

# Travel **bulletin**

Giving agents the edge

## Mediterranean Islands

Sun-soaked hotspots and cultural centres galore

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Training courses and incentives to boost rewards and sales. **Pg. 7**

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#### In The Hot Seat

Sardinia 360's Ilenia Cocco on the brand's new property and more in store.



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*Voyaging*

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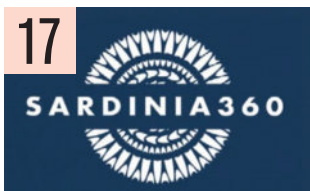




**NEWS**  
The latest news and updates from across the sector.



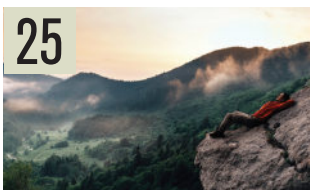
**PUZZLE BULLETIN**  
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**IN THE HOT SEAT**  
Ilenia Cocco, head of business development at Sardinia360.



**MEDITERRANEAN ISLANDS**  
Discover a choice of hotels, packages and itineraries on offer across the Med.



**EXPLORATION & ADVENTURE**  
Exciting opportunities await for explorers across the globe.

# CHANGE OF PLANS

InsureandGo Travel Insurance has revealed two thirds of Brits have changed their travel plans for 2023 following last year's scorching temperatures.

RESEARCH CONDUCTED by travel insurance provider InsureandGo has revealed that 67% of Britons have re-evaluated their summer holiday decisions due to last year's record-breaking temperatures.

Out of the 2,103 adults surveyed as part of the research, 44% of respondents said they are inclined to change the season in which they travel, with 36% now more likely to holiday in spring or autumn to avoid the intense heat. A further 8% even went as far to say their main family holiday will now be a winter one.

It's not just the changing of the seasons where Brits are adjusting their holiday plans, as 24% of respondents said they would still travel during the summer seasons, but would favour destinations with cooler temperatures, such Scandinavia (18%), Northern Europe (15%), Canada (21%) and Ireland (17%).

When it comes to the age of the traveller,

there is a clear divide between the older and younger generations, as 31% of the under-45 age demographic, as well as families who are bound by school holidays, put a greater emphasis on looking for cooler destinations for the summer, as opposed to the 53% of the over-55 bracket who would be more inclined to switch holiday dates to off-peak periods to avoid the higher temperatures.

Chris Rolland, CEO at InsureandGo Travel Insurance, said: "While Southern European hotspots remain popular for some people, the majority are now considering new options. Those people governed by school holiday timings are more likely to be looking at cooler countries – while older travellers are more likely to now be thinking about taking a holiday in the spring, autumn or even winter months.

"The underlying positive news for the sector is that confidence in travel remains strong."

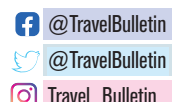


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## Visit Lauderdale returns to the UK

VISIT LAUDERDALE returned to the UK for its first bespoke trade activation post-pandemic, with the aim of sharing insights on the importance that the trade has for the destination.

Senior VP of global trade development for Visit Lauderdale, Tracy Vaughan, spoke to *Travel Bulletin* on the potential of trade and new



MSC CRUISES has announced the launch of the company's newest flagship, MSC Euriba. The ship will be the second member of the MSC fleet to be powered by LNG, one of the world's cleanest marine fuels, and will feature state-of-the-art environmental technologies including advanced on-board wastewater treatment systems, waste management handling, and energy efficiency measures. [www.msccruises.co.uk](http://www.msccruises.co.uk)



openings with the UK market.

"We've gone through a true renaissance over the last three years, on a community level and with new openings, attractions, developments and investments in the county. The campaign and promotion that Visit Lauderdale has come out with, 'Everyone Under the Sun', is all about inclusion, accessibility, and reflecting who we are as a community."

Reflecting on the activation, Vaughan urged the trade industry to get or stay involved in Visit Lauderdale's engagement.

"We created a programme called the Lauderdale Loyalist, a training programme for travel agents. It talks about all the things the county has to offer, and exactly how to sell it... agents want to be the experts and we're trying to help wherever we can with that."

Read the full interview at [www.travelbulletin.co.uk/news-mainmenu/visit-lauderdale-returns-to-the-uk-to-embrace-the-trade-and-look-ahead](http://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/news-mainmenu/visit-lauderdale-returns-to-the-uk-to-embrace-the-trade-and-look-ahead)

## CLIA highlights cruises' economic benefits to MPs

CRUISE LINE International Association (CLIA) hosted a reception at the House of Commons to highlight the economic benefits of cruise tourism to the UK. The reception gave MPs the opportunity to hear more about the contributions of the cruise industry to local economies across the UK, and to speak to senior cruise line and travel agent representatives who are spearheading its domestic growth.

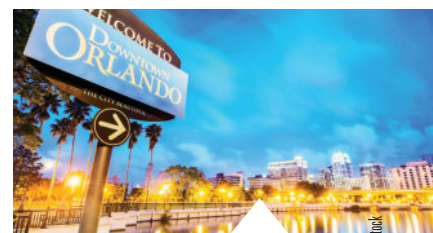
Andy Harmer, CLIA managing director, UK & Ireland, said: "There are thousands of businesses, including travel agents, tour operators and hotels, up and down the country which rely on a successful cruise industry."

"The economic benefits of cruise tourism to port cities are well documented and this event was about recognising how these benefits extend beyond ports."

## Inghams launches 2024/2025 Lapland holidays

SKI AND snow holiday expert, Inghams, has launched its 2024/2025 Lapland experiences for guests seeking out a Christmas wonderland. The itineraries are now on sale, and holidaymakers are encouraged to book early to avoid disappointment, as 52% of Inghams winter 2023/2024 experiences are already fully booked.

Deposits of £150pp are available with overall prices starting at £699pp for seven nights. For 2024/2025, Lapland departures are available from December 1, 2024 to February 16, 2025, with a choice of three resorts: Levi, Saariselkä and Ylläs, as well as the new glass cube accommodation, all located at the optimum altitude to see the Northern Lights. [www.ingham.co.uk](http://www.ingham.co.uk)



## Visit Orlando brings Orlando Live! to UK

VISIT ORLANDO will return to the UK in April 2023 for Orlando Live! – a series on one-of-a-kind in-person training events over a course of three days. The event will better equip travel advisors with expert tips on selling the Orlando experience to their customers.



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## Israel spotlights destination 'Exactly like nowhere else'

SHARON BERSHADSKY, director of the London Israel Government Tourist Office, spoke to *Travel Bulletin* on promising signs from the UK market, a fresh approach, and the importance of the trade.

Israel as a destination has hit the ground running in 2023,



maintaining its presence in the UK travel landscape. The UK accounted for over 13,000 arrivals in Israel in January 2023 (excluding cruise arrivals and day visitors), which reflected an over 297% increase on the same month in 2022.

"Previously, the UK was our fifth biggest source market.

We've exceeded that now, it's risen to our third biggest source, and we're seeing that Brits are voting with confidence. That makes us want to focus on exactly what this market is looking for.

"We have an e-mail list of agents from our various events and activities, especially the *Travel Bulletin* showcases. On that newsletter, we offer agents all the latest updates and regular competitions."

[www.travelbulletin.co.uk/news-mainmenu/israel-diversifies-approach-to-spotlight-a-destination-exactly-like-nowhere-else](http://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/news-mainmenu/israel-diversifies-approach-to-spotlight-a-destination-exactly-like-nowhere-else)



**AMERICAN CRUISE** Lines has kicked off its biggest-ever season on the Mississippi River, comprising five new riverboats and 11 itineraries through December 2023. On April 20, 2023, the new American Serenade ship will make its debut, sailing from New Orleans to Memphis on an eight-day 'Christening Cruise'. [www.americancruiselines.com](http://www.americancruiselines.com)

## Classic Collection unveils new Türkiye as traveller support for the destination shows positive signs

CLASSIC COLLECTION has unveiled its new dedicated Türkiye brochure, featuring 41 properties, 12 of which are new to the operator, and spanning Istanbul, Cappadocia, Bodrum and the Aegean Coast, Dalaman and the Turquoise Coast, and Antalya and the Mediterranean Coast.

Alex Gavalda, director of internal sales, product & commercial, explained: "Our latest brochure comes at an important time for

Türkiye. Our new brochure is the first one to market to display the country name as Türkiye - representing the culture, civilisation and values of the nation.

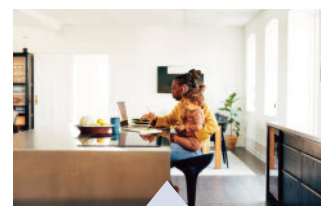
"Over the last twelve months Türkiye has been performing very well for Classic, with bookings 25% ahead of 2019."

*E-brochures are available at [www.classic-collection.co.uk](http://www.classic-collection.co.uk) with printed options available through Tradegate.*

## Korean Air introduces vegan meal options

KOREAN AIR has introduced a Korean-style vegan meal option, an eco-friendly meal choice that can also help reduce carbon emissions. The airline's new Korean vegan meals are made using a variety of fresh vegetables and seasonal ingredients, bringing passengers an appetising meal full of natural flavours. Dishes such as steamed barley rice with burdock, roasted shiitake mushrooms, mung bean jelly salad and roasted tofu with plum salsa sauce can be enjoyed by passengers in all classes, while ginkgo nut porridge and roasted yam with soybean paste will be available for Prestige and First class passengers.

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



## Parent support group for the travel industry launched

A SUPPORT group has been set up to help parents across the industry. 'Back in time for bed' (BITFB) offers network support for childcare questions and hot topics. Join at

[www.facebook.com/groups/694414219063514](http://www.facebook.com/groups/694414219063514)



## AGENT INCENTIVES

- £20 IS up for grabs with every seven-night booking to St Lucia's Harbor Club, Curio Collection by Hilton. Agents can earn the reward by registering bookings at [www.harborclubrewards.com](http://www.harborclubrewards.com) throughout the remainder of 2023.
- TTC HAS launched a unified brand loyalty programme, integrating incentives across Trafalgar, Insight Vacations, Luxury Gold and Costsaver. Agents can engage clients, cross-sell brands and reap the rewards under one unified brand at [www.agents.ttc.com](http://www.agents.ttc.com)
- CURAÇAO IS calling, and agents can earn Amazon vouchers worth £25 or £50 when booking the new Sandals Royal Curaçao through Sandals' dedicated UK operator, Unique Caribbean Holidays Ltd. All Royal Curaçao bookings automatically include a £25 Amazon voucher, which is bumped up to £50 on Butler Suite bookings. The incentive runs until March 31, 2023. [www.sellingsandals.co.uk](http://www.sellingsandals.co.uk)
- CYPLON HOLIDAYS' 2023 incentives continue, with a choice of free stays and other rewards available for 2023/24 bookings to select properties. [www.cyplon.co.uk](http://www.cyplon.co.uk)
- WITH THE announcement of Fred.\ Holidays Discover's four different packages to Canada's famed Calgary Stampede, the operator is offering a £100 voucher along with regular commission with select package bookings. The packages combine trips to the Stampede with railway journeys aboard Rocky Mountaineer, hotel stays, and a choice of three Alaska cruises with Princess Cruises, Celebrity Cruises or Cunard. [www.fredholidays.co.uk](http://www.fredholidays.co.uk)



Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex teamed up with Virgin Atlantic to invite 80 trade guests from the northwest to hear all the latest news from the out-of-this-world Florida attraction, updates from Virgin on the launch of its new aircraft for Floridian routes, and a special presentation from former astronaut Bruce E. Melnick, pictured here with Victoria McNeil and her Gold Medal team.

*Travel* bulletin

# COMPETITION

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**Find out more at [www.travelbulletin.co.uk/competitions](http://www.travelbulletin.co.uk/competitions)**



## AGENT TRAINING

- **BECOME A Rocky Mountaineer** expert with the rail operator's dedicated trade academy, which offers exclusive access to discounted agent rates for the trade to experience the journey for themselves. [www.communities.rockymountaineer.com/agent/s/tracks](http://www.communities.rockymountaineer.com/agent/s/tracks)
- **TAKE THE Malta Training Programme** to be entered into a monthly draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher or Maltese gastronomy goody bag. Modules cover the destination's unique scuba diving experiences, LGBTQ+-friendly attractions, Under 30s experiences and more. The more courses agents take, the more likely they are to win. [www.malta-training.com](http://www.malta-training.com)
- **PRINCESS CRUISES'** dedicated trade website is a treasure trove of selling points, insider tips and insight. Features include Academy training with new 10-15 minute modules, the POLAR ONLINE booking system, a webchat, and exclusive events, competitions and incentives. [www.onesourcecruises.com](http://www.onesourcecruises.com)
- **ALDEMAR RESORTS'** dedicated Sunny Time trade portal offers up a choice of rewards when selling holidays to Aldemar Resorts in Greece directly and through third parties. Agents can find out how to earn free stays and find a host of information on the two five-star luxury resorts in Crete and Olympia. [www.sunnytime.gr](http://www.sunnytime.gr)
- **BECOME AN Italian specialist** with the Italy Online Training Course. Agents will find all the knowledge needed to sell and upsell trips to the land of 'la dolce vita'. Upon completion of the modules, which cover the nation's history, arts, architecture and more, agents will earn a unique 'Italy Specialist Certificate'. [www.italyonlinetraining.co.uk](http://www.italyonlinetraining.co.uk)





# AGENT INSIGHT

## MARIE ROWE

### TRAVEL COUNSELLORS

IN A world where people have so much access to so much information, I often find it strange when clients ask to visit a country they seem to know so little about, or discount a suggestion because they think they know enough.

This is the single most enjoyable part of my job as a Travel Counsellor; inspiring clients with so many ideas on places to visit and things to do that they never knew existed, and educating them on everything they didn't know about the place they thought was not suitable for them to the point where they change their mind!

In 2021, when travel was at a standstill, I started a podcast called 'Real Adventures' to showcase destinations that were typically considered for relaxing beach holidays and to reveal all the opportunities for action and adventure that can be combined with a beach break to give the best of both worlds. I featured destinations all over the world to expose the adventure opportunities that lie beyond the beach. From hiking the Pitons or discovering Pirate history in St Lucia, to ziplining through the Rainforests of the Seychelles. From leopard spotting in the wild in Sri Lanka to Kayaking through Glow Worm tunnels in New Zealand.

Now more than ever, people want real adventures. Whether they're making up for lost time with loved ones or just desperate to expedite their bucket list in case anything as crazy as a global pandemic happens again. Either way, it's happening and it's an amazing opportunity for travel experts to be creative, sell incredible itineraries, and inspire clients to do more, see more, and experience more. The value of our knowledge combined with our ability to dynamically package tailor made itineraries is worth more than ever before – and you can't book that online!



## Cruise Croatia launches dedicated yacht charter division

SPECIALIST SMALL-CRUISING line Cruise Croatia has launched a dedicated yacht charter division following a 256% uplift in bookings compared to 2019.

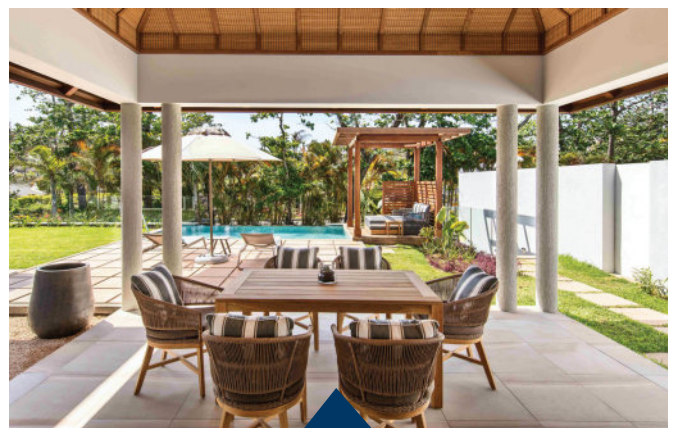
Seven-night charter itineraries are available on over 30 luxury sailing yachts, featuring UNESCO-listed destinations such as Dubrovnik and Split.

Graham Carter, Co-Founder of Cruise Croatia, said: "More and more guests are looking to enjoy an exclusive sailing experience with friends or family."

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

## News Bites

- BANYAN TREE Group has announced its first Spanish property, set to open in 2026.
- SCENIC HAS unveiled its new 2024 all-inclusive luxury European river cruise collection, including new itineraries, extended voyages and D-Day landing commemorations.
- CUNARD IS offering travellers up to £200pp in savings on selected 2023 and 2024 voyages when they book before May 2, 2023



ANANTARA MAURITIUS has newly launched two- and four-bedroom villas, with eight new additions offering garden space, private pools, and generous space for couples and families. Villa stays start from approximately £799 per night on a bed-and-breakfast basis.  
[www.anantara.com/en/iko-mauritius](http://www.anantara.com/en/iko-mauritius)









**LGBTQ+ Showcase** 🌈

*Travel Bulletin* hit the road with its packed schedule of events, bringing an LGBTQ+ Showcase to Leeds' Queens Hotel. Joined by headline sponsor Virgin Voyages and Expedia TAAP, Visit Benidorm, Destination Canada, the Malta Tourism Authority, Greater Miami, MADE, and the Israel Government Tourist Office, agents heard all about the destinations' and operators' LGBTQ+-friendly attractions and experiences. Lucky prize bingo winners left with destination-inspired goodie bags, theatre tickets, hotel stays and more!



Feeling the #TBSHOWCASES FOMO? Our next event is a Cruise Showcase in Cheltenham on March 13. To confirm your place or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you contact [events@travelbulletin.co.uk](mailto:events@travelbulletin.co.uk)



## Samoa prepares to welcome back visitors

AS INTERNATIONAL borders fully open, Samoa is preparing to welcome pre-pandemic numbers of visitors back to the Pacific Island.

The New Zealand and Samoan governments have signed a Grant Funding Arrangement to support the tourism industry in the post-pandemic recovery wake. The Samoa Tourism Recovery and Resilience Programme (STRRP) aims to

bring people back to the island as well as build a sustainable tourism model.

The island has already taken steps to encourage visitors back, including a VIP expansion to the Taumeasina Island Resort, and is preparing for the grand re-opening of the Coconuts Beach Resort in April 2023 after extensive renovation work.

[www.samoa.travel](http://www.samoa.travel)

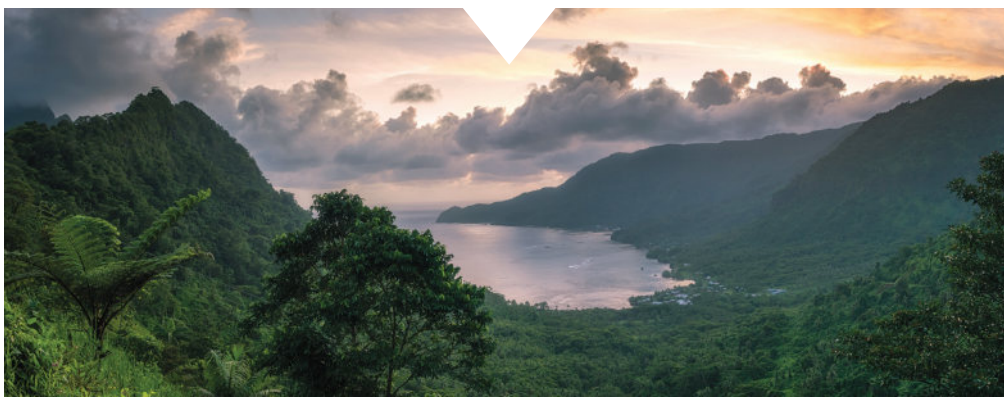


## Wales welcomes wave of cruise calls

WALES IS expected to welcome 91 ships to Welsh ports this year, the highest number of cruise ship calls to date.

The calls will include more than 80,000 passengers and 39,000 crew, equating to a potential passenger day spend income of £8.3mn for the Welsh economy.

Head of UK Port Authorities at Stena Line, Ian Davies, said: "It is so positive to see the return and growth of cruise ships and guest to the Ports at Holyhead and Fishguard, bringing growing numbers to see North and West Wales."



## LA Tourism rolls out the red carpet for 'Now Playing' second phase

LOS ANGELES Tourism has raised the curtain on the second phase of its start-studded global advertising campaign which coincides with some of the city's most celebrated milestones, including the centennial of the iconic Hollywood Sign and the 95th Academy Awards. The 'Now Playing' campaign will appear in traditional and digital marketing channels across the UK.

Don Skeoch, chief marketing officer, Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board, said: "The newest iteration of 'Now Playing' brings a fresh perspective to what's unique about Los Angeles through the lens of top local talent, including NBA All-Star Paul George and street art icon Mister Cartoon.

"As Los Angeles continues on a triumphant recovery trajectory, we are proud to leverage this timely campaign to invite visitors to experience the City of Angels as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the landmark Hollywood Sign and roll out the red carpet for some of the world's most highly anticipated events including the Oscars."



## St. Kitts expands Barbados connectivity

THE ST. Kitts Tourism Authority has announced the launch of direct flights to and from Barbados with interCaribbean Airways. This partnership is a strategic step in making regional travel more accessible to the island by further connecting St. Kitts to the wider Caribbean.

Services to Barbados will commence on March 12, 2023 and will fly three times per week.

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

## Un-Beat-able savings with Ski and Save offer

LEADING SKI chalet package company, Ski Beat, has trimmed £100 off the price of a week's stay in the heart of France's Paradiski area in its Ski and Save offer, featuring three itineraries departing on March 25, 2023.

Included in the offer is the 7-night stay in Chalet Bouquetin, 150 metres from the traditional Plan Peisey Alpine village, which costs £989pp, including return flights, transfers and full catering.

Similarly, travellers wanting to spend a week in the French Alps can stay at Chalet



Dahu for £1,094pp, including unlimited wine and return flights, or at Chalet Papillon which will boast a 100% vegan experience for £804pp, including full board, return flights and transfers.

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







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# POLAND SHOWCASE

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## Poland Showcase

Fresh off the back of our LGBTQ+ Showcase, *Travel Bulletin* was joined by the Poland National Tourist Office, Mazovian Travel, Furnel Travel International, InterCrac, Jan-Pol Incoming Tour Operator, Poland Tour, and GM Travel at Manchester's Brooklyn Hotel for a Poland Showcase! Prizes up for grabs included a two-night stay in Lublin with a guided tour, goodie bags, visit vouchers and more.



Get a taste of luxury with our [#TBS showcases](#) in Edinburgh (April 24) and Newcastle (April 25)! We'll be joined by leading luxury suppliers with a healthy dose of speed networking, giveaways and food & drink! To confirm your place or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you contact [events@travelbulletin.co.uk](mailto:events@travelbulletin.co.uk)



## Wendy Wu Tours' autumn savings continue



UP TO £500 off select Wendy Wu worldwide itineraries is available until the end of March.

The savings apply to certain departures throughout September, October and November 2023, including the 21-day 'Thailand & Mekong Experience', which starts from £5,190 per person, fully inclusive of flights and the tour.

In the southern hemisphere, winter will make way for spring, bringing sunny days and

beautiful floral displays with it. For travellers on the 'Panoramic Peru' tour, the change in weather will be a welcome relief when traversing through the Andes Mountains and discovering the heart on the Inca Empire at Machu Picchu. Priced at £5,290pp for 15 days, tourists can save £500pp on this once in a lifetime excursion.

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

## Jet2.com and Jet2CityBreaks adds Rome capacity for Six Nations

HOT ON the heels of the announcement of 2024's Six Nations fixtures, Jet2.com and Jet2CityBreaks have added 16 extra flights to Rome, giving Rugby Union fans plenty more choice when heading to the Stadio Olimpico for a weekend of rugby.

Capacity has been added from six of the airline and city break specialists' UK bases: Birmingham, Leeds Bradford, Manchester, Newcastle, London Stansted and Glasgow.

Steve Heapy, CEO of Jet2.com and Jet2holidays, said: "Our flights to Rome for this year's Six Nations are proving to be incredibly popular, with customers enjoying the sporting action. Following the publication of the 2024 fixtures we have already seen strong demand, so we have acted fast to provide customers and independent travel agents with even more choice."

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

## Bamboo Airways thanks the trade as route launches

THE TRADE gathered in celebration of Bamboo Airways' direct route from London Gatwick to Hanoi in London last month.

Stephanie Wear, Gatwick's vice president of Aviation Development, celebrated the role of the trade, explaining: "It's incredible important for the airport to have these partnerships; not only with the airline, but with the entire trade industry that supports the airlines and us as an airport."

The direct flight runs weekly on Sundays from London Gatwick to Hanoi with return flights on Saturdays, with prices from £307.

Alan Daniels, director of Sales & Operations for APG (which represents the

Bamboo UK Sales Office), added: "What makes Bamboo a success is the trade. Without them, this wouldn't have been a success."

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



## Ambassador announces spring savings

A CHOICE of savings are available on Ambassador Cruise Line's 2023 services.

Valid on bookings made by April 3, 2023, free cabin upgrades, 50% off a range of itineraries and drinks package upgrades are available.

Seven-night 'Majestic Fjordland' cruises aboard Ambience from London Tilbury to Bergen, Hardangerfjord, Sognefjord, and Aurlandsfjord, start from £709 per person, departing on August 26, 2023.

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



## Riviera Travel rejoins CLIA

ENHANCING ITS partnership and awareness across the UK travel trade, Riviera Travel has rejoined Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA).

Stuart Milan, Riviera Travel's channel director, explained: "The trade has always been critically important for us. We're eagerly anticipating contributing to training initiatives and working groups."

[www.cruising.org/](http://www.cruising.org/)

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



Travel **bulletin**  
SHOWCASES

INVITES YOU TO A

# North America

showcase

AGENT NETWORKING EVENING

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March Chester  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March Harrogate

Agents, come and join the Travel Bulletin team and leading suppliers at one of our fun and informative Showcases where you can improve your product knowledge of this beautiful part of the world. The evening will involve lively presentations, as well as amazing hot food, drinks, action packed entertainment and a free prize draw for many lucky winners!

### Timings

Registration	Travel Bulletin Welcome	Client Presentations	Hot Dinner
6:00 <sup>PM</sup>	6:25 <sup>PM</sup>	6:30 <sup>PM</sup>	7:30 <sup>PM</sup>
	Client Presentations	Product Quiz & Free Prize Draw	
	8:15 <sup>PM</sup>	9:15 - 9:30 <sup>PM</sup>	

To confirm your place at one of our amazing events, email the name, company and contact details by Monday 13th March for the Chester and Tuesday 14th March for Harrogate to: [events@travelbulletin.co.uk](mailto:events@travelbulletin.co.uk) or Telephone: 020 7973 0136

HEADLINE SPONSOR



THESE EVENTS ARE BY INVITATION ONLY  
and will be booked on a first come first served basis with limited space available.





# IN THE HOTSEAT WITH...

*Ilenia Cocco*  
*Sardinia 360*



Sardinia 360's business development manager, Ilenia Cocco, spoke to *Travel Bulletin* about the operator's exciting plans for 2023 and beyond.

#### What exciting plans does Sardinia 360 have in the pipeline?

We are very excited about the opening of the five-star Is Arenas Resort Hotel & Golf resort, in one of Sardinia's most beautiful and untouched areas, at the end of May.

We are going to launch an exclusive collection of refined and sought-after experiences in the most unusual places in Sardinia, ready for 2024. These are part of a broader sustainable tourism project to become the Sardinia specialist in experiential tourism with a series of programmes and partnerships that will help us showcase the ancestral soul of the island.

#### What might surprise guests about Sardinia's offerings?

Sardinia has always been known as the VIP, glitzy, international destination, famous for beach holidays. It's one of Europe's oldest regions, one of the Mediterranean's oldest producers of wine, and Sulky, called Sant'Antioco nowadays, in the homonymous island, is only a little bit younger than Matera, Europe's oldest city.

Sardinia has still-untouched nature, being very far away from the over-development that exploded in the 70s and 80s in other Mediterranean countries. It's great for outdoor activities year-round, and even winters are very mild and, most of the time, sunny. Like mainland Italy, we celebrate carnival in February but Carnival in Sardinia, especially in the Barbagia villages, has a totally different meaning from the merry one you may experience all over Italy. Carnival in Sardinia evokes ancient farming rites. It has many facets, but it mainly deals with mystery, fear, the sound of cowbells, and streets packed with Sardinian Masks, each with a particular history and meaning.

The struggle between man and nature is the most recurrent theme, and the common denominator is almost always the long agro-pastoral tradition.

Our guests have the chance to immerse in this ancestral place still full of mysteries and legends to be discovered. Like the story around the 'Giants of Sardinia,' two-metre-tall statues dating back three thousand years ago that are rewriting the history of the Mediterranean.

#### How important are agents to the Sardinia 360's strategy and future?

Agents are a very important link for us in the UK to reach the right consumer. Tourism demand is so fragmented nowadays and niche products like Sardinia, outside of beach holidays, definitely need the valuable knowledge and expertise of travel agents.

That's why, as soon as I started my new role here, after many years in the Trade department at Italian Tourist Board in London, I thought to get in touch with *Travel Bulletin* in order to be (re)introduced to the industry and the agents in my new role.

#### How can agents get involved with promoting Sardinia360 and its unique offerings?

I am planning to contact all the agents who want to get in touch with Sardinia 360 to offer them bespoke training on the destination first and what we can offer as a local partner.

We are putting a special offer in our newest five-star resort in place, as well as giving the chance for agents who participated in the webinar with *Travel Bulletin* to win a place on a fam trip. This is only the beginning, so stay tuned with Sardinia 360.





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\*Terms and conditions apply to all offers.

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**NORWEGIAN JADE**  
 MAY – JUL & SEP – OCT 2023



INSIDE FROM | BALCONY FROM  
**£ 1,155 PP\*\*** | **£ 2,235 PP\*\***

Based on 30 July 2023 sailing.

**9-DAY GREEK ISLES:**  
 SANTORINI, MYKONOS & FLORENCE  
 ROUND-TRIP ROME (CIVITAVECCHIA)  
**NORWEGIAN BREAKAWAY**  
 5 JUN & 14 AUG 2023



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Based on 14 August 2023 sailing.

**9-DAY GREEK ISLES: SANTORINI,**  
 MYKONOS & CROATIA TO  
 ATHENS (PIRAEUS) FROM VENICE (TRIESTE)  
**NORWEGIAN GETAWAY**  
 3 JUL 2023



INSIDE FROM | BALCONY FROM  
**£ 1,235 PP\*\*** | **£ 1,919 PP\*\***

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO BOOK, VISIT [NORWEGIANCENTRAL.COM](http://NORWEGIANCENTRAL.COM) OR CALL **0333 241 2319**

\*New qualifying bookings made for any open for sale 3+ night sailings made between 6 and 31 January 2023 for individual FIT reservations and new created qualifying groups (delegates with names) for all stateroom categories. Cannot be held as a new or existing traditional or group block (except 50% discount). Not applicable to affinity / FS group types (except 50% discount). Free at Sea upgrade charge depends on cruise length – £149pp for cruises of 6-8 days. 3rd and 4th guest pay taxes only available on select sailings, and only valid where 1st and 2nd guests on booking pay full fare. 50% cruise discount applies to total cruise only fare cost of all guests subject to exceptions below. All offers: limits, conditions, restrictions and exclusions apply. Offers not applicable to charter or inaugural sailings. Single occupants paying 200% of voyage fare qualify. \*\*Lead prices are shown in GBP and based on cruise only, dual occupancy including government taxes, port expenses and fees. NCL reserves the right to correct any errors, inaccuracies or omissions and to change or update fares, fees and surcharges at any time without prior notice. Government taxes, port expenses & fees, general excise tax (GET), discretionary onboard service charges and gratuities additional. Offers non-transferable, non-refundable, have no monetary value and cannot be substituted or customised. Offers and combinability subject to availability, capacity and change or withdrawal at any time. Full terms and booking conditions available at [ncl.com](http://ncl.com). NCL (Bahamas) Ltd, UK Office, Mountbatten House, Grosvenor Square, Southampton, SO15 2JU. ©2023 NCL Corporation Ltd. Ships' Registry: Bahamas and USA. 810857 01/23



## ON ANOTHER PLANET

Planet Holidays features 28 island experiences in Greece and Cyprus for its bumper 2023 programme.

PLANET HOLIDAYS has strengthened its Greek Islands offering with 28 islands featured in its 2023 programme: Crete, Rhodes, Corfu, Santorini, Skiathos, Mykonos, and many smaller lesser-known islands including Tinos, Milos, Amorgos, Ios, Sifnos and Ithaca.

Other destinations include Kea and Kythnos – two of the closest, largely

unexplored islands to Athens – unspoilt and Paxos, the smallest island within the Ionian Islands.

The operator has enhanced its section on island-hopping and multi-centre itineraries including a 16-night 'Athens, Iraklia and Naxos' experience; a 14-night holiday in Athens, Kos and Rhodes and 14 nights combining Mykonos & Cyprus. Planet also offers tailor-made itineraries from their extensive programme, combining mainland and island destinations.

In Cyprus, Planet's programme features the majority of the island's

luxury hotels, including the newly-refurbished Columbia Beach Resort in Pissouri Bay. This luxury all-suite beach resort is a member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World.

For island visitors keen to escape the crowds, Planet offers the Casale Panayiotis in the Troodos Mountains, a collection of beautifully restored houses scattered across the village that contain 41 holiday studios and suites.

Planet Holidays tailor makes packages that combine coastal stays with time out in the Troodos Mountains.

[www.planet-holidays.co.uk](http://www.planet-holidays.co.uk)

### Sicily villa specialist launches new collection

VILLA SPECIALIST Wish Sicily has a brand-new collection of family friendly villas in south east Sicily, all with a pool and many within walking distance of the beach.

The new properties include affordable style in great locations, villas close to beaches with water sports, and beach villas with pools.

Prices lead in at £1,098 for seven nights at Lavinia, a four-bedroom family-friendly villa close to the town of Scicli.

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

### Louis Hotels transforms Corfu property

LOUIS HOTELS has invested €6 million into the transformation of Kerkyra Blue Hotel in Corfu, turning the resort into a five-star property and elevating it into the hotel group's Elegant Collection upon its reopening in May. The hotel is undergoing a complete reimagining consisting of redesigned and renovated rooms and suites, a dine around premium all-inclusive experience with four restaurants and three bars and a new five-star spa. The hotel will also offer dedicated adults-only sections. Tui offers seven nights all-inclusive from £934 per person. [www.louiskerkyrablue.com](http://www.louiskerkyrablue.com)





## Umami to open Beach House in Ibiza

THE UMAMI Group is opening its second Balearic venue in the Ibizan town of Santa Eulalia on May 4, 2023.

UM Beach House Ibiza is the sister venue to the UM Beach House Mallorca.

The new venue will have nourishing traditional Mediterranean dishes, an extensive cocktail menu and a musical programme by Balearic DJs, Sebas Ramis and VIK-T. [www.umbeachhouse.com](http://www.umbeachhouse.com)



## Celestyal adds ex-HAL ship to fleet

CRUISE LINE Celestyal has acquired a new vessel and is investing €20 million in a refurbishment of the ship.

Originally built as the Ryndam for Holland America Line and more recently operating for P&O Australia, the 1,260-guest Celestyal Journey will undergo a refurb that will create expansive open decks, new bars and dining options and increase the number of premium and balcony staterooms.

[www.celestyal.com/gb/](http://www.celestyal.com/gb/)

## Ikos to open seventh hotel in Mallorca in June

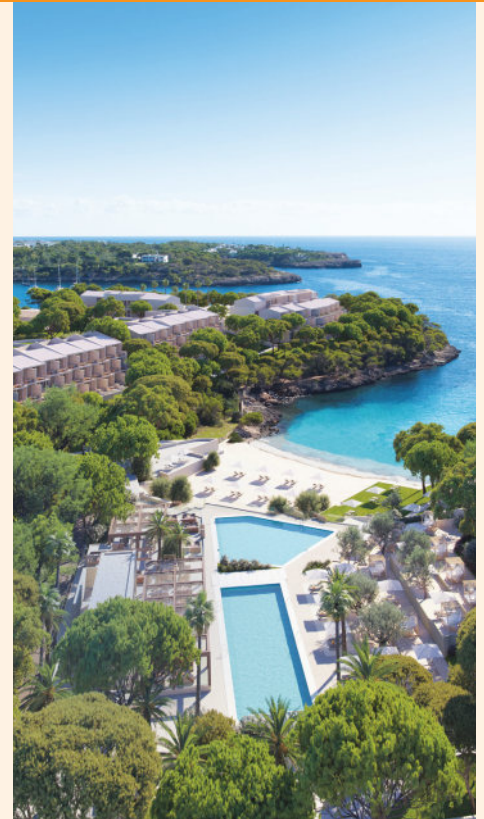
IKOS RESORTS is preparing to open its seventh all-inclusive resort on June 16, 2023.

The five-star, all-inclusive Ikos Porto Petro is launching in Mallorca and will be Ikos' second property in Spain; its other hotel is in Marbella.

The hotel will have 319 rooms and suites with terraces, private pools, and views of the Mediterranean Sea. Guests have access to five indoor and outdoor heated pools, including separate children's and baby pools.

Ikos Porto Petro will offer a local discovery concept giving guests the opportunity to enjoy some local cultural experiences, such as local museums and historic monuments. The hotel will also provide guests with a dine-out opportunity with the chance to experience the best local restaurants at no extra cost.

The hotel also has a partnership with Tesla, which will give guests the option to



explore the island.

Stays start at £582 a night for a Superior Double Room on an all-inclusive basis. [www.ikosresorts.com/resorts/ikos-porto-petro](http://www.ikosresorts.com/resorts/ikos-porto-petro)

## Valletta to host EuroPride 2023

THE MALTESE capital of Valletta has been chosen to host EuroPride 2023 from September 7-17, 2023, one of the largest LGBTQ+ events on the continent.

EuroPride is being held in Malta for the first time this September and the 2023

theme will be 'Equality from the Heart'. For the seventh year in a row, Malta continues to occupy the number one spot on the Rainbow Europe Index with a score of 92%. The annual Rainbow Map and Index ranks 49 European countries on their respective legal and policy practices for LGBTQ+ people.

Chillimix has put together the Malta EuroPride 2023 seven-night stay from September 11, 2023 with prices leading in at £1,099 per person including bed and breakfast accommodation, flights from Gatwick, luggage and transfers and a jam packed six-day Chillimix itinerary.

Highlights include a visit to Café Del Mar, a Drag Boat Party, a Rooftop Party and a Pride WE Afterparty.

For more information or to book phone: 0330 043 0330 or email: [chilli.crew@chillimix.co.uk](mailto:chilli.crew@chillimix.co.uk)







## A BRAND NEW Brochure from Youtravel.com



The Youtravel.com BRAND NEW brochure is packed with stunning hotels and resorts, highlighting the properties' best assets whilst giving you an amazing range of product to inspire your clients!

Within its 27 pages, hotels from Spain, Portugal and the Canaries are ready to be explored from the breathtaking resorts and stunning views ideal for all travellers.

The brochure includes some much-loved favourites as well as a few brand-new resorts and newly refurbished properties, so be sure to dive in and find out more!



To get yourself a copy in the post, drop Youtravel an email at [sales@youtravel.com](mailto:sales@youtravel.com)

Scan the QR to see more or head on over to [www.youtravel.com](http://www.youtravel.com)





### From Southern Italy to the silver screen

FFESTINIOG TRAVEL has reintroduced its 13-day 'Southern Italy and Sicily' tour after the island provided the backdrop for the new Indiana Jones film. Scenes were filmed in Siracusa, which features in Festiniog's tour. Prices for the tour start at £2,965 per person. [www.ffestiniogtravel.com](http://www.ffestiniogtravel.com)

## New flights, hotels and villas from Corsican Places

CORSICAN PLACES is looking forward to a busy 2023 with a new charter flight, new walking holidays, new villas and hotels.

The operator has secured a flight with BA CityFlyer for Sunday departures from May to October between Stansted and Calvi Key.

It has also expanded its walking holiday experiences with four new tours that have 10 self-guided itineraries to choose from with walking levels that range from leisurely to tough. Prices lead in at £1,496 per person for the seven-night 'GR20 North' tour including accommodation, flights, 24-hour assistance, bag transfers and map notes.

Corsican Places has also added eight new villas with prices starting at £775 per person for seven nights at the four-bedroom A Casa Turchina in Algajola, including flights. Three new hotels have also been



introduced for 2023 with prices from £986 per person for seven nights in the three-star Hôtel La Caravelle in Calvi including flights. [www.corsica.co.uk](http://www.corsica.co.uk)



## August Holidays at June Prices

Holidays just for two - choose from a fantastic selection of handpicked holidays departing this July & August and pay June prices!



**Hôtel l'Ondine**  
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T&C's: Prices based on 2 sharing and subject to availability. Campaign is on selected properties only.



01489 866959  
[corsica.co.uk](http://corsica.co.uk)



## Youtravel adds resorts

YOU TRAVEL HAS added two new beachfront properties to its portfolio in Croatia.

The four-star Labranda Velaris Resort and the three-star Labranda Velaris Village are located on the island of Brač, just 150 metres from the scenic Vela Luka Bay.

The two properties offer several culinary experiences including a charming main restaurant with an outdoor terrace, a beach restaurant

boasting a sea view and an impressive à la carte restaurant in an olive grove.

Brač is the largest island in Dalmatia and is also one of the sunniest with 2,700 hours of sun annually. It is just a 50-minute ferry ride from the mainland.

Youtravel is offering up to 20% off summer holidays when booking before March 31, 2023. [www.youtravel.com](http://www.youtravel.com)





## Scenic and Emerald head to the Med

SCENIC'S NEW ultra-luxury discovery yacht, *Scenic Eclipse II*, and Emerald Cruises' new luxury yacht cruise, *Emerald Sakara*, will be debuting in the Mediterranean this year, with both visiting several islands during their inaugural seasons.

For its launch sailing, Scenic Eclipse II will be sailing from Lisbon to Barcelona on the

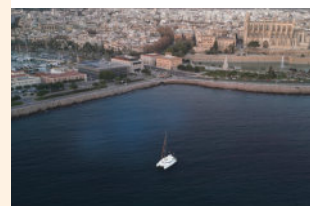


12-day Incredible Iberian Discovery voyage, which visits the Balearic Islands of Ibiza, Mallorca and Menorca.

Scenic Eclipse II will also sail the 12-day 'Sorrentine Peninsula and Adriatic' itinerary. This voyage will journey from Rome, around the coasts of Italy, including Sardinia, and the islands of Croatia, before ending in Venice. Prices start at £7,193 based on a April 30, 2023 departure.

Meanwhile, Emerald Sakara will embark on the 15-day 'Vibrant Greece and Turkey' sailing. This cruise will call in at the Greek islands of Crete, Santorini, Mykonos, Patmos, Amorgos, Rhodes and the hidden gem of the Bozcaada Islands. Prices start from £6,121 based on an August 5, 2023 departure.

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



### Jet2 adds flights to Balearics and Cyprus

JET2.COM and Jet2holidays has expanded its summer flights programme to the Balearics and Cyprus from five UK bases.

In response to demand, Jet2 has added extra services to Larnaca and Mallorca, between March and May from East Midlands, Birmingham, Glasgow and Leeds Bradford Airports.

CEO Steve Heapy said: "We are seeing customers and agents flocking to book holidays for the early summer season and are delighted to be offering more choice. We are looking forward to a busy summer season and are confident these new services will be popular."

This announcement comes on the back of the news that Jet2holidays is now the UK's largest tour operator.

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

## Sardinian Places welcomes six new properties

SARDINIAN PLACES has added six new properties to its 2023 holiday collection, consisting of self-catering mini-villas and apartments with a shared swimming pool.

The new residences include Capo Falcone, a complex of 56 one and two-bedroom apartments, overlooking Asinara Island National Park; the Residence Ea Bianca apartments in Costa Smeralda; the Residence Baia de Bahas apartments near Golfo Aranci; traditional Sardinian-

style apartments of Il Giardino degli Oleandri close to the exclusive resort of Porto Cervo; Le Residenze del Golfo di Orosei apartments close to the medieval town of Orosei; and Residence Porto San Paolo studios and a one-bedroom apartment.

Prices lead in at £560 per person for seven-night packages including flights, luggage, and car hire.

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

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(1) On majority of departures on French rivers. (2) Based on double occupancy cabin.



## London property firm launches travel arm



### Classic Collection and Aldemar to host event

ALDEMAR RESORTS has teamed up with Classic Collection Holidays to take agents on a culinary journey to enjoy Greek gastronomy. Agents have been invited to attend an interactive cooking event on April 5 with Aldemar's chefs at Classic Collection's Worthing HQ. This event will be the first of many for agents this year. [www.sunnytime.gr](http://www.sunnytime.gr)

LONDON PROPERTY company Oliver Bernard London has moved into the world of travel with the launch of Oliver Bernard Escapes and will be working with agents to raise the profile of their new brand.

Kicking off with its Greek portfolio, OB Escapes has luxury villas situated across the Greek Islands, including the Cyclades, Ionian and Cretan with plans to start rolling out properties in Puglia in Italy.

OB Escapes will be offering a wide range of upmarket services to clients to help them to tailor make their luxury experience, from booking beachside restaurants to organising super yachts for daily excursions or filling the fridge back at the villa.

Villas with OB Escapes start from £1,950 per week for a one bedroom villa in Corfu. [www.obprivate.co.uk](http://www.obprivate.co.uk)



  
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[www.aldemarolympianvillage.gr](http://www.aldemarolympianvillage.gr)  
ALDEMAR RESORTS



## A SUMMIT TO SCALE

G Adventures revitalises agent incentive scheme and launches new Peru programme



G ADVENTURES has announced the return of its agent incentive programme, Change Makers, giving consultants the chance to earn their way to the global summit taking place from September 22-28, 2023 in a yet-to-be-revealed destination.

The Change Makers challenge runs until June 30 and encourages agents to focus on changing people's lives

through travel by booking G Adventures trips. Agents who successfully earn a place at the summit will see firsthand how their work directly impacts local communities.

Thirteen 'makers of change' will be chosen from each of G Adventures' major markets, including the UK. The 65 agents will be brought together at the Change Makers Summit, which will also include members of G Adventures' team of global purpose specialists and senior leaders from around the world. To be eligible to earn a space, agents receive one entry per 'life changed' (traveller booked).

Meanwhile, G Adventures has relaunched its operations in Peru with three trips available. These include the nine-day 'Amazon Riverboat in Depth' with prices from £2,339 per person, the 10-day 'Inca Journey' with prices leading in at £2,099 per person and the seven-day 'Inca Trail' with prices from £1,059 per person.

For details on *The 2023 Change Makers Challenge*, go to [sherpa.gadventures.com/change-makers/](https://sherpa.gadventures.com/change-makers/) and log into Sherpa. For G Adventures' Peru programme, visit [www.gadventures.com](https://www.gadventures.com).

### Undiscovered Balkans launches two activity holidays

UNDISCOVERED BALKANS has launched two new multi-activity holidays for 2023 in two new destinations, Bosnia and Hercegovina and Croatia.

The seven-day Undiscovered 'Bosnia Multi-Activity Holiday' includes white-water rafting, hiking, canoeing and tours of Sarajevo and Mostar and leads in at £1,045 per person. The seven-day 'Undiscovered Croatia Multi-Activity' explores the waterways of the Neretva Delta by boat or kayak, cycles along Napoleonic trails to try wines in the heart of Dingac wine country and features oyster-tasting in the surroundings of Ston and Mali Ston. Prices start at £1,095 per person. [www.undiscoveredbalkans.com](https://www.undiscoveredbalkans.com)

### Exodus gets on its bike with Vietnam tour

EXODUS HAS added a new cycling tour of North Vietnam that starts in Ho Chi Minh City and finishes in Halong Bay with opportunities for swimming, snorkelling, discovering the history of Hoi An, with a visit to the Cu Chi war tunnels and an overnight on tropical island, Whale Island. Prices lead in at £4,299 per person and include all flights, accommodation with all breakfasts, some meals all transport and listed activities, tour leader throughout, bike hire, arrival and departure transfers. [www.exodus.co.uk](https://www.exodus.co.uk)







### Sani offers free Bear Grylls Survival Academy

SANI RESORT in Greece is offering guests the chance to discover their inner explorer with the Bear Grylls Survival Academy, which is now complimentary to all guests.

The academy gives guests the chance to learn navigation skills, build shelters, build fires, catch their own wild food, try spear-making, and even track wildlife.

There is also a structured programme for teenagers, which includes building their own raft to carry out a self-rescue alongside all of the other survival skills on offer.

[www.sani-resort.com](http://www.sani-resort.com)



### Triathlon for tots at Quinta do Lago

THE SPORTING and wellness destination of Quinta do Lago in is offering triathlon training for children this year at the resort's multi-sports hub, The Campus. This triathlon training combines swimming, cycling and running into the ultimate active experience - and teaches little ones to push themselves and develop strength, endurance and balance from a young age.

[www.thecampusqdl.com/en/junior-programmes/](http://www.thecampusqdl.com/en/junior-programmes/)

## New collection of 2024/25 journeys from Explora

EXPLORA JOURNEYS has launched a new collection of journeys for the autumn and winter 2024-2025 season of EXPLORA I, the first of a planned fleet of six luxury ships, which are now open for booking.

Featuring 23 journeys and two grand journeys, the itineraries will encompass 73 destinations across 24 countries. Eight of them will be a first for Explora Journeys, including Macapá, Alter-do-Chaõ and Manaus in the Amazon, and the Devil's Island in French Guiana.

Highlights of the voyages include an eight-night 'Journey to Trailing Whales and Falling Leaves', sailing from New York City on October 8, 2024 for Boston, Portland and Halifax, the mystical Whale Corridors and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, finishing in Quebec City.

In a first for Explora Journeys, *EXPLORA I* will offer journeys up the Amazon River and into the Brazilian rainforest. The two grand



voyages include: the 28-night 'Grand Journey to Amazonia and Tropical Isles', and the 32-night 'Grand Transatlantic Odyssey in the Atlantic', which give guests the opportunity to explore the spirit of the destinations along the routes, as they travel the Caribbean and the Amazon.

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

## Channels focus for Jules Verne

ADVENTURE SPECIALIST Jules Verne has introduced a new Channel Islands tour that explores Jersey, Guernsey, Sark and Herm.

Jules Verne general manager Debbie O'Neill said: "We launched our Closer to Home range of UK tours during the pandemic. Then, in response to requests from customers wanting to travel closer to home but equally wanting something a little exotic we launched the Islands in the Channel tour in 2023.

"The big benefit of booking a tour is that you get a superb breadth and depth of experience in such a short space of time.

This, and always being accompanied by local experts makes the trip unique and memorable."

The six-night tour includes four nights in Jersey and two nights in Guernsey with day visits to Sark and Herm. The itinerary features visits to Elizabeth Castle, home to Sir Walter Raleigh while he was Governor of Jersey and King Charles II who sought refuge during the English Civil War, La Hougie Bie, a Neolithic Tomb and archaeological site, one of the world's oldest buildings, the Jersey War Tunnels Museum and a private tour of Hauteville House, home to famous French writer Victor Hugo for 14 years during his time in exile from France.

Prices lead in at £1,935 and include flights, transfers, accommodation, breakfast and some meals, local tour manager and expert local guides. [www.vjv.com](http://www.vjv.com)





## Newmarket unveils 'Exclusive Tours'

NEWMARKET HOLIDAYS has launched a new category of Exclusive Tours, highlighting a varied selection of holidays that agents can book. The range features breaks that have activities, hotels or features not available with any other UK tour operator, and includes African safari adventures, Wimbledon tennis breaks, and a Lapland Santa experience.

Tours include 'Kruger Safari and South Mozambique Beach', which features exclusive elements with accommodation at Machangulo Beach Resort and Camp Bethel. Prices start from £3,729 per person.

Newmarket Holidays' new 'Wimbledon Tennis and London Break' combines a stay in a London hotel with a reserved seat at No.1 Court for the final weekend, with a two-day break starting from £266 per person or three days from £358 per person.

The 'Lapland Santa Experience Day', based in the Swedish Lapland resort of Pajala,



where Newmarket Holidays is the only operator and flights are limited to just one aircraft per day, starts from £630 per person.

Richard Forde, head of trade sales, said: "Our product team works tirelessly to create tours that are memorable, including some that take customers to places they can only reach with Newmarket.

"Creating the 'Exclusive Range' brings these tours together in one place and helps us to highlight this to agents."

[www.newmarketholidays.co.uk/exclusives](http://www.newmarketholidays.co.uk/exclusives)



## Headwater offers tours cycling and walking tours

HEADWATER HAS two explorer tours for 2023, covering two-footed and two-wheeled travel across Europe.

A seven-day, self-guided 'Walking in Jersey, Guernsey and Sark' experience for 2023 explores three islands of this archipelago with prices leading in at £1,149 per person.

The seven-day 'Cycling Trento: Brenner

Pass to Venice Cycling' tour visits Trento where guests will cycle from the mountains to the sea and take in its variety of incredible landscapes. Prices start at £1,829 per person. Both tours include flights, accommodation, with the Italian tour also including bike hire.

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



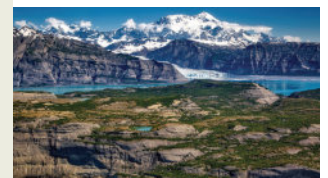
## Say Kon'nichiwa to culture with Intrepid

INTREPID TRAVEL'S 'Premium Japan' offering ticks off the classic sights of old Japan, with plenty of time to take in the ancient culture, celebrated cuisine and stunning scenery of the island nation.

The 12-day trip calls in Tokyo, Hakone, Takayama, Hiroshima, and Kyoto. Prices start from £5,205 per person.

A low deposit offer of £99 is available until March 31, 2023, with full payment due 56 days before departure.

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



## Cunard adds Alaska and South America

CUNARD IS poised to roll out its new programme for 2024 with voyages available to book from 1pm on March 15 for Cunard World Club Members and general sale on March 16.

The new programme features Queen Elizabeth's Alaska 2024 season, Queen Anne's maiden world voyage and a South American adventure on board Queen Victoria. The programme includes 130 voyages to 159 destinations. [www.cunard.com](http://www.cunard.com)



# WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS

## ASIA'S HONEYMOON HOTSPOTS

Tying the knot in Thailand or making vows in Vietnam, Asia offers a choice of locations to kickstart the life journey together.

ONCE THE wedding fever has died down, and the confetti has washed away, the time comes for the next stage of celebrations. Asia plays host to a full roster of romantic getaways and dream-like locations that are perfect for the newlyweds to spend quality time together as they ready for the rest of their lives.

Named one of southeast Asia's most romantic countries, Vietnam is a popular choice for honeymooners to kick back and take in the culture and beauty of the surrounding landscape. Dubbed the 'honeymoon capital of Vietnam', Dalat is loved by newlyweds for the quiet vibrancy it offers, from the aromatic flower gardens to the romantic lakeside walks and waterfalls, it is a perfect place to relax with a loved one.

Over in Sri Lanka, the Malabar Hill property offers its own romantic paradise for newlyweds. The grandiose resort is tucked away inside the forest edge, offering seclusion with the private villa within the estate. The stunning views make the ideal backdrop for a romantic hideaway. Stays start from £173 per night.

For those looking for a little more action from their honeymoon, Thailand offers great alternatives to the typical beach holiday. John Gray's Sea Canoe is a well-loved activity by the locals and offers couples the chance to explore caves, spot wildlife and watch the sunset over a candlelit dinner in Phang Nga. Couples can also enjoy a private cruise along the Chao Phraya River in their own hand-built

Hacker Kraft, taking in the views while sipping on the complimentary champagne.

As Asia opens its doors once again to the rest of the world, there are ample opportunities for newlyweds to be able to soak up the beauty and splendour of the region.

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

### Celebrate love in Maldives paradise

COUPLES WISHING to celebrate their nuptials in luxury need look no further than the Baros Maldives resort, having been named the 'Indian Ocean's Most Romantic Resort' and the 'World's Most Romantic Resort' in 2022.

Offering guests a cocooning romantic experience, Baros Maldives has been recognised for creating and nurturing beautiful romantic settings with carefully crafted experiences for the happy couple.

Purely Maldives offers seven nights in a Deluxe Villa on a bed-and-breakfast basis from £2,598 per person based on an October 2, 2023 departure date.

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

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

### Prime spots to pop the question

HOLIDAY RENTAL booking portal Holidu has decided to help couples create their perfect love story by conducting research using social media trends to find out where the top locations for getting down on one knee are, shared by hopeless romantics. Naturally, the city of love itself, Paris, tops the list, swiftly followed by London, Santorini, Venice and Rome.



# PATA: couples looking to explore more on bougie breaks

THE PACIFIC Asia Travel Association (PATA) UK & Ireland has revealed its latest PATA Travel Patterns for 2023, which shows two trends dominating the wedding and honeymoon market; 'Explore More' and 'Bougie Breaks'.

As restrictions have lifted across the world, it is expected that there will be a much larger focus placed on multi-centre travel this year as people are urging to get back and explore what the world has to offer, and what better time to do that than on a honeymoon with a loved one.

"This trend we are seeing and actively promoting is multi-centre touring within one country. For example, Bangkok, Chiang Mai and a Thai beach; Kuala Lumpur, Cameron Highlands and a beach; or in Vietnam a combination of Hanoi and beach, Saigon and Delta or a tour of Bali," commented



David Kevan, director of CHIC Locations and luxury tour operator spokesperson for PATA UK & Ireland.

As travellers are determined to make up for lost time, PATA predicts 2023 will continue to see an increase in holiday spending and an uptake in 'once in a lifetime' adventures. The demand for luxury weddings and honeymoons is higher than ever, with more upgrades being issued for flights, hotel rooms and premium experiences.



## Maldives launches self-service 'I Do'

AS THE demand for micro-weddings continues to grow, Amilla Maldives Resort and Residences has created the worlds-first 'self-service' wedding venue, where couples can share a hyper-private celebration without the need for a celebrant. The private setting provides a wooden wedding arch surrounded by a lush landscape of coconut trees, six rustic benches for any guests in attendance, and wooden panels for a variation on the traditional wedding vows.

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



## Sun, sea and sentiment at Sugar Beach

ONCE THE wedding stress is over, it's time for the newlyweds to bask in the sunshine and enjoy quality time together. Mauritian resort Sugar Beach offers happy couples seven nights where they can take in the beauty of the Indian Ocean while basking in the easy-going elegance of the resort. For £2,649pp, couples can make the most out of an all-inclusive luxury experience.

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



## Love is in the air at the Sarojin

THE SAROJIN has made it a personal mission to ensure that love is celebrated everyday by extending its 'Sarojin Cares Valentine's Package' to be available all year round. This presents the perfect opportunity for couples wishing to tie the knot in luxurious style, with romantic dining

experiences, a spiritual Blessing of Love ceremony, a couple's aromatherapy massage and numerous romantic excursions included in the five-night package. Prices for the all-inclusive romantic package start at approximately £1,161.

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

Image Credits: Top: Adobe Stock; Top Right: Amilla; Bottom Right: Sunlife; Bottom: The Sarojin



## Go Greek this wedding season

AS ONE of the most popular destination wedding locations in the world, a choice of Greek resorts await for post-wedding breaks.

Carpe Diem, an award-winning adults-only spa resort, offers 10 exclusive individually-designed and dedicated suites for honeymooners. Located in Santorini, Carpe Diem is known for its excellent hospitality service with a 1:1 guest to staff ratio, offering the upmost attention and dedication to the newlyweds. The resort is also home to 'The Dunes', an exclusive venue for destination weddings, with a ceremony area, water features and a natural backdrop.

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

Over in Mykonos, the cosmopolitan island hosts the Kensho Ornos, a luxury bohemian-styled boutique



hotel which offers guests a secluded slice of paradise to exchange vows and rejoice in the beginning of a new life together. With 25 rooms and 10 luxury suites, the resort promises an intimate location to create memories that will last a lifetime. Two-night stays in a Deluxe Room with Outdoor Hot Tub in April 2023 start from £793. [www.kenshomykonos.com](http://www.kenshomykonos.com)



## Jamaica's wedding wonders and honeymoon havens

BOASTING PICTURESQUE sandy beaches and awe-inspiring scenery, Jamaica not only sets the perfect scene for a couple's special day, but also provides a romantic backdrop for an unforgettable honeymoon.

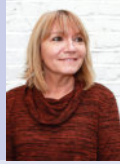
After the wedding night, resorts such as Sandals Negril offer couples a luxurious romantic stay with private beaches and fine dining for the full Honeymoon experience, with seven nights in a Caribbean Luxury Honeymoon suite starting from £1,342 per person.

[www.visitjamaica.com](http://www.visitjamaica.com) / [www.sandals.co.uk](http://www.sandals.co.uk)

### What's the most romantic destination you've ever visited?

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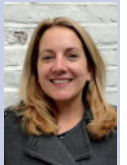
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## Weddings & Honeymoons Showcase

Liverpool was brought along for the ride with our February Showcase schedule as we were joined by a host of suppliers from the world of Weddings & Honeymoons at Liverpool's Holiday Inn. Our supplier partners included the Cook Islands, World of Hyatt - Inclusive, Sandos Hotels, Tunisia, Sandals, Coconut Bay & Serenity, and Sun Siyam Resorts. Lucky agents felt love in the air with prizes including hampers, stay vouchers, a three-night stay and more.



Fancy a Caribbean taste of [#TBSHowcases](#) action? We're heading to Dorking on April 17 for a Caribbean Showcase! To confirm your place or find out when we will be hosting our next event near you contact [events@travelbulletin.co.uk](mailto:events@travelbulletin.co.uk)





## Get more from your tour

Looking for a more relaxing way to travel? River cruising ticks all the boxes. Only unpack once, then leisurely meander your way through several wonderful destinations on some of Europe's most magical waterways. Not only is it great value - with meals included, as well as free-flowing drinks at mealtimes, but you'll also have the expert guidance of a tour manager and cruise directors, as well as several excursions included. It's a fantastic way to experience the culture and beauty of several regions in one trip.

Save £600pp



### Tulips and Windmills

6 days from £799

- 14 meals included
- 3 planned excursions
- Drinks included with lunch and dinner
- Includes our VIP door-to-door travel service†

Price based on 8 April 23 departure. Other dates available.

Save £1,100pp

No single supplement\*



### Eastern Europe Explorer with the Danube Delta

15 days from £2,299

- 41 meals included
- 6 planned excursions
- Drinks included with lunch and dinner
- Includes our VIP door-to-door travel service†

Price based on 22 May 23 departure. Other dates available.

\*On all Middle & Upper deck cabins



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