



The Alliance

bulletin

Issue 112 : mid-February 2012 : www.itwalliance.com

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

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



[The International Travel Writers Alliance](http://www.itwalliance.com)



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

Registering with the Alliance

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

Opportunities

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

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

Hidden Pousadas Brazil

The word Pousada means “place to land” or “place to stay”, and there are thousands of them throughout Brazil.

The term encompasses places which in other places would be considered bed and breakfasts, or guesthouses/inns- as well as much more sophisticated places, more akin to boutique hotels. They are usually small, and very few in this guide will have more than 11 suites; some only have three or four.

Hidden Pousadas Brazil offers independent travellers to Brazil with a one-stop collection of uniquely places to stay.

Alliance members planning press trips to Brazil outside of high season can arrange visits to pousadas.

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

One Giant leap

The Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill is partnering with the Saatchi Gallery, London's leading contemporary art gallery, to stage a series of three exhibitions at the hotel throughout 2012.

One Giant Leap, has works drawn from the Saatchi Gallery's collection displayed throughout the hotel.

Highlights of the first exhibition are :

- Martin Honert's *Reisen*, a sculpture of two giants, each almost 3-metres high, who appear to have stumbled into the hotel
- a series of small paintings featuring children, teenagers and young athletes by the highly acclaimed painter Chantal Joffe
- Christina Mackie's life-size hippopotamus
- two paintings by Dexter Dalwood in which he imagines what you might find if you were invited into the homes of Liberace and the Queen, and
- Stella Vine's homage to Margaret Thatcher and her husband Denis.

The Hyatt Regency London - The Churchill will be interested in providing accommodation for Alliance members able to review the *One Giant Leap* initiative.

Visit : www.london.churchill.hyatt.com. Contact : Henny Frazer at henny.frazer@hyatt.com.

Pierre & Vacances' spa and ski residences in the French Alps

The Pierre & Vacances group features 120 ski residences and hotels in over 40 major ski resorts across the French Alps and Pyrenees.

Ski enthusiasts who also like to treat themselves to an après-ski treatment can book accommodation at one of Pierre & Vacances' spa and ski residences in the French Alps including :

Le Village, Les Arcs 1950

Le Village is a Savoyard-style district offering eight Premium residences with apartments having a balcony or terrace overlooking the village or the mountain.

The newly launched 'Deep Nature Spa' is located in the lower part of the resort and is designed in the style of a cave with walls made up of rock and timber.

Les Hauts Bois, Aime-La-Plagne

The ski in ski out residence is located in the Paradiski area.

Les Fermes de Méribel

The recently renovated Les Fermes de Méribel is in the centre of Méribel Village. Its six chalets made of wood and stone have ski in ski out facilities, a balcony or terrace.

Visit : www.pierreetvacances.co.uk.

For press trip information contact : Jenny Groutage jenny@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Adventure Cat Sailing, San Francisco

Experience the best in San Francisco sailing on the beautiful San Francisco Bay with Adventure Cat Sailing Charters.

ACS's sunset sails and relaxing afternoon Bay cruises are the way to see the breathtaking San Francisco cityscape and San Francisco's top sightseeing attractions.

Consistently voted among the top five things to do in San Francisco, CA. Adventure Cat Sailing combines the romance of The City with the adventure of the sea.

Adventure Cat Sailing will be delighted to 'comp' Alliance travel writers.

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

Teva's SS12 Water Range

Adventure shoe brand Teva®, a division of Deckers Outdoor, has introduced a range of wet conditions foot ware for trekking, wakeskating, kayaking and rafting.

Among the range :

- the Teva Fuse-Ion is a sneaker-styled, ripstop and mesh water shoe
- the Teva Gnarkosi is an aggressively styled wakeskating and casual wear shoe
- designed in collaboration with professional wakeskaters, and
- the Cherry Bomb 2 is a specialist kayaking and rafting boot endorsed by
- the US National Raft Team.

Visit : www.teva.com. To request review products contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

Great Country Pubs in England's south east

Great Country Pub by Tourism South East, is a new membership-based organisation dedicated to highlighting dedicated to English inns located throughout Kent, East Sussex, West Sussex, Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Surrey, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire.

The organisation and a new website forms the platform for Tourism South East's new Great Country Pubs campaign. Media visits are available for review purposes.

Visit: www.greatcountrypubs.com. Contact : Claire Winsor at claire@humewhitehead.co.uk.

Creative Nonfiction, Australia

Creative Nonfiction (www.creativenonfiction.org), in association with Tashmadada (www.tashmadada.com), seeks new essays for a special Australia issue.

The publication is looking for a variety of perspectives and will consider essays of all forms and focuses as long as Australia's landscape, people, and/or culture are prominently featured; the stories are true and submissions are previously unpublished.

Submissions will be judged by Lee Gutkind (USA) and Leah Kaminsky (AUS) and the Writers Conversation is sponsoring two cash prizes:

- \$6,500 (AUD) for Best Essay,
- \$2,500 (AUD) for Best Essay by an Australian Writer

All other submissions will be considered by the judges for inclusion in Creative Nonfiction #46: Australia, which will be launched at the 2012 Melbourne Writers Festival (www.mwf.com.au).

To submit :visit: www.creativenonfiction.org.

International press trips to Birmingham

The city of Birmingham is looking to work with journalists of international publications to generate awareness of the city as a UK weekend break.

Birmingham has been named as one of the top 20 places to visit in 2012 by the New York Times.

Alliance members who write for an international outlet in Europe or the USA and would like to be considered for a media visit will :

- enjoy Birmingham for a weekend of fine dining, arts, performance and relaxation
- stay at Staying Cool, the city's 5* apartments in the Rotunda, an iconic building with panoramic views
- enjoy the newly opened rooftop champagne bar at the Cube
- visit the Jewellery Quarter, which produces more jewellery than anywhere else in Britain
- dine at some of the city's top Michelin-starred restaurants, the city with more Michelin stars than any other English regional city, and
- take a short trip away from historic centres of Stratford upon Avon, Kenilworth and Warwick

Visit : www.visitbirmingham.com. Contact : Rebecca Cleaver| at rebeccac@hillsbalfour.com.

Luxury Backpackers guides

Luxury Backpackers guides are available in download version or as hard copy and can also be purchased as individual sections.

Alliance members are invited to request review copies.

Visit : www.luxurybackpackers.com. Contact : Jill Nash at jill@luxurybackpackers.com.

Norfolk Hideaways, UK

Norfolk Hideaways specialises in providing luxury self-catering holiday cottages along the north Norfolk coastline from traditional fisherman's cottages to country houses sleeping up to 16 people.

Norfolk Hideaways will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission.

Visit : www.norfolkhideaways.co.uk Contact : Kate Morfoot at kate@junglepr.com.

Newmarket Racecourses

Newmarket Racecourses is the historic 'Home of Racing.' As well as two Racecourses, the majestic Rowley Mile and the quintessentially English July Course, the destination has exceptional restaurants, a wide selection of bookable private spaces and, of course, world class racing with 38 days of flat racing each year.

As well as this Newmarket Racecourses play host to world-class music nights, where Tom Jones, James Blunt and Madness have all featured!

Visit : www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk. To review a day at the races, the food and entertainment contact Rachael@junglepr.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

Hyatt Regency Hotel – The Churchill

Situated in the heart of the West End, with views over Portman Square, this five-star hotel is perfectly placed for London's main shopping areas and tourist attractions. The business district is also within easy access.

Each of the hotel's well-appointed guest rooms and suites offer extreme comfort in elegant surroundings. Guests can enjoy European seasonal dishes in The Montagu which was recently award two AA rosettes, award-winning Italian cuisine at Locanda Locatelli and cocktails in The Churchill Bar.

This luxurious hotel has strong links with the contemporary art world and is currently displaying works of art from the Saatchi Gallery. It offers the highest levels of standards and service.

Visit : www.london.churchill.hyatt.com. Contact : Henny Frazer at henny.frazer@hyatt.com.

Destination Resorts, Malaysia

Destination Resorts was formed by the Malaysian Government's investment arm to develop premier integrated lifestyle resorts and hotels to enhance Malaysia's tourism portfolio.

Its investment portfolio comprises of the development of Desaru Coast and Teluk Datai projects, including the internationally renowned The Datai, Langkawi which will be further complemented by development of world-class resorts and residences nestled between the lush rainforest and stunning waters of the Andaman Sea.

Desaru Coast, a beach-front integrated resort development that spans across 17 kilometers, located at the Southern region of Malaysia in the state of Johor, promises an array of luxury resorts amidst a retail shopping arcade, convention centre, attractions and two golf courses designed by distinguished golfers, Ernie Els and Vijay Singh.

Visit : www.destinationresorts.com. Contact : Yin May Lau at communications@destinationresorts.com.my.

Tourism South East (USA)

Tourism South East is a membership-based organisation, working to the principles of 'not-for-profit', reinvesting any surplus for industry benefit.

It offers a mix of tourism services – our widely-based membership packages; our marketing, domestic and international, PR and web promotions and contract services; our training and skills development courses, our research and insight services, and our support for and direct management of Tourist Information Centres.

It works with a whole variety of partners – private, public and third sector – to ensure tourism brings optimum benefit to visitors, operators and local communities alike.

Visit : www.tourismsoutheast.com. Contact : Katy Bell at kbell@tourismse.com.

The Fox Cities, Wisconsin (USA)

The Fox Cities offer Wisconsin's best shopping getaway. Come for a weekend of shopping, some family fun or a relaxing urban retreat.

Enjoy the culture, dining and nightlife in Appleton, the historic charm of Neenah, and the riches of our 18 communities along the shores of Lake Winnebago and the Fox River.

Visit : www.foxcities.org. Contact : Pam Seidl at pseidl@foxcities.org.

Exploratorium (USA)

The Exploratorium is a museum of science, art, and human perception located in San Francisco, California.

The Exploratorium believes that following your curiosity and asking questions leads to amazing moments of discovery, learning, and awareness, and can increase confidence in your ability to understand how the world works.

The Exploratorium also believe that being playful and having fun is an important part of the process for people of all ages.

Visit : www.exploratorium.edu. Contact : pubinfo@exploratorium.edu.

Janice Liverseidge (UK)

Janice is an industry qualified and registered tourist guide for London and surrounding areas. Member of the Institute of Tour Guiding and Association of Professional Tour Guides. Specialist areas are Georgian London, music, architecture, food and wine tours.

Visit : www.rsm.ac.uk. Contact : Janice Liverseidge at janice.liverseidge@rsm.ac.uk

Orientarsi

Orientarsi is an international travel consultant specialising in custom designed travel in Italy and South France.

Visit : www.orientarsi.org. Contact : Dario Canuto at orientarsi@gmail.com.

Grenada

Grenada is the spice island of the Caribbean.

Famed for its warm welcome to travellers and offering a myriad of holiday experiences.

Get active in the rainforest, trek our lakes, snorkel and dive some of the most intriguing life size statues and wrecks in the region. Indulge your senses at our spice plantations and historic rum factories.

Taste authentic Caribbean food; from haute cuisine to the Fish Fridays outdoor street party.

Grenada's hotels are almost all owner managed and boutique in style, and to make sure the authentic experiences does not change no building can be taller than a palm tree.

Visit : www.grenadagrenadines.com. Contact : Sharon Bernstein at sharon@eyes2market.co.uk.

Seatplans.com

Seatplans.com offers helpful advice on all classes of air travel with accurate seat plans, comprehensive seat statistics, reader and editorial flight reviews and independent news.

Whether you want to find the best place to sit on your next flight or review the experience for others to read, Seatplans.com is your go to air travel resource: www.seatplans.com

Visit : www.seatplans.com. Contact : Scott Carey at scarey101@panaceapublishing.com.

Travel Media Leads

Travel Media Leads service connects travel editors and writers with travel businesses and organizations.

Submit your travel editorial needs to the weekly editorial placement leads newsletter. Receive high quality responses from a variety of travel businesses and organizations that match your request.

Visit : www.travelmedialeads.com. Contact : Paul McKenzie at paul@travelmedialeads.com.

Agencies

Scarlet Green Consulting (UK)

Sales development, marketing and event management consultancy specialised in the hospitality and tourism industry.

Visit : www.scarletgreenconsulting.com. Contact : Sandrine Contier-Lawrie at sandrineclawrie@scarletgreenconsulting.com.

Spring O'Brien (USA)

Spring O'Brien is a public relations and online marketing agency that develops and implements strategic partnerships and communications programs. It has affiliate agencies in select US and Canadian cities.

Along the way they have developed specializations in a broad range of disciplines: travel, real estate, financial services, financial technology, and economic development.

Visit : www.spring-obrien.com. Contact : Lauren Kaufman at info@spring-obrien.com.

Carbonnier Communications

Carbonnier Communications is a boutique marketing and PR firm specializing in wine and food. Our clients include the Cognac Bureau of France, Chateau Palmer, the Comté Cheese Association, Wines of Jura, Plaimont Producteurs, and Return to Terroir.

Visit : www.carbonniercommunications.com. Contact : Nicki Sizemore at nicki@carbonniercommunications.com.

Afandco (USA)

Afandco is a hospitality marketing and public relations firm that represents hotels, restaurants and chefs in the Bay Area and around the country.

Visit : www.afandco.com. Contact : Andrew Freeman at andrew@afandco.com.

Brazen PR

Brazen is a PR agency with various travel clients and can assist in press trips for all journalists with commissions. UK, Europe and worldwide opportunities with variety of clients. feature copy, expert opinions and imagery.

Visit : www.brazenpr.com. Contact : Emma Trimble at emmat@brazenpr.com.

Formula PR (USA)

Formula is a national public relations boutique with offices on both coasts and premier clients across the country. It serves clients in five sectors: consumer products and services; business technology; lifestyle; sports and entertainment; and travel and hospitality.

Visit : www.formulapr.com. Contact : Ashley Miller at miller@formulapr.com.

Turtle PR

Turtle PR is new agency, providing fresh PR solutions to travel and lifestyle clients.

Visit : www.turtle-pr.com. Contact : Leila Stocker at leila@turtle-pr.com

Gregory White PR

Gregory White PR is a full-service, multi-lingual public relations agency specializing in food, wine, beverage, travel, hospitality and lifestyle .

Visit : www.gregorywhitepr.com. Contact : Donna White at donna@gregorywhitepr.com.

News

Prestige Holidays, Bermuda

Prestige Holidays has published it's 2012 Bermuda brochure featuring the Grotto Bay Resort, return economy midweek flights with British Airways from London Gatwick, room only accommodation and ring private VIP airport taxi transfers.

Visit : www.prestigeholidays.co.uk. Liz Blakeborough at Liz@blakeborough.com

The Menzies Welcombe Hotel Spa & Golf Club, Stratford-upon-Avon UK

The Menzies Welcombe Hotel Spa & Golf Club in Stratford-upon-Avon has completed the second phase of its £2.2 million major refurbishment.

Located on the outskirts of Stratford-upon-Avon, the luxury country house hotel is five minutes from junction 15 of the M40.

Visit : www.welcombehotelstratford.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinall at : tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk

Hebridean Island Cruises

Hebridean Island Cruises has been named 'Best Cruise' by the Andrew Harper's Hideaway Report.

Visit : visit www.hebridean.co.uk. Contact : Leanne Gosford at Leanne.gosford@sirencomms.com.

ExperiencePlus! Bicycle Tours

ExperiencePlus! Bicycle Tours celebrates it's 40th anniversary in 2012.

Launched in Italy in 1972 the Colorado-based company now offers global cycling tours to 20 countries on five continents.

Tours during 2012 will take in Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA and Vietnam.

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

Sevierville, Tennessee

Located at the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Sevierville, Tennessee offers luxurious cabin lodging coupled with outdoor experiences and traditional southern cooking.

For a real Smoky Mountain experience there's the chance to visit Ole Smoky Moonshine, Tennessee's first legal moonshine distillery.

Sevierville is Dolly Parton's hometown and the base for the Dollywood theme park and the Titanic museum, which is celebrating the 100th anniversary throughout 2012.

Visit : www.visitsevierville.com. Contact : Jay Kirkpatrick at Jay@sweetmagnoliatours.com.

Turnbury, Scotland

Turnberry, a Luxury Collection Resort in Scotland, has been listed in the TripAdvisor 2012 Travellers' Choice Award in the 'Top 25 Luxury Hotels in the United Kingdom'.

The resort, located on the rugged Ayrshire coast, was the top ranked Scottish resort in the results.

Visit : www.turnberryresort.co.uk. Contact : Vicky Hayes at vicky.hayes@brightergroup.com.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide plans to open an 80 hotels in 2012 with new hotels opening in Asia Pacific, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

Visit : www.starwoodhotels.com. Contact : Imelda McAloon at Imelda.McAloon@starwoodhotels.com.

Leads

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

Flanders' Battlefields and Ghent

The West Flanders region of Belgium is improving the tourism infrastructure for the Battlefield region in preparation of the Commemoration of the Great War centenary in 2014.

Investment in a number of museums, sites and war memorials will be taking place over the next couple of years starting with the In Flanders Field Museum which is currently being renovated and is due for re-opening in June 2011.

As well as the battlefield heritage, the area also boasts a thriving brewing culture with local breweries, hop cultivation and some of the best brews in Flanders.

Visit : www.visitflanders.co.uk. Contact : contact.press@visitflanders.co.uk.

Shark Reef Encounter, London

Shark Reef Encounter at the SEA LIFE London Aquarium feature a shoal of over twenty of the creatures including two 2.8m long brown sharks and a group of sleek black tip reef sharks.

Visit : www.visitsealife.com/London. Contact : Amy Williams at amy@freerange.eu.

The Chamorro cultural theme park, Guam

Guam is the largest of the Mariana Islands located in the western Pacific Ocean and its first Chamorro cultural theme park recreates Chamorro life 500 years ago.

Chamorros are Guam's first inhabitants. Lina'la' Park rests on an actual Chamorro village, dating over 1,000 years ago.

Latte stones, pottery, and other artifacts reveal that villagers lived there until the beginning of the Spanish era in the 17th century.

The park features a visitor center displaying cultural artifacts and a brief film about the Chamorro creation belief. A nature walk filled with tropical flowers, medicinal plants, and fruit trees leads visitors to the recreation of an ancient Chamorro village.

Visit : www.guampedia.com and www.visitguam.com. Contact : Jessica Peterson at jpeterson@visitguam.org.

The American Civil War Trails

The American Civil War Trails are now documented in a new brochure which features routes through of the Southern States, including West Virginia.

The trails have been designed to attract and guide history buffs to the region and include museums, historic small towns, plantations, and military cemeteries that can be visited.

In Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, abolitionist John Brown began a raid, which many consider to be the beginning of the war.

Visit : www.civilwartrails.org. Contact : Jane Wilson at ww@attachecommunications.co.uk.

National Trust winter walks (UK)

With more than 250,000 hectares of countryside and 710 miles of coastline across England, Wales and Northern Ireland there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors with the National Trust.

The charity also looks after for more than 300 houses and gardens, from workers cottages to stately homes, preserving buildings and the stories of the people who lived there

The National Trust runs a large number of guided walks during early 2012.

Visit : www.nationaltrust.org.uk. Contact : Phillip Harper at phillip.harper1@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Yoga in the Dolomites

The silence of yoga has been added to the Dolomite Mountains srl portfolio.

Instructor Egon Castlunger is a certified Hatha Yoga teacher, Zen Shiatsu practitioner, Heilpraktiker, and hiking guide.

Dolomite Mountains srl is the only local company in the Dolomites specialising in adventure travel.

Visit : www.dolomitemountains.com/en. Contact: Alexia Nestora at alexia@lassocommunications.com.

Voyages of Discovery

Luxury small cruise ship mv Discovery has added The Frankincense Trail and Oman to the Holy Land to its 2012 itinerary.

The Frankincense Trail takes in the 'Desert Kingdom', the Lost City of Ubar and Lawrence of Arabia's Petra calling at Salalah (Oman), Sharm-el-Sheikh (Egypt), Aqaba (Jordan) and the final port of Safaga (Egypt).

Oman to the Holy Land cruises around historical hotspots such as Israel, Cyprus and Turkey calling at Salalah (Oman), Sharm-el-Sheikh (Egypt), Aqaba (Jordan), Safaga (Egypt), Sharm-el-Sheikh (Egypt), Sokhna (Egypt), Ashdod (Israel), Haifa (Israel) and Limassol (Cyprus), Fethiye (Turkey), Kusadasi (Turkey) and the final port of Istanbul (Turkey).

Visit : www.voyagesofdiscovery.co.uk. Contact : Natalie Eales at natalie.eales@sirencomms.com.

What's on

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

Beaufort04, Flanders

31 March to 30 September 2012

This triennial art festival features work from European contemporary artists, with installations displayed in all of the nine Flemish coastal municipalities of Panne , Koksijde/Oostduinkerke , Nieuwpoort , Middelkerke/Westende , Ostend , Bredene, De Haan/Wenduine – Blankenberge , and Zeebrugge.

Visit : www.beaufort04.be and www.visitflanders.co.uk. Contact : Anita at anita@visitflanders.co.uk.

Val d'Isère's Classicaval Festival

13 to 15 March 2012

The Val d'Isère's Classicaval Festival, brings internationally acclaimed artists to the baroque church of Saint Bernard de Menthon.

Built in 1664, the enchanting church of Saint Bernard de Menthon makes a really memorable setting for the Classicaval Festival.

Visit : www.festival-classicaval.com and www.valdisere.com. Contact : Charlie Fox at Charlie@grifcopr.com.

Events in Guernsey

Guernsey is an island in the English Channel off the coast of Normandy, France and forms part of the Channel Islands.

Easter Festival of Living History

Friday 6 to Monday 9 April

The Island's rich and sometimes turbulent history is brought to life with the Guernsey History in Action Company's vivid storytelling and performances at Castle Cornet.

www.museum.guernsey.net

Spring Floral Guernsey Festival

Saturday 14 to Sunday 22 April

Experience Guernsey when the Island's wildflowers are at their vibrant best with walks, talks and lectures.

www.floralguernsey.gg

Liberation Day

Wednesday 9 May

This historic day marks Guernsey's annual celebration of freedom and liberation from the occupying German forces in 1945.

Guernsey Photography Festival

Thursday 24 May to Friday 22 June

Now in its third year, this month long photo-fecointed indoor and outdoor exhibitions featuring work by world photographers.

www.guernseyphotographyfestival.com

Guernsey Festival of Comedy

Friday 25 May to Saturday 2 June

Nine days of laughter with cutting edge stand-up from UK and international comedians, comedy club evenings, classic film comedy, open mic nights and Edinburgh Festival previews.

www.happyguernsey.com

Guernsey Music Festival

Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 June

Returning to Guernsey after its successful launch saw it short-listed for Best New Festival at the UK Festival Awards. Visit : www.guernseyfestival.gg

Victor Hugo International Music Festival

Monday 16 to Saturday 21 July

A biennial festival with performances from the world's leading classical performers and brightest new stars. Visit : www.vhfestival.com/

Sark Sheep Racing

Friday 20 and Sunday 22 July

A hugely popular and quirky event: a day at the races, Sark style with sheep and teddy bear jockeys. Visit : www.sark.info

Tennerfest

Monday 1 October to Sunday 11 November

Now in its 15th year diners on Guernsey can look forward to six weeks of menus created from the wealth of local produce, all starting from £10. Visit : www.tennerfest.com

Visit www.visitguernsey.com. Contact : Sarah Heavens at sarah.heavens@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Events in Malta

The island of Malta is a Southern European country consisting of an archipelago situated in the centre of the Mediterranean, south of Sicily, east of Tunisia and north of Libya with Gibraltar to the west. Its capital is Valletta.

The island highlights its historic sites, cuisine and warm temperatures and annual events including :

Malta Carnival

17 to 21 February

Malta carnival, which runs throughout Malta is a long standing tradition, celebrating Malta's history and culture. Visit : www.visitmalta.com/events.

The Malta International Fireworks Festival

29 April 2012

The Malta International Fireworks Festival, is a stunning display set to music and featuring a series of competitive displays by local firework factories. Visit : www.visitmalta.com/events

The Isle of MTV

3 to 8 July 2012

The Isle of MTV is a free open air concert held in June for 50,000 revellers in the Il Fosos Square. It is the largest free European summer music event. Visit : www.isleofmtv.com

The Malta Jazz Festival

19 to 21 July 2012

Malta's Jazz Festival held features a diverse mix of contemporary jazz styles, with performances from top international and Maltese artists. The festival's setting is at the historic Ta'Liesse wharf on Valletta's Grand Harbour. Visit : www.maltajazzfestival.org

Notte Bianca

1 October 2012

The city of Valletta hosts the annual all-night Notte Bianca festival of art, culture in Valletta's museums, historical buildings, private and public art galleries and other cultural institutions.

It is a mix of music, dance, film and theatre in a celebration of Maltese culture. Visit : nottebiancamalta.com.

The Rolex Middle Sea Race

20 to 31 October 2012

The Mediterranean offshore Rolex Middle Sea Race sees thousands of spectators gathering around Malta's Yacht Club to watch the yacht's sail. Visit www.rolexmiddlesearace.com.

Air Malta

Air Malta, the National Airline, flies from 40 scheduled destinations in Europe, North Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean.

Visit : www.visitmalta.com and www.airmalta.com. Contact Gail Palmer at gail@ktapr.com.

Reasons to write about

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

The bears on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada

Spring on Vancouver Island see the reawakening of the bears and an opportunity to view grizzly and Blackbeard as they emerge from winter's slumber.

There's also the chance to spot wolves, bald eagles, waterfowl and warblers.

Visit : www.tiderip.com; www.Grizzlytours.com and www.Greatbeartours.com

To read more story ideas from the Vancouver Island region visit www.hellobc.com/vancouverislandmedia. Contact Carla Mont at Carla.mont@gov.bc.ca.

Family adventure vacations

Greenloons is a Virginia based company providing family vacation planners worldwide with information about responsible, sustainable, and certified ecotourism travel vacations in the U.S. and internationally

Yosemite Park & Napa Valley

Wildlife, camping, Yosemite and paddling the Russian River in Sonoma wine country keep families close to the land while combining adventure and cultural diversity.

Costa Rica Highlights Wonders

Specially designed for the first-time visitor to Costa Rica, families will experience hiking through La Paz Waterfall Gardens and Arenal Volcano National Park, rafting down the Pacuare River and relaxing at a beach resort near the Manuel Antonio National Park.

San Diego, Grand Canyon & Vegas

A guided city tour incorporates Coronado Island and Balboa Park and the rest is pure action, except for relaxing on Mission Beach.

Trip includes the Imperial Sand Dunes, Montezuma Castle and scenic Oak Creek Canyon, Red Rock and Slide Rock state parks and the Grand Canyon.

Kayak Belize

Island-hopping off the coast of Belize and exploring the second-largest barrier reef in the world.

Mexico Monarch Butterfly Trail

This butterfly adventure will give families unique insights into the people and mariposas of Mexico. Travel through national parks, colonial towns and rural countryside following the migration of the monarch butterfly.

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

VisitScotland

VisitScotland has launched its Surprise Yourself campaign as part of the Year of Creative Scotland 2012.

The campaign highlights :

Please credit www.visitscotland.com/surprise if using any of the below information.

The Scottish Borders, where :

You can stand with one foot in Scotland and one in England at Carter Bar, and have 360° views of both countries, and

There are two champion haggis-makers.

Shetland where :

Nowhere is more than 5km from the sea, which is warmed by the Gulf Stream current

there are 6,000-plus archaeological sites, with the world renowned Old Scatness dig and Jarlshof in the South Mainland, and

the Vikings referred to Whalsay as 'the island of whales' and it remains a great viewing spot for passing whales.

Dumfries & Galloway where :

The Galloway Forest Park extends to 96,600 hectares which includes 300 miles of roads, one million trees and 250 lochs.

Ayrshire where :

Culzean Castle and Country Park Garden is the National Trust for Scotland's most visited property

Edinburgh where :

the Scottish Ancestral Trail provides personalised tours and expert guidance from a professional genealogist, as well as access to records not normally open to the public, and

the National Galleries of Scotland contain one of the world's foremost collections of Scottish and international art dating from the Middle Ages right up to the present day.

Visit : www.visitscotland.com/surprise. Contact : Glendale Reid at glenda.reid@visitscotland.com

A place to stay

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

The Churchill Hyatt Regency, London

The Churchill is opening its Limited Edition Saatchi Gallery Suite enabling guests to sleep among a collection of Saatchi Gallery works.

Visit : www.hyatt.com. Contact Henny Frazer at henny.frazer@hyatt.com.

Mövenpick Hotels and Resorts : Paris

Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts is to open its first hotel in Paris, in January 2013. The upscale hotel group will take over operations of the hotel – currently branded as Courtyard by Marriott Paris Neuilly.

The hotel, which will be the 100th in its portfolio, is situated on Boulevard Victor Hugo in Neuilly, the French capital's exclusive residential district and the heart of the 'golden business triangle' of Neuilly-sur-Seine, Levallois Perret, and the futuristic corporate centre of La Défense.

A multi-million-euro renovation of the hotel is scheduled to take place.

Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts currently has 69 hotels in 24 countries with a further 30 properties planned in Ankara, (Turkey), Dubai (four projects – United Arab Emirates); Abu Dhabi (three projects – United Arab Emirates), Shanghai (China), Dharamshala (India).

Visit www.moevenpick-hotels.com. Contact : Nat Frogley at nat@bacall.net.

W Paris - Opéra

W Paris - Opéra will open in an 1870s Haussmann building near the Galeries Lafayette and Place Vendôme in the 9th Arrondissement.

Sergi Arola, a Spanish two Michelin-starred chef, will be the executive chef at the W Paris - Opéra's signature restaurant, Arola.

Visit : www.wparisopera.com. Contact : Imelda McAloon at Imelda.McAloon@starwoodhotels.com.

Hotel Ilio, Elba

The 200th anniversary of Napoleon's exile to the island of Elba will be celebrated in 2014.

Hotel Ilio is a boutique property on the Tuscan island of Elba in the Mediterranean. The hotel is located among gardens and private terraces laden with citrus fruit trees in Capo Sant'Andrea, a seaside hamlet on the north-west coast of the island.

The hotel organises weekly outings that make the most of Elba's natural environment, such as snorkelling in the clear sea waters, mountain hikes along gentle and well-maintained paths, sailing trips to nearby islands and wine tours to local vineyards.

Hotel Ilio, which was founded by Guiseppe Testa in 1959 and is still family run, re-opens for the start of the season on 20 April 2012 and closes on 14 October 2012.

Visit : www.hotelilio.com and www.visitelba.com. Contact : Sue Heady at sue@headycommunications.com.

St. Regis Hotels & Resorts has opened the St. Regis Shenzhen, China.

Following recent openings in Bangkok, Tianjin and Sanya Yalong Bay, St. Regis Shenzhen is the brand's fourth hotel opening in Asia in the last six months.

Openings in the next six months include the St. Regis Doha, St. Regis Abu Dhabi, St. Regis Mauritius Resort, St. Regis Bal Harbour Resort and the newly renovated St. Regis Aspen Resort.

Visit : www.stregis.com/shenzhen. Contact : Imelda McAloon at Imelda.McAloon@starwoodhotels.com.

Section two : ongoing opportunities

Alerts

Ongoing independent press trip opportunities for Alliance members

- **Hidden Pousadas Brazil**, which offers independent travellers with a one-stop collection of uniquely places to stay, will offer accommodation to Alliance members out of high season. Visit : www.hiddenpousadasbrazil.com. Contact : Fola Odumosu at folat@hiddenpousadasbrazil.com.
- **Norfolk Hideaways**, which provides luxury self-catering holiday cottages along the north Norfolk coastline will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.norfolkhideaways.co.uk Contact : Kate Morfoot at kate@junglepr.com.
- **Newmarket Racecourses** offers Alliance members a day at the races, the food and entertainment. Visit : www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk. Contact : Rachael at Rachael@junglepr.com
- **Adventure Cat Sailing, San Francisco Bay**, will be delighted to 'comp' Alliance travel writers. Visit : www.adventurecat.com. Contact : Sharon Schrum at sharon@adventurecat.com.
- **BusyBus, Liverpool & Chester – UK** a sightseeing tour operator will be delighted to host Alliance members and journalists (with a guest) on a review basis. Visit: www.busybus.co.uk . Contact : Vera de Ruiter: vera@busybus.co.uk.
- **Visit Orlando** offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a complimentary Journalist VIP Passport. Visit : www.VisitOrlando.com/media. Contact : Amy Rodenbrock at amy.rodenbrock@visitorlando.com.
- **La Residencia, Mallorca** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members on assignment. Visit : www.laresidencia.com. Contact : Louise Davis at louise.davis@laresidencia.com.
- **The Broadway Collection New York**, a group of 17 new and classic Broadway musicals, will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.broadwaycollection.com Contact: Della Tully at Della.Tully@btinternet.com
- **Luxe PR**, a specialist agency representing 2,000 hotel guestrooms in London and across England will be delighted to host Alliance members for a review stay in one of its central London hotels, or its country house hotels based in Derbyshire, Yorkshire and the Cotswolds. Visit : www.luxepr.com. Contact : Tamsin Cocks at tamsin@luxepr.com.
- **The Mariott Paris Champs-Elysees**, which is the only five-star hotel on the Champs-Elysees, will be happy to offer accommodation to Alliance members who are in the city on an assignment. Visit : www.parismariott.com. Contact Bernice Saltzer at bernice@sortedpr.com.
- **Bath Tourism Plus** will host press visits to the Georgian and UNESCO World Heritage city of Bath. Visit : www.visitbath.co.uk. Contact : Lucy Ryder at lucy_ryder@bathtourism.co.uk.
- **City Running Tours-Chicago** will be delighted to give free 5k running or walking tours to Alliance members. Visit : www.cityrunningtours.com/chicago. Contact : Marlin Keesler at marlin@cityrunningtours.com.

- **The German city of Frankfurt** will be delighted to consider hosting Alliance members. Visit : www.frankfurt-tourismus.de. Contact : Gisela Moser at moser@infofrankfurt.de.
- **The Cyprus Tourism Organisation** will host group and individual trips for Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.visitcyprus.com. Contact : June Field at june.field@kallaway.com.
- **theExplorateur** reviews of hotels, shops, restaurants and travel-related products around the world. Visit : www.theExplorateur.com. For press trips to review any of theExplorateur properties contact Gabriella Ribeiro Truman at gabriella@trumarketing.com.
- **Three Nelson Hotels in Cheshire**: The Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa (www.grosvenorpulfordhotel.co.uk), The Pheasant Inn (www.thepheasantinn.co.uk) and The Bear's Paw (www.thebearspaw.co.uk) will be happy to accommodate Alliance members with a commission. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.
- **Great Hotels of the World**, representing over 200 of the world's finest hotels and resorts would be pleased to consider offering press trip accommodation to alliance members. Visit www.ghotw.com. Contact: Brooke Jester at bjester@ghotw.com.
- **The Cranley and The Royal Park** two London luxury, boutique townhouse hotels will be pleased to consider providing accommodation to Alliance members on commission. Visit www.thecranley.com or www.theroyalpark.com. Contact : Li Boatwright at li@storringtoncommunications.com.
- **Mead Brown**, a vacation rental company in Costa Rica, is happy to host writers on assignment. Visit : www.meadbrown.com. Contact : Michael Brown at michael@meadbrown.com.
- **LocalGuiding.com** – Personal tours by local guides, will be pleased to offer tours around the world to Alliance members. Visit: www.LocalGuiding.com. Contact: Robert Blessing at rb@localguiding.com.
- **Shakespeare Country**, UK will host Alliance members and their family for one or two nights with passes to visit the attractions and tickets to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, subject to availability. Visit : www.Shakespeare-Country.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk.
- **Mallorca Hotels: Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Hotel Tres and Hotel Dalt Murada, and Hotel Mar i Vent, Mallorca** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.hotelbonsol.es, www.hoteltres.com, www.daltmurada.com and www.hotelmarivent.com. Contact Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com
- **Atholl Estates, Perthshire, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members. The country estate has historic lodges, modern woodland lodges and a 5-star holiday park. Onsite activities include a pony trekking centre, land rover safaris, stunning gardens/wildlife and the historic Blair Castle. Visit: www.atholl-estates.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **The five-star Arlberg Hospiz Hotel and its sister four-star Goldener Berg in St. Christoph am Arlberg, Austria** has the 600 year old wine cellar of the Brotherhood of St. Christoph. Visit : www.hospiz.com. Contact Karen Luard at kp@kpcommunications.co.uk
- **The Villa Pambuffetti in Montefalco, Umbria, Italy** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.villapambuffetti.com. Contact Alessandra Pambuffetti at info@villapambuffetti.com.
- **Eustatia Island, British Virgin Islands** an extraordinary 26-acre, low impact, private island estate will be happy to host press visits for Alliance members with an appropriate commission. Visit : www.eustatia.com. Contact: Alastair Abrehart, alastair@broadswordpr.com.

- **Africa Safari Holidays** will be happy to offer any press trip services to professional travel journalist to East Africa. Visit : www.africasafariholidays.net. Contact : Agnes Njagi at info@africasafariholidays.net.
- **Reykjavik Bike Tours** provide press tours of Iceland's capital for Alliance members. Visit : www.icelandbike.com. Contact : Stefan Helgi Valsson at valsson@centrum.is.
- **Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme**, four French departments boasting historic sites and chateaux, walking and cycling routes, a variety of sports, superb natural scenery and Champagne will be pleased to consider press visits for Alliance members. Visit : www.tourisme-champagne-ardenne.com. Contact: Doug Goodman at doug@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Health retreats on Vancouver Island**, British Columbia, Canada. Visit : www.vancouverisland.com. Contact : Pamela Irving at livingcomms@telus.net.
- **Red Mangrove Galapagos Lodges** offers a land-based alternative to exploring the Galapagos that until now was a cruise-only destination. Visit : www.redmangrove.com. Contact : Dave Wiggins dave@travelnewssource.com
- **Midlethorpe Hall & Spa**, Yorkshire, UK will be delighted to offer DB&B and use of the Spa to Alliance members. Visit : www.middlethorpe.com. Contact Daisy Parker at daisy@iscott.co.uk.
- **Swaziland and Malawi** : Geo Group will be delighted to consider press trips to either Swaziland or Malawi for Alliance members with suitable commissions. Visit : www.welcometoswaziland.com and www.malawitourism.com. Contact: Kelly White at tourism@geo-group.co.uk.
- **Holidaylettings**, which offers a selection of chalets and apartments around the world will consider arranging accommodation at its listed properties. Visit : www.holidaylettings.co.uk. Contact : Kate Stinchcombe-Gillies at kate@holidaylettings.co.uk.
- **Malta** will be happy to consider for press trips for Alliance members. Visit : www.visitmalta.com. Contact : Anne Kapranos at Anne@essence-communications.com.
- **Peckforton Castle, Cheshire UK** a grade I listed building, built in the 1840s in the style of a medieval castle will be delighted to host Alliance members on a review basis. Visit : www.peckfortoncastle.co.uk. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.
- **Tongabezi Lodge**, which is upstream from Victoria Falls, and the new eco-friendly Sindabezi Island are located on the Zambezi River in Zambia. Tongabezi would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.tongabezi.com. Contact Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Ker & Downey Botswana**, located in the heart of the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve, will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.kerdowneybotswana.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Adventure Life**, which provides small group tours to Central and South America that have a positive impact on the local culture and environment, will consider press trip requests. Visit : www.adventure-life.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com.
- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.

- **Migis Lodge on the shores of Maine's Sebago Lake** invites travel journalists to experience Maine Lakeside Luxury. Visit : www.migis.com. Contact : Susan Soltero at ssoltero@cmcommunications.com.
- **The North West Development Agency** area, which includes Cumbria, Lancashire, Manchester, Liverpool and Cheshire will be delighted to host Alliance members with commissions. Visit : www.nwda.co.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **The George Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.principal-hayley.com/venues-and-hotels/the-george-hotel. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: Barry Benjamin at media.relations@peaceandplenty.com.
- **The Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas** is a 1003-room, 37-storey luxury hotel, which has just opened in the bustling heart of the Alamo City. The Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas will be happy to consider providing accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Contact: Alison Wood at Alison@grifcopr.com.
- **Ranch Rider** stays are steeped in tradition, allowing travellers to sample an authentic western experience. Ranch Rider will be pleased to consider press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.ranchrider.com. Contact: Siobhan at siobhan@tionlondon.co.uk.
- **Lower Zambezi, Zambia** : Sausage Tree Camp located within the heart of the Lower Zambezi National Park in Zambia will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Wiltshire**, located in the heart of the south-west of England has a number of high quality luxury hotels and a whole host of unique attractions. Visit : www.visitwiltshire.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk.
- **Knockomie Hotel, Forbes, Scotland**, will be delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members for a 2-night stay in one of their 15 individually-themed rooms and dinner on one of the nights in their recently refurbished restaurant, The Grill. Visit: www.knockomie.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **South Lakeland Parks** is the north-west UK's leading holiday park operator featuring nine sites within Morecambe Bay, Ribble Valley and Lake District. Visit : www.southlakelandparks.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Cumbria Tourism**, the tourism body for Cumbria, UK incorporating the Lake District will be delighted to let Alliance members sample its delights from the great outdoors and exciting attractions to stylish hotels and high quality restaurants. Visit : www.golakes.co.uk.
- **South Luangwa, Zambia** : The Luangwa Valley has long been regarded as one of Africa's finest wildlife destinations. Their portfolio includes Kapani Lodge and Kakuli, Luwi, Nsolo and Mchenja Camps. Norman Carr Safaris would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.circleline42.com Contact: Lisa Chamberlain at lisa.chamberlain@btinternet.com

- **The Haweswater Hotel**, a new art-deco hotel located next to the secluded Haweswater Reservoir, Cumbria, UK, will be happy to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.haweswaterhotel.com. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Premier Cottages** has a range of stunning four and five star self-catering holiday cottages throughout the UK, Channel Islands and Ireland. Visit : www.premiercottages.co.uk. Contact : Liz Blakeborough at liz@blakeborough.com.
- **St Mary's Hall Hotel**, the Isles of Scilly is happy to provide press trip opportunities to Alliance members. Visit : www.stmaryshallhotel.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk
- **Woodovis Park**, the independently run holiday park on the edge of Dartmoor, Devon UK invites Alliance members to review. Visit : www.woodovis.com. Contact : Samantha Kirton at samantha@independentpr.co.uk
- **1066 Country** which comprises the area of Battle, Bexhill, Hastings, Herstmonceux, Pevensey and Rye in East Sussex, UK. Visit : www.visit1066country.com. Contact : Jane Ellis at jjmellis@hastings.gov.uk.
- **The Wineport Lodge, Glasson County Westmeath, Ireland** is happy to arrange press Alliance Members and can provide a range of story ideas related to food, wine, romance, weddings/honeymoons and spa escapes. Visit : www.wineport.ie. Contact: Nina Zapala at zapala@fzkllc.com.
- **The Inn on Fifth**, a luxurious, 87-room boutique hotel located in the heart of downtown Naples in Southwest Florida will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit www.innonfifth.com. Contact : Kelly Grass Prieto at kelly@hayworthcreative.com.
- **base2stay Liverpool** will be delighted to offer accommodation for Alliance members able to review the hotel. Visit : www.base2stay.com/press_page/Liverpool.html. Contact : Jon Brown at brown@paversmith.co.uk.
- **Visit Chester and Cheshire and Visit Lincoln and Lincolnshire** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.visitchester.com and www.lincoln.gov.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **Swiss-Belhotel International**, manages hotels, resorts and residences throughout the Asia Pacific, Southeast Asia, China and The Middle East regions. Visit : www.swiss-belhotel.com. Contact : Ayla Hass at aylahaas@swiss-belhotel.com.
- **Pembrokeshire, South West Wales** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.pembrokeshire.com. Contact: Pat Edgar PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com
- **The Rutland Hotel, Edinburgh**, will be delighted to invite Alliance members to review this boutique hotel. Visit www.therutlandhotel.com. Contact Yvonne or Fiona at info@nicheworks.co.uk.
- **The Galapagos Islands** : Quasar Expeditions would like to invite Alliance members to cover trips aboard the M/Y Grace, its vintage yacht in the Galapagos Islands. Visit : www.galapagosexpeditions.com/gracepresskit.php. Contact : Paul Schicke at paul@quasarex.com.
- **Focus Hotels** invite Alliance members to review their three and four-star properties located in key destinations across the UK. Visit : www.focushotels.co.uk. Contact : Nat Frogley at nat@bacall.net.

- **The 5* Blythswood Square Hotel**, Glasgow, formerly headquarters to the Royal Scottish Automobile Club, has been redeveloped by the Town House Collection. Visit www.blythswoodsquare.com or www.thetownhousecollection.com. Contact: Jo Murphy at Jo@thespaprcompany.com.
- **Aspects Holidays** specialises in providing self-catering accommodation, from luxury apartments to traditional fisherman's cottages in and around St Ives and the West Cornwall area of the UK. Aspects will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.aspects-holidays.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Inn at Lathones**, Scotland's only 4 star inn, is delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members. The 17th-century listed building near St Andrews is one of Scotland's oldest coaching inns and boasts 21 recently refurbished external rooms/suites, an award-winning restaurant, an intimate stone-walled bar and converted stables that host regular music events. For more information visit: www.theinn.co.uk Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com
- **Cornwall Cottages** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.cornwallscottages.co.uk. Contact: Sue Bradbury at jess@suebradburypr.com.
- **Hartland Peninsula Arts**, which runs landscape painting courses on the North Devon coast will be pleased to offer courses to Alliance members. Visit : www.landscapepaintingholidays.co.uk. Contact: Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.
- **Frontier Travel** organise tailor-made holidays to Canada in both the Summer (www.frontier-canada.co.uk) and the Winter (www.frontier-ski.co.uk). The company will consider offering individuals press trips for Alliance members. Contact: Dave Ashmore at dave@frontier-travel.co.uk.
- **Sail Lofts St Ives**, a group of 12 luxury holiday apartments just metres from Porthmeor Beach, will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.thesaillofts.co.uk. Contact: Peter Hutchinson at peter@thesaillofts.co.uk.
- **The Alfajiri Villas and Galdessa Camp** would like to invite Alliance members to stay at Alfajiri Villas (www.alfajirivillas.com) or Galdessa Camp (www.galdessa.com). Visit : www.FazendinPortfolio.com. Contact Sarah Fazendin at sarah@fazendinportfolio.com.
- **The Peat Inn and 5-star restaurant** in St.Andrews, Scotland will provide Alliance members able to review the Inn will receive complimentary dinner, bed and breakfast including guest. Visit : <http://www.thepeatinn.co.uk>. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Isles of Scilly** will be delighted to consider offering travel and accommodation to Alliance members on assignment, with a commission or who are able to obtain one. Visit: www.simplyscilly.co.uk. Contact: Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Park Hyatt Istanbul-Maçka Palas, Turkey** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Kathryn Peel at Kathryn@grifcopr.com.
- **Helpful Holidays, UK** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.helpfuleholidays.com. Contact: Pat Edgar at PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com.
- **Jet2.com and Jet2holidays.com** will be happy to consider offering flights and holiday opportunities. Contact: www.pressoffice@jet2.com.

- **Wilderness Journeys** will be delighted to consider offering press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit : www.wildernessjourneys.com. Contact: Stevie Christie at stevie@wildernessjourneys.com.
- **Divi Resorts, the Caribbean** will be happy to consider accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.diviresorts.com. Contact: Jacqueline Burton at jburton@fwv-us.com.
- **Charming Hotels Madeira** will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.charminghotelsmadeira.com. Contact: Antonio Silva at asilva@charminghotelsmadeira.com.
- **Sea Kayak Adventures** explore Baja and Canada's newest marine parks and prolific whale watching destinations by sea kayak with Sea Kayak Adventures. Sea Kayak Adventures will be happy to provide press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.seakayakadventures.com. Contact: Nancy Mertz at info@seakayakadventures.com.
- **The View Hotel, Monument Valley, Arizona, USA**, which opened in September 2008, is situated on the Navajo Tribal Park, on the border of Arizona and Utah. The View Hotel will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.MonumentValleyView.com. Contact: Mike Finney at mike@azcomgroup.com.
- **The Menzies Welcombe Hotel Spa & Golf Club, Stratford-upon-Avon** will be delighted to offer dinner, bed and breakfast at this country house hotel to Alliance members able to review the property. Visit : www.menzieshotels.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinwall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk
- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: Hazel Heyer at hazel_heyer@hotmail.com.
- **Ranch Rider** stays are steeped in tradition, allowing travellers to sample an authentic western experience. Ranch Rider will be pleased to consider press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.ranchrider.com. Contact: Siobhan at siobhan@tionlondon.co.uk

Travel products and services

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

Kangol Headwear

Kangol's straw hat collection will complement your every summer look with styles ranging from contemporary and classic trilby's to glamorous beach brim hats.

Visit : www.kangolstore.com. To review the product range contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

Teva

Teva's Contoured Ribbon Mush is an ultra comfortable flip flop, using state of the art memory foam.

Visit : www.teva.co.uk. To review the product range contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

Airport lounges in London

No.1 Traveller is a London-based company specialising in airport lounges and transfers.

It operates lounges at Heathrow Terminal 3, Gatwick North and South Terminals and Stansted.

No.1 Traveller is happy to offer a 50% discount rate for all Travel Writers Alliance members.

Those interested should contact No1@3-monkeys.co.uk when wishing to make a booking with :

- Full name (as it appears on your passport)
- Flight date / time
- Flight number
- Which airport / terminal

Visit : www.No1Traveller.com. Contact : Charlotte Spencer at Charlotte.Spencer@3-monkeys.co.uk.

Silhouette

Silhouette sunglasses provide 100% protection against UV A, B and C rays. If Silhouette's IQ POL Sunglasses were suntan lotion, they would correspond to the European protection factor 32.

Visit : www.silhouette.com. To review the product range contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

Mitchum

Keep your cool when the temperature rises this summer with Mitchum Anti-Perspirant and Deodorant. Available in stick, roll on and aerosol variants it will keep you feeling 'just showered fresh' all day.

Visit : www.mitchum.co.uk. To review the product range contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

John Masters Organics

Make every day a day at the beach with John Masters Organics Sea Mist Sea Salt Spray with Lavender. It protects the hair and provides extra body, volume and texture, also helping to enhance curls for natural beach beautiful hair.

Visit : www.johnmasters.co.uk. To review the product range contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

Delph

Delph Sun Care offers a comprehensive range of family products from SPF 8 to 50, rated UVA 4* for their "superior" protection. The range has been fully tested to medical standards (not tested on animals) and is one of only 6 sun creams listed on the UK Drug Tariff allowing it to be prescribed by GP's.

To review the product range contact : Jenny Scott at jenny@brandnation.co.uk.

ELITE's luxury car hire

ELITE's luxury car hire is the largest Pan-European operation of its kind with almost 400 exclusive models including Aston Martin, Audi, Bentley, Ferrari, Lamborghini, Maserati, BMW, Mercedes Benz, Porsche and Land Rover.

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

Elite is offering Alliance members a 20% discount on car rental throughout its fleet with a complimentary car upgrade.

Please mention special code Travel Writers Alliance – UK when booking with Elite Rent-a-Car.

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

Dollar rent a car

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

UK, European and Australian licence holders should contact : Cheryl Richardson at Cheryl.Richardson@DTAG.com or on + 44 (0) 20 7630 4620.

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

Aether mobile

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

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

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

The Leisure Pass

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

Alliance members can get review passes for the cities covered.

Visit : www.leisurepassgroup.com. Contact : Katie.wright@sirencomms.com.

Vita-E cream product reviews

Vita-E cream is a natural Vitamin E based product for de-hydrated skin, wind burns and sun burns and chapped lips. An ideal little pot to have at hand in your handbag, wash bag or swim-bag.

Visit : www.vitaminecream.org. For Vita-E cream for review purposes contact Rachael at rachael@junglepr.com

Travel guides

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

AA Travel Guides

Visit : www.shop.theaa.com/store/travel-guides.

Contact : Katie Stephens at
katie.stephens@theaa.com.

Anova Books

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

Berlitz

www.berlitzpublishing.com.

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

Kuperard Publishers

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

Lonely Planet

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

Luxury Backpackers

www.luxurybackpackers.com. Contact : Jill Nash
at jill@luxurybackpackers.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.

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

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