

travelbulletin

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Giving agents the edge

NEWS BULLETIN

A round-up of the latest news from the travel industry

WTM VIRTUAL

Tourism board updates from the three-day event

LUXURY

High-end holidays to sell your clients

UK & IRELAND

Plan your client's staycation in these gems on our doorstep

FAR EAST

From Thailand to Japan, take the untrodden path



travelbulletin



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Malta
Gozo & Comino

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TRAVEL BULLETIN'S
ADVENTURE & ACTIVITY
VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

MONDAY 30TH NOVEMBER AT 2PM

Join Travel Bulletin and our leading supplier partners for an informative networking opportunity where you can catch up on the latest news and top selling tips. You will also have the chance to win some fantastic prizes.

TIMINGS

2pm
Webinar Welcome From Your
Travel Bulletin Host

2:05pm
Supplier Presentations

3pm
Prize Giveaway

TO REGISTER FOR FREE GO TO
www.travelbulletin.co.uk/webinar

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UK & IRELAND

Holidays in Wales, Jersey, Northern Ireland, and more.

COLD-FEET

A survey by The Ski Club of Great Britain shows that 86% of skiers still intend to go skiing this season, but only 29% are confident they will be able to ski at all.



Constantly changing travel restrictions has impacted how skiers will holiday.

THE SKI Club of Great Britain's most recent survey of more than 2,000 people gauged participants' intentions towards ski holidays this season, based on their likelihood, timings, location and accommodation preferences.

The survey shows that 86% of skiers still intend to go skiing this season, and a quarter have already booked their holiday; but only 29% of skiers are confident they will be able to ski this season, for which the latest government restrictions and travel advice are to blame.

As many as 79% of respondents said that the government's travel corridor/quarantine policy isn't fit for purpose.

Moreover, there has been a slight decrease in people wanting to ski this season, compared to 96% who stated they would want to ski in the June Ski Club survey.

Both SPIKE Insight and Ski Club presented the findings with comparisons from another survey conducted by the Ski Club in June, which revealed some crucial shifts in focus.

The comparative analysis found that the trend of last minute bookings seemed to have caught on, with more than half (57%) of the respondents wanting to book within a month of travel, compared to the 10% recorded bookings made within a similar span last season.

People showed that they are less likely to travel by plane, as the figures dropped from 86% in June to 59% now, and at least 27% showed an inclination to drive, using the Eurotunnel, an option considered by only 7% last season, while 8% would travel by ferry this season, compared to 3% last season.

There has been a slight drop in demands for hotels too, as 38% respondents said they would prefer to book a hotel this season, compared to 43% who booked a hotel last season.

For more information on the survey, visit www.skiclub.co.uk/info-and-advice

Great Rail Journeys launches 2021 trips to UK and Europe

GREAT RAIL Journeys has compiled an enticing line-up of destinations in Europe and the UK for its spring and summer holidays next year.

The Great Rail Journeys 2021 European and UK Rail escorted tours are best suited to small groups, limited to 25 in number, and come with flexible booking options as well as a COVID-19 insurance policy.

The flexible booking option offers customers that book a 2021 getaway between now and December 18 the option to transfer their holiday, up to the point their final balance is due, free of charge if plans need to change.

The 'Springtime Tulips and Keukenhof Gardens 2021' itinerary offers tours of floral displays, poignant battlefields and fairy-tale



Great Rail Journeys' 2021 escorted tours are best suited for smaller groups.

cities along the waterways of Belgium and Netherlands.

Clients can take guided tours of Amsterdam and the medieval town of Bruges aboard the MS Amadeus Silver III, Imperial or Star. This holiday is priced at £1,795 per person for eight days, based on April 6, 2021 departures.

The 'Grand Imperial Cities 2021' escorted rail tour

includes some famous European destinations such as Vienna, Budapest, Prague and Berlin. Guests can discover the history of Central Europe at the Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna or take a tour of Budapest. Priced at £1,995 per person for 13 days, based on March 25, 2021 departures.

www.greatrail.com

The great Italian food journey with Aldo Zilli

THE ITALIAN National Tourist Board is celebrating International Italian Cuisine Week from November 23 to November 29 and to mark the special occasion, it has organised a virtual celebration of Italian food, called 'The Great Italian Food Journey' with Aldo Zilli on November 24, from 5pm to 8pm GMT.

Aldo Zilli, who specialises in Italian, vegetarian, and seafood cuisine, will be live streaming a cooking demonstration from his kitchen. It will be followed by a panel discussion

on the best produce and local Italian delicacies and where to enjoy them.

Wine connoisseurs will also learn about the perfect wine pairings to go with the Italian dishes.

The virtual event will conclude with a Q&A session with the chef. Registration is free and those who sign up for a VIP pass will receive goodies at the end of the event.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-great-italian-food-journey-with-aldo-zilli-tickets-125870763843>

Holland America Line launches new land and sea tours for 2021

HOLLAND AMERICA Line is set to launch a full season of cruises, with land and sea tours in Alaska and Glacier Bay between April and September 2021.

Guests will embark on Holland America Line's six premium ships to Alaska, with round-trip sailings from Seattle, Washington, Vancouver, British Columbia and Canada, or a one-way cruise between Whittier (Anchorage), Alaska, and Vancouver.



The seven-day 'Glacier Discovery Northbound' and 'Glacier Discovery Southbound' itineraries that cruise between Whittier, Alaska, and Vancouver aboard Nieuw Amsterdam and Noordam include two glacier experiences at Glacier Bay and Hubbard Glacier or College Fjords, with ports of call to Ketchikan, Juneau and Skagway, Alaska.

The land tour options extend to Dawson City and the unspoiled reaches of the Yukon Territory, with a train ride into Alaska's interior on Holland America Line's iconic glass-domed McKinley Explorer.

www.hollandamerica.com/en



easyJet's flex guarantee promises to protect holidays

EASYJET HAS introduced its flex guarantee on all fares, allowing agents to rebook their client's flights to any destination and date up to 14 days before departure, if travel plans change due to unforeseeable circumstances.

If the new fare is higher, clients may be asked to pay the difference. In the case of government alterations to travel restrictions, the change fee will be removed within 14 days of departure. easyJet is also offering a cash refund or voucher online, as well as its 'Holidays Protection Promise' if flights are cancelled due to COVID-19. www.easyjet.com

P&O Cruises launches summer 2022 programme



P&O Cruises is offering an early booking offer until December 14.

P&O CRUISES has launched a new summer 2022 programme, with early booking offers and additional benefits.

More than 150 fly cruises from Southampton and Mediterranean are available to book, with offers including a 5% low deposit on all cruises, a 10% discount for past guests as well as a 5%

discount for new guests making a select price booking. Child places are available for £49 for off-peak holidays and for £199 for peak holiday periods. All offers are available on bookings made until December 14.

A highlight of the itineraries is the seven-night cruise on Iona (G211) to the

Norwegian Fjords, departing on April 23, 2022. The round-trip begins in Southampton, calling at locations such as Stavanger, Olden, Ålesund and Haugesund, while passing through Innvikfjorden and Nordfjord. Prices start at £599 per person.

For more information, visit www.pocruises.co.uk

South Australia shares sustainability stories with agents

OVER THE last few months, the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) has been working with industry partners in Adelaide and regional South Australia to collate information on the significant number of sustainable travel initiatives that tourism operators deliver across the state.

The SATC has created a new section on its findings, and will be sharing these stories with travel agents over the coming months, as people

start planning trips for 2021 and beyond.

In collating its findings, the SATC hope to offer agents the tools to sell long-haul trips once the world travel restrictions are eased, with responsible travel likely becoming an important selling point for many consumers in the post-pandemic landscape.

www.tourism.sa.gov.au

There's no place like home: Newmarket expands UK tours

THIS YEAR, Newmarket has seen huge demand for UK and Ireland-based tours and has responded by significantly expanding their range.

The company has added eight new and exclusive tours in total, including a Beatles-themed musical adventure in Liverpool, a fascinating exploration of Kent's historic Cinque Ports and castles, together with the county's links to James Bond, and a unique Highland safari in Scotland.



Tours in Belfast, Dublin and Glasgow also include excursions to Andre Rieu concerts, each with a touring element added. The new tours include a number of included and optional excursions, allowing customers to tailor their holiday experience based on their interests and desires with prices starting from £319 per person.

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk



G-Adventures serves up a cyber sale

UNTIL NOVEMBER 30, 2020, G-Adventures is offering up to 21% off its adventurous 2021 tour packages. This offer, coupled with a £1 deposit scheme and enhanced Travel with Confidence measure, will ensure that clients will have peace of mind in 2021.

From 'Costa Rica Quest' to the 'Everest Base Camp Trek', the Cyber Sale covers all bases for adventurous clients, with prices starting from £608 per person, subject to availability.

For more information or to book, visit www.gadventures.com/cyber-sale/ or call 020 7313 6938.



AGENT INSIGHT

SANDRA MURRAY
NORMANTON, YORKSHIRE

LOOKS LIKE we're in another lockdown, let's hope it works and everyone can start living their lives again – being in limbo is not good for anyone.

It is going to be interesting to see what happens in America, now that they have decided which pensioner they want to lead the country, I don't think Trump will be leaving quietly, it is a bit like watching one of the soaps!

I recently read a Daily Mail article titled, 'What to do if your holiday plans are in ruins...again', which covered the fact that holidaymakers are facing another month of chaos under new lockdown laws, just after restrictions were lifted on several destinations such as the Canaries and Maldives. Problems have arisen, because a lot of new bookings were made and now most have been cancelled again. I just hope that people will be able to travel after December 2; we all need something to look forward to. People will, of course, be entitled to cash refunds within two weeks but because things are very disorganised, this is not happening right away and there are many delays. I am encouraging agents to book another holiday for their clients, if they can, so that people have a holiday to look forward to, instead of just cancelling it. I know travellers are reading that if they cancel their holiday, it will take longer to get the money back because firms are inundated with refund requests, so they might as well book another holiday. Also, if it is a non-package, it is a bit trickier to get a refund.

Most of you know that I love Crete. I try and go every year, sometimes twice. I was recently chatting to George Canakis, who was telling me that he is now head of sales at the five-star Esperides Crete Resort Hotel Koutouloufari Hersonissos, and I am certainly going to be visiting this lovely looking hotel for a few days next year. Check out their website at www.esperidesresortcrete.gr.

Stay safe everyone and remember, 'the best way to get things done is simply to begin'.



MONTENEGRO'S ICONIC Adriatic Riviera will add another property to the country's luxury portfolio with the opening of the exclusive **One&Only Portonovi** in Herceg Novi, known as "City of flowers". This resort will be the luxury hotelier's first property in Europe and is set to open on **March 21, 2021**. The property is located 50 minutes from **Tivat Airport**, one hour from **Dubrovnik**, and two and a half hours from **Podgorica Airport**. www.oneandonlyresorts.com

Oceania Cruises launches summer 2022 Europe and America voyages

OCEANIA CRUISES has released its '2022 Europe & North America Collection', which is available for agents to book now.

The 2022 Europe & North America Collection offers 56 itineraries that range from seven to 14 days in length. For those intrepid travellers who desire a broader spectrum of exploration, there are 54 voyages ranging from 15 to 46 days that blend multiple continents and cultures into singularly



grand adventures. A range of curated experiences is offered at more than 250 ports of call throughout Northern and Western Europe, Iceland, Greenland, the Mediterranean, Greek Isles, Holy Lands, Alaska, Canada & New England, Bermuda, South America and the Caribbean.

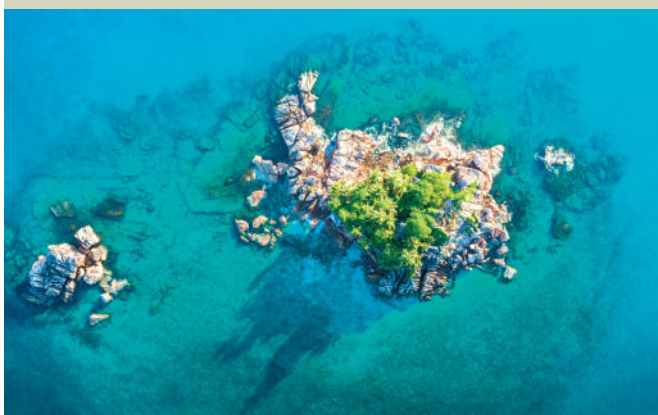
www.OceaniaCruises.com



LATIN ROUTES has launched a Christmas gift appeal to support families affected by the current crisis in the travel industry. To alleviate the stress on these families, Latin Routes is urging the public to support the industry by buying a pre-selected gift for a child from their gift list or donate to the Latin Routes Christmas Appeal. www.latinroutes.co.uk/christmas-appeal

AGENT INCENTIVES

- **EXSUS TRAVEL** has launched a new voucher incentive scheme for agents, to thank them for their ongoing support. The incentive scheme will consist of rewards for bookings made with Exsus, with a range of different vouchers on offer. Call the Exsus Travel experts on 0207 563 1300 or email sales@exsus.com for more information.
- **LUXURY TOUR** operator If Only... has teamed up with the Seychelles Tourist Office to inspire future travel to the region with the 'Dive Deeper in the Seychelles' campaign. If Only... will provide digital marketing materials that agents can use to inspire their clients. As part of the campaign, travel agents will have the chance to win a 2021 stay in the Seychelles themselves, with two incredible prizes up for grabs for the top two bookers throughout the campaign. The first prize will be an exciting multi-centre stay – three nights at the Coco De Mer Hotel & Black Parrot Suites, three nights at Raffles Seychelles and three nights at the Hilton Seychelles Labriz Resort & Spa. The second prize will be three nights, full board at Denis Private Island and three nights half board at Carana Beach Hotel, Mahé. To enter, agents simply have to make as many bookings as possible for the Seychelles with If Only... from now until December 30, 2020. Find out more at www.ifonly.co/agent-incentive.



AGENT TRAINING

WITH AT-HOME learning and online training at an all time high, Aspen Snowmass has updated its agent learning tool. Agents can use all of these resources to build upon their existing knowledge or start their learning journey with Colorado's popular mountain destination. Enhancements include updated resort and mountain information, new videos, training presentations and quiz modules.

AGENTS LOOKING to increase their knowledge on Washington DC can sign up for the DC Special Agent Academy Training Programme, in time for when US borders are once again open. The training programme has been designed to train and engage agents on all things DC. Agents will be able to master the art of matching client's special interests and travel styles with a personalised DC experience. Travel agents will also gain access to future FAM opportunities and entry to win special prizes. www.washington.org/special-agent-academy/sign-up



travelbulletin COMPETITIONS

Learn more about the beautiful coastal town of Bar in Montenegro & have the chance of winning a seven-night stay for two people in private deluxe accommodation in 2021, the runner up prize is a £50 John Lewis voucher.

Win a bottle of Champagne with Hummingbird Travel.

For all competitions, visit <https://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/competitions>

MSC opens sales for 2023 World Cruise

THE 119-DAY voyage aboard MSC Poesia will begin on January 5, 2023 in Genoa, before undertaking a 30,000 nautical mile journey that will cross 24 separate time zones.

Crossing the Atlantic from Europe, the MSC Poesia will first visit the Caribbean before sailing through the Panama Canal, followed by the west coast of Central America, docking in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Mexico before reaching San Francisco.

The Pacific leg will feature visits to Maui, Hawaii, Samoa, Fiji, Auckland, Sydney, the Gold Coast, Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines. The ship then arrives in Japan during cherry blossom season, calling at Kyoto and Tokyo. Further along the voyage,



The MSC Poesia will undertake a 30,000 nautical mile journey.

guests will visit Shanghai, Vietnam, Singapore and Malaysia before crossing the Indian Ocean to the Gulf region of the Middle East, then returning to the Mediterranean via the Suez Canal.

2023 World Cruise highlights include Puerto Limon, a beach and rainforest haven; San Francisco, with the historic Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz; Sydney, sailing past the Sydney Opera House;

and, Tokyo, with a choice of traditional tea ceremonies or Sumo wrestlers' practice sessions.

Following the cancellation of the 2021 MSC World Cruise, guests who were booked for next year can experience the same itinerary in 2023 or opt for the 2022 MSC World Cruise.

For more information, visit www.msccruises.co.uk/cruises/destinations/msc-world-cruise-2023

Anguilla kickstarts phase two of reopening international travel

THE SECOND phase of Anguilla's reopening of international travel, which began at the start of this month, divides visitors into isolated bubbles, and introduces guided movement around the island to control and limit contact. This allows properties to offer a range of approved services and activities (including restaurants, sports and fitness activities) whilst visitors stay within their bubbles during 10-14 day quarantine periods.

These measures join the pre-entry requirements of a test within three to five days of arrival, medical insurance covering COVID-19-related treatment and a fee between \$250 and \$3,000, depending on the number of visitors and length of stay.

Anguilla remains on the UK's travel corridor, but British Airways have paused all flights on the route until December 11, 2020 at the earliest.

Intrepid release 2022/23 polar schedule

FOLLOWING INCREASED demand for its Antarctic expeditions, Intrepid Travel has revealed its 2022/23 polar season three months early.

All voyages on the 2022/23 schedule take place on the 199-passenger Ocean Endeavour – a ship with a focus on health and wellness on board, offering spa and gym facilities. Passengers will be joined by WWF-Australia scientists who will share insight into whale conservation while conducting cutting-edge research.

Managing director (EMEA), Zina Bencheikh, explained, "Unspent holiday funds and months spent at home means Brits are planning those bucket list trips that they've always dreamed about... of course, Antarctica is the ultimate once-in-a-lifetime experience."



Intrepid offer a flexible booking policy with no fee for changes up to 30 days before departure and reduced deposits until January 2021.

For more information, including the full 2022/23 schedule, visit www.intrepidtravel.com/uk/antarctica-2022-2023-season



Universal Orlando Resort begins holiday season

UNIVERSAL ORLANDO Resort's two parks, Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure, has unwrapped its festive overlay, which will run until January 3, 2021.

The season's offerings include the 'Holiday Character Celebration' of Macy's floats and balloons, a re-decorated Wizarding World of Harry Potter with magical carol singers and hot butterbeer, and characters from 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' at Seuss Landing. The resort will also open a new hotel, the Endless Summer Resort, on December 15.

www.universalorlando.com

SUDOKU

Win a £50 M&S voucher in the **travelbulletin** Su Doku prize puzzle A

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3 x 3 squares contains the digits 1-9.

Once you have completed the puzzle, simply identify the numbers that relate to the letters, A, B, C and D then e-mail the solution, with your name, company name, and full postal address plus phone and ABTA number if applicable to:

competition@travelbulletin.co.uk

Closing date for entries is Thursday, December 3rd. Solution and new puzzle will appear in our next issue.

The winner for November 6th is Neil Basnett, Holiday Inspirations.

November 6th Solution: A=8 B=3 C=1 D=7

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



WHERE AM I?

This port city has a walled medina which is well-known for its art galleries and souq, as well as a lively bar and restaurant scene. The city has attracted more tourists in recent years as it has been used as a location for filming Game of Thrones.

CROSSWORD

Fill in the crossword to reveal the mystery location highlighted by the green squares.

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

Across

- 1 This cruise ship is a jewel of the sea, ___ Princess (7)
- 4 International airport code for 1 Down (3)
- 6 Canada's oldest National Park located in the Rockies (5)
- 7 North African country (5)
- 8 One of the smaller Channel Islands (4)
- 9 Melbourne is the capital of this state, in short (3)
- 12 Flows through the capital of the Tyrol (3)
- 13 Historic Normandy city and port (4)
- 16 Japanese city (5)
- 17 New country location for I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out Of Here (5)
- 18 One of the Dodecanese islands (3)
- 19 Port El Kantaoui is a popular resort in this country (7)

Down

- 1 Capital city located on the Liffey river (6)
- 2 City setting for the TV drama, Morse (6)
- 3 Danny, Eastenders actor and presenter of The Wall (4)
- 4 Hotel chain (4,3)
- 5 Historic English spa city (4)
- 8 Caribbean based provider of all-inclusive holidays for couples (7)
- 10 Capital of Australia's Northern Territory (6)
- 11 The largest of the US states (6)
- 14 City home of the National Railway Museum (4)
- 15 Currency of Thailand (4)

Mystery Word: DEVON Where am I? - Essaouira, Morocco

Solution:
 Across: 1 DIAMOND, 4 DUB, 6 BANFF, 7 EGYPT, 8 SARK, 9 VIC, 12 INN, 13 CAEN, 16 OSAKA, 17 WALES, 18 KOS, 19 TUNISIA.
 Down: 1 DUBLIN, 2 OXFORD, 3 DYER, 4 DAYS INN, 5 BATH, 8 SANDALS, 10 DARWIN, 11 ALASKA, 14 YORK, 15 BAHY.

Industry insight by...



Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) UK & Ireland comments on a gear change in travel across the Far East.

Slow travel

One of the key trends PATA is seeing accelerate is the way in which consumers are booking travel in the age of COVID-19. There has been a significant shift in gear, as travellers opt for 'slow travel'.

Tick box travel is becoming a thing of the past, it is exhausting and unfulfilling to a degree. Travellers want to truly connect with a destination and its people. Travellers once plagued with FOMO (fear of missing out) are looking for the JOMO (joy of missing out), content with itineraries that visit less places but are more in-depth.

Our tour operator members have commented on how the traditional multicentre approach to the

Far East is changing. For example, Experience Travel Group (ETG) has developed a new product to meet changing consumer demands. An increase in single destination enquiries inspired the new 'Revitalise' programme, featuring 1-2 stop itineraries and a much more immersive travel experience.

starting to ask, "where is my money going?" – they are curious and concerned about travelling in a responsible and sustainable way, wanting to make more informed and considered choices. Not just from an environmental perspective but a socio-economic one, ensuring local communities and individuals receive a direct benefit from

explore and engage. The Asia Pacific region offers an abundance of holiday options to meet this demand.

How agents can make travel count

Single destination itineraries will lead the return to Far East travel, not just based on consumer demand, but because each country is re-opening on its own schedule. Both factors make this the perfect time to focus on one place in depth and fill itineraries with experiences.

ETG's 'The Travel Forecast' keeps agents on the pulse providing helpful and realistic travel predictions. PATA's Destination Roadshows and other online events are also great ways to keep the conversation going, expand product knowledge and build contacts.

Indeed, if there is a silver lining from this pandemic, PATA predicts that it will be a reboot, of sorts, to attitudes, making the industry and travellers alike more aware of the impact they have/role they play in tourism.

Tick box travel is becoming a thing of the past, it is exhausting and unfulfilling to a degree.

Meaningful travel

As this topic becomes more mainstream, customers are

tourism. Travellers no longer want to just 'pass through' on a fleeting trip but stop,



Written by Matt Brazier, Asia spokesperson for PATA UK & Ireland & head of marketing at Experience Travel Group.



TALES & TOURS OF CHINA

Wendy Wu's new China 2021-2022 brochure features a host of new itineraries in China, South Korea, Taiwan, and Tibet, offering a range of land tours, river cruises & train rides.

WENDY WU's latest China brochure for 2021-2022 is now out, and includes inspirational journeys and experiences from across China, South Korea, Taiwan, and Tibet.

The new brochure has some brand-new itineraries, such as 'China in Style' and 'Sichuan & Yangtze Delights', along with favourites such as 'Wonders of China', as well as detailed instructions and travel safe protocols for clients looking to travel eastwards in 2021.

Most of the China tours include the major attractions, such as the Great Wall of China, the famous panda reserve in Chengdu and the Terracotta Army of China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, in Xian.

The 14-day 'Sichuan and Yantze Delights' itinerary combines a trip to the Dazu Rock Carvings, the natural landscapes in Wulong, such as The Three Bridges National Park and Fairy Mountain, as well as a three-day Yangtze River cruise, which comprises of dramatic natural scenery along with vessel cruises through Qutang, Wu and Xiling gorges, commonly known as the Three



Wendy Wu also offers tailor-made tours, where clients choose destinations.

Gorges. The journey will also include some cultural performances and local cuisines at various points.

The last two days of the trip will be dedicated to the Great Wall, the Summer Palace, the Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square, and the Forbidden City, and enjoying Beijing's best-known delicacy, Peking duck.

Agents who book Wendy Wu's selected tours for 2021 or 2022 by November 30 will benefit from free return flights, saving up to £800 per person. Prices start at £3,190, based on London Heathrow departures.

www.wendywutours.co.uk

Dusit Thani Kyoto to operate from 2023

DUSIT INTERNATIONAL has signed an agreement with Yasuda Real Estate Co. Ltd to launch the luxury Dusit Thani Kyoto in Japan by 2023.

Located in the heart of the city, around 850 metres from Kyoto Station, the new property will consist of approximately 150 rooms set over four floors. The facilities at the new property include a Thai-themed all-day dining restaurant, a Japanese speciality restaurant, a lobby lounge and bar, function rooms and a health club.

Guests will enjoy easy access to nearby attractions such as Higashi Honganji Temple, Nishi Honganji Temple (a UNESCO World Heritage Site), Kyoto Tower, Kyoto Aquarium and Nishiki Market, a shopping and dining street known as 'Kyoto's Kitchen'.

Ms Suphajeer Suthumpun, group CEO, Dusit International, said, "We are delighted and honoured to have the opportunity to work with Yasuda Real Estate Co., Ltd. to bring our unique brand of Thai-inspired gracious hospitality to Japan for the first time."

www.dusit.com

JAPAN ON-PISTE

Black Diamond rounds up some ski-tastic opportunities Japan has in store for the 2021 winter season...



WITH 70% of Japan made up of mountainous terrain, the country makes for an excellent choice for clients who want to hit the slopes, as well as explore several other activities.

Deep powder and unique views

The Hakkoda mountain range includes 20 mountains and is the cultural border between the Western Tsugaru area, home to Hiroasaki Castle, and the Eastern Nanbu area, which is home to Hachinohe City. Located just an hour and twenty minutes from Hachinohe City, Hakkoda's mountains boast the famous deep 'J-Pow' with an average snow base of four metres each year. Hakkoda's ski season typically runs from mid-December until mid-May, depending on snow and weather conditions. Snow monsters are at their best from January until the end of February.

Ski the crater of an active volcano in Niseko

Mount Yotei is the highest mountain in Hokkaido and offers brave skiers the longest vertical descent in the region. Those who wish to attempt the mountain – also an

active stratovolcano – must first scale the edge to the mountain peak, which takes between six to eight hours. Around 100 skiers attempt this thrilling experience each year with a guide, the correct gear and the right weather conditions. Those who make it to the top can reward themselves with après ski, Hokkaido-style, which includes volcanic hot spring baths and a special type of plum wine.

A lesser-known delight

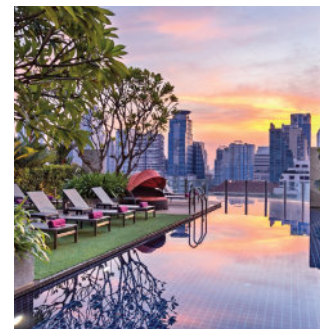
Located in Tako-cho, Soyumura 229 Ski Land is the southernmost ski resort in the Aomori Prefecture, northern Honshu. While visiting Hachinohe City, visitors can travel just over an hour to the Soyumura 229 Ski Land, offering a perfect skiing landscape. For those who do not ski, there is still plenty to do; 229 Ski Land Snow Festa is an event that can be enjoyed by the whole family, as it includes activities such as hunting for treasures in the snowy mountains, making snow lanterns, taking part in dual-ski/snowboard races, and more.

Staycate in style at Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11

ALOFT BANGKOK Sukhumvit 11, managed by Marriott International, has launched its Alternative State Quarantine (ASQ) programme in Bangkok.

Offering a series of government-approved ASQ packages for international travellers, this staycation-style accommodation is offered for the duration of the mandatory 15-night quarantine period, in association with Bangkok 9 International Hospital, which will offer all guests first-class medical care.

Guests can enjoy a stay in their preferred room type, ranging from the 32-sq m 'Chic Room', the 'Urban Room' featuring panoramic city views, the 'Stylish Suite' with a separate living area, the 'Savvy Suite' with outdoor terrace and private Jacuzzi, or the two-bedroom 'Ultra Savvy Suite' with a balcony.



All packages come with daily breakfast, lunch and dinner with a choice of Thai, Asian and western sets, plus vegetarian options.

<https://aloft-hotels.marriott.com/>



Get off the grid in Laos and Thailand with Tucan Travel

TUCAN TRAVEL is offering travellers a taste of Southeast Asia on its 15-day 'Laos and Thailand Highlights' trip, with departure dates in 2021.

Guests will first travel through Laos, a diverse country with much to be explored. From its emerald rice fields, waterfalls and ancient temples, this tour takes travellers through the highlights of an undiscovered destination. Visitors will then travel to Thailand, where there will be opportunities to explore Chiang Mai and try out an authentic Thai cooking class.

The tour offers a range of activities, including an informal evening of Laos 10-pin bowling, a scenic tuk tuk ride to the Blue Lagoon, entry to Mount Phousi, and a bicycle tour of the Sukhothai ancient ruins. www.tucantravel.com

GO EAST WITH EMERALD

Travellers can experience vibrant Southeast Asia on one of three insightful itineraries, in destinations such as Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, to the pearl of Asia, Phnom Penh in Cambodia, with Emerald Waterways.



FROM VIETNAM to Cambodia, Emerald Waterways' Southeast Asia cruise offers travellers a diverse range of itineraries.

On the 15-day 'Majestic Mekong' river cruise, guests travel from Siem Reap to Ho Chi Minh City, enjoying a seven-night Mekong river cruise with luxurious hotel stays en-route. Highlights of this journey include three nights in Siem Reap with a visit to Angkor Thom, seeing a family-run silk production factory, and satisfying a sweet tooth at a coconut candy workshop. This land tour and river cruise includes an array of excursions, and is available from £2,845 per person (departing May 19, 2021).

Alternatively, guests can travel from Hanoi to Siem Reap on the 19-day 'Treasures & Temples of Vietnam & Cambodia' itinerary. Highlights of this land tour and river cruise

include a traditional lion dance performance, exploration on board a traditional junk boat in Halong Bay, and a city stay in Ho Chi Minh City where travellers will hear about the underground network of tunnels built during the French and American wars. This land tour and river cruise starts from £3,945 per person (departing May 15, 2021).

Prices include return flights from London Heathrow or Manchester, transfers, the cruise as stated, hotel stays, tipping and gratuities, all on board meals, excursions, and experiences.

Emerald Waterways' 'Cruise with Confidence' policy gives guests peace of mind when booking ahead.

For more information and to book, visit www.emeraldwaterways.co.uk

In the lap of luxury with LUX* Resorts

LUX* RESORTS & Hotels is set to open LUX* Chongzuo in China's Guangxi Zhuang region, in January 2021.

The resort will be surrounded by lush greenery, mountainous rivers, famous karst formations, and is just a 10-minute drive from the Vietnamese border.

The new resort will feature 56 suites and villas with private terraces and plunge pools that open up to the natural surroundings. Other facilities will include an outdoor infinity pool, LUX* Me Spa and fitness centre, speciality restaurants and bars, and an immersive Kid's Club. The destination is known for its natural wonders, including the Detian Waterfall, Asia's largest



transnational waterfall, and the Nongguan Nature Reserve, home to the endangered white-headed langurs – both of which are just a 30-minute drive from the resort.

www.luxresorts.com



Feed your soul in Seoul with Intrepid Travel

TRAVELLERS CAN immerse themselves in South Korea's food scene with Intrepid Travel's eight-day, 'South Korea Real Food Adventure' trip to Seoul.

On this immersive trip, your guests will be exploring South Korea's rich cultural and historical landmarks, as well as partaking in several food-focused tours.

Highlights of the tour include a visit to Gyeongju, a city rich with temples, tombs and palace ruins (many of which are World Heritage sites), and a taste tour through a local market.

www.intrepidtravel.com

WTM**VIRTUAL**

FUTURE PERFECT

After a particularly difficult year for the travel industry, bookings for leisure travel are expected to pick up during the new year, as discussed at this year's WTM Virtual.

AGENTS CAN expect to see a surge in bookings this January, due to a "pent up demand for travel". The optimistic outlook came on the first day of the World Travel Market in London, which was held virtually this year.

Tourism boards, government ministers, international bodies and well-known travel brands joined one the largest gatherings of the travel and tourism industry via Zoom.

An early meeting at WTM Virtual revealed that holidaymakers will prioritise travel in 2021, with price not being the main driver in holiday choices.

Rachel Read, head of communications, ETOA, said: "The travel industry is always incredibly resilient... alongside catching COVID-19, people's biggest fear was more having to quarantine. They really want to go but they are just



Holidaymakers will prioritise travel in 2021 that is not driven by price.

concerned about whether they can actually get there and what the infrastructure would be like when they come back. The money factor varies for different customers. People have lost their jobs, but are prioritising travel. They really want a break because that is part of why people go on holiday – to have a change of scenery, and that demand still exists."

According to data from

Travelzoo, January is the most popular month for booking holidays scheduled in September, followed by May and June.

When talking about holiday bookings in 2021, James Clarke, general manager UK, Travelzoo, said: "We know that market price is not going to be a driver – it is going to be around refundability and flexibility when making a new booking."

Top hotel properties in the Bahamas to re-open for Christmas

THE TROPICAL islands of the Bahamas have officially reopened their borders to international travellers, with the message: "We can't wait to get started".

The country welcomed back visitors earlier this month with stringent COVID-19 protocols in place to protect visitors and residents.

The Bahamas' big hotels are soon to follow, with many set to reopen for the Christmas period. The Warwick Paradise Island plans to reopen on November 21, and Nassau Paradise Island's Grand Hyatt Baha Mar is scheduled to reopen on December 17.

The reopening is part of the resort destination's phased reopening, which will later include Rosewood Baha Mar and SLS Baha Mar.

The islands offer fishing, diving, boating, diverse stretches of water and beaches spread across thousands of miles.

British Airways' direct flight from London Heathrow to Nassau is yet to resume.

www.bahamas.com/tourism-reopening

FROM JAMAICA TO THE WORLD

WTM Virtual saw the Jamaica Tourist Board expand on the role they saw travel agents play for the industry this year, and reveal what is in store for the island in 2021.



AT THIS year's WTM Virtual, the Jamaica Tourist Board reiterated the importance of UK travel agents in selling the destination, and talked about plans for 2021. Elizabeth Fox, regional director of Jamaica Tourist Board, explained, "Despite the lockdowns, I can say that we've never been busier. We've ramped up our digital engagement, virtual sale calls, webinars and even sent out our first video newsletter. We've also set up our first virtual FAM trip for agents, which was a huge success."

Noting how important agent communication has been across the last year, Fox added: "We've been able to stay in contact with our sellers through the Jamaica rewards site (www.jamaicarewards.com). This programme is integral to us, and we are committed to supporting, engaging and inspiring our homeworkers, tour operators and travel agents. We have upcoming pub quizzes and a rewards party to thank those agents who are taking part in our webinars and other forms of engagement."

The Jamaica Tourist Board also announced the formation of "Resilient Corridors", designed to manage and monitor the movements of visitors within a specific area of the island. This segment accounts for 80% of the nation's tourism, and will allow the country to tightly manage this relatively small area while ensuring holidaymakers can live the true Jamaican experience in 2021.

In 2021, the country will also focus on promoting its status as a luxury destination, with both British Airways and Virgin Atlantic launching new routes to Montego Bay from Gatwick and Heathrow. These new routes will result in an increase of 300% in Club Class and Upper Class seats to the island per week. Also, the luxury, all-inclusive Sandals South Coast is currently undergoing a multi-million-dollar renovation and is set to reopen in December 2020.

www.visitjamaica.com
www.jamaicarewards.com

Tourism minister shares new holiday hotspots in Greece

GREECE'S TOURISM minister shared how lesser-known regions became popular with international tourists this year.

Speaking at the WTM Virtual, Harry Theoharis, tourism minister, said that even before the pandemic, visitors were exploring the north of the country – far from its traditional major tourist destinations – which had seen an increase in drive-through tourism as holidaymakers opt to travel in their cars. Even after the pandemic, holidaymakers had chosen to visit smaller islands, which saw a huge increase in tourism in the typically less-popular locations across Greece.

He said, "In the normality of the



first two months we had a big increase in drive-through tourism. In the north of Greece, we only have one island – Corfu, and Halkidiki, part of the mainland, as the main destinations – and these are not the traditional destinations. These areas showed a disproportionate increase compared to the rest of the country.

"After the pandemic, what we saw was the preference of the average traveller was to go to smaller destinations."

www.visitgreece.gr



Nova Scotia rolls out new online training programme

TOURISM NOVA Scotia has recently launched its brand new online training programme which underlines its commitment to the UK travel industry, as highlighted at WTM Virtual.

The new programme is a comprehensive sales resource, which features seven touring regions of Nova Scotia, signature places to explore, and top activities that visitors can experience within the region.

By completing the training, agents and travel industry professionals will discover the stunning vistas, cultural heritage and local flavours of Nova Scotia from the comfort of their chair.

www.novascotiauk.experttraining.eu

ANTIGUA LOOKS AHEAD

Antigua has only seen 131 cases of COVID-19, and while the island remains on the quarantine-free travel list, 2021 looks particularly optimistic.



ANTIGUA HAS remained somewhat of a haven for cautious holidaymakers, as highlighted at WTM Virtual.

The lack of quarantine upon arrival from the UK means holidaymakers can begin to enjoy their holiday as soon as the plane lands, and will continue to be able to do so throughout the 2021 season.

The newly introduced Nomad Digital Residence (NDR) programme means those who can meet the requirements of their employers, clients and colleagues while working in Antigua can do so with free movement throughout the island, and can take advantage of the two-year income tax-free policy.

Antigua's appeal to Brits doesn't end there – the 'Space in the Sun' campaign launched earlier this year, and highlights the island's landscape, and how its 365 beaches allow for social distancing with ease. Properties including Pearn's Bay House, Tamarind Hills,

Cocos Resorts, The Royalton and The Great House have all vouched to accommodate social distancing measures amongst guests; testament to the island's track record in containing the spread of COVID-19.

Looking ahead to next year, the 53rd Antigua Sailing Week is one of the few global events that looks to go ahead in early 2021, featuring yachts from all over the world arriving at the island from April 24-30. The nation will also celebrate its 40th anniversary of independence, which will undoubtedly be marked with a number of events and celebrations.

Antigua and its resorts will concentrate on showcasing themes of luxury, romance, multi-generational holidays and wellness in 2021, making it an ideal destination for family holidays, honeymoons or secluded getaways.

For more information, see www.visitantiguabarbuda.com

Club Med announces opening of Seychelles resort

AT WTM Virtual, the Seychelles highlighted the 2021 opening of Club Med on the island.

The resort is a luxury, family-friendly holiday complex, which serves as a landmark series of firsts for the Seychelles and Club Med. This is the company's first resort in Seychelles, first on a private island of Sainte Anne, and the first and only family-friendly resort in the Seychelles.

The resort will boast childcare facilities from ages two to 17 years, a variety of activities, from paddle boarding to a Zen hideaway, and dedicated spa area-facilities that will no doubt boast a universal appeal from families to solo travellers.



Children under six stay free in all Club Meds, and the resort is also offering a low deposit scheme of £150 per person, and a Posi-Check certification for all resorts.

For more information, visit: www.clubmed.co.uk



Spain ready to reopen its doors to Brits in 2021

WITH THE measures in place to safely welcome back tourists to the country in 2021, Javier Piñanes, director of the Spanish Tourist Office in the UK, praised the government and travel industry's response and adaptation to the unravelling circumstances, at WTM Virtual.

Piñanes said, "Our outlook for the next year is an optimistic one as we are now more equipped than ever to control the virus and receive tourists, with their safety being our highest priority. The Spanish government, together with the regional authorities, local councils, tourism municipalities and other bodies will continue to work intensely to control the virus and reinforce the image of Spain as a safe destination."

For more information, visit www.spain.info/en/

LUXURY



A WORLD AWAY

Regent Seven Seas Cruises' 2022-23 voyage collection consists of 148 sailings to the Mediterranean, Northern Europe and South America, across five ships.

REGENT SEVEN Seas Cruises has launched its 2022-2023 Voyage Collection, featuring a range of destinations, including Africa and Arabia, Alaska, Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Canada and New England, the Caribbean and Panama Canal, the Mediterranean, Northern Europe and South America.

The Voyage Collection consists of 148 sailings across five ships, between April 2022 and the end of April 2023.

Cruisers can expect 17 maiden ports of call, 105 overnight visits, along with 350 UNESCO World Heritage Sites across thousands of free shore excursions and free pre-land or post-land tour programmes across 36 sailings in Africa, Arabia, Australia, Asia and South America, which vary from two to three nights.



Regent Cruises' Seven Seas Splendor in Miami.

After crossing the Atlantic from Miami, Florida, Seven Seas Splendor's 2022 summer season starts with a seven-night Mediterranean cruise from Barcelona, Spain to Venice, Italy and a 10-night Adriatic cruise from Venice, Italy to Monte Carlo, Monaco before an extensive exploration of Northern Europe.

Voyages in the region range from seven to 18 nights, which includes

stunning views of the fjords in Norway as well the eclectic charms of Baltic ports, such as Gdansk in Poland; Liepaja in Latvia; and, St Petersburg in Russia.

Several cruises in the season include an overnight stay in St Petersburg and Stockholm. The ship also tours the British Isles and visits the ports of the west coast of France.

www.rssc.com

Live like a king at Royal Mansour Marrakech

ELEGANT RESORTS is offering stays at the Royal Mansour Court Marrakech, blending Moroccan tradition with modern opulence.

The hotel features 56 Moroccan-style riads, traditional Andalusian courtyards, the Royal Mansour Spa and the tranquil tea gardens, as well as four dining options offering traditional Moroccan cuisine.

Each riad comes with a private courtyard, a roof terrace, a plunge pool, a fireplace and a tented space for spa treatment. Those travelling with an entourage can also find riads with two or three additional bedrooms.

Families can opt for family-friendly excursions to the water park, sand dunes in the desert or embark on cultural tours of Marrakech. Activities also include golf at several local courses, spending time on the beach, or enrolling for a chocolate-making workshop. There is also a Kid's Club at the hotel, which offers indoor and outdoor adventures to keep children entertained while parents can enjoy some alone time.

www.elegantresorts.co.uk

ISLAND DREAMS

Sugar-white sands, luxury accommodation and balmy weather – Petit St. Vincent has reopened to travellers.

PETIT ST. Vincent island resort has reopened its borders to international travel.

The private island resort is part of the Grenadines, which are included on the UK's list of quarantine-free travel corridors.

Petit St. Vincent, or 'PSV', is a 115-acre private island offering space, privacy and seclusion, with luxurious standalone accommodation. There are only 22 cottages spread across the entire island, thus housing a maximum of 44 guests on the island at any one time – each guest has two acres. This makes it a good option for socially distanced holidays.

The island also has the provision for booking the PSV Peninsula on the eastern side of the island, which includes four cottages, at a special rate.

Activities include diving at the Jean Michel Cousteau Dive Centre, fishing or snorkelling



on one of PSV's own vessels, wine tasting at PSV's wine cellar, sailing excursions to Tobago islands aboard the 49-foot sailing sloop 'Beauty' or an all-natural spa treatment at the resort's treetop Balinese spa.

PSV operates on a flag system where a guests raise a flag and a member of the team will find and serve them – be it lunch on a deserted beach or breakfast at the top of Marni Hill with views over the Grenadines.

www.petitstvincent.com

Palladium to open two resorts in Sicily

PALLADIUM HOTEL Group is set to open two five-star resorts in Sicily.

Grand Palladium Garden Beach Resort & Spa and Grand Palladium Sicilia Resort & Spa will be designed for all types of travellers, including couples, families and groups, with world-class facilities, activities and entertainment to



keep every age entertained.

Facilities include tiered kids' clubs, multiple swimming pools, three à la carte restaurants and Zentropia Spa and Wellness.

www.palladiumhotelgroup.com



Hummingbird Travel is proud to present

Mövenpick Resort Kuredhivaru Maldives

Set your feet upon the powder-white beaches, explore the colourful marine life and marvel at stunning vistas of the Indian Ocean. Mövenpick Resort Kuredhivaru will awaken your senses. All 72 overwater pool villas and 30 beach pool suites offer a spacious outdoor lounging area with a private plunge pool, creating an intimate relaxing experience. Indulge in Mövenpick's rich culinary delights with selection of dishes inspired by gastronomic trends around the world.

Save 30% on your stay, enjoy meal upgrade to half board and many more perks. Your well being and safety is our top priority; we are equipped with all necessary hygiene and safety measures.

Pick Safe.

Contact reservations@hummingbird.travel
for the best offers and rates on the market

MÖVENPICK

HUMMINGBIRD
The Indian Ocean Made Easy

ENDLESS SUMMER

If Only...’s new 'Experience Endless Summer' campaign brings travellers year-round sun in several luxury resorts across Dubai, and a chance for agents to win a grand prize.



LUXURY TOUR operator If Only... has teamed up with Jumeirah Hotels & Resorts to showcase a year-round offering of luxury accommodations boasting private beaches and a range of entertainments and spas, as part of a new campaign, 'Experience Endless Summer'.

The campaign encourages agents to promote the resorts as winter sun spots as well as summer getaways. The following properties are being highlighted in the campaign: Jumeirah Beach Hotel, Jumeirah Creekside Hotel, Jumeirah Emirates Towers, Jumeirah Al Naseem, Jumeirah Dar Al Masyaf, Jumeirah Mina A'Salam, Jumeirah Al

Qasr and Burj Al Arab Jumeirah.

To promote interest and bookings, If Only... has produced promotional postcards, replacing in-store flyers in the age of COVID-19.

Agents will also have the opportunity to win a luxury prize. The top travel agent booker for the eight featured resorts at the end of November will receive a plush 'holiday hamper' of getaway essentials (including a personalised suitcase with luggage tags, a beach towel, an inflatable pool toy and a passport case).

Find out more at www.ifonly.co/agent-incentive or call 0141 955 4000

A very British royal journey with Abercrombie & Kent

YOUR CLIENTS can relive the Royal Family's history with a luxury trip to several historical locations and landmarks with Abercrombie and Kent's new 'British Royal Journey' trip.

Allowing fans of the Royal Family to discover the locations and landmarks that make up Britain's royal heritage, the eight-night trip ties in with Netflix's "The Crown".

From the Scottish wars of independence to the Tower of London, clients can learn the secrets of the monarchy and enjoy the same luxuries as them, such as 'Champagne Afternoon Tea' aboard a floating hotel and insider access to palaces before the official opening times.



The eight-night trip starts from £7,559 per person, including private transfers and guides, accommodation on a bed-and-breakfast basis and domestic flights between London and Edinburgh (price based on two people sharing).

Visit www.abercrombiekent.co.uk or call 01242 547 760 for more details.



Desert delights at AIUla

ALULA, THE historical crossroad of ancient civilisations in Saudi Arabia has officially reopened, and The Royal Commission for AIUla (RCU) has unveiled a full suite of experiences that are being phased in the coming months.

This month, visitors are able to book an evening stargazing tour at AIGHameel rocks. Known as one of the most dramatic landscapes for stargazing, the one hour experience, run by Husaak, includes a traditional Bedouin set-up with an expert guide to provide insights about the importance of the stars and constellations in AIUla's culture and history.

Some accommodation options include tented desert resorts, Sahary AIUla Resort, Shaden Resort and self-catered RVs for unique outdoor immersions. www.experiencealula.com

UK & IRELAND



LUXE-LIVING ON THE ISLES

Exsus Travel's British Isles cruise will see your clients visiting a range of destinations, with opportunities to explore uninhabited islands and see a variety of wildlife.

ENJOY A staycation with a difference in 2021 on a luxury cruise around the British Isles aboard the Sea Spirit ship.

Your clients will be able to visit destinations such as the Isles of Scilly, the Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland, and travel from Cornwall, Wales and Ireland to Scotland, and discover rich history, colourful wildlife and many rugged landscapes.

On this trip, travellers will be able to gain access to islands that are private and/or uninhabited and usually off limits, to see attractions from Bronze Age forts and the alleged final resting place of Macbeth. There will also be many opportunities to see a variety of wildlife and bird life, such as the largest



A visit to the Isles of Scilly in Cornwall is part of the trip.

gannet colony in the world – the cruise is timed to coincide with its arrival.

Exsus Travel offers this 13-day/12-night cruise on an all-inclusive basis – including accommodation, meals and excursions with expert guides – and a one-way return flight from Edinburgh to London at the end of the cruise. Prices start from

£5,190 per person, and the company is currently offering 25% off, plus a \$100 onboard credit per cabin, if booked by January 31, 2021. The cruise departs from Plymouth on May 10 and returns to Edinburgh on May 22, 2021.

Enquire on 020 7563 1303 or visit www.exsus.com

Walk the walk in Guernsey

THE ISLANDS of Guernsey has launched a new marked coastal walking trail, set across the five beautiful islands of Guernsey, Alderney, Sark, Herm and Lihou, launching in spring 2021. The new trail provides walkers with a comprehensive five-island route for the first time with an accompanying guide, map and a dedicated, free-to-download app, which will feature an audio commentary, local information, interactive map and additional themed walking routes. While the full coastal trail is approximately 50 miles, the route has been created to be easily split into digestible sections for walkers of all levels, or to offer shorter circular routes instead.



Further details of the new walking route will be available on www.visitguernsey.com

DOWN IN DONEGAL

Newmarket Holidays is offering a week-long getaway to Donegal County in Northwest Ireland. Lesser-known villages, towns, landscapes and ancient castles make for an adventurous escape, closer to home.



NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS' 'Donegal and the Giant's Causeway' trip is perfect for UK travellers looking for a short break with plenty of scenic, natural landscapes and ancient castles and towns to explore.

According to the itinerary, the flight to Belfast will be followed by a meeting with the tour manager and boarding the coach transfer for Letterkenney. Newmarket's coach tour travels along destinations such as The Dunluce Castle, The Glenveagh National Park, the St Eunan's Cathedral, the charming Market Square and the Swilly River walkway, among others. The Glenveagh National Park is home to wild deer and the endangered golden eagle, while the Glenveagh Castle, which overlooks the Lough Veagh, was designed by John Townsend Trench, and was built in imitation of old Irish Towers.

The Giant's Causeway will be the highlight of the trip, as the astonishing collection of

closely packed basalt columns, rising from the Atlantic like stepping stones, have been talked about in various lores and myth. In reality, they were formed by a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago and all the various shapes of the stones, which are a thing of intrigue now, have come about due to various natural phenomena.

The Giant's Causeway's visitor centre will provide a free audio-guide to take to the stones, and the chance to explore the exhibits in the active interpretation area. Travellers can take the short minibus trip from the visitor centre to the Causeway (payable locally), or walk a mile along the cliff path to take in the breathtaking views and sea air.

'Donegal and the Giant's Causeway' is priced at £655 per person, based on April 2021 departures.

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk

Offa's Dyke Path National Trail to celebrate 50th year

OFFA'S DYKE Path National Trail will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2021, with special activities, walking festivals and a 50th anniversary weekend celebration in July, which includes talks about the creation of the trail, guided walks and the Offa's Dyke Living History Festival in Moel Famau.

Offa's Dyke is a 285km long walking trail along the border of England and Wales, which is believed to have been built in the eighth century by the Saxon King Offa.

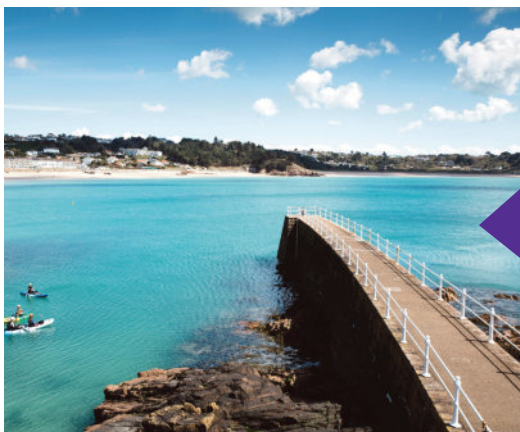
Exodus Travels is offering the chance to experience the legendary walking trail, with a six-night 'North East Wales Heritage



Trail' self-guided tour, which starts in Ruthin and concludes in Berwyns. Some of the trip highlights include a circular walk in the Clwydian range, to the Iron Age site of Foel Fenlli.

Travellers can also expect a steam train ride between Llangollen and Glyndyfrdwy. *Prices start at £949 per person.*

www.exodus.co.uk



Visit Jersey offers a fun-filled island break next summer

JERSEY IS an ideal choice for families who want to holiday overseas but don't want to travel far.

The island offers thrilling water sports, outdoor adventures and indoor activities. Your clients can visit Watersplash or Jump Jersey, which offers a trampoline park, laser light shows and several climbing walls, or Valley Adventure Centre which has a thrilling line-up of activities, such as walking the high line through the trees or tackling the longest zip wire in Jersey. Jet2.com is offering five new routes to Jersey for summer holidays in 2021.

www.jersey.com

Get the INNSiDE scoop on Newcastle with Meliá Hotels International

MELIÁ HOTELS International will open a new property, INNSiDE Newcastle, in December.

The 161-room hotel will be located in the heart of the city, offering views across the River Tyne. Situated within a short distance from the Newcastle Railway Station and the Newcastle International Airport, INNSiDE Newcastle intends to host both national and international business and leisure travellers. Eldon Square shopping centre, The Biscuit Factory art gallery and Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art are within walking distance from the hotel.

The property has five multi-functional meeting spaces, with the maximum capacity being 170.

INNSiDE Newcastle will operate the global 'Stay Safe With Meliá' programme and actively takes measures to safeguard the health of individuals during COVID-19. www.melia.com



COSMOS IS offering a six-day holiday to Yorkshire, on its 'Yorkshire Explorer' trip. Guests will visit the awe-inspiring Minster, the mother church of the north of England, and treat themselves to the renowned afternoon tea. The trip also includes excursions to the wild North York Moors National Park, historic Whitby and Robin Hood's Bay. With touring dates in 2021, prices start from £585 per person. www.cosmos.co.uk

Which part of the UK would you take a staycation in ?



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travelbulletin

EVENTS

Calendar
2020-2021

2020

2021

VIRTUAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER

INDIAN OCEAN VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Tuesday 3rd

MEDITERRANEAN VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Monday 16th

ADVENTURE & ACTIVITY VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Monday 30th

DECEMBER

TRAVEL BULLETIN TRAINING WEBINAR

Monday 14th

TRAVEL BULLETIN CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Wednesday 16th

JANUARY

NORTH AMERICA VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Tuesday 12th

TRAVEL BULLETIN TRAINING WEBINAR

Monday 18th

LUXURY HOLIDAYS VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Thursday 21st

AUSTRALASIA & PACIFIC ISLANDS VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Tuesday 26th

FEBRUARY

TRAVEL BULLETIN TRAINING WEBINAR

Monday 1st

CITY BREAKS VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Thursday 4th

FAR EAST VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Tuesday 9th

CARIBBEAN VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Tuesday 16th

FAMILY HOLIDAYS VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

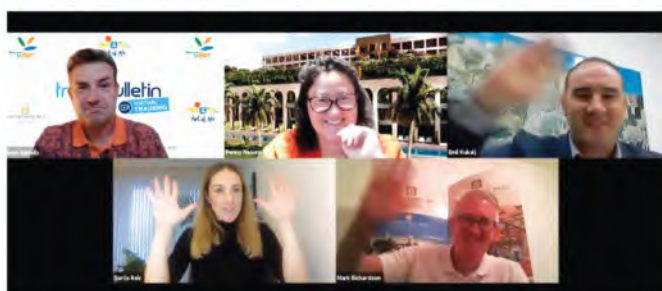
Monday 22nd

AFRICA VIRTUAL SHOWCASE

Thursday 25th

travelbulletin
Giving agents the edge.

To find out more information or learn how to take part in one of these events, contact your Travel Bulletin account manager or email events@travelbulletin.co.uk



Sicily will surprise anyone that explores its picturesque architecture and volcanic landscapes. Whether you're looking to discover all the beauty that the island has to offer or to simply relax on the beach, in the pool or at Zentropia Palladium Spa & Wellness, the only thing you'll have to worry about at the new Grand Palladium Hotels & Resorts in Sicily is enjoying yourself. Because with Infinite Indulgence®, it's all included.

Sicily, a magical family holiday destination.

SICILY

Italy.



GRAND PALLADIUM
HOTELS & RESORTS

Grand Palladium Garden Beach Resort & Spa
Grand Palladium Sicilia Resort & Spa

NEW OPENINGS SUMMER 2021

MENORCA

Balearic Islands, Spain.

With so many things to see, do, eat and experience, they always feel the need to come back, so they can keep surprising themselves over and over again.

From summer 2021, your clients and their families will be able to see themselves in their reflections over the crystal-clear waters of Menorca's coves or in the spectacular pools of the new Palladium Hotel Menorca.

Your family holidays are here.



PALLADIUM
HOTEL MENORCA

PALLADIUMHOTELGROUP.COM

Discover the benefits of our affiliates program PALLADIUMCONNECT.COM