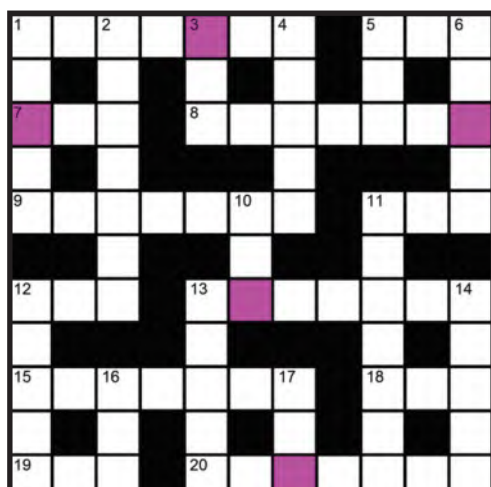
A	2				7			9
		6	1		8	5	4	
		4		9	6		7	
B		9			1			6
	7							4
C	6			2				9
		1		4	5		6	
		3	9	6		2	4	
D	4				3			1



WHERE
AM I?

THIS CITY had us all checking our outfits before we left the house as it hosted Fashion Week last month.

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



Across

- 1 Paris based operator offering luxury all-inclusive resorts (4,3)
- 5 Currency of Bulgaria (3)
- 7 Promise to pay, initially (3)
- 8 Hotel brand, part of Accor (7)
- 9 South American country (7)
- 11 Flag carrier of Lebanon, initially (3)
- 12 The longest river in Scotland (3)
- 13 Capital of Iraq (7)
- 15 Cyclades island famed for its windmills (7)
- 18 Could be an Austrian river or a place to stay (3)
- 19 Amsterdam Schiphol international airport code (3)
- 20 Carrier with Helsinki hub (7)

Down

- 1 Actor Michael, escaping to Normandy at a cinema near you (5)
- 2 Montevideo is the capital (7)
- 3 Mancheser international airport code (3)
- 4 Major UK port for ferries to Calais (5)
- 5 Star Alliance member with HQ in Warsaw (3)
- 6 Popular type of self catering accommodation (5)
- 10 Singer Rita, with her own Primark fashion range (3)
- 11 Unique Santana houses are a popular tourist attraction on this volcanic island (7)
- 12 Florida Bay and resort city (5)
- 13 Canada's first National Park is based here (5)
- 14 Currency spent in 13 Across (5)
- 16 Kardamena is known as the party capital of this island (3)
- 17 Stanstead airport code (3)

CROSSWORD

Mystery Word: PARIS

Across: 1 CLUB MED, 5 LEV, 7 IOU, 8 NOVOTEL, 9 ECUADOR, 11 MEA, 12 TAY, 13 BAGHDAD, 15 MYKONOS, 18 INN, 19 AMS, 20 FINNAIR.
Down: 1 CAINE, 2 URUGUAY, 3 MAN, 4 DOVER, 5 LOT, 6 VILLA, 10 ORA, 11 MADEIRA, 12 TAMPA, 13 BANFF, 14 DINAR, 16 KOS, 17 STN.



Adventure & Activity Roadshow

WE BROUGHT the spirit of adventure on the road with last month's Adventure & Activity Roadshow.

Prizes including hotel stays, Northern Lights cruises, hampers, gift cards and goodie bags were up for grabs, plus speed networking with some of the biggest names in the Adventure & Activity sector!

In Harrogate, we teamed up with Visit Benidorm, Destination Canada, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc., Havila Voyages, Visit Estonia, Abercrombie & Kent, Jules Verne, the Malta Tourism Authority, Not in the Guidebooks, and Inghams.

The Portugal Tourist Board, Riviera Travel, the Israel Government Tourist Office, Discover Tunisia and DriveAway joined the previous night's suppliers in Sheffield.



Want a slice of the #TBSHowcases action? We're bringing an Indian Ocean Showcase on the road to Norwich on November 13th and Cambridge on November 14th. To confirm your place or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you contact events@travelbulletin.co.uk

Cunard readies for largest-ever agent campaign

CUNARD IS on a mission this October to visit more than 200 agents across 100 stores to share the news of the luxury cruise line's 2025 programme, which is now on sale. The 15-strong team will be armed with updates, destination information and Shine points to give away throughout Cunard's largest-ever on-the-road campaign.

Tom Mahoney, director of UK sales at Cunard, said: "Our valued travel agent partners are imperative to our success, and we are looking forward to catching up with many friendly faces, as well as strengthening

relationships with newer partners, over the coming weeks. It's incredibly important to have our extended team out on the road to highlight our ongoing appreciation to our travel agent partners.

"What's more, we have a fantastic 2025 programme to shout about, with the release of 180 new voyages – including no fewer than 19 maiden calls for our newest ship *Queen Anne* – and we are hugely excited to share all these exciting plans with agents up and down the country."

www.cunard.com



CTO sets tourism staples: People, Planet & Prosperity

FOLLOWING WORLD Tourism Day, Dona Regis-Prosper, secretary general and CEO of the Caribbean Tourism Organisation, stated: "We believe the Caribbean should lead, and not follow, on investing in a healthy, sustainable, and productive future for the prosperity of our people and our planet."

At a virtual forum celebrating World Tourism Day, the secretary-general and CEO identified three key pillars of the monumental industry celebration: People, Planet and Prosperity.

"Research confirms what those of us in the tourism and travel industry know firsthand – that inter-personal, face-to-face interactions with others play a significant part in the visitor experience.

"As a global brand, Caribbean tourism must continue to embrace best practices in environmental, social and governance activities that demonstrate our commitment to future generations.

"The CTO supports the call of the UNWTO for new and innovative solutions and investments that stimulate and underpin the tourism sector's growth, productivity and sustainability. It is a call to invest simultaneously in our talented human capital. When our people, our communities and our planet thrive, our industry and our destinations prosper."

www.onecaribbean.org



Annual Phu Quoc fam phenomenon

ANAND COLLECTION, representing Sailing Club Resorts in Phu Quoc and Mui Ne, teamed up with Vietnam Airlines to invite agents from Saga Holidays, Travel Counsellors, Kuoni and more for a Vietnam fam, participating in a group beach cleanup, bike riding, coffee making class and more.

An advertisement for Cook Islands training. It features a woman in a blue swimsuit and a flower lei in the foreground, looking up. In the background, a man in a hat is sitting on a palm tree branch. The text reads: "Win Love2Shop Vouchers when completing the Cook Islands training via Travel Bulletin's TravelGym website training page." There are two QR codes at the bottom, one for "COOK ISLANDS" and another for "Cook Islands Training".



Luxury Holidays Roadshow

WE BROUGHT a taste of Luxury on the road to London and Maidstone with our Luxury Holidays Roadshow.

In London, Sandals and Virgin Voyages teamed up as headline sponsors alongside supplier partners Expedia TAAP, Oceania Cruises, Destination Canada, Heritace Aarah, Aldemar Resorts, JetBlue, Acrotel Hotel & Villas, Resort Marketing, United Airlines, Eurostar and Louis Hotels.

In Maidstone, Visit Malta and The Wellwind Collection took on the Headline Sponsor mantles, and were joined once again by Oceania Cruises, JetBlue, Aldemar Resorts, Destination Canada, and Sandals, along with Railbookers, Inclusive Collection, Virgin Hotels, the British Virgin Islands, One&Only.



HEADLINE SPONSORS

SUPPLIER PARTNERS

Want to get in on the [#TBSHOWCASES](https://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/showcases) action? Our 2024 Event Schedule is OUT NOW! Visit www.travelbulletin.co.uk/events to see where we're bringing the show on the road to next year.



INDUSTRY... *insight by...*



Tracy Poggio, the chair of ANTOR, sees out the summer with a roundup of the destination members' most notable trends.

“

The tourism sector is showing its resilience once again...

WHAT AN interesting summer we've had. Poor weather in the UK until the September heatwave, and some devastating events including the wildfires

in Greece and the earthquake in Morocco. Our hearts are with everyone who was affected. The tourism sector is showing its resilience once again though, and here some of our members share their 2023 trends.

Greece reported the major trends for this summer included an emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion from stakeholders, enhanced orientation to sustainable travel choices, and extended decisionmaking from travellers due to inflation pressures.

Cyprus saw a dramatic shift in source countries. Previously, Russia was the second largest market, after the UK, amounting to around 800,000 visitors, with a further 200,000 visitors from Ukraine. Thanks to efforts to increase the share of other source markets, Cyprus now has more visitors coming from Israel, Poland, Germany, and other European countries, and the Middle East.

The Bahamas highlighted the return of family travel. The romance market with specific interest for honeymoons and destination weddings is taking off again. Interest in the Out Islands is also strong as visitors to The Bahamas want to experience what makes Out Islands such as Andros, Bimini, Eleuthera, Exuma, Abaco and others so unique, with travellers interested in ecotourism, boating and leisure vacations.

Taiwan reports that this summer the number of tourists has rebounded to approximately 80% of pre-pandemic levels. Most UK travellers preferred independent travel, with group tours a secondary option. Taiwan has been doing a lot to encourage visitors with incentives such as the chance to win NT\$5,000 in shopping vouchers upon entry, plus more convenient transportation services. They have been working with airlines to promote short-term entry for passengers transiting through Taipei, and passengers with layovers exceeding seven hours are eligible for a free half-day transit tour.

Tunisia points to a host of significant travel trends and a resurgence in international tourism, with European visitors leading the charge. There's also been a rise in interest among travellers in outdoor activities and adventure tourism and they are actively promoting adventure tourism, encompassing exhilarating experiences like desert escapes, and engaging in thrilling water sports along the picturesque coastline. The sustainability and responsibility wave continues to sweep across Tunisia's tourism sector too. Tourists are displaying a heightened awareness and enthusiasm for eco-friendly accommodation, authentic local experiences, and community-based tourism initiatives.

RIGHT ON TRACK

Railbookers' five new brochures feature some of the most sought-after destinations across the globe, including, of course, the States!



FIVE NEW brochures from Railbookers ensure the operator misses no stops and continues full steam ahead. The 104-page 'Worldwide Independent Rail Holidays' collection blends European, North American, Australian, Asian, and African rail journeys in some of the most sought-after destinations in the world.

Jim Marini, senior VP of Strategic Partnerships, explained: "Our brochures are carefully crafted to showcase the best that Railbookers has to offer..."

we're excited to share our most popular, as well as our newest itineraries."

North American options include the 'Jazz Blues and Rock 'n' Roll' trip, which

swaps train tracks for hit tracks as guests travel to some of music's most iconic sites in Chicago, Memphis, and New Orleans. Prices lead in at £1,249 per person.

'Great American - Majestic Landscapes' travels through the heart of the nation, kicking off with a two-night stay in New York before venturing west to Chicago, Denver and San Francisco for two night stays in each city. Prices lead in at £2,149 per person.

'Trans-Canada and Rockies Adventure' caps off a trilogy of North American additions from the brochure, with 13 days spread across Toronto,

Lake Louise, Jasper, Banff, Kamloops and Vancouver starting at £4,849 per person.

All five new brochures, included trade-specific curated resources, are available at www.railbookers.co.uk/travelagents

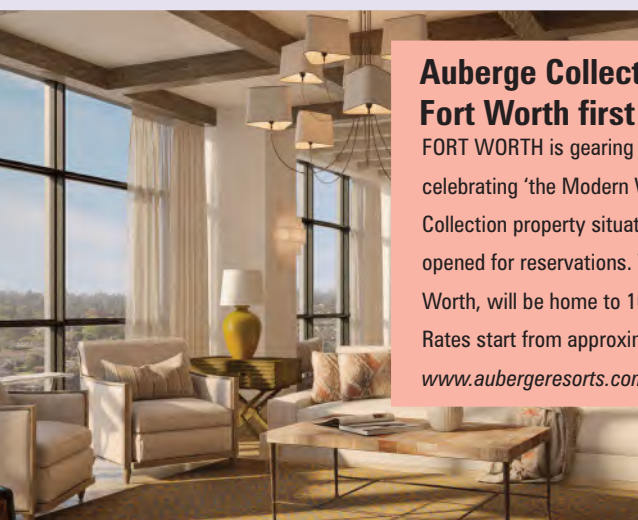
Stateside shopaholics? Macerich is a must-do

MACERICH SHOPPING Centres & Fashion Outlets span a number of the States' key destinations, with shopping, dining, and entertainment experiences located in the heart of major Stateside cities. With just shy of 20 locations across Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Washington DC/Virginia, you'd be remiss not to suggest a Macerich call on any major US itinerary. Experiential packages, voucher programmes, visitor incentives, and resort/hotel partnerships help you maximise the value of your Stateside sells. www.macerichtourism.com

Auberge Collection opens bookings on Fort Worth first

FORT WORTH is gearing up to welcome its first luxury retreat celebrating 'the Modern West'. Bowie House, an Auberge Resorts Collection property situated in Fort Worth's cultural district, has opened for reservations. The hotel, 35 minutes from Dallas Fort Worth, will be home to 106 keys when it opens in December. Rates start from approximately £501 per night.

www.aubergeresorts.com/bowie



Norse extends Magic City services

CELEBRATIONS ARE in order as Norse Atlantic Airways has launched its inaugural direct services connecting Miami to both London and Oslo.

The direct service between London and Miami will operate four times per week, increasing to five times per week in the peak winter season. Return fares lead in at £420 per person. The service from Oslo to Miami will operate twice a week from approximately £419. In addition to these services, the airline will also add Paris and Berlin flights to Miami in December, offering holidaymakers a perfect winter sun getaway.

Bjørn Tore Larsen, CEO and founder of Norse Atlantic Airways, said: "We are pleased to have commenced operating from Oslo and London direct to Miami, and we look forward to extending our services from Paris and



Berlin in December. Miami has always been a popular destination and we are committed to providing our passengers with a comfortable and great value service."

Ralph Cutié, MIA director and CEO, added: "We are thrilled that Norse Atlantic has chosen Miami International Airport for all of their South Florida flights (...) we proudly welcome their London Gatwick and Oslo service to Miami-Dade County – two routes that were previously unserved at MIA."

www.flynorse.com



Hilton's new look in New York

THE TEMPO by Hilton Times

Square has welcomed a new era of Big Apple hospitality as the 661-room tower has opened its doors and welcomed guests into the first development from Hilton's fresh contemporary brand in the heart of Times Square. www.hilton.com

USA Favourites!



Elvis Presley's Memphis, New Orleans & Nashville
9-day escorted tour now from **£2,025pp**
| Nov 2023 - Dec 2025



Hollywood, San Diego, Vegas & the Grand Canyon
11-day escorted tour now from **£2,280pp**
| Apr 2024 - Nov 2025



America's Golden West & Las Vegas 2024
14-day escorted tour now from **£2,950pp**
| May 2024 - Nov 2025



Washington, New York and Boston
9-day escorted tour now from **£2,232pp**
| Sep 2024 - Oct 2025

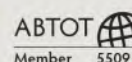
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29 ways to explore New Smyrna Beach

SITTING ON Florida's Atlantic Coast, an hour from Orlando, Visit New Smyrna Beach is encouraging visitors to go beyond the beach and explore the town on foot with a guide featuring 29 trails covering the area, its 17-mile beach, and neighbouring communities.

www.visitnsbfl.com/nsb-trails

Vineyards and eco vibes in California's wine county

CLAUDIA VECCHIO, Sonoma County Tourism's president and CEO, gave *Travel Bulletin* a Sonoma summary on what awaits in California's wine county. "Sonoma County's charm grows from its unique microclimates that make great ground for winemaking and cheesemaking, and immersing yourself in that experience."

On the destination's sustainable strategy, Claudia explained: "We really stood on the shoulders of our winemakers and determined that we are going to be a responsible, sustainable destination. We've stopped counting the numbers of travellers; it's about the responsible travellers and ensuring everyone who comes is going to protect and preserve our environment."

And what one guarantee awaits those responsible travellers visiting? Claudia has a simple answer: "You cannot come to Sonoma



County without enjoying yourself."

Head to the *Travel Bulletin* website to find out more on Sonoma and read our full interview with Claudia.

Image Credits: Left: New Smyrna Beach, Right: Sonoma County Tourism

RHINE CRUISE TO SWITZERLAND

for the solo traveller

8 days from **£2,899PP**

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Your tour includes:

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- 🏛️ All excursions
- ✈️ Regional return travel & transfers
- 🍷 Free Superior drinks package

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For more information and to book:

Call: **01283 744370** Visit: rivieratravel.co.uk/agents

Subject to availability and correct at time of print. Additional entrance costs may apply. Riviera Travel booking terms and conditions apply. ABTA V4744 ATOL 3430 protected. Images used in conjunction with Riviera Travel.



The sunshine state's first resort destination



NORTH OF Miami and south of Orlando sits The Palm Beaches, dubbed 'America's first resort destination'. An ideal antidote to the bustle of Orlando's thrillseeking staples, The Palm Beaches is home to 47 miles of scenic coastline, high 20s temperatures throughout the winter, and a host of high-quality hotel options.

Beyond those indulgent luxury stays, the sea life calls with some of the best diving spots in Florida and the continental United States' only living barrier coral reef system.

Dreamy views await on the destination's various hiking and biking trails. Notably, the five-and-a-half mile Palm Beach Lake Trail ticks off panoramic views of Lake Worth Lagoon and West Palm Beach's cityscape.

www.thepalmbeaches.com



Stateside summer for Oceania

OCEANIA CRUISES has confirmed its 2025 Summer programme, revealing that in a first for the cruise line, the 1,250-guest *Riviera* will explore Alaska across over a dozen itineraries spanning seven to 12 days. Voyages range from the seven-day 'Whittier to Vancouver' sailing from £3,799 per guest to the 12-day Seattle roundtrip from £5,239.

www.oceaniacruises.com

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KIERLAND COMMONS ARROWHEAD TOWNE CENTER
CHANDLER FASHION CENTER

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ILLINOIS

FASHION OUTLETS OF CHICAGO

NEW YORK

QUEENS CENTER FASHION OUTLETS OF NIAGARA FALLS, USA

OREGON

WASHINGTON SQUARE VALLEY RIVER CENTER

PENNSYLVANIA

FASHION DISTRICT PHILADELPHIA

WASHINGTON, DC

TYSONS CORNER CENTER

For more information on our tourism programs,
visit MacerichTourism.com





Mammoth Lakes makes \$100,000 eco-commitment

MAMMOTH LAKES Tourism will match every dollar donated over the next four years (up to US\$100,000) as part of its region-wide cleanup efforts.

Efforts are already underway to clean up the waterways, beginning with Lake George last month.

The tourism board's executive director, John Urdi, said: "Our investment in this programme is a commitment to the natural resources that make this place so special."

www.visitmammoth.com



Utah follows up record-smashing ski season

UTAH HOPES to live up to its self-proclaimed title of 'the Greatest Snow on Earth' this winter.

Additions include Deer Valley Resort doubling its skiable terrain, a spa at Sundance Mountain Resort and shuttle buses straight from Salt Lake Airport to the slopes. Ski Independence offers a 13-night trip exploring Utah's highlights from £3,969 per person.

www.ski-i.com / www.visitutah.com

Santa Monica: seaside marvel on the doorstep of the City of Stars

TRAVEL BULLETIN got a southern California spotlight from the Santa Monica Tourism and Travel Office's CEO, Misti Kerns. From amusement parks to two-wheeled trails, the beach haven has it all.

"So where do we start with Santa Monica? The most iconic place to start is our pier with a full amusement park.

"Then we can head back on land to find our 41 hotels across eight neighbourhoods that are all very walkable, or, even better, cyclable. We have over 100 miles of protected bike lanes, with a 26-mile path that runs along the beach.

"If all that isn't enough, we've got 500 restaurants and 65 museums and galleries to explore, a lot of which are pretty unique concepts.

"And on top of all that, if guests have any free time at all, we have four farmer's markets every week, with chefs and produce from all over Southern California."



British Airways' mainstay service from London Heathrow to LAX, eight miles from Santa Monica, starts from £412 return.

www.santamonica.com

The bucket-list Bay Area

THIS SUMMER, *Travel Bulletin* heard from the San Francisco Travel Association's president & CEO, Joe D'Alessandro, on what awaits in San Fran beyond the bay.

"It's a great place to either begin or end your trip. Our recommendation is, when you get to San Francisco, park your car and hit the street. It's a very walkable city, so most everything you want to do you can on foot or on public transport.

"There's a couple of really unique things

to highlight. The most-attended National Park in the States, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, includes the Presidio, Alcatraz, and some of the most iconic visual motifs associated with California... it's one of the only National Parks that you don't pay to enter.

"We currently have 60% of all Michelin stars in California... that's a great way to really experience the taste of the state.

"All of our products are very easy to access for agents. They're bookable online and most places are commissionable. A great upsell is the CityPASS, where guests can enjoy all the museums, city tours, attractions and a whole lot more.

"San Francisco is very easy for travel agents to sell and book."

Find the full interview with Joe at

www.travelbulletin.co.uk.

www.sftravel.com





TIME TO TRANSFER YOUR

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BUSINESS TO JETSET



PART 1 - FREE TRANSFERS IN VEGAS AS STANDARD!

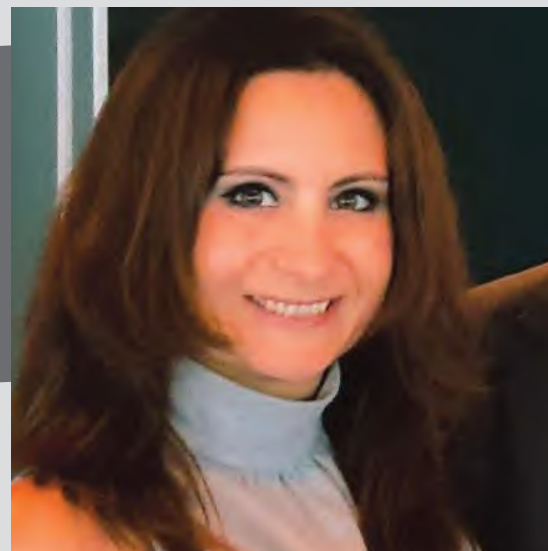
PART 2 - HITTING YOUR SCREENS END OF OCTOBER...

Celebrating
55 Years

Celebrating
55 Years

IN THE HOT SEAT WITH...

Katerina Bomshtein



Katerina Bomshtein, the Gran Canaria representative for the UK & Ireland, headed into the hot seat for a rundown on selling the destination for winter sun breaks, the trends taking shape on the island, and how you can get involved and sell Gran Canaria.

What makes Gran Canaria an ideal winter sun destination?

Gran Canaria is actually an ideal destination all year round. There are similar numbers of British tourists on the island enjoying summer main holiday than winter sun escapes.

The Dunes of Maspalomas and golden sand beaches, great tourism infrastructure with modern resorts and long ocean front promenades, such as Meloneras, Amadores and Puerto Mogán, an array of outdoor holiday activities for all ages and tastes, plus warm weather all year round, and only a four-hour flight from 17 UK airports, all together makes Gran Canaria one of the most favourite winter sun destinations for Brits.

luxury resorts for quite a long time now. The Meloneras area by the lighthouse and Maspalomas dunes, in the southernmost point of the island, are considered to be the main resorts nowadays along with Amadores, Arguineguín & Anfi.

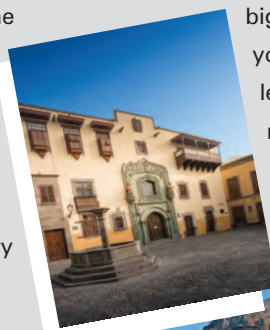
On the other hand, the traditional resorts, such as San Agustín, Playa del Inglés and Puerto Mogán, have been completely modernised. New luxury hotels are still opening; for example, Paradisus Gran Canaria by Meliá and Abora Faro by Lopesan both opened this year.

There is a clear trend in opening boutique hotels in the historical quarter of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria and in the north and centre of the island. Gran Canaria is known as 'a continent in miniature' and is definitely worth exploring. Dramatic volcanic landscapes in the centre of Gran Canaria are very different from the coastline, offering amazing, breath-

taking views and plenty of exciting local experiences and opportunities for open air activities. Almost half of the territory of the island is protected as a Biosphere reserve by UNESCO, and our summit is a World Heritage site. Plus, the capital city Las Palmas de Gran Canaria is the biggest one in the Canaries. So, if your clients stay all the time without leaving the resorts, they will be missing on discovering the best and most authentic parts of Gran Canaria.

How can agents get involved and kickstart their Gran Canaria selling?

Gran Canaria has an excellent relationship with the trade, we are in the brochures of a number of key vertically-integrated operators – Jet2holidays, TUI, Easyjet holidays, BA holidays, many specialized operators and bedbanks work with Gran Canaria. Ryanair and Vueling also fly to the island. So, the destination is definitely an easy sell!



How is Gran Canaria rising to the changing trends that clients are looking for from their holidays?

Gran Canaria has been a pioneer in developing new



STAY FOR LONGER IN THE SUN

Feel the sun on your face this winter as JG Travel Group has extended its winter sun programme to feature three new destinations.



TRADE IN those stockings for sandals as JG Travel Group has expanded its long-stay winter sun programme to include three new destinations – Malta, Cyprus and Turkey.

Available through both Just Go! Holidays and National Holidays from January to March 2024, the programme features 15-, 22- and 29-day long stay

trips on either a full board or all-inclusive basis, including return flights from select UK airports and a handful of excursions for each itinerary. Guests can stay at a host of brand new hotels, including the AX Odycy hotel in Qaqra, Malta, as well as the Paphos Gardens Holiday Resort in Paphos and the Radisson Beach Hotel in Larnaca.

Chris Simmonds, CEO at JG Travel Group, said: "Our winter sun offering continues to go from strength to strength and the addition of popular destinations such as Malta, Cyprus and Turkey is an important next step for us. We know our customers really enjoy escaping the colder months and are happy to be

away for longer periods of time."

The programme features a 'four weeks for the price of three' offer on a selection of holidays, with a four-week all-inclusive stay in Paphos starting from £1,499 per person. Agents can also grab their clients a limited selection of rooms with no single supplements for those wanting to go it alone as well as a series of room upgrades.

Prices for the programme begin from £999 per person for 15 days at the Paphos Gardens Holiday Resort on an all-inclusive basis departing on January 7th or February 4th, 2024, including return flights, transfers and excursions. www.justgoholidays.com

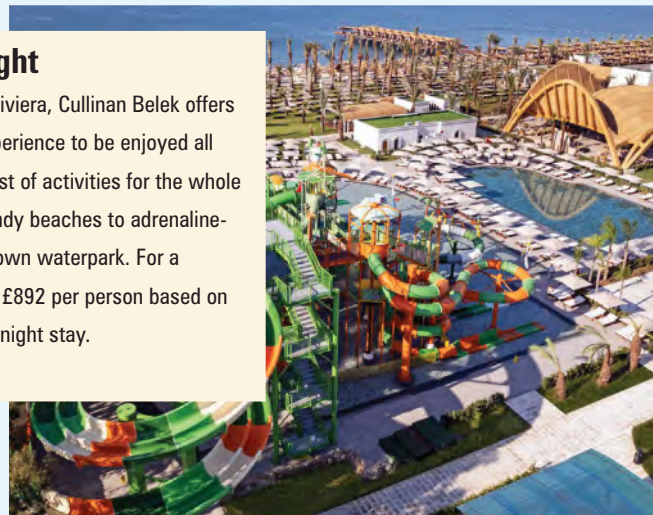
Sail into the Seychelles' sunset

EMERALD CRUISES has launched a new collection of luxury yacht cruises for its 2024-2026 programme, featuring brand-new destinations aboard the twin-vessels *Emerald Azzurra* and *Emerald Sakara*.

New for the winter 2025/2026 season, *Emerald Azzurra* will take guests on a tropical adventure of the Seychelles. The eight-day 'Tropical Charms of the Seychelles' will call into eight islands and showcase a prehistoric palm forest, aquamarine waters and rare nesting wildlife. Prices lead in from £4,645 per person including flights based on a February 2025 departure. www.emeraldcruiises.co.uk

Bask in the Turkish delight

NESTLED IN the picturesque Turkish Riviera, Cullinan Belek offers guests an ultra-luxury all-inclusive experience to be enjoyed all year round. The resort boasts a full host of activities for the whole family to enjoy, from private white sandy beaches to adrenaline-fuelled thrills and spills at the resort's own waterpark. For a November departure, prices lead in at £892 per person based on two adults and two children for a five-night stay. www.cullinanhotels.com



Boundless leisure at TRS Turquesa Hotel



Now you can indulge your most sophisticated desires in TRS Turquesa Hotel. Personalized services, Zentropia Palladium Spa & Wellness, international à la carte restaurants, butler, incredible pools and Chic Cabaret & Restaurant wait for you on your luxury vacation in the Caribbean, in a safe and protected environment full of nature and tranquility, for adults only.

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COSTA MUJERES, CANCUN (MEXICO), PUNTA CANA, CAP CANA (THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC),
RIVIERA MAYA (MEXICO) and IBIZA (SPAIN).

Winter sun with Savoy Signature

MADEIRA IS well positioned for a winter sun escape, with highs of 24°C and lows of 19°C throughout the season guaranteeing a much-needed dose of vitamin D.

Savoy Palace, a Savoy Signature resort, sits a short walk from Funchal, a city long-loved by Brits for its culture, shopping, and lively nightlife.

The hotel guarantees an indulgent stay, with views of the surrounding island and 24-hour customer-tailored service. Each of the property's 309 rooms is designed and furnished in luxurious fashion.

A rooftop pool on the 17th floor shows off Madeira's scenic mountains and the Atlantic ocean with a panoramic view of the lush setting. Swimmers can cheers to the sunset with a space-themed cocktail from the pool's adjacent Galaxia Skybar.

It's not all nightlife and pool-lounging; for those looking for winter wellness, the Savoy Palace spa invites guests to indulge in

luxurious spa treatments and extensive range of massage therapies in one of 11 spa rooms.

Double rooms start from £176 a night throughout winter.

www.savoysignature.com



Manchester Airport's seasonal sunspots

SUN MIGHT feel a long way away as summer makes way for autumn, but a host of winter sun spots are closer to Manchester than you might think.

Average temperatures of 32°C await in Cancun, with direct flights from Manchester available from TUI throughout winter. Morocco (28°C), Barbados (31°C), Turkey (27°C) and more are all primed to welcome guests flying from Manchester into October half term and beyond.

www.manchesterairport.co.uk



Grand Palladium's winter reopening

THE GRAND Palladium Kantenah Resort & Spa, in Mexico's Riviera Maya, is introducing an all-inclusive family concept when it reopens in December.

The brand's third 'Family Selection' will be introduced following a US\$40 million refurbishment, offering all-inclusive experiences across 169 family suites.

www.palladiumhotelgroup.com



DCT Abu Dhabi 'Can't Wait to Winter'

A NEW seasonal campaign from the Department of Culture and Tourism – Abu Dhabi spotlights the Emirate's winter roster of events and experiences, combined with the perfect winter sun weather.

Notable events coming up this winter include the NBA Abu Dhabi Games,

Formula 1 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, and theatre performances including Hamilton and Frozen on Ice.

Adventurers will find seasonal solace in the experiences on offer, from dune bashing to quad biking and indoor sledding.

www.visitabudhabi.ae/en/campaign/winter



The Caribbean's high °Cs

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA boasts a tropical climate throughout the year, with mid- to high-20°C temperatures throughout the winter.

Direct BA services start from £436 return based on a November departure.
www.visitantiguabarbuda.com

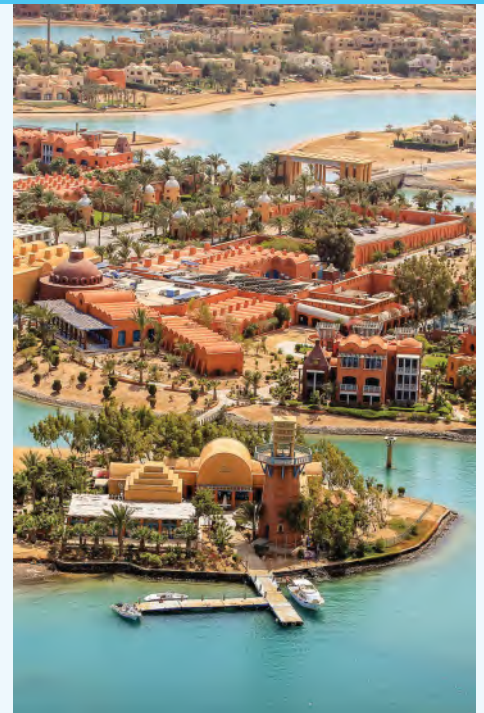
A half-hour from Hurghada: the resort with it all

30 MINUTES away from Hurghada International Airport sits 18 hotels, more than 100 bars and restaurants, and the region's largest cable park on Orascom Development's El Gouna resort town.

The destination can be reached in under six hours, with flights starting from £48.99 return in October with Wizz Air's London Gatwick service.

El Gouna's Red Sea location makes winter swimming a given, with temperatures averaging 24°C throughout December.

Home to 13 scuba centres, November, December and January make for ideal months to take the plunge, with the chance to see Oceanic White Tip sharks and Djibouti whale sharks on the shores of the Red Sea.



Five-night stays at El Gouna range from £310 in a three-star hotel to £665 in five-star options.

www.hotels.elgouna.com

Image Credits: Left: Adobe Stock, Right: Orascom Development

NEW BROCHURE!

Brand new from Youtravel.com

A treasure trove of breathtaking destinations & hotels that will leave you and your clients in awe! Get ready to be inspired as we showcase their best assets, offering you an incredible range of options to choose from.

With a whopping 52 pages, this brochure takes you on a journey to some of the most sought-after destinations & hotels in the world.

From the dazzling United Arab Emirates to the exotic Thailand, the paradise of Mauritius, and the vibrant USA, there's something for everyone.



Simply scan the QR code and immerse yourself in the wonders of our brochure. Or, if you prefer a hands-on experience, make sure to grab a printed copy at the Youtravel Stand - N7-512 during WTM this November.

SAYONARA SOLOS!

Riviera Travel's 2025 programme enhances the 'Classic' and 'Signature' selection, with 12 tours dedicated to those going it alone.



RIVIERA TRAVEL has set course for 2025, with a 59-itinerary-strong brochure offering a choice of 300 departures throughout the year.

Of the selection, including 14 'Signature' tours with a 25-guest capacity and 'Classic' escorted tour options, 12 are dedicated to solo travellers.

Sales tips for solo guests on a budget

CLIENTS LOOKING to go solo and save? *NetVoucherCodes.co.uk* have unveiled a host of tips to pass on to build the solo escape of their budgetary dreams.

Charlie Stirzaker, a consumer expert with *NetVoucherCodes.co.uk*, explained: "Going solo travelling is an amazing chance to experience different cultures... but solo travelling comes with a heavy price."

Tips include encouraging solos to book at least three months ahead, pre-plan and book experiences, travel off-season, shop and eat like a local at smaller, off-the-beaten track markets, and consider solo-dedicated group tours to beat the holiday loneliness blues.

'Icons of Japan for solo travellers' invites like-mindedly intrepid travellers to explore the bucket-list Far East island.

On the nine-day adventure, solos enjoy stays in Tokyo, Kyoto and Mishima, with five scheduled visits and tours and a host of opportunities to explore independently.

Experiences are sure to see of guests' bucket-list must-dos, from a ride on the bullet train to a visit to Mount Fuji and the Fushimi Inari shrine.

Prices start from £3,899 per person, including return flights, transfers, seven nights in four-star accommodation, checked luggage, breakfasts and a

welcome dinner.

Newly-promoted Will Sarson, who replaces Riviera mainstay Katja Hildebrandt as head of Product, said on the launch: "Riviera's 2025 tour programme will showcase destinations across the world to our guests in comfort and style. The diverse range of departures on sale, including signature experiences and exclusive solo traveller options, offer the perfect balance of expert guided insight and independent adventure."

Explore the full 2025 worldwide touring programme, including the 12 solo-specific options, at www.rivieratravel.co.uk

Canaries cater for solo reconnection

THE CANARY Islands has spotlighted its suitability as a solo destination.

Five pillars, spanning the messaging that 'To travel is to... know, taste, overcome limits, relax, and find beauty', ensure the island group caters for solos in search of cultural experiences, gastronomic delights, extreme sports experiences, wellness offerings, and natural beauty. www.hellocanaryislands.com





One in four guests going it alone

TRIPADVISOR has unveiled its latest Seasonal Travel Index, revealing that solo travel is very much in the spotlight.

Over a quarter of those surveyed plan to take a solo trip this autumn, up from 17% who reported a solo trip last autumn. Signs suggest that clients are more inclined to go it alone and fully immerse themselves in destinations. Despite clients pushing the boat out to brave it alone, 75% of respondents suggested they're more inclined to return to a destination they've visited before for a fresh perspective.



Portugal's prime place for solo escapes

AS GOOGLE Trends reveals that solo travel searches have risen by 761% post-pandemic, Visit Algarve has spotlighted its solo suitability.

Solo surfers can try out their hand at group lessons at the Freeride Surf School from £55 a day, join a guided full-day rroup hike to Monchique from £30, or take part in a Portugese tile painting class from £43.

www.visitalgarve.pt

Cut-price solo airfares with Wendy Wu

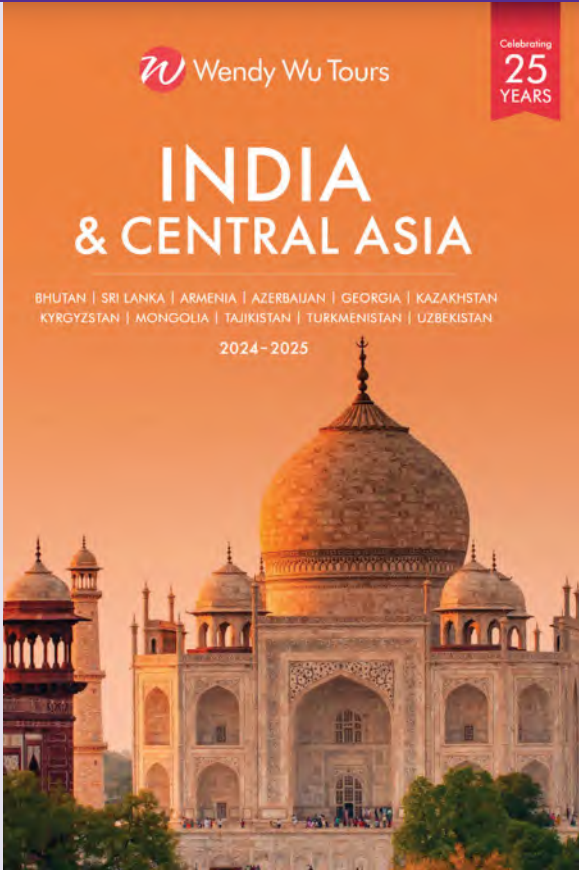
WENDY WU'S latest brochure, spanning India & Central Asia tours in 2024 and 2025, features the return of two of the operator's staple offers: Partner Flies Free and 50% off Solo Airfares.

Alongside the launch offers, you can save your solo clients up to £500 when booking before October 30th, 2023.

The 50% off solo air fares offer applies to a host of the new brochure's offerings, including 'Inspiring India'. Ticking off the classic sights of India's Golden Triangle, the tour blends the classic sights with hidden gems, including Udaipur and Rajasthan.

The 14-day tour, including return flights, all accommodation, 35 meals, the services of expert guides, all sightseeing, experiences, and transport in-destination, starts from £2,690 per person, including a £400 saving.

If the savings and launch offers weren't



enough, you can win a meal for two at a top-rated Indian restaurant when making an India booking by October 31st, 2023. www.wendywutours.co.uk

£250 solo savings from Just You

ITS A bumper time for solo brochures, with Just You also unveiling a new solo brochure, spanning the full collection of 2024 options and long-haul selection for 2025. Early booking bargains, with savings of up to £250 per person, are on offer.

Adam Kemp, the solo operator's managing director, explained: "Our new brochure has every Just You holiday for the 2024 season and all of our worldwide

holidays for 2025, as we know that our customers look to book their long-haul adventures as early as possible.

"We have also launched new tours to Greece, Norway and an amazing South Africa safari experience. To celebrate the launch of our brochure, we are offering our early bookers a saving of up to £250 per person on the majority of our holidays."

The new solo South African safari option, aptly-named the 'South Africa Safari Adventure' offers a 10-day experience in a luxury Mabula Game Reserve lodge. Single travellers will enjoy game drives around the first-ever savannah biosphere reserve, with the hope of catching the continent's Big Five. Prices for the new option start from £3,599 per person, with all flights, transfers, five-star accommodation, seasonal meals, game drives and guide services included.

www.justyou.co.uk



Image Credits: Top Left: Pexels/Jeanne Fernandez, Top Right: Wendy Wu Tours, Bottom Left: Visit Algarve, Bottom Right: Just You

Seasonal savings: Newmarket waives festive solo supplement

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has unveiled two brand new festive tours for the upcoming season. Alongside the launch, the operator has waived the single supplement on a number of its popular festive options following the success of its recently-launched 'Solo Traveller Collection'. These include 'Christmas in Verona and Lake Garda', 'Christmas in the Austria Tyrol', 'Krakow Christmas Markets', 'Edinburgh Christmas Markets' and 'Swiss Christmas Markets'.

The first of the solo supplement waivers, 'Christmas in Verona and Lake Garda', includes return flights, five nights' half-board at the four-star Ark Hotel in Verona, a cruise on Lake Garda, a special lunch and dinner on Christmas Day, a Christmas Eve tour of Verona City, and an optional day in Venice

before flying back to the UK on day six.

The six-day option starts from £1,095 per person, with one departure penned for the upcoming festive season on December 22nd. www.newmarketholidays.co.uk/solo-travel



Isolate and Explore Amalfi

EXPLORE HAS collected a host of their small group picks that make for prime solo experiences, with 60% of their clients going it alone. Options include an eight-day two-footed 'Amalfi Coast Walking - Agriturismo' trip from £1,299 per person. www.explore.co.uk/experiences/holidays-for-solo-travellers

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Subject to availability and correct at time of print. Additional entrance costs may apply. Riviera Travel booking terms and conditions apply. ABTA V4744 ATOL 3430 protected. Images used in conjunction with Riviera Travel.





Ambassador's autumn solo saver

CRUISE INTO solo savings with Ambassador's Autumn Sales Campaign, which alongside group booking savings, festive events from £69 per person, 50% off second guest spots, and £99 kids fares, also offers up solo supplements on four cabin grades, including Junior Suites.

Solo saver deals are an offer on 'A Taste of Ambassador' in November from £359 per person, and 'Norway's Land of Northern Lights' from £1,849 per person. www.ambassadorcruiseline.com



Travel solo but never alone

TRAVELLERS WILL never be alone when they take the trip of a lifetime with G Adventures through its Solo Tour collection. Holidaymakers looking for a sense of adventure and an unforgettable experience can go solo but never go it alone on the 'Montenegro Sailing' roundtrip from Dubrovnik, which starts from £779 per person. www.gadventures.com

Go it alone all-inclusive with Just Go!

JUST GO! Holidays has added two dedicated 'Going Solo' departure dates on a brand-new, all-inclusive 'Jewels of Croatia' option in 2024.

The 15-day itinerary takes a deep dive into the nation's rich history, with Split, Hvar and Tucepi serving as a base for ticking off all the key sights Croatia has to offer.

'Jewels of Croatia' includes a guided walking tour of Split during the stay in the coastal city, and a guided island tour of Hvar. Add-on excursions tick off additional stops including Šibernik, the Krka Waterfalls and the historic city of Dubrovnik.

Departure dates are penned for April 2nd and October 15th, 2024, with the all-inclusive itinerary starting from £2,299. The price covers return airfare from Gatwick, Luton, Bristol, or Manchester, 14 nights' accommodation in a choice



of hotels during the tour with all meals and a free bar open 12 hours daily, portage and included excursions. Optional extra excursions are on offer in-resort.

www.justgoholidays.com/agents

Serene solo soirées from Leger

SOLO TRAVELLERS are welcome on all tours across the Leger portfolio, with some rescinding the solo supplement and a dedicated Singles collection comprising 23 options ideal for those going it alone.

Culture vultures need look no further than 'Rouen & Monet's Garden for Solo Travellers', a four-day trip.

Following travel and arrival in Rouen on day one, solos enjoy a full-day visit to Versailles, France's most iconic château and

gardens on the outskirts of Paris. Indulging in on-their-own opulence, guests can explore the gardens, explore the château (admission fee not included) or soak in the Grand Canal and fountains and pools.

Day two doubles down on culture as the tour ticks off Giverny, the home of Claude Monet, with the artist's former house and gardens (immortalised in his work) restored to his original design.

Rouen is next on the itinerary for day two, with the picturesque Seineside town home to a classic medieval quarter and the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral.

The solo soirée leads in at £539 per person with no single supplement, including three nights in a three-star property and door-to-door or local coach service. Departure dates are available in April and October 2024 and April 2025 www.leger.co.uk



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
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Solo romp on the Rhine with Nicko Cruises

NOTHING CAN get a solo in the seasonal spirit like a voyage along the Middle Rhine Valley, sailing past fairytale castles and exploring German's iconic Christmas markets.

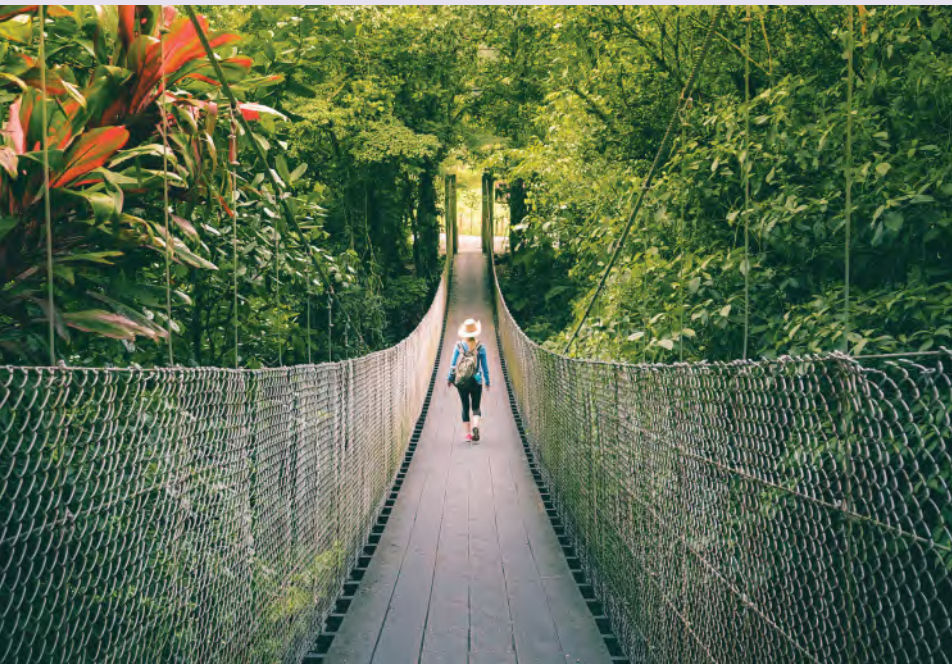
Nicko Cruises' 'Advent on the Rhine' voyage, aboard nickoSPIRIT and Rhein Symphonie in 2024, is primed for feel-good festive fare, with departure dates on November 29th and December 2nd, 5th, 8th, 11th and 17th, 2024.

Kicking off in Cologne, solo sailors arrive in Rüdesheim on day two for a walking tour, overnight stay and morning passage of Loreley Rock. Day three is spent in Koblenz, with a guided tour and market visit making sure guests get the most out of the

time there. The ship returns to Cologne on day four.

The four-day itinerary starts from £1,087 (including a 15% solo supplement), including accommodation in a double cabin, fully-inclusive of flights, full-board, a drinks package, German transfers, excursions as per the itinerary, port charges, gratuities and Wi-Fi. No-fly options from the UK are available.

www.nicko-cruises.co.uk



Panama & Costa Rica with Cox & Kings

WITH OVER one in five guests on Cox & Kings tours going it alone, it's no surprise that the operator's small group tours are ideal offerings for solos.

This month, a £100 per person saving is on offer on the 'Panama & Costa Rica Experience' when booking the January 11th departure. Prices lead-in at £3,895 per person, with guests ticking off the Panama Canal and some of Costa Rica's renowned national parks.

www.coxandkings.co.uk

Spooky season is upon us – what's been your best Halloween costume?

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A ghost costume, compliments to my mum's good sheets!



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A scary freak!



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Dumbledore. I rocked that beard.



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Cruella de Vil at my Year Six disco!



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