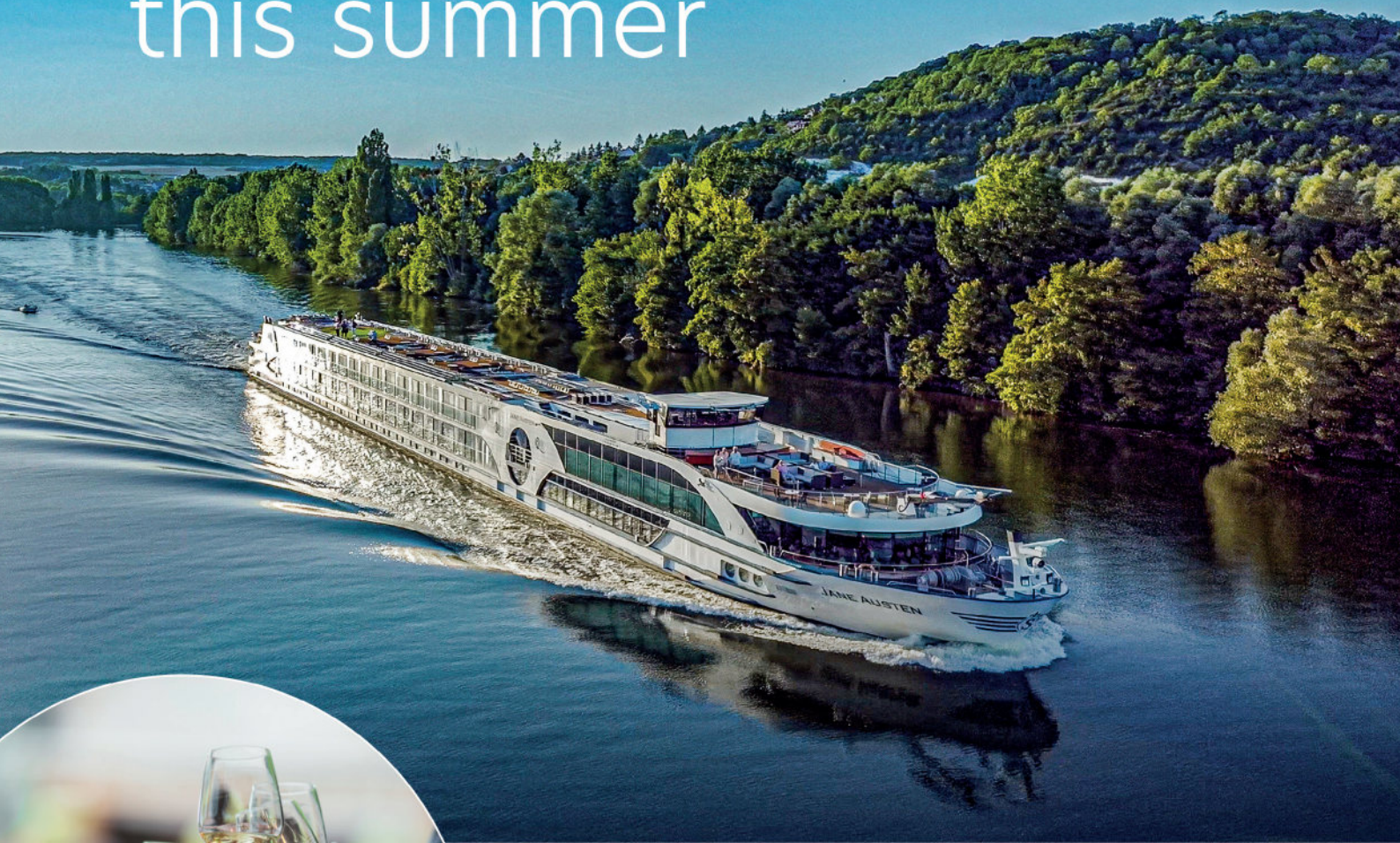


# Travel bulletin



Forever Curious

Drinks  
on us  
this summer



**Free enhanced drinks package  
worth £250PP** included on river cruises  
departing in July and August 2023

Your guests can

*choose from...*

**23 fascinating river cruises that take your guests to the iconic highlights as well as lesser-known gems**

## The Blue Danube

**8 days from £1,719PP**

April to October 2023

Budapest • Esztergom • Bratislava • Melk  
Dürnstein • Salzburg or Linz • Vienna

## The Douro, Porto & Salamanca

**8 days from £1,619PP**

March to November 2023

Porto • Pinhão • Castelo Rodrigo • Salamanca  
Lamego • Mateus Palace Gardens

## Rhine Cruise to Switzerland

**8 days from £1,499PP**

May to October 2023

Koblenz • Rüdesheim • Speyer • Strasbourg • Breisach  
Black Forest • Lucerne • Bernese Oberland



To find out more, request a brochure or to book

**01283 744370 | [rivieratravel.co.uk/agents](https://rivieratravel.co.uk/agents)**



**Forever Curious**

Riviera Travel booking terms and conditions apply. Visit our website for full details.



**ABTA**  
ABTA No V4744

# Travel **bulletin**

Giving agents the edge

## *Ocean & River Cruising*

Set sail for the rivers and oceans of the world.

### MORE IN...

#### **News**

Keeping you in the loop. **Pg. 4**

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Tropical havens and cultural centres of the Brit-favourite island group. **Pg. 13**

#### **Canada**

A host of choices from the Great White North. **Pg. 17**



#### **Nevis Tourism Authority**

Phéon Jones, the authority's Sales & Marketing manager, hails praise on the trade.

# eagles resort



eagles palace

HALKIDIKI



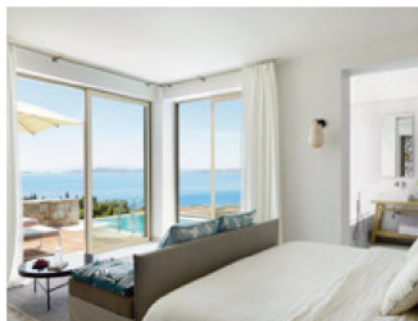
eagles villas

HALKIDIKI

## Book in April and earn up to £100 in Love2Shop digital vouchers!\*

- Book through your preferred UK supplier of luxury package holidays
- Earn £50 in Love2Shop digital vouchers for each 7 night booking in Eagles Palace; £100 for each 7 night booking in Eagles Villas
- Email your booking lead name, party size, dates of travel and your contact details to - [promotions@torhotelgroup.gr](mailto:promotions@torhotelgroup.gr)
- Once your booking has completed, we will email you your Love2Shop digital voucher\*
- For B2B sales manuals - visit - [www.torhotelgroup.gr](http://www.torhotelgroup.gr) - and click on "Hotels"

## Visit the Competitions page on Travel Bulletin and win a stay for 2 in Eagles Palace!



**Terms & Conditions** - Earn Love2Shop digital vouchers - Promotion is only open to UK ABTA registered travel agents. Promotion is valid for bookings made between 1 April and 30 April 2023 and for bookings that involve flight, accommodation and transfers and made through a recognised UK ATOL holder for package holidays. For every booking made in Eagles Palace for travel dates in 2023 for a minimum of 7 nights and a minimum of 2 people, travel agents can receive a £50 Love2Shop digital voucher. For every booking made in Eagles Villas for travel dates in 2023 for a minimum of 7 nights and a minimum of 2 people, travel agents can receive a £100 Love2Shop digital voucher. To receive your digital voucher, please email " [promotions@torhotelgroup.gr](mailto:promotions@torhotelgroup.gr)" with 1) booking lead name 2) party size 3) stay dates from and to 4) accommodation details 5) tour operator booked through 6) your contact details including email 7) your agency's ABTA number. Once each qualifying booking has completed their holiday, you will receive an email from Eagles Palace & Villas with your Love2Shop digital reward code on it. Emails will be sent out in the first 14 days of the month following the month in which bookings have completed (i.e. bookings for June 2023 travel dates will receive their digital reward code by 14 July 2023). Should a booking cancel, no show or terminate their holiday within 7 days of arrival, then no digital voucher will be provided. All digital vouchers are provided at the discretion of Eagles Palace & Villas and are subject to availability and the commercial conditions of Eagles Palace & Villas. By entering this promotion, you agree to be contacted in the future by Eagles Palace & Villas for matters relating to this promotion and also for future news that will be deemed of interest to travel agents. You can unsubscribe from our newsletters or further marketing communications at any time by sending an email to " [promotions@torhotelgroup.gr](mailto:promotions@torhotelgroup.gr)". By entering this promotion you agree to be subject to these terms & conditions and accept that in any disputes the decision of Eagles Palace & Villas is final. Eagles Palace & Villas are part of TOYRISTIKAI EPIHEIRISEIS HALKIDIKIS A.E., a company incorporated in Greece with Company Number 122622004000, whose registered office is at 11 Korninon St, 54624, in Thessaloniki, Greece.

THIS WEEK



**04**  
**NEWS**  
Keep in the loop with the industry latest.



**09**  
**PUZZLE BULLETIN**  
A chance to win a £20 M&S voucher with our sudoku.



**13**  
**CARIBBEAN**  
Clients in search of sun-soaked culture need look no further.



**17**  
**CANADA**  
Explore the tranquil wonderland of the Rockies or follow in adventurers' footsteps.



**19**  
**RIVER & OCEAN CRUISING**  
Sail the high seas or relax on the rivers with these amazing deals.



# GEN-Z CRAVES CULTURE

**Generation Z is saying goodbye to club fever as a new study reveals there has been a shift in perspective when choosing travel destinations.**

THE EYES of the youth are straying away from the 'traditional' club and nightlife scene as a study conducted by Flight Centre Travel Group company StudentUniverse has found that only 21% of Gen-Z'ers have an interest in hitting the town on holiday.

According to the study, Gen-Z travellers are more culturally aware of the world around them and are more willing to dig deeper into the places they visit. In comparison to generations past, sightseeing is now the biggest appeal to young travellers (70%), followed by experiencing new cultures (68%) and trying new cuisines (59%). These results indicate that renowned party destinations – Magaluf, Zante and Ibiza for example – are no longer appealing to the target demographic, and may require a shake up to bring those travellers back.

Brand manager at StudentUniverse, Will Jones, said: "It wasn't too long ago that the 18-30s travel market was practically synonymous with raucous partying, gleeful disregard for inhibition and a seemingly

inexhaustible ambition to experience the world's worst hangover. That is no longer the case for today's Gen-Z generation – they are seeking much more meaningful, educational experiences from their travels."

The aim of the study was to discover what drives the younger generation to travel, and how to make the best of their experiences. One of the key findings is that Gen-Z use travel as a fast track to success in their respective careers, with 87% saying that overseas travel would improve their prospects in the long term. A further 78% claimed a desire to take part in vocational travel if presented with the opportunity.

The other key finding relates to societal topics that the younger generation feel passionately about, with 82% saying their willingness to visit a country is driven by the attitudes and laws targeted at minority groups.

The full report can be found at: [www.studentuniverse.com/state-of-student-travel-2023](http://www.studentuniverse.com/state-of-student-travel-2023).

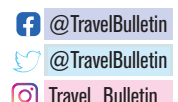


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[www.travelbulletin.co.uk](http://www.travelbulletin.co.uk)





## Rosewood to manage Amaala property

ROSEWOOD HOTELS & Resorts has been selected by Red Sea Global, the multi-project developer of the Amaala megaproject, to manage the upcoming Rosewood Amaala.

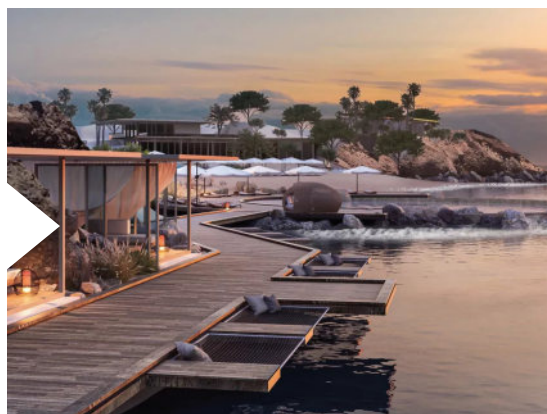
110 guest rooms and suites, along with 25 Rosewood residences, will open their doors to guests, as well as the Asaya Spa.

Sonia Cheng, CEO of the

Rosewood Hotel Group, explained: "We are deeply honored to partner with Red Sea Global on Rosewood Amaala... we look forward to embracing our role of providing a wellness oasis."

The Amaala property joins Rosewood's Middle Eastern portfolio pipeline, with openings in Doha (2023) and Riyadh (2025).

[www.rosewoodhotels.com/amaala](http://www.rosewoodhotels.com/amaala)



### Jet2.com takes off for Athens and Rome

JET2.COM AND Jet2CityBreaks launched their inaugural services to Athens and Rome at the end of March, marking the first time the companies have operated to the capitals from London Stansted.

Steve Heapy, CEO of Jet2.com and Jet2holidays, said: "We are

delighted to see our first flights from London Stansted to Athens and Rome take off... feedback from customers and independent travel agents has been telling us that flights and holidays to Greece and Italy are very much in demand for summer 2023."

[www.trade.jet2holidays.com](http://www.trade.jet2holidays.com)

### Customer service is key as Classic Collection eyes new initiative this summer

CLASSIC tour operator has announced a wide range of customer service modifications in its new Classic Concierge initiative set to roll out during summer 2023.

Promising to deliver a world-class customer experience across its portfolio of destinations, an in-resort concierge rep service will be provided 24/7 and managed from three service hubs located in the UK, Spain and Italy.

Luxury private transfers and meet and greet services will be provided for all clients, as well as consistent service touch points throughout the holiday. From April 1, 2023, all Classic Collection bookings made will receive VIP airport lounge access as standard along with up to 23kg of hold luggage per passenger. [www.classic-collection.co.uk](http://www.classic-collection.co.uk)



## Queen of the Mountains.

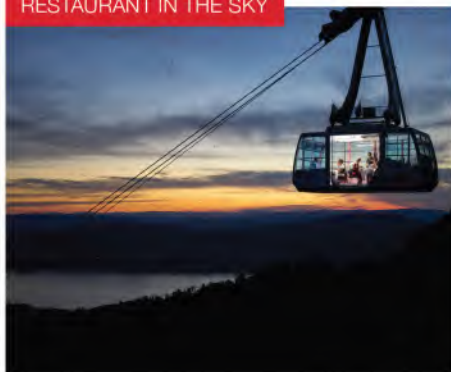
Mount Rigi, known as Queen of the Mountains and home of Europe's 1st mountain railway.

Located in the heart of Switzerland, Mount Rigi lies like a peninsula surrounded by 3 stunning lakes and is easy to reach by train, boat, or highway.

Ride with various cogwheel trains from the modern to vintage, marveling at the spectacular panoramic view overlooking countless mountain peaks and up to 13 lakes.

*Rigi*

### RESTAURANT IN THE SKY



On summer nights, the panoramic cabins of the aerial cable car from Weggis to Rigi Kaltbad are transformed into a romantic restaurant in the sky. As you hover high above the glistening Lake Lucerne, a wonderful 3-course meal is served, accompanied by breathtaking views.

This is an exciting gastronomic excursion, where a unique atmosphere and a very special setting make for a most memorable evening.

### HIKE & RELAX WELLNESS PACKAGE



Hike, relax, and forget everyday life!

Combine your Rigi excursion with relaxing wellness hours in the Mineralbad & Spa on Rigi Kaltbad and let yourself be enchanted by the breathtaking view of the impressive alps.

### HISTORIC - MODERN TRAIN RIDES IN ONE



Mount Rigi is the home of Europe's first mountain railway, yet also has the newest generation of trains in operation - a trip through time. Get on an historic carriage in Arth-Goldau (daily departures 10:08, 12:08, and 15:23) and travel from Rigi Kulm with the newest articulated railcar back down the mountain to Vitznau.

To book, order brochures  
or talk anything Switzerland  
**CALL: 020 7420 4900**  
sales@stc.co.uk  
switzerlandtravelcentre.com

## Say Ahoy to Amilla Maldives this Easter

GUESTS STAYING at the Amilla Maldives Resort and Residences between April 7 and 16, 2023 will be in for a treasure trove of entertainment as Treasure Island comes to life this Easter.

With a packed roster of swashbuckling activities, there is something for everyone to



enjoy at the resort. There is the option to join the Pirate Treasure Island Cruise, a one-hour sunset sail navigating the sea surrounding the island in a traditional Maldivian dhoni boat, with a special bunny-shaped guest on board. For the mini pirates, there will be treasure map making, pirate ship building, and a Long John Silver Pool Party to get into the spirit of the 1883 classic adventure story.

For those wishing for a more traditional Easter celebration, egg-rolling events and a gala dinner will also take place, and of course an Easter Egg hunt to be enjoyed by all.

Inspiring Travel is currently offering savings of up to 30% and complimentary full board this Easter for families staying at the Amilla Maldives Resort. A seven-night stay starts from £15,789 per family, based on two adults and one child.

[www.amilla.com](http://www.amilla.com)



**CHEVAL COLLECTION** is due to open the Cheval Maison – The Palm Dubai, on April 15, 2023, marking the first international property in the luxury apartment company's portfolio. The all-apartment boutique property is located on the trunk of the globally renowned Palm Jumeirah, consisting of 131 contemporary-styled complexes all ranging from one to three bedrooms, and boasting aerial views of the Dubai skyline.

## Ski Beat glides into 37th winter season

THE UK's largest package ski chalet company has launched its 2024 holiday season with more than 45 chalets available throughout the French Alps for travel between December 2023 and April 2024, with inclusive return flights to London Gatwick and Manchester Airport on offer.

Sustainability is high on the agenda for the new programme, with beverage packages supplied by local artisanal producers, and

ingredients sourced locally.

Guests will be able to experience the beauty of the snow-promised landscape in grand chalets with hot tubs, saunas, indoor pools, gyms and cinema rooms, ideal for a more laid back après-ski.

Prices for the 2023/2024 ski season start at £683 per person for a seven-night Ski Beat package, departing on December 9, 2023.

[www.skibeat.co.uk](http://www.skibeat.co.uk)

## Latin Routes' first post-pandemic launch

LATIN ROUTES has launched its first post-pandemic destination, now offering the 11-day 'Highlights of Panama' itinerary from £2,949 per person.

Panama marks the brand's second Central American destination (joining Costa Rica).

Product manager Cat Davies explained: "The launch of Panama is an exciting one for us. Not only is it our first new destination since we launched Guyana pre-pandemic, but it's also our second destination in Central America... it offers the perfect multi-centre trip."

Further additions to the Central America portfolio are expected this year.

[www.latinroutes.co.uk/destinations/panama](http://www.latinroutes.co.uk/destinations/panama)



## Audley uncovers sustainable demand

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL is on everybody's mind as research conducted by Audley Travel has discovered that nearly half of respondents (48%) are more likely to book with a company that prioritises sustainability, with almost a third (32%) willing to pay more to incorporate sustainable options into their plans.



## AGENT INCENTIVES

- **PLAYA HOTELS & Resorts** has upgraded its agent rewards programme, offering agents reward points or cash with every booking. 'Low' room category bookings earn at least 30 points (or £1.50 cash rewards) per room/per night, with 'High' category bookings offering up to 100 points or £5 per room/per night.  
[www.playarewards.com](http://www.playarewards.com)
- **£20 IS** still up for grabs with every booking to The Harbor Club, Curio Collection by Hilton. The incentive applies to all seven-night or longer bookings registered at [www.harborclubrewards.com](http://www.harborclubrewards.com)
- **OLYMPIC HOLIDAYS** has extended its Love2shop incentive, offering vouchers with each booking. The Love2shop incentive, valid on new bookings for departures up to October 31, 2024, has been extended until April 30, 2023. Michael Vinales, managing director, explained: "With the Easter break fast approaching, we wanted to really incentivise our valued partners and give them even more reason to get booking."
- **RENTYL RESORTS** has teamed up with Experience Kissimmee for a mega fam trip. Agents have the opportunity to win one of 10 fam trip places, enjoying three nights in Kissimmee, Florida, experiencing the entire Rentyl Resorts' Orlando portfolio. Running until October 31, 2023, agents can enter by registering all valid Rentyl bookings via the Rentyl Rewards platform. Qualifying bookings must be a minimum of five nights at one of the brand's five Orlando properties. Fam trip places will be rewarded to the top sellers.  
[www.rentylrewards.com](http://www.rentylrewards.com)



**LOS ANGELES** Tourism and Delta Air Lines held an operator lunch in celebration of Delta's new service from London Heathrow to Los Angeles. The service commenced on March 26, returning after an eight-year hiatus and playing a key part in Delta's largest-ever transatlantic summer schedule.  
[www.discoverlosangeles.com](http://www.discoverlosangeles.com) / [www.delta.com](http://www.delta.com)

Travel **bulletin**

## COMPETITION

**Win holidays in Aucanada, Majorca & San Roque on half-board in Premium Sea View Rooms with Inmood Hotels!**

Find out more at [www.travelbulletin.co.uk/in-mood-hotels-competition](http://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/in-mood-hotels-competition)

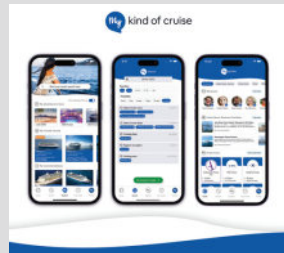


## AGENT TRAINING

- **VISIT JERSEY** has launched a new online training course to refresh its destination training for trade partners. Agents who complete the course before May 31, 2023 will be in with the chance of winning a cookery school experience with fresh Jersey ingredients. Sarah Barton, head of Trade at Visit Jersey commented: "It's really important for our trade partners to become fully immersed in everything that Jersey has to offer. Not only will the online training course benefit travel agents by becoming a Jersey expert but it will also help to increase tourism to the island."  
[www.business.jersey.com/trade/trade-toolkit/destination-training/](http://www.business.jersey.com/trade/trade-toolkit/destination-training/)
- **BECOME A Sweden expert** with Visit Sweden's trade-dedicated training course. Covering the destination's sustainable, natural and food & hospitality offerings, the courses equip agents with everything they need to become bona fide Sweden experts.  
[www.traveltrade.visitsweden.com/why-sweden/become-sweden-specialist/](http://www.traveltrade.visitsweden.com/why-sweden/become-sweden-specialist/)
- **TAKE THE Malta Training Programme** to be entered into a draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher or Maltese gastronomy goodie bag every month. The more courses taken, the more likely agents are to win.  
[www.malta-training.com](http://www.malta-training.com)
- **PRINCESS CRUISES'** dedicated trade site offers Academy training, with 10-15 minute modules, the POLAR ONLINE booking system, a live webchat, events, competitions and incentives.
- **THE TAMPA Bay Agent Academy** helps agents become 'Tampa Bay Specialists', with two modules offering the latest product insights and explaining why Tampa Bay ought to be part of any Floridian itinerary.  
[www.visittampabay.com/academy](http://www.visittampabay.com/academy)

## A sea of change as consumers cruise to digital platforms

TRAVEL BULLETIN heard from Sefton Monk, co-founder of My Kind of Cruise, about the shifting demographic and booking methods that unlock huge potential for agents.



On such shifts, Monk explained: "We are on the verge of a seismic shift in terms of the way people book cruise holidays. As someone who is under 40 and a cruise devotee - having been on over 20 holidays at sea - this evolution is very welcome.

"There is, quite rightly, a huge cruise market for retirees and older customers, and we shouldn't seek to change that. An escape at sea is a fantastic holiday option and they appeal to people of all ages. But for too long, we have made assumptions about who is interested in booking a cruise."

The demographic shift is not the only one that agents should look to capitalise on: "Our lives are dominated by apps, and it's simply not true to say these can't play a part in the booking process. The only reason they don't is because we haven't utilised them properly and realised their full potential.

"Social media is also frequently written off as a lead generation tool. But why? Research suggests people are almost as comfortable using social media to find a holiday as they are to follow their friends."

"Despite being told the market wasn't ready, I helped launch the first cruise app last year. Since My Kind of Cruise went live, we've had near-constant month-on-month growth – and having a customised, accessible app in place, backed by a strong social media presence, has been the bedrock of our success.

"In fact, our app has already been downloaded over 100,000 times, and has an average booking age of 35. 65% of downloads were generated via social media, the majority through TikTok. Although we have a significant under-40 audience, it's also clear the app is used across the generations. Our oldest customer to book a sailing to date is 87."

Cruising's recovery post-pandemic has gifted the trade huge potential, and Monk is keen to get the trade on board: "I'd encourage agents to explore all the options out there and enhance their booking and enquiry capability wherever possible. We should never underestimate or write off the traditional means and methods, but now is the time to capitalise on the demand that is clearly out there."

[www.mykindofcruise.com](http://www.mykindofcruise.com)



## Mayday, mayday! Red Sea Holidays' Bank Holiday bargains

ALL-INCLUSIVE BLISS awaits with Red Sea Holidays' Egypt Bank Holiday breaks. Last-minute savings are available on a choice of itineraries throughout late April and May.

Seven nights, departing on April 28, 2023, staying at the four-star-plus Grand Makadi Hotel with flights from Manchester, start from £699 (saving £165 per person).

Early May offers feature seven nights at the four-star Siva Grand Beach on an all-inclusive basis, with flights from London Gatwick and transfers, from £537 per person.

[www.redseaholidays.co.uk](http://www.redseaholidays.co.uk)

## News Bites

- FLIGHT CENTRE has launched 'Travel Tales', a series of one-minute videos from the agency's consultants.
- BRITISH AIRWAYS has touched down in Aruba as its first direct flight of the service from London Gatwick to Queen Beatrix International Airport took to the skies on March 26, 2023.
- NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has reported bumper European bookings, with Scotland, Croatia and Italy driving growth.

**NEW YORK CITY**  
TOURISM+CONVENTIONS

NEW YORK City's official destination marketing and convention and visitors bureau has rebranded as New York City Tourism + Conventions. The identity refresh includes a new strategy and campaign (#WHATSGOODNYC) that encourages locals to share their views on experiences across the city's five boroughs. The city is on track to welcome 63.3 million visitors in 2023.

SUDOKU

WIN A £20 M&S VOUCHER IN THE *Travel* bulletin **A 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, April 20.

The winner for March 24 is Jessica Robertson, from Hays Travel Amesbury.

March 24 Solution: A=1 B=5 C=3 D=8

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



WHERE AM I?

THIS STATE is home to the world's top three cruising ports, with a combined passenger footfall of over 11 million cruisers in the 2022/23 season.

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 Ferry company, sounds like a huge bird (6)
  - 3 European capital city (4)
  - 7 County town of Norfolk
  - 8 Flag carrier of 12 Down (3)
  - 9 First name of actress, best known for her role as the Vicar of Dibley (4)
  - 11 Hawaiian greeting (5)
  - 14 Capital of Jordan (5)
  - 15 Guessing game for children (1-3)
  - 18 Banjul international airport code (3)
  - 19 Capital of Côte d'Ivoire (7)
  - 20 Scottish island (4)
  - 21 1 Across can take you there (6)

- Down**
- 1 BBC's Race Across the World 2023 covers this country from West to East (6)
  - 2 Columbus is the state capital (4)
  - 4 Capital of Antigua and Barbuda (2,4'1)
  - 5 Singer/songwriter, \_\_\_ Murs (4)
  - 6 South American country
  - 10 Famous London stadium (7)
  - 12 Naruhito is the Emperor of this country (5)
  - 13 Capital of New South Wales (6)
  - 16 Hotel brand, part of Accor (4)
  - 17 US coin worth 10 cents (4)

CROSSWORD

Across: 1 CONDO, 3 OSLO, 7 NORWICH, 8 JAL, 9 DAWN, 11 ALOHA, 14 AMMAN, 15 I-SPY, 18 BUL, 19 ABIDJAN, 20 SKYE, 21 JERSEY  
Down: 1 CANADA, 2 OHIO, 4 ST JOHN'S, 5 OLLY, 6 CHILE, 10 WEMBLEY, 12 JAPAN, 13 SYDNEY, 16 IBIS, 17 DIME  
Mystery Word: CALAIS, Where Am I?: Florida



## North American Showcase

We brought a slice of the States to Chester and Harrogate on March 20 and 21, with sponsors Destination Canada, Greater Miami, JetBlue Airways, Rocky Mountaineer, Fort Myers, Driveaway, Travepack, City Experiences/Walks, Riviera Travel, and the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

Lucky winners of our prize bingo left the events with Canadian-inspired cookbooks, £50 vouchers, hampers, goodie bags, and more.



Want to get in on the [#TBShowcases](https://twitter.com/TBShowcases) action? Our next events are the Caribbean Showcase in Dorking on April 17 and Australasia & Pacific Islands Showcase in Exeter on April 18. Register at [www.travelbulletin.co.uk/agents](http://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/agents).

# INDUSTRY... *insight by...*



**Andy Harmer, CLIA UK & Ireland's managing director, on how agents can supercharge their sales after a strong start to 2023.**

“

**...we're keen to capitalise on this momentum and help maintain the levels of positive interest, enquiries and booking.”**

AFTER SUCH a strong start to the year for cruise agents, we're keen to capitalise on this momentum and help maintain the levels of positive interest,

enquiries and bookings we've seen.

There are lots of ways that the trade can take advantage of the resources we provide at CLIA.

The first is to sign up as a member, if you haven't done so already, and then capitalise on the wealth of online resources at your fingertips. From learning modules to fam trip updates to the latest cruise news, there's all the info you'll need to help boost your sales.

We're adding to the site all the time, included recently launching our 'Booking Guidelines' page. It contains details of how agents can work with cruise lines to become an authorised seller, and make a booking or access availability and price. The page has info for nearly 30 of our member cruise lines, with more to come.

Secondly, we host a number of events both online and in-person, many of which are free-of-charge. Our training webinars cover every type of cruise - including ocean, river, expedition and luxury - and are a quick and easy way of picking up the latest brand know-how.

Meanwhile our in-person events continue to go from strength-to-

“

**Our industry is back where we belong and it's a privilege to have so many brilliant and dedicated people represent us.”**

strength, with both our recent RiverView conference and upcoming CLIA Conference both oversubscribed. These are fantastic for picking up the latest selling know-how, as well as experiencing ships first-hand.

You can ensure you don't miss out by keeping up to date through our website, which always contains the latest opportunities in the 'events' section.

I want to finish by saying a huge 'thank you' to every agent selling cruise; you are doing an amazing job and this is reflected in the ongoing strong demand for a holiday-at sea or on the rivers. Our industry is back where we belong and it's a privilege to have so many brilliant and dedicated people represent us.

## Unforgettable backs the trade with dedicated team

### UNFORGETTABLE TRAVEL

Group has unveiled its dedicated trade team.

The dedicated team, headed up by Pietro Molica Lazzaro, is eyeing trade partnerships and laying plans to launch a new agent portal.



Doubling down on its existing success with the trade (worth £3.6 million annually), the team will see an expansion in trade partnerships and support the launch of a new agent portal.

The upcoming portal will offer agents access to exclusive offers, digital marketing assets, and opportunities to register for fam trips.

Pietro Molica Lazzaro has been promoted to Partnerships manager, utilising his four-year experience with the Unforgettable group – most recently as senior European travel specialist.

Pietro Molica Lazzaro added: "Our aim is to build a strong and happy community of travel agents because of the personalised service we can offer them, and the fantastic product we can offer our mutual guests.

"I feel privileged to be leading on the growth of our agent channel at such an exciting time."

[www.unforgettabletravel.com](http://www.unforgettabletravel.com)



**AER LINGUS** has unveiled a new service connecting Ireland's West Coast and London Heathrow. The inaugural flight departed from Ireland West Airport at Knock on March 26, 2023. The airline also restarted its Dublin to Hartford service for the first time in over two years. [www.aerlingus.com](http://www.aerlingus.com)

## Major Go hits major milestone with 500,000 searches

TAILOR-MADE, TRADE-ONLY tour operator Major Go has reached half a million searches through its mobile booking app.

Major Go enables agents access to a range of travel options, including over 500,000 hotels, transfers, car rentals, and more than 200 airlines via smartphones, tablets and laptops.

Agents can share exclusive special offers via social media or build their own deals, with

the app including the option to attach agents' own branding on posts to direct traffic straight back to them.

Rute Magalhaes, head of commercial of Major Travel, said, "We have been impressed with the feedback from agents on Major Go, particularly on convenience and flexibility to make bookings from their mobile devices."

To discover more about the app, email [commercial@major.travel](mailto:commercial@major.travel)

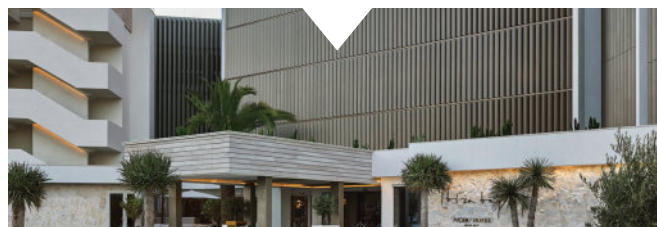
## Nobu Hotel Ibiza Bay reopens its doors

THE FIVE-STAR Nobu Hotel Ibiza Bay reopened for an extended season on March 31, 2023.

Marking the opening with a series of unique workshops, tastings, events and Eivissan Easter celebrations, the hotel made an authentically Ibiza splash for the start of the season.

Director of Sales and Marketing, Nuno Dias, said: "We are very optimistic for the summer season ahead... traditional booking patterns have been disrupted by last-minute solid demand experienced over the previous few years."

[www.nobuhotelibizabay.com](http://www.nobuhotelibizabay.com)



## Azamara unveils new site and trade portal

AZAMARA'S REFRESHED website and trade portal enhances the trade experience, enabling access to the all-new Versonix Seaware Touch booking platform.

The new reservation system is integrated with the new website as well as Azamara Connect.

[www.azamara.com](http://www.azamara.com)



CARIBBEAN

# PARADISE PACKAGED

Unique Caribbean Holidays has unveiled Beaches Turks & Caicos packages, hot on the heels of Virgin launching direct flights.

UNIQUE CARIBBEAN Holidays Ltd (UCHL), Beaches Resorts' in-house UK tour operator, has launched package holidays to Beaches Turks & Caicos, including new Virgin Atlantic flights, which will be the only non-stop service from the UK to the Islands.

The new packages can now be

## Coast and rural hotels create twin-centre deals

THE GREAT House Antigua and The Inn at English Harbour have joined forces to launch a two-centre package combining the Antiguan countryside with the beach. The Great House Antigua is centred around the 350-year-old plantation house that is filled with antiques while the grounds also feature the remains of a sugar mill. The Inn at English Harbour offers luxury living in traditional-style buildings and has its own white sand beach. It's also within easy reach of the historic Nelson's Dockyard area.

The two-centre package is available between April and June 2023.

[www.thegreathouseantigua.com](http://www.thegreathouseantigua.com)

[www.theinnantigua.com](http://www.theinnantigua.com)

booked for arrivals from November 4, 2023 onwards when Virgin Atlantic begins its twice-weekly direct flights to Providenciales departing on Wednesdays and Saturdays from Heathrow. These flights will be operated aboard a Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner with 31 Upper Class, 35 Premium Economy and 198 Economy class seats.

This means four flights per week will depart from London to the Turks & Caicos islands from November 2023, with the existing British Airways service departing from Heathrow via Nassau, The Bahamas, twice per week.

The Beaches brand's flagship, family-friendly Turks & Caicos resort is located

on Grace Bay beach in Providenciales and features five resort villages and 21 international restaurants, 15 bars, which feature in all-inclusive packages, 10 swimming pools, a nightclub, Club Liquid, and an X-Box Play Lounge.

Prices lead in at £4,419 per adult and £969 per child for seven nights during February half-term 2024. The price includes all-inclusive accommodation, return flights with Virgin Atlantic, resort transfers, complimentary land and water sports.

Agents can book online or by calling UCHL's experienced Sales Executives on 0800 742 742. All pricing is subject to availability and may change.

[www.sellingsandals.co.uk](http://www.sellingsandals.co.uk)

## Jamaica welcomes carnival return

CARNIVAL IN Jamaica is making a welcome return to the island taking place in Ocho Rios, and Kingston from April 12-18 after a three-year break. The main event, the Road March, will take place on the streets of Kingston on April 16. Seven nights all-inclusive at RIU Negril costs from £1,589 per person, saving £276. Return flights with TUI are included, departing from Gatwick on April 13. [www.visitjamaica.com](http://www.visitjamaica.com)





## St Kitts Festival to celebrate 25 years

THE ST Kitts Music Festival is celebrating its 25th anniversary from June 22-24 with a line-up of artists for a weekend of Soul, Soca, Jazz, R&B, Reggae and more.

Performers announced so far include Koffee, Chronixx, Air Supply, Valiant, Patrice Roberts, Skinny Fabulous and the GrandMasters Band. Spanning six days, the festival gets bigger and better every year, thanks to across-the-island experiences. [www.visitst Kitts.com](http://www.visitst Kitts.com)



## Anguilla to host Culinary Experience

ANGUILLA'S second annual Anguilla Culinary Experience is taking place from May 3-6.

During the four days of chef collaborations, parties, tastings, barbecues, dinners and curated culinary experiences, resident and guest chefs will draw on diverse influences and combine their skills and creativity with Anguilla's fresh ingredients. [www.ivotanguilla.com](http://www.ivotanguilla.com)

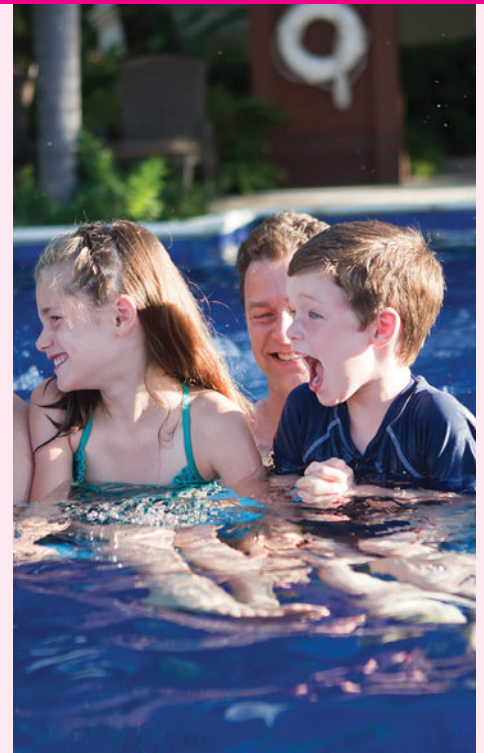
## St Lucia resorts launches holiday teens programme

THE LANDINGS Resort and Spa has launched a new programme of activities specifically designed to engage teenagers during their stay at the Saint Lucian resort.

A series of organised activities, including steelpan lessons, kayak races and cooking classes will give older children the opportunity to socialise, have fun and learn more about the island's culture.

Starting on April 3, the Teen Programme has been curated for 13-16 year olds, with a week-long schedule of activities. Younger guests will also have the chance to learn about the history and culture of the island through its food, music and people.

Taking place each Wednesday during school holidays, teens will be joined by expert Steelpan Instructor "Zorro" (also President of the National Steelband Association), to experience the rhythm of the instrument, with an insight into the Caribbean roots of the steelpan and calypso



music. Every Thursday, kids will have the opportunity to cook with a local, The Landings' Chef De Partie, who will introduce the group to a culinary exploration of Saint Lucian fare – from the national dish of green figs and saltfish, to the staple breadfruit bowls. [www.windjammer-landing.com](http://www.windjammer-landing.com)

## Sting and Shaggy take to St Lucia

GRAMMY AWARD winner Sting and Shaggy are set to take the stage at the St Lucia Jazz and Arts Festival from May 5-14.

The festival celebrates music from around the world including Afro beats, jazz, gospel, Soca, reggae, Zouk, pop and an array of cultural beats and exciting rhythms.

The iconic and historic Pigeon Island National Park is the waterside backdrop for the open-air performances.

"The 2023 Saint Lucia Jazz & Arts Festival promises to be the best yet, as we continue our tradition of hosting the Caribbean's premier jazz and arts event.

"The Festival will showcase music, the performing arts, fine arts, creole cuisine and the effervescence of Saint Lucia's creative industries," said Saint Lucia's Minister of Tourism, Hon. Dr. Ernest Hilaire.

The festival will close on May 14 with performances by Sting and Shaggy.

The Arts component of the Saint Lucia Jazz & Arts Festival will be held under the theme "Art and the City" from May 7-11.

Best at Travel offers seven nights' all-inclusive at Starfish St Lucia Resort with British Airways flights and transfers from £1,299 per person, departing on May 8. [www.bestattravel.co.uk](http://www.bestattravel.co.uk)





## Secret Bay launches Clifftop Villas

DOMINICA'S SIX-STAR all-villa Relais & Châteaux Secret Bay has started taking bookings for its new Clifftop Multi-Villa Estates for stays from June 2023.

Situated on the crest of the promontory's 200-foot cliff with expansive views of the Caribbean Sea and access to three swimmable and secluded beaches, the Clifftop Multi-Villa Estates are tucked among the trees and natural landscape. Each Clifftop Estate features two villas, increasing the resort's inventory to 16. Four more Clifftop Villa Estates are expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

Secret Bay also has an array of new amenities, including a hillside funicular, garden-to-fork chef's table experience, elevated decks, art gallery and a kombucha brewery.

Each villa within the Villa Estates is appointed with a gourmet kitchen, an in-nature private plunge pool, stylish



bathrooms with rain showers and soaking tubs, and hand-crafted indoor furnishings.

To celebrate the opening of the new villas, the resort is offering a special rate which includes two free nights—stay seven nights and only pay for five; transfers; four-course welcome dinner; foraging and lunch experience at the Chef's Table; dedicated villa host and daily turndown amenity. Rates start at £1,918/night for up to six people.

[www.secretbay.dm](http://www.secretbay.dm)



## Culinary additions mark Atlantis' 25th anniversary

ATLANTIS PARADISE Island Bahamas is celebrating its 25th anniversary in a culinary style with the addition of new foodie experiences. Paranz, a new restaurant by Michelin star Chef Michael White, that offers an innovative expression of Italian regional cuisine with a focus on seafood has launched. Shake Shack,

making its debut with the Shack experience serving American Classics. New beachside restaurant, Frezca showcases local seafood while The Dilly Club operates as a café during the day a bar at night with a menu that boasts 50 original, classic and exotic cocktails.

[www.atlantisbahamas.com/](http://www.atlantisbahamas.com/)



## Grand Palladium Jamaica reopens

THE GRAND Palladium Jamaica Resort and Spa has reopened following a £20 million refurbishment.

The property has seen the complete refurbishment and remodelling of its 537 suites and common areas. The hotel has created 48 new suites, in two new categories, with private swim-up pools and terraces with sea views. The renovation has emphasised the elegant colonial style of the resort, as well as integrating nature into the interior design and décor.

[www.palladiumhotelgroup.com](http://www.palladiumhotelgroup.com)



## Tobago to welcome \$320m new resort

TOBAGO IS looking forward to the opening of a \$320 million hotel and villa which is due to be completed by next year.

The Elephant Tree Beach Club and Villas will feature a 40-room hotel, a fitness centre, two restaurants, a spa, a swimming pool and a jetty on the beachfront. There will be 126 townhouses and villas forming part of the development.

## Nevis Tourism Authority's new director of sales & marketing reaches out to the trade

### Why is the UK such a key market to visit and activate as you take on the new role?

Heading to the UK was top of my agenda when starting at the Nevis Tourism Authority. The UK is a key source market for Nevis and I was keen to start building relationships with agents, trade and the UK media as soon as possible, to help educate them on the beautiful island of Nevis.

### Why are the UK's operators and trade such an important demographic to connect with?

British visitors to Nevis are hugely important to our tourism industry and without the support of the UK's operators and trade, we wouldn't see so many Brits head to our sunny shores. Their support in spreading the word on Nevis and encouraging travellers to head to the island means so much to us and we're so grateful for these ongoing partnerships.

### What can the trade expect from your strategy and the destination's wider mission?

The trade can expect a heavy focus on wellness. Nevis is one of the world's most beautiful destinations and we have a variety of hotels where visitors can experience wellness first-hand. Just simply being on the island of Nevis nourishes your mind, body and soul. Annually, we host a cross channel swim in March, where locals and visitors alike swim from Nevis across the narrows to St. Kitts. Additionally, with over 44 varieties of mangoes grown on the island, this sweet tropical fruit provides the best recipe for many culinary adventures at the Nevis Mango Festival in July, an Island Marathon in September and a triathlon in November. We want to get the message across to our UK Market and, by extension, the rest of the world that if you want to rejuvenate and detach yourself from the pressures of work or stress then you can truly find yourself in Nevis.



### The 'Nevis... Naturally' approach clearly appeals to a consumer in search of the great outdoors - is this a more attractive proposition post-pandemic and why does that vision align with Nevis as a destination?

Nevis is the perfect destination for those looking to get back into nature and truly relax and switch off. The island offers a slower pace of life, unlike anywhere else in the world, which is certainly sought after post-pandemic. Immersing oneself in nature and the outdoors is something Nevis has always encouraged as part of the holiday experience. For those looking for a restful break, in beautiful natural surroundings, Nevis allows travellers to switch off from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

### Competitions, training events and fam trips have allowed agents to learn more and explore the destination for themselves, can they expect more in this regard?

Agents can definitely expect more competitions and training from Nevis. We are set to sponsor various travel trade events and are hosting several lunch and learns throughout the year. I'd like to remind agents that we offer a monthly booking incentive - any agent who completes a booking to Nevis can win a £50 voucher. For more details on this, agents can email the team at [clearmarketing@nevisisland.com](mailto:clearmarketing@nevisisland.com).

# EXPERIENCE AUTHENTICITY

Frontier Canada highlights the authenticity of the Great North through a host of excursions.

FRONTIER CANADA has collated the most authentic experiences across the Great White North for 2023, from historic anniversaries to tranquil travel, highlighting the sheer scope of activities available throughout the year.

This August will mark 25 years since the opening of the first section of New Brunswick's Fundy Trail – one of the longest stretches of remaining coastal wilderness between Florida and

Labrador. Weaving through 6,300 acres of woodland, the trail straddles two UNESCO sites and has been said to rival the icon views of Australia's Great Ocean Road and the Cabot Trail. Frontier Canada is offering a 10-night Discover New Brunswick fly-drive holiday for £2,190pp for customers wishing to lose themselves in the scenery.

The Yukon is also celebrating a historic anniversary, marking 125 years since being incorporated into Canada. The province showcases stunning natural beauty, with the Top of the World Highway offering panoramic views and the Kluane Lake presenting a raw beauty that is hard to find anywhere else. A 10-night 'Klondike Explorer'

itinerary is available through Frontier Canada for £2,639pp.

Nova Scotia, also known as Canada's Ocean Playground, offers guests an open world of culinary, taking influences from Acadian, Gaelic, African Nova Scotian, and First Nations cultures to create a melting pot of mouthwatering cuisine. As the province also gains attention for its sparkling wine, the Glooscap First Nation X Benjamin Bridge Rosé, described as a wine of peace and friendship, sends half the profits back into the First Nations community, as a way of honouring the land the wineries are built on. The Glimpse of Nova Scotia holiday itinerary is priced at £1,875pp for seven-nights. [www.frontier-canada.co.uk](http://www.frontier-canada.co.uk)

## Scenic savings with Newmarket Holidays

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS is giving customers the chance to experience the illustrious surroundings of the great Canadian landscape for 10% less in its new savings scheme available until May 2, 2023.

The Maple Leaf Trail takes guests to view the tumultuous Niagara Falls, explore the Victorian capital of Ottawa and visit the UNESCO-listed Québec City to create a wish-list itinerary fit for any traveller wishing to learn more about the heart of Canada. Prices for the tour begin at £2,016pp for the 10-day excursion, with a saving of £223. [www.newmarketholidays.co.uk](http://www.newmarketholidays.co.uk)

## Ottawa in bloom this May

FROM MAY 12-22, 2023, the world's largest tulip festival is set to return to Ottawa for 11-days of floral displays, events and overall family fun.

The annual Canadian Tulip Festival celebrates the flower's historic ties to the capital city, stemming back to the Dutch Royal Family, and showcases 300,000 tulips as they bloom alongside the picturesque Dows Lake.

[www.ottawatourism.ca](http://www.ottawatourism.ca)





## Niagara City Cruises: Early 2023 season

NIAGARA CITY Cruises' 2023 season marks a landmark year for the popular Niagara Falls boat tour operator, with the earliest opening date in its recorded history.

Daily service began on March 31, with tours to the base of the Falls running from 10am-4pm. Expanded summer operating hours will begin May 1, 2023.

Ticket prices start from £27 for adults and £19 for children, plus applicable taxes.

[www.niagaracitycruises.com](http://www.niagaracitycruises.com)

## Rocky Mountaineer offers incentive for travel agents

TRAVEL AGENTS who book three 2023 'Rockies to the Red Rocks' rail journey will receive a complimentary two-day pass for the same route. The pass is valid for selected dates in 2023-24, and both rail-only and Rocky Mountaineer package bookings are eligible. Agents can earn a maximum of two complimentary rail passes, with the first pass only for personal use and the second pass available for an additional guest.

[www.rockymountaineer.com/travel-trade](http://www.rockymountaineer.com/travel-trade)

## Race Across the World with these picks

FOR THOSE feeling inspired to follow in the footsteps of BBC Race Across the World, a choice of Canada packages are available for those looking for adventure.

Lovers of nature will appreciate the 'Polar Bears, Winnipeg and Toronto' package with My Canada Trips for a once-in-a-lifetime experience in nature. Start by exploring Winnipeg, a city rich in history and culture, continuing to Riding National Park, and then Hudson Bay (home to 60,000 beluga whales and polar bears). Prices start from £6,859 per person including flights.

Solo travellers can enjoy the 'Toronto Winter Wonderland' with First Class Holidays, offering a four-night stay in a hotel and a 24-hour hop-on hop-off city tour aboard a double decker bus included. The tour concludes with a visit to Niagara Falls. Price start at £1,069 including flights and £519 excluding flights.

[www.fcholidays.com/canada/toronto-winter-wonderland](http://www.fcholidays.com/canada/toronto-winter-wonderland)

## Experience the Calgary Stampede

FRED.HOLIDAYS Discover has launched four different packages to the Calgary Stampede departing on July 7, 2023.

With the 'Rocky Mountaineer Adventure', experience Canada's ultimate adventure from £4,699pp. Enjoy a nine-night trip with three nights in Calgary, two nights in Banff, and two-day rail journey through the Rockies. Price includes flights, transfers, accommodation, and Canadian National Parks Pass.



Or spend time in Halifax, Nova Scotia's seaside capital with the Citadel, a thriving waterfront with brilliant food and entertainment. Then explore the history of the southern part of Nova Scotia, see the world's highest tides and go on a whale watch in the Bay of Fundy. All part of the Nova Scotia's History & High Tides package with First Class Holidays. Prices start at £2,009 including flights, £1,349 excluding flights, departing on May 2023.

[www.fcholidays.com/canada/nova-scotias-history-high-tides](http://www.fcholidays.com/canada/nova-scotias-history-high-tides)

The 'Princess Alaska Cruise', a 19-night trip from £4,999pp, takes in the three-night Stampede, two nights in Banff, a two-day Rocky Mountaineer rail journey, one night in Vancouver, and an 11-night Alaska cruise on Crown Princess. Price includes flights, transfers, accommodation, sightseeing tours, and cruise meals.

The Alaskan Cruise with Celebrity Cruises involves a 17-night trip from £5,699pp. Experience Stampede, Banff, Rocky Mountaineer, and Vancouver with a 7-night Alaska cruise onboard Celebrity Eclipse.

And finally, Cunard's Alaskan cruise with includes the Stampede, Banff, Rocky Mountaineer, and Vancouver with a 10-night cruise onboard Cunard's *Queen Elizabeth*. The 21-night trip starts from £5,799 and covers flights, transfers, cruise meals, accommodation and sightseeing tours.

[www.fredholidays.co.uk](http://www.fredholidays.co.uk)

# SOULFUL SAILING

**AmaWaterways has added to its collection of cruises which celebrate African and Black diaspora.**



## Amadeus offers discount on 2024 European cruises

AMADEUS RIVER Cruises has launched its 2024 European programme featuring 19 itineraries in 13 countries on 10 luxury river ships.

The 2024 itineraries range from eight to 16 days. Prices for the 2024 programme start at £1,032 per person for the eight-day 'Treasures of Burgundy and Provence' cruise round trip from Lyon, with weekly departures between March and October.

To celebrate the launch of the new programme, Amadeus River Cruises is offering a 15% early-booking discount on all 2024 itineraries booked before November 30, 2023.

[www.amadeus-rivercruises.co.uk](http://www.amadeus-rivercruises.co.uk)



## A SOULFUL EPICUREAN EXPERIENCE



AMAWATERWAYS HAS added three new opportunities for guests to celebrate the African and Black diaspora on the rivers of the world in 2024.

Due to the demand for the first 'Soulful Epicurean Experience' on the Rhône in France in August, two June departure dates have been introduced.

The voyages include the 'Colours of Provence' cruise, plus three nights in Paris. Also added for 2024 is a 'Soulful Epicurean Experience' on the 'Secrets of Egypt and The Nile' itinerary, starting in Cairo on May 17, 2024.

The packages uncover and celebrate aspects of black history and culture unique to each country. Kristin Karst, co-founder and executive vice-president, said: "As our first Soulful Epicurean Experience cruise in France scheduled for 2023 sold out, we are proud to give our global family additional opportunities to celebrate and appreciate the diverse black heritage found in France and Egypt."

[www.amawaterways.co.uk](http://www.amawaterways.co.uk)

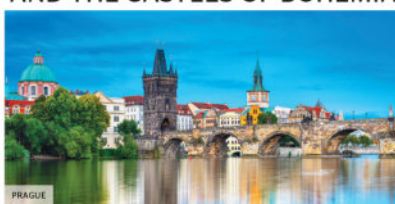
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(1) Based on double occupancy cabin. IMO67100025. © Peter Kosztolicz, Shutterstock, CreaStudio 2303082.

## Viking opens bookings for 2025

VIKING HAS opened its bookings for its 2025 European river voyages with an early booking offer of a £1,000 saving per person and a complimentary 'Silver Spirits' beverage package on reservations made by December 31, 2023.

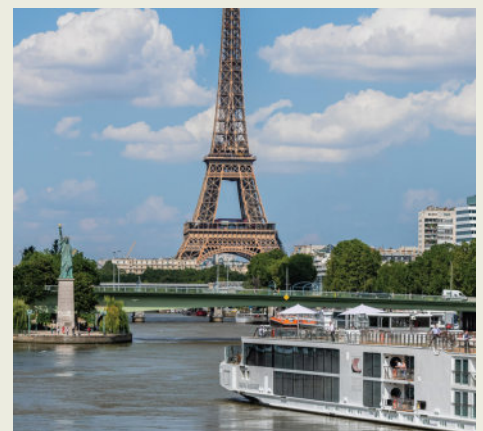
Managing director Wendy Atkin-Smith said: "While 2024 European river itineraries still have some availability, UK guests have been planning ahead and booking for the next year already, so in order to meet demand we have made the decision to open 2025 sailing dates across a wide range of destinations earlier than we ever have before.

The cruise line has also introduced a new sailing for 2024. The 12-day Paris and D-Day 80th Anniversary cruise-tour from London to Paris has departures from March to November and will commemorate Operation Overlord and the historic battles of Normandy. The cruise-tour begins in London to visit historic World War II sites

before heading on to France to join a Viking Longship for a roundtrip sailing from Paris to explore Giverny, tracing the footsteps of Joan of Arc in Rouen, and exploring Normandy's American Military Cemetery and World War II beaches.

Viking Longships on the Seine River are built to navigate into the heart of Paris, with a docking location at Port de Grenelle, a short walk from the Eiffel Tower.

[www.viking.com](http://www.viking.com)



### A-ROSA to offer kids swimming lessons

A-ROSA RIVER Cruises is set to become the first river cruise line to offer swimming lessons.

The cruise line has teamed up with Wasserlust Swimming School to offer swimming lessons on *A-ROSA SENA*, its family-friendly vessel.

Courses will be available for children aged between four-and-a-half and seven years of age on two key departures (August 5 and 12) and will include six lessons, which will cost €100 per child for the six-lesson course.

[www.arosa-cruises.co.uk](http://www.arosa-cruises.co.uk)



### Star Clippers bolts on island stay to voyage

STAR CLIPPERS has added the island of Milos as a post-cruise stay option to its July 1 seven-night Northern Cyclades sailing.

Following the cruise, guests will be taken by local ferry for four nights at the White Coast Pool Suites on Milos. Prices for the seven-night cruise on a full-board basis including flights and a four-night stay on Milos start at £5,179 per person.

[www.starclippers.co.uk](http://www.starclippers.co.uk)

## APT launches £699 agent rate on Travelmarvel cruises

APT & TRAVELMARVEL has released a dedicated travel agent rate, allowing the trade to experience its new river ships in Europe for £699 per person.

Valid on sailings between May and August 2023, this offer is the final phase of APT and Travelmarvel's drive to welcome agents on board its fleet. The operator is hosting more than 70 agents on fam trips and ship visits this year, and recently launched the Book Three, Sail Free promotion, giving agents the opportunity to earn a free river cruise for every three bookings made.

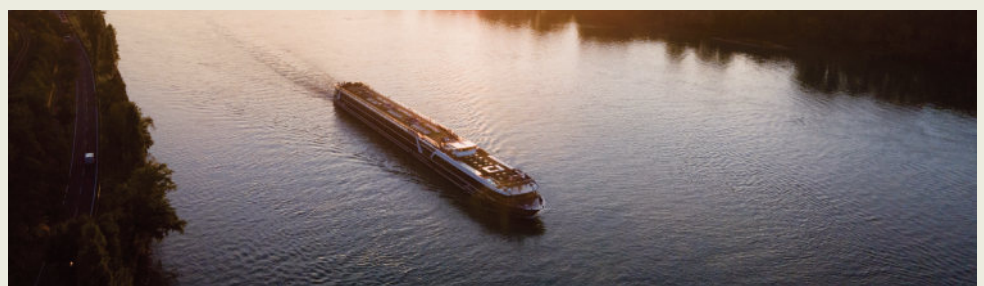
The £699 cruise offer will give agents the chance to experience the new river ships firsthand.

Brad Bennetts, APT & Travelmarvel's head of sales and business development, said: "Being able to experience Travelmarvel's European river cruising for £699 is a fantastic opportunity for agents. Not only can they enjoy a wonderful holiday on Europe's rivers, but agents can also see why our new Contemporary Ships are among the most exciting vessels on the rivers.

"Gaining first-hand experience is key when it comes to selling and will lead to agents securing more business."

The £699 rate is also extended to guests for agents wanting to travel with a plus one.

To book, agents should email [agentclub@aptouring.co.uk](mailto:agentclub@aptouring.co.uk)



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- 7 guided tours including Esztergom Basilica, Bratislava, Dürnstein, Melk Abbey, Linz or Salzburg, Vienna and Budapest
- Hungarian folklore show on board Cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge

## Rhine Cruise to Switzerland

8 DAYS FROM  
**£1,499PP**

Departures May to October 2023

- 7 nights on board in your choice of luxury cabin or suite
- All meals on board except one lunch, including the Captain's Dinner
- Complimentary on-board tea, coffee and Wi-Fi
- Return scheduled flights or seats on Eurostar from London St Pancras International and TGV
- Services of a Riviera Travel Cruise Director and Concierge
- 6 guided tours including Koblenz, Speyer, Rudesheim, Strasbourg, the Bernese Oberland with mountain railway and the Black Forest and Titisee
- 2 visits to ancient Breisach and Lucerne
- Cruise through the spectacular Rhine Gorge



For more information and to book:

Call: **01283 744370**

Visit: **[rivieratravel.co.uk/agents](http://rivieratravel.co.uk/agents)**



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\*Offer applies to all European river cruises departing between 1 July - 31 August 2023. Price based on two people sharing, subject to availability and correct at time of print. Single rooms available at a supplement. Additional entrance costs may apply. Riviera Travel booking terms and conditions apply. ABTA V4744 ATOL 3430 protected. Images used in conjunction with Riviera Travel.





## 2023 'A Year to Remember' as Uniworld offers up to £800 off

UNIWORLD IS offering up to £1,200 per person off a choice of 2023 voyages to make 2023 'A Year to Remember'.

The sale includes:

'A Portrait of Majestic France', aboard *S.S. Bon Voyage* and *S.S. Joie de Vivre*, sailing from Bordeaux to Paris and calling at Cadillac, Cussac-Fort-Médoc, Blaye, Libourne, La Roche-Guyon, Rouen, and Caudebec-en-Caux en route.

Prices start from £7,599 per person departing on July 23, 2023, including an £800 saving.

'Enchanting Budapest' showcases the best of central Europe, sailing through Hungary, Austria, and Germany with a number of calls en route. The eight-day option starts from £2,699 per person, saving £500, departing on July 2, 2023.

'Milan, Venice & The Jewels of Veneto' takes in the enchantment of Veneto. An optional Lugano & Lake Como pre-cruise extension can kick off the trip in natural fashion, before *S.S. La Venezia* sails from Milan to Venice. Prices start from £2,499 for the 10-day voyage. [www.uniworld.com](http://www.uniworld.com)

## Active & Discovery with Avalon Waterways

RIVER CRUISING isn't all about laidback luxury, as proved in Avalon Waterways' 'Active & Discovery on the Seine' voyage.

The panoramic river cruise begins with a visit to Paris and options including a guided tour of the city's rich history by foot or bike or a walking food tour.

The cruise then takes in Conflans, with excursions to Auvers-sur-Oise or Napoleon and Josephine's Château de Malmaison. Another walking tour or guided canoe tour awaits in Vernon.

Onwards to Les Andelys, cruisers have a choice of a walking tour of the village where Joan of Arc was martyred.

Two final stops in Caudebec, with an excursion to Normandy for a WWII-themed tour, or 'A Day in Normandy' tour tracing the footsteps of William the Conqueror, King Henry IV and Queen Marie de Medici.

The cruise draws to a close in Le Havre, with further walking tour, bike tour or visit



options available. The boat returns to Paris for an overnight stay to draw the Seine experience to a close.

Prices start from £1,862 per person in a Deluxe Stateroom, departing Paris on May 9, 2023.

[www.avalonwaterways.co.uk](http://www.avalonwaterways.co.uk)

## Wave goodbye to solo supplements

EUROPEAN WATERWAYS is waiving solo supplement on some of its cruises in France, Italy and Scotland throughout May, offering solo travellers the chance to save up to £2,100.

Voyages on offer include the lush vineyards of Burgundy and the Canal du Midi in France; the architecture of Venice and nature reserves of the Po Valley; and the Highlands of Scotland.



Solo supplements are being waived on cruises on *La Bella Vita* which sails between Venice, the Venetian Lagoon and the Renaissance city of Mantua. Supplements have also been dropped on *Anjodi* and *Enchante*, which cruise the Canal du Midi; *Finesse* and *La Belle Epoque* in Burgundy; and *Rosa* in Gascony. They are also available on the Scottish Highlander the Caledonian Canal.

"Our cruises are ideal for solo travellers who want a little 'me time' every now and then, however, also want to 'hang out with the crowd' when the mood strikes them," said Derek Banks, managing director of European Waterways. "We do all the thinking and planning for the six-night all-inclusive cruises, so they can just relax and 'enjoy the ride.'"

Solo travellers comprise nearly 10% percent of the company's bookings.

[www.europeanwaterways.com](http://www.europeanwaterways.com)



# LIVING THE YACHT LIFE

Riviera Travel adds four new sailings on luxury yachts around the Croatian coast



RIVIERA TRAVEL is setting its sights on Croatia for 2024 with four new yacht itineraries, bringing the operator's sailings to 68 from May to October, with six dedicated to solo travellers.

The seven-night sailings take place on exclusively-chartered luxury yachts, each with a maximum of 38 to 40

guests. Daily tours and visits combine the historic towns and cities of Croatia with the national parks of the Dalmatian coast.

The itineraries include: 'Dubrovnik, Split and Jewels of the Dalmatian Coast' from £1,799; 'Split, Rab and Undiscovered Islands of the North' from £1,899; 'Split, Dubrovnik and the Splendours of Dalmatia' from £1,699; and 'Split, Zadar and Secrets of the North' from £1,799.

The prices are per person and include return flights, all meals on board and the services of an experienced tour manager throughout.

Meanwhile, the operator has added

eight new escorted tours to its 2024 programme, including one that features a mini cruise. The 14-day 'Vietnam and Halong Bay Cruise with Da Nang Beach Stay' features guided tours of Hanoi and Mai Chau; a scenic drive to Ninh Binh; temple visits; a two-night cruise around Ha Long Bay; and a four-night stay at Furama Da Nang with prices from £2,999 per person.

Voyages include return flights, transfers, all scheduled visits and tours, breakfast and select meals, and the services of a Riviera Travel tour manager throughout.

[www.rivieratravel.co.uk](http://www.rivieratravel.co.uk)

## US cruiseline starts work on fourth Coastal Cat

AMERICAN CRUISE Lines has started work on *American Legend*, the fourth new Coastal Cat in the company's Project Blue series, a set of 12 small ships designed to sail almost any US cruise itinerary.

The 100-guest *American Legend* is built for coastal operations. The first three ships in the series are scheduled to begin sailing in the next 12 months.

*American Legend* will begin cruising the US in late 2024 and host 56 staterooms and suites, each with a private balcony, spacious lounges, an open-air top deck and multiple dining venues.

[www.americancruiselines.com](http://www.americancruiselines.com)

## Traitors star to host murder mystery cruise

STAR OF the BBC hit show *Traitors* Wilfred Webster is set to host a murder mystery-themed sailing on Cruise Croatia's seven-night voyage on board *Memories*, departing August 10, 2024 from Split. Prices start at £2,395 per person, which includes half-board with a daily buffet breakfast and either a three-course lunch or dinner, private transfers and escorted excursions.

[www.cruisecroatia.com/murder-mystery-cruise](http://www.cruisecroatia.com/murder-mystery-cruise)



## Bucket-list events? Better by boat!

PRINCESS CRUISES is encouraging agents to suggest to clients that are looking to attend bucket-list festivals and world events to consider them as part of a cruise rather than making independent travel arrangements.

The cruise line has highlighted the 3,560-guest *Regal Princess*' ideal timing to experience the month-long Royal Edinburgh Tattoo in August as part of its 12-day British Isles cruises. The voyage departs from Southampton on August 12 and calls in Edinburgh where guests can also take in the Tattoo as part of an overnight stop in Greenock on August 18-19. Further shore excursions are available through Princess.

Prices for the cruise lead in at £999 per person and includes most dining options,

entertainment and children's clubs as standard. A typical one-night hotel stay in Edinburgh during the Tattoo can range between £220 and £850 per person.

Other major events that take place during upcoming Princess sailings include the Miami Grand Prix, the US Tennis Open, the Day of the Dead festival in Mexico, the Australian Tennis Open and Holy Week in Spain.

[www.princess.com](http://www.princess.com)



### Savings of up to £400 from Seadream

SEADREAM YACHT Club has launched its spring sailing event with savings of up to £400 per person available on select 2023 and 2024 Caribbean and Mediterranean yachting journeys when booked before April 28, 2023.

These include savings of £400 per person on the seven-night 'French and Italian Riviera Delight' cruise from Rome to Nice departing on August 19. Prices start at £4,872 per person.

[www.seadream.com](http://www.seadream.com)



### MSC Cruises to offer Formula 1 experience

MSC CRUISES has teamed up with Formula 1 to launch a Grand Prix Hospitality Experience on MSC Virtuosa during the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix from November 24-26, 2023.

*MSC Virtuosa* offers accommodation combined with an array of amenities. Prices lead in at £750 for a cabin and a ticket to the race.

[www.msccruises.co.uk/f1-hospitality-abu-dhabi](http://www.msccruises.co.uk/f1-hospitality-abu-dhabi)



## RSSC to cruise with Fabergé

REGENT SEVEN Seas Cruises has joined forces with Fabergé, the globally revered jewellery maison, to create two new 'Spotlight' voyages.

The two sailings will bring guests into the world of Fabergé with small group master-class programmes, exclusive access to unique and intimate shoreside tours, jewelled egg demonstrations and fascinating lectures and screenings.

Additionally, there is also the option to book a special pre-cruise land programme in London which includes a visit to the Fabergé headquarters, a shopping experience in Harrods and private viewings

of the royal portraits in Westminster Abbey.

The two spotlight sailings will be on *Seven Seas Splendor*'s June 13, 2023, 10-night sailing through Northern Europe, hosted by Archduke Dr. Géza von Habsburg, and on new ship *Seven Seas Grandeur*'s July 1, 2024, 10-night sailing around the Mediterranean, hosted by Sarah Fabergé.

Prices for the 'Spotlight on Fabergé with Dr. von Habsburg' voyage start from £4,990 per person and prices for the 'Spotlight on Fabergé with Sarah Fabergé' voyage start at £8,119 per person.

[www.rssc.com](http://www.rssc.com)

## Celestyal gets ATOL with Aviate

GREEK ISLAND cruise specialist Celestyal has launched a package holiday operation exclusively for the trade.

Celestyal Holidays is working in partnership with Aviate to offer commissionable flight-inclusive packages.

The new offering provides agents with the opportunity to create tailor-made packages with regional flights, pre- and post-cruise stays and any Celestyal itinerary they choose, protected by Aviate's ATOL licence.

Sample packages include Celestyal's seven-night Idyllic Aegean cruise packaged up with return Sky Express flights from Heathrow to Athens, a one-night pre-cruise stay at The Alex in Piraeus and private transfers on arrival and departure costs from £1,400 per person, based on July 7 departure.

To celebrate the launch, agents will earn a £20 The Real Greek restaurant voucher for

every Celestyal Holidays package booked before the end of April. In addition, every booking made before the end of April will be entered into a draw to win two tickets to Mamma Mia! The Party at The O2 with an overnight hotel stay in London or a fam trip place on *Celestyal Journey*, Celestyal's newest ship which debuts in September. To apply for any of these incentives, agents just need to send their qualifying booking reference along with their details to [tradesupport@celestyal.com](mailto:tradesupport@celestyal.com)



## Windstar adds F1 Abu Dhabi experience to voyage

WINDSTAR CRUISES has added a new Formula 1 experience at the final race of the 2023 season at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

The Windstar shore excursion to the Formula 1 Grand Prix in Abu Dhabi is available as part of Windstar's first-ever sailings in the Middle East on board the all-suite, 312-passenger *Star Legend*. During an overnight in Abu Dhabi as part of the

inaugural 10-day 'Sparkling Sands and Cities of the Persian Gulf' voyage, guests will have the option to experience the F1 race on November 25 and 26 with premium grandstand seats for the time trials and the race. Prices for the excursion start from £1,332 per person, with the cruise starting at £2,950 per person.

[www.windstarcruises.com](http://www.windstarcruises.com)



## Refurb for P&O's adults-only ships

P&O CRUISES has unveiled plans for a multi-million-pound investment to update guest areas on its adults-only ships, *Arcadia* and *Aurora*.

The changes, which are due to be completed by next month, will include new balcony furniture, new chairs in cabins, as well as new furniture on the ship's open deck areas. On *Arcadia*, the Neptune Pool will also see investment with new lounge chairs, sofas, tables and armchairs. [www.pocruises.com](http://www.pocruises.com)



## Small ship sailing 'the most popular'

SMALL SHIP sailing is the most popular cruise option for UK holidaymakers, according to a survey by the Unforgettable Travel Group.

The poll revealed that 20% of these surveyed selected a small-ship cruise, with ocean cruising accounting for half of the demand. Greece is the preferred small-ship destination followed by Italy and Croatia.

[www.unforgettabletravel.com](http://www.unforgettabletravel.com)

## UK to dream Disney in 2024

*DISNEY DREAM* is setting sail out of Southampton in summer 2024 with the return of four-night round-trip sailings from Southampton and new three- and five-night itineraries.

New for 2024 is a three-night sailing to Zeebrugge, a four-night cruise to La Coruña, Spain and a five-night sailing to La Coruña and Vigo. Returning for 2024 is the four-night sailing to La Rochelle and a four-night sailing to Bilbao.

Disney Cruise Line will also be sailing five-, seven-, nine-, 11- and 12-night sailings throughout Greece and the Mediterranean, Iceland and the

fjords and Northern Europe and the British Isles.

Also new for Disney Cruise Line in 2024 is the addition of Lighthouse Point, the new Disney Cruise Line island in the Bahamas. There will be a seven-night inaugural sailing from Port Canaveral on *Disney Fantasy*.

There will be a seven-night inaugural sailing from Port Canaveral on *Disney Fantasy* calling in at Lighthouse Point and at Disney Castaway Cay. There is also a three-night preview cruise on *Disney Magic* from Fort Lauderdale. [disneycruise.disney.go.com](http://disneycruise.disney.go.com)



## Emerald heads *Below Deck* with exclusive sailings

EMERALD CRUISES is welcoming celebrity chef Ben Robinson, known as the exclusive private yacht chef from TV's *Below Deck*, on board for exclusive eight-day sailings.

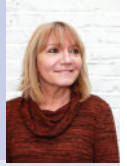
The first, departing from Venice on October 28, 2023, takes in the 'Coastal Gems of Italy and Croatia' voyage, followed by a second, 'Hidden Gems of the Caribbean', on March 2, 2024 from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Prices start from £4,790 per person and £5,245 per person, respectively.

[www.emeraldcruses.co.uk](http://www.emeraldcruses.co.uk)

## Aisle or window seat?

**Jeanette Ratcliffe**  
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**Sarah Terry**  
**Account Manager**

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**Tim Podger**  
**Account Manager - Far East**

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**Holly Brown**  
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