



The Alliance

bulletin

Issue 95 : mid-April 2011: www.itwalliance.com

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

Ashley@itwalliance.com

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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.

Press trips to Holland

The Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions will be organising group and arranging individual press trips to Holland during 2011.

Trips will include :

- Keukenhof (08-09 April 2011)
- Liberation Route (18-20 April 2011)
- Cool Breaks on the Lower Rhine (20-22 May & 9-11 September 2011)
- Zeeland (13-15 May 2011)
- Amsterdam (July 2011 – dates to be confirmed)
- Rotterdam (27-29 July 2011)
- Utrecht (dates TBC)
- Floriade (June 2011 - first UK press to see the site)
- Friesland (individual trips only)

Visit : www.holland.com.

For more information about Holland, press trips contact:

UK and Ireland

Rianne Ojeh at press-uk@holland.com

US

Rosina Shiliwala at rshiliwala@holland.com

France

Roger Strijland at rstrijland@holland.com.

Italy

Anna Malagoli at amalagoli@holland.com.

Spain

Soraya Gabriel at sgabriel@holland.com.

Germany

Alexandra Klaus at aklaus@holland.com.

Belgium

Esther Rijke at erijke@holland.com.

Other parts of the world

Rianne Ojeh at press-uk@holland.com.

The Spa by von Essen

von Essen introduced its Lemon Detox at The Pavilion Spa at Cliveden House (Berkshire), The Serenity Spa at Seaham Hall hotel (Co. Durham) and The Bath House at The Royal Crescent (Bath) in 2010.

Now *von Essen* is now offering the treatment to guests at Spa Verta (Battersea, London) and The Bath House Spa at New Park Manor (New Forest) and will also feature it at the new Elan Spa at The Greenway (Cheltenham), due to launch in May 2011.

The Spa by von Essen collection currently consists of 13 spas:

- The Spa at Mount Somerset (Somerset)
- The Spa at Homewood Park (nr Bath)
- Spa Verta at Hotel Verta (Battersea, London)
- The Halcyon Spa at Bishopstrow House (Warminster)
- The Bath House Spa at New Park Manor (New Forest)
- The Serenity Spa at Seaham Hall (Co. Durham)
- The Spa at Dalhousie Castle (Nr Edinburgh)
- The Bath House at Royal Crescent (Bath)
- The Pavilion Spa at Cliveden (Berkshire)
- The Spa at The Elms (Worcestershire)
- The Spa at Ickworth (Suffolk)
- The Spa at Fowey Hall (Cornwall), and
- The Spa at Woolley Grange (nr Bath).

The group would welcome press visits by Alliance members.

Visit: www.vonessenhotels.com and www.luxuryfamilyhotels.com. Contact : Lucy Newman at Lucy.Newman@brightergroup.com.

The Caribbean island of Bequia

Specialist tour operator Just Grenada is introducing the tiny Grenadine island of Bequia as an add-on destination to the popular Caribbean Spice Island.

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

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

Just Grenada, which includes Just Tobago and Just St Kitts & Nevis within its tour operation, is featuring three hotels on Bequia.

Visit www.justgrenada.co.uk. For press trips contact Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.

Unusual Hotels France

Unusual Hotels France, has information on where to spend the night in :

- | | |
|---|--|
| • a tent hanging from a tree | • a 2CV car or an English double-decker bus |
| • an igloo | • aboard a plane |
| • a round house that turns with the sun | • in a house anchored to the top of a factory smokestack |
| • a giant hamster cage | • in a gypsy caravan |
| • at the top of a lighthouse | • in a luxurious tree house |
| • in a cider cask | |
| • a glass pyramid | |
| • in a red cube in the middle of the countryside, or | |
| • at the top of the Pic du Midi in the French Pyrenees. | |

Other publications from the group include :

- Secret Amsterdam Secret Provence
- Secret Barcelona Secret Rome
- Secret bars and restaurants in Paris
- Secret Tuscany
- Secret Brussels Secret Venice
- Secret French Riviera Forbidden Places
- Secret Geneva Unusual hotels of the world
- Secret Lisbon Unusual hotels - UK & Ireland
- Secret London - an unusual guide
- Unusual nights in Paris
- Secret Paris Unusual shopping in Paris

Visit : www.editionsjonglez.com and www.jonglezpublishing.com. For review copies contact : Alexandre Thery at alexandre@editionsjonglez.com.

Nelson (North West) Hotels, UK

Nelson (North West) Hotels, which own The Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa, The Bear's Paw and The Pheasant Inn in Cheshire, UK will be happy to offer review accommodation to Alliance members.

The 4 star Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa is set in its own grounds and is a base from which to explore Chester, Cheshire and North Wales.

The Pheasant enjoys some of the most magnificent panoramic views in the area. Situated in the Peckforton Hills, it is popular with rambler's and hiker's.

Located in the picturesque village of Warmingham, The Bear's Paw is a 19th century character inn strategically placed between the market towns of Sandbach, Middlewich and Crewe,.

Visit : www.nelson-hotels.co.uk. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.

For A Cause

For A Cause organises week long cycling and walking vacations that raise money for non-profit organizations.

This year's event, *France Walk or Ride* from 11 to 17 September, is two events in one with participants able to choose to spend their week cycling, walking, or a combination of both. Participants will spend the week in one central location, this year an 11th century castle located in the Western Loire Valley, and make day trips out and back.

Each day participants will visit different towns, wineries, and castles, and each day will return to luxury accommodations. This year's event is limited to 24 participants.

France AIDS Ride and Breast Cancer Walk

There are press opportunities for writers on assignment with a national (circulation +100K) US publication with writers with an additional Blog Outlet being given first consideration

Travel writers area's of interest could be active, walking, cycling, voluntourism, older active Adults, gay/lesbian, etc. *For a Cause* will waive registration fee and provide accommodations and meals while on the trip, does not include transportation to and from the event or pre/post hotel accommodations.

Does not include personal expenses, incidentals or items of a personal nature.

Visit : www.rfac.org/france_20110.aspx. Contact : Rob Webber at rwebber@rfac.org.

Working with the Alliance

Partners

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

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

The Baden-Baden Convention & Visitors Office

The Baden-Baden Convention & Visitors Office is the on site partner for all travelling to Baden-Baden and the region and promotes the elegant spa town Baden-Baden within Germany and abroad.

It provides hotels and sightseeing programs, special packages as well as tour guides and transport services. Furthermore it is responsible for the webpage www.baden-baden.com providing a whole spectrum of information for travellers and journalists.

Furthermore it keeps information and pictures for journalists from all over the world and supports research on site.

Visit : www.baden-baden.com. Contact : Marie-Lena Kuttruff at <mailto:kuttruff@baden-baden.com>

Lee Valley White Water Centre

www.gowhitewater.co.uk

The only brand new London 2012 venue people can use and enjoy before the Games.

Lee Valley White Water Centre will give thrill seekers a once in a lifetime opportunity to raft the same white water rapids that will host five days of intense canoe slalom competition during the London 2012 Games.

Lee Valley White Water Centre is on the northern edge of London, ten minutes from the M25 and 25 minutes door to door by train from central London.

Contact : Jackie Tolland at thebridge@leevalleypark.org.uk.

Dublin Tourism

Dublin Tourism is a state appointed, commercial agency with a strategic partnership of key stakeholders in tourism in the Dublin Region.

Dublin Tourism's principal mission is to enhance Dublin's economy through tourism development and servicing by marketing the Dublin region on a world-wide basis as a premier destination for the business and leisure traveller.

Visit : www.visitdublin.com. Contact : Áine Kavanagh at akavanagh@dublintourism.ie.

German National Tourist Office

For 60 years, the German National Tourist Office has worked in cooperation with the Federal Government to promote tourism to Germany.

Throughout the world it markets the diverse nature of travel to Germany. It promotes an enormous and appealing product: Germany as a travel destination.

Visit : www.germany.travel. Contact : Wibke Carter at wibke.carter@germany.travel.

Visit Oxfordshire

www.visitoxfordandoxfordshire.com

Visit Oxfordshire is the tourism marketing and promotion body for Oxford and Oxfordshire.

Contact : Heather Armitage at harmitage@oxford.gov.uk.

Nuñez i Navarro Hotels

Nunez I Navarro Hotels is a collection of nine exclusive hotels in barcelona (Spain).

Visit : www.nnhotels.com. Contact : Silvia Rubió at press@orbyce.com

National Forest Company

www.visitnationalforest.org

The National Forest is one of England's most ambitious environmental projects. Across parts of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire, 200 square miles are being transformed, blending ancient woodland with new planting to create a new national Forest. There is a wealth of choice for great days out or short breaks with bustling attractions, gentle walking and activities.

Contact : PennyWilkinson at pwilkinson@nationalforest.org.

Blarney Castle

Blarney Castle is most famous for it's most famous for it's stone, which has the traditional power of conferring on all who kiss it. In the grounds of the Castle you will find less well known but equally worth exploring poison garden, rock close, fern garden and lake walk.

Visit : www.blarneycastle.ie. Contact : Jean Murphy at jeanmurphy@blarneycastle.ie.

Safari Hunters

www.safarihunters.net

Safari Hunters Kenya provides safaris, Eco- tourism safaris, video safaris, accommodation , transport and a corporate travel consultancy.

Contact : Vivien Wamalwa at vivien@safarihunters.net

Egyptravel

Egyptravel is global travel marketing company operating in Egypt, Turkey Thailand and the Philippines.

It supports both business and leisure visitors to Egypt including cultural tours, camping and safari tours, golf and diving at the Red Sea, cruises on the Nile between Luxor and Aswan and behind the high dam, and guided tours with Egyptologists.

Contact : Taco Moha at egyptravel@gmail.com.

The Singular

www.thesingular.com

After working for a high end British tour operator, Rolando started representing Latin American luxury hotels and services in the UK and rest of Europe.

Contact : Rolando Stein at rstein@thesingular.com.

RafTrek Adventure Travel (Croatia)

www.raftrek.hr

Raftrek team will help you plan the best holiday in Croatia. We know our country well, we love it and we want to share it with you.

Contact : Branka Perak at raftrek@gmail.com.

Idaho River Journeys

www.idahoriverjourneys.com

Outfits rafting and fly fishing vacations on Idaho's Middle Fork of the Salmon and Main Salmon rivers.

Contact : Bob Volper at bobvolpert@gmail.com.

Sankara Nairobi

www.sankara.com

The first property from Sankara Hotels and Resorts, Sankara Nairobi sets a new standard in contemporary luxury and personalised service. The hotel incorporates all the world traveller would expect with clear reference to the culture and traditions of Africa

Contact : Shreya at Karia at shreya.karia@sankara.com.

The Patra Bali Resort & Villas

www.patrabali.com

The Patra Bali Resort & Villas is a restful beachfront retreat set within a serene tropical landscape. The property is the largest of its kind in the Kuta area and has in the past been honoured to host an extensive guest list of international dignitaries and heads of state.

Contact : Askar DG Kamis at askar@patrabali.com.

GuideGecko

www.GuideGecko.com

GuideGecko is a worldwide travel guides for iPhone, Kindle and the web. We seek ambitious travel writers to work together.

Contact : Daniel Quadt at info@guidegecko.com.

The 4 and 5 Star Holiday Company Ltd

www.the4and5starholidaycompany.com

A small independent tour operator specializing in tailor made holidays with the personal touch. Always happy to speak to clients or potential business partners to ensure clients get the holiday they desire.

Contact : Rosemary Fair at rosemary@the4and5starholidaycompany.com.

The Big Sleep Hotel (Cardiff)

www.thebigsleephotel.com

The Big Sleep Hotel ideally located in Cardiff city centre opposite the Motorpoint Arena (formally Cardiff International Arena) and the new St David's shopping arcade.

We are within walking distance of the Cafe Quarter, local tourist attractions and businesses. Our 81 bedrooms are sleek, stylish and very modern.

Contact : Katie Coles at sales-marketing@thebigsleephotel.com.

Wild Asia

www.wildasia.org

Wild Asia is a social enterprise working to support the conservation of natural areas and the communities dependent upon their resources. Our ultimate goal is to promote sustainable practices that will minimise adverse impacts on the environment, ensure that local communities are engaged and that local cultures are respected.

Contact : Deborah Chan at deborah@wildasia.org.

Titan Travel & Tour (Romania)

www.titantravel.ro

Titan Travel & Tour is a new privately owned and independent travel agency, based in Targu Mures, Romania, offering a full range of services in both leisure and business travel.

Contact : Claudia Duicu at claudia.duicu@titantravel.ro.

Enjoy Amazing Africa

www.enjoyamazingafrica.co.za

Enjoy Amazing Africa, based in South Africa, organises tailor made tours through Southern Africa.

Sybilla Storm at sybilla@enjoyamazingafrica.co.za.

News

Destination Holland

The International Travel Writers Alliance has produced *Destination Holland*, a detailed media dossier on the country with the Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions. The dossier is linked to a series of group and individual press trips to Holland.

For a copy of the dossier contact : Ashley Gibbins at Ashley@itwalliance.com or visit www.itwalliance.com.

Miami

The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau has announced that overnight visitors to Greater Miami and the Beaches grew by 5.6% to 12.6 million overnight visitors in 2010.

Marketing promotions in 2010 such as *Miami Museum Month*, *Miami Spice*, *Miami Spa*, and *Miami Attractions Month*, drew more visitors and residents than ever before.

Visit : www.MiamiAndBeaches.com. Contact Lynda Daboh at Lynda@firstpr.co.uk.

Chatham's Historic Dockyard, UK

Chatham's Historic Dockyard and its Defences have been shortlisted for potential nomination for World Heritage Status.

The site is one of just eleven across the UK that have been placed on a tentative list of nominations.

Chatham is the world's most complete example of an historic dockyard from the age of sail and early age of steam (1700 – 1865) and was instrumental in securing and maintaining Britain's worldwide influence, leading the world in industrial design, naval architecture and military technology.

There are currently 27 World Heritage Sites in the UK.

Visit : www.chathamworldheritage.org.uk. Contact: Jessica Gearey at jessica.gearey@medway.gov.uk.

Botanical Beja, Portugal

After a €1 million makeover, the public gardens in Beja, Portugal, have re-opened with the Wollemi Pine tree as the centrepiece attraction.

This pine is the world's oldest species of tree, pre-dating dinosaurs and one of just four in Europe.

Visit : www.sunvil.co.uk. Contact : Sarah Belcher at S.Belcher@travelpr.co.uk.

BikeRentalsPlus

BikeRentalsPlus!, an ExperiencePlus! Bicycle Tours brand, has announced an increase in interest for self-guided bike tours in Italy and France this summer. Launched in Italy in 1972 the Colorado-based company offers global cycling tours to 20 countries on five continents.

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

Visit Oxfordshire

Visit Oxfordshire, the new Destination Management Organisation for Oxford and Oxfordshire, has published its first visitor guide covering the whole of the county from Henley in the south to Banbury and beyond in the north.

Visit : www.visitoxfordandoxfordshire.com. Contact: Heather Armitage at press@oxford.gov.uk.

Leads

3 Königinnen Palais, Germany

The "3 Königinnen Palais" (3 Queens Palace) on the Castle Island of Mirow, Germany is celebrating the 250th anniversary of the coronation of Queen Charlotte.

Sophie Charlotte was born in Mirow as a princess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. She moved to England and was crowned Queen of England on 22 September 1761.

To mark this jubilee, a number of events will take place in and around the castle.

Visit : www.3koeniginnen.de/en. Contact : Andrea Haas at andrea.haas88@gmx.net.

Great days out in Leicester and Leicestershire, UK

A new guide has been launched to help visitors plan a day out in Leicester and Leicestershire.

The free 'Great Days Out 2011' guide has been produced by Leicester Shire Promotions and will be used to promote the city and county's attractions and major events to the thriving day-trip market in Leicester and Leicestershire.

Visit : www.goleicestershire.com. Contact : Simon Gribbon at Simon.Gribbon@l-p-l.com.

Virginia, USA

During the summer months Virginia Beach waters become home to the Mid-Atlantic's largest population of bottlenose dolphins. The nutrient rich waters of the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay means that visitors regularly enjoy spotting pods.

Dolphin-watching kayak tours are available from a variety of operators along the coast with tours and Virginia Beach's dolphin-watching boat trip provides a 90-minute cruise, in association with Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Centre.

Visit www.VisitVirginiaBeach.com. Contact : Kylie Rathbone at kylie.rathbone@kbc-pr.com.

The Maldives

The Conrad Maldives has taken delivery of its first three-seater submarine, becoming the only resort to offer guests the opportunity to explore an underwater world.

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

Elegant Hotels Group, Barbados

Elegant Hotels Group owns and operates five hotels and resorts on the Caribbean Island of Barbados.

Visit www.eleganthotels.com.

Far and Away Adventures

Far and Away Adventures has launched its American Safari this spring on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho, one of the world's most revered wild and scenic waterways.

Visit : www.far-away.com. Contact : Sara Widness at sara@widnesspr.com.

DoubleTree by Hilton Aqaba

Hilton Worldwide has opened the DoubleTree by Hilton Aqaba its first hotel in Jordan.

Overlooking the Red Sea, the hotel is located in the central business district of Jordan's southernmost and only coastal city, within walking distance of popular seashore attractions and all major shopping areas.

Visit : www.aqaba.doubletreebyhilton.com. Contact : Kat Hamilton at cat@hamilton-pr.com.

What's on

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

Dutch lifestyle in Trafalgar Square, London

16 April 2011

The Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions, in association with easyJet, is taking over Trafalgar Square on Saturday 16 April 2011 from 12 midday until 8pm to give visitors the opportunity to experience all things Dutch.

Visit : www.holland.com. Contact : Evelina Hederer at press-uk@holland.com.

International Wine Festival in Epernay, Champagne, France

20 - 22 May 2011

Vino Passion, a new Wine Festival is being organised in Epernay in the Champagne region of France. This three-day festival at Le Millenium Epernay is the first of its kind promoting 'oenotourisme' (wine tourism) and will be a showcase for all the wine regions of France, including overseas regions, their wine production, associated activities and tourist services.

Visit : www.salon-vinopassion.fr. Contact : Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com.

Events in Texas

Kerrville Folk Festival

26 May to 12 June 2011

The *Kerrville Folk Festival* – the Texas Hill Country songwriting festival features more than 100 songwriters with their bands in concert from.

Visit : www.kerrville-music.com

The National Cow Calling Contest and Steak Cook-Off

3 to 5 June 2011

The *National Cow Calling Contest and Steak Cook-Off* is held in Miami, Texas with competitors from across Texas competing in a cow calling contest, steak cook-off and a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament.

Tomato Festival

11 June 2011

Texas' own *Tomato Festival* is held in Jacksonville when visitors come together to celebrate everything dedicated to the red fruit.

Visit : www.jacksonvilletexas.com

The Parker County Peach Festival

9 July 2011

The *Parker County Peach Festival* in Weatherford a celebration of the Parker County peach.

Visit : www.peachfestivaltx.com

The Hotter 'N' Hell Hundred

27 August 2011

One of the US' oldest and largest one day endurance cycling events, the *Hotter 'N' Hell Hundred*, begins at 7am and will challenge fitness oriented riders and bicycle racers at Wichita Falls.

Cyclists come from across the US and the globe, to race across 100 miles during the hottest time of the year in Texas.

Visit : www.hh100.org

Visit : www.traveltex.com. Contact : Emma French at emmaf@hillsbalfour.com

World Puppet Festival, Charleville Mezières, France

16 to 25 September 2011

This bi-annual event sees puppeteers and enthusiasts from all over the world flock to this vibrant, colourful festival.

For the 50th anniversary in 2011, an extensive programme includes shows, photographic exhibitions, window displays, avant-garde performance art, and street entertainment in a carnival atmosphere where more than 30 countries are represented. Estimated to attract 150,000 visitors.

www.ardennes.com and www.festival-marionnette.com. Contact : Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com.

Spring events in Holland

Keukenhof

To 20 May 2011

The Keukenhof flower gardens are open for the public with seven million flower bulbs having been planted in the unique layering technique to ensure that Keukenhof can be enjoyed throughout the spring.

www.keukenhof.nl

Queen's day

30 April 2011

On Queen's Day (Koninginnedag) the Queen's birthday is celebrated throughout Holland.

www.holland.com

Art Amsterdam

11-15 May 2011

Art Amsterdam is the oldest and largest fair for contemporary and modern art in Holland, held at Amsterdam RAI. Over 100 galleries from across Europe, the United States, Africa and Asia will be presenting.

www.artamsterdam.nl

Dunya Festival, Rotterdam

29 May 2011

This famous annual festival in Rotterdam of the performing arts brings together high-profile artists, world musicians, storytellers and poets. Converging from every corner of the globe, big names and emerging talents can be seen and heard.

www.rotterdam.info

The Hague Festivals

June 2011

The Hague hosts parties & festivals during the fifth Hague Festivals throughout June.

On offer are cultural, musical and entertainment events such as: The Hague Jazz, Festival Classique, The Hague Sculpture, Shopping Night and Parkpop.

www.denhaag.nl

Arnhem Fashion Biennale

01 June to 03 July 2011

This biannual event showcases the most recent developments in international fashion design in an innovative way.

www.coolbreaks.com

Jazz in Duketown, Den Bosch

10 to 13 June 2011

Jazz in Duketown is Holland's largest free jazz festival. For four days the historic city centre of Den Bosch is a jazz Mecca with more than 100 concerts taking place on one of the 10 stages.

www.vvvdendbosch.nl

Open Garden Day Amsterdam

17-19 June 2011

Once a year, in the third weekend of June, gardening enthusiasts have the unique opportunity to discover Amsterdam's hidden green side.

The Canal Museums arrange for the opening of some thirty gardens of private homes and institutions.

www.iamsterdam.com

Contact : Evelina Hederer at press-uk@holland.com.

Events in Slovenia

World Rowing Championships, Bled

28 August to 4 September 2011

www.bled2011.org

5th International Wild Flower Festival, Bohinj

21 May to 4 June 2011

www.bohinj.si

Internautica International Boat Show, Portorož

10 May to 15 May 2011

Vlaggetjesdag (Celebrating the news herring season)

11 June 2011

From the beginning of the 17th century herring from the North Sea were introduced to the Dutch Markets.

Since then every year the "New Herring Season" has been celebrated with music, a traditional crafts market and of course lots of herring.

www.denhaag.nl

www.internautica.net

Festival LENT 2011 – 19th International Summer, Maribor

24 June to 9 July 2011

www.slovenia.info

Ljubljana Festival (59th Ljubljana Summer), Ljubljana

July and August 2011

www.ljubljanafestival.si

29th Biennial of Graphic Arts, Ljubljana

23 September to 20 November 2011)

Visit : www.slovenia.info. Contact : Lucija Jager at lucija.jager@slovenia.info.

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 Atlantic Festival, Madeira

The 10th annual Atlantic Festival takes place in Madeira in June with a month-long programme of music, colourful cultural and entertainment events.

One of the highlights is the fireworks competition over Funchal Harbour.

International specialists compete for the right to host the biggest firework party in the world (*Guinness Book of Records 2008*) held on New Year's Eve in Funchal.

Competitors display their spectacular pyrotechnic skills to musical accompaniment on Saturday nights in June, providing a unique added attraction for visitors to the island.

For accommodation Charming Hotels Madeira has four small quintas in and around Funchal :

- Quinta das Vistas
- Quinta do Estreito
- Quinta do Monte, and
- Quinta Perestrello

Visit : www.charminghotelsmadeira.com. Contact : Doug Goodman at info@douggoodmanpr.com.

Koh Kood, Thailand

Koh Kood, which is situated on the eastern side of the Gulf of Thailand, is emerging as a destination for those who want the tropical island lifestyle without the crowds.

One hour by speedboat from the coast of Trat Province, Kood is the kingdom's fourth largest island offering mountains, waterfalls and white beaches along with minimal development and only a limited number of quality resort hotels.

There are many islands in the vicinity that can be explored, including Koh Chang, the second largest island in the country.

Away Koh Kood, which is part of the Centara Boutique Collection, is located in Klong Chao Bay on the west coast of the island, near to Klong Chao, Kood's most beautiful waterfall.

Standing in six acres of beachside gardens, the resort has 34 villas, each with its own private terrace and ocean views.

Visit : www.centarahotelsresorts.com/akk. Contact : Ian Mills at imills@avenuesales.co.uk

South East of England

With the London Olympics being staged in the region, the South East of England is expecting an influx of international interest in our region during 2012.

Reasons to write about the area includes :

- 2012 marks the year of Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee
- it is 100 years since the Titanic set sail on her fateful voyage from Southampton. The city is planning a moving tribute to the great liner, including a series of spectacular events and the opening of a brand new state-of-the-art museum.
- Brighton aims to open a waterfront landmark in 2012, the i360, which promises to elevate visitors 150m above the city for some breath-taking views of the coastline, the South Downs and across the Channel.
- Oxford celebrates 150 years since 'Alice in Wonderland' was written
- Beaulieu enjoys its 60th birthday, and
- Portsmouth reopens its Mary Rose Museum following a £21m refurbishment.

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

Dutch DNA

The Dutch DNA theme year focuses on the key areas of Dutch design, fashion, architecture and heritage.

From internationally renowned fashion brands to progressive designers and futuristic architects, Holland continues to be at the forefront of creativity and design.

Big brands, big fashion designers

Viktor & Rolf, Marlies Dekkers, G-Star, Mexx, Gsus and Scotch & Soda are only a few Dutch fashion designers with an excellent international reputation.

World leading Dutch designers

Dutch Design is known worldwide as eccentric though functional, daring and elegant.

Conceptual architectural designs

Also in architecture, the Dutch always seem to want to push the boundaries. Revolutionary designs by Dutch architects, such as Rem Koolhaas, Berlage and Dudok.

Dutch heritage with world fame

Holland not only has eight entries in the UNESCO World Heritage List, but also many of the Old Masters have their origins in Holland. For example, Vincent van Gogh, Frans Hals, Rembrandt van Rijn and Johannes Vermeer are all key figures in the history of art.

Visit www.dutchdna2011.com and www.holland.com. For press trips to Holland contact: Rianne Ojeh at press-uk@holland.com.

Cycling and sailing in Europe

European activity holidays' specialist UTracks offers a selection of trips that combine cycling and sailing :

Dubrovnik and the Dalmatian Coast

The old city of Dubrovnik is visually stunning and deserving of its UNESCO World Heritage status.

Based on a comfortable boat, the trip begins in Dubrovnik where time is set aside to explore the narrow streets and lively town. Extending westerly into the Mediterranean, the loosely connected islands of southern Dalmatia are best explored by bike where quiet roads lead to magnificent views.

Visit Hvar, Korcula and Mjet and discover the unique features of each island such as the wine making traditions of the Pelješac Peninsula, the medieval town of Hvar and the historic island of Vis occupied by the Greeks more than 2,000 years ago.

Montenegro Bike and Sail

In the heart of the Balkans, the newly independent nation of Montenegro has a wealth of historic treasures and stunning Adriatic coastline to explore.

Journeying to this country by boat from Dubrovnik, the cycle begins with an exhilarating ride into the stunning walled town of Kotor. From the border with Croatia to the Albanian border, the cycle route explores mountain and coastal roads, sandy beaches, the Skutari Lake and historic pirate hideouts.

Lycian Coast Cycle and Sail

Few coastlines offer the appealing combination of sublime landscapes, rich cultural history and legacies from ancient civilisations found on Turkey's Lycian Coast. From Marmaris to Fethiye, travellers spend a week discovering the natural wonders with the motor yacht, built to the highest of standards.

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

A place to stay

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

L'Abbaye de Sainte Croix, France

French real estate and hotel resort company, Garrigae has extended its collection into Provence, with the addition of L'Abbaye de Sainte Croix, a restored and refurbished 12th century abbey located between the stunning surrounds of Alpilles and Luberon.

The hotel stands in 20 hectares of pine forest and has an original chapel.

L'Abbaye joins Garrigae's current portfolio of three properties in the Languedoc :

- Les Jardins de Saint Benoît, Vineyard resort & Spa, Corbières
- Port Rive Gauche, Luxury retreat, Marseillan, Bassin de Thau
- Le Convent d'Hérépien, Luxury retreat & Spa, Parc Naturel du Haut Languedoc

Visit www.garrigaeresorts.com. Contact : Jacinta at jacinta@rivapr.co.uk.

Hotusa Hotels

Hotusa Hotels has added another 34 hotels in Spain to its portfolio with nine of these in Andalusia and the Community of Madrid

The Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade awarded the company the Prince Felipe Prize for Tourism Excellence in 2008.

The Hotusa portfolio has 2,551 partner establishments in 26 European destinations including :

Germany	Finland	Portugal
Andorra	France	the United Kingdom
Austria	Greece	the Czech Republic
Belgium	Holland	Romania
Bulgaria	Hungary	Russia
Croatia	Ireland	Sweden
Denmark	Italy	Switzerland, and
Slovakia	Norway	Turkey.
Spain	Poland	

Its 15 American countries are :

Argentina	Costa Rica	Mexico
Brazil	Cuba	Nicaragua
Canada	Ecuador,	Panama
Chile	the USA	Peru, and
Colombia	Guatemala	Venezuela

Visit : www.hotusa.com. Contact : Héctor Oliva at comunicacion@hotusa.es.

Stay Hotel New York

Stay Hotel New York, a member of Epoque Hotels, is a boutique hotel located in New York's Theatre District and close to Rockefeller Center and Times Square.

The hotel is an Avantgarde Superior boutique hotel in the Epoque Hotels Collection.

Visit : www.epoquehotels.com. Contact : press@poquehotels.com.

Jebel Ali Golf Resort & Spa, Dubai City

The five-star Jebel Ali Golf Resort & Spa, which is approximately a 40 minute drive from Dubai City Centre and the International Airport is the only all-inclusive resort in Dubai.

It offers three temperature-controlled swimming pools and 15 restaurants and bars.

There is also a championship-standard 9-hole golf course and academy, a luxury 10-treatment room spa with associated wet spa facilities, horse riding stables, private marina, seaplane flights and diving centre.

The super-luxe beach club, located within the lavish grounds of the resort opens in May.

Visit : www.jebelali-international.com. Contact : Michelle Fowler at Michelle@lucre.co.uk.

The Hotel Du Cap-Eden-Roc, France

The Hotel Du Cap-Eden-Roc in Cap d'Antibes in the south of France, will re-open on 15 April after a four-year restoration project.

The €45million project is the first major refurbishment since the 1950s and has been designed to restore the Hotel Du Cap to its original, masterpiece quality.

The Hotel, which opened to guests for the first time in 1870 was originally built by the former owner of Le Figaro newspaper, Auguste de Villemessant.

Located on the southern-most tip of the Cap d'Antibes, the Hotel Du Cap-Eden-Roc has long been the place to stay on the Riviera for the luxury traveller.

Visit : www.hotel-du-cap-eden-roc.com. Contact: Julia Perowne at JuliaP@lewispr.com.

Eurostars Berlín

The 5 star Eurostars Berlin, opens this spring with 211 rooms, a gourmet restaurant, indoor pool and a fitness center.

Eurostars Hotels already has the Eurostars Grand Central (Munich) and Park Hotel Maximilian (Regensburg).

Visit : www.eurostarsberlin.com. Contact : Pilar Camps at comerciales@eurostarshotels.com.

L'Hôtel de Toiras, Île de Ré, France

L'Hôtel de Toiras, is a boutique hotel on the Île de Ré in France.

The tiny island of Île de Ré is an unspoilt sliver of land stretching out into the Atlantic Ocean for 30km.

From the towers of La Rochelle, it is a short drive over to the island across a long bridge.

Visitors can explore sandy beaches, bordered by dunes and pine forests, miles of oyster parks, salt flats and cycle paths that crisscross vineyards.

Recently listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Saint Martin is a historic port surrounded by fortifications built by Vauban in 1681.

Visit : www.hotel-de-toiras.com. Contact : Sophie Furness at Sophie@grifcopr.com.

Section two : ongoing opportunities

Alerts

Ongoing independent press trip opportunities for Alliance members

- **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.
- **Orlando Tourism** offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a complimentary Journalist VIP Passport. Visit : www.VisitOrlando.com. Contact : Amy Voss at amy.voss@visitorlando.com.
- **Mallorca Hotels: Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Hotel Tres and Hotel Dalt Murada, and Hotel Mar i Vent, Mallorca** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.hotelbonsol.es, www.hoteltres.com, www.daltmurada.com and www.hotelmarivent.com. Contact Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com
- **Atholl Estates, Perthshire, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members. The country estate has historic lodges, modern woodland lodges and a 5-star holiday park. Onsite activities include a pony trekking centre, land rover safaris, stunning gardens/wildlife and the historic Blair Castle. Visit: www.atholl-estates.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **The five-star Arlberg Hospiz Hotel in St. Christoph am Arlberg, Austria** has the 600 year old wine cellar of the Brotherhood of St. Christoph. Visit : www.stchristoph.at/alpenhotel . Contact Karen Luard at kp@kpcommunications.co.uk
- **The Villa Pambuffetti in Montefalco, Umbria, Italy** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.villapambuffetti.com. Contact Alessandra Pambuffetti at info@villapambuffetti.com.
- **Eustatia Island, British Virgin Islands** an extraordinary 26-acre, low impact, private island estate will be happy to host press visits for Alliance members with an appropriate commission. Visit : www.eustatia.com. Contact: Alastair Abrehart, alastair@broadswordpr.com.
- **Africa Safari Holidays** will be happy to offer any press trip services to professional travel journalist to East Africa. Visit : www.africasafariholidays.net. Contact : Agnes Njagi at info@africasafariholidays.net.
- **Reykjavik Bike Tours** provide press tours of Iceland's capital for Alliance members. Visit : www.icelandbike.com. Contact : Stefan Helgi Valsson at valsson@centrum.is.

- **Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme**, four French departments boasting historic sites and chateaux, walking and cycling routes, a variety of sports, superb natural scenery and Champagne will be pleased to consider press visits for Alliance members. Visit : www.tourisme-champagne-ardenne.com. Contact: Doug Goodman at doug@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Health retreats on Vancouver Island**, British Columbia, Canada. Visit : www.vancouverisland.com. Contact : Pamela Irving at livingcomms@telus.net.
- **Red Mangrove Galapagos Lodges** offers a land-based alternative to exploring the Galapagos that until now was a cruise-only destination. Visit : www.redmangrove.com. Contact : Dave Wiggins dave@travelnewssource.com
- **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 : Lanisha Butterfield at lanisha.butterfield@holidaylettings.co.uk.
- **Malta** will be happy to consider for press trips for Alliance members. Visit : www.visitmalta.com. Contact : Anna Sharp at anna@essence-communications.com.
- **Peckforton Castle, Cheshire UK** a grade I listed building, built in the 1840s in the style of a medieval castle will be delighted to host Alliance members on a review basis. Visit : www.peckfortoncastle.co.uk. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.
- **Tongabezi Lodge**, which is upstream from Victoria Falls, and the new eco-friendly Sindabezi Island are located on the Zambezi River in Zambia. Tongabezi would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.tongabezi.com. Contact Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Ker & Downey Botswana**, located in the heart of the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve, will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.kerdowneybotswana.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Adventure Life**, which provides small group tours to Central and South America that have a positive impact on the local culture and environment, will consider press trip requests. Visit : www.adventure-life.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com.
- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.
- **Migis Lodge on the shores of Maine's Sebago Lake** invites travel journalists to experience Maine Lakeside Luxury. Visit : www.migis.com. Contact : Susan Soltero at ssoltero@cmcommunications.com.
- **The North West Development Agency** area, which includes Cumbria, Lancashire, Manchester, Liverpool and Cheshire will be delighted to host Alliance members with commissions. Visit : www.nwda.co.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.

- **The George Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.principal-hayley.com/venues-and-hotels/the-george-hotel. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: Hazel Heyer at hazel_heyer@hotmail.com.
- **The Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas** is a 1003-room, 37-storey luxury hotel, which has just opened in the bustling heart of the Alamo City. The Grand Hyatt San Antonio, Texas will be happy to consider providing accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Contact: Alison Wood at Alison@grifcopr.com.
- **Ranch Rider** stays are steeped in tradition, allowing travellers to sample an authentic western experience. Ranch Rider will be pleased to consider press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.ranchrider.com. Contact: Siobhan at siobhan@tionlondon.co.uk.
- **Lower Zambezi, Zambia** : Sausage Tree Camp located within the heart of the Lower Zambezi National Park in Zambia will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Wiltshire**, located in the heart of the south-west of England has a number of high quality luxury hotels and a whole host of unique attractions. Visit : www.visitwiltshire.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk.
- **Knockomie Hotel, Forbes, Scotland**, will be delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members for a 2-night stay in one of their 15 individually-themed rooms and dinner on one of the nights in their recently refurbished restaurant, The Grill. Visit: www.knockomie.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **South Lakeland Parks** is the north-west UK's leading holiday park operator featuring nine sites within Morecambe Bay, Ribble Valley and Lake District. Visit : www.southlakelandparks.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Cumbria Tourism**, the tourism body for Cumbria, UK incorporating the Lake District will be delighted to let Alliance members sample its delights from the great outdoors and exciting attractions to stylish hotels and high quality restaurants. Visit : www.golakes.co.uk.
- **South Luangwa, Zambia** : The Luangwa Valley has long been regarded as one of Africa's finest wildlife destinations. Their portfolio includes Kapani Lodge and Kakuli, Luwi, Nsolo and Mchenja Camps. Norman Carr Safaris would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.circleline42.com Contact: Lisa Chamberlain at lisa.chamberlain@btinternet.com
- **The Haweswater Hotel**, a new art-deco hotel located next to the secluded Haweswater Reservoir, Cumbria, UK, will be happy to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.haweswaterhotel.com. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Premier Cottages** has a range of stunning four and five star self-catering holiday cottages throughout the UK, Channel Islands and Ireland. Visit : www.premiercottages.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk.

- **St Mary's Hall Hotel**, the Isles of Scilly is happy to provide press trip opportunities to Alliance members. Visit : www.stmaryshallhotel.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk
- **Woodovis Park**, the independently run holiday park on the edge of Dartmoor, Devon UK invites Alliance members to review. Visit : www.woodovis.com. Contact : Samantha Kirton at samantha@independentpr.co.uk
- **1066 Country** which comprises the area of Battle, Bexhill, Hastings, Herstmonceux, Pevensey and Rye in East Sussex, UK. Visit : www.visit1066country.com. Contact : Jane Ellis at jjmellis@hastings.gov.uk.
- **The Wineport Lodge, 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@fzklc.com.
- **The Inn on Fifth**, a luxurious, 87-room boutique hotel located in the heart of downtown Naples in Southwest Florida will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit www.innonfifth.com. Contact : Kelly Grass Prieto at kelly@hayworthcreative.com.
- **Great Hotels Organisation**, representing over 200 of the world's finest hotels and resorts worldwide through Great Hotels of the World and Special Hotels of the World would be pleased to consider offering press trip accommodation to Alliance members. Visit www.ghotw.com. Contact: Brooke Jester bjester@ghorg.com.
- **base2stay Liverpool** will be delighted to offer accommodation for Alliance members able to review the hotel. Visit : www.base2stay.com/press_page/Liverpool.html. Contact : Laura Leggetter at laura@rivapr.co.uk.
- **Visit Chester and Cheshire and Visit Lincoln and Lincolnshire** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.visitchester.com and www.lincoln.gov.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **Swiss-Belhotel International**, manages hotels, resorts and residences throughout the Asia Pacific, Southeast Asia, China and The Middle East regions. Visit : www.swiss-belhotel.com. Contact : Ayla Hass at aylahaas@swiss-belhotel.com.
- **Pembrokeshire, South West Wales** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.pembrokeshire.com. Contact: Pat Edgar PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com
- **The Rutland Hotel, Edinburgh**, will be delighted to invite Alliance members to review this boutique hotel. Visit www.therutlandhotel.com. Contact Yvonne or Fiona at info@nicheworks.co.uk.
- **Dubai Tourism** will be interested in considering working with Alliance members on press trips to Dubai. Visit www.dubaitourism.ae. Contact Natasha Behrouz at nbehrouz@thecommunicationgroup.co.uk.
- **The Galapagos Islands** : Quasar Expeditions would like to invite Alliance members to cover trips aboard the M/Y Grace, its vintage yacht in the Galapagos Islands. Visit : www.galapagosexpeditions.com/gracepresskit.php. Contact : Paul Schicke at paul@quasarex.com.
- **Focus Hotels** invite Alliance members to review their three and four-star properties located in key destinations across the UK. Visit : www.focushotels.co.uk. Contact : Eleanore Longley at eleanore@bacall.net.

- **The 5* Blythswood Square Hotel**, Glasgow, formerly headquarters to the Royal Scottish Automobile Club, has been redeveloped by the Town House Collection. Visit www.blythswoodsquare.com or www.thetownhousecollection.com. Contact: Jo Murphy at Jo@thespaprcompany.com.
- **Aspects Holidays** specialises in providing self-catering accommodation, from luxury apartments to traditional fisherman's cottages in and around St Ives and the West Cornwall area of the UK. Aspects will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.aspects-holidays.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Inn at Lathones**, Scotland's only 4 star inn, is delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members. The 17th-century listed building near St Andrews is one of Scotland's oldest coaching inns and boasts 21 recently refurbished external rooms/suites, an award-winning restaurant, an intimate stone-walled bar and converted stables that host regular music events. For more information visit: www.theinn.co.uk Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com
- **Cornwall Cottages** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.cornwallcottages.co.uk. Contact: Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.
- **Hartland Peninsula Arts**, which runs landscape painting courses on the North Devon coast will be pleased to offer courses to Alliance members. Visit : www.landscapepaintingholidays.co.uk. Contact: Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.
- **The Discovery Collection**, independent specialist in boutique breaks to North Cyprus, Turkey, Puglia, Sicily, Malta and Gozo, will be happy to consider offering press visits to Alliance members. A varied programme includes beach and city breaks, twin-centre stays, walking holidays and special interest tours. Visit : www.thediscoverycollection.com. Contact: Jill Guest at jill@ocean-advertising.co.uk or on 020 7436
- **Frontier Travel** organise tailor-made holidays to Canada in both the Summer (www.frontier-canada.co.uk) and the Winter (www.frontier-ski.co.uk). The company will consider offering individuals press trips for Alliance members. Contact: Dave Ashmore at dave@frontier-travel.co.uk or on +44 (0) 20 8404 2447.
- **Sail Lofts St Ives**, a group of 12 luxury holiday apartments just metres from Porthmeor Beach, will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.thesaillofts.co.uk. Contact: Peter Hutchinson at peter@thesaillofts.co.uk.
- **The Alfajiri Villas and Galdessa Camp** would like to invite Alliance members to stay at Alfajiri Villas (www.alfajirivillas.com) or Galdessa Camp (www.galdessa.com). Visit : www.FazendinPortfolio.com. Contact Sarah Fazendin at sarah@fazendinportfolio.com.
- **The Peat Inn and 5-star restaurant** in St.Andrews, Scotland will provide Alliance members able to review the Inn will receive complimentary dinner, bed and breakfast including guest. Visit : <http://www.thepeatinn.co.uk>. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Isles of Scilly** will be delighted to consider offering travel and accommodation to Alliance members on assignment, with a commission or who are able to obtain one. Visit: www.simplyscilly.co.uk. Contact: Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Park Hyatt Istanbul-Maçka Palas, Turkey** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Kathryn Peel at Kathryn@grifcopr.com.

- **Helpful Holidays, UK** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.helpfuleholidays.com. Contact: Pat Edgar at PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com.
- **Jet2.com and Jet2holidays.com** will be happy to consider offering flights and holiday opportunities. Contact: www.pressoffice@jet2.com.
- **Wilderness Journeys** will be delighted to consider offering press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit : www.wildernessjourneys.com. Contact: Stevie Christie at stevie@wildernessjourneys.com.
- **Divi Resorts, the Caribbean** will be happy to consider accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.diviresorts.com. Contact: Jacqueline Burton at jbarton@fww-us.com.
- **Charming Hotels Madeira** will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.charminghotelsmadeira.com. Contact: Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Sea Kayak Adventures** explore Baja and Canada's newest marine parks and prolific whale watching destinations by sea kayak with Sea Kayak Adventures. Sea Kayak Adventures will be happy to provide press trip facilities to Alliance members. Visit: www.seakayakadventures.com. Contact: Nancy Mertz at info@seakayakadventures.com.
- **The View Hotel, Monument Valley, Arizona, USA**, which opened in September 2008, is situated on the Navajo Tribal Park, on the border of Arizona and Utah. The View Hotel will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.MonumentValleyView.com. Contact: Mike Finney at mike@azcomgroup.com.
- **The Menzies Welcombe Hotel Spa & Golf Club, Stratford-upon-Avon** will be delighted to offer dinner, bed and breakfast at this country house hotel to Alliance members able to review the property. Visit : www.menzieshotels.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinwall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk
- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: Hazel Heyer at hazel_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

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

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.

Terms & Conditions:

- subject to availability at time of booking
- valid rental & booking period: Jan 1st - Dec 31, 2011
- offer valid for car rentals in Switzerland, Italy, France & Monaco, Germany
- applies to all car categories and Elite Rent-a-Car rental tariffs (Shopping/Tradition)
- blackout period for complimentary car upgrade is 1 July to 15 September 15 to 31 December 2011
- Elite Rent to be mentioned and contacts included in fact box of subsequent editorial feature

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

Æther mobile

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

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

The aether mobile SIM card works on any unlocked phone. Among the features and benefits :

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • service available in 206 countries worldwide on over 565 mobile networks and free to receive calls in 65 countries • up to 80% off the cost of making a call from abroad | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • free to receive an incoming SMS and sending an SMS is 10p in Europe and 34p for the rest of the World. • voicemail service accessible from any location • pay as you go with no penalties for non use no line rental, contract or service fees and full itemised billing. |
|---|---|

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

Dollar rent a car

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

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

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

The Leisure Pass

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

Alliance members can get review passes for the cities covered.

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

Interface Images

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

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

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

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

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

Contact David Smith at dave@interfaceimages.com

Travel guides

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

AA Travel Guides

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

Anova Books

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

Berlitz

www.berlitzpublishing.com.

Bradt Travel

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

Brit's Guide

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

Cicerone

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

Eland Publishing

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

Fisher's Travel SOS

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