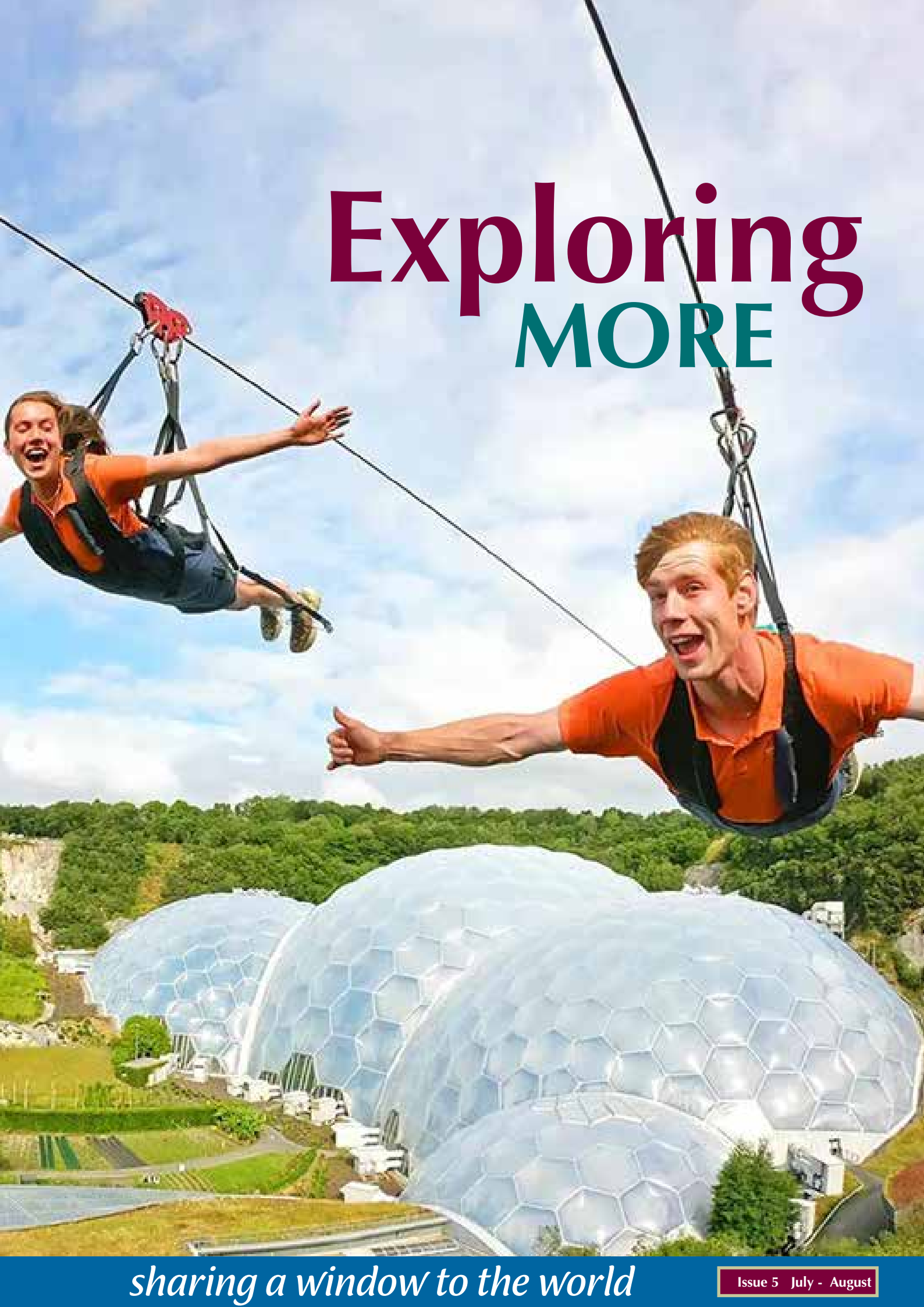


A full-page photograph of two people ziplining over the Eden Project. The person in the foreground is a young man with reddish hair, wearing an orange polo shirt and a black harness, with his arms outstretched and a joyful expression. The person in the background is a young woman with long brown hair, also in an orange shirt and black harness, smiling and with her arms outstretched. They are suspended on black ropes against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. Below them, the iconic hexagonal glass domes of the Eden Project are visible, nestled in a lush green landscape with trees and some buildings.

Exploring MORE

sharing a window to the world

Issue 5 July - August

Rail Holidays of the World



Discover the Journey, Embrace the Destination ~ 2026 Brochure Now Available

EUROPE



Swiss Mountains & Lakes ~

Departs 2 September 2026 - 14 days from £4,330pp

Spend two weeks touring and ascending the famous peaks of the Swiss Alps – by train! Enjoy the stunning views from the top of some of Switzerland's most impressive mountains courtesy of engineering excellence and gravity defying railways.

Behind the Scenes in Central Europe ~

Departs 14 September 2026 - 15 days from £3,145pp

Explore some of Europe's most beautiful areas by rail, combining the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany with journeys on scenic railways, chartered tram rides and museum and depot visits.

WORLDWIDE

The Very Best of New Zealand ~

Departs 4 March 2026 - 27 days from £9,495pp

We return to New Zealand with this epic 27-day rail tour exploring both North and South Islands. Experience iconic journeys on the Northern Explorer, Coastal Pacific, and TranzAlpine trains, cruise the breathtaking Milford Sound, enjoy special highlights and vibrant city culture.

Mexican Rail Adventure ~

Departs 5 March 2026 - 16 days from £8,120pp

Our exciting new rail tour of Mexico blends thrilling train journeys with rich cultural experiences. Ride the legendary Copper Canyon Railway in First Class, enjoy scenic journeys aboard the new Tren InterOceanico and Tren Maya, and soak up local flavour on the Tequila Express. Plus ancient ruins, canal cruises and city sightseeing.

BRITISH ISLES

Wales: Culture, Steam & Heritage ~

Departs 4 Sept 2026 - 11 days from £2,695pp

This comprehensive tour takes you to the must-ride independent railways of North and Mid-Wales, along with a relaxing canal boat cruise and a good dose of history.

Isle of Man Driving Experience ~

Departs 14 Sept 2026 - 8 days from £1,595pp

The Isle of Man is a hidden gem for steam travel and vintage transport. This tour will indulge your passion for old-fashioned transportation as you go behind the scenes of working railways and trams whilst touring this pretty island in style.



Order brochure and see all 2026 tours at www.ffestiniogtravel.com

* Tel: 01766 512400 * Email: info@ffestiniogtravel.co.uk * Book Online at www.ffestiniogtravel.com *



Ffestiniog Travel is owned by a charitable trust and profits go to support the world famous Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways every booking helps preserve the railways.



Your team

Editor

David Pike

Editorial

Chris Pike
James MacDonald

Writer/photographer

Dave Foster

Get in touch

Exploring More magazine is produced to compliment its sister website - www.exploringmore.co.uk - sharing news, features and story lines that inform, inspire and help the travelling public with the all important task of planning ahead

Exploring More magazine is free of charge and e-mailed to desktops everywhere. Make sure of a regular copy by getting in touch at the editor's e-mail below.

m 07970 811 831

e davidpike55@googlemail.com

Copyright © All rights reserved.
Vertu Corporate Communications.

Exploring MORE

Troubling times for travelling

As the travel world gets back into regular step this summer there's some great deals on offer for holidaymakers.

In this issue we dive into destinations and ideas for trips near and far....and a fascinating trend now known as 'set-jetting' where travellers are planning their itineraries around favourite film and TV productions.

Tourism chiefs in Split, Croatia are making the most of the city's connection with Game of Thrones (pages 8-9).

That and much more is featured in this issue.

Happy travels...

David Pike

Editor

sharing a window to the world

Let's Travel

Helping you plan ahead

12 - 13 **Flying High**

Exhilarating experiences
with Hangloose



14 - 15 **Via Vecingtorix**

All roads lead to Alesia



10 - 11 **Tapestry tales**

Weaving a tapestry trail



On board with Sail Croatia

Pages 8 - 9

18 - 19 **Driving success**

roadsurfer celebrates



19 **Picture perfect**

West Sussex culture trails



16 **Canal holidays**

Spooky stop-offs



Exploring
MORE

sharing a window to the world

We hope you enjoy this issue of Exploring More.
We would love to hear about your travel experiences ...

Let's Travel

A magical resort on the Red Sea

Families looking to book an extra special getaway should take a look at Somabay where there's a menu of endless fun and adventure.

Offering year-round sunshine against the backdrop of the Red Sea, Somabay is the dream destination for a memorable family escape.

Explore Egypt's colourful underwater world with a spot of snorkelling, take a sunset boat trip with Happy Turtle, or check out long-forgotten shipwrecks with a scuba experience.

For those who prefer to stay on land, Somabay, nestled within 10 million square meters of verdant landscapes, has plenty of activities for all ages.

The resort location is home to a Gary Player championship golf course, the Holistic Spa & Thalasso centre, and a kitesurfing centre.

Home to six hotels and a range of self-catering accommodation through Stayr, Somabay offers some of the best sandy beaches in the Red Sea as well as panoramic views of the surrounding desert mountains.

Conveniently located near Luxor, Somabay also serves as a gateway to discover Egypt's unparalleled culture and history, allowing visitors to combine a beachfront escape with unforgettable cultural discoveries.

It all adds up to making Somabay an ideal choice for relaxation and recreation.

Direct flights are available from London to Hurghada airport - a 20-minute drive away from the resort.

More

For information about Somabay resort and its facilities ...

<https://somabay.com/>



A passport to adventure holidays



The French alpine adventure park of Les Arcs has launched new exciting visitor gateways with the HERO Pass for the whole family and the HERO Camp for young people.

The **HERO Pass** makes more than 30 activities across the resort that include climbing, swimming, circus skills, trampoline, inflatables, mini-quad and mini-golf.

The **HERO Camp** opens the door to outdoor adventures for young explorers - dedicated adventure programmes for young people aged 4 to 17.

Led by experienced instructors, the camps introduce participants to a variety of outdoor disciplines in a fun and supportive environment.

With HERO Les Arcs, the mountains become more than just a backdrop — they become a space to explore, play, reconnect and share experiences together.

Blending outdoor adventure with family-friendly entertainment, the concept reflects the growing demand for active summer holidays in the Alps.

Les Arcs is an outstanding holiday destination in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region in south-eastern France.

More

For more information visit
www.lesarcs.com



Lights, camera, action - it must be Croatia

As wanderlust created by TV and film continues to shape the way we travel, a new cultural phenomenon is taking centre stage: 'set-jetting'.

Nowhere is this trend more compelling than in Split, Croatia, a city where ancient history and contemporary luxury converge, and where some of television's most memorable moments have been brought to life.

And perfectly positioned at the heart of this trend is Hotel Ambassador, an elegant waterfront retreat that offers front-row access to the city's most celebrated filming locations and puts guests at the heart of the story.

Split's rise as a film production hotspot has been nothing short of meteoric, and the five-star hotel is ideally situated to explore the UNESCO-protected ancient city.

A mere five-minute walk along the Riva Promenade from the hotel is Split Old Town. The city's labyrinthine streets, Roman architecture, and dramatic coastal scenery have made it a natural backdrop for epic storytelling.

Most notably, Split played a starring role in *Game of Thrones* – a franchise growing in popularity due to the release of *A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms* and the third series of *House of the Dragon*.

The atmospheric Meereen Cellars of Diocletian's Palace serve as Daenerys Targaryen's dragon lair, and today, visitors can walk through these ancient stone corridors and relive scenes that have captivated millions worldwide.

As you wander around this labyrinth of tunnels, fans of high-production fantasy drama can just imagine Viserion and Rhaegal chained up here – with all their fiery rage.

At the Golden Gate, there's the ancient entrance of Diocletian's Palace, where the Targaryen Flag was placed once Daenerys took control of Meereen City.

Outside, many streets are worth exploring, which are related to the series - the main one is Papaliceva Street, where Grey Worm leads the charge to free the slaves from the Masters. After all the filming locations have been ticked off, visitors can also visit the Split *Game of Thrones* Museum.

Building on this legacy, and beyond the realm of Westeros, Croatia's second city continues to attract global creatives.

Music icon Ed Sheeran selected the city recently as the music video location for the song 'Camera' in his eighth studio album 'Play' - with scenes shot on the rooftop terrace of Hotel Ambassador itself.

General Manager Stipe Medic ensured the musical superstar experienced a true taste of Split - a football jersey from HNK Hajduk Split with his name and favourite number on the back.

The glamorous vantage point, offering sweeping views over the harbour and Old Town, is quickly becoming one of



Split's most coveted spots for both visitors and filmmakers alike.

For guests of Hotel Ambassador, these on-screen locations are seamlessly woven into their getaway.

The expert concierge at the hotel is on hand to arrange any guided tours to explore key filming sites, offering insider insights into the productions that have brought Split global attention.

Today's cultivated traveller is increasingly inspired by the worlds they see on screen, seeking to experience the landscapes and locations defining favourite films and television series.

As 'set-jetting' continues to influence travel choices, Split stands out as a destination that offers both cultural depth and cinematic intrigue.

Its ability to transport visitors into the worlds of their favourite stories, while championing the heritage of Croatia, makes it appealing.

Hotel Ambassador, with its prime location and contemporary luxury, is perfectly positioned to meet this growing demand.



More

<https://ambassadorsplit.com>

Getting on board with Sail Croatia



Below Deck Mediterranean is back and for its 11th season as Captain Sandy and her crew explore Croatia's picturesque Dalmatian coast and the surrounding islands.

And while chartering a superyacht the size of Akira One may be out of reach for most holidaymakers, more cost-effective ways to enjoy many of the same experiences on a small ship cruise or sailing holiday in the region with are on offer from Sail Croatia.

Book a cabin on a luxurious small ship cruise

Sail Croatia's 'Explorer' cruises are perfect for families with older children, groups of friends or couples. With a maximum of just 40 guests onboard, these small, intimate ships offer personal service and the opportunity to explore the many and varied islands of the Adriatic.

With experiences such as sipping cocktails in a 15th-century turret in Korcula, walking Dubrovnik's famous city walls and tasting local wines on the UNESCO protected Stari Grad plain, there are plenty of unique opportunities to enjoy.

Flexibility and freedom with a private yacht tour

For a more intimate experience, why not charter a yacht or catamaran?

Take your pick from a range of boats sleeping 6 to 10 guests. No sailing experience is needed as a professional Skipper will be on hand to ensure the safe running of the yacht and offer local advice on the best places to visit along your route.

The chance to get involved and learn to sail is there if guests want to give it a try. With flexible itineraries and no hidden fees, it is a hassle-free way to explore Croatia on a water-based holiday.

Prices start from €950 per person for the seven-night charter of a 4-berth yacht, airport transfers, the services of a qualified Skipper, local taxes, insurance and fuel.

Looking for a little more luxury?

On some larger, luxury catamarans, a hostess is included to cook and clean for your group, leaving you free simply to relax and enjoy the experience.

Flights and optional excursions are not included.

More

www.sail-croatia.com

Bayeux tapestry inspires historic tales and trails

The queues are already forming outside the British Museum for tickets to see the Bayeux Tapestry.

For the first time since it was made nearly 1,000 years ago, the 70-metre-long masterpiece telling the story of the conquest of England in 1066 by William, Duke of Normandy is returning to England.

The embroidery in wool thread on linen cloth was created in the UK and dates back to the 11th century.

Following a historic agreement with France, the 70-metre-long tapestry, depicting events leading up to the Battle of Hastings and the Norman Conquest of England in 1066, is being loaned to the British Museum from September 2026 to July 2027.

Through 58 scenes, 626 characters and 202 horses, the Tapestry gives an account of the medieval period in Normandy and England like no other.

It provides information about civil and military architecture, armour and seafaring in the Viking tradition, as well as precious details of everyday life - telling the dramatic story of a moment that changed England forever.

No year in the country's history is more famous than 1066.

It was the last time England was successfully invaded, and it is the year from which the modern monarchy dates itself.

And there is no other object that is as instantly recognisable, as studied in schools and as copied by artists as the Bayeux Tapestry.

One of the wonders of the medieval world, the Tapestry offers a vision of life in 11th-century England both before and after the Conquest, from castles, warfare and ships to clothing, food and furniture.

Likely commissioned by a Norman patron and made by English embroiderers, using manuscript drawings from Canterbury, the Tapestry is both a precious historical record and a remarkable work of art.

The exhibition will link up with strategic locations and 1066 themed exhibitions throughout the UK at:-

- Hastings Museum and Gallery, Hastings Town Hall
- North Lincolnshire Museum
- Lincoln Castle
- The Box in Plymouth
- The Carrickfergus Museum in Northern Ireland
- Tewkesbury Abbey
- The Museum of Somerset
- The Great Tapestry of Scotland in Galashiels (page 11)

More

For more information, please visit
The Bayeux Tapestry experience webpage:
britishmuseum.org/bayeux-tapestry



Great Tapestry of Scotland celebrates stitches in time

The Great Tapestry of Scotland visitor centre in Galashiels in the Scottish Borders, home to one of the world's longest tapestries and a landmark example of collective storytelling, will feature in an interactive national UK-wide programme celebrating the British Museum's Bayeux Tapestry experience.

It places the award-winning visitor centre and the Scottish Borders firmly at the heart of significant cultural moment.

Part of a wider national programme coordinated by the British Museum to make the Bayeux Tapestry's story accessible to people across the UK, The Great Tapestry of Scotland (centre left) will host a year-long programme of art, history and storytelling experiences entitled **Two Nations: Two Tapestries**.

Beginning in September 2026, the centre will promote a range of talks, workshops and educational experiences exploring historic links with France, the influence of the Bayeux Tapestry on the work of Great Tapestry of Scotland artist Andrew Crummy, and living stitchers' sharing reflections on what it might have been like to stitch the Bayeux Tapestry.

This will be supported by a comprehensive learning programme delivered at the Centre, which will feature educational workshops for schools across Scotland.

Sandy Maxwell-Forbes, Visitor Attraction Manager at Live Borders, the charitable trust responsible for operating The Great Tapestry of Scotland centre said: "As the home of one of the world's longest tapestries, inspired by the Bayeux Tapestry, we are uniquely placed to help visitors explore the remarkable connections between these two extraordinary works.

"The Bayeux Tapestry was the inspiration behind artist Andrew Crummy's vision for The Great Tapestry of Scotland, which even includes a panel featuring St Margaret of Scotland, the English princess who sought refuge in Scotland following the Norman Conquest of 1066, creating a direct connection to the period depicted in Bayeux.

"While separated by almost a thousand years, both works tell powerful stories of nationhood, identity and shared history, brought to life through the skill and dedication of communities of stitchers.

More

For more information

The Great Tapestry of Scotland's

Two Nations: Two Tapestries programme visit
greattapestryofscotland.com

Exhilarating experiences with Hangloose

Reaching new heights is proving to be a challenge that's hard to refuse for thrill-seekers.

The invitation comes from Hangloose - one of the UK's most exhilarating outdoor activity destinations with bases at Bluewater in Kent and at the Eden Project in Cornwall.

On offer, as summer gets into its stride, is the chance to experience England's fastest and longest ziplines and Europe's highest giant swing.

Both Hangloose locations combine breathtaking natural landscapes and world-class adventure attractions with all round appeal of families, couples, groups, and adrenaline-seekers.

Every activity is fully supervised by expert staff and designed to deliver unforgettable, high-impact moments - perfect for travel and lifestyle storytelling.

There's a host of activities on offer at both locations and you can launch your trips and book tickets at the excellent Hangloose websites detailed below.

More

Bluewater, Kent

<https://hanglooseadventure.com/bluewater/activity-experiences/>

The Eden Project, Cornwall

<https://hanglooseadventure.com/eden/activity-experiences/#BYA>



Qantas will launch its world-first non-stop services between Sydney and London from October 2027, the first time the Kangaroo Route has ever been flown without stops from Australia's east coast.

The announcement comes as the national carrier unveiled its first Airbus A350-1000ULR in Qantas livery at Airbus' manufacturing facility in Toulouse; the result of years of development to conquer the final frontier of long-haul aviation as part of Project Sunrise.

Qantas has been flying between Sydney and London since 1947, when the original Kangaroo Route took four days with seven stops in Darwin, Singapore, Calcutta, Karachi, Cairo, Castel Benito and Rome, on its way to the UK.

The new non-stop flights will cut up to four hours off the current travel time.

The first Project Sunrise Sydney to London services will go on sale in February 2027.

New flights take off at Glasgow

renowned for its stunning lakeside setting, vibrant cultural scene, and proximity to the Swiss Alps.

Chris Tibbett, Aviation Director at AGS Airports, said: "We're delighted to welcome Edelweiss to Glasgow Airport with this exciting new service to Zurich. The addition of Edelweiss strengthens our long-standing partnership with the Lufthansa Group and enhances travel options for both leisure and business passengers across Scotland."

Flights are now available to book via flyedelweiss.com

And Glasgow is also celebrating the launch of Eurowings' new direct service to Hanover. The new seasonal route marks the return of Eurowings to Glasgow Airport for the first time since 2019.

Part of the Lufthansa Group, the airline will operate the service three times weekly, on Mondays, Thursdays and Sundays, through to 23 August 2026. The introduction of this direct link provides Scottish passengers with convenient access to Lower Saxony's capital, while strengthening inbound connectivity from Germany, one of Scotland's most important tourism markets.

The airport has also marked a new direct service to Toronto Pearson International Airport with WestJet marking the airline's return to Scotland's largest city for the first time since 2022.

The new route will operate four times per week using WestJet's Boeing 737 MAX aircraft and represents a significant boost for transatlantic connectivity, further strengthening the long-standing economic

Canada remains one of Scotland's most important international tourism markets, with visitors spending £135m in 2024 alone, while around 4.8 million Canadians claim Scottish ancestry.



Glasgow Airport is delighted to announce a brand-new route to Zurich, operated by Swiss leisure airline Edelweiss.

Passengers are now able to fly directly to Switzerland's largest city twice a week, every Monday and Friday, until September 14, 2026.

This new connection offers Scottish travellers' convenient access to Zurich, a city



The new service is expected to build on these deep-rooted connections, offering greater opportunities for both leisure and business travel between the two nations.

Via Vercingetorix – all roads lead to Alesia

Amid the rolling hillsides around Alise-Sainte-Reine stands an imposing 46ft high copper statue, its scale a fitting tribute to the subject.

Here stands Vercingetorix, king and chieftain of the Averni tribe, who united Gaul to defy the territorial ambitions of Julius Caesar and his Roman legions. He succeeded in pushing them to the limit as a gruelling seven-year campaign came to a conclusion.

For the past 150 years Vercingetorix has been gazing stoically and silently across the surrounding countryside, but the echoes of ancient warfare continue to reverberate in this corner of Burgundy, one that has become a beacon of how best to celebrate history.

Now, as they did then, all roads ultimately lead to Alesia.

The remains that have been uncovered by archaeologists at the Gallo-Roman settlement of Alesia are now twinned with the MuseoParc Alesia, a modern museum and interpretation centre that is a superb visitor experience.

The creation of architect Bernard Tschumi (he lists the Acropolis Museum, Athens and the BLUE residential tower in New York among his other achievements), the MuseoParc Alesia brings history to life, charting the dramatic final stages of the conquest of Gaul that were played out over the summer months of 52BC.

The story of that summer, when Vercingetorix and an army of 80,000 Gauls were besieged at Alesia by Caesar, commanding some 50,000 Roman troops, unwinds through dramatic displays, evidence recovered from the battle site, reconstructed siege engines and interactive presentations.

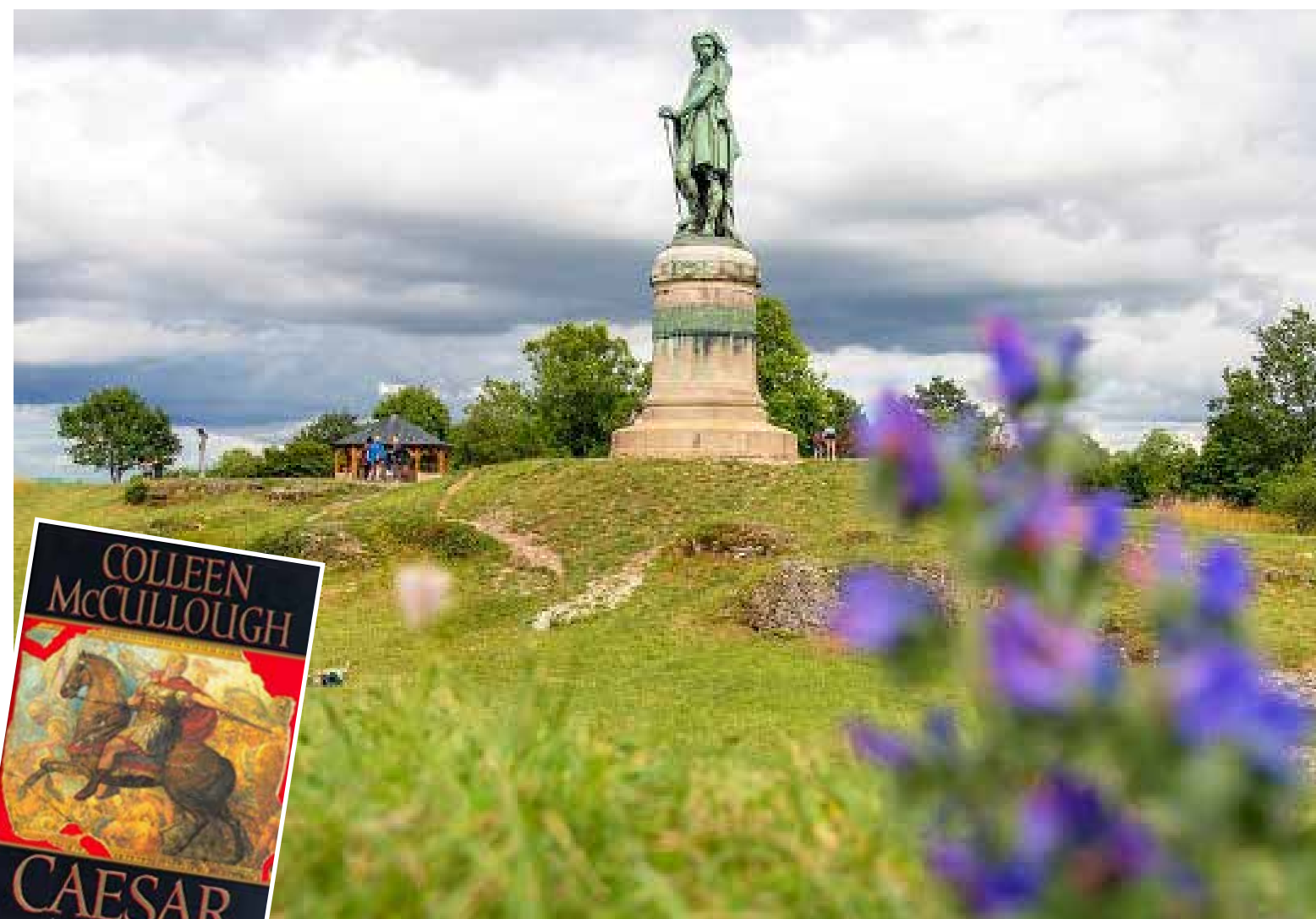
A visit to MuseoParc Alesia (right) is pure adventure for young and old alike, where you can rub shoulders with larger than life models of soldiers from both sides and be catapulted back into momentous events that were to change the course of history.

The circular route through the building eventually takes visitors to a rooftop, planted with trees and plants, that looks out across the actual battleground.

Nearby there's a reconstruction of a section of the defences built by the Romans. Caesar ordered two fortified lines to be built; one 15 kilometres long to contain Vercingetorix and the other stretching 21 kilometres around Alesia's hillsides to stop anyone trying to lift the siege.

Victory, when it came, secured Gaul as a prized Roman province, made Caesar a best selling author with his account of the Gallic War and confirmed him as the most powerful figure in Rome's political arena. Vercingetorix was taken to Rome where he was executed five years later.

Alesia is the perfect starting point to start delving into Burgundy's fascinating early history and to follow in the footsteps of the Gauls and Romans.



More

For more information
www.alesia.com
www.museoparc-alesia.com
www.burgundy-tourism.com

Recommended holiday reading
Caesar by Colleen McCullough

Roman and Iron Age Festival at Trimontium

This summer, the ancient past returns to the Scottish Borders as Trimontium Museum hosts its Roman & Iron Age Festival on Saturday, August 1 — a full day of living history, archaeology, crafts and hands-on experiences set within one of the most remarkable historic landscapes in Scotland.

Taking place at the site of the Roman fort of Trimontium near Melrose, the festival invites visitors of all ages to discover what life was like on the northern edge of the Roman Empire nearly 2,000 years ago.

Throughout the day, visitors will be able to meet Roman soldiers and Iron Age communities as re-enactors bring the ancient world to life through demonstrations, performances and interactive displays.

The Antonine Guard will lead the military encampment with live Roman drills, equipment displays and demonstrations exploring the realities of frontier life in Roman Scotland.

Alongside the living history camp, the festival will showcase traditional crafts and experimental archaeology inspired by the ancient world.

Demonstrators include Pario Gallico, exploring Iron Age paints and pigments; Heritage Blades, presenting traditional blacksmithing; Pictavia Leather, specialising in historical leatherworking and coracle building and Wasted Remains Jewellery, creating jewellery inspired by Celtic and archaeological designs.

Visitors will also have the chance to take part in participative archaeology activities, while guided walks of the fort site will offer opportunities to explore the wider Roman landscape of the Borders.





Spooky canal boat stop-offs

Britain's 3,000-mile canal network takes boaters into some of the nation's best-loved towns and cities, steeped in history and ghost-sightings. We take a peek at Drifters' top six spooky canal boat holiday destinations ideal for Halloween/October Half Term 2026.

Mary Shelley's House of Frankenstein

On a weekend break from Hilperton on the Kennet & Avon Canal in Wiltshire, boaters can travel to the World Heritage City of Bath and back.

There, boaters can moor up at Sydney Gardens and take a 15-minute walk into Bath city centre to Mary Shelley's House of Frankenstein.

Explore the sinister side of Shakespeare's Stratford

From Drifters' narrowboat hire base at Wootton Wawen, on the Stratford Canal near Henley-in-Arden, it takes around six hours, travelling through 17 locks to reach Stratford upon Avon.

Once in Stratford, boaters can moor up in Bancroft Basin, just a stone's throw from the Swan Theatre and take a guided walking tour exploring the sinister side of Shakespeare's Stratford, hearing tales of plague, murder, ghosts and witches.

Oxford Castle Prison

On a 4 or 7-night break from Lower Heyford on the Oxford Canal in Oxfordshire, boaters can cruise to Oxford

and back.

The return journey travels 29 miles, passing through 20 locks (10 each way) and takes around 16 hours.

Once in Oxford, boaters can moor up at Aristotle Bridge or Jericho Footbridge and walk to spooky Oxford Castle Prison to take a guided tour through centuries of crime, power, legend and life behind bars.

The Skipton Ghost Tour

On a weekend break from Silsden on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal in West Yorkshire, boaters can cruise through Airedale to the historic market town of Skipton

Skipton Ghost Tours run every Saturday at 6.30pm from Skipton Castle and includes a section of the canal.

Chester's eerie haunts

On a short break (three or four nights) from Bunbury on the Shropshire Union Canal in Cheshire, boaters can cruise to the ancient city of Chester.

Mooring up close to the city centre they can take a guided ghost tour around the

eerie haunts of Chester's mysterious and murky past.

Navigate the spooky Blisworth Tunnel

On a weekend break from Weedon on the Grand Union Canal in Northamptonshire, boaters can cruise to the pretty canal village of Stoke Bruerne and back, passing through the spooky 1.74-mile-long Blisworth Tunnel along the way.

Construction of Blisworth Tunnel, one of the longest on the canal system, began in 1793. Teams of navvies worked with picks and shovels for three years until they hit quicksand and the tunnel collapsed, killing 14 men.

Over the years, a number of boaters travelling through the tunnel have reported seeing lights and a second route emerging.

But the tunnel runs straight through the hill so people have must seen the flicker of candlelight where the first tunnel would have intersected with the main canal tunnel.

Perhaps the ghostly navvies are still working there...?

SELL ONLINE WITHOUT A WEBSITE

Sell your product, service or event directly from your phone.

Launch a professional sales page for your product, service, event or workshop in as little as **48 HOURS.**

Whether you're a coach, consultant, artist, author, therapist, tutor or small business owner, we create a complete online sales page that helps you promote your offer and accept payments immediately.

- ✓ No website required.
- ✓ No monthly website maintenance.
- ✓ No complicated software.

Just one professionally designed page focused on turning visitors into customers.

SEE EXAMPLES



GET YOUR OFFER ONLINE THIS WEEK

Everything you need to start selling online. Fast. Simple. Professional.

www.stratosinternet.com
admin@stratosinternet.com
07892 781110

Half Normal
Price

ONLY

£20

PER MONTH

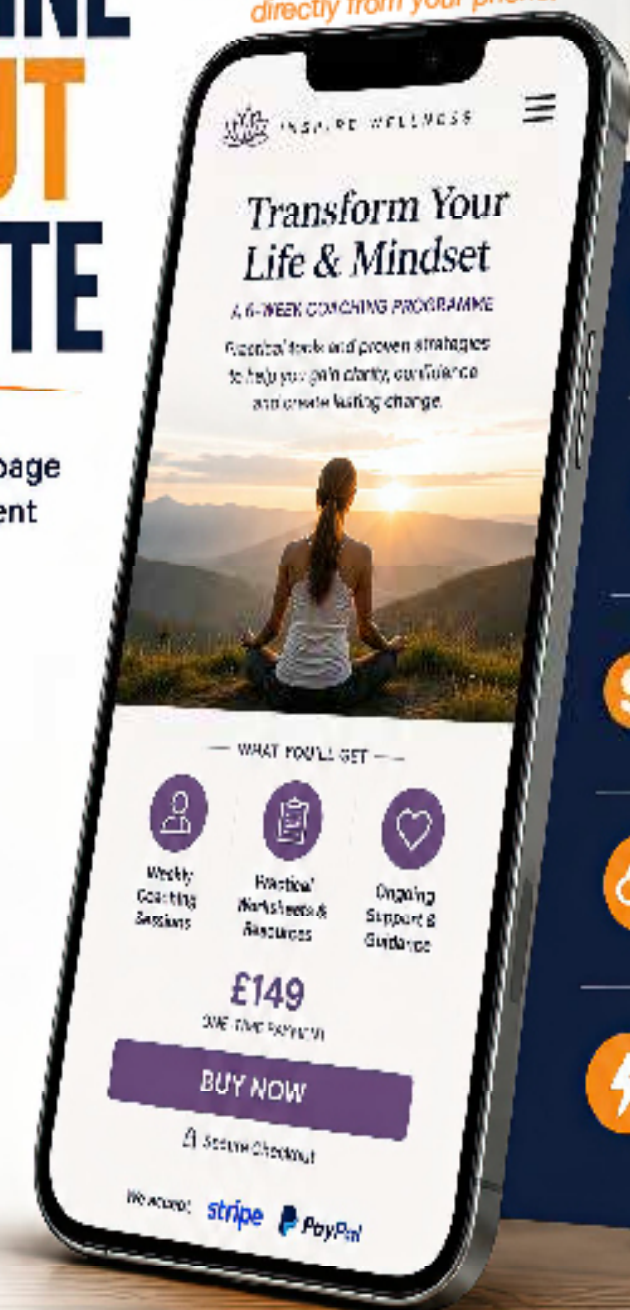
MOBILE
FRIENDLY

SECURE
PAYMENTS

STRIPE &
PAYPAL

PRODUCTS
SERVICES
EVENTS

NO TECHNICAL
SKILLS
NEEDED



A decade driving a travelling success story

roadsurfer is celebrating a decade of redefining outdoor travel.

What began in 2016 with a fleet of just 25 Volkswagen campervans operating from Munich, Frankfurt and Hamburg has grown into the world's leading provider of campervan and motorhome adventures, with around 100 locations across 16 countries.

The company now operates approximately 10,000 vehicles across Europe and North America, making it the world's leading provider of campervan and motorhome adventures.

Over the past ten years, **roadsurfer** has helped transform camper travel from a niche holiday choice into a global lifestyle movement. Instantly recognisable for its colourful, branded Volkswagen campervans, the company has played a pivotal role in modernising and popularising the sector, inspiring a new generation of travellers to embrace the freedom of life on the road.

Today, "roadsurfing" has become synonymous with flexible, experience-led travel, reflecting the growing popularity of camping and outdoor adventures worldwide.

To celebrate its 10th anniversary, **roadsurfer's** founders, Dr. Susanne Dickhardt, Markus Dickhardt, Jean-Marie Klein, and Stephie and Christoph Niemann (pictured) are reflecting on a decade that has helped reshape the way people travel, as flexibility, freedom and individuality have become increasingly important to modern holidaymakers.

roadsurfer's customer profile has remained remarkably consistent over the years. According to a 2025 customer analysis, families continue to be the brand's largest audience, with 30% of customers travelling with children.

Around 9% bring their dogs along for the adventure, while travellers aged 55 and over account for 12% of bookings. Families typically opt for larger campervans and motorhomes, while couples and groups of friends favour a mix of compact vans and fully equipped campervans.

The UK, Italy and France continue to rank among the most popular destinations for British roadsurfers, while Edinburgh, London and Milan were the company's most-booked pick-up locations over the past year.

However, the standout current growth story is North America, where demand continues to accelerate.

Reflecting on the company's journey, Dr. Susanne Dickhardt, Co-Founder and Chief Experience Officer, added: "When we launched roadsurfer in 2016, our ambition extended far beyond campervan rentals. We wanted to create an inspiring lifestyle brand centred around freedom, adventure and independence, while making camping relevant to a younger, more urban audience. By combining comfort, design and accessibility with the spirit of adventure, we set out to make roadsurfing the preferred way to travel independently. Ten years later, I believe we have achieved exactly that across Europe and North America."





More

For more information and to book visit

<https://roadsurfer.com/uk/>



Pretty as a picture...



West Sussex is shaping up to be one of the UK's most exciting cultural destinations this summer, with a vibrant mix of art exhibitions and gallery events taking place across the county.

A busy schedule of must-see events firmly positions West Sussex as a standout destination on the UK's cultural map, offering visitors a rich programme of curated exhibitions, immersive installations, and opportunities to discover new work.

From traditional landscape painting, bold contemporary installations, handcrafted ceramics or large-scale sculpture to inspire this summer, this season of culture brings together world-renowned artists, emerging talent.

Key locations include:-

- The Newlands House Gallery in Petworth
- British Landscapes: A Sense of Place, 20th May – 1st November
Oxmarket Contemporary in Chichester
- The Art of Chichester Cathedral, monthly tours until November 25



More

For more information <https://www.thegreatsussexway.org/>

Images: Top - 'Expressions in Blue' - Felicity Aylieff at Petworth House & Park.
National Trust Images/Megan Taylor

Above - Paul Nash, Wittenham, 1935, Pallant House Gallery



A pass that opens the door to culture

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), one of the nation's most celebrated art museums, has joined the Boston CityPASS® programme.

The partnership supports the CityPASS mission to offer travellers easy, cost-effective access to leading cultural attractions.

With the MFA now included, CityPASS ticket holders can experience art from around the world along with three other top Boston attractions using one discounted mobile ticket.

Founded in 1870, the MFA Boston houses nearly more than half a million works spanning cultures and centuries - from ancient Egypt and Greece to European masterpieces, Impressionist icons, and one of the largest collections of Japanese art outside Japan.

Highlights include Pierre Auguste Renoir's *Dance at Bougival*, John Singleton Copley's *Watson and the Shark*, and John Singer Sargent's *The Daughters of Edward Darley Boit*.

The museum's Ancient Egyptian collection features monumental works such as the Statue of Menkaura and Queen Lady Sennuwy and reconstructed tomb chapels from Giza.

Visitors can also explore extensive Japanese holdings, including ukiyo e prints, Buddhist sculpture and decorative arts. Rotating exhibitions offer fresh perspectives on global artistic traditions.

The MFA also offers family-friendly programs, including studio classes, drop-in art making, gallery explorations and community celebrations. Interactive tools help young visitors connect with the collection.

"We are proud to welcome the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston to our Boston CityPASS programme," said Megan Allen, CEO and president of City Pass, Inc.

"The MFA is one of the world's most

respected art museums, and its addition enhances the cultural value we offer visitors."

Boston CityPASS tickets save travellers up to 45% on prepaid, one time admission to four top attractions.

Options include the New England Aquarium, Museum of Science, Boston Harbor City Cruises, View Boston Observation Deck, Franklin Park Zoo, Harvard Museum of Natural History and Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Tickets cost \$84 for adults and \$72 for children ages 3–11 and are valid for nine consecutive days.

Mobile tickets are available online at citypass.com, and will be linked to the My CityPASS app.

The app conveniently stores attraction tickets, allows guests to make reservations, provides entry instructions for each attraction, highlights special offers and upgrades, and more.

City Pass, Inc. offers a 365-day return policy on non-activated tickets.

INSPIRED BY THE GOLDEN AGE OF FLY FISHING

THE ARTISTRY OF TRADITIONAL ANGLING

A COLLECTION OF SIX VINTAGE FLY ILLUSTRATIONS

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, fly fishing became more than a pastime. It became an art form.

Across Britain and Europe, naturalists, river keepers and sporting illustrators documented the flies of trout and salmon rivers with extraordinary precision. Their artwork appeared in private journals, field guides and traditional sporting publications - preserving a disappearing world of river craft and natural knowledge.

Inspired by those rare archival plates, this series of six fine-art prints revives the visual language of classic fly fishing.

Every detail - from feather texture to vintage colour and tones - has been recreated to evoke the atmosphere of traditional river culture and the timeless elegance of handcrafted fishing tackle.

For the enthusiast who understands that fly fishing has always been about more than catching fish.

IT IS ABOUT PATIENCE - OBSERVATION - RITUAL
MEMORY AND THE RIVER ITSELF



A QUALITY COLLECTION FOR ANY WALL



THE VINTAGE FLY COLLECTION

A limited edition series for collectors and lovers of sporting heritage



SIX FINE ART PRINTS

A curated collection of vintage-inspired, traditional fishing fly illustrations.

HIGH-QUALITY PRINT

Exceptional quality, heavyweight fine-art paper guarantees a beautiful finish.

View the whole collection & order online

www.fishingprints.uk

or call David Miller on 07892 781110

Santorini's secluded sanctuary

There isn't much mystery in our modern world, but there are still gentle gems for the discerning traveller to unearth.

One such treasure is Perivolos Lifestyle Houses, on the idyllic island of Santorini, a hotel where guests can rediscover the simple life and connect to the true Grecian spirit.

Set in the picturesque village of Oia, overlooking the caldera and the Aegean Sea, this bijou family-owned hotel offers an intimate way to experience one of Greece's most celebrated destinations, but blissfully removed from the action.

Created from restored cave houses and former stables once used by local fishermen and farmers, Perivolos is made up of 22 suites and one private villa. Each space has its own character, with whitewashed soft curves, private terraces, Cycladic interiors and dreamy views across the Aegean.

The design feels simultaneously calm, simple, and deeply connected to the island. The palette is inspired by the Aegean, volcanic landscape and vivid tones of Santorini's bougainvillea, adding warmth and texture to the hotel's pared-back aesthetic.

The central tenet of Perivolos is serenity, whether it's the quiet mornings spent above the caldera, the gentle rhythm of the hotel, the warmth of the hospitality, and the pleasure for guests of enjoying an escape from the stresses of their busy lives.

The renowned Perivolos Suite is one of the hotel's most special stays, offering generous space, minimalist design and wide views across the sea.

Another treat is the Perivolos Villa, which sits adjacent to it and offers plenty of space, plus gorgeous views of the caldera and Santorini sunset. Designed for those seeking seclusion, it offers the privacy of a villa with the excellent amenities of the hotel close by, such as the pristine infinity pool.

Guests can wake up in the blissful peace of Perivolos, but also stroll into the nearby village of Oia whenever they want to explore. There they will find striking blue-domed churches, marble-paved streets, small boutiques and tavernas serving up freshly caught fish.

At the Perivolos Restaurant, set in a converted wine cellar and reserved exclusively for hotel guests, Greek cuisine with a modern touch is served. The menu focuses on local produce and bold Mediterranean flavours.

To further relax, guests are invited to enjoy the spa, with its sauna, steam room, massage and treatment room, as well as an outdoor Jacuzzi. The hotel also has a spacious gym, yoga and Pilates studio, and a 25-metre lap pool.

Perivolos's obliging team can arrange plenty of Santorini activities, including private boat tours with the hotel's own captain, water sports, hiking, beach visits, wine tasting, pottery sessions, and trips to the archaeological sites.

For more information, visit www.perivolos.gr.



Don't miss out



Exploring More magazine is delivered free of charge to desktops, iPads and mobiles everywhere.

Just drop us a line and we'll put you on the mailing list.

Get in touch at ... davidpike55@googlemail.com

Holiday cottage specialists Premier Cottages is the perfect partner for those seeking to enjoy an autumnal break in style.

A portfolio of over 900 outstanding properties throughout the UK and Ireland offer the chance to explore the countryside and take up the challenge of walking and biking trails.

“As a professional collective of independent holiday cottage owners, we have more award-winning luxury cottages than any other UK website. All our member properties have officially gained four or five star status, so when you book with Premier Cottages, you know you’re booking quality. Put simply, excellence is what we do best.”

Here’s a sample of what to look forward to...



Peacock Cottage, Devon - Tel: 07867971517



Shepherds, Cornwall - Tel: 07774 211039



Bray Cottage, Yorkshire - Tel: 01484 681369



Great Western Lodge, Shropshire Tel: 01694 724814

For more information and getting in touch

Email: feedback@premiercottages.co.uk

Website: www.premiercottages.co.uk



LOCHCARRON

MADE in SCOTLAND

VISITOR CENTRE & SHOP | GIFTS | TOURS | HIGHLAND WEAR



Discover the timeless beauty of Scottish wool with Lochcarron, renowned for expertly woven tartans and luxurious fabrics crafted in the Scottish Borders. Experience heritage, quality and vibrant colour in every piece, perfect for home or wardrobe. Visit us today to feel authentic craftsmanship firsthand and find something truly special—step into Lochcarron and bring Scotland home.

Waverley Mill, Rogers Road, Selkirk TD7 5DX
visit@lochcarron.com | 01750 726100

*The World's leading designer and manufacturer
of authentic tartan*

www.lochcarron.com
+44 (0) 1750 726025
hello@lochcarron.com

