Winter 2015

Barbados
Sri Lanka
Dubai & Beyond
Mauritius
Indonesia
New York City
Cruising on the Danube
Multigenerational

Travel Dream

LUXURY HOLIDAYS

Baby Macaque, Bali

Issue 5

Welcome…

Pam Jackman

Jo Wishart

Welcome to the latest issue of our regular travel magazine where we hope to entice you with a varied selection of worldwide holiday ideas and destinations to treat yourself, partner, family or a group of friends to a well-earned break.

With predictions of a colder (and no doubt wetter) than normal UK winter you will be happy to see that this issue dedicates many pages to destinations that promise suitably warm winter holiday options.

A focal point for many trips to the Indian Ocean and beyond is Dubai, an important global air travel hub, and the headquarters of award-winning airline, Emirates. Dubai is a spectacular year round destination, with miles of pristine beaches, a sophisticated and modern city infrastructure including a series of man-made islands whilst the nearby desert offers a more traditional yet beguiling contrast. We therefore begin our journey across the Indian Ocean with an introduction to this jewel of the UAE before moving onwards to Mauritius, Sri Lanka and finally, Indonesia.

Looking westwards, we review the luxury villa scene in Barbados, a particularly popular Caribbean island. Also, with terrific fares available to New York, why not consider a stay at Manhattan's most exciting and new, Ian Schrager hotel, The New York Edition.

Our special feature offers a number of diverse suggestions on multigenerational travel. Keeping everybody happy when an extended family group share a holiday requires careful consideration so we hope that we can give you some useful ideas!

Whether you are looking for a beach getaway, a city break, a river cruise or just news on some of the world's finest hotels and resorts we are sure this issue will inspire you, so sit back, have a read, then give us a call to discuss your travel plans.

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Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, A Four Seasons Hotel ...unrivalled service & luxury

Situated in 17 acres of immaculate grounds and pine woods, at the tip of what is arguably the loveliest headland on the French Riviera, Grand-Hôtel du Cap-Ferrat, which was built in 1908, is now shining under inspired, new management with Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts. The hotel will be the brand's second property in France, joining Four Seasons Hotel George V in Paris. The work of designer Pierre-Yves Rochon is reflected at both properties. Accommodations include suites, some with a private terrace and an infinity pool, three restaurants, including Club Dauphin, which offers regionally-inspired food and views of the sea, and a spa with eight treatment rooms, a gym, indoor pool, sauna, and steam rooms.

A new category of luxury suite for Regent Seven Seas Explorer to debut in 2016

Regent Seven Seas Cruises will introduce a new category of luxury suite exclusively for Seven Seas Explorer, which will commence sailing in 2016, that sets the tone for the well-appointed and spacious all-suite accommodations found throughout their newest vessel. Named the Regent Suite, the plush two-bedroom, 3,875-square foot suite comes complete with an in-room spa retreat, a first at sea, with personal sauna, steam room and treatment area. The suite also features an outdoor, glass-enclosed sitting area aptly named the Vista Garden, where guests can enjoy magnificent, unobstructed 270-degree views over the ship's bow and toward the horizon.

Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech welcomes its first guests

The long awaited opening of the Mandarin Oriental, Marrakech brings a new dimension of refined luxury to the Red City. An oasis of tranquility, it is nestled among 20 hectares of pristine landscaped gardens away from Marrakech's main bustle but within easy reach of its most popular attractions. The hotel's interiors are the work of French design duo, Patrick Gilles and Dorothée Boissier, who have combined Berber and Spanish Arabic patterns with contemporary stylings. Each of the 54 lavish villas has its own private garden and swimming pool, while nine spacious suites come with terraces with stunning views of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains.

The Canny Traveller ...handy tips for surviving airports

Turn up at the airport 3 to 4 hours before your flight

It is much less hassle when you arrive with lots of time to spare. Arrive early and the check in queue should be quite light, enabling you to proceed through Passport Control fairly quickly, as opposed to arriving two hours before your flight and getting lost in a check-in scrum.

Be aware as early as possible of your likely boarding gate location

The larger the airport the more likely that your boarding gate could be up to a mile away!

Invest in true comfort - head for a VIP lounge

There is a very good reason for the growing popularity of VIP airport lounges. They offer a proper sanctuary away from the throngs. You can still brave the departure lounge shopping areas safe in the knowledge that you have a tranquil refuge with free drinks, food and other amenities.

Budapest

Bratislava

Vienna

The Blue Danube

A musical journey celebrating Europe's finest composers with **Tauck**

There are many river cruisers plying the waterways of Europe, but Tauck, a specialist touring company from North America with 90 years experience of organising unforgettable escorted holidays, has refined the luxury river cruise experience to a level few other companies can hope to match.

You only need to read some of the many post-trip comments of their enthused guests to appreciate that Tauck always goes past the usual sights to bring exclusive access, carefully planned events and privileged insights on its river journeys, whilst delivering faultless service from friendly staff who are genuinely motivated to deliver those special surprises that have a lasting impression. All of this is done for a one-off up-front cost, with virtually everything included. Tauck also recognise that their convivial cruises will appeal equally to solo travellers and they operate a "no single supplement" on all category 1 cabins for their European river cruises.

Cruising the Danube River takes on new meaning when you join Tauck's "maestros" to walk in the footsteps of musical giants like Mozart, Beethoven, Bartók, Schubert, Liszt, Strauss, Haydn and others on a 12-day trip through the heart of Europe including a 7-night cruise aboard one of Tauck's Inspiration Class riverboats.

Explore Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Bratislava, Budapest and more, visiting homes these musical greats lived and composed in, and concert halls and palaces where they performed... enveloped by their glorious music throughout a magical journey filled with Tauck Exclusives!

Along with a Tauck Cruise Director and Tauck Directors, the cruise is accompanied throughout by Tauck's "maestros." Active music scholars and performers, these maestros include current doctoral recipients in music history who are passionate and knowledgeable about European music and the destinations to be visited. They will guide excursions ashore and enrich the onboard experience with interactive music workshops, seminars and performances while cruising the Danube River.

Melk

Passau

Regensburg

An itinerary packed with Tauck Exclusives…

Prague

Private gala dinner, tour & concert at Lobkowicz Palace featuring Beethoven's original scores

Bratislava

Interactive Folk Wedding, dinner & musical performance at a historic Slovak winery

Vienna

A Private Imperial Evening at a Vienna palace with gala dinner and performance

A Manhattan Landmark

The iconic Met Life clock tower becomes home to **The New York Edition**

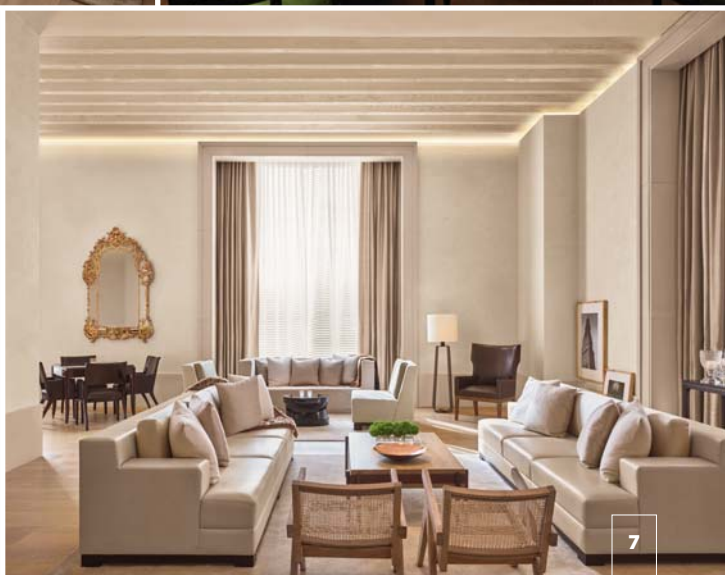
It was once the tallest building in the world and was modelled after the bell tower of Venice's St Marks Basilica, but today the 1909-built, former Metropolitan Life Insurance Company Tower is home to the latest addition to renowned hotelier, Ian Schrager and Marriott International's EDITION hotels collection.

Ideally located on Madison Square Park in New York's Flatiron District, the 273-room hotel, which opened in May 2015, is situated on one of the city's most appealing outdoor spaces. The neighbourhood is a thriving destination for hip restaurants, with the sprawling Eataly market across the park. It's a pleasant walk to nearby Union Square, Meatpacking District and the Village. The Empire State Building is in easy reach and the surrounding area is a shopping wonderland. After exploring the locale guests can recharge with a soothing massage at the hotel's exclusive urban spa.

The interior and public spaces demonstrate Schrager's modern meets classic approach which resonates with his current EDITION projects. Drawing inspiration from New York's turn of the century Gilded Age, the hotel is meant to evoke a private home or club of that era.

The simple residential feel of luxury that pervades the decor of the bedrooms and suites offers a quiet reprieve from the 2nd floor Clocktower restaurant. Here, guests can be found enjoying the buzz around the Gold Bar, Billiards Room and three dining rooms, each outfitted with different jewel-toned velvet chairs and banquettes below walls that are peppered with photographs of artists, musicians and New York scenes through the ages set within opulent, gilded frames.

In the short time that The New York Edition has been open, it is fair to say that it has established itself as a hugely popular venue both with guests and as a meeting point for native New Yorkers. Michelin starred chef Jason Atherton is wowing diners at The Clocktower with contemporary English treats adding to the hotel's private club atmosphere. And when it is time to retire, hotel guests can look forward to inspiring views out of oversize picture windows in their bedrooms of the New York skyline and the East and Hudson River views that surround it.



Dubai & Beyond

Discover the gateway to Africa, The Indian Ocean, Asia & Australasia with **Emirates**

The words 'first, tallest, deepest, most expensive, lavish, outlandish' could have been created for Dubai. Where else would you find a seven-star hotel, visit a series of 200 man-made islands in the shape of the countries of the world, or climb the world's tallest building?

Amidst all this modernity, as you head from a swim in the sea to designer boutiques, a round of golf or a top teppanyaki restaurant, the age-old souks still attract those who like to haggle. And yet only a few kilometres into the magnificent desert there are still camels roaming free.

It is no wonder that Dubai has become the most popular tourist destination in the Gulf but, as home to multi award-winning airline, Emirates, with her growing fleet of 65 state-of-the-art A380 aircraft (with another 75 on order), this city of wonders, it is also the ideal gateway to a myriad of enticing destinations in Africa, The Indian Ocean, Asia and Australasia.

From private suites and shower spas in First Class to flat-bed seats in Business Class to extra room and custom lighting in Economy Class, and in-flight Wi-Fi throughout the aircraft, the Emirates A380 is as close as it comes to flying in your own private jet.

So, whether you are setting out to relax on the coral sands of Mauritius, exploring the archipelago of Central Indonesia or touring across the Indian Sub-Continent, make sure you spend some time in Dubai enroute with Emirates.

Beachfront - Le Royal Méridien Beach Resort & Spa

The impressive and newly refurbished Le Royal Méridien Beach Resort & Spa is a beachfront property boasting fabulous facilities for couples or families alike set in beautiful landscaped gardens fronting Jumeirah Beach and close to the famous Dubai Marina. The resort boasts three outdoor swimming pools, and one of the most renowned spas in Dubai – Caracalla – offering an array of treatments and therapies. Le Royal Meridien Resort & Spa offers an incredible choice of 13 restaurants and bars, catering to every taste and expectation, including the atmospheric Maya Roof Top Bar.

Beachfront - The Westin Dubai Mina Seyahi Beach Resort & Marina

Located in a tranquil setting on the pristine Dubai shoreline, this sophisticated resort and spa will inspire you with its extensive range of state-of-the-art amenities and exceptionally high standard of accommodation. With no less than 10 unique restaurants and bars, plus access to sister hotel Le Méridien Mina Seyahi's dining venues, you'll find a range of cuisine to excite your taste buds. There are 5 beachside swimming pools to choose from, including an infinity pool and 2 shaded kids' pools, and a water sports centre. Or for something more gentle, relax amidst the impressive neoclassical architecture and enjoy exceptional views over the Arabian Gulf.

Desert Retreat - Al Maha, A Luxury Collection Desert Resort & Spa

Al Maha is just a short 65 km drive from Dubai and is located within the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve where Arabian Oryx and desert gazelles wander freely.

Resembling a Bedouin encampment, this secluded hideaway resort offers matchless hospitality, privacy and absolute comfort. The exceptional accommodation facilities feature 37 Bedouin suites, two Royal suites, two Emirates suites and one Presidential suite, each with its own pool and private deck overlooking the infinite lines of sand dunes and lush palms.

Sanctuary in the Indian Ocean

Four Seasons Resort Mauritius at Anahita unveils its new villas

Skirted by coral islets, white-sand beaches and safe crystal-blue lagoons, Mauritius has long been a dream destination for travellers. This gem of the Indian Ocean offers an island retreat where natural beauty and vibrant culture coincide in harmony, with charming colonial structures taking their place amid breathtaking mountain vistas and lush sugar cane fields.

Mauritius offers a superb choice of luxury beachfront resorts, but perhaps the most enticing, romantic and impeccably serviced retreat is the East Coast paradise that is Four Seasons Resort Mauritius, which lies cocooned at the centre of the prestigious Anahita Wilderness Sanctuary. The resort is divided between the mangrove-fringed mainland and its 11-acre private island, which overlooks a sheltered lagoon and features three beaches.

Luxurious villas are set throughout the resort, each with their own plunge pool and covered terraces. This year has also seen the introduction of the brand new and luxurious Sanctuary Beach and Ocean Villas, adding an extra dimension to the resort's emphasis on pure indulgence.

The Sanctuary Collection

Enjoy the very best of modern resort luxury in the new Sanctuary Pool Villas. Bathe in a private infinity pool or recline and unwind in the chic and relaxed comfort of the lounge, which overlooks the pool and garden. The new lounge features a light, rustic elegance in design. Situated in six prime ocean and beach-front locations, this new accommodation category comprises two Sanctuary Ocean Pool Villas and four Sanctuary Beach Pool Villas.

With a prime location on the tip of the Resort's picturesque private island, the luxurious Presidential Suite Sanctuary is a flexible three- to five-bedroom hideaway offering panoramic lagoon views. The new master bedroom looks out to a sunrise infinity pool and adjacent covered patio, while a spacious lounge connects the Suite's two additional bedrooms. The covered patio with adjoining swimming pool and daybed offer the perfect private escape and Bambou Beach is a minute's walk away. To accommodate larger parties, the Presidential Suite Sanctuary has the option to connect to the two neighbouring One Bedroom Ocean Pool Villas via an outdoor corridor.

Uga Escapes

Discovering the natural and cultural treasures of Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka, although the small island neighbour of Southern India, offers so much within its famed "teardrop" contours to wow the intrepid visitor in a rugged land of tropical rainforests, diverse wildlife and endless Indian Ocean beaches. It has a rich cultural legacy of ancient Buddhist ruins, including the 5th-century citadel of Sigiriya, with its palace and frescoes, and the sacred city of Anuradhapura. Its eclectic and flavourful cuisine reflects a history as a maritime trading hub and latter day colonial jewel of the British Empire.

Uga Escapes is a prestigious collection that includes three 5-star boutique hotels and resorts located in just the right locations to offer a balanced tour of this fascinating country including its cosmopolitan capital, the ancient city of Anuradhapura and the wilds of Yala National Park.

The Residence in downtown Colombo is a restful sanctuary consisting of 11 suites in a beautifully restored grand Victorian townhouse offering a tranquil bolt-hole in the heart of the bustling modern capital. It would make an ideal stopover for a few days before travelling up-country to the ancient capital city of Anuradhapura to stay at Ulagalla.

Once the ancestral estate of local nobility, Ulagalla features a 150-year-old mansion at its centre, with 20 private, ecologically-built villas spread across 58 acres of lush greenery. From Ulagalla, the cultural highlights of the region are easily reached making this the ideal base in which to explore both the local ancient sights as well as planning a day trip to Sigiriya.

Nestled in seven acres of wilderness with Yala National Park on one side and the Indian Ocean on the other, Chena Huts is the latest boutique hotel to join the Uga Escapes family and opens in December 2015.

There will be 14 wooden cabins with semi-circular roves made from palm leaves which will blend perfectly with

The Residence in Colombo

Chena Huts in Yala

their environment. Each cabin is identical in its design offering spacious accommodation with earthy interiors where oversized double beds take centre stage. Fitted with white linen sheets, lime green pillows and a rustic wood-coined headboard, the natural elements outside are brought into each room. Each has its own private decking complete with a plunge pool large enough to relax in; the ideal place from which to observe the wonderful natural surroundings.

There will be a beachside restaurant raised above ground level with views out to sea. Traditional Sri Lankan cuisine will be on offer accompanied with an international menu. You can walk from the cabin to the nearby beach or lake where Elephants are often spotted bathing. Chena Huts will offer a fabulous Sri Lankan safari experience, with a game drive each day during which guests are highly likely to see leopard, elephant, wild boar, tropical birds and much more.

www.ugaescapes.com

Uga Escapes “on the beach”

Whilst the island offers a multiplicity of attractions, many guests travel to Sri Lanka simply to experience the amazing beaches. Sri Lankan beaches are some of the most spectacular in the world. Uga Escapes offer two superb resorts on the very best beaches on the less-frequented north-eastern coastline - Uga Bay in Passekudah and Jungle Beach in Trincomalee.

Ulagalla in Anuradhapura

ĀMAN Indonesia

Bali & Beyond - creating the ultimate journey of discovery from Java to the Flores Sea

As the mist begins to lift, the sun scales the surrounding volcanoes and terraced fields, finally highlighting the stone reliefs and the many faces of Buddha. This is the awe-inspiring "dawn" moment that has enraptured many a visitor to the world's largest Buddhist relic in the world at Borobodur in the cultural heartland of Central Java. What a fitting introduction to a luxurious adventure across Java, Bali and The Flores Sea staying at the region's most inspirational collection of experiential and authentic resorts.

Each of Aman's five resorts in Indonesia enjoys a beautiful natural environment, elegant setting, assured privacy and all the cultural richness to be found in the world's largest archipelago. From Java to Bali and beyond, few regions of the world reveal their history and their culture, past and present, more proudly or visibly than Indonesia.

Adding to a superlative mix of land-based experiences, Aman also has a special treat for those wishing to expand their horizons to explore the fascinating marine wonderland of the Flores Sea east of Bali. Cruise in true Aman luxury aboard one of their superb, traditional Phinisi cruisers, charting a tailor-made course through pristine coral waters with the opportunity to scuba some of the world's finest reefs and drop anchor at shallow anchorages in "off the beaten track" locations.

Amanjiwo

Set in a natural amphitheatre of lush palms and rice fields, Amanjiwo is a spiritual sanctuary informed by Java's monumental past and vibrant present.

Amankila

Amankila is a beachside haven of tranquillity on the remote east coast of Bali. Against the dramatic backdrop of distant Mount Agung volcano, the hillside resort is enveloped by lush vegetation and overlooking the Lombok Strait.

Amanusa

Overlooking the turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean, Amanusa – which means "peaceful isle" – occupies a gentle rise on Bali's southern peninsula of Nusa Dua.

Amanwana

The wilderness hideaway of Amanwana sits on Moyo Island, an unspoilt nature and marine reserve to the east of Bali. The only resort on the island, it is a private paradise surrounded by the turquoise waters and colourful reefs of the Flores Sea.

Amandari

A harmonious hideaway perched above cascading rice paddies outside Bali's artistic centre of Ubud.

Aman Expeditions aboard Amandira & Amanikan

Venture into the Indonesian archipelago and experience an adventure through one of the world's most exceptional marine areas aboard an extraordinary Phinisi cruiser. Witness the Komodo dragon in its natural habitat and dive the pristine waters of the Flores Sea.

Luxury Villa Living

Perfect Retreats in Barbados with **Worldwide Dream Villas**

Here are some key ingredients for a luxury villa holiday. Begin with a specially selected, private retreat where you feel completely at home in surroundings you fall in love with the moment you arrive. There should be ample living space for your family and friends to spread out and relax with stunning living and dining rooms for gatherings, sharing special dinners and fun evenings on the terrace, catching up or playing games. The bedrooms will be considerately spaced, with en-suite bathrooms and their own terraces for extra privacy. The villa should be located within tropical gardens with a fabulous, private swimming pool and most likely, close to a gorgeous, white sand beach. You will have exceptional staff to take care of your every need - a butler to serve cocktails and canapés, housekeepers to keep everything fresh and a cook to create delicious cuisine, from full breakfasts on the terrace, divine dinners of fresh local fish with a Bajan twist, to home-made ice-cream for dessert. Finally, you should have the freedom of choice to do what you want, when you want, with everything at your own pace and no timetable. Welcome to luxury villa living.

There are not many places in the world that can do this better than the much-loved, Caribbean island of Barbados, the forerunner of private luxury villa holidays. It all started with the conversion of the original colonial residences, beautifully restored into luxury holiday homes and this has extended over the years to an outstanding collection of private villas thoughtfully placed along the magnificent west coast of the island. From cosy, two bedroom cottages to palatial, family homes each villa has its own special architectural style and interior design, reflective of its owner's taste and lifestyle and this can be yours for any special occasion, be it an anniversary, birthday or just celebrating the fact you can get all your friends and family together in the same place at the same time !

There is something for everyone on Barbados and, with the help of luxury villa specialist, Worldwide Dream Villas, who know the island and all the villas inside out, your perfect spot can be found for you. For beach lovers, there are the glorious colonial estates such as Crystal Springs, St. Helena and The Great House. Royal Westmoreland and Apes Hill are simply outstanding for golf enthusiasts and the villa community of Sugar Hill offers an exceptional collection of homes within a "private club" environment, complete with David Lloyd tennis courts. The Sandy Lane Estate is home to some exceptional private villas from the sophisticated Caribbean styles such as the 5-bedroom Windward or the more relaxed ambience of the elegant 4-bedroom Heronetta.

And once your ideal home has been found, the services do not end there. A full concierge service from Worldwide Dream Villas is at your disposal to ensure everything is in place for your arrival and you can completely relax ; from VIP Meet and Greet, luxury car transfers, car hire, staffing, menu planning and pre-arranging food and beverages, wines and champagnes, booking of restaurants and activities and arrangements for little ones too. There is even a Worldwide Dream Villas office in Barbados to call upon any time for assistance.

Venture out of your fabulous villa and you will find sophisticated restaurants, excellent shopping, every conceivable watersport, sailing, diving, historical places of interest, beautiful landscaped gardens, day trips over to The Grenadines - the list is endless. And best of all, you can return to your own island home, put your feet up and relax with your loved ones in complete comfort and privacy.

Luxury villa living on Barbados with Worldwide Dream Villas; a perfect choice for a memorable occasion where everyone is guaranteed to be gloriously happy.

Multigenerational Travel Ideas

One of the fastest growing sectors for travel in recent years has been multigenerational holidays. This confirms a growing appetite by grandparents especially to spend more time with both their children and grandchildren on holiday. Traditionally this simply translated into a welcome extra set of hands for overworked and underplayed parents. However, recent trends show that the aging "baby boomer" generation, now proud grandparents, have become strategic holiday planners and accustomed to numerous trips a year of which the opportunity to bring their extended family together on a special trip is high on their list. Of course, the winning formula for a memorable extended family gathering is to ensure that everyone gets a proper break, engaging in their own particular hobbies, relaxing where required and capturing the excitement of the destination at their own speed. With careful consideration of this conundrum here are some suggestions:

Plain Sailing

Just the right mix to keep everyone happy on a Celebrity Cruise

High on the wish list for the ideal multigenerational holiday has to be an ocean cruise. Celebrity Cruises state-of-the-art fleet offer the perfect environment in which to enjoy a wide variety of activities, facilities and dining options, ensuring that all age groups are superbly looked after. With numerous ports of call enroute the family will have many exciting destinations to share from cultural adventures in the cities of Europe to exploring the great outdoors in Alaska and The Caribbean.

Spacious and comfortable Veranda accommodation is perfect for families and small groups, with all of the features of a standard stateroom, plus: two beds convertible to queen size, second bedroom with one twin bed, floor to ceiling glass doors leading to a veranda complete with outdoor seating. And once you step out of the comfort of your stateroom everyone will head in their own special directions, to kids clubs and sports, the teenager "X" club, adult dance classes or perhaps a soothing massage at the spa. And when it is time to congregate in the evening it will be for a special meal all together and a chance to share stories of the day's events onboard.

Alpine Thrills

Pleasures and adventures at The Lodge in Verbier

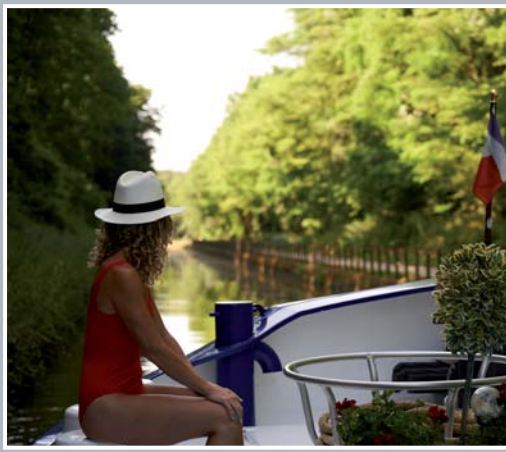
Whether looking for the ultimate ski holiday or an invigorating summer of outdoor, mountain activities, there is no better environment for a family group gathering than a fully staffed luxury chalet. And in this respect it does not get any better than The Lodge in Verbier, Switzerland, Sir Richard Branson's Mountain Retreat in one of the chicest resorts in the Swiss Alps.

The chalet itself is a state-of-the-art 9-bedroom affair sleeping up to 18 guests plus a children's bunkroom to sleep 6 children with an indoor heated pool, an indoor and outdoor Jacuzzi, a spa and a fully-equipped gym. Indeed, under the care of the Lodge's exceptional team of 15 staff this is the place where everyone can really relax. There will be plenty of adrenalin moments for the younger ones, whilst the adults can surrender to extreme pampering. "Nothing is too much trouble" for your hosts throughout the course of an all-inclusive stay. Be prepared for plenty of little personalised touches as befits this very special home from home.

Bridging the Generations

Escorted tours designed to please all ages with Tauck

The discussions have been had and it has been decided between the kids and the grandparents that the next family holiday will be an adventure in Peru on one of Tauck's special, family friendly Bridges escorted tours. Whilst you could plan all this yourselves, when you involve a company with the experience of Tauck you are also guaranteeing yourselves an unforgettable family holiday, where all the hard work is handled all the way along by the experts leaving the party to share magical moments on what will surely be remembered by all, learning together, sparking the kids' curiosity, having unbelievable fun and instilling a spirit of adventure and discovery. Choose from a dazzling selection of world destinations like Peru, where the family will not only discover Inca wonders and colonial treasures, but along the way they will swim with sea lions, meet llamas, alpacas and Peruvian Pasos, get blessed by a shaman, go riding and rafting, learn chocolate-making secrets and more!



A Mallorcan Masterpiece

The ideal all-purpose Mediterranean resort

The southwest coast of Mallorca is home to some of the best beaches on this most popular of Mediterranean islands, and it is here, surrounded by exquisite gardens, that, St Regis Mardavall is located. Combining a stunning, peaceful beachfront location with convenient proximity to the island's main city, Palma, as well as the marina of Puerto Portals, probably the most prestigious nautical and leisure complex in the Mediterranean and most definitely home to some of the island's finest restaurants.

From a family perspective St Regis Mardavall will not disappoint. The resort offers a varied range of spacious, family rooms and suites, with the option of connecting rooms to accommodate larger groups. All of the rooms have a balcony or terrace on which to relax and enjoy the views, and all are furnished and equipped in true St Regis luxury style and taste. The suites also include a complimentary bespoke Butler service.

The resort offers the most impressive facilities ranging from their acclaimed childcare and kids club to the state-of-the-art Arabella Spa. Guests of St Regis Mardavall can also enjoy the nearby Arabella golf courses - Son Muntaner, Son Vida, Son Quint, and the 9-hole Son Quint Executive course. With the diversity of Mallorca to be explored and the facilities onsite, this all-purpose resort is the ideal Mediterranean contender for a memorable family gathering.

Belmond Afloat in France

The leisurely way to bring the family together

Make the most of your time together with an unforgettable cruise along France's spectacular canals and rivers. Explore the idyllic waterways with a priceless luxury - the good company of your family in the intimate luxury of a Belmond péniche-hôtel.

Cruising the canals of Burgundy and the South of France is a superb way to uncover the defining aspects of these different regions. From Provence to Côtes du Rhône, you'll get a sense of what the country is all about, and at a pace to savour the idle flow of your holiday. Take your little ones horseback riding through the Saône Valley. Enjoy wine tastings at acclaimed vineyards with your relatives. Belmond Afloat in France is the perfect venue to gather with your nearest and dearest.

Whether your passion is food, history and architecture, cycling or golf, Belmond will arrange specific activities and sightseeing trips to match your interests. Charter an entire barge and they will tailor-make your dream, multigenerational trip.

Paradise with all the perks

Andara Resort & Villas offers a stunning multigenerational experience in Phuket

If you are planning a special family gathering and you are looking for the ideal balance between privacy and resort-style facilities in one of the world's most beautiful, tropical locations then be sure to put Andara Resort & Villas on your shortlist.

This idyllic villa resort is nestled in the lush hills above Kamala Beach on the pristine West coast of Phuket. With 26 pool villas ranging from 4 to 6 bedrooms, each with 135 sq.metre pools, larger groups have a flexible choice. In addition each villa is staffed with both a private butler and chef, who will attend to guests' personal needs ensuring a unique experience within the villa whilst the group can benefit from the extensive and complimentary resort-wide facilities and activities.

For the adults there is a weekly timetable of gym classes, including yoga, pilates and aerobic dance together with social tennis and ping pong tournaments. There are also local market tours for those with the urge to shop. Meanwhile, children can join the Kid's Club where they can hone their skills at batik painting, clay modelling and candle making among the many playful activities.

Of course, if the idea of exploring the wonderful coastline and nearby islands like Koh Phi Phi appeals, then you might consider a full or half-day charter on Andara's 35-metre superyacht, Celebrity. The Italian-designed vessel takes up to 15 for a day cruise, or sleeps 8 overnight (5 cabins).

"Cap it All" at Cap Maison

Great added value for the family at St Lucia's most popular boutique resort

A fresh and new approach to boutique West Indian hotel living, the Cap Maison has a Spanish Caribbean style of architecture and offers guests oversized villa-suite accommodation with beautiful wooden jalousie doors and private, elegantly furnished verandahs. Set atop an ocean bluff in a secluded location on the estate of a former sugar plantation with ocean views across to Pigeon Island and Martinique and with a beautiful cove beach below.

If the idea of spending an indulgent week or two in the Caribbean should meet with family approval then surely the added value of a free upgrade from a 2-bedroom villa to an additional 3rd room, ideal for the grandparents, as well as free meals for the under 12's and 50% off for teenagers should be the icing on the cake! But there is more, adults can also purchase a "Cap it All" supplement for their suite bookings so that even more is included. This great offer runs from the beginning of April to the end of October 2016.

Safari for all ages at MalaMala

The very best, authentic wildlife experience for young and old alike on South Africa's most famous private reserve

MalaMala, on the fringes of the mighty Kruger National Park is the oldest and most historical private game reserve in South Africa. It was also the first in the country that chose photographic, eco-tourism as an alternative to hunting as a sustainable land use practice and became the blueprint on which the South African safari industry was built. This legacy has also spurred its owners to develop a safari experience second to none offering exclusive game viewing for the small number of guests at its three camps in an area renowned for density of wildlife.

Most significantly, MalaMala would be an ideal choice for any family group since it has built a reputation as one of the most child-friendly safari operators. At MalaMala Main Camp families are specifically welcomed, where "Junior Rangers" (children aged between 4-12) are treated to an educational yet entertaining bush experience. Accommodation is also well suited to extended family requirements with a choice of luxury rooms and suites that both include family rooms and even a fully equipped disabled suite suitable for wheelchair access. With all the amenities one would expect from a luxury hotel and some of the most knowledgeable safari guides in the industry, this is an option that should fulfil the wildlife interests of all age groups.

Ranch Life in Wyoming

The all-inclusive adventure for dudes - whatever their age!

Youngsters and the young at heart will love this working ranch in southern Wyoming, combining breathtaking scenery with charming Western hospitality. Stay in a two or three bedroom log cabin, or take out the Magee homestead if you're a larger group and make the most of the great outdoors, navigating the trails on horseback or whiling away the hours fly-fishing. The tepee camp also offers exciting activities for children aged 4 to 8.

Set deep in the heart of Wyoming's famed Platte River Valley, between the Sierra Madre Mountain range and stunning Medicine Bow National Forest, The Lodge at Brush Creek Ranch is an all-inclusive ranch offering endless opportunities for adventure that makes it a haven for outdoor and nature enthusiasts. Lodgings at Brush Creek Ranch are rustic luxury, with cosy rooms in the main lodge close to all the amenities or more secluded private cabins and homes located out on granite outcroppings with sweeping views or down by meadows and streams. The more remote lodges come complete with keys to their own off-road ranger vehicles.

Quality time on the Cape

A welcome for all the family is assured at Franschhoek's best kept secret

No trip to South Africa would be complete without spending some time in the Cape. After the excitement of a safari why not take the family for some downtime in the heart of the Winelands, yet in striking distance of buzzy Cape Town and the coast.

La Clé des Montagnes offers an idyllic setting a short stroll from the historic village of Franschhoek. A selection of four unique luxury pool villas ideal for families catering for between 4-8 guests awaits you on a working wine estate, surrounded by picturesque vineyards, plum orchards with a magnificent mountain backdrop.

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