

Travel bulletin

Giving agents the edge



WTM. Preview

What to expect from this year's
must-attend show

MORE IN...

Agent Bulletin

Earn free hotel stays and more with the First Collection Pg.7

Cruise Showcase

More on *Travel Bulletin's* recent Cruise Showcase in Hull Pg.11

Weddings & Honeymoons

Destination getaways to suit all tastes Pg.18



ANTOR

Tracey Poggio talks about destination members' plans at WTM Pg.10

 MDINA

MORE TO EXPLORE



Famous for its bountiful art and culture, Malta is definitely a destination that should be on everyone's travel list. In addition to its delicious gastronomy and incredible experiences the Maltese Islands boast over 7,000 years of history and three UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Search the below link to find out more.

malta-training.com



VisitMalta

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HOLIDAY HABITS

ABTA has released its Holiday Habits report for 2022.

ABTA HAS published its Holiday Habits 2022 report – which looks at how people travelled over the last 12 months and covers the first real opportunity people had to take an overseas break since March 2020, when COVID-19 brought international travel to a standstill. The report also looks at people's holiday plans for the year ahead.

The report reveals that the UK's love affair with overseas travel is back – with 45% of people travelling abroad in the 12 months to August 2022, equivalent to 70% of people who took a foreign holiday in 2019.

More people booked with a travel professional this year than in 2019 (36% compared with 34%), with a notable rise in demand from young families and young people. More than half of those with young families (54%), and 25–34-year-olds (55%), booked in this way, both an increase on 2019 (36% and 38% respectively). Of all those choosing to book with a travel

professional, the ease of booking was their main motivation (44%), followed by having someone to help and support if something goes wrong (35%).

Packages were the most popular way to travel on an overseas holiday, with almost two-thirds (63%) of holidaymakers taking this type of trip. Being the best value option for the price (34%), having everything taken care of (29%) and booking an all-inclusive holiday (28%) were the top reasons why people took a package holiday.

That said, many people do expect to make some changes to their travel plans to meet the rising cost of living. The top three ways people plan to reduce their holiday costs are by taking fewer holidays (36%), opting for cheaper travel options (28%) and eating out less while away (23%), while only 14% of people say they won't go away at all – which drops to just 4% of those who travelled in the last year.

www.abta.com/holidayhabits2022.

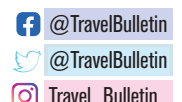


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15th Nov
Indian Ocean
Showcase
Chelmsford




16th Nov
Indian Ocean
Showcase
Kingston



23th Jan
Africa
Showcase
Oxford



30th Jan
Spain &
Her Islands
Showcase
Bristol



Fly to the Gambia this Christmas

THE GAMBIA Experience has secured an additional Christmas flight to The Gambia to meet high demand for a festive winter sun getaway.

The tour operator has added a Gatwick departure on Thursday, December 22, with 14-night packages returning from Banjul on January 5 (2023). The second flight to be added to its usual twice weekly service,

now gives customers a choice of four departures for the popular Christmas period, with flights on December 20, 21, 22 and 23 via partner airline Titan Airways.

The Gambia Experience offers package, flight-only, and tailor-made holidays, as well as multi-centres and stays in neighbouring Senegal.

www.gambia.co.uk



Mountain peaks with all the perks

ROCKY MOUNTAINEER is offering a £200 per couple promotion on select journeys in April, May, or October 2023.

Until October 31, travellers can enjoy £200 off, per couple, on all packages during select 2023 travel dates.

One example of a package is the 'First Passage to the West Excursion', which starts from £1,670 per person.

The deal is available on both SilverLeaf and GoldLeaf Service. www.rockymountaineer.com/peaks-off-peak-promotion

Explore Worldwide launches 10 food tours

EXPLORE WORLDWIDE has launched a new series of 'Food Adventures' all over the world, putting the destinations' cuisine front and centre of the itineraries. Still exploring the key highlights, cities and sites, the trips uncover a country's culture and history through its food. The trips also involve meeting local producers and vendors, visiting markets and having a go at preparing dishes.

Travellers will choose from itineraries in Tuscany, Portugal, India, Jordan, Georgia, Peru, Vietnam and Japan. Agents who book their clients onto the first departure of any new Explore trip will get a 5% 'First Departure Discount'.

See Explore's full programme of food & drink tours at www.explore.co.uk/food-adventures



Swedish matchmaking for the travel trade

DURING WTM on November 8, travel agents are invited to meet Visit Sweden and Swedish partners at the Swedish Matchmaking 2022 event.

Located a three minute stroll away from WTM at the Crowne Plaza Docklands Hotel, Swedish Matchmaking 2022 will offer buyers the opportunity to meet with suppliers from Sweden, try Swedish food and learn about the Swedish lifestyle, culture,

and all about Swedish destinations.

In the evening, attendees can attend a dinner, which includes both dinner and beverages.

Agents can meet up with Swedish suppliers within 20 minute meeting slots, choosing times that suit them.

To sign up, visit www.traveltrade.visitsweden.com/participate/travel-trade-events/swedish-matchmaking

Air Transat offers Autumn escapes to Canada

THROUGHOUT THE autumn and winter, Air Transat is offering direct services from London Gatwick to Montréal (from £349) three times a week, as well as direct daily services to Toronto (from £339). Additionally, there are up to twice-weekly services to Toronto from Glasgow (from £349) and Manchester (from £349).

From both Montreal and Toronto, passengers can extend their holiday further by taking advantage of Air Transat's network to connect to onward destinations including Québec City, Calgary and Vancouver, as well as recently added US destinations, including Fort Lauderdale, Orlando and Miami. Passengers can land in one of their many gateways and leave from another city, at no extra charge. www.airtransat.com



Brilliant To Do
Business With



We love to talk the talk about how we're making an "Epic Sea Change For All" in the cruise industry, but walking the walk means having our First Mates by our side. So who are "First Mates," exactly?

Well...it's you, when you register as our partner in selling extraordinary experiences for your clients, our Sailors. Once you've taken that step, we help you Raise Your Sales with Information, Insight, and Inspiration. Don't forget that you'll bank our compelling commission of 16% on voyage fare (with no NCFs!) and 10% on bookables like airfare, hotel, and shore excursions.

The news to know now is that we're ready to take loyalty to the next level. Virgin Voyages Sailing Club launches in 2023, but your Sailors don't need to wait. There are three ways they may already qualify: as a Sea-Blazer (pioneers who sailed in 2021); as a Sea-Rover (if they sailed twice in 2022); and through our Match and Sea More Program. With Match and Sea More, if they're already in select rewards programs, we'll match current perks. And you'll score a \$100 bonus on every Match and Sea More booking.

If these sound like your clients, then there are two perks already awaiting them:

Deep Blue Extras, which include an exclusive cocktail event, access to RockStar agents, and a bottle of Moët & Chandon when they sail in 2022. And Red Hot Booking Bonus Months — the first is now through November 15 — that celebrates them for booking a sailing in 2022 by giving onboard credit, status accelerators, and chances to win Virgin Group Travel Giveaways.

All your Sailors have to do to get the waves rolling is book a gorgeous vacation and find out what it means to Set Sail The Virgin Way. And we can't wait to sea them.

Shane Riley
VP International Sales
Virgin Voyages



AGENT INSIGHT

CATHERINE WILLIAMS

STOW TRAVEL

AS WE head into the back end of 2022, typically a quieter time for us, bookings are still going strong.

The majority of our recent flight-only bookings to Australia and New Zealand in the last couple of months have been in business class, and on nearly every package, we seem to be upgrading rooms, upgrading seats and exceeding the budget the client had given in their original brief.

A common booking trend we have found is celebrating a big birthday or wedding anniversary – only last week we booked a surprise birthday trip to Mauritius. Add on the upgraded room and some extra nights and it is a definite step up from last year's chocolates and flowers!

Although the rise in spending should be a buzz for a travel agent, these big bookings do not come easily! Airfares are higher than they have ever been and I can quite easily spend a whole afternoon trawling through trip advisor to see how hotel rooms have fared through the pandemic, with no money for a refurbishment.

When we ask at the time of booking if the client has any special requests, we do so with a smile and gritted teeth as we all know added extras are a double-edged sword! Once you have got that client to book "big", in roll the even bigger demands and expectations.

For some clients, who are still nervous to travel and need our expertise, it may lead to us helping with their e-visa, pre booking restaurants, and ordering celebration surprises. But for those clients who are well and truly back in the swing of luxury travel, or have spent more than usual, it often leads to us logging into airlines, with fingers crossed, that those extra leg room seats they said they didn't want are still available. I am sure we are not the only ones who have found high demand means higher demands!



Newmarket Holidays adds new tours to Africa and Latin America

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has launched new long-haul breaks to Victoria Falls and Mexico as part of the company's ongoing expansion in both Africa and Latin America.

The operator has added the two new tours to its range of guided holidays in 2023, following the popularity of its safari and long-haul tour and beach breaks in 2022.

The 'On Safari in Victoria Falls' tour costs from £2,755 per person, while the 'Mayan Adventure and Caribbean Island' costs from £2,622 per person.

www.newmarketholidays.co.uk/agents-area

News Bites

- RWANDAIR will launch direct flights between London Heathrow and Kigali next month, from November 6, 2022.
- THE CANARY Islands welcomes a 38% increase in airline capacity from UK & Ireland.
- SHOWCASING NORWAY'S coastline, Best Served Scandinavia offers new itineraries in conjunction with cruise line, Havila.



LATIN ROUTES has launched its Trainee Programme this summer. The salaried trainee programme is aimed at those with little or no experience who want to get into the travel industry, such as university graduates, but is also open to other industry staff, including travel agents, looking for a new opportunity.

For more on this, contact felipe.francisco@latinroutes.co.uk

AGENT INCENTIVES

- **SILVERSEA CRUISES** will offer agents £215 in bonus commission on any 2023 expedition booking made in October. The special £215 bonus commission, which will be paid to the travel advisor 45 days after a booking with a deposit is made, applies to more than 400 voyages.
www.silversea.com
- **THE FIRST Collection** has extended its booking incentive first introduced in July, giving travel agents the chance to earn free hotel stays, shopping vouchers to spend at Dubai malls, and much more, when they sign up to The First Group Hotel Rewards.
www.tfghotelrewards.com
- **SCENIC GROUP** will be offering double River Rewards & More points on South East Asia river cruises as an agent incentive for the duration of October, which means £20 to spend on luxury gifts and vouchers for every booking – uncapped and taxes are also covered. Example gifts can be found at
www.riverrewards.cruises
- **IF ONLY** in partnership with Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority, is giving one lucky travel agent the chance to win a £250 Love2Shop voucher. To enter, simply make as many bookings as possible for Ras Al Khaimah between now until November 30, 2022. At the end of this period, the top booker will scoop the prize.
www.ifonly.net/agents/incentives
- **SEABOURN WILL** offer agents up to £1,000 bonus commission on any 2023 expedition booking made in October. The offer applies to bookings made on the line's two expedition vessels – Seabourn Venture and Seabourn Pursuit.
www.seabourn.com

AGENT BULLETIN



30 TRAVEL AGENTS were hosted at the **Cyplon Holidays Morocco dinner** at **Warda restaurant** in London, hosted by **Jerome Downer**, head of North Africa at **Cyplon Holidays**. Sponsored by the **Moroccan National Tourist Office**, attendees won lots of prizes, dined on delicious food and drink, and even were entertained by a belly dancer! **Cyplon Holidays** has seen an increasing rise in bookings to Morocco recently.

Travel
bulletin

COMPETITION

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

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

AGENT TRAINING

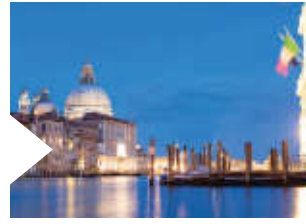
- **CLIA HAS** announced that three virtual training sessions, aimed at travel agents who are new to selling cruise, will be held in November. All are free of charge and will take under 30 minutes to complete. The sessions will be hosted by Andy Harmer, UK & Ireland managing director, with support from experts across the industry.
www.cruising.org
- **LAUNCHED EARLIER** this year, agents can become experts on the city of Pittsburgh, with the Pittsburgh Pros training platform. The course comprises of 18 lessons, totaling 59 minutes. In addition to this, VisitPITTSBURGH will be running another incentive to win an agent FAM trip spot to Pittsburgh, with more details to be shared soon.
www.pittsburgh-pros.com
- **PATA UK & Ireland** has added more training events for travel agents this winter, including a new destination-based virtual roadshow. The upcoming training events calendar sees the return of PATA's popular online quizzes and destination roadshows. The evening will run as a speed-dating format where agents will have timed meetings with PATA suppliers to get an insight into some of Indochina's exciting products.
www.pata.org.uk
- **RENTYL RESORTS** is inviting agents to update their product knowledge with dedicated, 30-minute, online training sessions from its UK based sales team. Arming agents with the details of current offers, discounts, and incentives; updating them with valuable product information; and providing handy selling tips, these sessions will be important to ensuring agents can confidently and successfully sell Rentyl Resorts' Orlando-based property portfolio. Agents can set up a personalised session by emailing [Suzy Trott](mailto:Suzy.Trott@rentyl.com) on suzy.trott@rentyl.com with suggested dates and timings.

Azamara returns to Venice

AZAMARA IS set to return to Venice as part of Azamara Journey's 12-night 'The Best of the Med'. Starting April 3, 2023, the line's fleet will access the Venetian lagoon ports of Chioggia and Fusina.

"Thanks to our longstanding relationship with local officials and port authorities of Venice, we're

thrilled to not only bring our guests back to this historic canal city, but also to allow them to discover the wonders of neighbouring towns such as Chioggia, which only smaller ships can visit. We look forward to once again immersing our guests in the rich and local culture and amazing historical



sites the destination has to offer." said Azamara's director of strategic itinerary and destination planning, Mike Pawlus. www.azamara.com.

Come and say G'day to the Land Down Under

TOURISM AUSTRALIA has launched a global campaign, 'Come and Say G'day' to entice international travellers Down Under. The campaign will include broadcast advertisements, out of home advertising placements and heavy social and digital marketing initiatives. The campaign has also partnered with airlines, State Tourism Organisations and global distribution partners.

Tourism Australia managing director, Phillipa Harrison, said, "After a challenging time around the world, our uplifting and joyful campaign will stand out in what is a highly competitive international tourism market."

The campaign activity will be further amplified by partnership activity with airlines, State Tourism Organisations, and key distribution partners globally. www.tourism.australia.com

Omega heads to the circus

OMEGA BREAKS has launched coach breaks to see the Cirque Du Soleil show 'Kurios' in



London. The two-day break departs on January 26, 2023, at £149 per person. Included is return coach travel, show tickets and a one-night stay in a bed-and-breakfast. www.omegabreaks.com

Image Credits: Top: Azamara, Right: Matthew Tsang/Omega.

The Blue Danube

Vienna, Budapest & Salzburg

8 days from £1,349pp

Departures April to October 2023

RIVIERA
TRAVEL

No regional
flight
supplement
for 2023

Price includes:

- Guided tour of Vienna
- Visit to Baroque Bratislava
- Cruise through the scenic Wachau
- Tour of Salzburg, birthplace of Mozart
- Visit to Melk Abbey
- Visit to medieval Dürnstein
- Tour of Budapest
- Live classical quartet recital on board
- Explore the basilica at Esztergom
- All meals on board, plus the Captain's Dinner
- Return flights from a selection of regional airports
- Seven nights on board in your choice of luxury cabin or suite, all with river view
- Services of our experienced cruise director and concierge

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

For more information and to book,

Call: 01283 744307 Visit: rivieratravel.co.uk/agents

Price based on two people sharing a cabin subject to availability and correct at time of print. Single cabins available at a supplement. Additional entrance costs may apply. Riviera Travel booking terms and conditions apply. AOTA V4744 ATOI 3430 protected. Images used in conjunction with Riviera Travel. *Free booking amendments until balance due date, peak by December 31, 2022.



SUDOKU

WIN A £20 M&S VOUCHER IN THE *Travel* bulletin A SUDOKU PRIZE PUZZLE

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3 x 3 squares contains the digits 1-9. Once you have completed the puzzle, simply identify the numbers that relate to the letters, A, B, C and D then e-mail the solution, with your name, company name, and full postal address plus phone and ABTA number if applicable to:

competition@travelbulletin.co.uk

Closing date for entries is Thursday, November 10. Solution and new puzzle will appear in the next issue.

The winner for October 14 is Roger Wood from Travel-PA.

October 14 Solution: A=1 B=5 C=8 D=7

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



WHERE AM I?

The capital of Africa's most densely populated country, it is near the nation's geographic centre in a region of rolling hills, with a series of valleys and ridges joined by steep slopes. Its most famous local food is the brochette.

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

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

Across

- 1 Airline who use the song, I Am What I Am, in their TV advertising (6)
- 4 Columbus is the state capital (4)
- 7 Luxury resort town close to Lisbon (7)
- 9 European capital served by Gardermoen international airport (4)
- 10 Music genre (4)
- 12 London's lively shopping, eating and entertainment area (4)
- 13 Flows through the Czech Republic, Poland and Germany (4)
- 16 Singapore's historic luxury hotel (7)
- 17 Carrier with HQ in Bangkok, ___ Airways (4)
- 18 First name of the last James Bond actor (6)

Down

- 1 City on Canada's west coast (9)
- 2 Currency of Saudi Arabia (5)
- 3 Popular Cornish holiday resort St ___ (4)
- 5 Major car rental company (5)
- 6 Morocco mountain range (5)
- 8 This city recently won their bid to host the 67th Eurovision Song Contest (9)
- 11 South American country, sounds like you may need warm clothes (5)
- 12 Capital of Bulgaria (5)
- 14 Popular stopover destination and home to Burj Al Arab Jumeirah (5)
- 15 Continent (4)

CROSSWORD

Mystery Word: RHODES

Down: 1 VANCOUVER, 2 RYAL, 3 IVES, 5 HERTZ, 6 ATLAS, 8 LIVERPOOL, 11 CHILE, 12 SOFIA, 14 DUBAI, 15 ASIA.

Across: 1 VIRGIN, 4 OHIO, 7 ESTORIL, 9 OSLO, 10 JAZZ, 12 SOHO, 13 ODER, 16 RAFFLES, 17 THAI, 18 DANIEL.

lution:



INDUSTRY insight by...



ANTOR offers a round-up of destination members' activities at this year's WTM, and their plans in getting the industry back on track.

ANTOR AND its members are gearing up for its annual WTM debate on the Insight Stage on Monday, November 7, from 15:45 - 16:30. During this panel discussion, moderated by its Chair, Gibraltar Tourist Board, destination members, including Malta's Minister for Tourism, the Minister for Tourism of Sri Lanka, managing director for UK and Ireland of Atout France, director travel industry sales for Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, and director of marketing for Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority will discuss how destinations can work to get the industry back on track, looking at sustainable initiatives,

community engagement and the role of gastronomy. At WTM, there are many events on and off the stands, organised by Antor members and here are a few for the travel trade to attend.

Sri Lanka Tourism will be participating with over 60 leading travel trade representatives of the local industry that is geared up to welcome back tourists

“

Sri Lanka will be participating with over 60 travel trade representatives...

as the sector gradually recovers from the recent socio-economic setbacks. operators, airlines and the media.

The Greater Miami CVB will once again exhibit in the Visit Florida pavilion (stand NA100). This year, the UK GMCVB team will be joined by directors of various hotels and resorts including Ocean Five South Beach, Urbanica Euclid Hotel, Trump National Doral as well as the Trump International Beach

Resort.

The Dominican Republic will bring a flavour of its famous bachata and merengue dancing to WTM this year, where visitors will be able to experience bachata and merengue dancing on Monday, November 7 at 15:00 at the East Entrance Welcome Feature.

Visit Gibraltar (stand EU540) and its head office team will be joined by partners from Sunborn Gibraltar to share details of new sustainable opportunities to explore the destination by foot or by bicycle. This allows visitors to sample the destination's history, food, and local talents at a slower pace, as revitalised areas continue to emerge such as at Chatham Counterguard. Also at WTM will be Gibraltar's Minister for Business, Tourism & The Port, Vijay Daryanani.

Through the magic of Augmented Reality, Egypt brings WTM visitors the thrill of walking around the Giza Pyramids and the temple of Abu Simbel as well as diving among the coral reefs on the Red Sea on stand AF200, where travel trade and media can claim some treasure of their own from a Papyrus artist and enjoy a wonderful harpist.

To join these and other members, contact them directly or enquire on their stands at WTM.



Cruise Showcase Hull

Our Cruise Showcase sailed into Hull on October 18, 2022!

Agents met with representatives from headline sponsor Virgin Voyages along with CroisiEurope, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc., Venture Ashore, Visit Saudi, Discover Tunisia, Norwegian Cruise Line, and Riviera Travel, networking and getting the latest know-how in the world of cruising.

Select lucky attendees left with a host of prizes, including Love2shop vouchers and fam trip places!



agent networking event
Tuesday 18th October 2022

Headline Sponsor



Want to get in on the [#TBShowcases](https://twitter.com/TBShowcases) action? Our next event will be the Indian Ocean Showcases taking place in Chelmsford on November 15 and Kingston on November 16. To confirm your place, or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you, contact events@travelbulletin.co.uk

BREAKING NEW GROUND



WORLD TRAVEL Market London (WTM), November 7-9, is expecting to facilitate a record number of deals this year as the growing number of new and returning exhibitors grows. Across all areas of the exhibition floor, new faces will be present, as well as familiar ones. There are more than 3,000+ exhibitors confirmed, more than 70 of which are making their WTM London debut.

In exciting news, WTM welcomes back the Brazilian tourist board Embratur, with other returnees representing destinations as diverse as Kyrgyzstan and Rwanda.

First-time destination-driven exhibitors include the Association of Ugandan Tour Operators and representatives from the Azadi International Tourism Organization, showcasing hotels, eco safaris, villages and climbing tours available in Iran.

Elsewhere, there will be a greater presence this year from the more established leisure destinations such as the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal. The UK and Ireland stand will be twice the size of last year, hosting more than 50 partners and reflecting the continuing interest in the UK and Ireland as a

staycation destination and its appeal for inbound visitors.

This year's technology hall will include, for the first time, Sojern, one of the world's leading travel-specific marketing platforms. UK-based Vamp, which helps travel companies work with influencers, and US-based car rental aggregator Sofiac are among the dozen-or-so-technology businesses also testing the WTM London waters.

Juliette Losardo, WTM London exhibition director, said:

"We are delighted to welcome brand new exhibitors to this year's event – new organisations participating is essential to moving the sector forward, as well as being very pleased to see some of our long term loyal exhibitors return. These new and returning participants come from all corners of the globe – there are now exhibitors from more than 100 countries confirmed."

WTM London will this year have a number of specific initiatives designed to help buyers get the most out of their time at ExCeL London. The ever-popular speed networking event takes place on the first two days of the show (Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8) from 08:30am to 10am. A dedicated

lounge will be available to The Buyers Club, and buyers will have access to WTM Connect Me – a platform to schedule meetings ahead of arrival.

Losardo continued: "Buyers attending this year's WTM London have the chance to meet with thousands of potential clients, reconnect with industry peers and come away inspired with new ideas. 2022 promises to be one of the most important WTM's to date."

To register, visit www.wtm.com

Levinson Wood to talk at WTM

IN A fun addition to this year's WTM, UK explorer, best-selling author, photographer and filmmaker Levinson Wood will share stories from his unique and inspiring adventures in more than 100 countries.

Levinson will take to the Future Stage at World Travel Market London on Monday, November 7 at 12:15-13:15.



GO FOR GREECE



THE GREEK National Tourism Organisation introduces a new multifunctional stand at WTM. The new stand design highlights the corporate identity of Visit Greece and its co-exhibitors, as well as individual elements of the advertising campaign 'Greece | You Will Want to Stay Forever'. The new Visit Greece stand channels the

concept of the 'Ancient Agora' – an open public space that throughout Greek history was a meeting place for gatherings – commercial, political and social – and where on Tuesday, November 8, the GNTO will host a sustainability-focused event. This event will outline sustainable Greek tourism initiatives focusing on the proactive actions presented by representatives of the islands of Astypalea, Naxos and Halki

and the ECTAA. Followed by the presentations, the newly launched GNTO platform "Sustainable Greece" will be presented to attendees.

In addition, there will be the "Taste of Greece" space where stand visitors will have the chance to taste some local delicacies and explore the gastronomic traditions of the different Greek regions.

Head over to stand EU1100 to see all things Greece.

Croatia's Chest of Gems at WTM

THE CROATIAN National Tourist Board's stand this year at WTM will feature an exhibition titled 'Croatian Chest of Gems', authored by Damir Kanaet and culture hub Cloverfield.

The chest showcases a collection of fifteen exhibits, which represent the cultural, natural and historical heritage of Croatia.

Visitors can also enjoy a drinks reception on November 7, from 5pm to 6pm, where they will learn about Croatia's goals, news and new strategy for years to come.

Visit Croatia's at stand EU1200.

Beeline for the Balearics at WTM

AT WTM, Palma will be showcasing its contemporary arts, following the recent reopening of the Joan Miro Foundation, and Menorca continues to promote its unique gastronomic proposition, as well as celebrate its position as a biosphere reserve.

Ibiza will be showcasing its family friendly side and looks to forge new

relationships with the lifestyle and wellness sector.

Travel agents who sell Ibiza can register their interest in attending a dinner event that will showcase all things Ibiza at Iberica Marylebone on November 8 at 6:30pm. *Register your interest at ibiza@wearelotus.co.uk.*

EU500, EU420 and EU1500

Travel agents to train with Malta

THE MALTA Tourism Authority will be running agent training this year at WTM. Training will be running on both Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8 onstand from 13.00-13.30, in collaboration with AirMalta. A winner will be drawn at each training to win an exciting Malta gastro bag.

Malta's stand can be found at EU356.



ISRAEL SAYS SHALOM



THE ISRAEL Ministry of Tourism's Deputy Director General, Mr Pini Shani, will be attending WTM to meet the travel trade. Mr Shani has been instrumental in setting up new marketing materials to help support those that sell Israel, with content due to be launched soon in the future.

Also on the WTM stand will be chef Dan Peles from the London restaurant Coal Office, who will be participating in a food demonstration as well as a tasting.

In a fun addition to Israel's stand this year, there will be special giveaways on the stand: a glass bottle full of yummy zaatar, a Middle Eastern spice; as well as decorative Hamzas that were created by Israeli artists.

On the stand, Israel will be talking about what is to come in the country, with the tourism board currently working on a new advertising campaign that will be launched in the beginning of 2023. This will include everything from digital advertisements to new promotional videos.

Israel has also stated that it is dedicated to improving its infrastructure – everything from new hotels opening, to making the Old City in Jerusalem more accessible to those with mobility issues.

In exciting news for the travel trade, Israel is due to launch its new e-learning programme for those who want to become experts on all things Israel.

Visit Israel on Stand EU1050.

Immerse yourself in Abu Dhabi

AT WTM, visitors will be able to enjoy the 'Abu Dhabi Senses Journey', a fully immersive feature which will allow them to experience different elements of Abu Dhabi culture. This will include live Bait Al Gahwa sessions, as well as sensory experiences from The House of Artisans, including a perfumery section with the different scents of the Emirate.

Find out more at Stand at ME500.

Saudi cements itself on the world tourism stage

VISIT SAUDI, WTM's Premier Partner this year, will be talking about its latest developments on its impressive stand. Saudi Arabia recently announced new visa extensions allowing residents of the UK to apply for a visa on arrival. The extension of the visa on arrival is a solid step forward in making it even easier for tourists to visit.

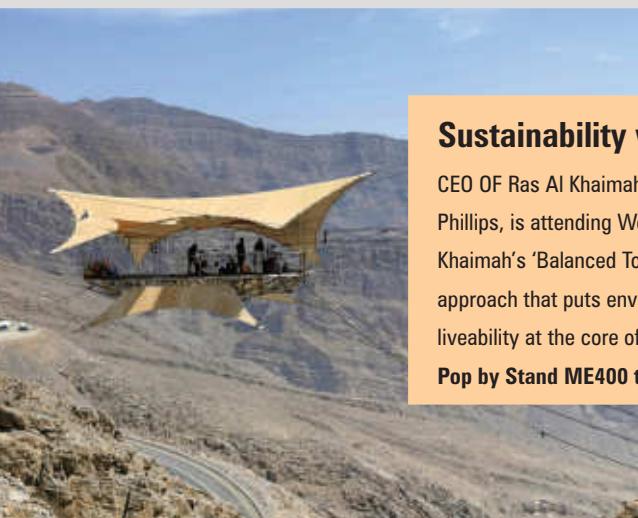
Saudi's stand will also feature information on upcoming projects, including Diriyah and AIUla, the UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Red Sea Project, and more.

Saudi's Stand number is ME240.

Sustainability with Ras Al Khaimah

CEO OF Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority, Raki Phillips, is attending World Travel Market to showcase Ras Al Khaimah's 'Balanced Tourism' policy: a new and holistic approach that puts environment, culture, conservation, and liveability at the core of the Emirate's tourism strategy.

Pop by Stand ME400 to learn more.



A family of four is walking through a town square in Ibiza. The father, wearing a white t-shirt and sunglasses, is holding a young boy in a blue shirt. The mother, wearing a blue sleeveless top and shorts, is holding a young girl in a pink top and dark shorts. They are all smiling and appear to be enjoying their time. In the background, there are white buildings and a church tower under a clear blue sky.

Ibiza


#AllIslandsInOne #IbizaAWayOfLife

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visit us at our stand in

 WTM London 2022

Stand number EU420-N3

ExCeL London

 November 7th - 9th

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COSTA RICAN CONSERVATION



COSTA RICA'S stand this year will be full of immersive features for visitors to enjoy.

The stand will combine sound effects, music and general decorations that recreate a tropical rainforest, making visitors feel as if they are in Costa Rica. As well as the ultimate selfie, the stand will be offering WTM visitors authentic Costa Rican coffee.

In terms of news and general updates, the Costa Rica Tourism Board has stated that the country has seen a massive increase of UK arrivals since 2021 and is now very close to reach pre-pandemic arrival figures (41,810 UK visitors in

2019). In total, Costa Rica welcomed 1,223,764 worldwide visitors between January and June 2022.

The country has also a new conservation zone, that is set to be created between Costa Rica's Cocos Islands and the new Galapagos Marine Reserve, which will connect the two marine UNESCO World Heritage Sites with the aim of helping essential animal conservation. This migratory route is used by millions of sea turtles and rays, as well as critically endangered hammerhead sharks and whale sharks.

Dive into all things Costa Rica on Stand LA200.

Celebrate the Bahamas

THE BAHAMAS Ministry of Tourism, Investment and Aviation will be on hand to discuss everything that's going on across the islands, including 2023 seeing The Bahamas celebrate 50 years of Independence. Celebrations are planned across the islands with activities recognising history, heritage and culture.

Further updates include two new cruise ports, due to be completed in 2023 and 2024.

Go to Stand CA150.

Sip on stand with Antigua and Barbuda

ANTIGUA AND Barbuda are hosting an on-stand event on Tuesday, November 8 from 4pm, hosted by the Hon. Charles Henry Fernandez, Minister for Tourism and Mr. Colin C. James, CEO – Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

The event will cover news for 2023, with cocktails and live entertainment.

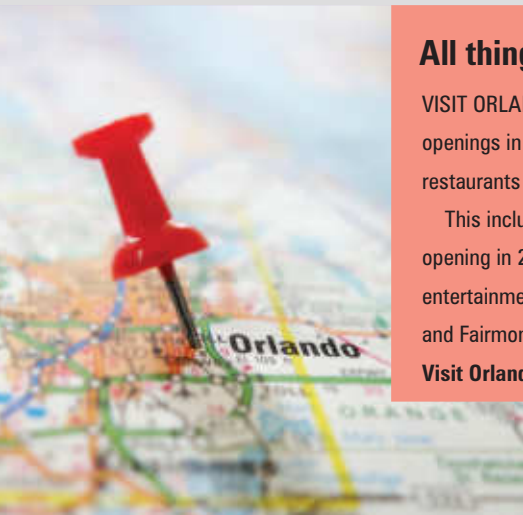
Take a sip on Stand CA140.

All things Orlando

VISIT ORLANDO will be talking about a number of new openings in Orlando, including theme parks, hotels, and restaurants at WTM this year.

This includes Brew Theory Marketplace, a new food hall opening in 2023; Pointe Orlando, an immersive dining and entertainment venue; new hotel openings, such as Nobu Hotel and Fairmont Orlando, and more.

Visit Orlando can be found on Stand NA200.



JAUNT TO JAPAN



VISITORS TO the Japan National Tourism Organisation stand at WTM are invited to try their hand at some art. The stand will feature lantern decorating, calligraphy, and learning wrapping techniques associated with 'furoshiki', which are traditional, reusable eco bags.

Entertainment doesn't stop there, as the stand will also have a half-hour, shamisen performance by London-based performer Hibiki Ishikawa.

Several prefectures and companies, such as the Three-Star Road Tourism Association as well as Japan Airlines and the East Japan Railway Company,

will be on hand to talk about the latest news.

JNTO will also be showcasing Japanese design, entertainment, and regional delicacies on the stand, for visitors to enjoy.

Make sure to pay a visit to Japan on Stand AS800.

Get more out of Mauritius

THE INDIAN Ocean nation of Mauritius is highlighting its plans for growth across all markets at WTM.

The island wants to broaden its appeal to continue to grow and diversify types of holidaymakers, which includes families, active and adventurous tourists, affluent millennials, and over 50s with disposable incomes.

Mauritius Tourism Authority will also be showcasing tourism highlights at the World Travel Market, including sea kiting, hiking Le Morne, national parks, and diverse cuisine.

Walk on over to Stand AS140.

Get back to nature in Sarawak

SARAWAK, THE Malaysian state is set to showcase at WTM this year.

The Sarawak Tourism Board will host two cultural performances on stand, on November 7 and 9, plus a MOU signing with National Geographic.

STB will be concentrating on its five key pillars in tourism attractions; Culture, Adventure, Nature, Food and Festival (CANFF), which includes wildlife experiences and cycling adventures.

See Sarawak on Stand AS750.

Coffee and costumes with Thailand

TOURISM AUTHORITY of Thailand will be promoting its 'Amazing New Chapter 2023' campaign at WTM, with a focus on sustainability, meaningful travel, luxury and wellness.

On-stand, there will be complimentary Peang Thai coffee and an interactive demonstration of Thai costume jewellery and Manorah Beads, inspired by southern Thailand.

Head over to Stand AS500.



CELEBRATE THE SOCO WAY

The SoCo House offers curated wedding packages in sunny St Lucia.



THE SOCO House, Saint Lucia, encourages UK couples to consider tying the knot in stunning island surroundings, with the choice of two wedding packages.

The Simply SoCo package provides a complimentary wedding ceremony when couples book a 14-night stay in a SoCo Junior Suite room. The package then also includes: Boutonniere for the groom; tropical bouquet for the bride; preparation of marriage documents and advice on the legalities of tying the knot in Saint Lucia; the couples' choice of pre-recorded music for the ceremony;

witnesses provided if required; a one tier wedding cake; honeymoon room romantically decorated; and, a wedding photograph.

The Blissfully SoCo package includes the wedding ceremony and all elements of the Simply SoCo package as well as the following: a personalised service from The SoCo House wedding coordinator; a private dinner during the honeymoon; an intimate breakfast served to the room; the couples' chosen wedding location decorated in tropical foliage; and, wedding photography. Couples can book the Blissfully SoCo

package for a fee of £707, and couples can upgrade their wedding celebrations with the Blissfully SoCo package for £707.

To book now, visit www.agents.travelpack.co.uk. For more information on The SoCo House visit www.thesocohotel.com.

Honeymoon in heaven with Sandals

FOR A honeymoon getaway to Grenada, Sandals is offering a seven-night stay for two people at Sandals Grenada Resort & Spa staying in a Pink Gin Oceanfront Honeymoon Penthouse Club Level Room, from £2,485 per person. The price includes Luxury Included (all-inclusive) accommodation, Club Sandals Concierge Service, return economy class flights with British Airways from London Gatwick Airport and resort transfers. The price is valid for travel on select dates in September 2023.

www.bookings.sandals.co.uk

Winter sun safari with Audley Travel

AUDLEY TRAVEL'S 'Botswana's Okavango Delta & Victoria Falls Safari' is the perfect honeymoon escape for adventurous couples. Clients spend six nights in two locations within Botswana's Okavango Delta and three nights at Victoria Falls, and activities include bush walks, game drives, canoe trips, and more. The 12-day trip is priced from £7,355 per person.

www.audleytravel.com/botswana



Nova Maldives offers a soulful wedding experience

LOCATED IN the South Ari Atoll, the new Nova Maldives all-inclusive resort is offering a wide selection of customisable wedding packages, so guests can plan their dream wedding.

With a purpose-built lagoon deck and a private island surrounded by the iconic crystalline sea, Nova Maldives prides itself on offering the perfect spot to tie the knot. Couples are invited to make it a day to remember, no matter the budget. All packages are completed with Bodu Beru Maldivian music and complimentary sarongs for the newlyweds.

Not only does Nova offer beautifully tailored wedding packages, but it also invites guests to take a dive into once-in-a-lifetime underwater experiences to make the occasion even more memorable, whether that be swimming with whale sharks and manta rays or sailing off into the sunset with your loved one.



There are three packages on offer; the 'Ocean Promises', starting at £890; the 'Sandy Toes' at £1,330; and 'A Sun Kissed Kind of Love', beginning at £1,950. Photography, makeup and cocktail bar packages are also available for an additional price.

Agents can book this through www.hummingbird.travel



Change in wedding law boosts Guernsey's wedding offerings

IT HAS been well over a year since Guernsey established the new wedding law, and the island is making the most out of showcasing its wide range of locations and venues now available to everyone. The law states anyone can be married anywhere on the island, regardless of residency status, as opposed to before where the couple had to be residents, which has opened up a new world of high-class hotels, beautiful gardens, beaches and more. The change in law has opened up new opportunities for Guernsey's tourism sector, attracting couples looking for a different type of 'destination wedding'.

Among the most popular wedding venues on the island is the Farmhouse Hotel, which offers a wedding package for up to 60 guests priced at £5,995. The package includes exclusive use of the Courtyard and Garden Bar, a glass of prosecco at the reception, a complimentary Junior Suite for the Bride and Groom, the option to book out the hotel's 13 guest bedrooms at a discounted price and much more.

www.visitguernsey.com



Honeymoon with style at private resort in Fiji

INSPIRING TRAVEL is offering a honeymoon package to the Kokomo Private Island Resort, Fiji. The boutique hotel offers unrivalled access to the Great Astrolabe coral reef, as well as a tropical spa, a dive centre, 21 Beachfront Villas and waterfront restaurants.

The package includes full board and international flights to Nadi via Los Angeles, as well as any inter-island flights. For seven nights, the price of the package is set at £7,420 per person. The offer is valid from January 9 to March 31, 2023.

www.inspiringtravel.co.uk



Honeymoon in Pure Luxury

PURE LUXURY is offering clients a 10-night, combined honeymoon stay at Dubai's One & Only as well as Vakkaru Maldives.

As part of this package, clients can stay three nights at the One & Only Royal Mirage Residence and Spa in a residence prestige room on a half-board basis. The package also comes with a 20% discount on a spa experience, one complimentary access pass per person, per stay at the Aquaventure Waterpark located at nearby Atlantis, The Palm. Deluxe private car transfers is also included.

Couples will then spend seven nights at Vakkaru Maldives in an over water villa, on an all inclusive basis. Couples on their honeymoon will receive a complimentary bottle of welcome Champagne, welcome tropical fruit basket, a bath ritual with candle and rose petals on one evening during their stay, bed decoration and a special dinner. Return seaplane transfers are included, as well as economy flights with Emirates. The package is priced from £10,689.

www.pureluxuryholidays.co.uk

Velas Resorts opens Carajillo Bar

VELAS RESORTS invites couples to toast their destination weddings with a new authentic service – Carajillo Bar.

Typical in Spain and several Latin American countries, the 'carajillo' is a hot coffee drink to which a hard liquor is added.

At the Carajillo Bar, flavours range from a traditional to more unique options with a Mexican touch like coconut, Mexican cinnamon infused Rumchata, pistachio, mint, chai and gold. A s'mores version is adorned with Mexican chocolate, torched marshmallow and a dessert favourite, a churro. The offering is available at all six of the Velas Resorts properties, in Los Cabos, Riviera Maya and Puerto Vallarta - Riviera Nayarit, for the welcome cocktail, rehearsal dinner or reception.

According to folklore, the carajillo dates back to when troops of Spanish descent combined coffee with rum to give them

courage. Later changing to carajillo, the cocktail has become an integral part of restaurant culture in Mexico.

Guests can enjoy the Carajillo Bar experience at any Velas Resort, and pricing starts at approximately £886, based on an event of 50 people for a one-hour interactive display.

Agents can visit www.velasweddings.com



Experience Maldivian magic at the Conrad

CONRAD MALDIVES Rangali Island recently underwent an extensive renovation this year and is full of possibilities for weddings.

Couples can tie the knot five metres beneath the Maldives' waves – as the resort's ITHAA Undersea Restaurant transforms into the world's only underwater chapel. Surrounded by a vibrant coral reef, the bride and groom will say 'I do' whilst shoals of rainbow-coloured fish and gliding rays swim overhead.

After their celebrations, newlyweds can retreat to The MURAKA, the first-of-its-kind luxury overwater residence featuring three

bedrooms (one of which is submerged 17ft underwater) an infinity pool, private jet skis and an onsite butler, chef and fitness trainer for the ultimate romantic escape.

Rangali Island is also available for exclusive use. A hundred of the bride and groom's closest family and friends can gather to embark on whale shark sighting adventures, sunrise yacht sailings, private diving trips and more.

A sunset Water Villa with Pool starts from £1,697 per night. THE MURAKA starts from £7,225 per night.

www.travelagents.hilton.com



EFTELING'S WINTER WONDERLAND

Efteling theme park welcomes back its ice rink and the Warme Winter Weide garden.



ON NOVEMBER 14, 2022, the fairytale theme park, Efteling, will once again be transformed into a winter paradise with crackling bonfires, atmospheric garlands and thousands of sparkling lights.

The park's ice-skating rink is also due to return, and the Warme Winter Weide, a nostalgic winter garden, will be

extended with the uncovered ice-skating rink, which visitors can enjoy until March 5, 2023.

The Warme Winter Weide winter garden will feature additional entertainment and daily musical offerings alongside warm food and drinks. From December 10, Mister and Madam Time, from theatre show CARO, will perform winter songs on weekends and holidays in the Carousel Palace. A new Witches Camp can be found in the lit Fairytale Forest and each day will end with the colourful water show, Aquanura.

Visitors also have the chance to celebrate New Year's Eve at Winter Efteling, as the park and its attractions reopen from 7pm until 1am, with additional live entertainment for visitors to enjoy. More information on this will be available in November. Those wishing to extend their stay at Winter Efteling can stay overnight at Efteling Hotel, Holiday Village Efteling Loonsche Land or Holiday Village Efteling Bosrijk. Overnight stays will always include unlimited access to the amusement park.

www.efteling.com

Feel the fright this season at Parc Asterix

TO CELEBRATE the spooky season, Parc Asterix is decked out in the colours of autumn with 14 tonnes of pumpkins and 3,000 stalks of corn and bales of straw installed along the paths of the park and its hotels. To ensure that everyone has the best possible experience, scare zones are marked out throughout the park, with traffic lights to indicate the level of fright: Small Scares for the little ones, Moderate Scares for the whole family and Big Scares for daring guests. Also returning is the Monster Parade, which takes place once daily.

www.parcasterix.fr/en

A pirate's adventure in LEGOLAND Florida

LEGOLAND FLORIDA'S Pirate River Quest opens early 2023.

Board a family-friendly boat ride to search for Captain Redbeard's lost treasure, where visitors ride through the natural waterways while following the all-new story.

LEGOLAND Florida's one day ticket for adult and child is priced from £80.

www.bookings.travelclick.com



Orlando's new thrills and spills

2022 HAS been a huge year for Orlando, Florida, from the launch of a year-long birthday celebration for the Walt Disney World Resort, to SeaWorld's new coasters, there is fun to be had by everyone in the City of Light.

Disney World's golden birthday

Walt Disney World Resort's 50th birthday celebration ran through the entire year, with new experiences being launched in all four theme parks. To kick off the celebration, EPCOT revealed the 'Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind' story-telling coaster which includes the first reverse launch on a Disney coaster. Disney's Animal Kingdom re-opened 'Finding Nemo, The Big Blue and



Beyond', to follow the timeline of Dory's story.

Looking ahead, the night-time spectacular 'Fantasmic!' is set to return to Hollywood Studios in November, and the new Roundup Rodeo BBQ restaurant in Toy Story Land is also coming later this year, featuring a family-friendly dining experience surrounded by toys and games, giving the immersive experience of what it would feel like to be one of Andy's toys come-to-life.

SeaWorld's new crashes and splashes

SeaWorld launches riders down the steepest vertical drop in the state in the Ice Breaker, featuring a 93 ft tall spike at an 100-degree angle. Across the way, partnering waterpark, Aquatica, has built a 330 ft fibreglass water slide named the Reef Plunge. Riders will zoom past a vibrant array of marine life in the dynamic new habitat.

Visitors can also look forward to the brand new first-of-its-kind roller coaster coming to the park in 2023. The 'Pipeline: The Surf Coaster' is the world's first 'surf coaster' in which riders can feel the power of the ocean on the surfboard-shaped vehicle. They will be secured to the vehicle in a 'surfing' position and will be launched at top speeds, mimicking catching a wave. The seats will rise and fall in true surfer fashion, throwing the rider through twists and turns to make the immersive experience a gnarly ride.

Beyond the thrills

After an itinerary full of thrill-chasing across Orlando's many theme parks, visitors can experience something different at the Max Action Arena at ICON Park or the Deep Space Launch Complex at the Kennedy Space Centre Visitor Complex. The Arena offers experiences with virtual reality, adventure rooms and axe throwing for those visitors not ready to let the adventure end, and the Launch Complex offers a journey through space and an immersive showcase of NASA's history. For the young kids of the family, the Crayola Experience debuted the first fully animated Crayola theatre show, complete with new characters who pull back the curtain on the colourful chaos.

www.visitorlando.com

What's your biggest pet peeve?

Jeanette Ratcliffe Publisher

jeanette.ratcliffe@travelbulletin.co.uk
People eating anything crunchy – crisps, apples etc.



Mariam Ahmad Editor

mariam.ahmad@travelbulletin.co.uk
Loud chewers! Drives me nuts.



Simon Eddolls Sales Director

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Speedy boarding.



Sarah Terry Account Manager

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Impatient drivers.



Tim Podger
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Dog hairs on my wife's clothes.



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People who lack spatial awareness.



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The sound of loud eating and chewing.



Holly Brown
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People who are always late.



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6:00 PM

Travel Bulletin
Welcome
6:25 PM

Client
Presentations
6:30 PM

Hot Dinner
7:30 PM

Client
Presentations
8:15 PM

Product Quiz &
Free Prize Draw
9:15 - 9:30 PM

To confirm your place at one of these amazing events, email the name, company and contact details by **Friday 11th November** to: events@travelbulletin.co.uk or Telephone: **020 7973 0136**

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