



CASTLES CATCH EYE FOR BREAKS

SEE how the other half live with a stay in a castle or manor house. Stonefield Castle, *above*, is perfect. Situated on the peaceful shores of Loch Fyne and surrounded by 60 acres of woodland gardens, the idyllic setting makes it the perfect destination for a relaxing break.

The castle retains many of its original furnishings, ornate ceilings and grand marble fireplaces, perfect for a cosy evening by the roaring fire. There are 36 bedrooms and the restaurant provides the best in fresh local seafood, alongside an extensive local whisky selection. Rooms cost from £89 a night.

The magnificent Tulloch Castle in Dingwall, Ross-shire, dates from the 12th century and still has many period features including the 250-year-old Great Hall. The boutique hotel offers 20 restored bedrooms each with its own unique character and charm. Some are furnished with four-poster beds whilst others are set up for families. The Castle also welcomes dogs and guests can dine like royalty at The Turrets restaurant. There are three Championship golf courses a short drive away. Rooms from £68 per night.

Stunning 16th Century Billesley Manor in Stratford-upon-Avon is set in 11 acres of beautiful landscaped grounds. The manor house is complete with an elegant Victorian-era Topiary Garden. Guests can choose from 72 opulent bedrooms featuring four-poster beds and make use of the swimming pool, spa, gym, tennis courts, and even a cosy library within the manor house. Rooms from £80 a night.

Book at bespokehotels.com

news FANCY an adventure? LateRooms.com is offering spontaneous travellers the opportunity to discover some of the finest 4* and 5* hotels across the country, but there's one catch — your hotel destination is unknown!

Secret Rooms removes the hassle of searching for a hotel and allows you to unlock the world of luxury hotels at a discounted rate of up to 20 per cent.

The firm will reveal the star rating of the hotel, all its facilities and price but never the name of the hotel. Only once you've booked all will be revealed, and you'll find out the hotel's identity.

See laterooms.com



INDIGO TO LONDON

THE popular Hotel Indigo has opened another fabulous property this time in the heart of London's stage and theatre district in Leicester Square.

The 95-room boutique Hotel Indigo London — 1 Leicester Square features theatrical touches inspired by the neighbourhood's history and heritage. Each of the three distinct bedroom designs — scriptwriter rooms, backstage rooms and auditorium rooms — represent different stages of putting on a theatrical production and have been designed by award-winning architects Michaelis Boyd.

The hotel's rooftop restaurant also has cracking views of the Shard, Westminster and the London Eye. Rooms from £200 a night. See hotelindigo.com/londoneicester

news BOOK selected breaks of seven nights or more with Mercury Holidays between now and Monday and you could save £100 per couple. It includes a week B&B at the 5* Phoenixia Hotel in Valletta, Malta, from £609pp including flights from Edinburgh on selected dates in November. Or how about seven nights at the 5* Enotel Lido in Funchal, Madeira, from £669pp all-inclusive from Glasgow in November. A week half-board at the 4* Hotel Aquamarina Golf in San Miguel, Tenerife, is from £429pp, leaving Glasgow on selected December dates. For these and more deals, quote BANK100 when booking at mercuryholidays.co.uk or call 0333 999 3287.

SET SIGHTS FURTHER AFIELD

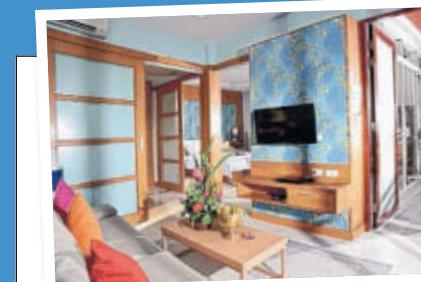


Coco Key Hotel, Florida

A HOLIDAY to Orlando offers plenty for everyone, from golfers and adrenaline-junkies to sun-worshippers and shopaholics.

The 4* Coco Key Hotel and Water Park Resort is a family-friendly hotel which also has its own covered water park with 14 water slides. The quiet pool area has palm trees and sun loungers to relax in. The hotel is also home to an arcade, three restaurants and a fitness centre.

There is a free shuttle service to nearby theme parks and guests can use the I-Ride Trolley to nearby International Drive. Seven nights at the hotel for two adults and two children sharing on a room-only basis is from £672pp, leaving Glasgow on July 8. See emiratesholidays.com or call 0203 870 6844.

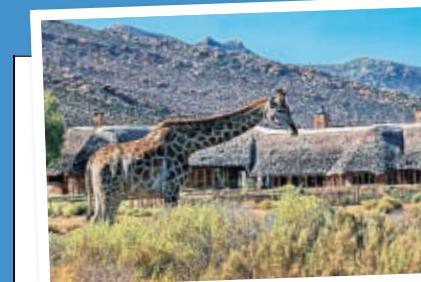


Aspara, Thailand

THE Apsara Beachfront Resort & Villas in Khao Lak, Thailand, is a truly tropical hideaway set among coastal lagoons.

The 4* hotel has rooms, suites and villas gracing a secluded stretch of beach. Enjoy Thai fusion dishes at Napalai restaurant, soothe away your stresses at the spa and sun lounger to relax in. The hotel is also home to an arcade, three restaurants and a fitness centre.

The resort has many pools, with views across the ocean. A week for a family of two adults and two children sharing on B&B is from £3,540, with a complimentary room upgrade to Deluxe Room if booked by May 30 from Glasgow on selected dates between July 1-August 9. See emiratesholidays.com or call 01233 802727.



Aquila, South Africa

HOW about an adventure in South Africa? Set between the Atlantic Ocean and Table Mountain, The Crystal Apartments could be your home for the first four nights in a two-bedroom loft apartment on self-catering.

Just an hour's drive away is the The Avondrood Guest House, in the winelands country of Franschhoek Valley.

Spend two nights here B&B and then two nights' full-board at Aquila Private Game Reserve, a 10,000-hectare conservancy home to the Big Five — elephant, lion, buffalo, rhino and leopard.

Costs from £1,875pp, four sharing, including flights from Glasgow on June 30 and car hire. See bestofsouthafricatravel.com or call 01233 802727.

FOR PERFECT HOLIDAY



Outrigger, Hawaii

FROM crystal blue waters to black sand beaches, Hawaii's iconic islands are enough to fill any bucket list.

Oahu is a blend of traditional and contemporary Hawaii, and is known for its stunning scenery and breath-taking landscapes.

Home to Kualoa Ranch, the film set of Jurassic Park, Jurassic World, Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle, and numerous other Hollywood blockbusters, visitors can explore the island's iconic filming locations.

Relax on iconic Waikiki Beach — the birthplace of surfing.

Stay room-only at the 4* Outrigger Waikiki Beach Resort for a week from £1,999pp, including flights from London on selected dates. See travebag.co.uk, 0207 0014515.



Club Dolphin, Sri Lanka

ESCAPE the crowds and head to exotic Sri Lanka with a trip staying at the 4* Club Dolphin Hotel in the beautiful resort of Waikkal on the west coast.

The beachfront located hotel offers a fantastic getaway and offers a selection of restaurants and bars, a spa and wellness centre and two freshwater pools.

There is also plenty to keep little ones entertained with a kids' pool and a complimentary kids' club.

It offers a range of indoor and outdoor activities which are all guaranteed to keep the kids happy.

Seven nights' at the hotel is from £827pp, based on all-inclusive at the hotel and flights from Edinburgh on July 3.

See southalltravel.co.uk or call on 0208 705 0086.

YOU CAN DISCOVER UTAH

WITH more than 100 new hotel rooms, camping sites and cabins plus new tours, and adventures, Kane County is one of the fastest-growing tourism destinations in the US state of Utah.

Representing the best of both the Rocky Mountains and the desert southwest, the area is home to breathtaking landscapes.

Take it all in with East Zion Jet Tours. They offer guided jeep tours through the backcountry of Zion National Park. Taking travellers to lesser-known areas of the park, tours are available to coincide with sunset or to offer adventurous visitors the option to combine a Jeep excursion with a breathtaking rappel into one of Zion's major slot canyons.

Tours range from 90 minutes to five hours and are priced from \$59 (approximately £42) per person. See eastzionjeep-tours.com.

Wannabe cowboys can take ride as a passenger in an authentic covered wagon as part of a Wagon Train Trek (August 20-23) travelling 60 miles through incredible scenery around, including sections of Grand Staircase.

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See southalltravel.co.uk or call on 0208 705 0086.

parks such as Coral Pink Sand Dunes should be on every Utah visitor's bucket list. Celebrating its 55th anniversary this year, the park boasts coral-hued sand dunes set amid a backdrop of red sandstone cliffs. The park is popular for sandboarding and hiking. See coral-pinkatvours.com. Entry to the State Park around £6 per vehicle. See state-parks.utah.gov/parks/coral-pink

Zion Ponderosa Ranch is now open year-round on the eastern edge of Zion National Forest. The Ranch recently added 70 camping sites, 20 glamping sites and 22 cabin sites. See zionponderosa.com.

The former Four Seasons Inn Hotel is undergoing renovations and will reopen in 2019 as Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, the largest rescue centre for animals in the US, and home to more than 1,600 animals, including dogs, cats, horses and bunnies. See bestfriends.org.

Bon Voyage has a week in Utah from £1,995pp, including flights, five nights in a Cabin suite at the Zion Ponderosa Ranch Resort near Mt Carmel and two nights at the Hilton Garden Inn St George with cabin. See bon-voyage.co.uk or call 0800 316 0194.

Long, hot summer



Cap Maison, St Lucia

LUXURY meets authenticity at Cap Maison in Saint Lucia. Situated on the northern-most tip of the island, the resort rests on a cliffside overlooking the Atlantic, the Caribbean and Pigeon Island. Dine at the two restaurants, the renowned Cliff at Cap and the beachside The Naked Fisherman and enjoy an exclusive rum and wine-tasting experience in the Capital Maison.

Enjoy the Spa Maison and hop aboard the exclusive luxury yacht for a sunset cruise. It is set in the heart of the exclusive Cap Estate, with the busy Rodney Bay just a few moments' drive away. Seven nights' B&B at Cap Maison start from £4,180 for two including flights from Glasgow via Gatwick. See bestatravel.co.uk



Lapita Hotel, Dubai

DUBAI has become one of the most popular destination for Scots, thanks to the twice daily flights from Glasgow and that is set to increase when Emirates launch their new daily flight from Edinburgh too.

The Emirate is especially geared up for families with Dubai Parks and Resorts, Legoland, Bollywood Studios and Riverland. See dubaiaparksandresorts.com. Five nights at the 4* Lapita Hotel is from £1,899pp, two adults and two children sharing a deluxe twin room half-board and includes return Emirates flights from Glasgow and complimentary tickets to Dubai Parks and Resorts. Valid for departures between June 30-August 13 if booked by May 31. See holidayplace.co.uk or call 020 7644 1770. For more hotel information, visit hrhrivieramaya.com



Hard Rock, Mexico

WITH direct flights to Mexico from Scotland, the North American country is one of our top long haul destinations. Sun, sand, snorkelling, beautiful seas and history keep us coming back for more.

Head to the huge 5* Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya with a choice of 12 restaurants, 24-hour in-room dining, spa and entertainment. A week all-inclusive is from £1,285pp, two sharing a Deluxe Gold Room, including flights from Edinburgh, transfers and up to £1,800 resort credit to spend on activities, spa, excursions, golf and more. Price based on selected departures in July and August. See holidayplace.co.uk or call 020 3814 2198. For more hotel information, visit hrhrivieramaya.com



Avanti Palms, Florida

WE Scots simply can't get enough of Florida so here's another great idea...

Spend a week at the family-friendly 3* Avanti Palms in Orlando, taking in Walt Disney World, Universal Studios and Seaworld as well as the hundreds of restaurants and cut-price shopping.

When you've had your fill of thrills, head across the state and down to the lovely resort of Naples and spend a week room-only at the 4* Hilton. Naples has beautiful beaches, great snorkeling and is in a fabulous location to explore other west coast Florida gems including Fort Myers and the pretty Sannibel.

The two-week trip, based on two adults and two children sharing, is from £985pp leaving Glasgow on July 31 and includes car hire. See oceanholidays.co.uk or call 020 3814 2198.



Grand Bahia, Mexico

COMPLETE peace and quiet can be found on the palm-fringed shores of Riviera Maya, just a short drive away from the buzz of Play Del Carmen on the Caribbean coast of Mexico.

As well as gorgeous beaches and azure sea, the area is an excellent location to explore some of Mexico's age-old cities including Chichen Itza and Tulum.

The 4* Grand Bahia Principe Cobá is great for families, thanks to its huge rooms and there's an entire waterpark for kids. Dining highlights include a Mediterranean à la carte and a sushi place. Eleven nights all-inclusive for two adults and two children sharing is from £1,285pp leaving Glasgow on July 2. See firstchoice.co.uk or visit your local TUI store.

Scottish Islands & Faroes Cruise

7 or 8 days was from £1,039pp now from £499pp, departs 24 June 2018 from Newcastle and 25 June 2018 from Dundee onboard Magellan returning to Liverpool. This great value summertime cruise takes in the scenic glories of a quartet of remote outposts, calling at the Danish Faroes and the Scottish isles of Shetland, Orkney and Mull, before heading to Merseyside.

Cruise highlights

- Magnificent Duart Castle can be discovered from Tobermory
- Optional coach transfer back to Newcastle
- Explore Lerwick, Shetland capital
- Faroes' haven Klaksvík is surrounded by mountains
- Wander the Toytown-like streets of Faroes' capital Tórshavn
- Rugged Orkney capital Kirkwall

Call 0330 331 0871 quoting code TSU
www.thesuntravel.co.uk/newmarket-faroes
Prices above are per person for the lowest available cabin type. A selection of cabin types is available at ranging prices. All prices are extremely limited & may be withdrawn without notice. Newmarket Holidays Ltd. ABTA V7812. Single supplements apply. Standard phone charges. Prices correct at time of print. Please check online for latest prices and availability. *Applies to new bookings. Subject to limited availability and may be withdrawn at any time. Price based on seven days sailing from Dundee.