



The Alliance

bulletin

Issue 91 : mid-February 2011: www.itwalliance.com

Key information on a no-frills format for professional who travel to write, edit, broadcast or create images.

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- **The International Travel Writers Alliance and AllWays**

The media contacts listed in the bulletin will be delighted to hear from Alliance members worldwide



[The International Travel Writers Alliance](#)



[writersalliance](#)

Registering with the Alliance

To register with the International Travel Writers Alliance visit : www.itwalliance.com, click to enter the site and click on [Register as a member/editor/partner](#) or [agency](#).

Opportunities

Alliance members looking to take advantage of any of the following opportunities should be on assignment, with a commission or able to obtain one.

For ongoing opportunities for Alliance members see Alerts (below) or visit : www.internationaltravelwritersalliance.com.

Cruceros Australis

Cruceros Australis will be happy to consider requests for press trip facilities from Alliance members with suitable commissions onboard the M/V Via Australis or the new M/V Stella Australis.

Cruceros Australis is a small expedition cruise company that navigates in one of the most virgin territories on earth: the Chilean and Argentine Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego.

Cruceros Australis runs two programmes, one of three nights from Ushuaia (Argentina) to Punta Arenas (Chile), and one of four nights from Punta Arenas to Ushuaia.

In both routes the vessels reach Cape Horn, the southernmost point of land before Antarctica. The cruises navigate the Beagle Channel and the Magellan Strait, an uninhabited place where it is really hard to see any other human being, but where one can see lots of wildlife.

The route is covered by the M/V Mare and Via Australis, which are twin ships, with 64 cabins and space for 131/136 passengers respectively.

Starting in mid-December, the M/V Mare Australis will be replaced by the brand new M/V Stella Australis, with capacity for 210 passengers in 100 cabins.

Visit : www.australis.com. Contact : Martina at martina@traveltradeuk.com.

Costa Rica

Mead Brown, a vacation rental company in Costa Rica, is happy to host writers on assignment.

Mead Brown villas and condominiums are professionally managed and include hotel-like amenities at no additional charge including daily housekeeping, wifi, VOIP (e.g., Vonage) and full concierge services.

Story ideas include:

- family beach-adventure vacations
- active (zipline, ATV, fishing, etc.) bachelor parties (as opposed to a bacchanal in Vegas) and mancations
- girls getaways
- yoga and spa retreats
- world-class fishing vacations (people come from all over the world to fish for marlin and sail fish in Costa Rica)

Alliance members will need to cover their airfare and meals. We'll cover accommodations, airport transfers, tours and activities.

Visit : www.meadbrown.com. Contact : Michael Brown at michael@meadbrown.com.

LocalGuiding

LocalGuiding provides personal tours by local guides around the world. We connect travellers with locals in a new, more personal way.

LocalGuiding.com – Personal tours by local guides, will be pleased to offer tours around the world to Alliance members.

Visit: www.LocalGuiding.com. Contact: Robert Blessing at rb@localguiding.com

The Grenadine island of Bequia

Specialist tour operator *Just Grenada* is introducing the tiny Grenadine island of Bequia as an add-on destination to the popular Caribbean Spice Island, helping to make two and three-centre holidays to the region more affordable.

Measuring just seven square miles and with a population of around 5,000, Bequia is the quintessential island paradise with its pristine white sand beaches, lush interior, pretty wooden waterfront houses, multitude of water sports and welcoming people.

The largest of the 32 islands in the Grenadines after the capital, St Vincent, it boasts a prestigious boat-building heritage, which continues to this day in both the ship yard and model boat makers who sell their wares from waterfront workshops.

Just Grenada, which includes Just Tobago and Just St Kitts & Nevis within its tour operation, is featuring three hotels on Bequia (see *A place to stay*).

Just Grenada will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance members.

Visit www.justgrenada.co.uk. Contact Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.

Shakespeare Country

Shakespeare Country, UK which takes in Stratford-upon-Avon/Warwick/Royal Leamington Spa and the surrounding area will be delighted to host Alliance members during 2011.

Trips can include a complimentary visit for members and their family for one or two nights with passes to visit the attractions and tickets to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, subject to availability.

See also *A reason to write about* (below)

Visit : www.Shakespeare-Country.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinwall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk.

Rare Holidays, India

Rare Holidays, one of the leading mid sized in-bound holiday tour companies based in India, is offering press trip facilities to Alliance members between April and September 2011.

Rare Holidays will also welcome Tour Operators who are members of the Alliance.

Visit : www.rareholidays.com. Contact : *Shantanu Roy* at info@rareholidays.com.

The Rhumb Line Resort in Kennebunkport Maine

The Rhumb Line Resort in Kennebunkport Maine will be delighted to host Alliance members for up to 2-nights lodging.

The Rhumb Line Resort is located on Ocean Avenue and is Kennebunkport's only hotel resort with indoor and outdoor heated pools, indoor and outdoor hot tubs and fitness center.

Visit : www.rhumblineresort.com. Contact : Greg Burke at greg@ims21.net.

Fusion Escapes : press trip to Morocco 14 to 17 March 2011

luxury VIP holiday specialist Fusion Escapes are offering a 3-night media trip to Morocco from 14 March to 17 March 2011.

Fusion Escapes is tailored to single professionals who want luxurious holidays in some of the most glamorous and inspirational destinations in the world.

The trip takes in a desert safari in a 4x4, a Bedouin dinner underneath the stars, arriving at your hotel in a speedboat, Fusion Escapes has its finger firmly on the style pulse.

The trip includes:

- travel expenses to / from Gatwick Airport (including trains and car parking).
- flights (including baggage and speedy boarding).
- airport transfers in Marrakech – to and from hotel.
- room and breakfast throughout.
- all meals and pre-dinner drinks as per the itinerary including lunch at Sir Richard Branson's hotel, the Kasbah Tamadot.
- all tours and excursions including private jeep tour into the majestic Atlas Mountains.

Visit : www.fusionescapes.com. Contact Andy Eastham at andy@amplifiergroup.com.

The Cranley and The Royal Park, London

The Cranley and The Royal Park are two luxury, boutique townhouse hotels, featuring handcrafted beds, dressed with hand-stitched Irish bedlinen, antique furniture and limestone bathrooms with Penhaligon toiletries in central London locations.

Suitable for mid-week breaks, first nights, romantic weekends, hen weekends, business travellers and family breaks alike.

The Royal Park and The Cranley will be pleased to consider providing accommodation to Alliance members on commission.

Visit www.thecranley.com or www.theroyalpark.com. Contact : Li Boatwright at li@storringtoncommunications.com.

Working with the Alliance

Partners

The following travel industry partners have registered with the Alliance and are keen to work with Alliance travel writers, editors, broadcasters and photographers.

Other Alliance partners and agencies can be found at www.itwalliance.com.

Historic Highlights of Germany

Visitors are certain to be impressed by the variety that Germany has to offer. will help travelers to get the most out of a visit to Germany's historic cities.

Thirteen cities teamed up to create our company and are perfect for travellers who wish to go beyond casual sightseeing. With six Dream Routes and four Christmas Dream Routes, the member cities offer featured itineraries for individual planning.

Historic Highlights of Germany cooperates with travel experts of the 13 cities and strong partners such as the German National Tourist Board, Lufthansa and Deutsche Bahn."

Contact : BjoernRudek at info@historicgermany.com. Visit : www.historicgermany.com.

The Outback Queensland Tourism Association

The Outback Queensland Tourism Association is a non-profit membership based organisation responsible for the marketing and promotion of the Outback region to target markets on behalf of the local tourism industry, businesses, communities and local government within the region.

Contact : Melissa Chapman at melissa.chapman@outbackqld.com.au. Visit : www.adventureoutback.com.au.

Ecotourism Australia

Ecotourism Australia was formed in 1991 and is the peak Australian body for the ecotourism and sustainable tourism industry.

The Association has a diverse membership that includes key industry sectors and including ecotourism accommodation, tour and attraction operators; tourism planners; protected area managers; academics and students; tourism, environmental, interpretation and training consultants; local and regional tourism associations and travellers.

Ecotourism Australia owns and manages four certification programs for the Australian tourism industry

- ECO certification
- Respecting Our Culture (ROC) certification
- Climate Action certification, and
- EcoGuide certification.

Contact : Kym Cheatham at ceo@ecotourism.org.au. Visit : www.ecotourism.org.au.

Adventure Canada

Adventure Canada is an award-winning tour operator based in Mississauga, Ontario that has been providing comfortable and educational voyages to the Arctic, and the world, since 1988.

With a special blend of academics, thoughtfully planned itineraries, high quality lecturers and programming and old fashioned fun, Adventure Canada's innovative style has been recognized by fellow leaders in the travel industry with recent awards from the Travel Industry Association of Canada Business of the Year Award, Hospitality Newfoundland and Labrador's Cruise Vision Award and the National Geographic Top 100 Tour Company Award.

Contact : Rebecca Burgum rebecca@adventurecanada.com. Visit : www.adventurecanada.com.

NV Yacht Charters

NV Yacht Charters provides luxury yacht charters worldwide. With over 200 yachts to choose from, clients can choose between mega yachts (over 100 ft), power yachts, catamarans, and monohull yachts. Every yacht has a crew which sets our clients on a course for an eNViable vacation!

Contact : NancyWinter at nancy@nvcharters.com Visit : www.nvcharters.com

The Caribbean Tourism Organization

The Caribbean Tourism Organization's exists to increase significantly the inclusion of the Caribbean region in the set of destinations being considered by travelers. CTO's envisions the global recognition of the Caribbean as a growing set of places and experiences.

Contact : Johnson JohnRose at jjohnrose@caribtourism.com. Visit : www.onecaribbean.org.

John Hancock Observatory, Chicago

At 1,000ft, the John Hancock Observatory, Chicago is reached by a ride in America's fastest elevator.

Then there are 360° views spanning 4 states – Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin and a multimedia tour, as actor/director David Schwimmer takes visitors through Chicago's history and hot spots - available in seven languages.

CareyRandall at crandall@hancockobservatory.com. Visit : www.hancockobservatory.com

Original Trails

Original Trails (OT) offers unique and life changing experiences by providing private and customized adventures to developing countries.

OT believes in supporting local economy and the local communities of the countries we visit. OT selects a project or initiative (for example a school) and supports it through direct donation, supplies or traveller sponsorship. OT uses local companies that employ local people, uses local products and wherever possible, stays in locally owned and operated boutique hotels and lodges that operate in an environmentally conscientious manner.

Aaron McCourtie at info@originaltrails.com. Visit : www.originaltrails.com.

Davidsons Arnhemland Safaris, Australia

Mt Borradaile, Australia, is a remote, registered sacred site and safari camp located against the Arnhemland escarpment.

This is a landscape of rugged ranges fringed by idyllic billabongs, stunningly beautiful wilderness and cultural landscapes to the aboriginal people.

Valleys, overhangs and caves have been occupied for over 50,000 yrs with world class galleries of rock art, occupation and burial sites.

Activities are fully guided due to the sacred nature of the area and we are committed to making your visit truly memorable experience. To the traditional owners, Mt Borradaile is a sacred place and the embodiment of ancestral heroes.

Davidsons Arnhemland Safaris is a multi award winning company that has been at Mt Borradaile for 25 yrs, attracting visitors from Australia and overseas with many of them repeat guests.

Contact : Max Davidson at max@arnhemland-safaris.com Visit : www.arnhemland-safaris.com

ANTOR

ANTOR is the principal lobbying organisation for the world's tourist offices. Its UK membership comprises national and regional tourist offices which are represented in Britain.

ANTOR's objectives include providing a fraternal forum for its members to meet and exchange ideas, to forge close relationships with all other sectors of the travel industry.

It also looks to be recognised as one of the foremost advocates of responsible tourism and to comment on a wide range of issues affecting worldwide travel and tourism.

Contact : Esther Smith at eshter@antor.com Visit : www.antor.com.

Perfect Drive Golf Villas

Perfect Drive Golf Villas provided luxury condo accommodations in the heart of PGA Village, Port St. Lucie, Florida. With 3 Championship golf courses, the PGA Museum of Golf and the PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance, this is an ultimate golf destination.

Contact : Michelle Valvano at michelle@perfectdriveatpgavillage.com. Visit : www.perfectdriveatpgavillage.com.

The Otago Central Rail Trail Charitable Trust

The Otago Central Rail Trail Charitable Trust was formalised in 1994 as an independent body to seek, receive and administer donations to initially support the Otago Central Rail Trail project but latterly, to fund enhancements to the Rail Trail experience.

The Trust works in partnership with the Department of Conservation to ensure the Otago Central Rail Trail is a treasured experience for all users.

Contact : Ross Lindsay at centralotagorailtrail@gmail.com. Visit : www.otagocentrailrailtrail.co.nz

ELITE's luxury car hire

ELITE's luxury car hire is a unique alternative to conventional auto rental, a powerful combination of an Exceptional fleet backed by a top-notch service network.

Our fleet is the largest Pan-European of its kind, with almost 400 exclusive car models, from prestigious car manufacturers such as Aston Martin, Audi, Bentley, Ferrari, Lamborghini, Maserati, BMW, Mercedes Benz, Porsche, Land Rover, and more.

For travellers who prefer not to drive, ELITE is affiliated to a network of limousines with drivers serving over 600 cities.

Contact : Maritza Morales maritza@eliterent.com. Visit : www.eliterent.com.

BCD Travel

BCD Travel is a leading provider of global corporate travel management, specialising in simplifying and streamlining the business of travel.

The benefits to clients include cost savings, traveller security and detailed travel analysis. BCD Travel operates in more than 90 countries.

Contact : Solange Francois at solange.francois@bcdtravel.com.au. Visit : www.express.bcdtravel.com.au

Roxanne Kolbe B&B California

Roxanne Kolbe runs a bed and breakfast in Sonoma, CA.

Contact : Roxanne Kolbe at innkeeper@sonomabedbreakfastinnwinecountry.com. Visit : www.sonomabedbreakfastinnwinecountry.com.

Nordic Star

Nordic Star is a Destination Management Company specializing in all the Nordic countries: Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Iceland, Greenland & The Faeroe Islands.

Mads Tange at mads@nordicstar.dk. Visit : www.nordicstar.dk

WorldTravelList

WorldTravelList is a company designed to empower destination vendors and service providers by forming partnerships, maximizing advertising dollars and by making travel more economically accessible as well as providing a wealth of resources and information for the traveller.

Contact : Nicholas Kontis at nick@circletheplanet.com. Visit : www.worldtravellist.com.

Quivertree Family Expeditions

Founded by two dads who have travelled to over 30 countries with their own kids, Quivertree Family Expeditions is a Canadian licensed family adventure travel provider offering tailor made tours to some of the most exciting destinations in the world - India, Morocco, South Africa, Vietnam Guatemala, Colombia, Turkey and more.

Visit : www.quivertreeworld.com. Contact : Gideon Nurick at gideon@quivertreeworld.com

Tophotelprojects.com

tophotelprojects.com is the leading global online database for worldwide top hotel construction projects.

International researchers are constantly on the outlook for hotel projects and bundle this fundamental data online, so that hotel industry partners know what is happening when, where, by whom! A free of charge guest login allows interested subscribers to view 70 intl. sample projects.

The total database currently (Feb 2011) contains more than 4,300 projects.

Visit : www.tophotelprojects.com. Contact : Christian Berke at berke.c@tophotelprojects.com.

Aqua Vista Hotels, Greece

Aqua Vista Hotels comprises a portfolio of lodgings in Greece.

Visit : www.aquavistahotels.com. Contact : George Grafakos at info@aquavistahotels.com.

Virasat Journeys, India

Virasat Journeys are a boutique travel company that specialises in heritage walks and rural tourism in Rajasthan, India.

These show the real India from walks in the walled city of Jaipur and Amber town to rural village tours in the Marwar region.

Virasat Journeys partner with local NGOs with a donation from each walk going to the partner to help further their work.

Visit : www.virasatjourneys.com. Contact : Darren Odell at darren@virasatjourneys.com.

Sustainable Travel Network, New Zealand

Sustainable Travel Network is the world's first non-profit, travel booking website, where commissions on bookings made on the STN website result in donations being made to local conservation projects.

Visit : www.sustainabletravelnetwork.org. Contact : Jeremy Zinzan at jeremy@sustainabletravelnetwork.org.

Magnificent Peru

To travel to Peru you will need a travel agency or tour operator with many years of experience in the travel industry.

The idea is to combine the highest quality with affordable prices to be able to offer our clients the best Peru travel deals on the market.

If you would like to visit us, we would be delighted to talk with you and share our passion of Peru and Machu Picchu.

Visit : www.magnificentperu.com. Contact : Victor Soto at ggeneral@magnificentperu.com.

Devine African Safaris, Uganda

Devine African safaris provides a variety of tour and safari activities in Uganda's national park system and the wider East African region.

Maintained by the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), the national park system of Uganda consists of over 10 national parks. These protected areas conserve a wide range of flora and fauna and there is the chance for camping, photography, game viewing, chimpanzee tracking, bird watching etc

Visit : www.devineafricansafaris.net. Contact : Nicholas Luboyera at info@devineafricansafaris.net

Taketwo

taketwo is a 2 for 1 Voucher and Guide Book for London, which allows visitors to enjoy London at half the price on over 80 attractions, museums, tours, cruises, restaurants, afternoon tea plus more.

The book also provides ticket prices, opening hours and more about each voucher page as well as general tips and information about London. It has been translated into French, German, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese & Russian.

Visit : www.taketwobooks.com. Contact : Sarah Duvalle at sarah@taketwobooks.com.

Gaynor Ranch, Montana

The Gaynor Ranch has deluxe cabins on a working ranch or cabins in the woods near Glacier National Park and Whitefish, Montana.

Visit : www.gaynorranch.com. Contact : Nancy Gaynor at gaynorranch@gmail.com

Aquamarine Cruises and Tours, USA

Aquamarine Cruises and Tours is the boutique travel firm that specializes in Celebration Travel packages: travel to commemorate a distinctive moment or event that deserves a special recognition.

Visit : www.aquamarine-travel.com. Contact : Marina Leonov at marina@aquamarine-travel.com

Orange Torpedo Trips, USA

Orange Torpedo Trips have been offering unique white water rafting trips on the Rogue, Salmon, Klamath and North Umpqua Rivers in Oregon, Idaho, and California respectively for over 40 years. As the first company in the world to offer guided white water inflatable kayaking trips Orange Torpedo Trips adventures are uniquely active providing a satisfying vacation experience.

Visit : www.orangetorpedo.com. Contact : Erik Weiseth at erik@orangetorpedo.com.

The Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania

The Pocono Mountains offer four seasons of endless fun and a tremendous variety of diversions, such as luxurious resorts, family attractions, outdoor adventures, bed and breakfasts and more.

It's famous for its resorts, skiing, natural scenic beauty, 150 lakes including Lake Wallenpaupack and historical towns in the four county area. The Pocono Mountains region has much to offer the adventurous with its unique cultural heritage and a four-season playground in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Visit : www.poconos.org. Contact : AliciaQuinn at alicia@poconos.org

News

The UK Identity and Passport Service

The UK Identity and Passport Service and the Association of British Travel Agents are urging Brits to check their passports.

The Identity and Passport Service (IPS) wants holidaymakers to check their passports have at least six months left on it as many holiday destinations demand this before visitors can enter the country.

People applying for an adult passport for the first time need to leave even more time as the process can take around six weeks due to enhanced security checks and face-to-face interviews.

ABTA represents more than 5,000 travel agents and 900 tour operations in the UK

Visit: <http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/TravelAndTransport/Passports/index.htm> and www.abta.com.
Contact : Jane Varrall at Jane.Varrall@ips.gsi.gov.uk.

American Society of Travel Agents'

American Society of Travel Agents' (ASTA) 6th annual International Destination Expo takes place in San Juan, Puerto Rico from 14 to 17 April 2011.

Known as the Land of Enchantment, Puerto Rico combines the exoticism of the Caribbean with proximity to the United States.

Puerto Rico's history includes 400 years as a Spanish Colony - and the mixing of Spaniards, Indians, Anglos, and Africans has created a culture unique to this island. Media receive complimentary registration.

To register visit : <http://asta.files.cms-plus.com/pdf/IDE2011MediaRegistrationForm.pdf>. Contact : Kristina Rundquist at KRundquist@asta.org.

The TNT Travel Show at Earls Court, London

The TNT Travel Show at Earls Court, London on the 19 March is London's biggest free travel show and is aimed at consumers.

This year for the first time there will be a full press office at the event.

Visit : www.tnttravelshow.com. Contact : Fergus Dunipace at Fergus@citruspr.co.uk.

easyJet

easyJet, Northern has started a new service from Belfast International Airport to Malta, which increases routes served from Northern Ireland to 20.

Visit : www.easyjet.com. Contact : press.office@easyjet.com

Ascot Racecourse, UK

Ascot, one of the world's leading racecourses is celebrating its 300th birthday during 2011.

Visit : www.ascot.co.uk Contact : David Ezra at david@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Leads

Alliance members looking to take advantage of any of the following leads should be on assignment, with a commission or able to obtain one.

The 150th Anniversary of the American Civil War

April 2011 is the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the American Civil War (or the War between the States or the War of Northern Aggression depending on your view of it). The occasion will start events all across the eastern and mid-western parts of the USA with many being held in Missouri.

For information on the war in MO Visit : www.visitindependence.com. Contact : Janeen Aggen at janeena@sbcglobal.net.

Small Luxury Hotels of the World

Small Luxury Hotels of the World (SLH), which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, has a presence in more than 70 countries and is made up of over 520 small independent hotels.

Visit : www.slh.com Contact : EJ Flynn at EJ@grifcopr.com.

Azamara Club Cruises

Azamara Club Cruises, the destination-immersive cruise line for up-market travellers, has announced a new relationship with PerryGolf, the luxury golf tour operator. *Azamara Club Golf Cruises* will offer escorted and all-inclusive golf tours and cruise programmes that feature some of the world's premier golf courses.

Visit : www.azamarclubcruises.co.uk and www.cruisingpower.co.uk. Contact : Sarah Rathbone at sarah.rathbone@sirenpr.co.uk.

Singapore

The world's tallest duelling roller coaster, Battlestar Galactica has opened at Universal Studios in Resort World Sentosa, Singapore.

Visit : www.rwsentosa.com and www.yoursingapore.com. Contact : Katie Francis at Katie.Francis@lewispr.com.

Independent Hostel Guidebook

The 2011 Independent Hostel Guidebook features 334 houses, cottages, camping barns and bunkhouses across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Visit : www.berghaus.com. Contact : Pat Edgar at PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com.

Sunvil Sailing

Sunvil Sailing specialises in learn-to-sail yachting holidays off Lefkas island in the Greek Ionian Sea with a choice of accommodation either on board the boat or shore-based in a hotel, villa or apartment. These run from May to October with special share-a-yacht 'pot-luck' weeks early and late season, which are ideal for singles and parties too small to hire their own yacht.

Visit www.sunvilsailing.co.uk. Contact Alland at allan@sunvil.co.uk.

What's on

Information for professional travel writers, editors, broadcasters and photographers on annual events and celebrations worldwide.

Monsters from the Jurassic age, Natural History Museum, London

22 April to 4 September 2011

London's Natural History Museum is to hold a major exhibition about dinosaurs this summer.

The Age of the Dinosaur is planned to show visitors what life on earth was like more than 65 million years ago in swamp-like Jurassic lagoons and Cretaceous forests.

Visitors will encounter plants and animals that are now extinct, including life-size animatronic dinosaurs as they navigate the mysterious places where insects, mammals and lizards once lived and takes visitors on a journey through millions of years to life on earth.

Visit : www.nhm.ac.uk. Contact: Amy Caiger at press@nhm.ac.uk

Her Majesty in pictures, UK

To mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, the National Portrait Gallery will stage a touring exhibition that brings together 60 images of Elizabeth II spanning the 60 years of her reign.

The Queen: Art and Image will include formal painted portraits, official photographs, media pictures and contemporary artworks.

Works by Beaton, Leibovitz, Annigoni and Warhol will be on display. Some will be on public view for the first time.

The tour :

National Gallery Complex, Edinburgh

25 June–18 September 2011
www.nationalgalleries.org

Ulster Museum, Belfast

14 October–15 January 2012
www.nmni.com

National Museum Cardiff

4 February–29 April 2012
www.museumwales.ac.uk

National Portrait Gallery, London

17 May–21 October 2012
www.npg.org.uk

Contact: Neil Evans at nevans@npg.org.uk

Reasons to write about

Alliance members looking to take advantage of any of the following should be on assignment, with a commission or able to obtain one.

Shakespeare Country

Shakespeare Country, UK takes in Stratford-upon-Avon/Warwick/Royal Leamington Spa and the surrounding area.

Reasons to write about Shakespeare Country in 2011 include :

Royal Shakespeare Company : following the £112.8m transformation of its theatres, the RSC is presents the first new productions in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and Swan Theatre from April.

Warwick Castle : the opening of a new attraction at Easter. *Merlin: The Dragon Tower* will be the first ever experience inspired by the BBC One hit family show. The Castle aims to give visitors the chance to experience the magic of Arthurian legend first hand.

Shakespeare Birthplace Trust :

- 'From 11 April experience a live archaeology project : *Dig for Shakespeare*' takes place on the site of the playwrights' last family home at New Place.
- Mary Arden's Farm brings '*Spring To Life*' when it reopens on 21 March.
- Hall's Croft and Nash's House will display costumes and accessories as part of the RSC's 50th anniversary exhibition *A History of the RSC in 50 Objects* from 4 April.
- *Cradle to Grave* guided walking tours from Shakespeare's Birthplace take in the historic spine of Stratford-upon-Avon from June 10.
- The Shakespeare's Birthday Celebrations will span a week from 23 - 30 April with special activities at all five of the Shakespeare Houses.

Heritage Motor Centre : '*Sci-Fi at the Movies*' is the latest exhibition to be staged at the museum giving visitors the opportunity of seeing original artefacts, replica models and costumes from past and present Science Fiction movies.

Kenilworth Castle celebrates the Elizabethan Garden's third year of opening re-creating the Elizabethan Garden and soak up the scents, sounds and sights of this stunning masterpiece as Queen Elizabeth I

Blenheim Palace : a Royal Joust in honour of the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton takes on Friday 29 April with a Royal Parade when the "Knights of Royal England" will make their way in full regalia on horseback through Woodstock.

The Battle Proms Evening Picnic Concert takes place in the Palace grounds on the 16 July 2011

Ragley Hall : Warwickshire's leading sustainable country estate.

Drayton Manor Theme Park : opening of the 150 bedroom hotel in July 2011.

Visit : www.Shakespeare-Country.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinwall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk.

Vancouver, Canada

Vancouver is home to many well-known visitor attractions, activities and landmarks. For visitors and locals that want to steer away from "typical" Vancouver experiences :

- feed, touch and get splashy with a beluga or dolphin during a behind-the-scenes animal encounter at the Vancouver Aquarium
 - learn about Vancouver's darker side – murder, prostitution, and the drug trade - with the Vancouver Police Museum's *Sin of the City* walking tour.
 - ride a tandem bike around the 8.8 kilometre Stanley Park seawall.
 - Sing at a real Japanese-style karaoke bar.
- take a self-guided culinary walking tour of Vancouver's street food scene: sample pulled pork sandwiches, fried oyster po' boys, steamed pork buns, chanterelle mushroom poutine and duck salad.
- zipline between mountains at top speeds of 80 kilometres per hour atop Grouse Mountain, and
 - learn to master sword arts such as the rapier, side sword, sword and shield, and long sword at Academie Duello

Visit : www.tourismvancouver.com/media. Contact : J Hutchison at jhutchison@tourismvancouver.com.

Adventure vacations in Dominica

The Caribbean island of Dominica offers adventure vacations including :

Extreme Dominica Canyoning Tour

Extreme Dominica Tours takes advantage of the abundant cascades and offers canyoning adventures for all levels of experience and fitness, whether it's jumping over cascades into crystal clear pools, wading, swimming, climbing or rappelling through waterfalls.

Visit : www.extremedominica.com

Zip Line Canopy Adventure

For a view of the rainforest, the Canopy Adventure begins as visitors climb to the first platform, from which they will advance tree to tree on suspended platforms, footbridges and zip lines. The course consists of 27 challenges and seven zip lines with a Tarzan Jump for the daring, ending with a zip line suspended 40 feet from the ground across Layou, Dominica's longest and largest river!

Visit : www.wackyrollers.com

Tubing The Pagua River

The Pagua River is one of the longest on the island and winds gently through beautiful lush rainforest. This tubing adventure begins with a drive upstream and goes downstream to Pagua Bay where the river meets the Atlantic Ocean.

Visit : www.hibiscusvalley.com

4 Wheel Drive Rainforest and Waterfall Adventure

The 4 Wheel Drive adventure starts in the capital, Roseau, before a visit to the Botanical Gardens for a close-up encounter with the National Parrot - the Sisserou through the mountains to the Wotten Waven Sulphur Springs.

The ride continues deep into the rainforest, to the Ti Tou Gorge, situated in the village of Laudat.

Visit : www.wackyrollers.com

Hike the Waitukubuli National Trail

Work is well underway on the Waitukubuli National Trail, the first and only long-distance walking trail in the Caribbean. This unique Trail will run for 115 miles from the south to the north of 'The Nature Island', when it fully opens in December 2011.

Visit : www.discoverdominica.com. Contact : Tom Panagos at tom@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

A place to stay

Alliance members looking to take advantage of any of the following opportunities should be on assignment, with a commission or able to obtain one.

The Grenadine island of Bequia

Specialist tour operator *Just Grenada* has three properties on the tiny island of Bequia :

Frangipani Hotel

The traditional West Indian style Frangipani Hotel, which began life as home to a sea captain, overlooks the azure waters of Admiralty Bay right in the heart of island life at Port Elizabeth, the main and only town.

Bequia Beach Hotel

With just 12 suites, six villas and 11 classic rooms, Bequia Beach Hotel is a newly renovated and expanded four-star retreat right on the beach at Friendship Bay, that was inspired by the stylish villas designed by Oliver Messel on Mustique.

Firefly

Situated on a 30-acre working plantation, complete with orchards of bananas, Bequia plums, breadfruit, grapefruit, guava, mangoes and oranges, Firefly is a luxury boutique-style hotel with panoramic views over Spring Bay to the north of Port Elizabeth.

Bequia enjoys average year-round temperatures of around 80° F

Story ideas include :

- Port Elizabeth, Bequia's atmospheric capital is built along the harbour of Admiralty Bay, with the shops, restaurants and markets stretching out several blocks along Front Street

- Orton King's Turtle Sanctuary, which has been caring for young Hawksbills since 1995
- the ruins of an old sugar mill on Spring Plantation, which has been converted into a thriving pottery and artists' studio
- small fishing communities, including the village of Hamilton with French and English cannons nearby to mark the site of a fort which defended the entrance to Admiralty Bay during the 18th century
- Admiralty Bay itself is considered one of the safest harbours in the Grenadines and a magnet for visiting yachts. Bequia is surrounded by some of the most beautiful waters in the world for sailing.
- Tobago Cays, where the rich and famous on Mustique or take a picnic to the nearby deserted island of Isle de Quatre
- More than 30 underwater dive sites, including The Bullet where rays, barracuda and nurse sharks mingle, Devil's Table, location of a sailboat wreck, and the 90-foot drop aptly named The Wall
- guided hiking trip to little-known locations on Bequia and St Vincent, through forest trails, to secluded beaches and windswept mountain tops
- Mount Pleasant, the highest accessible point on Bequia, which offers sweeping views over Admiralty Bay and down over the southern Grenadine islands. It is also the site of a reconstructed plantation house, now an inn, where an interesting display includes petroglyph rubbings said to date back more than 5000 years, as well as locally excavated treasures from the colonial age.
- The whaling museum in La Pompe demonstrates how the building of whale boats in the late 19th century established the foundations of a great boat building heritage on Bequia.

Visit www.justgrenada.co.uk. Contact Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.

The Sothea in Siem Reap, Cambodia

Alila Hotels and Resorts is now managing the luxury boutique resort, The Sothea, located in Siem Reap.

The all-suite resort will be rebranded as Alila Sothea and marks Alila's first step into Cambodia.

The resort is located in the heart of Siem Reap, the seat of Khmer culture, site of the UNESCO World Heritage Angkor Temples.

The resort was conceived as a hideaway for lovers and those seeking a quiet retreat, a place of natural beauty filled with intimate gardens, fountains and soothing waterways.

It has become renowned for its unique architecture that blends contemporary design with details that reflect Khmer traditions, its charming interiors and beautifully landscaped environment.

Alila is developing new hotels and resorts in China, India, Laos, Oman, Thailand and Vietnam.

Visit : www.alilahotels.com. Contact : Louise Ferrall at Louise.Ferrall@lewispr.com.

Bloc hotels, Birmingham UK

A new hotel company called Bloc hotels is to open in March in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter.

The design - inspired by Japanese pod hotels is the first of its kind to the UK.

The Bloc concept sees custom-made boutique quality bedrooms using an innovative build system allows the rooms to be quickly stacked and wrapped to complement the surrounding environment.

Visit www.blochotels.com. Contact : Julie Wilson at Staniforth at Julie.wilson@staniforth.co.uk

W Tapei

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide opened the W Taipei in February 2011.

Located in the buzzing central business district of Xinyi, W Taipei will introduce the lifestyle hotel concept to one of Asia's hippest and most cosmopolitan cities, tapping into the pulse of Taipei's nightlife scene.

Visit : www.whothels.com/taipei. Contact : Sarah Whitham at Sarah.Whitham@starwoodhotels.com.

Alerts

Ongoing independent press trip opportunities for Alliance members

- **Mead Brown**, a vacation rental company in Costa Rica, is happy to host writers on assignment. Visit : www.meadbrown.com. Contact : Michael Brown at michael@meadbrown.com.
- **LocalGuiding.com** – Personal tours by local guides, will be pleased to offer tours around the world to Alliance members. Visit: www.LocalGuiding.com. Contact: Robert Blessing at rb@localguiding.com.
- **Shakespeare Country**, UK will host Alliance members and their family for one or two nights with passes to visit the attractions and tickets to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, subject to availability. Visit : www.Shakespeare-Country.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk.
- **Orlando Tourism** offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a complimentary Journalist VIP Passport. Visit : www.VisitOrlando.com. Contact : Amy Voss at amy.voss@visitorlando.com.
- **Mallorca Hotels: Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Hotel Tres and Hotel Dalt Murada, and Hotel Mar i Vent, Mallorca** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.hotelbonsol.es, www.hoteltres.com, www.daltmurada.com and www.hotelmarivent.com. Contact Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com
- **Atholl Estates, Perthshire, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members. The country estate has historic lodges, modern woodland lodges and a 5-star holiday park. Onsite activities include a pony trekking centre, land rover safaris, stunning gardens/wildlife and the historic Blair Castle. Visit: www.atholl-estates.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **The five-star Arlberg Hospiz Hotel in St. Christoph am Arlberg, Austria** has the 600 year old wine cellar of the Brotherhood of St. Christoph. Visit : www.stchristoph.at/alpenhotel . Contact Karen Luard at kp@kpcommunications.co.uk
- **The Villa Pambuffetti in Montefalco, Umbria, Italy** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.villapambuffetti.com. Contact Alessandra Pambuffetti at info@villapambuffetti.com.

- **Eustatia Island, British Virgin Islands** an extraordinary 26-acre, low impact, private island estate will be happy to host press visits for Alliance members with an appropriate commission. Visit : www.eustatia.com. Contact: Alastair Abrehart, alastair@broadswordpr.com.
- **Africa Safari Holidays** will be happy to offer any press trip services to professional travel journalist to East Africa. Visit : www.africasafariholidays.net. Contact : Agnes Njagi at info@africasafariholidays.net.
- **Reykjavik Bike Tours** provide press tours of Iceland's capital for Alliance members. Visit : www.icelandbike.com. Contact : Stefan Helgi Valsson at valsson@centrum.is.
- **Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme**, four French departments boasting historic sites and chateaux, walking and cycling routes, a variety of sports, superb natural scenery and Champagne will be pleased to consider press visits for Alliance members. Visit : www.tourisme-champagne-ardenne.com. Contact: Doug Goodman at doug@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Health retreats on Vancouver Island**, British Columbia, Canada. Visit : www.vancouverisland.com. Contact : Pamela Irving at livingcomms@telus.net.
- **Red Mangrove Galapagos Lodges** offers a land-based alternative to exploring the Galapagos that until now was a cruise-only destination. Visit : www.redmangrove.com. Contact : Dave Wiggins dave@travelnewssource.com
- **Middlethorpe Hall & Spa**, Yorkshire, UK will be delighted to offer DB&B and use of the Spa to Alliance members. Visit : www.middlethorpe.com. Contact Daisy Parker at daisy@iscott.co.uk.
- **Swaziland and Malawi** : Geo Group will be delighted to consider press trips to either Swaziland or Malawi for Alliance members with suitable commissions. Visit : www.welcometoswaziland.com and www.malawitourism.com. Contact: Kelly White at tourism@geo-group.co.uk.
- **Holidaylettings**, which offers a selection of chalets and apartments around the world will consider arranging accommodation at its listed properties. Visit : www.holidaylettings.co.uk. Contact : Lanisha Butterfield at lanisha.butterfield@holidaylettings.co.uk.
- **Malta** will be happy to consider for press trips for Alliance members. Visit : www.visitmalta.com. Contact : Anna Sharp at anna@essence-communications.com.
- **Peckforton Castle, Cheshire UK** a grade I listed building, built in the 1840s in the style of a medieval castle will be delighted to host Alliance members on a review basis. Visit : www.peckfortoncastle.co.uk. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.
- **Tongabezi Lodge**, which is upstream from Victoria Falls, and the new eco-friendly Sindabezi Island are located on the Zambezi River in Zambia. Tongabezi would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.tongabezi.com. Contact Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Ker & Downey Botswana**, located in the heart of the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve, will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.kerdowneybotswana.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Adventure Life**, which provides small group tours to Central and South America that have a positive impact on the local culture and environment, will consider press trip requests. Visit : www.adventure-life.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com.

- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.
- **Migis Lodge on the shores of Maine's Sebago Lake** invites travel journalists to experience Maine Lakeside Luxury. Visit : www.migis.com. Contact : Susan Soltero at ssoltero@cmcommunications.com.
- **The North West Development Agency** area, which includes Cumbria, Lancashire, Manchester, Liverpool and Cheshire will be delighted to host Alliance members with commissions. Visit : www.nwda.co.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **The George Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.principal-hayley.com/venues-and-hotels/the-george-hotel. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: Hazel Heyer at hazel_hey@hotmail.com.
- **The Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas** is a 1003-room, 37-storey luxury hotel, which has just opened in the bustling heart of the Alamo City. The Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas will be happy to consider providing accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Contact: Alison Wood at Alison@grifcopr.com.
- **Ranch Rider** stays are steeped in tradition, allowing travellers to sample an authentic western experience. Ranch Rider will be pleased to consider press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.ranchrider.com. Contact: Siobhan at siobhan@tionlondon.co.uk.
- **Lower Zambezi, Zambia** : Sausage Tree Camp located within the heart of the Lower Zambezi National Park in Zambia will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Wiltshire**, located in the heart of the south-west of England has a number of high quality luxury hotels and a whole host of unique attractions. Visit : www.visitwiltshire.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk.
- **Knockomie Hotel, Forbes, Scotland**, will be delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members for a 2-night stay in one of their 15 individually-themed rooms and dinner on one of the nights in their recently refurbished restaurant, The Grill. Visit: www.knockomie.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **South Lakeland Parks** is the north-west UK's leading holiday park operator featuring nine sites within Morecambe Bay, Ribble Valley and Lake District. Visit : www.southlakelandparks.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Cumbria Tourism**, the tourism body for Cumbria, UK incorporating the Lake District will be delighted to let Alliance members sample its delights from the great outdoors and exciting attractions to stylish hotels and high quality restaurants. Visit : www.golakes.co.uk.
- **South Luangwa, Zambia** : The Luangwa Valley has long been regarded as one of Africa's finest wildlife destinations. Their portfolio includes Kapani Lodge and Kakuli, Luwi, Nsolo and Mchenja Camps. Norman Carr Safaris would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.

- **New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.circleline42.com Contact: Lisa Chamberlain at lisa.chamberlain@btinternet.com
- **The Haweswater Hotel**, a new art-deco hotel located next to the secluded Haweswater Reservoir, Cumbria, UK, will be happy to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.haweswaterhotel.com. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Premier Cottages** has a range of stunning four and five star self-catering holiday cottages throughout the UK, Channel Islands and Ireland. Visit : www.premiercottages.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk.
- **St Mary's Hall Hotel**, the Isles of Scilly is happy to provide press trip opportunities to Alliance members. Visit : www.stmaryshallhotel.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk
- **Woodovis Park**, the independently run holiday park on the edge of Dartmoor, Devon UK invites Alliance members to review. Visit : www.woodovis.com. Contact : Samantha Kirton at samantha@independentpr.co.uk
- **1066 Country** which comprises the area of Battle, Bexhill, Hastings, Herstmonceux, Pevensey and Rye in East Sussex, UK. Visit : www.visit1066country.com. Contact : Jane Ellis at jjmellis@hastings.gov.uk.
- **The Wineport Lodge, Glasannon County Westmeath, Ireland** is happy to arrange press Alliance Members and can provide a range of story ideas related to food, wine, romance, weddings/honeymoons and spa escapes. Visit : www.wineport.ie. Contact: Nina Zapala at zapala@fzklc.com.
- **The Inn on Fifth**, a luxurious, 87-room boutique hotel located in the heart of downtown Naples in Southwest Florida will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit www.innonfifth.com. Contact : Kelly Grass Prieto at kelly@hayworthcreative.com.
- **Great Hotels Organisation**, representing over 200 of the world's finest hotels and resorts worldwide through Great Hotels of the World and Special Hotels of the World would be pleased to consider offering press trip accommodation to Alliance members. Visit www.ghotw.com. Contact: Brooke Jester bjester@ghorg.com.
- **base2stay Liverpool** will be delighted to offer accommodation for Alliance members able to review the hotel. Visit : www.base2stay.com/press_page/Liverpool.html. Contact : Laura Leggetter at laura@rivapr.co.uk.
- **Visit Chester and Cheshire and Visit Lincoln and Lincolnshire** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.visitchester.com and www.lincoln.gov.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **Swiss-Belhotel International**, manages hotels, resorts and residences throughout the Asia Pacific, Southeast Asia, China and The Middle East regions. Visit : www.swiss-belhotel.com. Contact : Ayla Hass at aylahaas@swiss-belhotel.com.
- **Pembrokeshire, South West Wales** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.pembrokeshire.com. Contact: Pat Edgar PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com
- **The Rutland Hotel, Edinburgh**, will be delighted to invite Alliance members to review this boutique hotel. Visit www.therutlandhotel.com. Contact Yvonne or Fiona at info@nicheworks.co.uk.

- **Dubai Tourism** will be interested in considering working with Alliance members on press trips to Dubai. Visit www.dubaitourism.ae. Contact Natasha Behrouz at nbehrouz@thecommunicationgroup.co.uk.
- **The Galapagos Islands** : Quasar Expeditions would like to invite Alliance members to cover trips aboard the M/Y Grace, its vintage yacht in the Galapagos Islands. Visit : www.galapagosexpeditions.com/gracepresskit.php. Contact : Paul Schicke at paul@quasarex.com.
- **Focus Hotels** invite Alliance members to review their three and four-star properties located in key destinations across the UK. Visit : www.focushotels.co.uk. Contact : Eleanore Longley at eleane@bacall.net.
- **The 5* Blythswood Square Hotel**, Glasgow, formerly headquarters to the Royal Scottish Automobile Club, has been redeveloped by the Town House Collection. Visit www.blythswoodsquare.com or www.thetownhousecollection.com. Contact: Jo Murphy at Jo@thespaprcompany.com.
- **Aspects Holidays** specialises in providing self-catering accommodation, from luxury apartments to traditional fisherman's cottages in and around St Ives and the West Cornwall area of the UK. Aspects will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.aspects-holidays.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Inn at Lathones**, Scotland's only 4 star inn, is delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members. The 17th-century listed building near St Andrews is one of Scotland's oldest coaching inns and boasts 21 recently refurbished external rooms/suites, an award-winning restaurant, an intimate stone-walled bar and converted stables that host regular music events. For more information visit: www.theinn.co.uk Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com
- **Cornwall Cottages** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.cornwallcottages.co.uk. Contact: Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.
- **Hartland Peninsula Arts**, which runs landscape painting courses on the North Devon coast will be pleased to offer courses to Alliance members. Visit : www.landscapepaintingholidays.co.uk. Contact: Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.
- **The Discovery Collection**, independent specialist in boutique breaks to North Cyprus, Turkey, Puglia, Sicily, Malta and Gozo, will be happy to consider offering press visits to Alliance members. A varied programme includes beach and city breaks, twin-centre stays, walking holidays and special interest tours. Visit : www.thediscoverycollection.com. Contact: Jill Guest at jill@ocean-advertising.co.uk or on 020 7436
- **Frontier Travel** organise tailor-made holidays to Canada in both the Summer (www.frontier-canada.co.uk) and the Winter (www.frontier-ski.co.uk). The company will consider offering individuals press trips for Alliance members. Contact: Dave Ashmore at dave@frontier-travel.co.uk or on +44 (0) 20 8404 2447.
- **Sail Lofts St Ives**, a group of 12 luxury holiday apartments just metres from Porthmeor Beach, will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.thesaillofts.co.uk. Contact: Peter Hutchinson at peter@thesaillofts.co.uk.
- **The Alfajiri Villas and Galdessa Camp** would like to invite Alliance members to stay at Alfajiri Villas (www.alfajirivillas.com) or Galdessa Camp (www.galdessa.com). Visit : www.FazendinPortfolio.com. Contact Sarah Fazendin at sarah@fazendinportfolio.com.

- **The Peat Inn and 5-star restaurant** in St.Andrews, Scotland will provide Alliance members able to review the Inn will receive complimentary dinner, bed and breakfast including guest. Visit : <http://www.thepeatinn.co.uk>. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Isles of Scilly** will be delighted to consider offering travel and accommodation to Alliance members on assignment, with a commission or who are able to obtain one. Visit: www.simplyscilly.co.uk. Contact: Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Park Hyatt Istanbul-Maçka Palas, Turkey** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Kathryn Peel at Kathryn@grifcopr.com.
- **Helpful Holidays, UK** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.helpfuleholidays.com. Contact: Pat Edgar at PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com.
- **Jet2.com and Jet2holidays.com** will be happy to consider offering flights and holiday opportunities. Contact: www.pressoffice@jet2.com.
- **Wilderness Journeys** will be delighted to consider offering press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit : www.wildernessjourneys.com. Contact: Stevie Christie at stevie@wildernessjourneys.com.
- **Divi Resorts, the Caribbean** will be happy to consider accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.diviresorts.com. Contact: Jacqueline Burton at jburton@fwv-us.com.
- **Charming Hotels Madeira** will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.charminghotelsmadeira.com. Contact: Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Sea Kayak Adventures** explore Baja and Canada's newest marine parks and prolific whale watching destinations by sea kayak with Sea Kayak Adventures. Sea Kayak Adventures will be happy to provide press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.seakayakadventures.com. Contact: Nancy Mertz at info@seakayakadventures.com.
- **The View Hotel, Monument Valley, Arizona, USA**, which opened in September 2008, is situated on the Navajo Tribal Park, on the border of Arizona and Utah. The View Hotel will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.MonumentValleyView.com. Contact: Mike Finney at mike@azcomgroup.com.
- **The Menzies Welcombe Hotel Spa & Golf Club, Stratford-upon-Avon** will be delighted to offer dinner, bed and breakfast at this country house hotel to Alliance members able to review the property. Visit : www.menzieshotels.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinwall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk
- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: Hazel Heyer at hazel_hey@hotmail.com.
- **Ranch Rider** stays are steeped in tradition, allowing travellers to sample an authentic western experience. Ranch Rider will be pleased to consider press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.ranchrider.com. Contact: Siobhan at siobhan@tionlondon.co.uk

Travel products

The following providers of travel products and services will be happy to provide these to Alliance members in return for a credit or review.

Aether mobile

Alliance members can get a 10% discount on aether mobile – the global roaming mobile service, which offers savings on using a mobile phone when abroad.

The service is aimed at leisure and business travellers travelling outside of their home country. Discount is offered on initial SIM+credit orders, plus 10% on all subsequent top ups

The aether mobile SIM card into any unlocked phone.

Among the features and benefits :

- service available in 206 countries worldwide on over 565 mobile networks and free to receive calls in 65 countries
- up to 80% off the cost of making a call from abroad
- free to receive an incoming SMS and sending an SMS is 10p in Europe and 34p for the rest of the World.
- voicemail service accessible from any location
- pay as you go with no penalties for non use no line rental, contract or service fees and full itemised billing

All aether mobile SIMs have a UK telephone number; +44 7.

Visit : www.aether-mobile.com. Contact : Samantha Osborough at samantha.osborough@aether-mobile.com.

Dollar rent a car

Dollar rent a car will be delighted to offer a discount to Alliance members on car rental in the USA in return for a credit. Discounts will be agreed on a case-by-case basis.

UK, European and Australian licence holders should contact : Cheryl Richardson at Cheryl.Richardson@DTAG.com or on + 44 (0) 20 7391 4622.

Visit : www.dollar.co.uk. US and Canadian licence holders should email a request via the Dollar website : www.dollar.com.

The Leisure Pass

The Leisure Pass Group creates all-inclusive 'smart' passes, for cities around the world. The purchase price covers entrance to all attractions, fast-track entry at a number of attractions, and gives discounts at shops, theatres, service providers and restaurants.

Alliance members can get review passes for the cities covered.

Visit : www.leisurepassgroup.com. Contact : Katie Wright at Katie.wright@sirenpr.co.uk.

Interface Images

World travel photographer David Smith of Interface Images is offering ITWA members a 50% discount on all image licenses and fine art prints ordered online from 8,000 + new images of world location, ethnic life, culture, smiling faces, lifestyle and cruise ship life images across 6 continents.

For Alliance members this discount means a large travel image source for your stories, web sites and Blogs with prices starting at less than \$US10 per image.

Visit www.interfaceimages.com for easy search, amazing photo story galleries, instant image downloads and social networking links.

Alliance members must enter the coupon code ITWA at checkout to get the discount.

David has also produced a Travel Photography Today DVD ideal for Alliance members with two hours of live photo tips and hints for all travellers and photographers playable on all computers and NTSC TV systems and can be ordered online at <http://www.imagebyinterface.com/products.htm>

Contact David Smith at dave@interfaceimages.com

Travel guides

The following travel publishers will be happy to provide review copies to Alliance members where credit or review will follow.

AA Travel Guides

Visit : www.shop.theaa.com/store/travel-guides. Contact : Katie Stephens at katie.stephens@theaa.com.

Anova Books

www.anovabooks.com. Helen Ponting at hponting@anovabooks.co

Berlitz

www.berlitzpublishing.com. Julia Spence at julia.spence@ukonline.co.uk

Bradt Travel

www.bradtguides.com. Debbie Hunter at debbie.hunter@bradtguides.com

Brit's Guide

www.foulsham.com. Margaret Lashbrook at margaret.lashbrook@lineone.net or Sue Wilkins at wilkins@foulsham.com.

Cicerone

www.cicerone.co.uk. Contact : Sarah Spencer at sarah@cicerone.co.uk

Eland Publishing

www.travelbooks.co.uk. Barnaby Rogerson at barnaby@travelbooks.co.uk.

Fisher's Travel SOS

www.fisherstravelsos.com. Furgan Syed at furgan.syed@fisherstravelsos.com.

Global Travel Publishers

www.africa-adventure.com. Kate Bandos at kate@ksbpromotions.com.

Globetrotters LogBook

www.globetrotterslogbook.com. Giedo Claes at giedo@globetrotterslogbook.com

Inn House Publishing

www.innhousepublishing.com. Kathryn McWhirter at kathrynmcwhirter@btopenworld.com.

Insight

www.insightguides.com. Julia Spence at julia.spence@ukonline.co.uk.

In your pocket guides

www.inyourpocket.com. Craig Turp at editor@inyourpocket.com.

Jane's Smart Art Guides

www.JanesSmartArt.com. Jane McIntosh at MJM@JanesSmartArt.com

Jonglez Publishing

www.jonglezpublishing.com. Contact : Thomas Jonglez at info@jonglezpublishing.com.

Kuperard Publishers

www.kuperard.co.uk. Contact : Geoffrey Chesler at geoffreychesler@btinternet.com.

Lonely Planet

www.lonelyplanet.com. Contact : Europe, Middle East and Africa: Laura Lindsay at laura.lindsay@lonelyplanet.co.uk, North America: Rana freedman pressUSA@lonelyplanet.com
Asia Pacific : Jessica Foley at Jessica.foley@lonelyplanet.com.au

Morris Communications

www.themilepost.com. Contact Kate Bandos at kate@ksbpromotions.com.

Odyssey Books & Guides

www.odysseypublications.com. Contact : Caroline Eden at caroline@odysseypublications.com

Oxygen Books city-lit

www.oxygenbooks.co.uk Malcom Burgess at malcolm@oxygenbooks.co.uk

Rough Guides

www.roughguides.com. Contact : press@roughguides.

Take two Books

www.taketwobooks.com Sarah Duvalle at Sarah@taketwobooks.com.

Turnleft

www.turnleftguides.com Contact: Nick Buteau at nick@turnleftguides.com

The International Travel Writers Alliance and AllWays



The International Travel Writers Alliance is the world's largest association of professional travel writers, editors, broadcasters and photographers.

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