

travelbulletin

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Giving agents the edge

AGENT BULLETIN

Win a trip to Singapore, a bottle of wine, and more with these incentives

IN THE HOT SEAT

Graça Silva, SATA Azores, on the airline's new route to Stansted and what's new for 2021

USA

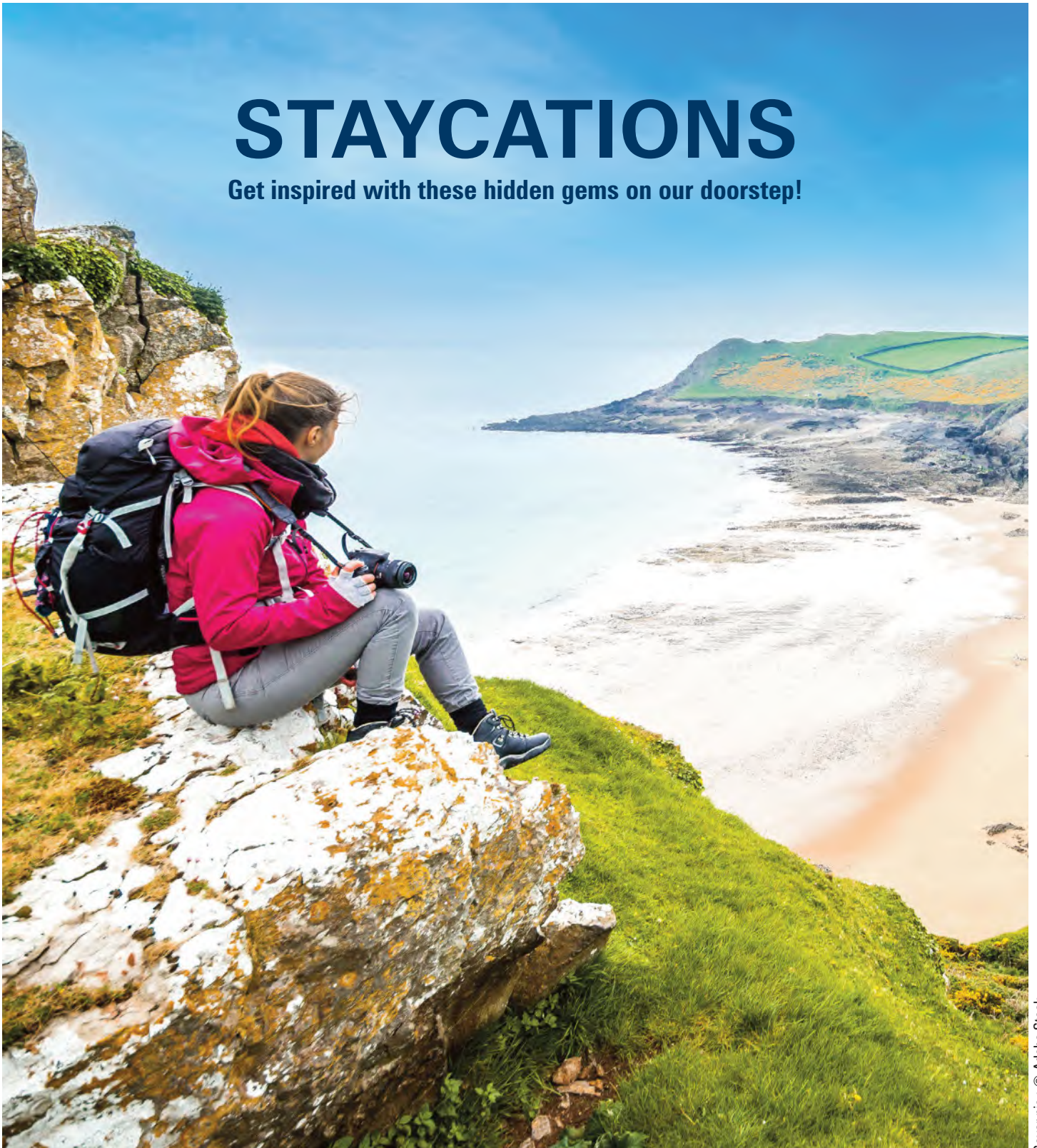
From Washington DC to Utah, holiday inspiration for your clients

AIRPORTS & AIR TRAVEL

The latest news surrounding airlines and airports

STAYCATIONS

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Back to Spain



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TIMINGS

2PM : Welcome from your host and introduction | 2:10PM : Round table discussion begins and Q&A session
2.50PM : Prize draw revealed | 3PM : End of Webinar

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www.andalucia.org/en/

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THIS WEEK



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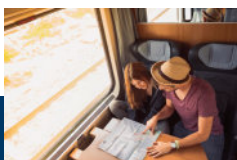
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AIRPORTS & AIR TRAVEL

AEGEAN introduces new UK-Greece routes, and more.

THE AMERICAN DREAM

According to new research by ABTA, the USA tops destination wish lists for making holiday memories, closely followed by European hotspots such as Spain and Italy.



New York, Las Vegas and Florida are all popular prospective spots for UK travellers.

ABTA – THE Travel Association, has released new insights following feedback from over 2,000 consumers which suggests that the USA is the most sought-after destination for holidaymakers looking to create unique memories from their travels in the year ahead.

Those making plans to visit the USA cited the awe-inspiring cityscapes of New York, the bright lights of Las Vegas and the beaches and theme parks of Florida as just some of the memorable experiences they were hoping to share with their travel companions.

The classic European hotspots of Spain, Italy, Greece and France were also high on people's wish lists,

with travellers keen to experience the cultural, architectural and gastronomical delights of a city break to Barcelona, Paris or Rome as much as the chance to relax and unwind with a sunshine getaway in the Canaries, the Balearics, Santorini or Crete.

Popular spots for those looking to head further afield were the palm-fringed, white-sand beaches of the Caribbean as well as a luxury break to a private island in The Maldives.

Current booking trends from ABTA Members also point to holidaymakers either choosing to return to familiar destinations in Europe that they know and love or opting for a more adventurous,

bucket list trip – particularly for departures in 2022.

Graeme Buck, director of communications at ABTA – The Travel Association, said:

“...as we've been unable to travel for so long, many people will be excited about the possibility of heading off on a long-awaited holiday this year and being able to make those treasured memories once again.

To offer support and guidance for those who are eager to get away, ABTA has put together ten top tips covering everything holidaymakers need to know to book with confidence this year...”

To read ABTA's ten top tips, visit www.ABTA.com

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LATA Expo 2021 to go ahead virtually in October

THE LATIN American Travel Association's (LATA) flagship event, LATA Expo, will now be going ahead as a live event in October 2021.

This year, LATA Expo 2021 will be taking place in October, ensuring the safety and security of its delegates, guests and partners, then reverting to June from 2022 onwards.

LATA Expo is a major event in the reinvigoration of the Latin American tourism industry as it will be the first opportunity for exhibitors and buyers from the UK, Europe and Latin America to meet face-to-face, re-establishing old relationships and forging new ones – both critical in the wake of the disruption that the industry has been confronted with.

LATA's previous live instalment in 2019 took place



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

LATA covers over 20 regions in Latin America.

at an important sporting landmark of London, Chelsea Football Club, and now this year, LATA Expo 2021 will be held at another iconic sports venue, The Kia Oval, home of Surrey County Cricket Club.

LATA chairman, Colin Stewart, commented: "The

travel industry has a history of resilience and the LATA community will continue to act as a point of support and positivity as we look to rebuild and thrive in partnership with our friends from around the world."

www.lata.travel

7Pines Resort unveils new villa experience

IN RESPONSE to an increased demand for more socially distanced accommodation, 7Pines Resort Ibiza has launched a new villa experience with Villa Bohemia, Villa Es Vedrà and Villa Infinity, each with four bedrooms.

These villas are a combination of two or three spacious suites in one large four-bedroom villa, where suites are neighbouring and not interconnected.

Villa Bohemia is home to spacious living areas, and a furnished terrace for al fresco dining, complemented by a lush garden and

its own swimming pool. Villa Es Vedrà features impressive sea views, two spacious sitting and dining rooms that exude Ibiza vibes, and an outdoor furnished terrace. At the front of the villa, meters away from the coast, lies guests' very own plunge pool.

Villa Infinity is at the doorsteps of the resort's iconic Infinity Pool, at the heart of the action. This is the ideal choice for group of friends or young couples.

www.kempinski.com

Thailand to reopen to international travellers from July 1

FROM JULY 1 2021, the popular tourist island of Phuket will be the first destination in Thailand to welcome international travellers, and from October, five further tourist areas will ease restrictions.

With this, Thailand will begin to remove quarantine requirements and open its borders to fully vaccinated travellers from this summer.

From October, Phuket, Krabi, Phangnga, Koh Samui, Chonburi (Pattaya) and Chiang Mai will all be accessible, quarantine free, for



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

vaccinated travellers. Travellers are required to stay for at least seven days at the point of entry so should plan their itinerary accordingly i.e. seven days in one of the named destinations above before exploring elsewhere in Thailand.

Chiravadee Khunsub, director of Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) London, said, "From October, five further popular destinations will reopen ahead of our peak season, ready to welcome winter sun travellers..."

www.tourismthailand.org



Image credit: Andalucía tourism

Andalucía introduces travel insurance

ANDALUCÍA HAS consolidated its credentials as a destination safe to receive international visitors with the introduction of a new "International Travel Insurance."

This new insurance is valid for all non-resident international travellers and provides visitors with free COVID-19 insurance for stays at any type of regulated establishment in the region from now until December 31, 2021. Following on from the UK Government's announcement regarding the roadmap for recovery, the region has seen a surge in bookings from the UK and this insurance aims to further install confidence in travel.

Palladium confirms opening of new hotel in Menorca

PALLADIUM HOTEL Group continues its expansion across the Mediterranean, with its new property on the island of Menorca planned to open on May 28.

Inspired by the true essence of Menorca and the Mediterranean Sea, Palladium Hotel Menorca is the brand's second hotel outside of Ibiza, following the opening of Palladium Hotel Costa del Sol in 2019.

The four-star hotel offers all-inclusive and half board options. Overlooking Arenal d'en Castell Bay, it is about 20 minutes from Menorca's capital Mahón and the airport. Across 264 rooms, Palladium Hotel Menorca will showcase the latest technology to enhance the customer experience.



The Deluxe sea view room, Palladium Hotel Menorca.

The hotel also offers the opportunity to try traditional dishes from the Balearic Islands as well as international cuisine at its Sa Barca restaurant, specialising in showcooking. It also has three bars: Gregal Bar, Shake it!

Pool Bar as well as a comedy theatre bar. Guests can also enjoy live performances and a wide range of activities and entertainment through People of Palladium Entertainment.

www.palladiumhotelgroup.com

Expedia Partner Solutions launches AI-powered virtual agent

EXPEDIA PARTNER Solutions has introduced a virtual agent for travel trade partners.

Agents can now give travellers answers to questions such as accessibility or check-in options.

For agents using the Expedia Travel Agent Affiliate Program, virtual agent technology helps them by giving the option to cancel bookings, check the status of a traveller's refund, resolve requests on amenities like breakfast, cancelling a flight, and more. Using artificial intelligence and machine learning technology, virtual agent interacts with travel agents in real time.

www.expediapartnersolutions.com

Banyan Tree to open its doors on the Greek Island of Corfu

WITH MORE than 48 properties across the world, Banyan Tree has announced that it will open its first property in Europe, on the Greek island of Corfu.

Opening in spring 2021, the long-awaited new luxury resort will offer a blend of sophisticated Greek island lifestyle, with fine Asian hospitality.

The resort presents 37 private pool villas boasting far-reaching sea views, each inspired by the Venetian architecture of homes on Corfu with complete access to all of the premium facilities of the resort.

Angsana Corfu's main building offers 159 rooms and suites, ranging from spacious double rooms to apartment suites, most with expansive balconies overlooking either the bay, or with countryside views of the olive groves and Mediterranean gardens surrounding the hotel.

Alongside offering the largest entry-level room size on the island, 41sq metres, Angsana Corfu will also be home to the biggest infinity pool and the largest hotel spa on Corfu.

Angsana Corfu will be home to four restaurants and seven lounge bars, including a beach bar. Dining options range from local Greek dining and Pan Asian sushi options, as well as the fine dining restaurant Botrini's, led by the renowned Michelin-starred Corfiot Italian chef Ettore Botrini.

In terms of leisure experiences, the hotel features a wide variety of facilities, an infinity outdoor pool and an indoor swimming pool, a state-of-the-art gym, private fitness lessons, an outdoor yoga pavilion and water sports on the beach. The family friendly resort will also offer the Rangers' Club, a signature Kid's Club and a Kid's pool.

British Airways and easyJet fly to Corfu from several destinations around the UK.

For further information, visit www.angsana.com/en/greece/corfu

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AGENT INSIGHT

SANDRA MURRAY
NORMANTON, YORKSHIRE

DARE I say, things seem to be improving. I will be a very happy bunny when I know I can go to a sunny destination again- it will be good for my back at least!

I wanted to say how thankful and grateful I am to Olympic Holidays – Sarah Hillier, agency sales and Eva Bravo, reservations. Both women spent a long time helping me sort out a client's holiday which was already booked, but needed to be changed as they decided they would go to Santorini in September instead of May. My customer likes to go on good holidays and doesn't mind paying, so it makes a nice change from always trying to get something cheap. It all paid off in the end, as we managed to keep the booking and they upgraded their room – I am sure they will enjoy staying at the Santorini Secret Suites and Spa; the name itself makes you want to go.

In other news, Jet2 has expanded its Villa programme. It was suggested a while ago that more people would want to book villa holidays because of Covid. It makes travellers feel safer, as they stay in their own bubble. Of course, everything is all under one umbrella for the villa, with ATOL, car hire and Jet2 flights all included.

Den Ashby at ABTA is always putting useful stuff online. I do appreciate and read The ABTA Member Community on Facebook, it is full of informative updates. I like the heading 'Thinking about your Summer holiday? Go to: abta.com/your2021holiday', I think it would be a good idea to print off a sheet to give to your clients with 10 tips for booking. Perhaps print it out on a large piece of paper to use as a reference point: 1. Use the expertise of an ABTA Member to help you plan your trip. 2. Book a package holiday. 3 Check the Foreign Office advice for your destination. 4. Book early for the most choice and best prices. 5. Note that flexible booking polices are available. 6. Take out Travel Insurance. 7. Make sure you have the documents you need. 8. If travelling to Europe check of any additional steps you need to take. 9. Plan and pack for a safe journey. 10. Look forward to your holiday.



WITH SEVEN nights at Amanera with Elegant Resorts, guests can enjoy the most exclusive golf course in the Dominican Republic: Playa Grande, alongside on-site luxury, private accommodation and surrounding lush jungle. Seven nights at Amanera starts at £4,289 per person, based on a September 2021 departure, including daily breakfast and transfers. www.elegantresorts.co.uk

Marine charity ORCA to go all aboard with Fred. Olsen

CRUISERS LOOKING forward to a 'no port' scenic sailing this summer can enhance their voyage with onboard insight from the marine wildlife charity ORCA aboard selected Fred. Olsen cruises. The charity will join a number of the cruise line's voyages this summer to offer wildlife-spotting tips, deck sessions and give guests the chance to assist first-hand in vital conservation research from the comfort of their cruise.

Steve Jones, head of partnerships at ORCA, explained: "Not only will our Cruise Conservationists be able to teach guests about the wonderful world of whales and dolphins around the UK, but they will also be able to collect important scientific data to help ORCA protect them for future generations. We can't wait to get back out to sea with Fred. Olsen and explore the wildlife that's on our doorstep!"



ORCA will bring their insight on board across a number of Fred. Olsen itineraries in the UK this summer. rg.uk

ORCA will be joining Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines on a number of its voyages this summer, including the Borealis' 'Maiden Voyage' no-port cruise. The three-night roundtrip from Liverpool departs on July 5, 2021, cruising around the Scottish coastline along the way. Prices start from £399 per person, including £50 on board spending.

www.fredolsencruises.com



SAUDI TOURISM Authority showcased the best of the Kingdom at the 'Journeys in Arabia' immersive virtual roadshow on March 30-31. The event welcomed 280 visitors from across the UK, Ireland and Europe, with over 650 meetings taking place with Saudi DMCs, DMOs and leading hotel brands.

AGENT INCENTIVES

- THE SOCO House, St. Lucia, is celebrating its opening this May with an incentive that gives agents the chance to win a five-night stay at the all-inclusive resort. To be in with a chance of winning, agents need to make two bookings for The SoCo House Saint Lucia before June 30, 2021. To confirm entry to the competition, agents must email their booking references to suzy@silvalining.org, quoting their full name, ABTA number and company name. Stays at the property can be booked via DNATA, Travelpack and Holidays Please. www.thesocohotel.com
- LUXURY VILLA specialist, CV Villas, will be rewarding agents with a bottle of Whispering Angel wine for every booking made with the company throughout April. Bookings for properties in CV Villas' exclusive ABOVE portfolio will earn agents a magnum-sized bottle of Whispering Angel. Each booking for 2021 and 2022 made throughout April includes an automatic entry into the promotion. www.cvvillas.com
- IF ONLY... has teamed up with the Singapore Tourism Board to offer one lucky agent the chance to win a trip for two to The Lion City as part of the company's current campaign: Write Your Own Singapore Story. To enter, agents simply have to make as many bookings as possible for Singapore, lasting three nights or more from now until September 30, 2021. At the end of this period, the top agent booker will receive the grand prize, which includes return flights for two plus accommodation. www.ifonly.net



AGENT TRAINING

THE KENYA Tourism Board (KTB) has unveiled an e-learning platform, called Magical Kenya Travel Specialist, designed to deliver and maintain effective online training targeted at travel agents. The platform delivers a complete suite of engaging tools which use the latest principles of e-learning, to enable users to easily gain and retain destination knowledge in a more effective way. Upon completion of the Magical Kenya Travel Specialist Program, agents will qualify as Certified Kenya Travel Specialists and can offer their newfound expertise to their clients and sell the destination with confidence. www.magicalkenya.com



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www.sata4agents.com

Rabbie's new European offerings



Rabbie's new offerings can be tailored to clients' needs.

SCOTTISH SUSTAINABLE tour specialist, Rabbie's, has launched a number of bespoke and tailor-made tours throughout Europe this summer.

The scheduled programme includes tours for up to 16 guests, but Rabbie's can customise holidays for any group size, from two to 200.

A tour personally tailored for each guest's interests offers a blend of well-known highlights and hidden excursions away from the hustle and bustle. Guests can visit Spain, Portugal, Switzerland or Italy – or any other destination in Europe – with an expert-led private tour.

Explore the new continental offerings at www.rabbies.com

Fly from home for free with Sandals

SANDALS RESORTS is currently offering free regional flight connections on selected Barbados breaks with its UK tour operator, Unique Caribbean Holidays Ltd (UCHL).

UCHL will cover the cost of regional connections via London Heathrow from a number of regional airports across the UK.

Clients can also save up to £700 on selected resorts, room categories and stays when booking by April 28, 2021, for travel up to December 4, 2023.

www.sandals.co.uk

Scenic's South American land tours on Antarctic cruises

ALL-INCLUSIVE CRUISE specialist, Scenic, has unveiled a programme of new land tours across South America as part of its 2022/23 Antarctica programme. The tours can be booked alongside voyages aboard the Scenic Eclipse – the world's first discovery yacht.

The nine-day 'Glaciers & Wilderness - Argentinean Patagonia' tour will whisk guests from El Calafate to El Chaltén on a journey across untouched landscapes and scenery, including an overnight stay at the El Chaltén natural reserve, with exclusive views of the Electric Valley and Marconi Glacier. The nine-day tour, including a number of active excursions, starts from £6,265 per person, based on a November 11, 2022 departure date.



This offering and other new tour packages are available alongside any of Scenic's Antarctic cruises in 2022/23. Bookings are covered by a flexible booking policy, meaning clients can change to another travel date or itinerary up to 60 days before departure.

www.scenic.co.uk



Fantasy Island to re-open with a bang this month

FANTASY ISLAND, Lincolnshire, is one of many hospitality venues looking forward to welcoming guests on April 12, 2021, and hopes to give visitors even more thrills with two new attractions upon re-opening.

Spinning Racer Rollercoaster will whisk guests away at over 40mph at more than 50 feet in the air, opening with the park on April 12. The Guardian will enlist visitors as knights in armour to immerse them in an quest, and will open on May 17 once indoor hospitality restrictions are lifted.

www.fantasyislandresort.co.uk

In the hot seat with...

Graça Silva
SATA Azores



Graça Silva, SATA Azores, sat down with *Travel Bulletin* to talk about the airlines' new route to Stansted, the importance of UK holidaymakers, and how integral the travel trade is to the company's future plans...

Tell us about SATA Azores' new route to Stansted...

As part of our Business Plan 2021-25 for the IATA Summer 2021 season, SATA Azores Airlines plans to add three new routes, including London (STN - Stansted) to Ponta Delgada (PDL - Azores / Portugal).

In June 2021, the airline expects to restart flights to and from London with three weekly flights (on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays), departing PDL at 7:20 am and arriving at STN at 12:05 pm. The return flight departs STN at 1:05 pm, arriving at PDL at 4:05 pm local time.

The air operation will begin in June until the end of September 2021 and will resume in 2022. The company also plans to increase the operating frequency and validity in the coming years, aiming to achieve, by the end of 2025, a daily offer throughout the entire period.

What kind of UK holidaymaker do the new routes appeal to?

Nature and leisure lovers are the most appropriate visitors for the routes we intend to

launch. The direct connection between Stansted and Ponta Delgada allows several possibilities, such as the Azores Stopover programme. On the other hand, we also connect to Madeira, making it possible to discover the two Portuguese archipelagos in one trip.

How is the airline adapting to this new era of travel?

2021 will not be a year for expansion or growth. Still, the airline continues to improve its services, precisely to adapt to this new era of travel. The airline incorporated, over a year ago, new operational procedures due to the pandemic.

Between 2020 and 2021, we made several organisational changes that allow us to be agile and present a more competitive service to our customers.

During the forced aviation pause, we took the opportunity to improve processes and keep investing in our staff's training. We took advantage of all the business opportunities that arose, such as charter air operations and air cargo. These opportunities allowed us to reestablish our relationships with the leading national and international tour operators. In operational and commercial terms, we consider that we are in a better position today than we were in 2019.

Given this, and for the moment, our greatest desire is to show those who choose to fly with us the quality and reliability of the service we provide and the beauty and surprising quietness of the destinations to which we fly.

How are you looking to engage with the UK travel trade?

We can say that including the trade in our marketing plan is essential, and we intend to keep up the outreach by organising monthly webinars, staying in touch using newsletters and workshops, and participating in a trade show as soon as possible.

Of course, we would like to invite trade partners to come and see the fantastic place for themselves on a FAM trip.

The trade is essential for an airline, as they are the best partners to promote the destination and introduce it to their customers. With the best partnership through our GSA in the market, the trade will be well-informed about SATA Azores Airlines and its destinations.

“ The trade is essential for an airline, as they are the best partners to promote the destination... ”

RAIL HOLIDAYS



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

ON OUR DOORSTEP

Whether clients want to discover the wonders of the Scottish Highlands, or take in the beauty of 'God's Own Country', Great Rail Journeys has something for everyone.

WHILE THE nation yearns for their next travel adventure following the near end of the most recent lockdown, now is the perfect time to book a getaway exploring the many wonders right here on clients' doorsteps.

Edinburgh, the Highlands and Islands

This nine-day tour will take holidaymakers on a varied itinerary, visiting historic castles, two journeys on the West Highland Line – including one on the iconic Jacobite Steam Train – a visit to the fairy-tale-like Eilean Donan Castle, as well as a trip to the beautiful Isle of Mull.

The trip is priced at £1,645 per person, and includes eight nights, 15 meals, including eight breakfasts and seven dinners. The price is based on a May 6, 2021 departure.



The Jacobite Steam Train over Glenfinnan viaduct.

Image Credit: Great Rail Journeys

Yorkshire Dales and Moors

Travellers will have the opportunity to explore the charms of the Yorkshire moors, sample local cuisine and enjoy heritage train journeys aboard the North Yorkshire Moors Railway and the Wensleydale Railway.

This holiday is priced at £795 per person, and includes four nights at four-star accommodation, nine meals, including four breakfasts, one lunch and

four dinners. Departure dates are available from May 2, 2021.

Agents booking this month can take advantage of Great Rail Journey's flexible booking offer until April 30, meaning holidaymakers can transfer their holiday for free until the final balance payment is due.

For more tours and information, visit www.greatrail.com

Explore Peru by rail with Journey Latin America

YOUR GUESTS can experience the majestic landscapes of Peru by rail, on a short holiday with Journey Latin America.

Travellers will glide through countryside fields full of fruit and vegetables and along prairies rimmed by the ice-covered Andean mountains.

The itinerary will see guests travelling by train to and from Machu Picchu, which is perched on a saddle where the mountains descend into the Amazon jungle. Then from the Sacred Valley, guests will board another luxury rail service, where they will spend two nights sleeping on the train.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

In Lima, Cusco and the Sacred Valley, guests will stay in first class hotels reflecting the same standard of luxury and service as the trains which are operated by Belmond, formerly Orient Express.

The 10-day trip is priced from £5,890 per person.

www.journeylatinamerica.co.uk

RED ROCKS RAILWAY

Rocky Mountaineer's new 'Rockies to the Red Rocks' itinerary ticks off some of Denver and Utah's scenic highlights, bookended with optional stays in Las Vegas.



Image Credit: Rocky Mountaineer

ROCKY MOUNTAINEER has launched a new itinerary: 'Rockies to the Red Rocks', through the rural regions of western America, from Denver, Colorado to Moab, Utah.

The route launches in August 2021, and will run throughout the season until November 2021. Guests will enjoy premium cuisine and panoramic scenery inside a glass-dome coach.

Departing from Denver after the first overnight stay, the journey sets off with a scenic bang through the Rockies and Gross Reservoir Dam. Guests enjoy lunch during a Colorado River tour.

Arriving in Glenwood Springs, the first night is spent in a hotel, before the train departs again the following morning. Breakfast is served as the train passes through Parachute Creek and Mount Logan. After a scenic afternoon of travel, the tour arrives in the 'Scarlet City' – Moab, for a night's stay.

This tour starts from £1,296 per person for the three-night option, including dining,

transport, and accommodation.

For guests looking to make the most of their time in the States, Rocky Mountaineer also offers a seven-night option.

Similarly beginning in Denver, the tour takes much the same route through Glenwood Springs to Moab. After arriving in Moab, a motorcoach transfer brings guests to Lake Powell for a four-wheel drive tour of Monument Valley.

The following day ticks off a bucket list for many adventurous travellers as the tour spends a day at the Grand Canyon, one of America's most marvellous natural wonders.

On its final day, a motorcoach transfer takes the tour through Zion National Park to Las Vegas, spending a night at the Mirage, with the tour's eighth day spent at guests' leisure in the City of Sin.

The seven-night option is available from £2,296 per person.

www.rockymountaineer.com

All inclusive and all aboard: Lake Como & Lake Maggiore

LEGER'S SEVEN-DAY Italian adventure takes guests on a relaxing railway route through Lake Como and Lake Maggiore.

Beginning in northern France after the trip's first overnight stay, guests board the train to journey to the south of Italy, enjoying Leger's all-inclusive onboard service. The train stops in Lake Como in the afternoon, giving the tour a chance to kick back in this luxurious haven.

Arriving in Lake Maggiore on day three, guests can enjoy a private lake cruise as they are invited to relax in the Italian sun.

The journey halts in Milan on day four, with exploration of the fashion capital of the world awaiting the tour on day four and five.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

On day six, the tour begins its return journey to northern France for a leisurely end to the luxurious getaway.

This tour starts from £699 per person, including accommodation, transfers and the all-inclusive train journey.

www.leger.co.uk

Railbookers' new brochures bring holidays closer to home

RAILBOOKERS HAS responded to pent-up demand for close to home getaways within the UK with two new brochures: Luxury Rail Journeys and UK Independent Rail Holidays.

The Luxury Rail Journeys brochure showcases a variety of luxury breaks, destinations, and experiences, such as eight days aboard the Royal Scotsman in Edinburgh and the Highlands from £5,149 per person.

The UK Independent Rail Holidays selection offers more affordable but equally scenic choices, including seven days aboard the Caledonian Sleeper through London, Edinburgh and York from £749 per person.

www.railbookers.co.uk



Image Credit: Railbookers

SEE THE SWISS ALPS

Experience the highest railway in the Alps with Titan Travel's 'Switzerland Spectacular Rail Journeys' itinerary, which sees clients journeying up glaciers and down to the palm trees of Italy.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

FROM TITAN Travel's base in Davos, travellers can enjoy a rail tour of Switzerland as they take two of its most iconic 'express' routes on the 'Switzerland Spectacular Rail Journeys' holiday.

Guests will board the Bernina Express to climb the vertiginous 2,253m Bernina Pass and descend the incredible 110m-long spiral viaduct at Brusio. There will then be opportunity to marvel at the Alpine views from the slow-paced Glacier Express, and swap rails for water as guests will then cruise the scenic Lake Constance.

The eight-day holiday tour includes four excursions and visits, a guided walking tour of Davos, one full-day of excursions on the Bernina Express and the Glacier Express, an excursion to Vaduz, Lake Constance and Lindau and a lake cruise. In addition, the Davos Klosters Premium Card will entitle

guests to free second class travel on the Rhaetian Railway between Klosters-Dorf-Davos-Filisur; entry to Davos Leisure Centre; free travel on local buses; reduced day tickets on mountain railways; and access to cable cars in Davos & Klosters and Schatzalp.

Agents can reserve their customers' tours with a £49 per person deposit. The package includes seven nights' accommodation, as chosen by customers, and international flights. Supplements may apply depending on the chosen airport. The price includes 10 meals in total: seven breakfasts and three dinners.

The tour starts from £2,099 per person; the price is based on a September 1, 2021 departure date with British Airways from London Heathrow.

www.titantravel.co.uk

Experience The Three Star Road in rural Japan

CLIENTS LOOKING to beat the crowds in Japan can head out on one of the bullet trains (shinkansen) to explore the countryside, mountains and beautiful coastline.

Spread across five cities and running through four prefectures, the Three Star Road cuts through the Japanese Alps, boasting tradition, culture, wildlife and nature. The area is easy to explore, with a special hop-on/hop-off ticket option, allowing visitors to travel to national treasures and World Heritage Sites in Kanazawa, Shirakawa-go and Matsumoto such as Kenrokuen Garden, the historic village of Shirakawa-go, the old town of Takayama and Matsumoto Castle.



Image Credit: Mitsubishi Keidou

Ticket options are offered by JR EAST, as well as options for one-way trips from Kanazawa, Shini-Takaoka and Toyama, through to Matsumoto and vice versa.

<https://option-ticket.mitsubishi-kaidou.com/>

Full steam ahead through Jordan with Ffestiniog Travel

FFESTINIOG TRAVEL has announced a second tour departure of its Jordan: the 'Steam, Petra & The Dead Sea' escorted group tour. The holiday now includes two private steam charters, a visit to four UNESCO world heritage sites, a Hejaz railway workshop tour, a visit to Jerash, Madaba & Mount Nebo and a two hour jeep tour in Wadi Rum. Guests can also see Bethany Beyond the Jordan, discover Petra by night, experience the waters of the Dead Sea and explore Amman city. Prices start from £2,559 per person, with a reduced booking fee of £50 per person on all bookings made before June 30, 2021. Departure dates fall between October 18-26, 2021 and November 1-9, 2021. www.ffestiniogtravel.com



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

USA



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

WASHINGTON'S WATERWAYS

From the Puget Sound to the Salish Sea, explore Washington's waterways with Port Seattle's nature-focused, eight-day itinerary.

THE PORT of Seattle has launched its immersive eight-day, fly-drive itinerary, showcasing Washington state's iconic waterways.

The holiday is available for agents to book through US receptive, AmericanTours International (ATI).

'Wandering Washington Waterways' takes road trippers on a scenic journey from Puget Sound to the Salish Sea. Visitors will experience world-class whale watching, kayaking, cycling, farm-to-table dining and historic, luxury accommodation amidst the captivating seaport towns that frame Washington's famous waterways. In addition to the great outdoors, travellers will discover unique shops and restaurants, along with

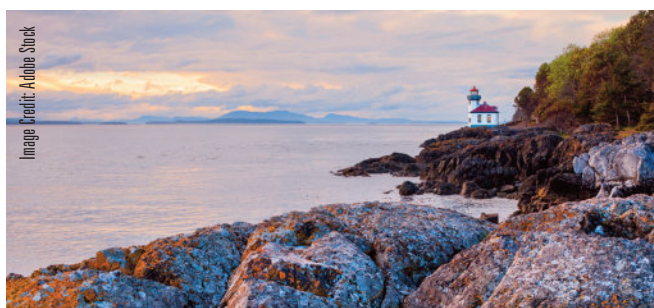


Image Credit: Adobe Stock

The scenic San Juan Island, Washington, is featured in the itinerary.

historic and cultural attractions.

Washington state is home to several species of whales, including orcas, which are as iconic to the Pacific Northwest as the Space Needle, Mt. Rainier and the Olympic Mountains. Travellers will experience whale watching in the San Juan Islands, beloved for their dense evergreen forests and views from both water and land.

Another highlight of the holiday is a visit to the idyllic Whidbey Island, with its wooden buildings in earth and pastel tones, where guests will take in the Deception Pass along with its sweeping historic bridge that connects the island to the mainland.

*For prices and dates, visit www.seattlecruisealaska.co.uk
Travel agents can contact: FITSales@americantours.com
for more information.*

Explore The Big Apple with Classic Collection Holidays

CLASSIC COLLECTION Holidays has revamped its dedicated city breaks brochure, and now includes New York for the first time.

The 100 page brochure, which is available in digital format, downloadable from the operator's website.

The Redbury New York is available from £722 per person for four nights, room only. Guests have the choice to pair the stay with a visit to the Empire State Building observatory from £34 per person.

Restrictions on travel, and re-opening of the USA for international visits, means that the operator is taking a cautious approach to launching its new city break programme, with departures starting no earlier than June, 21 2021.

Alex Gavaldà, director of product and commercial, commented: "...we are aiming to tempt clients away from OTA's and back into travel agencies to book a more rewarding and rounded city break experience."

For further information and to book, travel agents can visit www.classic-collection.co.uk/brochure-request

ACTIVE IN AMERICA

G-Adventures' 'Hiking Utah's Big 5' whisks guests away on an active escapade across Utah, swapping tourist hotspots for unique natural marvels and a truly authentic rural adventure.

Image Credit: Adobe Stock



G-ADVENTURES OFFERS an ideal blend of scenic marvels and adventurous excursions with the 'Hiking Utah's Big 5' itinerary. The tour encapsulates the state's five national parks, bookended with time at guests' leisure to explore Las Vegas.

Arriving in Las Vegas, guests can make the most of the City of Sin before meeting the rest of the group and a G-Adventures CEO – Chief Experience Officer!

The following day, the group ventures to Capitol Reef National Park, known for its unique geology and the still visible ancient petroglyphs. The first of many unique excursions comes in the form of a stargazing adventure at the 'International Dark Sky Park'.

An early morning hike through the Waterpocket Fold, and an 87 mile 'wrinkle' in the earth's surface, awaits guests, before travelling to Moab, the gateway to Canyonlands, and Arches National Parks – the tour's destinations for day four and five.

Hitting the road again on day six, the tour

arrives in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, home to mesas, canyons and arches. The group then travels to Canyon National Park for s'mores around a fire.

After watching the sunrise over the world's largest collection of hoodoos and continue to Zion National Park, guests begin the climb of 21 paved switchbacks, which offer stunning views of the surrounding natural marvel. Adventurous guests can scale the side of the Scout Landing, with panoramic views as a reward for those brave enough.

The final two days involve a leisurely exploration of Zion National Park, with hikes to the park's Observation Point or along the river on the Narrows trail. Guests spend the night in Springdale to celebrate the end of the tour and return to Las Vegas on day nine.

This nine-day adventure starts from £1,062 per person, including selected meals, all hikes and excursions, accommodation and transfers.

www.gadventures.com

Exsus Travel's Cactus Country ranch adventure

EXSUS TRAVEL'S seven-day adventure on a classic American ranch is an ideal escape for nature- and culture-seekers alike.

Buried in the Arizona wilderness, the family-run White Stallion Ranch lets guests immerse themselves in traditional Western-style ranch life.

Guests of all abilities are matched to a horse for the duration of their stay and can learn to ride like cowboys around the surrounding desert landscape.

With weekly rodeos, nature hikes, bike rides, archery, and rock climbing, there's plenty to keep visitors entertained as they soak up Cactus Country.

At the end of an adventurous day in the great outdoors, the ranch's pool and spa are available for guests' use at their leisure.



Image Credit: Exsus Travel

Exsus Travel offers a seven-night break at the White Stallion Ranch with accommodation in a standard cabin. The package starts from £1,900 per person on a full-board basis, including activities, international and domestic flights, and transfers.

www.exsus.com

Image Credit: Adobe Stock



Lose yourself in Yosemite

YOSEMITE IS home to some of the most scenic landscapes in the States, with the iconic granite Half Dome and its acres of surrounding scenery drawing thousands of happy hikers every year.

Guests searching for adventure amongst the lush greenery can enjoy a skydive above the national park with Skydive Yosemite. The thrilling experience offers some of the most unique views Yosemite has to offer.

The company lets guests choose an elevation of up to 14,000 feet as they fly over the park and parachute safely to the ground. The unique excursion starts from US\$175 per person.

www.yosemite.com

CHRISTENING THE COUNTESS

Venture down the Lower Mississippi river and take in all the sights and sounds of America's Deep South with American Queen Steamboat Company's 'The River of Legends' cruise.

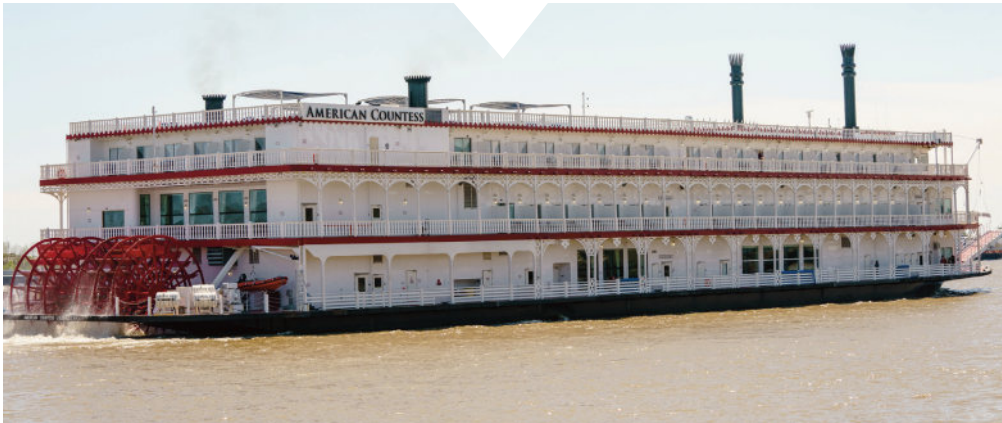


Image Credit: American Queen Steamboat Company

THE AMERICAN Queen Steamboat Company has resumed cruising on the Lower Mississippi and christened the newest member of the fleet, the American Countess. The ceremony marked the ship's inaugural sailing in New Orleans on March 21, 2021.

The American Countess is the fourth authentic paddlewheeler to join the steamboat fleet, and her maiden voyage took guests from Memphis to New Orleans. This route showcases the diversity of the Lower Mississippi River on an eight-day sailing, beginning with a stop at the Port of the Mississippi Delta and continuing down the river to Vicksburg, Natchez, St. Francisville, Baton Rouge and the American Queen Steamboat Company's exclusive port stop at Nottoway Plantation, before arriving in New Orleans.

The American Countess has a sleek, contemporary design and offers plenty of

open space for guest gatherings, especially in the portside bar, with its 80-foot view. With four decks, including a Sun Deck, and 123 inviting staterooms in four categories, this paddlewheeler is a home away from home on six- to 15-day itineraries.

The 10-night New Orleans to Memphis 'The River of Legends' Lower Mississippi cruise is available from £3,295 per person – including flights from London, two nights pre-cruise hotel, the seven night luxury cruise fully inclusive of all meals, snacks, beverages, gratuities, and port charges.

Light Blue Travel is the UK trade representative for the American Queen Steamboat and sells through travel agents, offering generous commission with trade bookings.

www.lightbluetravel.co.uk

Walk the walk in Washington

TOURS BY Locals is offering a six-hour Walking Washington Tour for travellers looking to immerse themselves in the fauna and flora of America's capital city.

Over a century ago, the mayor of Tokyo gifted the Capitol with over 3,000 flowering cherry trees, bringing a piece of Japan to the USA. Each year, the blossom gives the city's monuments a feathery and ethereal pink hue.

Travellers will be able to venture off the beaten track, immersing themselves fully in the local culture, street music, art and quirky alcoves which make Washington DC a world-class city.

They will also discover the National Mall and the Old Downtown, as well as locally favoured spots such as Barracks Row, charming and postcard-perfect Georgetown and Dupont Circle fountain – a great spot to enjoy a picnic.



Image Credit: Adria Stock

Agents can book the six-hour Washington Walking Tour for £353 per tour, for up to eight guests, on the ToursByLocals website. The price includes guiding services.

www.toursbylocals.com



Image Credit: Legoland Florida

Legoland Florida reveals 10th anniversary celebration

LEGOLAND FLORIDA Resort will be commemorating 10 years with a year-long party in 2021. In addition to building the biggest LEGO cake ever, LEGOLAND will step into 2021 with new events, attractions and shows.

New attractions include a watersports stunt show; the premiere of a new 4-D movie; a Master Model Builders dream experience; and a Lego City Stage Show.

Families can stay onsite at the all-new LEGOLAND Pirate Island Hotel. Located steps away from the front gate, every stay at the hotel includes a free family-style breakfast, nightly pirate fun and in-room treasure hunts.

www.legoland.com/florida



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

RIDING THE CURVE

Wilderness England's Self-Guided+ Cycling Tour offers the chance to bike through the Yorkshire Dales National Park and enjoy the magnificent views of North Yorkshire.

WILDERNESS ENGLAND'S 'Self-Guided+ Cycling Tour of Yorkshire' offers cycling enthusiasts the chance to ride through the Yorkshire Dales National Park, which is renowned for hosting the Tour de France Grand Depart and the World Cycling Championships.

After a brief introduction with their soigneur on the first day, guests will set off from the Pateley Bridge towards Masham. The Trapping Hill, or the 'Cote de Lofthouse', is the first main climb of the tour, which is followed by a 10km long downhill cruise to Masham.

The second day brings with it four valley visits and some challenging ascents. Guest will begin with cycling the undulating roads running alongside the River Ure, which is followed by a coffee break in the village of



Image Credit: Wilderness England

Cyclists will have the ability to travel at their own pace.

Leyburn. A steep ascent through Coverdale climbs to reach the summit on the shoulder of Great Whernside, offering magnificent views, which will be followed by a descent towards Wharfedale.

Guests will embark on the most challenging ascent after lunch, as they ascend Fleet Moss, which is the highest road in Yorkshire, at 600 metres.

The third day rolls through Wensleydale and Swaledale, past the iconic Castle Bolton and over Birkdale Common,

another challenging climb with views of the peaks of the Lake District from the summit. The last two days are dedicated to Sedbergh, Dentedale and Grassington, before a thrilling descent back into Pateley Bridge.

Prices start from £845 per person, based on four people sharing, and includes four nights' bed and breakfast accommodation, services of a Wilderness England soigneur and transfers.

www.wildernessengland.com

Seaside staycation with OYO Hotels

OYO HOTELS is offering a staycation in Cornwall, hoping to provide a traditional backdrop to clients' seaside escapes.

Newquay, on Cornwall's Atlantic Coast, is one of the nation's favourite seaside towns. Known for having some of Cornwall's finest beaches, including the sandy Fistral Beach and Watergate Bay, surfers flock from far and wide while families enjoy the area's laid back vibe.

OYO Minerva Guesthouse is a family-owned bed-and-breakfast, set within a Victorian building overlooking Newquay Bay, less than a two minute stroll from the beach. Nearby attractions include Newquay Blue Reef Aquarium and Newquay Activity Centre, which has a range of water sports including surfing, kayaking and paddle-boarding.

The property offers family rooms and its own games room with a snooker table and dartboard.

Prices start from £112 for a standard double room.

For more staycation deals and further information, visit <https://travelagent.oyorooms.com/superAgent/landing>

ENGLAND'S WILD FRONTIER

Wild Frontiers' UK offerings are an ideal choice of staycation for those looking to push the boundaries while staying close to home this summer.



Image Credit: Wild Frontiers

ADVENTURE TOUR specialist, Wild Frontiers, has brought its far-flung experiences closer to home with its first ever England itinerary, hoping to showcase the natural marvels on their clients' doorsteps this summer.

As well as its new England itinerary, Wild Frontiers also offers a number of British tours for clients looking for nature-focused escapes close to home this summer.

Northumbria: England's Wild Frontier

This eight-day rural escape begins in Durham, where guests head along the Pennine Way, into the heart of England's northernmost country. The group can enjoy the region's tall-standing waterfalls and the views of the highest fells in the Pennines. Nature blends with history as the tour explores the Roman remains of Vindolanda and Hadrian's Wall, as well as the ancient seat of the Percy family and the Rothbury Trenches.

Clients can enjoy this venture from £1,945 per person (based on two people sharing),

including accommodation, meals, transport and entrance fees to various national parks. Departure dates are available from June 18, 2021.

Scotland: Exploring the Orkneys & Shetlands

Starting in Inverness, this tour takes guests north to the island groups of Orkney and Shetland, both of which are remote enough so that, geographically, guests are closer to Oslo than London! In Orkney, guests can explore history spanning from Neolithic times to World War II, or take a ferry to Shetland for an insightful exploration of one of Scotland's most expansive nature reserves.

This seven-day itinerary starts from £2,095 (based on two people sharing), including accommodation, meals, transport and entrance fees. Departures dates are available from August 2, 2021.

www.wildfrontierstravel.com

Jersey's 'Safer Travel Policy' to reopen borders

FROM APRIL 26, 2021, Jersey will introduce a 'Safer Travel Policy' in hope of ensuring the health and safety of British holidaymakers this summer.

The first stage of the policy will involve a red, amber and green classification for travellers across the UK, with different testing and isolation requirements for those in each category, depending on their region of origin.

The policy does not require a UK Government Travel Declaration for arriving visitors to the island, but guests will be required to take PCR tests upon arrival, and on days five and 10 of their visit.

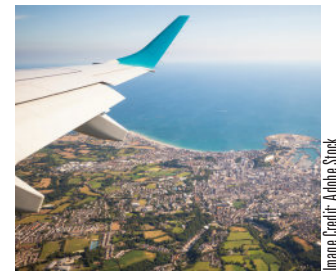


Image Credit: Aridha Stock

Following a surge in staycation bookings, Jet2.com and Jet2holidays have launched services to Jersey, with flights from London Stansted from £37 one way, based on a June 2021 departure date. Jet2holidays offer a seven-night getaway to the Apollo Hotel, St Helier, from £620 per person, including flights and accommodation.

www.jersey.com / www.jet2.com / www.jet2holidays.com /

Nordic Visitor's virtual tour of Scotland

THANKS TO Google Street View, Nordic Visitor has collated an online tour of Scotland's scenic gems to combat life in lockdown.

The tour kickstarts with one of the country's best views, taking a virtual seat at hilltop of the Edinburgh Castle Esplanade. Continuing along the East Coast, the tour is virtually guided along the River Tay to Dundee, the UNESCO City of Design, and on to Aberdeen. Guests can head into the Northern Highlands, the remote Orkney, Isle of Lewis, Isle of Harris and Skye, with panoramic scenery and great weather awaiting Google Mappers 365 days a year.

Explore the virtual itinerary at www.nordicvisitor.com



Image Credit: Percys/Thomas Orreaga

MSC ON OUR SHORES

MSC Cruises' new flagship, Virtuosa, will launch (with tried-and-tested health and safety protocols) for three- and four-night cruises for UK residents this summer.



Image Credit: MSC Cruises

MSC CRUISES has revealed further details on its short break and week-long summer sailing schedule, set to depart from Southampton this summer.

Starting from May 20, 2021, MSC Virtuosa (the cruise line's new flagship) will sail her inaugural season around the UK, sailing to a number of UK ports, including Portland, Liverpool, Greenock and Belfast.

The ship will launch with a series of three- and four-night mini-cruises around the UK coast, departing from Southampton. These initial cruises will call at the Isle of Portland in Dorset, on the Jurassic Coast, where cruisers will be invited ashore to spend a day at the quintessentially British seaside town.

From June 12, 2021, MSC Virtuosa will sail a number of seven-night itineraries, including stops in Portland and Belfast, with a number of embarkation ports including Liverpool and Greenock. The ship's inaugural season has been designed with a number of staycationers in mind, ensuring there's an ideal choice for all clients.

Antonio Paradiso, managing director of MSC Cruises, UK & Ireland explained: "Following our recent announcement that we intend to offer cruises in the UK, we have been overwhelmed by the response from MSC Cruises customers and avid cruisers eager to get back on board and experience a cruise with us this summer. I am very proud to bring our newest ship MSC Virtuosa to the UK."

The ship will host a choice of 10 restaurants and 21 bars (including two brand new dining concepts) for guests to enjoy throughout their cruises. Entertainment options include a 945-seat theater, and children's facilities including LEGO play areas and a Chicco baby club. Five swimming pools are dotted around the ship, including a 1,000sqm waterpark.

MSC Virtuosa's initially planned Northern Europe itineraries will now be running aboard the MSC Seaview; any agents with bookings on these cruises will be contacted directly.

www.msccruises.co.uk

Caledonian Leisure's coach and self-drive staycations

LEISURE COMPANY, Caledonian Leisure Ltd, is branching into the travel market with a selection of new self-drive and coach staycations across the UK, as many clients begin to look closer to home for their holidays this year.

The new brands, Caledonian Travel and UKBreakaways.com, will offer a number of value breaks and holidays throughout the UK, Ireland and Europe.

From seaside breaks, city getaways and family-centric attractions, Caledonian Travel will offer a wide range of coach breaks across the UK & continental Europe. UKBreakaways.com will offer a number of self-drive and train journeys.



Image Credit: Caledonian Travel

Managing director, Graham Rogers, commented: "The management team at Caledonian Leisure has always recognised the value of developing close working relationships with agents and partners, whose product knowledge and customer service is irreplaceable."

Visit www.caledoniantravel.com for more.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Northumberland's natural haven

EVERY YEAR, tens of thousands of puffins descend on Northumberland's Farne Islands, offering nature lovers the unique chance to get up close and personal with this rare species and dozens of others, including guillemots, razorbills and eider ducks.

Clients can enjoy a voyage with Billy Shiel's Boats, exploring around Inner Farne and Staple Island and spotting the island's seasonal bird species. Six-hour boat trips, including stops at both islands, start from £40 per person for adults, and £25 per child.

www.farne-islands.com

THE YEAR OF STAYCATIONS

With domestic tourism due to restart in May, Shearings has a total of 286 UK-based holidays for your clients not wanting to venture too far for their next break.



WITH THE surge in staycation bookings unlikely to slow down anytime soon, Shearings' choice of 289 UK holidays in 2021 look to be a viable option for cautious clients this year. Bookings are also being taken for 2022 staycations. Shearings' coach holidays of four to eight days are feature destinations including the Isle of Man, Scotland and Wales, with convenient local pick-up points and a range of accommodation, excursions and dining plans. All holidays have strict health and safety protocols in place, with each hotel guaranteeing appropriate safety measures.

New from Shearings for 2021 is a 'More Included' collection, featuring 21 brand new UK tours. The 'More Included' tours are packed with diverse excursions and experiences, from rail journeys and castle visits, to wine tasting and museum tours, along with full and half-day excursions taking in local towns, cities, parks, stunning

scenery and coastlines. Shearings also offers self-drive options for those looking for a self-contained break.

Autumnal breaks are popular, with 230 tours during this season and, following an enforced 2020 lockdown Christmas, the 2021 holiday period is sure to be a time for celebration. Shearings has 100 staycation tours available over the festive season at popular destinations including Torquay, the Isle of Wight, Whitby, Eastbourne, Bournemouth. Turkey & Tinsel Breaks with all the trimmings, Twixmas breaks between Christmas and New Year and New Year holidays to bring in 2022 are also available.

Any holiday for 2021 or 2022 can be secured with a £1 deposit, with nothing more to pay until six weeks before departure, when booking before April 30, 2021.

www.shearings.com

JG Travel Group appointed as official travel partner for new MAMMA MIA! live outdoor event

THE JG Travel Group has been appointed the official travel partner for the MAMMA MIA! live outdoor event, which is set to begin this August. The group has launched coach-inclusive packages through its Just Go! Holidays and National Holidays brands.

The show will be performed live outside for the very first time, in Harewood House in West Yorkshire.

A two-day package through both brands starts from £129 per person on various dates throughout August 2021, including return coach travel, one night's bed and breakfast accommodation, a ticket to see MAMMA MIA! at Harewood House, with coach transfers to and from the event, and an en-route excursion.



National Holidays pick up points are based in the North, with Just Go! Holidays in the South and Midlands. A three-day break is also available with Just Go! Holidays from £199 per person based on an August 28 departure.

www.justgoholidays.com

Coast & City Twincation with Hastings Hotels

HASTINGS HOTELS' new long weekend getaway, the 'Coast & City Twincation', lets guests spend two nights at the Slieve Donard Resort & Spa, Newcastle, followed by two nights at the Europa Hotel in central Belfast. With the Mountains of Mourne on its doorstep and walking and climbing experiences galore, Slieve Donard Resort and Spa is an ideal staycation spot. The Europa Hotel is located in the heart of Belfast City Centre, a short distance from the Ulster Museum, Grand Opera House, City Hall and Titanic Belfast. The Coast & City Twincation package starts from £270 per person, based on a four-night stay with a full Irish breakfast included each morning. www.hastingshotels.com



GREEK SUMMER

AEGEAN's new direct routes between the UK and the Greek Islands are set to launch this summer, giving clients even more choice when booking their getaways to Greece this year.

TO MEET the rising demand for Greece getaways this summer, AEGEAN is increasing its UK operations, expanding with a new schedule of direct flights to five Greek destinations.

The airline is debuting four new routes between the UK and the Greek islands. The services include direct flights to Corfu, Crete, Mykonos, and Santorini, as well as a new mainland destination, Thessaloniki.

Flights from London Gatwick to Corfu will run up to four times weekly, with London Heathrow serving Thessaloniki and Santorini up to three times weekly, and Heraklion up to seven times weekly. These services will run from June 19, 2021 and operate through September 18, 2021.

This new schedule will run alongside AEGEAN's three daily direct flights from



The airline's summer season will begin on June 19, 2021.

London Heathrow to Athens, as well as direct services from Edinburgh to Athens twice weekly, Manchester to Athens up to three times weekly, and Dublin to Athens twice weekly throughout the summer season.

International operations from London to Corfu, Heraklion, Mykonos and Santorini are available across all of AEGEAN's reservation systems, with direct flights from London Heathrow to Thessaloniki going on sale

from May 17, 2021, giving agents the chance to benefit from earlybird savings when booking in advance.

AEGEAN offers a number of booking protections to guarantee clients' peace of mind when booking. 'Flex' protection includes unlimited amendments without a fee, refunds with a cancellation fee or a 'Hold my Booking' service.

<https://en.about.aegeanair.com/travel-agents/>

Aer Lingus' new transatlantic flights from Manchester

IRISH AIRLINE, Aer Lingus, has launched its first direct flights from the UK to the US and the Caribbean, with a number of new services from Manchester.

The airline will kickstart its new routes from Manchester to New York JFK and Orlando from July, 29, 2021. The direct Barbados service will begin on October 20, 2021 and the Boston service from a summer 2022 date.

Karen Smart, Manchester Airport's managing director, explained: "These routes will be a great addition to the departure boards as we look forward to restarting international travel. Pre-pandemic there were more than 5.5 million passengers who crossed the Atlantic each year via Manchester... to be able to offer these services is great news."

Direct fares to the US this summer start from £199 each-way.

All bookings are protected with the airline's 'Book with Confidence' offer, which covers all bookings made before December 31, 2021. Customers can change their flights up to two hours before departure with no change fee.

www.aerlingus.com

Loganair announces two new routes to boost UK connectivity

LOGANAIR HAS announced two new domestic routes. The first is a major step in connecting the North East and South West of England with the launch of a new service between Teesside International and Bristol. The second is the safeguarding of the popular air link between City of Derry Airport and Liverpool following Ryanair's recent decision to step back from the route. Both services start on May 24.

Teesside-Bristol: the 70-minute service will leave Teesside on weekdays at 12:25pm with return flights departing from Bristol at 4:05pm. Fares start from £49.99 one-way, including



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Loganair will also be increasing flights linking CODA with Glasgow from late June.

all taxes and charges.

City of Derry-Liverpool: the new Loganair service, has prices starting at £44.99, for a one way flight. Loganair will initially offer flights on four days of the week: Monday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Weekday flights will leave City of Derry at 10:50am arriving in Liverpool at 11:50am, and return from Liverpool at 12:20pm, arriving in City of Derry at 1:20pm.

www.loganair.co.uk

British Airways launches new fare options

BRITISH AIRWAYS has launched two new fare options for its trade customers, which offer refundable options and enhanced flexibility. Select and Select Pro are both refundable fares, which will give customers the flexibility to cancel a flight and claim a full or partial refund should their travel plans change, with no additional fees.

The Select and Select Pro fares are available to book, exclusively for agents, via both GDS and NDC. They will sit alongside the current Basic, Standard/Plus and Fully Flexible fares, and will enhance the suite of fare options available to suit the different budgets of customers.

www.britishairways.com

What is your all-time favourite chocolate bar?



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2pm
Webinar Welcome
From Your Travel Bulletin Host

2:05pm - 2:35pm
Supplier
Presentations

2:35pm
Live Q & A Session
and Prizes

3:00pm
Webinar
Ends

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Cruising Scotland's Highlands & Islands on the MS Seaventure

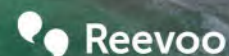
8 days from £1,999pp

Selected departures in July 2021

New for 2021, explore the best of Scotland by sea on the boutique, expedition class ship, MS Seaventure. With fewer than 160 guests on board, it offers a more exclusive and intimate experience from a different perspective, with the chance to explore the beautiful lochs, historic castles and the magic of the Outer Hebrides along the way.

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