

The Alliance bulletin

Providing key information on a no-frills format for professional who travel to write, edit, broadcast or create images. Editor : Ashley Gibbins : Ashley@itwalliance.com

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www.itwalliance.com

Section one :

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- Opportunities
- New partners and agencies
- News, leads and What's on
- Reasons to write about
- A place to stay

Section two (ongoing opportunities) :

- Travel products and services
- Travel guides

Appendix one

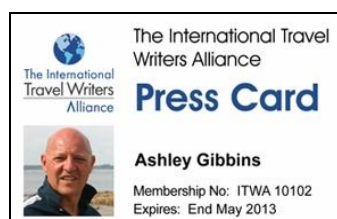
- The directory of opportunities for press card holders

Registering with the Alliance

To register with the Alliance visit : www.itwalliance.com, and register as a :

- **Member** : travel journalists
- **Editor** : editors of publications
- **Partner** : tour, travel, transport and tourism industry representatives, or an
- **Agency** : PR and marketing agencies with travel related clients

The Alliance press card



The International Travel Writers Alliance Press Card now provides Alliance journalists with a formal recognition of their status and standing within the profession.

See Appendix one for the directory of opportunities for press card holders.

For more information email Ashley@itwalliance.com.

The Global Travel ITWA Prepaid Master Card



The International Travel Writers Alliance **Global Travel ITWA Prepaid MasterCard**, operates in partnership with Global Currency Exchange Network, one of the UK's leading foreign exchange companies.

The Prepaid Card is a smart and cost effective way to carry euros or dollars abroad -simply preload your Card then use it like a debit card to pay for goods at thousands of shops, restaurants and other outlets.

The card is currently available to UK based journalists only.

<https://itwa.gcencurrencycards.com/>

Join and follow



http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2978414&trk=hb_side_g



[@writersalliance](https://twitter.com/writersalliance)

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.

Green Island Holidays

Green Island Holidays launched its new 2013 holiday brochure with opportunities to visit unspoilt locations across North Cyprus and Turkey.

There is also new section detailing specially selected accommodation on Turkey's Aegean coast in Alacati and Bodrum.

Visit : www.greenislandholidays.com. To request a press trip contact Rebecca Erol at greenisland@redmintcomms.co.uk.

What's special about Northumberland, UK

Northumberland is the part of north east England which isn't Newcastle and offers award winning beaches, wildlife and more castles to its name than any other county in the UK.

Just over million British visitors and 50,000 foreign tourists spend a total of £162million in the county annually, with Hadrian's Wall and Alnwick Castle and Garden the principal attractions.

What's Special About...Ltd has produced an audio guides to be played on a car's CD player, taking the visitor on journeys averaging 65 miles, through the county's landscapes, while the narrator tells of Northumberland's historic past, its famous sons, landmarks and anecdotes about the people and places.

Alliance members who would like to review one of the WSA routes in Northumberland will be made most welcome and can enjoy a complementary overnight stay at the privately owned Close House Hotel, near Heddou on the Wall.

www.closehouse.co.uk

Those preferring to travel by train and then hire a car (must be equipped with CD player!) on arrival, can enjoy complementary return rail travel with East Coast mainline from London to Newcastle.

Visit : www.whatsspecialabout.com. Contact : Lesley Gosling at lesleygoslingpr@btinternet.com.

The Rough Guide to Accessible Britain

The fourth edition of the Rough Guide to Accessible Britain features reviews of hundreds of accessible attractions.

It is available to view for free online and features over 200 inspiring ideas for worry-free days out, including more than 60 brand new reviews for 2012.

Each review contains hints and tips from the Rough Guides team of disabled reviewers who visited each venue, looking for well thought out accessibility features and unique attractions, both of which contribute to making a great day out.

The Rough Guide to Accessible Britain series has been developed in association with Motability, the leading car scheme for disabled people.

Visit : www.accessibleguide.co.uk. Contact : Katie Wright at katie.wright@sirencomms.com.

Working with the Alliance

The following travel industry partners and agencies 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.

Partners

VisitBritain

VisitBritain is that national tourist board for Britain. We are responsible for promoting Britain as a travel destination in 21 International markets.

Visit : www.visitbritain.org. Contact : Emma Fitzgerald at emma.fitzgerald@visitbritain.org.

Talbot County, Maryland USA

The Talbot County Office of Tourism promotes the pristine landscapes, waterscapes, and small hamlets along the "Hamptons of the Chesapeake Bay". The Towns of St. Michaels, Oxford, Easton, and Tilghman Island offer a wealth of small town charm with metropolitan amenities.

Visit : www.talbgov.org. Contact : Debbi Dodson at ddodson@talbgov.org.

Pismo Beach, California

Pismo Beach is located on California's famous Central Coast, half way between San Francisco and Los Angeles along the scenic Pacific Coast Highway and Highway 101.

This classic California beach town offers long white beaches for taking a pleasant stroll or for just enjoying the spectacular views of a Pismo Beach sunset.

Visit www.ClassicCalifornia.com. Contact Courtney Winters at cwinters@pismobeach.org.

Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic features a stunning array of sandy beaches, dazzling green landscapes, mountains studded with waterfalls, exotic cuisine and a remarkable variety of arts and entertainment options that attract international travellers, sport stars and celebrities alike.

Visit : www.godominicanrepublic.com. Contact : Esther Smith at pr.uk@godominicanrepublic.com

The Finger Lakes Region

The Finger Lakes Region of New York State is the perfect getaway with more than 100 wineries, 11 lakes, charming bed and breakfasts and romantic hotels. Visitors to the area enjoy the scenic views, extensive culinary scene and the abundance of outdoor recreation offered in and around the lakes.

Visit : www.visitfingerlakes.com. Contact : AJ Shear at aj@visitfingerlakes.com.

Agencies

Mary Rudd PR (UK)

Mary Rudd PR is a small agency which works closely with a number of clients on their press and public relations. The agency works with a number of hotels around the country and also with key visitor attractions.

Visit : www.maryruddpr.co.uk. Contact : Mary Rudd at mail@maryruddpr.co.uk

News

The Highlander's Museum, Fort George, Scotland

The Highlanders' Museum will re-open to the public after a £2.9 million Redevelopment Project in late March 2013.

The Highlanders' Museum, which is situated within Fort George, a working army barracks just outside Inverness, tells the story of the Highland Regiments from just after the Battle of Culloden to the present day.

The Museum is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, the highest possible listing of building conservation in Scotland, and is home to 20,000 artefacts, the largest collection of military artefacts outside of London.

Visit : www.thehighlandersmuseum.com. Contact : Katy Gilzean at Katy.Gilzean@visitscotland.com.

hotelBrain

Santorini based hotel management company hotelBrain has a portfolio of 56 luxury properties across 19 regions of Greece.

There are plans to expand into Turkey, Bulgaria and Cyprus within 2013.

Visit : www.hotelbrain.com. Contact: Aaron Moore at Aaron.moore@mediacofss.com.

L'Apogee, Courchevel, Switzerland

L'Apogee, the latest hotel from the Oetker Collection, is scheduled to open in December 2013. Located in Le Jardin Alpin, the hotel will have its own private ski lift.

Visit : www.oetkercollection.com. Contact : kf@verypcc.com.

The Caribbean Hotel Company

ITC Classics has just launched the Caribbean Hotel Company, catering for price conscious travellers wanting to book holidays to the Caribbean.

Using 'make a bid' technology, customers browse a handpicked selection of over 200 four and five star hotels, select their ideal Caribbean holiday and place their bid... then wait to see if they have been successful.

Visit : www.thecaribbeanhotelcompany.co.uk. Contact : Nadia Walford at Nadia@grifcopr.com

Travel Indochina

Asia specialist, Travel Indochina, has launched its new Asia River Cruising brochure for 2013/2014 with new river cruises through Burma and Laos, alongside established cruises on the Mekong through Vietnam and Cambodia and on the Yangtze in China.

Visit: www.travelindochina.co.uk. Contact : Sarah Habicht at Sarah@humewhitehead.co.uk.

Waldorf Astoria, Berlin

The new Waldorf Astoria Berlin opened in December 2012 in the new Zoofenster skyscraper, designed by renowned German architect, Professor Christoph Mäckler.

Visit : www.waldorfastoriaberlin.com. Contact : Charlotte Hill at Charlotte@grifcopr.com

The free Visit Halifax Mobile App

The Visit Halifax Mobile App is the official Mobile Concierge for Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.

The customized and interactive App has GPS-enabled maps, weather updates, Halifax festivals and events information and the ability to save points of interest.

Visit : www.destinationhalifax.com/visit-halifax-app. Contact : Andrea Young at AYoung@destinationhalifax.com.

Two Park Hyatt iopenings in 2013

Park Hyatt New York

The Park Hyatt New York, which opens in 2013, will be located at 157 West 57th Street between Avenue of the Americas and Seventh Avenue, across from Carnegie Hall.

The 210-room hotel will be part of a 90-story mixed-use tower that will also feature 135 Thomas Juul-Hansen-designed luxury condominiums with views of Central Park and the New York skyline.

Park Hyatt Siem Reap, Cambodia

The Park Hyatt Siem Reap will be situated nearby the 12th century ruins of Angkor, a UNESCO World Heritage site that researchers believe was one of the largest preindustrial cities in the world.

The hotel will be a re-branded and totally renovated Hotel De La Paix Siem Reap, currently one of the country's top-rated hotels.

Visit : www.parkhyatt.com. Contact : Nadia Walford at Nadia@grifcopr.com.

ExperiencePlus! Bicycle Tours

ExperiencePlus! Bicycle Tours, which in 1972 became the first North American tour company to offer pedal tours in Europe, has announced its 2013 *Send A Teacher Traveling Awards* recognising outstanding U.S. public school teachers and rewarding them with a complimentary bike tour.

Visit : www.experienceplus.com. Contact : Sara Widness at sara@widnesspr.com.

Leads

Silversea Cruises

Silversea Cruises is introducing cruises beyond the Arctic Circle taking in an exploration of Novaya Zemlya and its rich wildlife including seabirds, Walruses and Seals.

The new voyage along Scandinavia's northernmost coastline and into the Barents Sea is of particular note as it offers some of the most unspoilt wildlife viewing in the area.

Also located off the coast of north-western Russia in the White Sea is the isolated Solovetsky Island which is home to the monastery in which Stalin's government housed one of the Soviet Union's most infamous Gulag camps.

Within its extensive defensive walls are two 16th century cathedrals, housing some stunning icons and many other buildings including watchtowers and gates, icon-painting workshop, residential chambers and a number of workrooms which allowed this impressive monastery to exist in almost complete isolation.

Visit : www.silversea.com. Contact : kf@verypcc.com.

The Inn at English Harbour, Antigua

The Inn at English Harbour is offering guests the use of its Dutch yacht, Xenia & Faye.

Built in Holland in 1962 and restored by the Inn's owners, guests can charter this 26 metre yacht for the day or spend a night on board.

Visit : www.theinn.ag. Contact : Hannah Summers at Hannah@grifcopr.com

The Mighty Fine Company

Specialist tour operator, The Mighty Fine Company is highlighting the newly-opened Ranua Holiday Village Gulo Gulo resort in Finnish Lapland.

The soft-adventure tour operator has launched an arctic family adventure to the new resort located in the Ranua Wildlife Park among Finland's unspoilt wilderness.

Guests can get close to arctic animals in Finland during their stay including the brown bear, polar bear, lynx and reindeer.

Visit : www.mightyfinecompany.com. Contact: Anita Clements at anita@hamilton-pr.com.

The Grand Canyon Ranch Resort, Las Vegas

The Grand Canyon Ranch Resort, which is two hours by road from Vegas, is the only working guest ranch situated on the West Rim of the Grand Canyon.

While there its the chance to take a horseback safari to see the ranch's new bison herd, enjoy an evening under the stars around the camp fire and learn cowboy skills such as how to shoot with a Colt 45.

The ranch makes a base for getting out and exploring Grand Canyon National Park, Route 66, Lake Mead and the Hoover Dam.

Visit : www.grandcanyonranchresort.com. Contact : Tanya Hillman at Tanya.hillman@kbc-pr.com.

Kuoni

Luxury travel specialist, Kuoni has re-launched its travel website with hundreds of Kuoni Insider comments from experts around the company; sharing their personal travel experiences and recommendations.

Kuoni was established in 1906 in Switzerland by Alfred Kuoni, an adventurer and explorer, who opened some of Europe's first travel agencies.

Today Kuoni has branch operations in over 40 countries.

Visit : www.kuoni.co.uk. Contact : Jemma Purvis at atvjemma.purvis@kuoni.co.uk.

Green Leaf Niseko Village, Japan

The Niseko Village ski resort is celebrating Japan's top ski resort's 30th anniversary with its all-new outdoor art installation Snow Lounge, created by artist Hirohiko Takenaka.

Named 'Snow Lounge @ Flame's', the venue is sculpted from pure powder snow and illuminated from within. The Niseko season runs until April 2013.

Visit : www.insidejapantours.com. Contact : Hannah Summers at Hannah@grifcopr.com

Dubrovnik and Croatian Islands Cruise

A new Dubrovnik and Croatian Islands Cruise route will start in May 2013.

The cruise explores the Dalmatian coastline and waters of the Adriatic Sea including the islands of Korcula, Hvar, Trstenik, Mljet and Sipan before ending the cruise in the Old marble Town of Dubrovnik.

Visit : www.archersdirect.co.uk. Contact : Hannah Stalder at Hannah.Stalder@Rooster.co.uk.

GVI

GVI runs over 100 volunteer projects in 25 countries, in the fields of environmental research, conservation, education and community development.

The organisation sends over 3,000 volunteers away every year, and is one of the most well respected and prominent international volunteering organisations in the world.

From wildlife conservation in South Africa to community development programmes in Costa Rica, GVI welcomes volunteers aged 18-70 from all corners of the globe.

Visit : www.gvi.co.uk. Contact : Claire Griffin at Claire@grifcopr.com.

The Landscape of Grand Pré UNESCO World Heritage Site, Nova Scotia, Canada

Nova Scotia's UNESCO sites include Old Town Lunenburg, the Joggins Fossil Cliffs, and the Landscape of Grand Pré.

The Landscape of Grand Pré was inscribed on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) World Heritage List for its outstanding universal value in June, 2012.

It encompasses the Grand Pré marshland, a national historic park, and the communities of Grand Pré and Hortonville – an area where the early Acadian settlers established a complex system of dykes to irrigate the farm land.

The site is a place for visitors to learn about and interact with the culture and history of the area and its people and features a Memorial Church, the Herbin Cross, the statue of Evangeline, and a large exhibit hall on the history of Grand-Pré and Acadie.

Visit : www.whc.unesco.org/en/list/1404. Contact : Andrea Young at AYoung@destinationhalifax.com.

Hotel de Toiras & Villa Clarisse launch own wine label

The Hotel de Toiras, a 17th century former shop owner's residence, and its sister property, the Villa Clarisse, on the Ile de Re, France, have launched a selection of acclaimed wines from Chateau Clarisse, the owner, Olivia Le Calvez boutique vineyard located in the Saint Emilion region of France.

Visit : www.hotel-de-toiras.com. Contact : Charlie Fox at Charlie@grifcopr.com.

Kew Gardens, UK

The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew will be showcasing a range of edible plants from 25 May to 3 November 2013.

The Gardens (including two Victorian-era glass hothouse palaces will be focusing on over 30,000 species plant.

Running for five months, the festival will evolve seasonally within the 326-acre Gardens.

Visit : www.kew.org. Contact : Bronwyn Friedlander at b.friedlander@kew.org.

Segera Retreat, Kenya

The Wilderness Collection is to open the Segera Retreat, Kenya in March 2013.

Segera comprises five private two-storey villas of wood and thatch with views over the Laikipia plateau towards Mount Kenya.

With the support of the Zeitz Foundation, the Segera Retreat is looking to achieve a balance of conservation, community, culture and commerce.

The camp is located on the Hoanib River within a private concession straddling the Palmwag area and Skeleton Coast National Park, in one of the most remote areas of the Kaokoveld.

For the first time, forays into the Hoanib floodplains (previously restricted inside the Skeleton Coast National Park) can be undertaken.

Visit : www.wilderness-collection.com and www.wilderness-safaris.com. Contact : Claire Griffin at Claire@grifcopr.com

Zip World

Zip World, a new attraction in Bethesda, near Bangor, North Wales, will open on 16 March 2013.

It will be the largest zip wire experience in the Northern Hemisphere and will have visitors.

Located in the world's largest old slate quarry, Zip World is a first for the UK and will take visitors over 700ft through the air above a mountain lake with panoramic views out over Snowdonia to the Isle of Anglesey.

Visit : www.zipworld.co.uk. Contact : Seb at sthompson@webershandwick.com.

AdventureSmith Explorations

Small ship, expedition cruise expert AdventureSmith Explorations has announced a lineup of academicians, Pulitzer Prize-winning authors, travel writers and professional photographers as experts in residence for upcoming cruises to destinations including Antarctica and Borneo.

Visit : www.adventuresmithexplorations.com. Contact : Sara Widness at sara@widnesspr.com.

The Fête des Amoureux, Roquemaure, South of France

Every two years, Roquemaure hosts a lovers' festival that falls on the weekend closest to 14 February known as the "Fête des Amoureux".

In 2013, Roquemaure will celebrate the 23rd festival with a 19th Century historic reconstruction which will take place on 16 and 17 February.

The event will be attended by between 15,000 – 20,000 visitors and is one of the most important Valentine's Day festivals in France.

Today, lovers toast the success with a variety of Côtes du Rhône wines available throughout the festival with more than 800 people dressed up in old-fashioned dress, horse and carriages, knights in armour, shop-fronts decorated to represent the era.

Visit : www.saintvalentin.org. Contact : media@saintvalentin.org.

British Virgin Islands – the Home of Rum

Rum plays a key role in the BVI and is a part of everyday life for both residents and visitors.

There are two producers and suppliers in the BVI including the Michael Calwood distillery at Cane Garden Bay which is housed in a stone plantation era building and still produces rum in much the same way as two centuries ago.

The other is Pussers, the single malt original navy rum producer based on Tortola that also runs a number of bars, restaurants and stores.

Visit : www.bvitourism.co.uk. Contact : Jonathan Williams at jonathan@ophirpr.co.uk.

What's on

Best of Britain & Ireland

National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham
13 and 14 March 2013

Best of Britain & Ireland (BoBI), the UK's travel trade event will be increasing visitor attendance figures by providing free coach transport for visitors to the show from eleven destinations across the UK.

The BoBI Express service is being provided free of charge to Best of Britain & Ireland visitors in association with Andersons Tours who will be co-ordinating the coaches using CoachMarque companies, and providing booking facilities via their website.

In addition Greener Journeys are backing the service, which will have the potential to save over 9,000 Kg of CO2 emissions compared to visitors using their cars to attend the show.

Best Western, Marriott, Hilton, Menzies and Puma hotels are providing pick-up places with parking facilities and free teas and coffees for waiting coach passengers.

Registered visitors can book their free return place by visiting www.bestofbritainandirelandevent.co.uk and clicking on the 'BoBI Express' logo on the home page. Contact : Sam Warnock at sam@expom.co.uk.

Events in Benidorm, Spain

Low Cost Festival

26 – 28 July 2013

The music festival attracts headline acts in an environmentally-friendly atmosphere : Visit : www.en.visitbenidorm.es

Benidorm Pride

8 – 15 September 2013

Benidorm Pride offers festival fun alongside art & cultural events creating a really special atmosphere for local and visitors alike. Visit : www.benidormpride.com.

Visit www.en.visitbenidorm.es. Contact Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com for more information.

Antigua Sailing Week

27 April to 03 May 2013

Antigua, is promoted as the Sailing Capital of the Caribbean, and the Antigua Sailing Week is one of the premier sailing events in the world.

Yachting enthusiasts can enjoy the many other yachting events, including the Round the Island Race on 19 January 2013, Super Yacht Challenge Antigua on 25-27 January 2013 and the Valentine's Day Regatta from 07 to 10 February 2013.

Other key events in early 2013 include :

Sailing:

- Royal Ocean Racing Club – Caribbean 600 Race – 18 February 2013
- Antigua Yacht Club International Laser – 09-10 March 2013
- 26th Annual Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta – 18-23 April 2013
- Guadeloupe to Antigua Race (Antigua Yacht Club) – 26 April 2013

Festivals:

- The Antigua & Barbuda Kite Festival – 30 April – 01 May 2013
- Back II Life Music Festival – End April 2013

Visit : www.visitantiguabarbuda.co.uk. Contact : Anna Wolstenholme at anna@firstpr.co.uk.

In the British Virgin Islands

VG Easter Festival

30 March to 1 April 2013

A weekend of music, dance and food; including the calypso monarch competition parade, pageant queen show and nightly village entertainment.

Loro Piana Super Yacht Regatta

20 to 23 March 2013

The Loro Piana Caribbean Superyacht Regatta & Rendezvous 2013 brings together sail and motor yachts during a four-day event for owners, their families and friends organized by Boat International Media and the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda (YCCS).

Visit : www.superyachtregattaandrendezvous.com.

Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival

25 to 31 March 2013

The BVI Spring Regatta and Sailing Festival is now in its 42nd year. The weeklong event takes sailors throughout the beautiful British Virgin Islands.

The central location is at Nanny Cay Marina where over 150 boats take off to race on three courses around the Sir Francis Drakes Channel.

Visit : www.bvispringregatta.org.

Visit : www.bvitourism.co.uk. Contact : Jonathan Williams at jonathan@ophirpr.co.uk.

Reasons to write about

Nantucket Island, Massachusetts

Nantucket Island is America's most easterly territory just 30 miles from Cape Cod off the coast of Massachusetts.

Its isolation from the mainland is a major part of the allure along with white sand beaches, harbour views, picturesque lighthouses, charming clapboard architecture and quaint cobbled streets.

High season is when the high rollers sail in with yachts in tow to dine and play but low season, from either May until late June or after Labor Day, is also a great time to visit.

By the time the tourists have left, hotel rates decrease, the residents are more relaxed and the trees turn an incredible autumnal red.

The temperature average 19° due to the Gulf Stream, perfect for walks along the shore, al fresco dining, bird watching and even swimming in the sea.

Nantucket Island Resorts has six period properties dotted across the island's best locations ranging from the island's foremost luxury hotel and former inn The Wauwinet to *The Cottages & Lofts at The Boat Basin* - a cosy set of former fisherman's cottages with full hotel services and amenities, around Nantucket harbour.

Visit : www.nantucketislandresorts.com. Contact : Katie Francis at kf@verypcc.com

Alila Purnama sailing vessel, Indonesia

Alila Hotels and Resorts will launch Alila Purnama, its own 46 metre luxury wooden Phinisi, in April 2013.

The vessel is being built by hand in the traditional style of boats used by the Bugis seafarers from South Sulawesi in Indonesia.

Looking to be the most luxurious liveaboard Phinisi boat in the region, Alila Purnama – translated as full moon – will provide accommodation for up to 10 guests, with a crew of 16 including a spa therapist and a dive master.

From 6 April to 29 November 2013, the Alila Purnama will sail via Rinca Island to east Sumbawa in the Flores Sea.

It will take in the Komodo National Park, a designated World Heritage Site with over 260 coral species and more than 1000 species of marine life, as well as islands containing hundreds of unique species, most famous of which are the Komodo dragons.

Visit : www.alilahotels.com/purnama. Contact : kf@verypcc.com.

Hangzhou, China

In a move to encourage international tourists to visit and travel freely throughout the city, Hangzhou, capital of the Zhejiang Province in China, has launched an "open door policy" and new campaign to promote tourism.

Hangzhou is one of the six oldest capitals in China and an integral part of the world's sixth largest economic center - the Yangtze River Delta.

Offering 5,000 years of rich culture, it was established as an important city in Chinese civilization by 221 BC. When Marco Polo visited 800 years ago, he declared it "the finest and most splendid city in the world."

The city is located on West Lake, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The Grand Canal, the world's oldest and longest man-made canal, begins at Hangzhou and ends at Beijing and incorporates 132 heritage sites (seven of which are in Hangzhou).

The city has a well-known heritage in the production of fine porcelain, silk and tea, and tourists may visit museums dedicated to each and learn how these skills have impacted civilization generally.

The city's tourism marketing campaign will target more than a dozen countries around the world including the United Kingdom, Germany, France and United States.

Visit : www.visithangzhou.com. Contact : Karen Luard at kp@kpcommunications.co.uk.

Palm Springs

The Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism has announced the events calendar for 2013 that marks its 75th anniversary as an incorporated city.

In addition, Palm Springs is being promoted as a place where history and glamour mix with natural wonders and innovative architectural design.

Palm Springs has over 350 days of sunshine, a Cahuilla Indian heritage, an abundance of celebrity homes and one of the biggest concentrations of mid-century modern architecture, together with a variety of outdoor activities, from jeep safari tours along the San Andreas fault line.

The top events in Palm Springs includes :

Desert Arts Festival

16 to 18 February, 2 and 3 and 23 and 24 March 2013

The series of festivals feature artists and craftsmen offering original artwork from throughout the Western United States.

Visit : www.westcoastartists.com

McCormick's Classic Car Show and Auction

22 to 24 February and 22 to 24 November 2013

This three-day event showcases one of the finest collections of classic collectable cars, with over 500 classic, sports, antique and special interest automobiles are sold across the auction block against the backdrop of the stunning San Jacinto mountains.

Visit : www.classic-carauction.com.

Native FilmFest

27 February to 3 March 2013

Once home to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Palm Springs pays homage to its native heritage at the annual Festival of Native Film & Culture.

The festival is one of the nation's most highly-regarded events of its kind, featuring the best in films by, about and starring Native Americans and other indigenous peoples.

Visit : www.accmuseum.org.

BNP Paribas Open

4 to 17 March 2013

The two-week tennis tournament sees the top men and women professional players compete in a 96 singles draw and 32 doubles draw.

It is hosted at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden, located in the southern California desert, and regularly attracts over 300,000 tennis fans.

Visit : www.bnpparibasopen.com.

Coachella Music Festival

12 to 14 and 19 to 21 April 2013

The USA's hippest music and arts festival is held annually at the Empire Polo Club fields, just outside of Palm Springs. It features new bands and many genres of live music over six stages and 100 bands.

Visit : www.coachella.com.

American Documentary Film Festival

4 to 8 April 2013

The American Documentary Film Festival aims to be the largest documentary festival and market on the West Coast of the United States.

Visit : www.americandocumentaryfilmfestival.com.

Palm Springs Air Museum Annual Memorial Day Flower Drop

27 May 2013

Every Memorial Day, the Palm Springs Air Museum commemorates the important role of those who fought in World War II.

Visit : www.palmspringsairmuseum.org

Palm Springs Desert Resorts Restaurant Week

31 May to 9 June 2013

Palm Springs Restaurant Week highlights the entire valley from Palm Springs to Indio as a first class dining destination. Over 100 restaurants participate every year by offering three-course menus at a fixed price of either \$26 or \$38 per person.

Visit : www.palmspringsrestaurantweek.com.

Palm Springs Pride Weekend

2 and 3 November 2013

Palm Springs, which experiences very hot summers, holds its Pride Festival in early November.

The two-day extravaganza hosts a fabulous parade along Palm Canyon Drive, followed by an all-afternoon and evening festival with live entertainment, food, dancing, concessions and fun games. It is one of the largest gay pride celebrations and attracts crowds of more than 40,000 participants.

Visit : www.pspride.org.

Palm Springs Festival of Lights Parade

7 December 2013

Palm Springs Festival of Lights Parade features a host of marching bands, performing groups and signature floats adorned in colourful Christmas lights and attracts 80,000 visitors annually to downtown Palm Springs.

Visit : www.psfestivaloflights.com.

Visit : www.VisitPalmSprings.com. Contact : Sarah Habicht at Sarah@humewhitehead.co.uk.

The Souqs of Qatar

Traditionally an open-air marketplace, Souqs were originally located outside the main cities, where a caravan loaded with goods could stop and merchants could display, trade and sell their goods.

Souqs were also the hub for many cultural and social festivities, with communities uniting over local events and entertainment.

Today, the Souq has transformed with time and although the fundamental objectives remain the same they now tend to be more centrally located and a tourist attraction.

Four of the main souqs in Qatar's capital Doha are

Souq Waqif

Located behind the Corniche, off Grand Hamed Street, Souq Waqif is a showpiece of traditional architecture, handicrafts and folk art, and was once a weekend trading area for the Bedouin.

The only traditional souq to remain in the Gulf, it's now a labyrinth of narrow streets where visitors can bargain and purchase a diverse range of products.

Visit : www.swbh.com.

Gold Souq

The Gold Souq offers an abundance of imported and locally crafted gold and silver jewellery sold with or without diamonds, pearls or precious and semi-precious stones.

Most of the items crammed tightly in the display cases are made of 18 or 22-carat gold.

Currently Qatar charges no Value Added Tax (VAT) meaning gold jewellery is significantly cheaper than in Europe. But for those who just want to look rather than buy, most shops will be happy for you to take photographs.

Wholesale Markets

The Wholesale Souq, part of the Central Market, comprises :

- The Vegetable Souq, which has the feel of a village market where vendors sell local and imported fresh fruit and vegetables from beneath shaded awnings.
- The Fish Souq sells a variety of seafood including crabs, crayfish, lobsters, prawns and squid.
- The Meat Souq is visited more out of interest; while meat can be bought by the kilo or by the carcass, many locals buy live sheep, goats and cows and take them to the adjacent government slaughterhouse.

Omani Souq

The small Omani Souq offers a large variety of merchandise, including spices, nuts, perfumes, pottery, plants, camel sticks and incense burners.

Visit : www.qatartourism.gov.qa. Contact : Natalie Schofield at NatalieS@hillsbalfour.com.

A place to stay

The Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Mallorca, Spain

Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, which celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, is located in the small resort of Illetes, just west of Palma.

It is owned and managed by the Xamena family and has developed over the years to incorporate a spacious spa & leisure centre, 3 pools, tennis courts and 124 rooms and villas spread through tropical gardens sloping to a small beach cove.

The hotel prides itself on its personal welcome and service, and dedication to detail to ensure that guests have the best possible experience.

It's also the 'greenest' hotel in Mallorca with an environmental policy stretching back to the 1960's and now includes a treeplanting project in Costa Rica to offset the hotel's carbon footprint.

Visit : www.hotelbonsol.es. Contact Cathryn Hicks at Cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com for more information.

The Kempinski Hotel Barbaros Bay, Bodrum

The Kempinski Hotel Barbaros Bay on the Aegean Coast of Turkey has opened its Silent Beach, a secluded stretch among the trees for guests wanting to enjoy the pace and quiet.

Visit : www.kempinski.com/bodrum. Contact : Hannah Summers at Hannah@grifcopr.com

COMO Hotels and Resorts, Miami, Florida

COMO Hotels and Resorts is opening a new beachside hotel in Miami in Autumn 2013.

The property will be located in an original 1920s building in the historic Art Deco district, offering direct access to Miami's iconic South Beach.

Interiors will be by the Italian designer Paola Navone who is also creating interiors at COMO's latest island resort, Point Yamu by COMO, Phuket, in Thailand, opening November 2013.

The Miami opening will be COMO's fourth city property, joining London's Halkin hotel and Metropolitan by COMO, London, as well as the Metropolitan by COMO, Bangkok.

Visit : www.comohotels.com. Contact : Katie Francis at kf@verypcc.com

Basecamp Maasai Mara, Kenya

Basecamp Maasai Mara has been awarded the Eco Rated Facility Of The Year - 2012 for its commitment in promoting responsible and sustainable tourism through linkages with community development and nature conservation.

Basecamp Maasai Mara is a fully tented camp overlooking the Talek river in Maasai Mara with views of the savannah.

Visit: www.basecampexplorerkenya.com. Contact : Josie Self at JosieS@hillsbalfour.com.

Fonab Castle Hotel, Pitlochry, Scotland

The Fonab Castle Hotel in Pitlochry opens in April 2013. A traditional castle hotel, it is located on the banks of Loch Faskally amid breath highland scenery.

Visit : www.fonabcastlehotel.com. Contact : Katy Gilzean at Katy.Gilzean@visitscotland.com.

The Majestic Kuala Lumpur

The Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur, which opened in December 2012, includes the iconic Hotel Majestic building, documented as a national heritage site under the country's Antiquities Act.

Built in the 1930s, the original hotel became one of the great landmarks of Kuala Lumpur in its time.

The hotel was the place for glamorous social events, government receptions and the residence for prominent international visitors.

Visit : www.majestickl.com. Contact : Nadia Walford at Nadia@grifcopr.com

The Sanctuary at Ol Lentille, Kenya

The Sanctuary at Ol Lentille, a collection of four private high-end houses in the Ol Lentille Conservancy, has won in the 'Best for Poverty Reduction' category in the 2012 Virgin Holidays Responsible Tourism Awards.

The boutique luxury holiday destination is set in 20,000 acres of private Wildlife Conservancy, 75 miles north of Mount Kenya.

The Sanctuary at Ol Lentille is a partnership between private investors, conservation organisations and the neighbouring Maasai and Samburu communities.

Visit: www.ol-lentille.com. Contact : Josie Self at JosieS@hillsbalfour.com.

The Botanique Hotel and Spa, Brazil

The Botanique Hotel and Spa, which is located in the mountainous region of Campos do Jordão, equidistant between Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, will open in late November 2013.

The hotel of private villas and suites on 700 acres is well located for those looking to explore the densely forested Mantiqueira Mountains on horseback, practicing the Samba or Brazilian Tango with a professional dancer or learning how to make the national cocktail Caipirinha.

Visit : www.botanique.com.br. Contact : kf@verypcc.com.

The Sani Resort, Halkidiki, Greece

The Sani Resort, which has its own Wetland Sanctuary and is offering guided bird watching tours enabling guests to view Osprey, Wood Sandpiper, Little Ringed Plover, Avocet, Montagu's Harrier, Short-toed Snake Eagle, Willow Warbler, Northern Wheatear, the Pipit, the Sombre Tit, the Robin and the Woodchat Shrike.

Visit : www.saniresort.com. Contact : Nadia Walford at Nadia@grifcopr.com

The Hilton Moorea

The Hilton Moorea, on the island of Moorea, French Polynesia is included in Condé Nast Traveler Magazine's "Gold List" 2013: The World's Best Places to Stay.

Visit : www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/french-polynesia. For a full list of gold list hotels visit : www.cntraveler.com/gold-list/2013. Contact : marketing@emailing.hilton.pf.

Uma by COMO, Punakha, Bhutan

Located in Bhutan's Punakha Valley, the new 11-room Uma by COMO, Punakha is the sister property to Bhutan's Uma by COMO, Paro - which launched in September 2012.

The Uma Punakha opens up a new part of the Dragon Kingdom to travellers wishing to combine luxury with Uma's adventure itineraries.

COMO has also introduced new itineraries to highlight the best of the destination, with a 'Himalayan Explorer' package, splitting stays between both Uma properties and a longer itinerary incorporating a stay at the Bumdra Monastery Camp – the hotel's own wilderness campsite high in the Himalaya and accessed only via remote mountain paths.

Visit : www.comohotels.com/umapunakha. Contact : kf@verypcc.com.

Alila Jabal Akhdar, Oman

Alila Hotels & Resorts will expand into Oman in late 2013 with the opening of Alila Jabal Akhdar, the first luxury resort development in the mountainous Jabal Akhdar region.

Located 2000 metres above sea level and a two hours drive from Muscat, the resort will provide access to one of Oman's most untapped areas.

Visit : www.alilahotels.com. Contact : kf@verypcc.com.

The Loft House, Bodrum, Turkey

Luxury villa specialist Scott Williams has introduced the Loft House, on the Bodrum Peninsula in Turkey, to its portfolio.

The Loft House on the Bodrum Peninsula is situated in one of the most exclusive areas on the Peninsula with Turbuku, the San Tropez of Turkey, a short drive away. The villa has sea views from its hill top position, with whitewashed walls and contemporary design features including concrete floors, double height ceilings and huge glass and steel windows.

Visit : www.scottwilliams.co.uk. Contact : Charlie Fox at Charlie@grifcopr.com.

L'Apogee, Courchevel, Switzerland

L'Apogee, the latest hotel from the Oetker Collection, is scheduled to open on 11.12.13 in Courchevel.

Located in Le Jardin Alpin, the hotel will comprise 53 rooms and suites, as well as a spectacular penthouse with its own jacuzzi and private terrace.

Visit : www.oetkercollection.com. Contact : Katie Francis at kf@verypcc.com

Conrad Maldives Rangali Island

The Conrad Maldives Rangali Island has launched a series of videos on YouTube showcasing behind the scenes of island life.

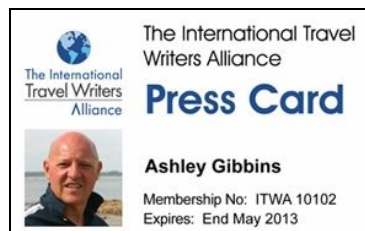
The videos explore some of the lesser known aspects of the resort with employees such as the underwater restaurant window cleaners, submarine driver and the Head Sommelier telling viewers about their extraordinary lives at the resort.

Visit : www.conradhotels.com. Contact : Gail Palmer at gail@ktapr.com.

Alliance initiatives

The International Travel Writers Alliance Press Card

The Alliance has launched its **Press Card**.



Press Card holders will receive the card itself, confirming the holders identity as a member of the International Travel Writers Alliance and the members logo for use on your email signature, website and stationery.

There will be ongoing support from the Alliance in advance of - or during – a members travels with regard to confirming membership with editors or travel industry representatives etc, and first call press trip opportunities sourced by the Alliance.

For more information email **Ashley@itwalliance.com**.

The Global Travel ITWA Prepaid MasterCard

The Global Travel ITWA Prepaid MasterCard is a new initiative brought to you in partnership with Global Currency Exchange Network, one of the UK's leading foreign exchange companies.



The Prepaid Card is a smart and cost effective way to carry euros or dollars abroad -simply preload your Card then use it like a debit card to pay for goods at thousands of shops, restaurants and other outlets.

The card is currently available to UK based journalis only. The Alliance is looking to extend the initiative worldwide.

For more details and to apply for The Global Travel ITWA Prepaid MasterCard visit :

<https://itwa.gcencurrencycards.com/?r=1952>

The Alliance Syndication Network

The Alliance Syndication Network is a new initiative from the International Travel Writers Alliance, that will be of interest to journalists who have, or contribute to, online travel publications including travel websites and blogs, bulletins and newsletters etc.

Each Syndicate member will :

- provide brief information on their own online presence, and
- agree to consider publishing a sentence on and link to appropriate features produced by other members in the Syndicate.

Other networking between Syndicate members will be developed.

By co-operating in this way, each Syndicate member should be able to increase the circulation of their own features considerably - and attract dedicated followers in the process.

For more information contact : Ashley Gibbins at **Ashhley@itwalliance.com**.

Travel guides

The following travel publishers will provide review copies to Alliance members.

AA Travel Guides

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

Anova Books

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

Berlitz

www.berlitzpublishing.com.

Bradt Travel

www.bradtguides.com. Rachel Fielding at
rachel.fielding@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
furqan.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. Alexandre Thery at
alexandre@editionsjonglez.com.

Kuperard Publishers

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

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.com

Summersdale travel publications

www.summersdale.com. Contact : Dean
at dean@summersdale.com.

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

AllWays traveller



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

www.itwalliance.com

AllWays traveller provides independent travellers with an equally independent view of the world from the professional travel journalists in the Alliance

www.allwaystraveller.com

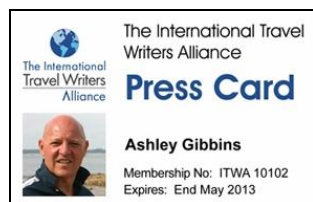
Ashley Gibbins FCIPR, MCIOJ
0776 419 8286
Ashley@itwalliance.com

Appendix one



Press card opportunities

Opportunities for Alliance press card holders directory : February 2013



The following press trip opportunities are being offered to press card holders by the Alliance's partners worldwide.

Alliance members should quote their press card number when making contact with the media contact and be prepared to show their card if, and when, requested. Alliance partners have been requested to ask for a member's press card number.

Information on obtaining an **International Travel Writers Alliance Press Card** can be found in *Travel products and services* below or by emailing Ashley@itwalliance.com

Opportunities A to E

- 40Berkeley, Boston
- Adventure Cat Sailing, San Francisco Bay
- Africa Safari Holidays
- Asa Ransom House, New York State
- Atlantic City, New Jersey
- Aurora Expeditions
- Bath Tourism Plus
- Bloomington, Minnesota
- The Broadway Collection New York
- BusyBus, Liverpool & Chester – UK
- The Castle Inn Hotel, Lake District UK
- Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme
- Charming Hotels Madeira
- Ciclismo Classico
- City Running Tours-Chicago
- Colorado
- Colorado River & Trail Expeditions
- Cotswolds Inns & Hotels
- Diallo Tours, West Africa
- The Ebrington Arms, UK
- The Elphinstone Hotel, Scotland
- The Essex Inn, Chicago
- EUROPA-PARK, Germany
- Experience Nottinghamshire

Opportunities F to O

- Finland
- Focus Hotels
- Frontier Travel
- Frontiers Travel
- Generator Hostels, Europe
- Greater Miami and the Beaches, Florida
- Great Hotels of the World
- Group Travel World
- The Great Lakes USA
- The Haweswater Hotel, Cumbria UK
- Helpful Holidays, UK
- Hidden Pousadas Brazil
- Holidaylettings
- Home Base Holidays
- The Horseshoe Inn, Scottish Borders
- The Hoste, Norfolk UK
- The Hotel Fort Canning, Singapore
- Hungary
- Independence Missouri
- Juneau, Alaska
- The Inn on Fifth, Naples, Florida
- Ker & Downey Botswana
- Kempinski Russia Kissimmee
- Knock Castle Hotel and Spa, Scotland
- Kempinski Hotels Worldwide
- Kempinski Gold Coast City, Ghana
- La Residencia Mallorca
- Linthwaite House, Cumbria UK
- LocalGuiding, worldwide
- The Loch Melfort, Scotland
- Lovelady Shield, Cumbria
- Love Loch Lomond, Scotland
- Mallorca Hotels: Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Hotel Tres and Hotel Dalt
- Murada, and Hotel Mar i Vent, Mallorca

Opportunities F to O (cont)

- Michael Neave Kitchen and Whisky Bar, Edinburgh
- The Marriott Paris Champs-Elysees, Paris
- Mir Corporation
- Newcastle Gateshead Marriott Hotel Metrocentre
- New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises
- Norfolk Hideaways, UK
- The Oetker Collection, Europe
- One World Trekking

Opportunities P to Z

- The Pheasant Inn, Cumbria UK
- Pembrokeshire, South West Wales
- Philadelphia
- Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania
- Pismo Beach, California
- Québec, Canada
- Ravenstone Manor, Cumbria UK
- Reykjavik Bike Tours, Iceland
- Rockford, Illinois
- Rosalie Bay Resort, Dominica
- The Royal Park and The Cranley, London
- Rushton Hall, Northamptonshire, UK
- Saigon Streets, China
- Sail Lofts St Ives
- Secret London
- Shama and Shama Luxe, Asia
- Shakespeare Country, UK
- Shieldhill Castle Hotel, Scotland
- St Mary's Hall Hotel, Scilly
- Swaziland and Malawi
- Talbot County, Maryland USA
- The Taskonaklar Boutique Hotel, Turkey
- theExplorateur
- Three Nelson Hotels in Cheshire, UK
- Tipi Adventure, Herefordshire UK
- Tongabezi Lodge, Zambia
- Utah
- The Valley Forge, Pennsylvania
- The Villa Rosa Hotel, Nairobi
- Visit Orlando
- VisitCornwall
- Wedgwood the Restaurant, Edinburgh
- Welcome to Yorkshire, UK
- Wilderness Scotland
- The West Somerset Railway
- WildJunket Magazine
- www.cornwallscottages.co.uk

40Berkeley, Boston

40Berkeley, located in the heart of Boston, is New England's largest hostel and a leading budget traveler destinations on the East Coast. It is one of *HostelWorld's* forTop 10 Hostels in the US.

40Berkeley will be delighted to consider providing accommodation to Alliance press card holders able to profile the hostel in their features.

Visit : www.40Berkeley.com. Contact : Oliver Mernick-Levene at 40berkeleyhostel@gmail.com.

Adventure Cat Sailing, San Francisco Bay

Adventure Cat Sailing will be delighted to 'comp' Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.adventurecat.com. Contact : Sharon Schrum at sharon@adventurecat.com

Africa Safari Holidays

Africa Safari Holidays will be happy to offer any press trip services to Alliance press card holders who are looking to travel to East Africa.

Visit : www.africasafariholidays.net. Contact : Agnes Njagi at info@africasafariholidays.net

Asa Ransom House, New York State

Asa Ransom House, which is a charming Clarence New York bed and breakfast, built in 1853, is romantic and secluded, but only 15 minutes away from Buffalo and 28 miles from Niagara Falls.

Guests enjoy glowing fireplaces in winter and spacious grounds full of herbs and flowers in the summer and can explore Buffalo, the beauty of Niagara Falls, and the charm of historic Clarence. In 2013 Asa Ransom House is featuring three day "Retreats" by Tina Tompkins Ames from February through October

Asa Ransom House will be delighted to consider requests for accommodation from Alliance press card holders who are on assignment and able to feature the establishment.

Visit : www.asaransom.com. Contact : Bob Lenz at innfo@asaransom.com.

Atlantic City, New Jersey

From New Jersey's tallest lighthouse to deep sea fishing, and everything in between, you can always find exciting things to do in Atlantic City.

Relaxing at one of the Atlantic City casino spas, the excitement of 24/7 gaming, the thrill of a royal flush or finding a new pair of shoes, the sand in between your toes or visiting one of the many attractions – whatever your pleasure, it is always more pleasurable in AC.

Atlantic City attractions and activities include antique shops, museums and cultural attractions, piers and arcades, an aquarium and much more and culture and history including Atlantic City Historical Museum and Art Center on Garden Pier, the Absecon Lighthouse and the Atlantic City Aquarium.

The Atlantic City Convention & Visitors Authority will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the city.

Visit : www.atlanticcitynj.com. Contact : Greg Evans at g.p.evans@btinternet.com.

Aurora Expeditions

Aurora Expeditions is an Australian-owned adventure company specialising in Expedition cruises to wild and remote places.

In its quest to seek destinations that push the boundaries of travel, Aurora has purposely kept the number of participants on each departure small, allowing more intimate encounters with wildlife and cultures, and lessening its impact on the regions visited.

Each voyage is led by a team of expert naturalists, geologists, historians, staff and crew who help to unlock the wonders of these special places with the use of flexible, innovative itineraries.

Aurora Expeditions will be delighted to consider providing Alliance press card holders with trips for review purposes.

Visit : www.auroraexpeditions.com.au. Contact : Fiona Twyford at fiona@auroraexpeditions.com.au.

Bath Tourism Plus

Bath Tourism Plus will host press visits for Alliance press card holders to the Georgian and UNESCO World Heritage city of Bath.

Visit : www.visitbath.co.uk. Contact : Audra McSherry at audra_mcsberry@bathtourism.co.uk

Bloomington, Minnesota

With a beautiful location on the banks of the Minnesota River, the city of Bloomington has much to offer travelers. It is home to the world-famous Mall of America® and the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Water Park of America and hiking and biking trails.

The city's #1 attraction by far, is Mall of America, the largest shopping center in the United States, welcoming over 40 million visitors annually.

This shopping Mecca boasts 2.5 million square feet of retail space, over 500 stores and nightclubs, the Nickelodeon Universe® amusement park and a 14-screen cinema. Another popular Bloomington destination is the 14,000 acres Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, with miles of hiking and biking trails and prime bird-watching opportunities.

Bloomington Tourism will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the state.

Visit : www.bloomingtonmn.org. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at fiona@cellet.co.uk.

The Broadway Collection New York

The Broadway Collection New York, a group of 24 new and classic Broadway musicals, will host Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Visit : www.broadwaycollection.com. Contact : Della Tully at Della.Tully@btinternet.com

BusyBus, Liverpool & Chester, UK

Sightseeing tour BusyBus, will host Alliance press card holders (with a guest) on a review basis. Visit: www.busybus.co.uk. Contact : Vera de Ruiter: vera@busybus.co.uk

The Castle Inn Hotel, Lake District UK

The Castle Inn Hotel is a four star family hotel located in the northern Lake District. The property offers large spacious rooms and is situated just moments from Lake Bassenthwaite and close to Skiddaw, one of the area's most popular peaks.

The Castle Inn is always happy to hear from Alliance press card holders who are interested in stories about the Lake District.

Visit : www.castleinncumbria.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh at samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk

Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme

Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme is four French departments boasting historic sites and châteaux, walking and cycling routes, a variety of sports, superb natural scenery and Champagne will be pleased to consider press visits for Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.champagne-ardenne-tourism.co.uk. Contact: Doug Goodman at doug@douggoodmanpr.com

Charming Hotels Madeira

Charming Hotels Madeira are pleased to offer Alliance press card holders special rates and will consider offering accommodation to press card holders with a confirmed commission.

Visit: www.charminghotelsmadeira.com. Contact: Antonio Silva at asilva@charminghotelsmadeira.com

Colorado

The US state of Colorado is a four-season destination offering world-class adventure and recreational pursuits, a thriving arts scene, a rich cultural heritage, flavorful cuisine, and renowned ski resort areas.

The state's breathtaking natural landscape boasts natural hot springs, hundreds of lakes and rivers, 10 national parks and monuments and 54 mountain peaks that top 14,000 feet.

The Colorado Tourism Office will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the state.

Visit : www.colorado.com. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at fiona@cellet.co.uk.

Colorado River & Trail Expeditions

Colorado River & Trail Expeditions (CRATE) was founded in 1971 and specializes in deluxe multi-day rafting expeditions with an emphasis on off-river exploration.

The company originally started on the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon, but has expanded over the years by hand picking the best rivers to operate on in North America. CRATE now also operates throughout Utah and Canyonlands National Park on the Green and Colorado Rivers and Alaska and Canada on the Tatshenshini and Alsek Rivers.

Colorado River & Trail Expeditions will be delighted to consider providing Alliance press card holders with trips for review purposes.

Visit www.crateinc.com. Contact : Walker Mackay at walkmin@crateinc.com.

Ciclismo Classico

Ciclismo Classico will consider offering tours to Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Ciclismo Classico is a specialised "boutique" tour operator that offers authentic and exciting cycling vacations. Its well-crafted educational trips in Italy, France, Spain, Austria and New England are active immersions into local art, language, music and, of course, delicious cuisine.

Visit : www.ciclismoclassico.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com

City Running Tours-Chicago

City Running Tours-Chicago will give 5k running or walking tours to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.cityrunningtours.com/chicago. Contact : Marlin Keesler at marlin@cityrunningtours.com

Cotswolds Inns & Hotels

Cotswolds Inns & Hotels has won the AA Small Hotel Group of the Year award for 2012-13. The groups portfolio includes :

The Cotswold Inns & Hotels collection includes:	The Bay Tree, Burford
The Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh	The Broadway Hotel, Broadway
The Bear of Rodborough, Stroud	The Lamb Inn, and
The Swan, Bibury	The Hare & Hounds Hotel, Tetbury

Cotswolds Inns & Hotels will be delighted to consider offering Alliance press card holders accommodation for review purposes.

Visit : www.cotswold-inns-hotels.co.uk. Contact : Sue Heady at sue@headycommunications.com.

Diallo Tours, West Africa

Diallo Tours are located in Mbour, Senegal, West Africa, which is the region's most vibrant fishing centre and is located approximately 84km from Dakar, the capital of Senegal.

Situated at the most western tip of West Africa, Senegal and its border sharing neighbour, the Gambia, provide a gateway to discover and explore Africa.

Diallo Tours professional tour guides help you develop the perfect holiday, by combining excursions and tours that will enlighten and give guests the opportunity to learn more about African culture and civilization.

Visit : www.diallotours.com. Contact : Abdoulaye at info@diallotours.com.

The Ebrington Arms, UK

The Ebrington Arms is a 17th Century inn in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the rolling hills of the Cotswolds at Ebrington near Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire.

This Cotswold country pub offering award-winning food (awarded 2 rosettes by The Michelin Guide) and ales (winner of the CAMRA North Cotswolds Pub of the Year 3 times in a row) will be delighted to consider offering review accommodation on a case by case basis.

Visit : www.theebringtonarms.co.uk. Contact : Anna Sharp at anna@asharppr.com.

The Elphinstone Hotel, Biggar, Scotland

Situated in the centre of Biggar, thirty miles outside of Edinburgh, the Elphinstone Hotel is a traditional and charming Coaching Inn, with a history going back over 400 years. The Elphinstone Hotel will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.elphinstonehotel.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

The Essex Inn, Chicago

The Essex Inn has a fine location on Michigan Avenue, in the heart of downtown Chicago, minutes from Chicago's finest attractions. It provides excellent accommodations and free extras including free shuttle around downtown, rooftop pool, fitness centre and free wireless internet.

The Essex Inn will be delighted to consider requests for accommodation from Alliance press card holders who are on assignment and able to feature the establishment.

Visit : www.essexinn.com. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at fiona@cellet.co.uk.

EUROPA-PARK

EUROPA-PARK, which is Germany's biggest theme park, located in the tri-border region of Germany, France and Switzerland, offers guests more than 100 attractions and international shows in 13 European themed areas, over 90 hectares.

EUROPA-PARK will be delighted to offer complimentary entrance press card holders plus one other where they have a written commission and on presentation of the card.

Visit : www.europapark.com. Contact : presse@europapark.com.

Experience Nottinghamshire

Experience Nottinghamshire invites Alliance press card holders to visit Robin Hood country. There will be the chance to see the Major Oak in Sherwood Forest, try your hand at archery, visit England's oldest pub and meet Robin Hood himself on a special guided tour.

Website: www.experiencenottinghamshire.com/robin-hood. Contact: Erin Huckle at erin.huckle@experiencenottinghamshire.com

Finland

Located between East and West, with snowy winters and warm, light-filled summers, Finland offers a number of fascinating contrasts.

Its unspoilt forests, as well as its thousands of islands and lakes, offer plenty of opportunities for visitors to enjoy beautiful natural surroundings. The Finns are also considered to be cool – a bit quiet and reserved. However, they are actually warm, friendly, hospitable and especially honest people once you get to know them.

Visit Finland, the Finnish Tourist Board will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are interested in feature the country.

Visit : www.visitfinland.com. Contact : Henri Anundi at henri.anundi@visitfinland.com.

Focus Hotels

Focus Hotels invite Alliance press card holders to review their three and four-star properties located in key destinations across the UK.

Visit : www.focushotels.co.uk. Contact : Nat Frogley at nat@bacall.net

Frontier Travel

Frontier Travel organise tailor-made holidays to Canada in both Summer and Winter. The company will consider offering individual press trips for Alliance press card holders with commissions from UK national newspapers, websites or high end publications.

Visit : www.frontier-canada.co.uk and www.frontier-ski.co.uk. Contact: Dave Ashmore at dave@frontier-travel.co.uk

Frontiers Travel

Frontiers Travel will consider offering tours to Alliance press card holders on assignment. Frontiers Travel specialise in the finest worldwide fly fishing and shooting destinations.

Visit : www.frontierstravel.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com

Generator Hostels

Generator Hostels is a European hostel chain with properties located in Berlin, Copenhagen, Dublin, Hamburg, London and Venice.

The group has over 4,500 beds in Europe and attracts over 1.2million visitors worldwide each year. Adding to the chain will be a hostel in Barcelona, and another in Berlin Mitte, both in 2013.

Generator Hostels will be delighted to consider review accommodation to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.generatorhostels.com. Contact : Christien Jansen at Christien.Jansen@generatorhostels.com.

Greater Miami and the Beaches, Florida

Greater Miami and the Beaches consists of a diverse group of neighborhoods.

Vibrant and contrasting areas – from ocean resort towns to the urban core, planned suburbs to pristine rural land, complemented by villages rooted in history – are woven into Miami's fascinating and diverse tapestry.

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau is an independent not-for-profit sales and marketing organization whose mission is to attract visitors to Greater Miami and the Beaches for leisure, business and conventions.

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau will be delighted to consider press trips for Alliance press card holders on assignment.

Visit : www.miamiandbeaches.com. Contact : Lois Kettlewell at Lois.Kettlewell@fourcommunications.com.

Great Hotels of the World

Great Hotels of the World offers an unrivalled collection of the best 4 and 5 star luxury hotels and resorts.

Each hotel is selected for its dedication to the highest standards of luxury, unique sophistication, surroundings and innovative facilities.

Great Hotels of the World will be delighted to consider providing Alliance press card holders with accommodation for review purposes.

Visit : www.ghotw.com. Contact : Ashleigh Silverman at asilverman@ghotw.com.

The Great Lakes USA

The Great Lakes is the largest expanse of freshwater in the world with a unique and diverse landscape.

This region which is the size of continental Europe includes the U.S. states of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin and Indiana with its capital city of Indianapolis.

Great Lakes USA will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the region.

Visit : www.greatlakesnorthamerica.co.uk. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at fiona@cellet.co.uk.

Group Travel World

Group Travel World is the best selling magazine for organisers of group travel in Europe.

To read a sample issue online : www.grouptravelworld.com/sample-issue

Alliance press card holders can receive a hard copy of *Group Travel World*, by post (anywhere in the world). Print subscribers also get online access to the magazine.

Those interested should email Colin Mansell with name card number and full postal address.

Visit : www.grouptravelworld.com. Contact Colin Mansell at colin.mansell@grouptravelworld.com

The Haweswater Hotel, Cumbria UK

The Haweswater Hotel, an art-deco hotel located next to the secluded Haweswater Reservoir, Cumbria, UK, will be happy to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.haweswaterhotel.com. Contact : Samantha Marsh at samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk

Helpful Holidays, UK

Helpful Holidays, UK will consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders with a commission from suitable media.

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

Hidden Pousadas Brazil

Hidden Pousadas offers independent travellers recommendations for uniquely beautiful places to visit and stay in Brazil.

Alliance press card holders with commissions for Brazil can enquire about staying at Pousadas within the special collection, outside of high season.

Visit : www.hiddenpousadasbrazil.com. Contact : Fola Odumosu at folat@hiddenpousadasbrazil.com

Holidaylettings

Holiday Lettings offers a range of traditional and unique villas, cottages and apartments worldwide and will consider arranging accommodation at its listed properties for Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.holidaylettings.co.uk. Contact: Emilie and Kate on press@holidaylettings.co.uk

Home Base Holidays

Home Base Holidays is pleased to offer one year complimentary home exchange membership to Alliance press card holders on assignment to cover home swap or budget holiday ideas.

Visit : www.homebase-hols.com. Contact : Lois Sealey at info@homebase-hols.com

The Horseshoe Inn, Scottish Borders

The Horseshoe Inn is situated in a former blacksmiths shop in Eddleston within the picturesque Scottish Borders, five miles north of Peebles.

It has an award-winning fine dining restaurant, a bar and bistro as well as eight individually decorated bedrooms within the Lodge, a former Victorian primary school.

The Inn will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.horseshoeinn.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

The Hoste, Norfolk UK

The Hoste is a four star boutique retreat located in Nelson's county and surrounded by beautiful countryside, unspoilt coastline, acclaimed nature reserves, picturesque villages and historic market towns.

A little more than a two hour's drive from London, this collection of hotels and luxury cottages with its two AA rosette restaurant and beauty spa, is located in one of Norfolk's loveliest villages, Burnham Market.

The Hoste will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders for review purposes.

Visit : www.thehoste.com. Contact :Kate at kate@thehoste.com.

The Hotel Fort Canning, Singapore

The Hotel Fort Canning, which forms part of Fort Canning Park - an historical landmark in the heart of Singapore, will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders on assignment.

Once used as a base for the British Far East Command pre/post World War II in Singapore, the Hotel Fort Canning has been restored and re-opened as a chic boutique hotel with 86 rooms and suites, two restaurants and a THANN Spa.

Visit : www.hfcsingapore.com. Contact : Karen Luard at kp@KPcommunications.co.uk.

Hungary

Hungary is located in Central Europe and bordered by Austria, Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania, Serbia, Croatia and Slovenia. It is a popular tourist destinations, with Budapest, its capital, regarded as one of the most beautiful in the world.

Despite its relatively small size, the country is home to many World Heritage Sites, UNESCO Biosphere reserves, the second largest thermal lake in the world (Lake Hévíz), the largest lake in Central Europe (Lake Balaton) and the largest natural grassland in Europe (Hortobágy).

Hungarian Tourism will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders able to feature the country.

Visit : www.gotohungary.com. Contact : Karin Jones at media@gotohungary.co.uk.

Independence Missouri

Independence Missouri is happy to work with Alliance press card holders on assignment and will consider lodging, food and admission to attractions and will create customized itineraries.

Visit : www.visitindependence.com. Contact : Janeen Aggen at janeena@sbcglobal.net.

Indianapolis, Indiana

Indianapolis - the Circle City has it all.

An artificial city laid down on the swampy marshes of a non-navigable river, Indy should have been a sleepy, small-town state capital. But with humility and competitive spirit, a quietly determined people created a great city from the ground up. Endowed with few natural advantages, the city was built by people who did not accept excuses.

Today two downtown landmarks, Monument Circle and Indiana War Memorial Plaza, are among America's great urban spaces. With a diverse roster of residential areas, from downtown's quaint Lockerbie Square to its retro Fountain Square to funky Broad Ripple not far away, Indy feels like home.

While famous for fast cars, Indianapolis is winning praise for reinventing the bicycle and pedestrian experience and the city enjoys a rich African-American legacy and unique local cuisine linked to history and cherished traditions

Visit : www.visitindy.com. Contact : Morgan Greenlee at MGreenlee@visitindy.com.

The Inn on Fifth, Naples, Florida

The Inn on Fifth is a luxurious, 87-room boutique hotel in the heart of downtown Naples in Southwest Florida will be delighted to consider accommodations for Alliance press card holders on assignment.

In December 2012, the Inn will offer an additional 32 new club level suites.

Visit : www.innonfifth.com. Contact : Katharina Lane at katharina@hayworthcreative.com

Juneau, Alaska

Juneau, Alaska's scenic capital city, has cosmopolitan charm and rich history combined with the stunning wilderness of the Tongass National Forest and the bountiful waters of the Inside Passage.

Juneau is Southeast Alaska's hub with convenient air and ferry service to Inside Passage communities and to Glacier Bay National Park, Seattle (only 2 hours) and Anchorage.

Visitors can :

- enjoy Alaska's most accessible glacier
- fly over the Juneau Icefield
- discover the State Museum
- gaze at humpback and orca whales
- take a glacier cruise
- tour a historic gold mine
- ride the Mount Roberts Tram
- savour fresh Alaskan seafood
- shop downtown galleries, and
- catch salmon and watch sea lions, seals, eagles and bears.

Juneau also has a thriving arts community with a local symphony, two major state wide music festivals, an award-winning theatre and countless local artists.

The Juneau Convention and Visitors Bureau will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the city.

Visit : www.traveljuneau.com. Contact : Elizabeth Arnett at elizabeth.arnett@traveljuneau.com.

Kempinski Hotels worldwide

Hoteliers since 1897, Kempinski has travelled the world in search of the most fascinating destinations without ever forgetting the finest traditions of its European heritage.

With luxury holiday resorts, business and Spa hotels around the world, every Kempinski Hotel is unique, designed for guests who value five star holidays and luxury getaways.

Kempinski will be pleased to consider providing accommodation to International Travel Writers Alliance press card holders on a case-by-case basis.

Visit: www.kempinski.com. Contact: Hilary Philpott at hilary.philpott@kempinski.com

Kempinski Gold Coast City, Accra, Ghana

The five-star Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City, is set to open early 2013, next to the Accra International Conference Centre, State House and National Theatre.

The hotel is the centrepiece of Accra Gold Coast City, a new downtown for the capital.

The Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City will be delighted to consider press visits for Alliance press card holders on a case-by case basis.

Visit : www.kempinski.com/accra. Contact Kathryn Peel at kathryn@ophirpr.co.uk.

Kempinski Hotels in Russia

St Petersburg

The Kempinski Hotel Moika 22 is located in a charming and historical area, in the very heart of St Petersburg, on the Moika River, opposite the renowned Hermitage Museum and Palace Square.

The Hotel is just two minutes walk from the Nevsky Prospect and close to all major sights and shopping.

Moscow

The 5 star Hotel Baltshug Kempinski Moscow offers the best views of the Kremlin. Located in the heart of Moscow.

Gelendzhik

The Kempinski Grand Hotel Gelendzhik, is a new luxury resort and congress hotel on the Black Sea coast of Russia.

Kempinski will be pleased to consider providing accommodation to International Travel Writers Alliance press card holders on a case-by-case basis.

Visit: www.kempinski.com. Contact: Hilary Philpott at hilary.philpott@kempinski.com.

Kissimmee

Kissimmee, a short drive south of Orlando, puts visitors right in the middle of all the areas attractions including Walt Disney World®, Universal Orlando® and SeaWorld® Orlando.

There is also the chance to go flying across the water on a thrilling airboat ride and discover a world alive with tropical birds, turtles and legendary alligators.

Travel to Old Town or tour the brick-lined streets of Celebration, where colourful restaurants offer a variety of dining options and unique shopping possibilities.

Visit Kissimmee will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders on assignment.

Visit : www.visitkissimmee.com. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at fiona@cellet.co.uk.

Ker & Downey Botswana

Ker & Downey Botswana, located in the heart of the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve, will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Visit : www.kerdowneybotswana.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com

La Residencia Mallorca

La Residencia, Mallorca will consider offering one or two night's bed and breakfast accommodation from mid September-May to Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Visit : www.laresidencia.com. Contact : Louise Davis at louise.davis@laresidencia.com

Linthwaite House Hotel, Lake Windemere, Cumbria, UK

Located on 14 acres of peaceful, picturesque grounds and overlooking Lake Windermere, Linthwaite House is a luxury hotel in the Lake District. The hotel's grounds are perfect for a peaceful stroll and trout fishing is available in the estate's own tarn.

Linthwaite House will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.linthwaitehousehotel.com. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

LocalGuiding

LocalGuiding is an online service connecting travellers with independent, local tour guides in destinations worldwide. It currently has guides in over 500 destinations in 100 countries worldwide - and is recruiting new guides all the time.

***LocalGuiding* has tour guides in :**

Albania	Dominica	Latvia	Slovenia
Angola	Ecuador	Lithuania	South Africa
Argentina	Egypt	Malawi	South Korea
Armenia	England	Malaysia	Spain
Australia	Estonia	Malta	Sri Lanka
Austria	Ethiopia	Mauritius	Switzerland
Bangladesh	France	Mexico	Syria
Barbados	Georgia	Monaco	Tanzania
Belarus	Germany	Morocco	Thailand
Belgium	Greece	Myanmar	The Bahamas
Belize	Guatemala	Namibia	Tunisia
Bhutan	Honduras	Nepal	Turkey
Bolivia	Hong Kong	Netherlands	Uganda
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Hungary	Panama	Ukraine
Botswana	Iceland	Peru	United Arab Emirates
Brazil	India	Philippines	United States of America
Bulgaria	Indonesia	Poland	Uruguay
Cambodia	Ireland	Portugal	Uzbekistan
Canada	Israel	Puerto Rico	Venezuela
Chile	Italy	Republic of Serbia	Vietnam
China	Jamaica	Romania	Zambia
Colombia	Japan	Russia	Zimbabwe
Costa Rica	Jordan	Saint Kitts and Nevis	
Croatia	Kazakhstan	Scotland	
Cuba	Kenya	Senegal	
Czech Republic	Kyrgyzstan	Slovakia	

LocalGuiding will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders looking for a local tour guide in the destinations it covers.

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

Loch Melfort Hotel, Argyll, Scotland

The Loch Melfort is a family run hotel on the coast of Argyll, set in the Scottish West Highlands. All rooms have sea views over Asknish Bay towards Jura, Shuna and Scarba.

The Asknish Bay Restaurant has been awarded two Rosettes by the AA every year since 2000.

The Loch Melfort will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.lochmelfort.co.uk/. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

Lovelady Shield, Cumbria, UK

Lovelady Shield is an elegant Georgian Country House Hotel near Alston, Cumbria. It stands on the site of a former 13th century convent on the banks of the River Nent and within secluded gardens and un-spoilt countryside.

The hotel can also act as a base from which to visit the UK's Lake District, Hadrian's Wall, the North Pennines, Durham Cathedral and the Yorkshire Dales.

The hotel has 2 rosette awards from the AA , and their restaurant provides elegant surroundings in which to enjoy the award winning cuisine prepared by our Master Chef, Barrie Garton.

Lovelady Shield will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.lovelady.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

Love Loch Lomond, Scotland

Love Loch Lomond is a group of tourism operators passionate about the Loch Lomond and Clyde Sea Lochs area will be delighted to host press visits for Alliance press card holders as well as to offer a range of story ideas and activities.

Visit: www.lovelochlomond.com. Contact: Johanna Campbell at Johanna@johannacampbell.com.

Mallorca Hotels: Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Hotel Tres and Hotel Dalt Murada, and Hotel Mar i Vent, Mallorca

Mallorca Hotels will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance press card holders with a commission for city breaks to Palma and spa & yoga, cycling, walking, hiking, cultural on the island.

Visit : www.hotelbonsol.es, www.hoteltres.com, www.daltmurada.com and www.hotelmarivent.com.

Contact : Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com.

The Marriott Paris Champs-Elysees, Paris

The Marriott Paris Champs-Elysees, the only five-star hotel on the Champs-Elysees, will be happy to offer accommodation to Alliance press card holders who are in the city on an assignment.

Visit: www.parismarriott.com. Contact: Bernice Saltzer at bernice@sortedpr.com

Michael Neave Kitchen and Whisky Bar, Edinburgh, Scotland

Michael Neave Kitchen and Whisky Bar has recently opened on Old Fishmarket Close in the heart of Edinburgh's old town.

It is the first acquisition by the young chef who has worked with talented chefs from The Bonham and the Amber restaurant in the Scotch Whisky Experience.

Michael Neave Kitchen and Whisky Bar will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.michaelneave.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

Mir Corporation

Mir Corporation will consider offering tours to Alliance press card holders on assignment. Mir Corporation is a well-established tour-operator specialising in tours to Russia, the Trans-Siberian Railroad and tours to Central Asia.

Visit : www.mircorp.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com

Newcastle Gateshead Marriott Hotel Metrocentre

Newcastle Gateshead Marriott Hotel Metrocentre has completed a £500,000 refurbishment to its leisure facilities.

The hotel, which is next to the Metrocentre, the biggest shopping centre in Europe, will be happy to host Alliance press card holders who would like to visit the North East of the UK.

Visit : www.marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/nclgh-newcastle-gateshead-marriott-hotel-metrocentre
Contact : Bernice Saltzer at bernice@SortedPR.com.

New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises

New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises will be delighted to host Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Visit: www.circleline42.com. Contact: Lisa Chamberlain at lisa.chamberlain@btinternet.com

Norfolk Hideaways

Norfolk Hideaways is a holiday cottage/self-catering holiday company with 200 coastal cottages in North Norfolk.

Norfolk Hideaways will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders on assignment. Press trips are available and subject to dates and availability.

Visit : www.norfolkhideaways.co.uk. Contact : Danielle Howard at danielle@junglepr.com.

The Oetker Collection - Masterpiece Hotels

The Oetker Collection - Masterpiece Hotels are one-of-a-kind, five-star hotels individually designed, with a unique character and distinctive atmosphere. They are situated in some of the world's most appealing locations, such as Antibes, Baden-Baden, Marrakesh, Paris and Venice.

The Oetker Collection will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.oetkercollection.com. Contact : Julia Perowne at jp@verypcc.com

One World Trekking

One World Trekking has been a leader in Worldwide Adventure Travel with two decades of experience in creating and guiding unique trekking and hiking itineraries across the globe.

It offers small group trekking trips and adventure tours to the Himalayan kingdoms of Nepal, Bhutan, Ladakh, Tibet, Sikkim, the Karakoram and to Eastern Europe, Africa and South America.

One World Trekking will be delighted to consider providing Alliance press card holders with trips for review purposes.

Visit : www.oneworldtrekking.com. Contact : Andy Crisconi at andy.crisconi@oneworldtrekking.com.

Pembrokeshire, South West Wales

Pembrokeshire, South Wales will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders with a commission in suitable media.

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

The Pheasant Inn, The Lake District UK

Located at the bottom of Sale Fell and close to Bassenthwaite Lake, the Pheasant Inn dates back to the 17th century and was the haunt of huntsman John Peel. It is situated at the unspoilt northern end of the Lake District, within easy reach of Keswick and Cockermouth.

The hotel bar, one of the most well known bar in the Lake District, is full of local character and characters some of whom are very knowledgeable and opinionated! The Pheasant Inn will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.the-pheasant.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

Philadelphia

Philadelphia might be known as the birthplace of American democracy, but you'll find it's an ideal destination to explore its colorful neighborhoods, learn more about its rich history and delve into its spectacular sites and attractions.

Philly has all the excitement of big-city life with a quaint, hometown feel.

The Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the city.

Visit : www.philadelphiausa.travel. Contact : Greg Evans at g.p.evans@btinternet.com.

Pismo Beach, California

Pismo Beach is located on California's famous Central Coast, half way between San Francisco and Los Angeles along the scenic Pacific Coast Highway and Highway 101.

This classic California beach town offers long white beaches for taking a pleasant stroll or for just enjoying the spectacular views of a Pismo Beach sunset.

Visitors also enjoy great weather year round, local wineries, golfing, riding the dunes in a four-wheel ATV on California's only drive-on beach, horseback riding, surfing, body boarding and fishing from the historic Pismo Beach Pier.

The Pismo Beach Conference & Visitors Bureau will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are interested in featuring this destination.

For more information, please visit www.ClassicCalifornia.com, or contact Courtney Winters at cwinters@pismo beach.org.

The Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania

The Pocono Mountains region is 2,400 square miles of mountains, lakes, rivers, waterfalls and woodlands in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The four-county region offers year round outdoor recreation, seasonal festivals and fairs, lavish spas and fine dining. The Pocono Mountains is two hours from both Philadelphia and New York City.

The Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau will be delighted to consider press trip requests from Alliance press cardholders.

Visit : www.800poconos.com. Contact : Elizabeth A. Richardson at Erichardson@poconos.org.

Ravenstone Manor, Keswick, Cumbria UK

Ravenstone Manor is a family run hotel situated just a short drive from the market town of Keswick in the Lake District.

Overlooking Bassenthwaite Lake, and set against the backdrop of Skiddaw, Ravenstone Manor provides guests with a vantage point to fully appreciate the beauty of the Lake District. The grounds of the Hotel are a great start for many walks for any ability; a short amble through Dodd Wood looking for Ospreys nesting or the odd deer to a hike to the summit of Skiddaw.

Ravenstone Manor will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.ravenstonemanor.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

Québec, Canada

Québec is a unique land in North America. Unique for its geography, its history and its culture, which together have forged its bold and exuberant identity.

The region is multi-faceted geography, diverse landscapes, vegetation and climate and a rich history spanning five centuries, from colonial regime to the present-day challenge of maintaining the cultural vitality of this culture in North America!

Summer, fall, winter and spring: the contrasting seasons bring this vast territory to life, offering you four spectacular opportunities to discover the many faces of Québec!

Destination Québec will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the area.

Visit : www.bonjourquebec.com. Contact : Caroline Corfield-Rose at caroline@corecommunications.co.uk.

Reykjavik Bike Tours

Reykjavik Bike Tours will provide press tours of Iceland's capital for Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.icelandbike.com. Contact : Stefan Helgi Valsson at valsson@centrum.is

Rockford, Illinois

Rockford is located in north central Illinois, just south of Wisconsin, halfway between Galena and Chicago.

Rockford life centers around the Rock River, which may divide the east side from the west, but brings people together for events such as the :

- Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition
- Fourth of July Festival
- Ski Broncs Water Ski Shows
- Rockford Art Museum
- Greenwich Village Art Fair and Rockford Art Guild's Artists' Fair
- On the Waterfront, Illinois' largest street music festival
- Music in the Park, and
- Holiday Festival of Lights.

Several museums cluster in Riverfront Museum Park on the west bank and Sinnissippi Gardens and Park stretch along the east bank. A trail network links them all.

Rockford continues to develop its waterfront by converting industrial sites into parks and public areas, such as Davis Park at Founder's Landing.

Visit : www.gorockford.com. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at fiona@cellet.co.uk.

Rosalie Bay Resort, Dominica

Rosalie Bay Resort, an eco-luxury and wellness retreat on the Nature Island of Dominica in the Caribbean, located along the Atlantic Ocean at the edge of a UNESCO World Heritage site,

The Rosalie Bay will be happy to consider accommodations for Alliance members on assignment.

Visit : www.rosaliebay.com. Contact: Julie Harper at julie@madiganpratt.com.

The Royal Park and The Cranley, London

The Royal Park and The Cranley, two luxury, boutique hotels located in central London are delighted to welcome Alliance press card holders with suitable commissions.

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

Rushton Hall Hotel and Spa, Northamptonshire

Rushton Hall Hotel and Spa offers guests the chance to stay in what has been a stately home in rural Northampton since 1438.

Everything about Rushton Hall is grand from the moment you pass through its heavy timber doors. Most stunning, however, is the great hall with its magnificent timber roofing, ornate plasterwork, stained glass windows and fireplace.

Rushton Hall will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.rushtonhall.com. Contact : jacky Mcaulay at j.Mcaulay@rushtonhall.com.

Saigon Streets

Saigon Streets, which run 3 to 3.5 hour street food tours in Ho Chi Minh City, will be delighted to provide Alliance press card holders with a tour for review purposes.

Visit : www.saigonstreeteats.com. Contact : Barbara Adam at theboss@thedropoutdiaries.com.

Sail Lofts St Ives

This group of 12 award winning luxury holiday apartments surrounding a central courtyard, just metres from Porthmeor Beach in St Ives, with their own 'holistic' Ocean Spa, will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Visit: www.thesaillofts.co.uk. Contact: Peter Hutchinson at peter@thesaillofts.co.uk.

Secret London – An unusual guide Secret London – Unusual bars & restaurants

Following the success of “Secret London – An unusual guide” (Amazon bestseller) Jonglez Publishing has launch its first iPhone applications:

- Secret London – An unusual guide, and
- Secret London – Unusual bars & restaurants

Alliance press card holders able to review the applications can receive a code to download the app for free (iPhone users only).

Visit : www.itwalliance.com. Contact : Alexandre Thery at alexandre@editionsjonglez.com.

Shama and Shama Luxe

Shama and premier brand Shama Luxe is a collection of Asia based luxury boutique serviced apartments.

Shama:

Shama Sukhumvit, Bangkok
Shama Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
Shama Central, Hong Kong
Shama Fortress Hill, Hong kong
Shama Hollywood, Hong Kong

Shama Midlevels, Hong kong
Shama Tsim Sha Tsui, Hong kong
Shama Wanchai, Hong Kong
Shama Century Park, Shanghai
Shama Xujiahui, Shanghai

Shama Luxe:

Shama Luxe Grand Central, Dalian
Shama Luxe Xintiandi, Shanghai
Shama luxe Huashan, Shanghai

Shama and brand Shama Luxe will be delighted to consider providing accommodation to Alliance press card holders on a case-by-case basis.

Visit : www.shama.com. Contact : Jessica Flood AT JessicaF@hillsbalfour.com.

Shakespeare Country, UK

Shakespeare Country UK will host Alliance press card holders 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 Aspinwall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk

Shieldhill Castle, the Clyde Valley, Scotland

Shieldhill Castle hotel is a 4 star hotel set in the upper Clyde valley 30 minutes from both Edinburgh and Glasgow.

The Castle dates back to 1199 and offers great character and charm amongst elegant surroundings. The principal building has 16 en suite bedrooms, and the newly refurbished stable block has created a courtyard setting for an extra 10 en suite rooms.

Chancellor's restaurant, set within the Castle itself, has won numerous food and wine awards, including a two Rosette distinction from the AA.

In the grounds of the Castle and the surrounding areas, there is falconry, paintballing, clay pigeon shooting, helicopter flights, hot air balloon rides, fishing and golf.

Shieldhill Castle will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.shieldhillcastlehotel.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

St Mary's Hall Hotel, Scilly

St Mary's Hall Hotel, the Isles of Scilly is happy to provide press trip opportunities to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.stmaryshallhotel.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk

Swaziland and Malawi

Geo Group will be delighted to consider press trips to either Swaziland or Malawi for Alliance press card holders with suitable commissions.

Visit : www.thekingdomofswaziland.com and www.malawitourism.com. Contact: Kelly White at tourism@geo-group.co.uk

Talbot County, Maryland USA

The Talbot County Office of Tourism promotes the pristine landscapes, waterscapes, and small hamlets along the "Hamptons of the Chesapeake Bay".

The Towns of St. Michaels, Oxford, Easton, and Tilghman Island offer a wealth of small town charm with metropolitan amenities.

Outdoor recreational opportunities abound at every corner - with five rivers, two bays and hundreds of creeks and tributaries, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, and yachting can be enjoyable throughout the seasons of Spring, Summer and Fall.

Year round entertainment at local theatres and nightclubs, art festivals and galleries, culinary events, and cultural treasures add to the Talbot County experience.

The Talbot County Office of Tourism will be delighted to consider press trips for Alliance press card holders on assignment.

Visit : www.talbgov.org. Contact : Debbi Dodson at ddodson@talbgov.org.

The Taskonaklar Boutique Hotel, Turkey

The Taskonaklar Boutique Hotel is located in Uçhisar, the highest town in the Turkish region of Cappadocia.

A member of Great Hotels of the World, it has rooms and suites carved into volcanic formations with the accommodations combines subterranean spaces, rough-hewn walls and stone archways with fresh air in the form of terraces and balconies, with stunning views.

The Taskonaklar Boutique Hotel will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.taskonaklar.com. Contact : Tolga Akarcalı at tolga@taskonaklar.com.

theExplorateur

theExplorateur reviews hotels, shops, restaurants and travel-related products around the world.

theExplorateur will consider offering Alliance press card the opportunity to review any of its properties.

Visit : www.theExplorateur.com. Contact Gabriella Ribeiro Truman at gabriella@trumarketing.com

Three Nelson Hotels in Cheshire, UK

The Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa, The Pheasant Inn and The Bear's Paw will be happy to accommodate Alliance press card holders with a commission.

Visit : www.grosvenorpulfordhotel.co.uk, www.thepheasantinn.co.uk and www.thebearspaw.co.uk
Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com

Tipi Adventure, Herefordshire UK

Tipi Adventure offers alternative UK holidays on the River Wye in Herefordshire.

Here visitors can stay in luxury tipis along the riverside and take part in daily paddles along the river itself in Canadian Canoes.

The holidays are suitable for anyone aged four upwards and as tuition and buoyancy aids are provided, no previous canoeing experience is required.

Tipi Adventure would be delighted to hear from any Alliance press card holders who would like to know more about the company. Media visits are also available outside of the peak school holiday periods.

Visit : www.tipiadventure.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh:
samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk

Tongabezi, Zambia

Tongabezi Lodge is the first Zambezi River lodge on the Zambian side of Victoria Falls.

Privately owned and run it was voted among the world's finest places to stay in Condé Nast Traveler's 2008 Gold List.

Tongabezi Lodge will be delighted to consider providing Alliance press card holders with stays at the Lodge for review purposes.

Visit : www.tongabezi.com. Contact : Sanja Cloete-Jones at sanja@tongabezi.com.

Utah

The US state of Utah attracts outdoor enthusiasts offering national Parks, ski resorts and golf courses.

Within the state is to be found Park City, historic Temple Square, St George, Lake Powell and, of course, Salt Lake City.

Visitors come to ski or snowboard "The Greatest Snow on Earth," to mountain bike Slickrock in Moab Utah, take summer whitewater rafting down Cataract Canyon, or visit the Old West.

The Utah Office of Tourism will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the state.

Visit : www.utah.com. Contact : Caroline Corfield-Rose at caroline@corecommunications.co.uk.

The Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

Recreation, history, retail and the arts intersect in the Valley Forge area.

Located 18 miles west of downtown Philadelphia, it is most often remembered as the site of George Washington's winter encampment of 1777-1778, where the army was transformed from a rag-tag band of soldiers into the fighting force that went on to win the American Revolution.

Visitors today can enjoy the tranquil beauty of Valley Forge National Historical Park's 3,500 acres of rolling hillsides and sparkling streams.

In the spring, flowering dogwoods, red buds and mountain laurel dot the landscape and, in the fall, the countryside explodes with yellow, red and orange.

The Valley Forge Convention & Visitors Bureau will be delighted to hear from Alliance press card holders who are able to feature the area.

Visit : www.valleyforge.org. Contact : Greg Evans at g.p.evans@btinternet.com.

The Villa Rosa Hotel, Nairobi

Kempinski Hotels is set to open one of the country's most luxurious properties, the Villa Rosa Hotel on Chiromo Road as well as tented camp, Olare Camp in a Maasai Mara conservancy in early 2013.

Alliance press card holders are invited to request a press review stay at the the Villa Rosa Hotel and or Olare Camp.

Visit : www.kempinski.com/en/nairobi/hotel-villa-rosa and www.magicalkenya.co.uk. Contact: Hilary Philpott at hilary.philpott@kempinski.com.

Visit Dublin

Visit Dublin offers Alliance press card holders visiting on-assignment a Media Pass (the Dublin Pass), which provides free entry to 34 visitor attractions in Dublin.

Visit : www.visitdublin.com and www.dublinpass.com. Contact : Catherine McCluskey at Catherine.mccluskey@failteireland.ie

Visit Orlando

Visit Orlando offers Alliance press card holders visiting on-assignment a complimentary Journalist VIP Passport.

Visit : www.VisitOrlando.com/media. Contact : Amy Rodenbrock at amy.rodenbrock@visitorlando.com

VisitCornwall

Cornwall is located in the far west of Great Britain on a peninsula pointing into the Atlantic Ocean, and with 300 miles of coastline.

Cornwall is also the location of mainland Great Britain's most southerly promontory, The Lizard, and one of the UK's most westerly points, Land's End, while a few miles off shore and even further west is an archipelago of tiny islands that make up the Isles of Scilly.

For Alliance press card holders visiting Cornwall with suitable commissions, VisitCornwall will be pleased to offer bespoke itinerary arrangements and assist in negotiating complimentary or reduced rate accommodation and entry to attractions and activities.

Visit : www.visitcornwall.com. Contact : Julia Hughes at julia.hughes@visitcornwall.com

Wedgwood the Restaurant, Edinburgh, Scotland

Paul Wedgwood and Lisa Channon opened Wedgwood the Restaurant in 2007.

Paul gains inspiration for his style of dishes from regular travels around the world. Favourite dishes in the restaurant include Panko and black sesame crusted mullet or Pork belly, Diver caught scallops wrapped in caul fat.

Paul is also renowned for using interesting wild herbs and salads which feature regularly on the menu especially at lunchtime.

Wedgwood the Restaurant will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance press card holders able to review.

Visit : www.wedgwoodtherestaurant.co.uk. Contact : Su Hesketh at su@crimsonedge.co.uk.

Welcome to Yorkshire

Welcome to Yorkshire, which is the official Destination Management agency for the English county of Yorkshire, has one clear priority, to make Yorkshire the most popular destination in the UK for business and leisure.

In just two years *Welcome to Yorkshire* has grown the value of the county's tourism and visitor economy from £5.9bn to £7bn per annum.

Welcome to Yorkshire will be delighted to consider press trip opportunities for Alliance press card holders with an appropriate commission.

Visit : www.yorkshire.com/mediacentre. Contact : Graham Poucher at gpoucher@yorkshire.com

The West Somerset Railway, UK

The West Somerset Railway is Britain's longest standard gauge "heritage" railway and runs steam trains on a daily basis from early April to early October.

The route is from Bishops Lydeard (4 miles from the Somerset County Town of Taunton) to the small seaside resort of Minehead and the Railway carries some 200,000 passengers each year.

The West Somerset Railway will be delighted to offer Alliance press card holders free travel on its trains. Please book tickets in advance.

Visit : www.west-somerset-railway.co.uk. Contact : John Simms at john.com@wsrail.net

Wilderness Scotland

Wilderness Scotland is a specialist adventure travel company offering an inspiring range of holidays, journeys and wilderness experiences in the most remote and beautiful regions of the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Established in 2001, its team of guides know the wild places of Scotland better than anyone.

Wilderness Scotland will consider offering press trip facilities to Alliance press card holders.

Visit : www.wildernessscotland.com. Contact: Ben Thorburn at ben@wildernessscotland.com

WildJunket Magazine

WildJunket Magazine is a new-age digital magazine with an emphasis on adventure travel and special interest journey. It is a finalist in the Digital Magazine Awards 2012 for Best Travel Magazine Award. To read a sample issue online : . Password: wjjun88

Alliance press card holders can receive a free annual subscription (four issues) via email. Those interested should email Alberto Molero with name card number and email address.

Visit : www.wildjunketmagazine.com. Contact Alberto Molero at alberto@wildjunket.com.

www.cornwallcottages.co.uk

www.cornwallcottages.co.uk a specialist internet holiday cottage agency with over 230 properties throughout the Duchy, will be delighted to consider offering self-catering accommodation to Alliance press card holders with a commissioned feature.

Visit: www.cornwallcottages.co.uk. Contact: Jess Money at jess@suebradburypr.com

The International Travel Writers Alliance



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

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