

travelbulletin

April 23 2021 | ISSUE NO 4,171 | travelbulletin.co.uk

Giving agents the edge

AGENT INSIGHT

Juliet Twena, Travel Counsellors, on why people should book with a trusted travel advisor

ESCORTED TOURS

From Japan to Spain, fully guided tours and touring holidays

CANADA

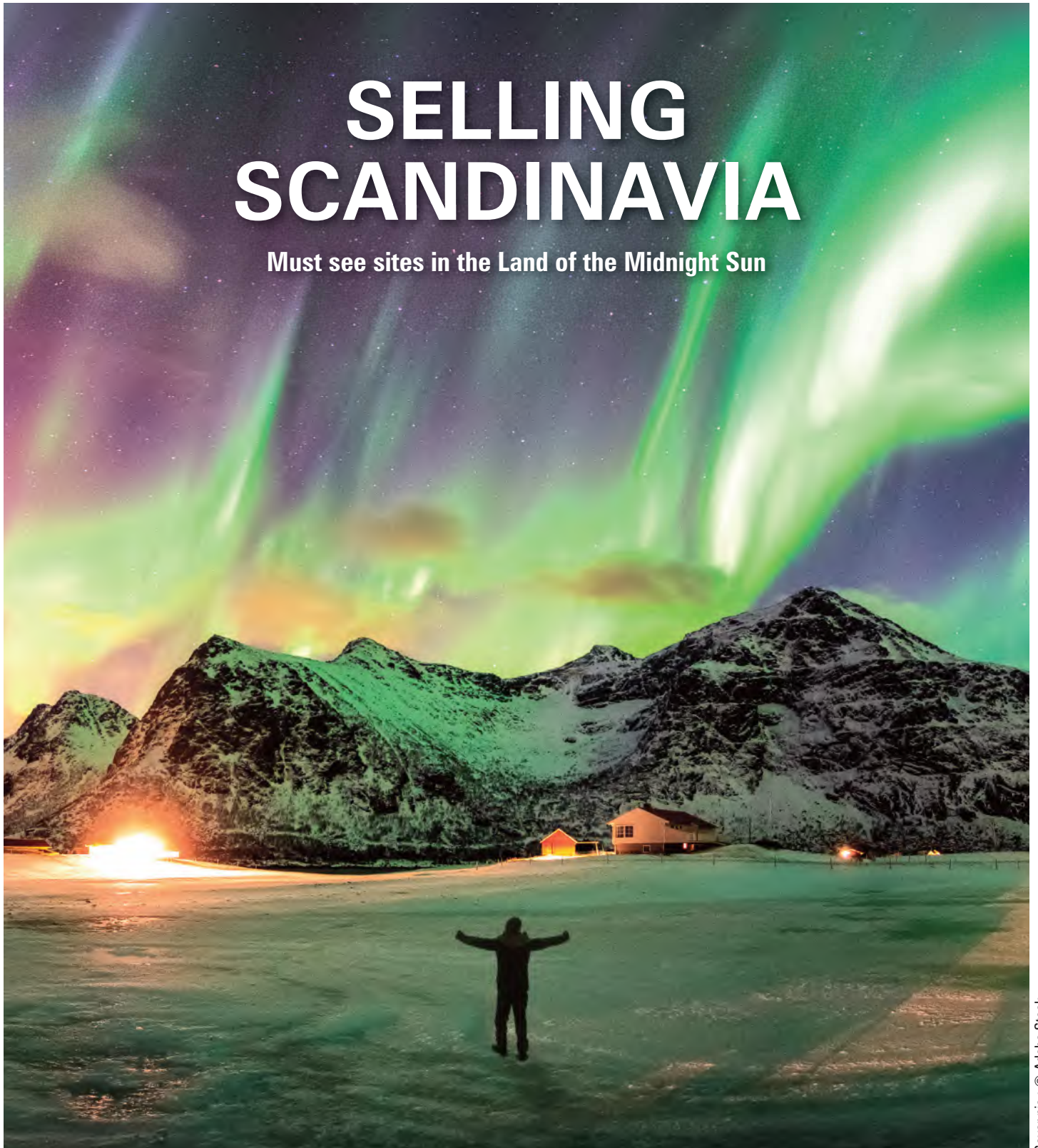
Tailor-made Canadian trips to book for your clients

TRAINING & E-LEARNING

Become an expert with these companies and sell more holidays

SELLING SCANDINAVIA

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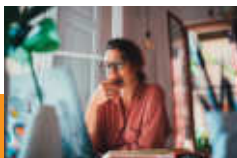
Holidays with knowledgeable guides from around the world.



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CANADA

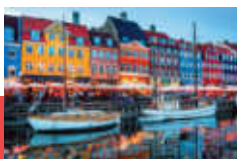
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From If Only... to CLIA, become an expert and sell more holidays.



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A round-up of tours and attractions in must-see Scandinavia.

PROFESSIONAL PACKAGES

ABTA's latest research shows a growing trend for holidaymakers seeking the security of booking with a travel professional this year.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

People are more likely to book with a travel professional now than before the pandemic.

ABTA'S DATA finds that people are 31% more likely to book a package holiday now than before the pandemic, primarily to be looked after in case something goes wrong (51%) and for financial protection (49%).

Holidaymakers are also placing a great deal of value on the services provided by a travel professional, such as a travel agent. ABTA's figures show that people are also 28% more likely to use a travel professional now than before the pandemic.

The main reasons show, once again, the importance of feeling protected and reassured, with half citing the security of package holidays (50%) as why they

would book with a travel professional, followed by trusting travel companies to look after them (48%) and the travel professional's up-to-date advice (42%). ABTA Members are reporting enquiries coming from new customers who haven't booked with them before.

As part of their service, travel professionals take customers through everything they need to know about their holiday, give them the latest advice for their destination, and keep them up to date on any changes that will affect their plans. The knowledge and expertise of travel professionals will be invaluable in helping customers understand how,

in light of the pandemic, international travel will be different compared to when they last holidayed abroad.

Holidaymakers remain committed to getting away overseas, with 63% of people saying they hope to book a holiday abroad in the next six months or longer.

Graeme Buck, director of communications at ABTA – The Travel Association, said: "Travel professionals and package holidays have an important role to play in helping people feel reassured and confident to book and travel this year, and we're seeing more and more people turning to them as they plan their holidays..."

www.abta.com

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Explore the Isle of Portland with Princess Cruises

PRINCESS CRUISES has announced the addition of the Isle of Portland as a port-of-call to four itineraries for its all-inclusive Summer Seacations.

From July to September, the cruise line's MedallionClass ships, Regal Princess and Sky Princess, will sail roundtrip routes from Southampton on scenic voyages calling exclusively at UK ports, with itineraries ranging from three to seven nights. Along with Portland, Regal Princess and Sky Princess will call at Liverpool, Belfast, and Greenock.

Guests on Regal Princess and Sky Princess will be able to enjoy 'Truly Touchless' experiences and personalised services through the cruise line's MedallionClass Experience, which supports new health protocols. Features include



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Princess' cruise to the Isle of Portland is part of its Seacations programme.

touchless embarkation and disembarkation, keyless stateroom entry and the ability to order food, drink and retail items to anywhere on the ship.

Tony Roberts, Princess Cruises UK & Europe's vice president, said: "The response from travel agents and consumers for our new Seacations has been fantastic, in particular for our itineraries with UK ports-of-call. We're delighted to be able to

provide holidaymakers with even more choice with the addition of Portland to our Seacations series.

"At the Jurassic Coast's most southerly point, Portland's isolated location makes for stunning scenery, and with Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon home to hundreds of species of birds, guests can look forward to some wildlife spotting too."

www.princess.com

BA announces new Gibraltar route from City Airport

BRITISH AIRWAYS has announced the launch of a new route between Gibraltar and London City Airport.

Operating initially over the summer period, the route will launch on June 25, 2021. Two flights a week will operate to Gibraltar – on Mondays and Fridays.

With fares starting from £43 each way, customers will also benefit from British Airways' flexible booking policy, which offers no change fees or a voucher

exchange for bookings made for travel before the end of April 2022.

Both flights will be operated by BA CityFlyer's Embraer E190 aircraft. British Airways will continue to operate its current services to Gibraltar alongside the new London City route.

British Airways is currently in the middle of its latest sale, with offers across flights and holidays.

For more information, visit www.britishairways.com

See the Big Five in South Africa with Classic Collection

CLASSIC COLLECTION Holidays will be returning to South Africa at the end of April to escort agents on two safari outings. Both events will include a guided game drive with a ranger followed by a live Q&A session.

The first safari will be broadcast from 2pm on April 23, when agents are invited to Kapama Buffalo Camp. This old-worldly luxury tented camp is set high in the treetops, close to the Kruger National Park, and gives its guests the feeling of living alongside wildlife. There will also be a visit to Kapama's Southern Camp which is a private game reserve ideal for families looking for a luxury safari lodge.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

At 2pm on April 29, Classic will take its agent partners to River Lodge, Kapama's largest private game reserve camp, and River Lodge Spa. In addition to the lodge and camp visits, viewers will have a chance of spotting species such as lions, leopards, buffalo, elephants and rhinos.

For details of all live events call 0800 008 7288 or livechat at www.classic-collection.co.uk



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Incentives and insight with Innsbruck Tourism

AS TRAVEL restrictions ease, Innsbruck Tourism has developed a range of incentives and insight to support UK travel agents.

Benefits for visitors have also been planned, with schemes including the popular Innsbruck Card and the free guest Welcome Card returning to give travel professionals additional support and help stimulate sales.

Innsbruck Tourism's head of market management, Peter Unsinn, said: "...we will start a comprehensive UK consumer marketing campaign in Spring, to encourage consumers to pick Innsbruck as their destination of choice and stimulate sales for travel agents." www.innsbruck.info/en

AmaWaterways adds second Seven River Journey

AMAWATERWAYS HAS released a second Seven River Journey – Spring. This newly curated 45-night itinerary offers guests extra time to enjoy springtime in Belgium and the Netherlands and experience the AmaMagna sailing the upper and lower Danube during the final two weeks of the trip.

The spring journey through Europe will set sail from Avignon cruising along the Rhône River to Lyon.

Guests will transfer over to Basel, Switzerland before enjoying a scenic trip along Moselle, Main and Main Danube Canal. Arriving in Vilshofen, Germany, guests will embark on the last two legs on-board AmaMagna, sailing through many capitals and small villages along the upper and lower Danube.

“Our first Seven River



Image Credit: AmaWaterways

AmaWaterways’ Seven River Journey will cruise through Europe.

Journey – Summer received such a positive response that I am overjoyed to provide our guests yet another incredible extended journey designed to fully immerse them in European culture and create memories that will last a lifetime,” said Kristin Karst, executive vice president and co-founder of AmaWaterways.

Sailing on three ships, the Seven River Journey – Spring will take guests through 14 countries. The journey will depart April 20, 2023, from Avignon, France, on-board AmaKristina, and end on June 4, 2023, in Giurgiu, Romania, with rates starting at £20,268 per guest.

www.AmaWaterways.co.uk

Leger Holidays launches its 2023 schedule

LEGER HOLIDAYS has released the first 185 of its 2023 holidays, securable with deposits from £50 per person.

Included in the early release are ‘Grand Explorer’ holidays, tapping into the post lockdown trend to book a big holiday to make up for a lost year.

These include holidays such as ‘Discover New Zealand’, a 22-day tour covering Auckland, Christchurch, Napier, Queenstown and more, priced from £6,599 per person.

Head of retail sales, Ashley Dellow, said:

“Travel agents are reporting that customers are making up for a no holiday year by booking ahead, so they have something to look forward to. With the money saved by not travelling, they are going for bigger holidays, maybe holidays of a lifetime, like our ‘Grand Explorer’ collection; YOLO syndrome – you only live once – has kicked in! Selling these holidays is a wonderful opportunity for travel agents to start making substantial commission again.”

To book, visit www.leger.co.uk

Inghams extends summer 2022 price freeze offer

INGHAMS HAS extended its price freeze until April 30. The offer allows new customers to secure summer 2022 holidays, and customers to move existing summer 2021 bookings to summer 2022, while still enjoying 2021’s value pricing.

The freeze gives clients more time to plan future getaways at current prices.

Alongside flexible measures and a refund promise set out in its ‘In Safe Hands’ campaign, for summer 2021, the operator has postponed taking final balances until four weeks prior to departure. There are also no fees to move a summer 2021 holiday to a later date before the final balance is due.

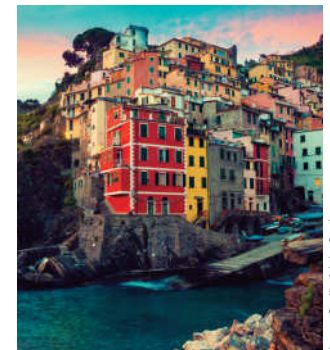


Image Credit: Adobe Stock

In 2022, Inghams’ customers can secure the chance to see more of Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Norway and Switzerland with a deposit of £150 per person.

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



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Israel to allow vaccinated tourists from May

ISRAEL WILL allow tourists to enter the country from May 23, after more than a year without international visitors. In the first phase, groups will be allowed in under recently published guidelines; gradually, the number will be increased based on the health situation and progress of the programme. Individual travellers will be allowed into Israel in the second stage, with health considerations determining the timeline. All visitors are required to undergo a PCR test before boarding a flight to Israel, and a serological test to prove their vaccination upon arrival.

www.goisrael.com



AGENT INSIGHT

JULIET TWENA TRAVEL COUNSELLORS

WORDS SUCH as addiction and obsession can be viewed quite negatively, but since I was a child I have been obsessed and addicted to one thing – travel! It's been far from undesirable!

Over the past decade and a half I've been privileged to do a job I truly love. But, in this age of tech with high speed Wi-Fi and 5G, intuitive online booking engines, and airlines taking on the package market, what is my function? Where do I come in and what can I add? Is there value in using a travel advisor?

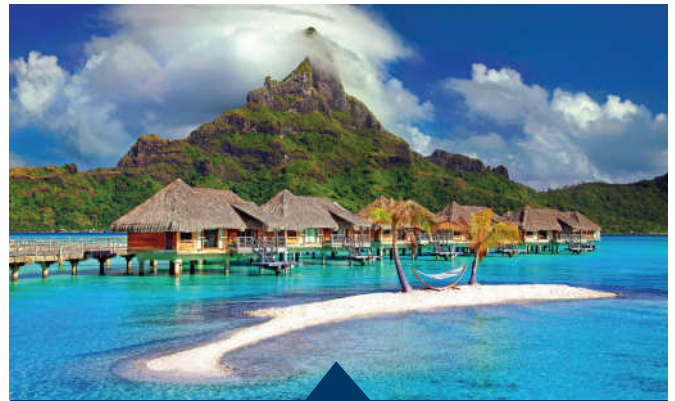
All of these statements and similar get thrown at me almost daily, and I love it. There is nothing more satisfying than having the opportunity to shout it from the roof tops. I am a professional travel agent! There isn't an online engine that can compete with the human touch. I'm here. I have got your back. I have taken the time to get to know you. I care. Always.

Following the latest Global Travel Taskforce's announcements the other week, it continues to be a challenging time for us all in travel, but no matter your opinion on the Government's approach, never has there been a better time for travellers to call in the experts.

Travel and holidays are fun, right? Who wants to sit all day trying to figure out where might be good to go, what the restrictions, entry requirements and quarantine might be? No matter how intuitive online booking engines are, they can't work all of this out.

But guess what: we travel professionals can.

2021 is set to be the year of what I like to call "smart travel". Book flexible. Book with a trusted travel advisor. Book smart.



THE PRESIDENT of French Polynesia has announced that the Islands of Tahiti are set to reopen for international visitors from May 1, 2021. Certain arrival protocols will be in place, including testing, vaccine checks and an Electronic Travel Information System (ETIS). All Tahiti residents are now eligible for vaccinations, to protect both visitors and citizens from COVID-19. www.tahititourisme.fk

Hebridean Princess offers 10% off agent bookings

HEBRIDEAN ISLAND Cruises has extended its early booking offer, letting agents save 10% on any bookings for 2022 river cruises aboard the Hebridean Princess.

Any bookings made before May 7, 2021, for cruises aboard Hebridean Princess to destinations across the United Kingdom, Northern France and Belgium, are included in the promotion.

The Hebridean Princess sails on all-inclusive itineraries, and with a guest capacity of 50, guests enjoy a near one-to-one crew to guest ratio, as well as a number of fine dining options and luxury amenities on board.

2022's scheduled programme includes specialist cruises focusing on gardens, walking, golf, wildlife, or food and drink for those looking for a more insightful voyage.



The ship sails with a capacity of 50 guests, all enjoying the all-inclusive service on board.

In April 2022, guests can enjoy the seven-night 'Easter Escape' aboard the Hebridean Princess from £5,190 per person. Departing from Oban on April 12, 2022, the cruise calls at Crinan, Tayvallich, Port Ellen (including an excursion to the Laphroaig Distillery), Ulva, Ioana and Colonsay. Cruisers will enjoy all-inclusive service aboard the ship, including two gala dinners.

www.hebridean.co.uk



G ADVENTURES has rewarded agents who took advantage of its 'Active' training campaign in March, with five giveaways. The agents winning trips across Europe were Donna Grasby from Hays Travel, Nigel Murgatroyd from Gold Medal, Laura Wilkinson from The Holiday Village, Harry Queensferry Dulger from Queensferry Travel and Tom King from Audley Travel.

AGENT TRAINING

EACH FORTNIGHT, Brand USA will be joined by a different destination to showcase popular tourist destinations and activities in the United States. Agents will have the chance to win prizes via the Kahoot! quiz during each webinar. The Rhythms of the South (Atlanta, Nashville, and New Orleans) webinar is scheduled on May 5, and the Capital Region USA (Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia) webinar, on May 19. For more information on the upcoming webinars, visit: www.myhablo.com/login

VISIT CENTRAL Florida, Polk County, is inviting agents to sign up to its newly launched "Visit Central Florida Travel Specialist Academy". Upon completion, agents will receive a Visit Central Florida Specialist Certificate, exclusive discounts and upgraded benefits within the destination, and will also be entered into a draw to win one of 100 £10 Amazon vouchers. <https://visitcentralflorida.org/travel-professionals>



AGENT INCENTIVES

- TITAN TRAVEL has launched its 'High Street's Back' campaign as it celebrates the reopening of stores across the UK and the latest easing of lockdown restrictions. For the next five weeks, Titan will be giving away a £200 lifestyle voucher each week that can be spent at a host of restaurants across the UK. Every agent who confirms a new Titan booking between now and May 16, 2021 will receive an automatic entry into its weekly draw to be in with a chance to win the voucher. Each new booking qualifies for one entry, so the more Titan holidays an agent books, the greater their chance of winning. The winner of each weekly draw will be selected at random and announced via Titan's Agent Facebook page @TitanAgentsUK.
- EUROPCAR HAS launched an incentive, giving agents the chance to win when booking rentals with the company this summer. The top booker will win a weekend rental in a selection vehicle, second place will win a £50 voucher of their choice, and third place will win a £25 voucher of their choice. After booking, independent agents must send their confirmations to europcaruk@discovertheworld.com. Advantage Travel Partnership members can send their booking confirmations to advantage.europcaruk@discovertheworld.com, along with their name, company name and phone number. For more, visit uk.agentworld.com/promotions-offers.



travelbulletin WEBINARS

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Travel Bulletin Ibiza Reloaded Showcase

on 6th May to learn all about the alternative Ibiza, and win some amazing prizes.

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Find out what adventure you can send your clients on and learn top selling tips from leading industry suppliers during their short but informative presentations, then connect with them during a live Q&A session to try and win some amazing prizes!

TIMINGS

2PM : Webinar Welcome from your Travel Bulletin Host
2.05PM - 2.35PM : Supplier Presentations
2.45PM : Live Q&A Session and Prizes | 3PM : End of Webinar

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

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, May 6th. Solution and new puzzle will appear in the next issue.

The winner for April 9th is Corin Germany from Ultimate Destinations (Norfolk).

April 9th Solution: A=5 B=9 C=2 D=3

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



WHERE AM I?

A culturally diverse city, it hosted the 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. It was originally known as Gastown and grew around a makeshift tavern. It has a large natural seaport on the Pacific Ocean and tourism is its second-largest industry after forestry.

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								

Across

- 1 Airline with HQ in Cologne (9)
- 4 Part of Australia, initially (3)
- 6 Bucharest is the capital (7)
- 8 Oslo international airport code (3)
- 10 Actor, ___ Crowe (7)
- 12 19th century author, Charles (7)
- 13 Manchester international airport code (3)
- 14 Indian ocean island, sounds like a good place to meet up with old friends (7)
- 16 Asian currency (3)
- 17 Netherlands city (9)

Down

- 1 AC-12 fight police corruption in this BBC drama series (4,2,4)
- 2 Florence international airport code (3)
- 3 This California city is theme park heaven (7)
- 5 Birthplace of 10 Across (10)
- 7 TV detective, sounds like a code (5)
- 9 Scenic Swiss lake (7)
- 11 Traditional Japanese dish (5)
- 15 Month of the year, in short (3)

Solution: Across: 1 LUFTHANSA, 4 NSW, 6 ROMANIA, 8 OSL, 10 RUSSELL, 12 DICKENS, 13 MAN, 14 REUNION, 16 YEN, 17 EINDHOVEN.
 Down: 1 LINE OF DUTY, 2 FLR, 3 ANAHEIM, 5 WELLINGTON, 7 MORSE, 9 LUCERNE, 11 SUSHI, 15 NOV.
 Mystery Word: ROME Where am I? - Vancouver

Industry insight by...



David Kevan, PATA UK & Ireland luxury spokesperson, and director of CHIC Locations, shares his thoughts on one of the key trends shaping travel, as the Pacific Asia region recovers from Covid-19 and borders gradually start to reopen.

VALUE-LED HOLIDAYS, as identified in PATA's Travel Patterns report, are a key trend creating an opportunity for agents to upsell products and increase the length of stay. Our clients, for example, are value-conscious rather than price-sensitive – the more we can include in their budget, the happier they will be.

The pandemic has had a huge impact on the economy and individuals and family's financial situations. Whether people have lost jobs, had pay cuts, changed careers or had to take on extra work to make ends meet, for many the pandemic has meant a tightening of belts or becoming more aware of value for money. However, luckily for the industry, many consumers see holidays as a 'need' and, after months of lockdown, are starting to spend their disposable income on travel and treating themselves to amazing experiences.

There is no doubt travellers want to get more for their money and will look to destinations that provide value and providers that offer

added value. Our role, as travel experts, is to utilise our contacts, rates and knowledge to create holidays that deliver this. South East Asia is one of the easiest places to deliver value such as room and dining upgrades, free spa treatments and free room nights.

The majority of travellers to the region aren't looking for 'cheap' or huge price reductions but experience filled itineraries. They're becoming increasingly time rich, looking to travel for longer periods of time so are looking to us to advise on

Our clients, for example, are value-conscious rather than price-sensitive...

additional things to see and do. We've seen clients deliberately choosing well-located, superior hotels, rather than deluxe, and spending the savings on unique, personalised private tours.

The region, as a whole, is brimming with amazing things to see and do, different cultures, scenery,

cuisine etc allowing you to be truly creative with clients itineraries and upsell these once in a lifetime trips. Typically in Thailand, the adventures of the North and the beaches of the south. In Bali the incredible dining option of Seminyak, the romance of Ubud and then up to the totally authentic north coast beaches. Or Malaysia, with Kuala Lumpur and then wildlife adventures in Sabah & Sarawak. Other examples include the new Pink Lake Helicopter Tour in Western Australia, offering scenic flights over the

region's spectacular coastline and iconic pink lake. Also in Western Australia, there is the newly opened zip-line and climb structure at Perth's iconic Matagarup Bridge, allowing thrill seekers to travel 400 metres at up to 100 kilometres per hour.

There are new and exciting

value driven developments to look out for across the region. Perth is currently experiencing a 'room-boom' making it the most affordable city in Australia for hotel rooms with DoubleTree by Hilton, The Westin, QT, COMO The Treasury, Crown Towers, Alex Hotel, Intercontinental, Aloft and Tribe amongst the mix. By 2022, a further seven new hotels will open.

Thailand has a long list of new value driven hotels due to open between now and 2023, including DusitD2 Hua Hin, COSI Chiang Mai Ta Pae Gate (2021), Grand Mercure Windsor (2021), Mövenpick Hotel Kamala Beach Phuket (2021), COSI Phuket Central Floresta (2022), Centara Grand Resort & Spa Pattaya (2022).

Even the Maldives is offering better value for money; the Dusit Thani has introduced a brand new, better priced, value add, all-inclusive product under their Pure Indulgence plan. Guests can enjoy all meals and beverages including speciality dining options plus mini bars, sunset cruises and premium brand beverages.

www.PATA.org.uk

ESCORTED TOURS



FLY TO THE FAR EAST

Wendy Wu Tours' 12-day escorted tour itinerary packs in a variety of experiences in Vietnam.

WENDY WU Tours' 12-day 'Vietnam at a Glance' itinerary takes guests through Saigon, Danang, Hanoi and Halong Bay, offering a variety of experiences.

The tour starts in Saigon, Vietnam's largest city and home to several heritage sites, such as the Cu Chi Tunnels, the colonial Notre Dame Cathedral, and the War Remnants Museum.

A cruise on the Mekong Delta, complemented with a lunch of traditional Mekong dishes, is the highlight of day four.

Following a flight transfer to Danang, travellers will visit Hoi An, a melting-pot of culture and history, most famous for its well-preserved architecture. Notable visits include Quan Cong Temple, the Japanese Bridge, and a craft workshop to watch artisans make pieces of



The tour includes an overnight stay in the beautiful Halong Bay.

jewelry, home decor and tea accessories.

After a brief exploration of the Tra Que farming village, travellers will head to Hue to discover the dynastic past of Vietnam.

Hue City, with its ancient monuments, offers a glimpse of both the glorious and more tragic past of Vietnam. Guests can visit the Imperial Citadel, Forbidden Purple City, the Royal Tomb of Minh Mang, the old Thien Mu

Pagoda, and enjoy a cruise on the Perfume River.

An overnight stay in a traditionally designed boat on Halong Bay, cruising amongst the karst peaks, and an open-air performance of The Quintessence of Tonkin, rounds off the trip.

Prices start at £4,980 for a April 19, 2022 departure. Wendy Wu Tours' 'partners fly free' offer is applicable.

www.wendywutours.co.uk

Just Go! and National Holidays bring back festive cheer early

THE JG Travel Group, which includes Just Go! Holidays and National Holidays, has added extra products to meet the demand for festive breaks this winter.

Just Go! Holidays has introduced a new break titled 'Christmas Carols on the Union of South Africa Steam Train' on the East Lancashire Railway, which is currently on sale now.

The two-day trip features a steam train journey behind the Union of South Africa, and includes mulled wine, mince pies, brass band, carol singers, plus a visit and gift from Santa.

Prices start from £139 per person, including return coach travel, one night's bed and breakfast accommodation, the festive steam train journey, a visit to Manchester's Christmas Markets and the famous Bury Market, based on a December 9, 2021 departure date, with selected pick up points around the UK.

Additional tickets for the Thursford Christmas Spectacular break have also been secured, which are on sale through both brands.

www.justgoholidays.com/agents

SOAK UP SOUTH AMERICA

Cosmos showcases 'The Best of Brazil & Argentina' with eight days in Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro.



Image Credit: Pixels/Althema

'THE BEST of Brazil & Argentina' showcases just that – two of the continent's most popular cities, Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires, with plenty of time at guests' leisure to explore the cities and their unique experiences.

Kicking off in Rio de Janeiro, travellers can enjoy the white-sand beaches or the world-famous carnival before meeting the tour director, a Cosmos representative, who will guide the group and give pointers for their free time in the city.

A sightseeing tour the following morning showcases the city's lush beaches, and many highlights including Christ the Redeemer. The third day is spent at guests' own leisure.

A morning flight brings the tour to Iguassu Falls, one of the highlights of the tour, as the groups immerses itself in panoramic views of the area's 275 waterfalls.

On day five, the group crosses the border to visit the Falls' Argentine side, with a ride on the open-air Jungle Train through the rainforest.

On day six, a flight to Buenos Aires awaits, spotlighting Argentina's cosmopolitan capital, known as the "Paris of South America". The city's wide boulevards, al fresco cafés and charming shopping districts are at the guests' disposal for this leisurely break.

The following morning will see the group visiting the Teatre Colón Opera House and Plaza de Mayo, ending the day with an Argentinean meal and an authentic Tango show.

The eighth day is free for independent exploration, or an optional excursion to a local ranch to experience the life of the 'gauchos', followed by traditional dance performances and a local barbecue lunch.

Return flights from Buenos Aires draw the tour to an end the following morning.

This itinerary starts from £1,556 per person, including accommodation and excursions. Flights are available from a range of regional UK airports (price of flights not included).

www.cosmos.co.uk

Intrepid Travel's deep dive into the heart of Morocco

INTREPID'S 15-DAY 'Premium Morocco In-Depth' itinerary showcases all the country has to offer, and so much more.

Beginning in Casablanca, the tour travels east to Rabat, where a wealth of culture awaits.

Meknes is a shining example of a 'medina', or walled city, and Volubilis, former Roman capital, offers ancient history galore. Two days in Chefchaouen showcases the country's scenic offerings.

Arriving in the Sahara Desert, guests explore the expansive landscape and enjoy a highlight of the trip: camel rides across the desert. Two-nights in Dades spotlights Morocco's unique rock formations and scenery.



Image Credit: Pixels/Althema

Journeying along the 'Road of a Thousand Kasbahs', the trip calls at Ait Benhaddou and Ouirgane for the culture that Morocco is celebrated for. The trip ends in Marrakech, enjoying the city's iconic markets and restaurants.

The 15-day journey starts from £2,420 per person, including private transportation, accommodation, activities, and excursions.

www.intrepidtravel.com



Image Credit: Pixels/Althema

All aboard the Glacier Express

GREAT RAIL Journeys offers seven nights aboard the Amadeus Queen, Silver II or Imperial, as well as five nights in four-star accommodation, on 'The Glacier Express and Danube Cruise'.

Journey into the heart of the alps, up to the Oberalp Pass, through picturesque alpine villages, before a seven-night cruise through Budapest, Bratislava, Vienna and the Wachau Valley.

This rail journey and river cruise combination starts from £3,595 per person, including accommodation, based on a June 12, 2022 departure date.

www.greatrail.com

HERE COMES CAMINO

Back-Roads Touring's 'A Taste of the Camino: Porto to Bilbao' itinerary drifts guests along the scenic Portugese coast and through the north of Spain's historic towns.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

FROM THE medieval history of northern Spain to the marvels of Portugal's natural parks, seven days along the Camino with Back-Roads Touring's 'A Taste of the Camino: Porto to Bilbao' itinerary ticks off many of the ancient route's highlights and hotspots.

Beginning amongst the medieval walls of Porto, the tour enjoys a leisurely day in Portugal's northwestern city, before a coach transfer takes guests to Viana Do Casgelo and its picturesque neo-Byzantine architecture the following morning. The group spends the night at Santiago de Compostela for a laidback evening in the charming city.

Two days in Santiago de Compostela offer historical insight into the ancient Camino pilgrimage trail, including the stone architecture of the Old Town and a locally guided walking tour through the region.

More history awaits guests, as they continue towards the gothic township of León. A day trip to the vineyards in Castille, and a tour of the León countryside to enjoy

local wine and a leisurely lunch will be the high-point of the day.

Leaving the metropolis of León behind, the tour continues to Picos de Europa National Park, for some of Spain's most scenic spots, including expansive views of the Cantabrian Mountains. After lunch, the group enjoys panoramic photo opportunities and a cable car ride to the Aliva viewpoint. The penultimate day of the tour ends in Santillana del Mar, for a dinner at a restaurant of guests' choosing.

On the final day, the group stops off at Santander, to visit the Palacio de Magdalena, the former home of the Spanish Royal family, built between 1909 and 1911. Continuing to Bilbao after a local lunch, guests can explore the city at their leisure before a chosen return date.

This seven-day tour starts from £2,029 per person, including six nights accommodation, 10 meals, private transfers and a tour leader.

www.backroadstouring.com

Bamboo Travel's Bali & Thailand breaks

BAMBOO TRAVEL'S 15-day Southern Thailand and Bali breaks show guests the best of the destinations at a leisurely pace.

The 15-day 'Escape to Southern Thailand' begins in Khanom, with a chance to spot dolphins in their natural habitat and enjoy a cookery lesson. From a tented camp in the Khao Sok National Park, guests enjoy adventurous excursions including kayaking and hiking. The tour ends on the beaches of Krabi.

This break starts from £2,595 per person, including flights and accommodation.

Bamboo's 'Escape to Bali' option offers 15 days in some of Asia's most exotic settings. Beginning in the resort of Sanur, guests get in touch with Bali's culture before venturing to Munduk to explore the traditional lifestyle of the Balinese. Onto Ubud, the tour learns about Bali's heritage, before ending in a beach resort along the east coast.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

This option starts from £2,450 per person, including flights, accommodation, activities, and entrance and guide fees.

www.bambootravel.co.uk



Image Credit: iStock

Scenic's Japan and South Korea 2021/22 programme

SCENIC HAS unveiled a series of land tours as part of its 2021/22 Japan and South Korea escorted touring programme.

Guests immerse themselves in Japan's history on the '16-Day Hidden Wonders of North Japan' tour, taking in the sweeping views of Matushima Bay and soul searching at the Zuigangi Temple from £9,525 per person.

The '12-day Soul of South Korea' tour showcases the cultural wealth of South Korea, including the Gamchon Culture Village and the Hyo Jae Cultural Hall, from £6,005 per person.

www.scenic.co.uk

EUROPEAN DELIGHTS

Explore a trio of historic European cities and the Blue Danube with Newmarket Holidays' 'Prague, Vienna & Budapest' trip.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS offers an eight-day tour to explore the vibrant cities of Prague, Vienna and Budapest, along with a journey down the Blue Danube.

The holiday highlights include a walking tour of Prague, where guests will journey through the forested Bohemia. Places of visit include the Ringstrasse buildings, the Hofburg Palace in Vienna, and the cosmopolitan Bratislava en route to Hungary. Guests can also visit Budapest's traditional thermal baths and later, the Parliament building. Those who are interested, can also take a Danube river cruise which offers magnificent views of Budapest.

While on this part of the holiday, guests can also take in the views of Budapest on a Danube river cruise.

Holidaymakers can enjoy the optional buffet dinner river cruise excursion to the former Eastern German city of Dresden on the River Elbe. On the Elbe's northern bank, Neustadt and neighbouring Aussere Neustadt are home to several museums.

For a June 2, 2022, departure date, from London Gatwick, the package is priced at £972 per person. This price includes seven nights' four-star bed-and-breakfast accommodation in Prague (three nights), Vienna (two) and Budapest (two); return flights to Prague (returning from Budapest), coach travel and transfers throughout, fully escorted by an experienced tour manager.

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk

Exodus Travels: Ride the South Wales Coast

EXODUS TRAVELS offers a week-long Ride the South Wales Coast tour, which includes five days of a guided cycling tour from Swansea to St Davids, including the coastal paths of Wales.

Riding the Gower Peninsula through the wetland conservation areas of Llanelli, across the River Towy and along the Pembrokeshire coast, the tour also visits villages and farmland before reaching St Davids.

Exodus Travels' senior product manager, Tom Wilkinson, said: "Our new collection visits some fascinating places across the UK and are accompanied by a passionate and knowledgeable leader. By cycling and walking as much as possible, travellers will see places that they may otherwise miss, and can discover some of our own country's truly spectacular landscapes."



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

The package starts from £1,499 per person, including six nights' accommodation with breakfast, luggage transfers and other meals and activities.

www.exodus.co.uk



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Experience the 'Essence of Japan' with Titan Travel

FOR TRAVELLERS looking to take an adventure-packed escorted tour to the Far East, Titan Travel offers the 14-day 'Essence of Japan' holiday, from £4,899 per person.

The tour includes 12 nights hotel accommodation, 13 meals and 17 excursions, including a Lake Ashi cruise and a walking tour of Takayama. The price also includes Titan's VIP door-to-door travel service, services of a Titan tour manager and local guide, and return international flights from London Heathrow with British Airways.

The price is based on a September 9, 2022 departure. To help holidaymakers book with confidence, Titan offers a £49 flexi-deposit on the majority of new bookings made by August 31, 2021.

www.titantravel.co.uk



SPRING IN YOUR STEP

Exsus Travel's bespoke self-drive holiday, 'Into the Wild: an Exceptional Canada Adventure' allows guests to enjoy the beautiful landscapes of Canada at their own pace.

EXSUS TRAVEL'S bespoke holiday 'Into the Wild: an Exceptional Canada Adventure' is a new self-drive adventure holiday exploring British Columbia and Alberta.

Guests will visit beautiful landscapes and try some action-packed activities while on their road trip, at a pace which they enjoy.

Travellers will discover the awe-inspiring Rockies, surrounded by soaring snow-capped mountains, and the Yoho National Park, with the option to go hiking and mountain biking on scenic trails around pristine lakes, vibrant waterfalls, mountain peaks and ancient rainforests.

Guests can venture out to see the glaciers of the Icefields Parkway, and experience the glass-floored skywalks, scenic mountain trams and suspension



Guests can get a bird's-eye view of Canada with a floatplane ride.

bridges, snaking through the treetops. They can go kayaking or white water rafting, or surfing in some of Canada's best wave spots, such as Tofino, or take a bird's-eye view of the postcard-perfect villages and islands below with a floatplane ride.

The itinerary includes visits to mountain towns such as Banff, Jasper and Whistler, with opportunities to see a variety of wildlife,

including black bears, wolfdogs, whales and sea lions. After an action-packed day, fresh local seafood and luxuriously cosy log cabins await travellers.

Prices start from £4,975 per person for 16 nights, based on a June 1, 2022 departure date. The price includes flights, transfers, accommodation and activities.

www.exsus.com

Inghams explores eastern Canada in seven days

INGHAMS' SEVEN-NIGHT 'Canada: Eastern Journey Escorted Tour' itinerary takes guests through the main attractions of Eastern Canada, stringing along visits to the cosmopolitan Toronto, Quebec, Montreal, and the UNESCO-listed waterways of Ottawa.

The tour starts with an exploration of the local attractions in Toronto, followed by a trip to the Niagara Peninsula, which culminates with a visit to the magnificent Niagara Falls.

Visitors can explore Quebec City at leisure on this trip. The city, which boasts a 400-year-old cultural heritage, as the birthplace of French North America, has many historical landmarks to visit, such as the Lower Town, the Citadel and Battlefields Park.

On their way from Montreal to Toronto, guests can stop in Rockport and cruise the Thousand Islands on an optional excursion (payable locally).

Prices start from £1,598 per person for seven nights, based on a September 4, 2021 departure date from London Heathrow. (based on a couple sharing).

www.ingham.co.uk

O, CANADA!

APT has pre-released a selection of its 2022 'Bucket List Trips' across Canada, in response to pent-up demand from customers who are planning epic post-pandemic adventures.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

APT HAS unveiled its collection of 2022 immersive trips in much-coveted destinations, early, to meet pent-up customer demand.

One example of the new offerings is the **Passage Through the Rockies** holiday.

From Calgary to Victoria, this 13-day trip is priced at £3,345, based on a April 23, 2022, departure date. Included are return flights from the UK, 12 nights of premium accommodation, 14 breakfasts, 11 lunches and three dinners, sightseeing, transportation and the services of a Travelmarvel tour director. Itinerary highlights include watching for wildlife on a river safari to Grizzly Bear Valley, staying overnight at Blue Rivers Mike Wiegele Heli Village, visiting the Yamnuska Wolfdog Sanctuary and taking in Lake Louise, which has become a world-

famous, must-see sight known as 'the Jewel of the Canadian Rockies'. Departures take place between April and September 2022.

APT's UK managing director, Paul Melinis, said: "Having been unable to travel for the last 12 months, our customers are desperate to secure an extraordinary adventure in 2022, and to make up for a year of lost holidays. Enquiries and bookings for our longer haul escorted tours are rising rapidly. Guided travel is clearly a popular choice in a post-Covid-19 world, because of the reassurance that this travel style offers..."

Agents can find more information at www.aptouring.co.uk and www.aptagentclub.co.uk

Rocky Mountaineer to restart Canadian travel season in July

IN CONSIDERATION of the continuing travel restrictions and uncertainty of when they will be lifted, Rocky Mountaineer is delaying the start of its Canadian travel season until July 5, 2021.

For guests affected by the delayed start to travel in Canada, Rocky Mountaineer is offering several benefits, including: providing a future travel credit equivalent to 110% of monies paid; holding its 2021 and 2022 rail pricing at 2020 levels; and providing a price guarantee for its vacation packages to ensure travellers can book a similar tour at the same price.

Guests can also choose to transfer their booking to the new route in the U.S., Rockies to the Red Rocks, with an added incentive to return to travel on the Canadian routes in the future. Rocky Mountaineer has added greater



Image Credit: Rocky Mountaineer

flexibility to its bookings, which allows guests to change their departure dates, or people on the booking, up to 30 days ahead of travel, without charge or penalty.

www.rockymountaineer.com



Image Credit: W Hotels

Ontario to debut two new hotels

THE PROVINCE of Ontario in Canada will see two hotels debuting in the coming months, offering visitors new accommodation choices.

W Hotels arrives in Toronto's fashionable Yorkville neighbourhood, boasting 255 luxurious rooms. The hotel lobby leads to an indoor and outdoor bar and lounge equipped with DJ booth and recording studio. There is also a rooftop restaurant with a glass exterior elevator accessible from street level, a fitness centre, and 4,800 square feet of meeting space.

Also in spring, the pet-friendly Park Hyatt Toronto will open its doors to 219 rooms. Guests can book a day of pampering at the on-property Stillwater Spa, or sip cocktails at the 17th-floor bar. <https://hotels.marriott.com/>

CREAM OF CANADA'S CROP

Saga's 10-day exploration of Eastern Canada showcases the tourist highlights of Toronto and Ottawa, with some hidden natural marvels along the way.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

SAGA'S 'HIGHLIGHTS of Eastern Canada' encapsulates the tourist hotspots and scenic marvels of eastern Canada, from historic Ottawa to modern Toronto.

Arriving with Saga's door-to-door transfers, the tour begins with a stay in the three-star Courtyard by Marriott Downtown Toronto.

A sightseeing tour on the second day showcases the iconic Toronto skyline, before an afternoon at guests' leisure offers them a chance to explore the city as they please.

Travellers then head along the coast of Lake Ontario for a cruise around the Thousand Islands.

Onto Quebec, the tour checks into the four-star Hotel Place Dupuis. Guests can explore the historic Quebec City at their leisure throughout day four and five before venturing onwards to Ottawa for a sightseeing tour and a whole day to explore the historic city and its wealth of highlights, from Parliament Hill to

Byward Market.

From Ottawa, the tour heads towards a highlight of the trip – two days in Niagara Falls, checking in to the four-star Sheraton on the Falls Hotel. Travellers can then enjoy a voyage on the Hornblower Niagara on day nine, or a 'Journey Behind the Falls', before the trip's final dinner at the Sheraton's panoramic restaurant with views of the falls.

The final morning takes guests to Niagara-on-the-Falls, a charming postcard town, before a flight back to the UK from Toronto.

The 'Highlights of Eastern Canada' trip is priced at £2,749 per person, based on a September 1, 2021, departure. This price includes return flights, door-to-door transfers, accommodation and selected excursions and visits.

www.travel.saga.co.uk

Canadian Affair's scenic self-drive escape

'UNLIMITED ADVENTURES Self Drive Holiday', from Canadian Affair, takes holidaymakers on a 15-night journey through the resorts of the Rockies, the panoramic landscapes of British Columbia and along the Pacific Coast of Vancouver Island.

Beginning in Calgary, the tour travels to Banff National Park, with the surrounding wilderness and hiking paths available at guests' leisure.

The next two days are spent in the Jasper National Park and Clearwater, north of Kamloops.

Onto the resort town of Whistler, guests enjoy golf, spas and adventurous excursions in the picturesque village.



Image Credit: iStock

Two days in Pacific Rim National Park offers rugged hiking trails, before travelling into the charming city of Victoria. A scenic ferry ride to Vancouver draws the tour to the close.

This 15-night trip starts from £2,236 per person, based on a May 2022 departure date, including return flights and car hire with fully inclusive insurance.

www.canadianaffair.com



Image Credit: Golden Skybridge

Golden Skybridge to open in British Columbia

PURSUIT IS expanding its collection of hospitality experiences with the launch of the Golden Skybridge in Golden, British Columbia, this May. The multi-season experience will offer two suspension bridges, at 80 metres and 130 metres high, offering panoramic views of the surrounding Purcell and Rocky Mountains. The experience will also offer a tandem bungee swing and a 1,200 metre zipline across the canyon.

Golden is situated 90 minutes from Banff, and is a popular stop for visitors to Calgary, the Okanagan and Vancouver.

www.goldenskybridge.com

TRAINING & E-LEARNING



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

FALL FOR FLORIDA

Florida's Paradise Coast has created a new 10-lesson introductory training programme to help agents prepare themselves to sell the idyllic southwest Floridian destination.

FLORIDA'S PARADISE Coast training programme course aims to provide agents with the confidence to sell the region. Each lesson will provide agents with the skills to inform, inspire and excite the customer, and ultimately secure and maximise bookings.

The lessons will include a destination overview, how to get there, best time to visit, things to do, key attractions, accommodation recommendations, the best tours on offer, and a host of insider tips. The interactive programme takes approximately 40 minutes and concludes with a quiz. Upon completion, agents will be awarded with an official training certificate and gain access to the media



Image Credit: Florida's Paradise Coast

The region offers many resorts and hotels, steps away from the beach.

library, latest destination news and forthcoming courses.

www.paradisecoast-training.com

CLIA launches new training programme for agents

CRUISE LINES International Association (CLIA) has announced the launch of a new training course for its travel agent members.

Travel professionals looking to learn more about the river cruise sector can now take advantage of its 'RiverView Program'. The programme comprises new online training, exclusive resources and will, in time,

offer a schedule of dedicated events. The Certificate Programme has two sections – European river cruising and Worldwide river cruising. In addition, it will offer tailored advice and guidance on each river and some key destinations. The programme offers around five hours of in-depth training.

For more information, email ukinfo@cruising.org

Sandals in the Spotlight webinars

TRAVEL AGENTS who want to brush up on their product knowledge of Sandals and Beaches Resorts and grow their business through sales, or find out more about the various benefits on offer, can listen to 'Sandals in the Spotlight, a weekly webinar series.

The 15-minute weekly webinars are hosted by the Sandals and Beaches Resorts' UK sales team, and are currently held every Wednesday at 11am.

Each webinar covers a range of different topics relating to the 'Luxury Included' (all-inclusive) resort group, ranging from specific resorts, to details of the different Caribbean islands on which Sandals and Beaches Resorts are located.

All of the Sandals and Beaches Resorts' weekly webinars will be promoted and posted on the Selling Sandals For Agents trade Facebook page each Monday, ahead of the webinars being published on Wednesdays of the same week.

To learn more, visit www.sellingsandals.co.uk

SELL SAILINGS



Image Credit: AmaWaterways

AMAWATERWAYS HAS crafted a dedicated agent portal, featuring plenty of tools designed to help the brand's trade partners boost their river cruising sales this summer.

The portal's training options include a selection of training courses that are set to be improved and expanded as time goes on.

The "'Ama' Means Love: the AmaWaterways Difference" training course helps agents get familiar with the brand and its unique offerings. "The Danube River with AmaWaterways" course spotlights some of the company's most popular cruises along the Danube river.

One of the portal's customisable tools is the option to create a dedicated co-branded

AmaWaterways website. Agents can customise the website to showcase exclusive promotions and the company's offerings.

Agents can boost their social media accounts with the brand's selection of social media assets, including a toolkit of templates to get clients engaged.

Agents who make the most of the training on offer and sell five or more bookings for 2021 are in with a chance of earning a complimentary stateroom for two.

For direct communication, the portal also provides contact details for the company's sales team for any enquiries.

www.amawaterways.co.uk

E-learning with Elegant Resorts: live webinars and luxury learning

LUXURY OPERATOR, Elegant Resorts, has been busy throughout lockdown, collating a range of online training and live events for agents to complete and attend in the coming months.

The operator has already hosted six webinars this year, with almost 300 agents attending.

Upcoming webinars include the interactive 'Marriott Luxury Europe cocktail making' webinar, on May 18, 2021, which will not only

teach agents the all-important skills behind crafting the perfect cocktail, but also showcase Marriott's luxury European offerings.

On May 19, 2021, a webinar focused on Sugar Beach St Lucia, a Viceroy resort, will take place, helping agents learn the ins-and-outs of one of St Lucia's most luxurious properties.

To register, agents can email head of agency sales, Jon Hardcastle, at jon.hardcastle@elegantresorts.co.uk

Bahamac: fill your brain with the Bahamas

BAHAMAC, THE dedicated Bahamas Academy for travel professionals, has launched, equipping agents with all the know-how and tools to help build the best breaks possible for their clients and boost their sales.

The platform's e-learning programme lets agents learn at their own pace, and once the training is completed, the course will help them to become destination ambassadors.

After signing up, agents become 'Bahamacademics' and will be able to access all the destination knowledge and online training programmes, as well as various e-newsletters.

The platform's e-learning is available at agents' disposal, and users will be invited to training events across the UK once in-person events return.



Image Credit: Pexels/Antoni Beldiakin

Upon completing the training, agents will be officially certified by the Bahamas Tourist Office. Recording Bahamas sales gives agents the chance to join a fam trip with the top Bahamas-selling agents.

www.bahamac.co.uk



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Webinar Wednesdays with If Only...

TWICE A month, If Only... gives agents the chance to learn more about the operator's partner destinations and accommodations across the globe.

Recent inclusions have included One&Only Resorts and Sun Siyam Resorts, where agents have had the chance to win a selection of £50 vouchers.

Upcoming partners include Hard Rock Dominican Republic & Mexico, amongst others.

Agents can also see links to past webinars on IfOnly's Facebook group, so they can watch at a later date or time if they can't make it on the day.

Keep up to date with the upcoming webinars at www.ifonly.co/signup

SCANDINAVIA

Image Credit: Adobe Stock



COASTAL BREAK WITH A DIFFERENCE

Best Served Scandinavia is offering a Northern Lights break to the charming coastal city of Lulea in Sweden.

SURROUNDED BY sea and an archipelago comprising of some 1,312 islands, Best Served Scandinavia's holiday to Lulea is a coastal break with a difference.

From December, visitors can experience a frozen wonderland of snow and ice trails, where they can snowshoe, skate, walk and sled across the bay directly from the city centre. Located just under 70km from the Arctic Circle, Lulea's lack of light pollution, long winters and dark nights offer truly

beautiful spectacles. While auroras can be viewed in the city, they're best witnessed on the range of snowmobiling and snowshoeing excursions.

Another highlight is the UNESCO-listed Gammelstad, or Old Town, one of the best-preserved examples of a 15th century church village.

Guests can explore river valleys and snow-clad forests, or visit remote islands reached by a unique network of ice roads. On the final night, there is an

included northern lights dinner experience at Brandon Lodge, a log cabin on the edge of the frozen sea.

Prices with Best Served Scandinavia for a Northern Lights City Break in Lulea start from £795 per person, including return flights and transfers, three nights' accommodation, on a bed-and-breakfast basis, and a northern lights Viewing Dinner at Brandon Lodge.

www.best-served.co.uk

Virtual visits to Helsinki with Travel Curious

AS TRAVEL to Europe is currently off the cards, Travel Curious' virtual tours are the perfect way for travel agents to inspire clients to book future holidays.

The Best of Helsinki live virtual tour costs £99 and takes place over Zoom or any other video calling platform. It lasts for one hour, during which participants will immerse themselves in the city, visiting sites including the Old Senate Building, University of Helsinki, Helsinki Cathedral and the National Library of Finland. The tour will uncover the secrets of Helsinki via its history, culture and architecture.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Tours can be customised on request, prior to joining, and all tours are recorded and shared with participants so they can keep them on hand to watch again.

Travel Curious offers agents a commission of between 8 to 15%.

www.travelcurious.com



Image Credit: Best Served Scandinavia

The northern lights are visible in Lulea from late August until April.

COMING SOON IN NORWAY

Visit Norway highlights the many attractions, adventures and hotels that will soon be bookable in the heart of Scandinavia.



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

2021 AND 2022 will see many new openings and attractions across Norway, as highlighted by Visit Norway.

Havila Voyages

Havila Voyages will sail environmentally friendly ships on the Norwegian coast between Bergen in the south and Kirkenes in the north, calling on 34 ports of call. The two ships are loaded with the world's largest Battery Park, and for four hours they will sail without noise or emissions through the fjords. The four ships can carry 640 passengers with 179 cabins, including Deluxe Seaview & Junior Suites and Presidential Suites. The cruises will start in spring 2021.

Sommerro Hotel, Oslo

The opening of Sommerro Hotel in summer 2022 will mark the rebirth of a 1930's landmark in one of Oslo's neighbourhoods.

Sommerro will stand as a community in its own right, and will include an open house with a hub of restaurants and bars, plans for a library and a small private cinema, and the city's first rooftop pool, sauna and terrace. The hotel will offer 246 rooms, including an accompanying villa with 15 rooms and suites.

The National Museum

In 2022, the largest art museum in the Nordic countries will open, in Oslo. The museum will offer classic art, contemporary art, architecture and design, all under one roof.

The Whale

The Whale will open in 2023 in Vesterålen, northern Norway, and will be a cultural museum to observe whales and other marine wildlife, under the Arctic lights.

www.visitnorway.com

Iceland extends exemption from border restrictions

ALL UK travellers providing proof of a certified vaccination will be allowed to travel to Iceland without being subject to PCR testing and quarantine.

Visitors who can provide valid evidence of prior infection in accordance with the requirements defined by the Chief Epidemiologist are also exempt from border measures, such as testing and quarantine.

"We are excited to safely reopen our borders to fully vaccinated citizens, as well as those who are no longer susceptible to the virus," said Sigríður Dögg Guðmundsdóttir, head of Visit Iceland. "Tourism is a very valuable industry for Iceland, as it contributes to our economy and culture. With the support of approved vaccines, the targeted measures taken by Icelandic



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

officials, experts, scientists, and the general population to continuously keep the infection rate down, combined with a focused reopening plan designed to keep the Icelandic people and tourists healthy..."

<https://meetinreykjavik.is/>

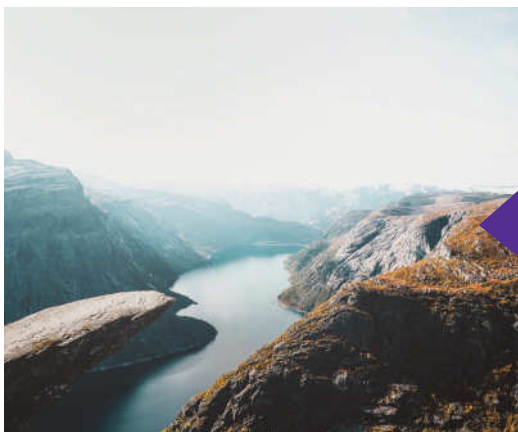


Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Discover the beauty of Scandinavia

THOSE WANTING to explore the best of Scandinavia can enjoy a three-in-one package with Nordic Visitor's 'Highlights of Scandinavia' holiday, which will explore the capitals of Sweden, Denmark and Norway.

Guests can walk down centuries-old cobblestone streets, sample local delicacies, stroll through charming villages, and take in the breathtaking landscapes – including fjords and mountains – all seen by foot, train, boat and coach.

The tour offers guests a combination of expertly guided excursions and some leisure time to enjoy the sights at their own pace. The 10-day/nine-night package is priced from £3,461, based on a June 16, 2022, departure. <https://scandinavia.nordicvisitor.com/>

Walking in a winter wonderland with Transsun

TRANSUN'S WINTER

Wonderland trip to Finnish Lapland is the perfect choice for your clients looking to take a festive getaway with the family.

On the one-day Winter Wonderland holiday, there is a chance to sample a range of winter experiences that are guaranteed to get your guests into the Christmas spirit. Travellers can experience a sled pulled by huskies or reindeer, as they ride over the frozen tundra. The trip also offers the chance to experience a snowmobile trip – adults with a full UK driving license have the opportunity to drive through the silent snowscape. Each family will get to meet Santa in his log cabin, deep in the woods, where they can share their Christmas wishes with him



Image Credit: Adobe Stock

Families can enjoy the full experience of 'Santa's Lapland' with Transsun's winter 2021 escape.

during a private family encounter.

All major activities take place on a frozen lake or river, and a Transsun representative will guide all guests, in order to make the most of their time.

Trips run throughout December until Christmas Eve, with

convenient departures from airports throughout the UK.

A sample holiday departs from London Gatwick on December 14, 2021, and is priced at £559 per person.

www.transsun.co.uk

Celebrate Hans Christian Andersen in Denmark

SUMMER 2021 will see a Hans Christian Andersen museum, 'H.C. Andersen's House', open in the writer's hometown of Odense, Denmark.

The museum will celebrate Andersen's life and fairytales, bringing the writer's story and stories to a new generation.

"The idea is not to retell the stories, but to communicate their familiarity and inspire further reading of Andersen," says Torben Grøngaard Jeppesen, the head of Odense City Museums. The museum will contain a children's house and an underground museum, intertwining with a fairytale garden for guests to enjoy.

For more information, visit www.visitdenmark.com

If you could invite anyone to dinner, who would it be?



Jeanette Ratcliffe
Publisher
jeanette.ratcliffe@travelbulletin.co.uk
My dad.



Bill Coad
Account Manager
bill.coad@travelbulletin.co.uk
Peter Kay.



Mariam Ahmad
Assistant Editor - News
news@travelbulletin.co.uk
Jack Black.



Sarah Terry
Account Manager
sarah.terry@travelbulletin.co.uk



Simon Eddolls
Sales Director
simon.eddolls@travelbulletin.co.uk
Joseph Stalin or Chairman Mao, plus a translator.



Hannah Carter
Events Coordinator
hannah.carter@travelbulletin.co.uk
David Attenborough.



Tim Podger
Account Manager - Far East
tim.podger@travelbulletin.co.uk
George Best.



Ashweenee Beerjeraz
Events Assistant
ashweenee.beerjeraz@travelbulletin.co.uk
My great, great, great grandmother - so, I can find out where I really came from!



Matt Gill
Senior Account Manager
matt.gill@travelbulletin.co.uk
My grandparents.

EVENTS: events@travelbulletin.co.uk

PRODUCTION: production@travelbulletin.co.uk

CIRCULATION: circulation@travelbulletin.co.uk

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