

A WORLD OF EXPERIENCES FOR THE MATURE TRAVELLER

lconic Experiences

Your ultimate travel wish list

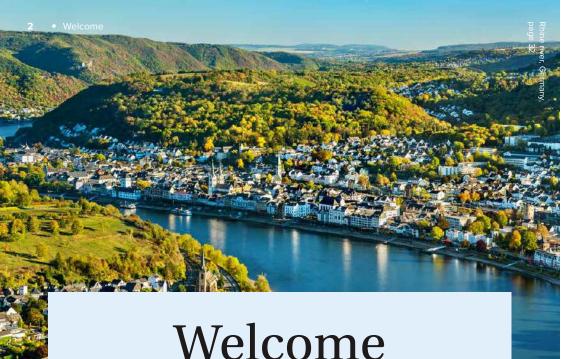
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The best solo traveller destinations to enjoy alone, or join a group

Plus

HOLIDAY INSPIRATION PLANNING ADVICE TRAVEL NEWS & MUCH MORE the **perfect** long-stay trips



We're delighted to introduce you to the first issue of Odyssey, a magazine filled with holiday inspiration for the mature traveller, showcasing some of the many holiday possibilities available for you to share with friends and family, or to enjoy alone.

We understand that every traveller has different aspirations and dreams when it comes to deciding where to go on holiday - the options really are endless. So, with that in mind, we have included a range of ideas that will hopefully enthuse, and perhaps even encourage you to take the leap and book that once in a lifetime trip you've been promising yourself.

From going solo, with travel tips and recommendations to make the most of your independent adventures, to trip ideas that are perfect for bringing the whole family together and making incredible

memories. We've also covered some of the very best luxury long haul getaways, plus ideas for longer duration holidays that give you time to see the sights at a slower pace, and a whole lot more besides.

With 2023 fast approaching, it's a great time to be planning your holidays for next year and beyond. You'll get the pick of the bunch in so many ways - your preferred choice of accommodation, resort or tour dates, the flight times that best suit you, the cruise itinerary that takes you to all your favourite destinations, early bird discounts, the best prices and also longer to spread your holiday payments over. So, grab yourself a cuppa, dive right in and start planning your next travel Odyssey!

When you're ready, we're here to help arrange everything for you – as your local, trusted independent travel agent.

We hope to see you soon!



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The personal touch

Isn't it nice to discuss your holiday with a real person? We will assist you from booking right through to returning from holiday and will be on hand should there be anything you need, however big or small. Plus, we will always use our personal experiences and knowledge to make sure we find the perfect holiday for you.

Value for money

Booking with us won't cost you any extra money. We earn our commission from suppliers and other vendors, so you aren't charged a penny extra - our services are fantastic value for money. We will use our industry knowledge and travel experience to find the best deals for you, saving you money wherever possible.

Inclusivity

Holidays are available for all ages and abilities. You can rely on our experience and expertise to create an itinerary that is best suited to your personal circumstances. We'll always make sure that anywhere we book for you is fully equipped to cater to your needs and are able to offer you the best experience possible.

Connecting the dots

As your travel agent, we are in your corner – you can rest assured that all aspects of your trip are carefully planned, whether it be car hire and airport parking, smooth transitions between airports and accommodation or ensuring you have all the necessary travel documentation.



experience. We'll do the hard work so concentrate on the



Did you know? We're a member of The Advantage Travel Partnership, the UK's largest group of independently owned travel agents, meaning we have access to the widest choice of great value, financially protected holidays. So, whether you're looking for culture, adventure or relaxation, we are ideally placed to help you find your dream holiday.

- The ultimate holiday wish list

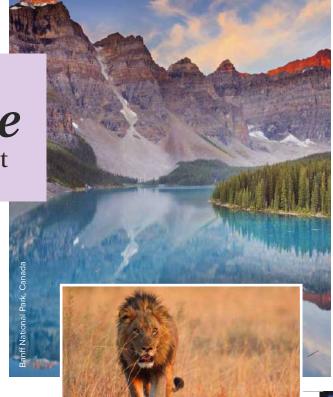
Is it just us, or does that list of 'must see' places keep getting longer? There are so many amazing destinations to experience around the world, each offering something different. The question is, where to choose for your next adventure. Here we cover three incredible experiences to destinations that have that wow factor, placing them into the 'once-in-alifetime' category.

See the Rocky Mountains on the **Rocky Mountaineer**

The jaw-dropping drama of the Canadian Rockies and the surrounding landscape is arguably one of the most spectacular sights on the planet. Explore the forests and lakes that unfold amongst the mountain peaks as nature takes centre stage in a stunning show. Take the time to take it all in, arm yourself with a camera and explore Banff and Jasper National Parks.

Make the trip even more memorable by enjoying panoramas of these incredible landscapes from the comfort of a luxury carriage on board the Rocky Mountaineer. Put your feet up and enjoy the scenery from the custom-designed train before you hit the trails to spot moose and elk.

There are four routes to choose from, which you can combine with tours of the National Parks and time exploring Vancouver and the British Colombia coast contact us to start planning your trip to the Rockies, on board the Rocky Mountaineer.



African safari

Few experiences can compare with witnessing the wild expanses of the African savannah and seeing some of the planet's most magnificent creatures in their natural habitat. Journey into the wilderness with expert guides and camp out under the stars or stay in a luxury lodge on safari.

There are many ways and destinations within Africa that give you the opportunity to get up close to the Big Five, including the Serengeti and Masai Mara in East Africa and South Africa's Kruger National Park. Visit the Serengeti in June or July and you may also be lucky enough to witness the annual migration.

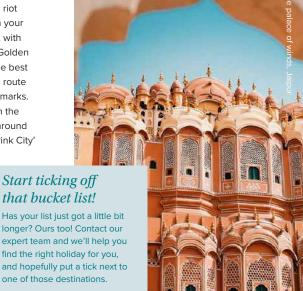
You could equally choose to saunter through the Okavango Delta, Botswana, in a mokoro or combine safari and desert experiences in Namibia on a visit to Etosha National Park. You can't go wrong whatever you choose - it'll be the trip of a lifetime!

India and the Golden Triangle

Few places captivate the imagination like India. It's a riot of sound and colour that leaves an indelible mark on your memory. There's so much to see in this diverse land, with a history that stretches back through the ages. The Golden Triangle is a great introduction to India and one of the best ways to experience its rich culture and heritage. The route takes in some of its most famous and treasured landmarks. The colonial architecture of New Delhi contrasts with the busy streets of the old city as modern India buzzes around you. In the dusty plains of Rajasthan you'll find the 'Pink City'

of Jaipur, with its imposing forts looking out across colourful bazaars and light-filled skies during Diwali. And then there is Agra, home to the jewel in India's crown; the Taj Mahal. A testament to love and devotion, and a true modern wonder of the world.

Expect cows roaming the streets, incredible food and eye-opening sights as you get to experience this fascinating country.



Start ticking off that bucket list!

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Authentic Adventures on the Mekong

Flowing through six spectacular countries from the Plateau of Tibet to the south of Saigon, the Mekong River has served as a lifeline for locals over centuries, providing fertile lands for farming communities to flourish and becoming a key route for transportation.



One of the most enchanting aspects of this mighty waterway is that it offers visitors the chance to experience an authentic slice of Southeast Asia, or observe the daily lives of the locals who live along its banks and to soak up the culture of this unique region.

Touring specialist Wendy Wu
Tours are renowned for their
itineraries, which immerse you
in the local culture, and they
offer several tours to Vietnam,
Cambodia, Thailand and Laos
that are specifically designed to
give you a more in-depth look at
life along the Mekong. On these
itineraries, you'll get to explore
the floating villages where stilted
houses hover on the water, hop
in a traditional Vietnamese basket

boat and wind your way through palm-lined canals, and even experience the bustle of a floating market where farmers sell fresh produce.

For those who really want to get under the skin of the Mekong, a few nights on Wendy Wu Tours' deluxe Victoria Mekong ship will allow you to do just that. The first of its kind to sail between Can Tho in Vietnam and Sisowath Quay in Cambodia, the ship carries guests along a lesserknown stretch of the river – one far less frequented by tourists.

Not only is this route perfect for sipping a cocktail on deck as you admire the passing scenery, but quests are provided with plenty of opportunities to hop ashore to meet the locals and explore their communities.

A stop at Tiger Island showcases just a few of the Mekong's industries and here you can visit the local wood carvers, net weavers and incense makers. Ride a rickshaw from the border town of Tan Chau to a silk village to witness the labour-intensive steps involved in producing this fine textile, including the use of dyes made from tree bark, leaves and fruit. And on Tan Loc Island you'll sip tea at the Ancient House and taste the exotic fruits grown in its orchard, and visit a local farm where delicious plum wine is produced - a real taste of Mekong hospitality.



Only in America tit holid west

The United States is the third-largest country in the world. Its 52 starspangled states offer such diversity across their cities, landscapes and cultural heritage, there really is no such thing as a typical American holiday. Strap in for an epic West Coast journey or feast on plates of hearty food in the Deep South.

tiţan

Titan Travel's USA tours are tried and tested. They're some of its best-loved and longest-running

holidays. Slip on your sunglasses for an epic West Coast journey taking in the nostalgic glitz and glamour of Hollywood and the spectacular gorges of the Grand Canyon, or feast on plates of hearty food rooted in tradition...and much more! Take a look below to see what could be in store.

California and the Golden West

One of Titan's longest-running original tours and most popular itineraries to date, this is the perfect way to explore this incredible part of the USA. Travelling in a loop around California (and nudging into Nevada and Arizona), it includes great cities like Los Angeles, Las Vegas and San Francisco, drives along Route 66 and the Pacific coastal road, and the spectacular

scenery of Yosemite National Park. You'll also spend two nights in Flagstaff: gateway to the aweinspiring Grand Canyon.

It's an incredible holiday that packs in so many of California's iconic sights – from Hollywood and the Golden Gate Bridge to the Grand Canyon and Big Sur. You'll encounter swathes of epic coastlines and buzzing cities, as well as red rock landscapes and emerald green forests.

Southern Sights and Sounds

On this tour you'll head to

Nashville – home to country music
and the spiritual birthplace of
so many musical icons, such as

Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash and, of
course, Elvis Presley! You'll follow

these legends' illustrious careers with a visit to the infamous Studio B – where so many musicians recorded their first songs – and toe-tappin' in honky-tonk bars full of live music and American cuisine.

You'll also head to Memphis and wander Beale Street where Elvis used to perform, as well as explore his home in Graceland.



When was the last time you did something for the first time?

The wonderful thing about travel is that it's never too late to try something new. Cities are alive and have the power to capture our imagination with eye-opening experiences, culture that can change our perspectives and culinary treats to help recharge after a busy day exploring. One thing that our advancing years do tend to give us is more free time, so it's the perfect opportunity to take that trip you always promised yourself and have something to look forward to in the calendar.

City breaks

City breaks are becoming more and more popular each year, and it's easy to see why. They are the ideal opportunity to explore new destinations in a short space of time - so we say, why not explore more than one? With mainland Europe on our doorstep, there are so many wonderful places to choose from, each vying to become your new favourite place to visit, with their own sights, tastes and experiences leaving a lasting impression.

European cities, such as Milan and Zurich, offer excellent transport links and are easy to explore at your leisure. This





not only makes it possible to navigate your way between key attractions, but also makes it simple to see a host of wonderful sights in a single trip. Highspeed rail networks offer comfortable and convenient transport connections between some of Europe's finest cities, meaning you could be exploring the historic city of Rome one day and the renaissance capital of Florence the next. Or take a foodie-themed holiday to both Bordeaux and San Sebastián and enjoy the misty views from the Pyrenean foothills as you cross from France to Spain. We work with a number of trusted companies that offer rail holidays as an option, meaning your itinerary can be set before you even travel, making it smooth and easy.

Whether you're looking to base yourself somewhere and explore further afield, or have somewhere specific in mind, we've got some inspiring ideas to share with you.

Touring

Touring holidays are packed full of first-time discoveries and bring you face-to-face with new cultures, tastes, sights and experiences in a way that no other holiday can. Tailor-made itineraries that are built around your tastes and requirements are a great way of exploring a country from tip to toe or ticking off a few destinations as part of a single trip. Touring holidays are an eye-opening experience and offer the chance to explore some of the world's most interesting places, get close to nature and see incredible natural and man-made heritage sites. The planning and itineraries are all done for you, plus a number of (if not all) meals are included too, so all you need to do is explore the destinations you visit and enjoy the trip. Whether you're flying solo, travelling as part of a group, or have opted for a tailor-made,

private tour, there are authentic adventures for all ages and abilities.

Always dreamed of visiting Japan? There's never been a better time. With so much to see and experience, visiting one city just isn't enough - making it the ideal touring destination. Experience the buzz of Tokyo as historic culture collides with the modern world. The fabulous food scene combines celebrity chef-led restaurants with tiny noodle bars that are all equally enthralling and delicious. You can't go wrong with the sushi bars in the famous Toyosu Fish Market. Take a day trip out of the city to Yamanashi to see the iconic peak of Mount Fuji from the stunning Chureito Pagoda. And, let's face it, no trip to Tokyo is complete without a visit to the Shibuya Crossing, an instantly recognisable symbol of modern Japan. Leave the hum of Tokyo behind and immerse yourself in the historical serenity of Kyoto. Often described as the spiritual heart of the country, Kyoto has traditional teahouses, beautiful temples and sublime Zen gardens to explore and enjoy. Witness a traditional tea ceremony, spend the night in a ryokan or join a hanami (cherry blossom viewing) party.

Japan is a great example of how a touring holiday can introduce you to new sides of a destination - and with its super-fast bullet trains, it's a destination made easy for getting from A to B.

Whether you're heading to the Land of the Rising Sun, taking off to the Jordanian Desert to see spellbinding Petra, or tasting your way around Malaysia whilst you explore its epic beaches and jungles, you're always safe in the hands of expert guides and will be introduced to new experiences every step of the way.

If you're looking for something closer to home, you could take a relaxing tour of Lake Garda and the iconic waterways of Venice. Or try exploring the Scottish Highlands by rail? There really is no end to the possibilities - and we'd be happy to help wherever you choose.



places you've always wanted to see, with no compromises.

Whether you would like to join a tour with like-minded travellers or travel by yourself, we've shared some of our top solo travel destinations to whet your appetite.

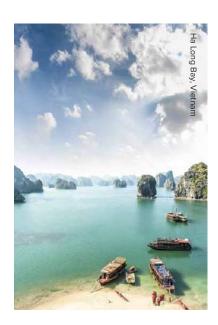
South America **BEST FOR NATURE LOVERS**

From the incredible biodiversity of the depths of the Amazon jungle in the tropics to the icy, southerly reaches of Patagonia, through high altitude deserts and Incan citadels, South America offers diverse and unmatched experiences. It will leave you spellbound. See great wonders of the world like Machu Picchu and the mystical Easter Island, explore salt flats and the vast Pantanal wetlands or cruise around the Galapagos Islands. Away from incredible and unique nature experiences, South America is home to vibrant cities that shouldn't be overlooked.

Vietnam **BEST FOR THE INSATIABLE**

Vietnam's exotic shores, rustic mountainous interior and river delta lowlands are as rich in history as they are in culinary flavours. Cruise around the world-famous limestone pillars in the emerald waters of Ha Long Bay or soak up the hustle and bustle of Ho Chi Minh City. Meander along the Mekong River in a sampan narrow boat or explore the spectacular caves of the Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park. This is a country with something for all tastes.

Top tip May, June and September are the best times to visit Vietnam to avoid the crowds, or from November to April when rainfall is low and temperatures are mild.





South Africa's Garden Route

BEST FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Drive this glorious 300-kilometre stretch of South African coastline, from Mossel Bay to Storms River. From penguins and whales to ostriches and elephants, the wildlife along the Garden Route is varied and spectacular. Visit Addo Elephant National Park to see the Big Five, or Tsitsikamma National Park where you can take a canopy tour. It's worth taking your time as you journey along this classic travel route. Plus there are plenty of activities to enjoy along the way, including vineyard tours and natural landmark, the Cango Caves.

Top tip

If you would like to recommend driving the Garden Route in February.



Thailand

BEST FOR CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

A country rich in culture and history at every turn, along with an unrivalled cuisine, Thailand is made for touring. Often beginning in Bangkok, experience its hustle and bustle (be sure to visit the night markets) before heading north to the lush countryside or south to the beautiful beaches. If heading north, the overnight train from Bangkok to Chiang Mai will be sure to give you a cultural experience where you'll likely join locals on your journey.

Scotland

BEST FOR THE CAREFREE TRAVELLER

Tour the spectacular scenery and picturesque lochs of the Scottish Highlands, as well as the stunning beauty of the Isle of Skye and the Applecross Peninsula. We highly recommend a trip on the famous Jacobite steam train or a hike through the Trossachs National Park – simply relax and take in the picturesque views!

Top tip Did you know it's possible to see the aurora borealis (Northern Lights) from northern Scotland, between mid-October and mid-March, but not during a full moon?!



Solo travel FAQs

Here are some common questions from solo travellers thinking about their first escorted tour. We hope they help!

Will I have my own room?

Some group tours quarantee solo travellers their own room. Others offer the opportunity to share with another traveller of the same gender.

Will I have to dine alone?

Most tours include at least some meals that are enjoyed as a group so you can get to know your fellow travellers.

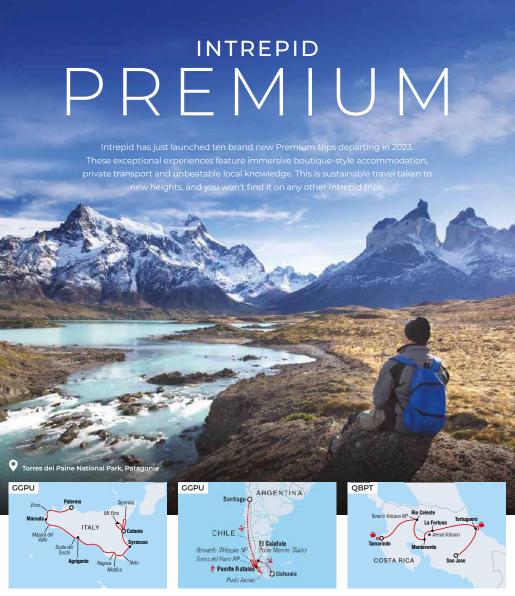
Is there an opportunity to explore by myself?

Most tours offer a mix of included and optional excursions, so it's your choice whether to enjoy your experiences with the group or independently.

Do I have to be single?

Not at all! Many travellers enjoy travelling solo and meeting people along the way.

Escorted touring holidays offer the chance to see the world on your own terms. Carefully curated itineraries allow vou to take time for yourself as well as share experiences with like-minded people. Don't worry about planning accommodation, a number of meals and transfers are often included. Please ask us for further information and we will help you plan your solo adventure or tailormade solo holiday. Let us know when and where, and we'll do the rest!



Premium Sicily

Learn the long-kept secrets of Sicilian cuisine during a hands-on cooking class with a talented local chef using locally grown produce.

Premium Patagonia

Take in awe-inspiring views of mountains and fjords from your Feature Stay ecohotel built right into Patagonia's wild and rugged landscape.

Premium Costa Rica in Depth

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When you think of Finland, you may only associate it with family holidays to Santa's Lapland or ski holidays. Well, you'd be mistaken! Whilst both of these types of holidays are available in Finland, that's not all this beautiful country has to offer. In fact, Lapland isn't just about Santa – it's an incredible place where you can encounter the 'midnight sun' during the summer months and the mystical aurora borealis (Northern Lights), which light up the sky in an enchanting dance of colours, throughout autumn, winter and spring. But wait, there's more!

Culture vultures won't want to miss Lake Inari. A vast body of water home to 3,000 islands, of which Hävdieennâmsuálui (Graveyard Island) and Äijih (Ukko's stone) are very culturally significant – particularly the latter, which is known as a historical sacrificial site of the Sámi people. Electric-hybrid catamaran rides are one of the best and easiest ways of taking in the summer scenery of the lake. A unique way of getting to know the waterways in the winter is by spending a night in a floating Aurora Hut. This intimate experience brings visitors closer to an outdoor experience than ever before — without leaving a trace on the surrounding nature. The eco huts are equipped with double beds and incredible views of the northern sky — and, with a bit of luck, the Northern Lights.



Culinary delights

Located in Hotel Kultahovi, right next to the village centre, restaurant Aanaar is the ultimate culinary destination of the region. With large windows overlooking the lowest rapids of River Juutua, it's an experience that won't be forgotten. Aanaar operates on the basis of offering visitors and quests the best the local nature has to offer. Ingredients are always pristine, world-class and sourced close to home. Specialities include reindeer, king crab, red trout and puurrâmrääsi. a local herb. The menu includes delicious combinations like sakemarinated whitefish from Lake Inari, served with fermented sea buckthorn juice and buttermilk-dill sauce, or roasted arctic charr with smoked kojibutter sauce and beetroot purée.

Did you know...

Many people associate the Northern Lights with winter, but the most active seasons are actually autumn and spring. We recommend staying in one of the stylishly cosy and unique glass igloos, so you can watch them as you fall asleep!



Not to be missed There is nothing more Finnish than sauna; many Finns think you can't grasp Finland or its culture without bathing in a sauna. With an estimated 3 million saunas in Finland, we say it's worth seeing what all the fuss is about! Contact us, your local travel agent, to find out more about this and visiting Finland.

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 Frieutime in two of Switzerland's most scenies.
- Enjoy time in two of Switzerland's most scenic alpine towns – Interlaken and Chur
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SWITZERLAND'S LAKES



Montreux > Interlaken > Chur

HIGHLIGHTS:

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 holiday resorts
- Holidays available on any date up to October 2024

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*Price is per person, twin share & includes savings where applicable. Offer valid until sold out, subject to availability and can be withdrawn at any time. Solo supplements apply. Price based on Cat. F cabin on 21 April 2023 departure. Standard booking T&Cs apply. Ask your travel agent A beautiful blend of modern hospitality and ancient history, Greece has been a holiday favourite for generations. It conjures up thoughts of sugar cube houses and azure blue waters leading out to the Aegean Sea. With hot weather in the summer and mild weather in the spring and autumn, relaxation and adventure can be combined at almost all times of the year. Here, we tell you about two of our top Greek islands...

Rhodes

Adorned with a stunning coastline and steeped in history, Rhodes is the largest of the Dodecanese islands. Declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Rhodes Old Town is a must-visit; considered the largest and bestpreserved fortified city in Europe, admire architecture from the Hellenistic, Ottoman, Byzantine and Italian periods. In fact, there are over 200 streets and alleyways that still have no name! Soak up the warm atmosphere and meander around the small streets before walking the city walls for beautiful views. At least a full afternoon is recommended here.

For some down time, make your way to the golden sands of quaint Pefkos – one is the island's most peaceful settings. Lindos is a favourite too, where beautiful white buildings hug a hillside that overlooks a white sandy

beach. The rooftop bars here have incredible views or, if you're feeling adventurous, take a walk up to the archaeological site of the Lindos Acropolis.

 $Top\ tip$ Don't miss a day trip ferry and has far fewer visitors,

Crete

With over 650 miles of coastline, Crete is the biggest of the Greek islands and has an array of beautiful beaches and historical sights. To the east are the beaches of Lasithi, which are nearby the cosmopolitan towns of Elounda and Agios Nikolaos, perfect for soaking up the sun followed by a spot of shopping and lunch. To the west, the Chania area has blue flag beaches and a historical old town; enjoy a bite to eat at one of its many al fresco

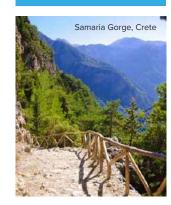
restaurants before visiting the Venetian-built Firkas Fortress which overlooks the harbour.

awaits on the

With rural tavernas at every turn, many of which offer freshly caught seafood and excellent local wine. this is a destination that offers a real taste of village culture.

Short-haul holidays •

 $Top\ tip$ If you're looking for







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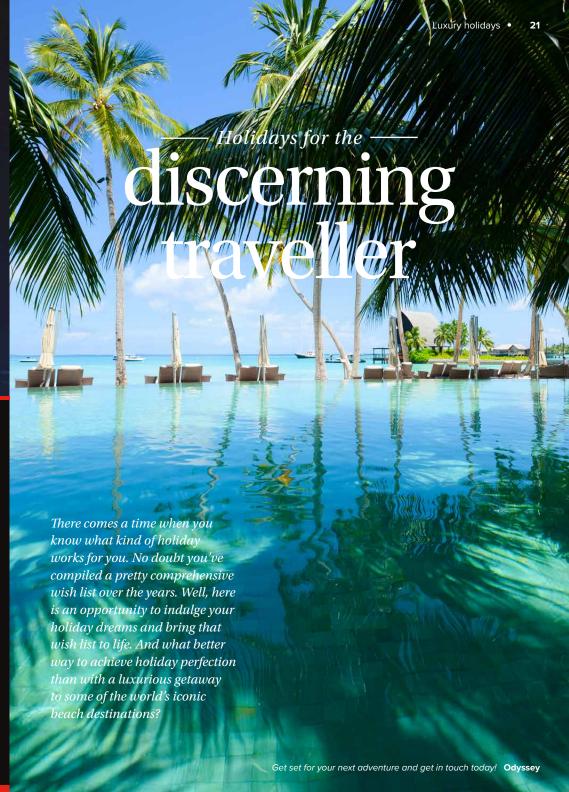
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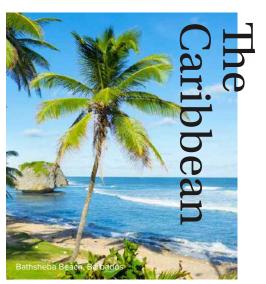
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22 • Luxury holidays • 2



The tropical waters and palm-fringed beaches of the Caribbean archipelago are hard to beat. The Caribbean is famously laid-back, a delightful and welcoming melting pot of culture and rhythm that can't fail to charm and relax. Each island is unique, with Spanish, French, English and Dutch colonial influences impacting cuisine, language and architecture. Take the opportunity to tour around historical places of interest - there are plenty to explore.

From the culinary scene in Barbados, to St Lucia's iconic pitons and street parties, Trinidad's beautiful carnival, and epic nature experiences in Tobago and Dominica, there's plenty to keep you busy. Whichever island you choose, you'll have no trouble finding luxurious resorts with multiple pools, high-end restaurants and a friendly service with everything you need in one place.



Many consider the Maldives as the ultimate honeymoon destination, and they're not wrong, but this is also a destination that caters for groups of friends, multigenerational families and couples alike. There are over a thousand islands in the Maldives, all of which have some of the most emerald green waters and beaches that stretch as far as the eye can see. And what makes the Maldives

unique is that each island is its very own secluded resort.

Opt for a water villa and sleep directly over the clear water, looking out onto the beautiful sea the sunsets are incredible to watch too! If you're bringing the family, many resorts offer kids' clubs and entertainment, whilst others are adults only. Excursions are available too, with snorkelling and diving being the most popular.



Extend your Maldives holiday

Just a 7-hour flight away and en route to the Maldives, Dubai is home to some of the most opulent hotels in the world! Offering hot (or hotter) weather all year round, this is a destination that's easily combined with the picturesque Maldives, even if only for a night or two to break up your flight time. For something a little different, opt for Sri Lanka and its exotic beaches, picturesque views, historical sights and welcoming culture - plus it's just a 2-hour flight away from the Maldives.

Mauritius

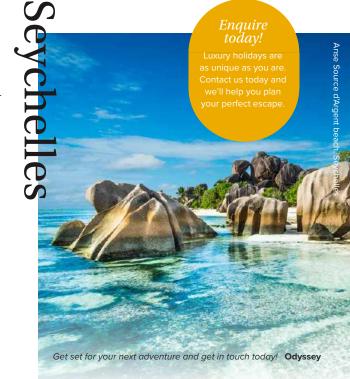
Perfect white sandy beaches and sapphire waters are just the beginning here. Mauritius offers world-class diving and snorkelling sites like Blue Bay Marine Park and Passe St Jacques, fabulous culinary experiences (we recommend the Gateaux Piments - chilli fritters), great wildlife watching and stunning mountain scenery. There are traditional fishing villages like Baie Du Cap and colonial plantation houses to explore and, after London's Kew Gardens, the SSR Garden is one of the world's best botanical gardens. What we love about Mauritius is it can be visited all

year around; being south of the equator, the seasons are opposite to what we're used to – but being a warm destination, the weather will either be mild or hot.

In particular, the east coast of the island is home to an array of luxurious resorts – including once-in-a-lifetime splash outs for a special occasion and 4*-plus resorts that offer something a little extra to the norm. We can certainly advise on which resort would be best. Mauritius is a destination that allows you to do as much or as little as you like!



The Seychelles have to be seen to be believed. They are a slice of paradise in the Indian Ocean. Those surreal boulders, vivid palm trees, soft sandy beaches, warm welcoming waters and abundant marine life make the Seychelles enchanting from every angle. There are plenty of fantastic resorts, all offering luxurious ocean-side amenities to cater for your every need. Try the Sir Selwyn Selwyn-Clarke covered market in Victoria or a spot of rum tasting at Takamaka when you're not soaking up the sun, island hopping or enjoying the incredible marine life on snorkelling or diving day trips. Away from the beach you'll find the beautiful World Heritagelisted Vallée de Mai, where you can hike through emerald forest. It's one of only two places in the world where the rare coco de mer palm grows in its natural state, and is a birding hotspot – if you're lucky you may spot the endangered black parrot.







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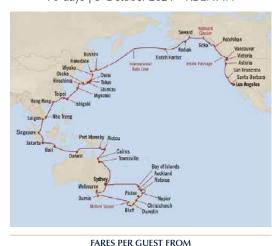
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Indulge in the marvellous Maldives

Advertorial

The paradise of the Maldives is exactly that – paradise! With crystal clear waters and fine, white sand, this is a destination that offers you an indulgen escape to unwind and appreciate a slower pace of life amongst scenery that is sure to wow you.

Speak with us to find out what experiences we can include to create a truly once-in-a-lifetime trip!

There's an abundance of beautiful Maldivian resorts to choose from and it can be tricky (but fun!) deciding which one is best suited to you. That's where we come in. To help you find out more about some of our favourite Maldivian resorts, we'd like to introduce you to two incredible luxury resorts from THE OZEN COLLECTION.

Ozen Life Maadhoo

At OZEN LIFE MAADHOO, the first OZEN resort, your every dream of a tropical paradise will truly come to fruition. A tranquil palm-painted oasis of elegance set in the exotic turquoise hues of South Malé Atoll, the perfectly north-south island of Maadhoo is 900 metres long and 80 metres wide and is covered with lush green vegetation. Expansive white beaches and turquoise waters fringe the serene island resort, with a pristine lagoon

overlooking the horizon, and the exotic marine life all around offers an authentic Maldives island experience! Choose from 94 gracefully designed villas and one exclusive Residence. Complete with all the elements of an uber-luxe holiday, underwater dining at M6m (Minus Six Meters) and exhilarating ocean excursions combine to form an idyllic Maldives stay of refined elegance.

Ozen Reserve Bolifushi

Situated in a pristine lagoon in South Malé Atoll is private island resort – OZEN RESERVE BOLIFUSHI. If only for a moment in time, this stunning, private island resort truly allows you to escape the monotony of everyday life. At the forefront of the top-notch, bespoke services are the unique dine around experiences and a sensational spa and wellness

centre for you to indulge in. From a traditional Maldivian island welcome and seamless hospitality to unique tropical adventures, OZEN's carefully crafted holiday experience is sure to leave you awestruck.

Luxury holidays

The resort has something to keep your family entertained, making it the perfect multigenerational holiday! With the first ice-skating rink to exist in the Maldives, a luxurious spa and wellness centre, a cinema under the stars and one of the largest kids' clubs in the destination – parents and grandparents can enjoy their own time too.

You can immerse yourself in a world of boundless sanctuaries whilst availing inspiring experiences to make every moment an everlasting memory. Multigeneration holidays
 Multigeneration holidays

Take the family on a holiday they'll never forget

Family time is precious, and given the past few years, more so than ever. And what better way to spend quality time with your loved ones than taking them away on holiday? In fact, multigenerational holidays have boomed post-pandemic, seeing families jetting off together for a much-needed getaway. You're spoilt for choice with destinations and holiday styles, but we've focused on two holiday types that will be sure to please everyone.

Cruising

There's a lot to choose from when it comes to family-friendly cruise lines! With something different to see and do each and every day, a cruise could be the perfect choice for you and your family. People who perceive cruises to be a holiday style for just the older generations couldn't be more wrong — with kids' clubs, water slides, West-End shows and even nightclubs on board, cruises are made for absolutely everyone. And, of course, there's plenty of opportunity for downtime too; if you'd simply like to sit back and watch the waves go by with a book or relax in an on-board spa — that's also possible. Take turns with childminding so that all the adults have the opportunity for much-needed downtime in



the spa area! What's more, the on-board experience is only half of your holiday – you'll have a new destination to explore every day, where you can choose to do your own thing or explore together.

Itinerary options are endless with cruises – with the sunny Med being a big hit amongst families. Sometimes, you can even cruise directly from a UK port, meaning flights aren't needed, making it easier than ever when you are travelling with the whole family. Plus, most cruises include all of your meals and some include drinks too, allowing you to control family budgets with less spending money required and you know what's covered in advance. With cruise lines and itineraries for all budgets, this is a holiday that can cater for just about anyone.

Head to the beach

It goes without saying that beach holidays have always been a hit for family holidays. Sun, sea and sand...what more could you want? With so many sunny destinations just a few hours' flight away, there's aways somewhere new to discover.

Opt for a villa holiday and you and your family will have the space to soak up the sun, read a book or have a barbecue



with no interruptions. Or perhaps an all-inclusive family-friendly hotel and you'll know what's covered? Book somewhere with family entertainment and kids' clubs and you can relax and enjoy some space and time to yourself.

A top pick for both villas and hotel holidays alike is Tenerife – with year-round sun, it's perfect for summer, autumn, winter or spring, and has a wealth of resorts. One of our favourite Tenerife resorts is Costa Adeje. With boat trips, Siam Park water park and a wealth of day excursions such as swimming with turtles on offer, it'll keep the whole family entertained. Plus, you'll struggle to choose from the many restaurants of an evening!



8 • Longer duration holidays



Goa, India



Lanzarote

Renowned for their year-round warm weather, the Canary Islands are a firm favourite with those looking to escape the winter chill and enjoy the resort, without the hustle and bustle of the peak-season crowds. Villas in the Canaries are perfect for longer duration holidays: enjoy having your own space, creating a home from home. Self-catering also allows you to keep costs down. If you're away for a number of weeks, eating out every day may no longer be a novelty! Create a base and explore at a leisurely pace without squeezing too many activities into each and every day.

A favourite of ours is Lanzarote. With its reputation for mild temperatures and some of the most beautiful beaches in the Canaries (Papagayo Beach in particular, which has little coves, calm waters and a mountain backdrop), you can certainly

soak up the sun and wish the winter blues away! The volcanic-formed landscapes, lush palm groves and seaside towns will also make each day different – and the luxury is, you have time to explore! The seaside town of El Golfo is a must-go too. Admire small fishing houses, whitewashed walls and picture-postcard scenes of fishing boats moored up on the black sands whilst enjoying a relaxing lunch with fresh seafood. Ask us and we can share our recommendations!

We've picked out Lanzarote but, in fact, all of the Canary Islands are a wonderful choice for Ilongstay holidays – especially for escaping the winter. Each island has its own spark of character, so, when you enquire, we can help find the island most suited to you.

East meets west to create a little corner of paradise in Goa. Laden with stunning beaches and spiritual sanctuaries, this is a destination that not only offers a beautiful setting, but opens up a new culture to explore. With time to spend here, you can explore in depth. Don't miss Dudhsagar Falls, Goa's tallest waterfall with a height of 310 metres. Standing amidst forests rich in flora and fauna, you can opt to trek there if you're feeling adventurous. If you'd prefer to take the comfortable route, it's also accessible by car enjoy the views of palm-tree-lined beaches en route.

For a real cultural experience, visit the Arpora Saturday Night Bazaar, a night market that comes to life every Saturday evening from 6pm. You'll find live music and bars amongst stalls selling souvenirs, clothing, freshly ground spices and more. For some of the best food in the market, try Thalassa – its falafel won't disappoint. Other attractions include the Basilica of Bom Jesus (a Portuguese church, the oldest in Asia), Se Cathedral and Vagator Beach for days you'd like to wind down.

We also recommend visiting other attractions in India. If you've not experienced the famous Golden Triangle then it's a must-do – you'll marvel at the incredible Taj Mahal in Agra, experience 'Pink City' Jaipur and explore capital, Delhi. Turn to page 7 to find out more.







Amazing Australia - a vast country that's approximately 32 times bigger than the UK! You'll struggle to see it all in one trip, even on a long stay holiday – but don't let that put you off visiting.

From the Aussie Outback, to Uluru, the Great Barrier Reef and totally unique Antipodean wildlife, Australia is made for exploring. It's an exotic place but with no language barrier to worry about and ties with the UK, it's easy to feel at home - though in a much more agreeable climate! Mix with the British expat crowd in Sydney, Melbourne or Perth, languish on the Gold Coast or in the wine regions and uncover Australia's ancient culture, perhaps sample dishes using native ingredients found nowhere else on Earth.

Each state has something new to offer, the north's tropical summers are quite a draw with the opportunity to experience the Great Barrier Reef from Cairns and the Whitsunday Islands from Airlie Beach. To the west, Kimberley and Margaret River have incredible indigenous rock art, gourmet food and wine and fantastic outdoor experiences. In Victoria, the panoramas from the Great Ocean Road are jaw dropping, plus there are misty mountain views in the Yarra Valley and more great wine. Rugged and wild Tasmania,

incredible Sydney with the Blue Mountains not far away, the list goes on.

To get around as much as possible, we recommend you join a couple of guided tours (there are some brilliant operators who cater for mature travellers) or consider camper van hire. If a road trip isn't for you, you could station yourself in one of Australia's vibrant cities and pick off a few extras at the beginning or end of your trip — a holiday within a holiday, if you will!

 $Top\ tip$ Be sure to time your trips across Australia with the weather. The north gets very hot and wet in our winter months (November to February), whilst the south is mild and dry. If you're staying for a long duration, we can help you plan your trip to make for the best of the weather and see the sights at their best.

Get in touch These are just a few ideas for destinations where you can escape the colder months and enjoy a longer holiday at a slower pace – we hope we've inspired you! Contact us for more information and how we can help you plan a seamless, longer duration holiday.



DISCOVER MALDIVES

The survey side of life



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From the beautiful tulips in the Netherlands in April to the magical Christmas markets along the Rhine or Danube in December. There are hundreds of river cruises available in Europe that offer holidays along Europe's historic rivers and canals – offering new sights to see each day.

In fact, a river cruise focuses on the sights and places visited, meaning that you can really make the most of exploring and getting to knownew destinations every day. Intrigued? Here are some key reasons why a river cruise could be the right holiday for you.

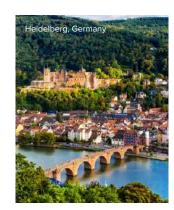
Guided tours are included

Many of the river cruise operators we work with include guided tours at each destination visited, meaning you'll see the most important sights and learn about them as you go. You won't miss the best bits! Of course, if you

prefer to break away from the group and explore independently, that's no problem and the friendly team will help provide suggestions should you need them.

Wonderful views all day long

Even when you're cruising, you'll have wonderful scenery to enjoy every minute of the day. River boats pass through some particularly beautiful stretches of water, including the River Gorge on the Rhine and the Wachau Valley on the Danube. Viewpoints



are almost everywhere from a river boat, often with floor to ceiling glass walls so that you can appreciate the scenery whether you're inside or out.

A wealth of inclusions

Many river cruises offer all meals (and sometimes drinks too), entertainment, hosted talks and much more. One thing's for sure, whether on or offshore, you'll never get bored.

Some river boats rival luxury hotels

If you'd like to treat yourself to something extra special, you can certainly do this on a river cruise. Some include butler service, indoor pools and spas, outstanding cuisine and beautiful décor. There are room categories with balconies and river views too. so you can make the most of the experience all day long from the privacy of your own room. With a high staff to passenger ratio on river cruises, nothing will be too much for the on-board team, who will provide you with a service that won't disappoint.

Dock close to the city centre

The nature of a river cruise is that you're on a smaller boat. A smaller boat means you can dock right in the centre of the city on many occasions, giving you more time to explore and get under the skin of each destination you visit.

We've only touched the surface but, if that's inspired you to find out more about the range of river cruises available, contact us today!



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So whether you want to take a flight on the London Eye and see the city from a different angle or sing the night away with the cast of Mamma Mia! in the West End; we've got a Great Little Break just for you.

> For more information and to book, please contact **Travel Club Elite**

Nothing is too much trouble - we're always here to help!

Travel Your Way

It's fair to say the older we get the more we prefer things done a certain way. It's not about being fussy, but with the passing of time we become focused on what it is we enjoy most about life. It's about having an appreciation for all the best bits - such as the food we choose to eat, the friends' company we keep, the daily routines that work, and the general ease of living within our comfort zone.

Travelling can throw all of that familiarity out of the window, which for some is part of the allure of travelling. But, for those who prefer things to be just so (and those who don't), booking your holiday with a real person can make every holiday a memorable one, for all the right reasons!

As your local travel agent, we love nothing more than getting to know you, and really understanding what it is that you're looking for from your next holiday. We're about making the whole 'journey' easy for you - from the moment you come to us with your enquiry, right through to welcoming you home from your trip.

This is the main thing that sets us apart from booking a holiday online – we strive to make a personal connection with our customers and ensure that your holiday is perfect in every way, every time.

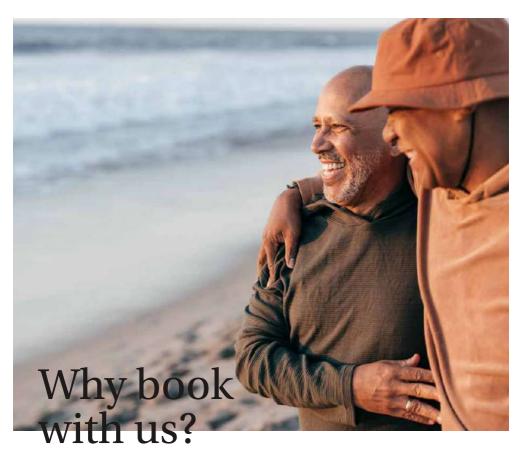
We'll take care of it all

Whilst we're great at booking 'just' flights and accommodation, where we really come into our own is arranging everything you need to travel comfortably, wherever you so desire, is where our skills shine brightest.

From arranging transfers to and from airports, to organising special assistance when it's required. Simplifying visa applications, pre-booking indestination attractions, ensuring you have suitable travel insurance, or taking care of any accessibility needs – we have it covered. And should you need help whilst overseas, we're here to support with that too.

We are trusted, respected, and local,





Our extensive travel knowledge and expert advice will ensure peace of mind and a holiday tailor-made to your individual requirements.

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