

THE CONCIERGE TRAVELLER EDITION • ISSUE #5

Concierge Traveller brings you luxurious destination suggestions for the **WELL-BEING** of both body & mind.

Concierge traveller



Top to bottom, left to right. Concierge Traveller staff and clients, Nadine Lowe - National Sales Manager, Glenda McMillan-Andersson - Product Manager, Lizard Island.

After a recent short break away I realise how important it is to strike a balance between living well and being well.

Health and well-being are much-touted lures in travel; it might mean attention to diet and exercise, a desire to be a little fitter, a revitalising change of scene or just some indulgent pampering. We have a gallery of options for you to consider in this issue, from sassy urban spas to countryside retreats and slow journeys that can lift your level of activity. Your thoughts may turn to active adventures, resorts that provide a personal trainer, cruises or maybe it's as simple a desire as "no crowds".

Once spas and retreats were mostly the domain of the travelling elite, but today they are increasingly part of everyone's options. Similarly, the wellness-retreat stamp used to mean spartan accommodation and strict food regimes. Nowadays the emphasis is on "balance" and a generous coating of glamour. Treating your body and mind to some nurturing can result in a health-boosting lift. Linking this time to travel means double the benefits.

I have found that looking after my own health and balancing that against the time requirements of a demanding job, has been a challenge. Most recently I stayed at Lizard Island where city crowds were instantly forgotten and the pleasure factor of the natural setting worked its healing magic. This holiday left me with a touch of blissful inner calm without the need for any strict regimes.

Obtaining appropriate pre-travel advice is an important element of well-being. Our Advisors are well versed in professional attention to detail and they provide a suite of services, exclusive to the clients of Concierge Travel Group, called "Concierge Black". This allows us to focus on time-saving benefits to enhance your travel experience.

The growth in activities and destinations related to general well-being has been phenomenal. In these pages we hope that you find something that will take you out of the habitual and enable you to plan for travel that is beneficial on a number of levels.



M. Gava

Mary Gava
Executive General Manager



THROUGHOUT THE EDITION, THIS KEY REPRESENTS A CONCIERGE TRAVELLER EXCLUSIVE PACKAGE OR BONUS PRIVILEGE, UNIQUE TO CONCIERGE TRAVELLER.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL QUOTED COSTS ARE SUBJECT TO ALTERATION WITHOUT NOTICE.



STEPHANIE ROGERS-JULIAN
- EDITOR



WHY WE SPA

Our Editor interviewed our concierge client, Mrs Stephanie O'Connor about her recent experiences at The W Retreat in the Maldives.

THE DECISION? This was left to friends with whom we have travelled previously and whose taste we trust implicitly. The aim was a rejuvenating and sociable break.

ARRIVING? Getting to the resort was not so straightforward, but sometimes getting to a place where there are no crowds must involve a little effort. We used an airline that offered us an excellent deal and an acceptable schedule. We never put price over convenience.

THE ACCOMMODATION? Our suites were the best located on the reef, sumptuous and private. 146 square metres of bliss that exceeded all expectations.

THE SPA? We made fairly regular use of the spa. The set up was simple but effective and relaxing.

OTHER FACILITIES? The yoga sessions were well run and a real tonic whilst the gym was reasonably well-equipped but small. Four of us were granted a private gym session at a time to suit us. There were diving facilities but that was not our cup of tea.

THE FOOD? All the meals I would rate as world class. In fact, breakfasts were unbelievably good. Happily we could sometimes shun company and eat privately in our room.

WHAT DID YOU MOST ENJOY? The most memorable elements of the holiday were the staff, their consistently high level of service, the sumptuous suite facilities and private decks. Then there were the "sweet spots" around the resort where you could top up your drinks and have a "treat" at any time.

A RETURN TRIP? We would return in a heartbeat, and perhaps stay half the time at this resort and half at Taj Exotica. Both resorts were a cut above anything similar we have experienced in

the Pacific region. The Taj Exotica spa facilities seemed to be another notch above the W. From the welcome to its sophisticated ambience, it remains a lure for our next visit to the Maldives.

JUST HOW RELAXING? All of us in the group intended to do some work during the 10 days away but only half of us really made an attempt. That says something about the quality of the experience.

WAS THIS TRIP VALUE-FOR-MONEY? I can say unequivocally that the resort was excellent value for money and I have already talked some friends into substituting the W and the Maldives for a planned New York sojourn.

For information & package details for both resorts please contact Guy Batten on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: gbatten@conciergetraveller.com.au



THE GOOD LIFE

ACTIVE WELLNESS

Exercise is just the foil for a desk-bound worker. The ethos of Butterfield & Robinson has always been to give you a combination of fresh air, good food, cultural insights, interaction with locals and you learn to keep a corkscrew handy. For four decades their mantra has been "Slow down and see the world". Often the best way to travel is by bike or on foot to discover the importance of spontaneity over timetables.

John Chekian recommends two unique cycling tours to complete at your own pace.



Firstly a tour in Vietnam, from Hue to Hanoi. Rich in history, scenery and cuisine, the people are the focus of this tour. From north to south, it's a contrast of distinctly local cultures. In markets, you wade into crowds to barter and buy. On backstreets you cycle past friendly villagers and groups of curious schoolchildren.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 10 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • ALL BREAKFASTS, 10 LUNCHES & 8 DINNERS INCL. WINE • SERVICES OF GUIDES • USE OF A BICYCLE AND HELMET • FROM USD5,795.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

The second tour takes you cycling through vineyard-rich Burgundy for 6 days and 5 nights.

Each cycling tour en Bourgogne feels as exhilarating as the first time. This is French wine's ancestral home, where grand cru vineyards are your most trusted landmarks. Here, you'll cycle to the top of the gorgeous Hautes Côtes, sip vintages in the fields where they grew, spend the night at Abbaye de la Bussière - the region's most exclusive hotel - and with the help of a local guide, explore the unhurried pleasures of Beaune.



PACKAGE INCLUDES • 5 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • ALL BREAKFASTS, 3 LUNCHES & 4 DINNERS INCL. WINE • USE OF A CUSTOMISED BICYCLE AND HELMET • SERVICES OF A GUIDE AND SUPPORT VAN • FROM USD6,995.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

Standard inclusions for a B&R tour are: special events, private tours, guest experts and entrance fees, transportation from rendez-vous to drop off, van support & coach transfers, luggage porters, gratuities for luggage, porters and hotel service.



THE REMEDY OF PEACEFUL AND UNSPOILED PLACES - A WALK FROM FLORENCE TO SIENA

No matter how many times you travel to Italy, you will be moved by its rich cultural heritage and the sublime beauty of its landscape.

Tuscany offers exceptional cuisine, and many of Italy's greatest wines. Virtually every village possesses a noteworthy trattoria where you can enjoy food of refined simplicity. In June the countryside becomes a carpet of brilliant yellow. In September and October, the region displays a palette of ochre and gold. To walk the clearly marked paths of the Chianti countryside is to enjoy the freedom of a non-guided (but well-organised) itinerary and to see a side of Italy that many only read about.

This walking itinerary starts and finishes in two of the most beautiful cities in Italy - Renaissance Florence and Medieval Siena. Each city is filled with glorious architecture, art and museums. Between the two, the walk takes you through tracts of rolling hills, vineyards, olive groves, pine and oak forests, isolated farmhouses and medieval market towns.

In true Concierge Traveller style, your bags will be transported between your hand-picked hotels and your evening meals will be waiting for you at the end of the day. You will need some experience with orientation and there are several days where the walks and climbs are longer than 15 kilometres.

John Chekian recommends this stunning, epicurean walk as extraordinary value for money.



THIS EXCLUSIVE CONCIERGE TRAVELLER SELF-GUIDED WALK INCLUDES • 5 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • MOST MEALS • RESTAURANT RECOMMENDATIONS • READING LISTS AND NOTES • MAPS AND DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS • DAILY LUGGAGE TRANSFER • THE BACK UP OF A LOCAL MANAGER • FROM AUD2,350.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

Contact John for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au



SICILY - THE BIG CHEESE!

Sicily is an island almost constantly bathed in sunshine and culture-rich as a result of a succession of Mediterranean powers that have ruled its shores for two millennia. This tour allows you to slow down and to absorb the essence of the island on foot. What is revealed is Sicily's deeply rustic culture - mountain villages, farms, shepherds and freshly-made cheeses. Mount Etna, the highest active volcano in Europe, dominates eastern Sicily and the walk on the slopes of

this astonishing mountain takes you above 2000m.

The paths along Pantalica Gorge are Sicily's greatest necropolis where Neolithic tombs have been hewn into the canyon walls. En route to Palermo you stop in Piazza Armerina to visit the sprawling complex of the Villa Romana, once a Roman hunting lodge dating back to 305 AD. Its mosaics are breathtaking and virtually intact.

Incorporated into this walking tour are the Aeolian Islands that are perched in the unsettled waters off the northern Sicilian coast. These islands offer excellent walking and marvelous vantage points over other islands.

John Chekian loves the dramatic scenery of Sicily and recommends this tour to walking enthusiasts.

PACKAGE INCLUDES • 14 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • 13 BREAKFASTS & 11 DINNERS • PICK UP AT A PALERMO HOTEL • DROP OFF AT A PALERMO HOTEL • ALL TRANSPORT • RETURN FERRY TO LIPARI • FROM AUD6,990.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.

Contact John for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au



BUSHMANS KLOOF - A WALK IN THE PARK

The unspoiled Cederberg foothills are four hours by car north of Cape Town. The route passes through wheat fields and lush green citrus groves. The foothills are a mecca for walkers and rock climbers who flock to take in the area's dramatic and weird rock formations, while old woodcutters' paths crisscross the wilderness. The flower-carpeted veld is at its best in September and October.

Bushmans Kloof eco-lodge is concealed in the Cederberg foothills. Guided rock art tours, spa and fitness centre



sessions and swimming in the resort's rock pools typify the daily leisure activities.

Game drives take place where there is a wide variety of antelope species and birdlife.

In 2010, this could well be your well-earned retreat from the pace and crowds of glorious Cape Town.

Elisabeth Grieder is a fan of natural heritage sites in any country.



BUSHMAN'S KLOOF PACKAGE INCLUDES • 4 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A LUXURY ROOM • ALL MEALS • EARLY MORNING GUIDED ROCK ART EXCURSION • EVENING DRIVE WITH SUNDOWNER DRINKS & SNACKS • LAUNDRY SERVICES • ALL LODGE ACTIVITIES • CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: PAY 3, STAY 4. UPGRADE ON ARRIVAL IF AVAILABLE • PICNIC FOR TWO AT A PRIVATE LOCATION • COMPLIMENTARY GIFTS ON DEPARTURE • EARLY CHECK-IN AT NOON IF AVAILABLE • FROM ZAR1,665 - ZAR2,755 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • STAY 4 NIGHTS (MINIMUM) AND PAY FOR 3 • VALID TO 31 AUGUST 2010.

Contact Elisabeth for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at: egrieder@conciergetraveller.com.au



SPIRITUAL & SECLUDED RETREATS



CHIVA-SOM, HAVEN OF LIFE

Chiva-Som is a departure from the conventional thinking about Thailand. This award-winning spa draws its popularity from a focus on individually devised health programs. Self-transformation through effective, holistic treatment programs is its unwavering philosophy.

Located on the beachfront of Hua Hin, two and a half hours drive south of Bangkok, Chiva-Som sits within 7 acres of gardens that promote a real sense of privacy, luxury, exclusivity and well-being. Chiva-Som however is anything but a pleasure palace. Guests check in here not only to relax but to make major lifestyle adjustments. Here the spa treatments and the health programs are the main attractions, with the beaches, restaurants and local attractions playing second fiddle.

The stylish rooms, the programs and the team of seemingly shy but focussed and professional staff, ensure that Chiva-Som offers optimal wellness for mind, body and spirit.

John Chekian says that the individual health programs at Chiva-Som are unparalleled.

CHIVA-SOM SUMMER PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS OCEAN VIEW DOUBLE ACCOMMODATION • ALL MEALS • ROOM UPGRADE ON ARRIVAL • A MASSAGE UPGRADE TO A DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE FOR TWO PER DAY • A SPECIAL ADDITIONAL AMENITY FOR STAYS FROM 1 MAY TO 30 SEP 2010 • ONE SPA HAVEN FACIAL PER ROOM • MINIMUM STAY 7 NIGHTS * FROM USD460.00 PER DOUBLE ROOM PER NIGHT • VALID FROM 1 MAY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2010.

Contact John for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: jchekian@conciergetraveller.com.au



ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE PAMPERED IN THE SWISS ALPS

With majestic mountains, crystal-clear air and unspoiled countryside, the Swiss alpine ambience really does offer the ideal environment for you to be pampered or become fit and healthy.

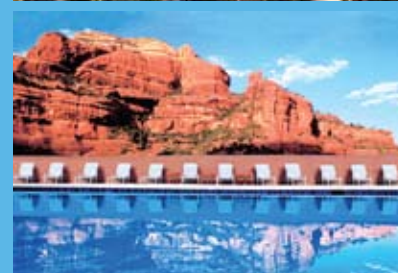
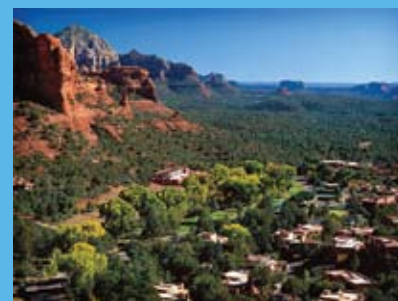
We could present the most famous and most staggeringly expensive health resorts in all of Europe, but what we present here instead is one of the well-being hot-spots that our Swiss Advisors consider to be the best value for money hotel/spas in Switzerland.

The Romans were the first to recognise the healing properties of the hot springs of Leukerbad. The 65 gushing thermal springs have made Leukerbad one of the biggest spa and wellness resorts in Switzerland and there is always a chance to regenerate in the warm, relaxing water. In the heart of this traffic-free village is the traditional, 4 star Lindner Hotel and Alpenterme with an underground connection between the hotel and its large centre for medicinal wellness. Use of the hotel's private thermal pools, sauna and spa is included in the room rate.

Alan Tubery says that men too will enjoy the healing effects of the hot springs of Leukerbad.

THE LINDNER ALPENTERME GLADIATOR DAY SPA PACKAGE FOR MEN INCLUDES • ADMISSION TO THE ROMAN BATHS (2 HOURS) AND THE THERMAL BATHS (3 HOURS) • ONE CLARINS ANTI-STRESS TREATMENT (1 HOUR) • ONE CAESAR SALAD IN THE EAU LA LA BISTRO • FROM CHF235 PER PERSON.

Contact Alan for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: atubery@conciergetraveller.com.au



ENCHANTMENT- WHERE THE TOWN HAS ALREADY BEEN PAINTED RED

Cradled amongst the red rock formations of Arizona's Boynton Canyon, Enchantment Resort and Spa in Sedona combines luxury with rugged grandeur. The resort's adobe villas sit amid 70 acres of boulders, pine trees and juniper bushes and are dwarfed by sandstone cliffs.

More than just offering spa treatments, guests can opt for activities such as tennis, star-gazing and a wide range of outdoor activities that can be as simple as following a walking trail.

ENCHANTMENT PACKAGE INCLUDES • 3 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A CASITA JUNIOR SUITE • A RESORT CREDIT OF USD150.00 • DINNER FOR 2 ON ONE NIGHT OF YOUR STAY INCL. A BOTTLE OF CHAMPAGNE OR A BOTTLE OF HOUSE WINE • ONE 60 MINUTE SPA PER PERSON TO A MAXIMUM VALUE OF USD145 + GRATUITY • USD22 RESORT FEE PER NIGHT • FROM USD1,792.00 • USD2,294.00 PER ROOM FOR 3 NIGHTS • 3 NIGHTS MINIMUM STAY • VALID TO 31 DECEMBER 2010 • CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: UPGRADE ON ARRIVAL IF AVAILABLE • DAILY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOR TWO • A USD50.00 CREDIT TO BE APPLIED TO INCIDENTALS.

Contact Guy for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: gbatten@conciergetraveller.com.au



THE GÔRA KADAN - ZEN BY ANY OTHER NAME

The most remarkable thing about Japan is the divide between its thousand-year-old traditions and its thirst for modernity. The juxtaposition of the two can sometimes be found in exceptional ryokans - traditional Japanese travellers' inns, located along Japan's country roads that date back hundreds of years. With their traditional décor they are a window to an historical way of life.

Just eighty-five minutes outside Tokyo, Gôra Kadan, a one-time imperial family retreat, is now a first-class ryokan in the middle of the Hakone National Park in an area of volcanic springs. A stay in Gôra Kadan is an invitation to bring your senses to life by submerging yourself in Japan's most ancient way of life.

Rooms come in semi-Western as well as typical tatami styles, and some have open-air wooden or stone baths. The spa goes beyond the classic, dips into international treatments such as thalasso therapy and Dead Sea Salts; most impressive, however, is again the natural setting, a mineral pool ringed with enormous rocks.

Paul Patane is wrapped in Zen retreats and this one also offers golf, swimming, hiking, fishing and water-skiing.

GÔRA KADAN PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A SUPERIOR TATMI ROOM WITH OPEN AIR STONE BATH • BREAKFAST & DINNER DAILY • SERVICE CHARGES • FROM JPY130,000 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • TAXES ARE ADDITIONAL.

Contact Paul for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email him at: ppatane@conciergetraveller.com.au



INNER JOURNEY TO THE HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS

There are compelling, remote regions of the Indian Himalaya, easily accessible from Delhi. Without the usual effort involved in trekking, you can indulge in their rejuvenating effects. Our vision is that you experience creature comforts in sophisticated simplicity and an authentic Himalayan experience. Village walks, spectacular mountain retreats and a unique river journey are part of the least trodden places that any traveller can imagine, let alone be fortunate enough to experience. The unique benefits of this snapshot of rural life include vistas of rice field valleys, attractive, shy local people, nutritious, healthy food, sweet crystal clean air and stupendous views. We have included a visit to the fabled Taj Mahal to complete the journey.

Julie Richards has been quoted as saying that this rejuvenating journey will take your breath away (and give it back threefold!).

EXCLUSIVE SHAKTI VILLAGE WALK PACKAGE INCLUDES • 10 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • 1 DAY-USE ROOM IN DELHI • OVERNIGHT TRAIN EX DELHI TO KATHGODAM • 10 BREAKFASTS, 6 LUNCHES & 6 DINNERS • SIGHTSEEING IN DELHI INCL. GUIDE AND ENTRANCE FEES • PRIVATE CHARTER FLIGHT TO AGRA • ALL VILLAGE WALKS AND CAMPING ARRANGEMENTS INCL. PORTERS, GUIDES, DRINKS (SOFT & ALCOHOLIC) • TRANSPORT IN AIR-CONDITIONED VEHICLES WHEN IN DELHI • 2 VEHICLES AT YOUR DISPOSAL DURING VILLAGE WALKS AND ALL TRANSFERS • FROM USD9,300.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE BASED ON A MINIMUM OF 6 PEOPLE.

Contact Julie for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at: jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au





3

DOMESTIC BLISS

QUALIA (1)

Island life has taken a turn for the stylish. This Australian utopia sits in delicious isolation on the northern most tip of Hamilton Island. It has 27 Windward Pavilions, all with jaw-dropping views of the Whitsunday Passage, which is home to sea eagles, ospreys, dugongs and turtles, and winter-migrating humpback whales. The pavilions are four times the size of an average five-star hotel room, and each has a private pool, sun deck, living room, kitchen and stone bathroom.

The mini bars are stocked with luxury foods, champagne and designer beers and the hub of the resort is the striking, granite constructed cliff-top restaurant.

Two pools, a beachside gym, a spa and yoga/meditation centre make for a sophisticated yet laid-back ambience. The sleek Spa Qualia, set in a grove of gnarled frangipani trees, offers hot stone massages that are just part of the extensive range of treatments.

Elisabeth Grieder says this is a place where guests can actually feel time unravel.

SPA QUALIA PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A LEEWARD PAVILION • ALL MEALS DAILY AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONSUMED AT THE RESTAURANTS • NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM THE MINIBAR • CHAUFFEUR SERVICE AROUND THE ISLAND • RETURN AIRPORT OR MARINA TRANSFERS • USE OF NON-MOTORISED WATERCRAFT • SELECTED BEACH DROP OFFS ON SURROUNDING ISLANDS • A SPA TREATMENT TO THE VALUE OF AUD200.00 PER PERSON • CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: UPGRADE ON ARRIVAL SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY (LEEWARD TO WINDWARD PAVILIONS ONLY) • A SUNSET CRUISE INCLUDING CANAPÉS AND SELECTED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR 2 ONCE DURING YOUR STAY • FROM AUD3,298.00 PER COUPLE.

LAKE HOUSE, DAYLESFORD (2)

An easy 80-minute drive from Melbourne - Spa Country has developed a reputation for indulgence and pampering. Australia's largest concentration of naturally occurring mineral springs is found in the Daylesford region as is one of the largest cluster networks of masseurs, beauty therapists and holistic practitioners.

The nearest springs are right on the property's doorstep. Enjoy a pleasant stroll or a more challenging hike. A hit of tennis followed by an indulgent

massage and some soaking in the Salus Spa can make for a perfect day. You might choose to do nothing much at all or simply read by the fire in the spacious lounge, on your balcony or on the terraces overlooking the water.

Lake House also boasts an award-winning, two chefs' hat restaurant and cellar.

Elisabeth Grieder knows that many fresh country air indulgences can be discovered at Lake House.

THE LAKEHOUSE "QUICK FIX" PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION • A DETOX PROGRAM INCLUDING SPA CUISINE MEALS DAILY • AN ELEMIS LIME & GINGER BODY POLISH • A SUGGESTED PROGRAM OF WALKS GRADED FOR INDIVIDUAL FITNESS LEVELS • USE OF RETREAT FACILITIES • FROM AUD780.00 PER PERSON IN A LODGE ROOM • 2 NIGHTS MINIMUM STAY.

HEAVEN ON HAYMAN (3)

In the northern Whitsunday Passage, Hayman Resort sits alone on the island. The rooms deliver privacy and face the ultimate in saltwater lagoons. On offer are eclectic dining areas, a coral-sand beach and water sports paraphernalia for even the most fanatic water enthusiasts. Importantly, Spa Hayman is the setting for delicious experiences. You can choose from an exclusive array of treatments and wellness programs. If a signature Ocean massage does not bliss you out then this masterful resort can provide a tour of the wine cellar and chocolate room!

SPA HAYMAN PACKAGE INCLUDES • 3 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A LUXURIOUS RETREAT ROOM • DAILY BUFFET BREAKFAST AT AZURE • A 60 MINUTE TREATMENT, EITHER A BODY MASSAGE OR POWER FACIAL PER PERSON ONCE PER STAY • EXCLUSIVE CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: A BOTTLE OF SPARKLING WINE ON ARRIVAL • FROM AUD1,021.00 PER PERSON TWIN SHARE • VALID TO 31 MARCH 2010.

Contact Elisabeth for more information on all of these packages (02) 8270 4800 or email her at: egrieder@conciergetraveller.com.au



Mary Ann understands that for some of us, going on holiday simply isn't relaxing enough: we want powerful pampering, massages that make us feel brand new and facials that make us glow from the inside out. Concierge Traveller's recommended resorts are not only cooler than a cucumber eye mask, each place has a treatment menu guaranteed to un-furrow your brow and elevate your vitality quotient.

TAHITI INTERCONTINENTAL THALASSO SPA & RESORT (1)

The contemporary Thalasso Spa at Bora Bora, the largest spa in the Tahitian islands, offers a new dimension to paradise. The Deep Ocean Spa is the epicentre of this very polished resort. Treatment rooms are glass-floored overwater bungalows enabling you to admire the marine life below. Relaxation areas have an unobstructed view over the ocean and sensational outdoor spas, steam baths and rain showers ensure complete and sensual indulgence.



INTERCONTINENTAL THALASSO SPA PACKAGE INCLUDES • 2 NIGHTS PRE & POST ACCOMMODATION ONLY AT INTERCONTINENTAL TAHITI IN PAPEETE • 5 NIGHTS IN AN EMERALD OVERWATER BUNGALOW IN BORA BORA • RETURN ECONOMY CLASS AIRFARE VIA AUCKLAND • ALL ROUND TRIP TRANSFERS IN PAPEETE AND BORA BORA • EXCLUSIVE OF BED TAX XPF150.00 PER PERSON TO BE PAID DIRECT • FROM AUD4,840.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • VALID TO 31 MAY 2010 • CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: BREAKFAST & DINNER DAILY IN BORA BORA.

MALDIVES

- COCO ISLAND RESORT (2)

There is more to the turquoise Maldives than just its deeply satisfying colours. At Coco Island Resort the style is a simple yet sophisticated mix of the contemporary and the indigenous. Rooms occupy converted "dhoni" (Maldivian fishing) boats, each overhanging the reef-protected

lagoon. The cuisine is designed to maximise well-being with the use of organic foods. At the Shambhala Retreat, with its four treatment rooms and hydrotherapy pools, there is an open-air pavilion where yoga is practised on the sunrise side of the island.



COCO ISLAND RESORT PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A DHONI LOFT SUITE • RETURN ECONOMY CLASS AIRFARE VIA SINGAPORE • ALL SPEEDBOAT TRANSFERS • SHAMBHALA SPA CUISINE BREAKFAST & DINNER DAILY • FROM AUD5,250.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: 2 COMPLIMENTARY NIGHTS INCLUDED • VALID 15 MAY - 15 OCT 2010.

THAILAND - SIX SENSES DESTINATION SPA PHUKET (3)

In the glinting waters of the Andaman Sea, the tropical island of Phuket is rightly one the most popular destinations in Thailand. The Evason Six Senses Spa sits in a region where 5 star resorts grow ever more over-the-top. Its eco-friendly practices contribute to the smug satisfaction you will feel while lounging in the sun. This spa resort somehow feels not only deeply luxurious but entirely sensible and life-renewing at the same time.

SIX SENSES SPA PHUKET PACKAGE INCLUDES • 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A BEACH POOL VILLA • 3 SPA CUISINE MEALS PER DAY • ARRIVAL WELLNESS CONSULTATION • TWO 60 MINUTE TREATMENTS PER DAY • A CHOICE OF DAILY WELLNESS ACTIVITIES • RETURN ECONOMY CLASS AIRFARE TO PHUKET VIA BANGKOK • ROUND TRIP AIRPORT TRANSFERS • FROM AUD4,340 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE • VALID TO 31 MAR 2010.

Contact Mary Ann San Roman for more information on all of these packages on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at: msanroman@conciergetraveller.com.au



3

ISLAND EXPERIENCES BEYOND THE ORDINARY



DOWN AT THE (CANYON) RANCH AND ALL AT SEA

Oceania Cruises emphasizes a destination-intensive, floating-hotel experience with top-notch food and superior service. Public rooms, including the restaurants, are graceful and elegant. Overall, this clever cruise company has managed to create a luxury experience, and has been one of the cruise industry's best value-for-money options in cruising.

We have previously extolled the virtues of Oceania but its spa facilities are outstanding and worthy of special note. Canyon Ranch SpaClub has been the acknowledged world leader in healthy living expertise and a haven of luxury, comfort and warmth for 30 years. On Oceania's cruise ships it has found a unique and spectacular setting. Indulgent services, informative presentations, nurturing wellness services and exercise classes that promote resilience, restore serenity and leave you feeling fantastic.

Canyon Ranch SpaClub offers nothing less than state-of-the-art facilities including 16 massage, body and skin-care treatment rooms, a gym and weight room with more than 50 pieces of cardio and weight training equipment, a juice bar, locker rooms and two whirlpools. Adjacent to the pool is an extensive Thermal Suite featuring a herbal sauna, Finnish sauna, reflexology basins and an aromatic

steam room. You will have the opportunity to indulge in the spa's signature treatment, the Rasul Ceremony. This medicinal mud and steam treatment takes place in an ornately tiled steam chamber.

Oceania Cruises offer excellent food, especially comfortable bedding, a high proportion of balcony cabins and port intensive itineraries. Add to this the Canyon Ranch SpaClub facilities and the experience for guests approaches the sublime. It's a cruise ship in the four star category, that has now added to the reasons for its fine reputation. Give your mind and body a blissful holiday with rejuvenating facials, soothing body treatments, relaxing massages, energizing fitness classes and expert, salon finishing touches.

Julie Richards bets that spa connoisseurs will be lining up for this treatment.

Contact Julie for the latest CONCIERGE EXCLUSIVE OFFERS and cruise itinerary suggestions on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at: jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au



ALASKA BOUND - AMERICAN SAFARI CRUISES

Be pampered, leave the crowds behind, cruise breathlessly close to Alaska's stunning landscapes and wildlife. Leave relaxed and rejuvenated. American Safari yachts carry a maximum of 36 guests, cruise only during daylight hours and have flexible itineraries. Uniquely surprising is that each yacht carries mountain bikes, kayaks and skiffs. Some yachts include private balconies, yoga classes, a masseur, spa and exercise equipment.

You will spend two days in Glacier Bay National Park, enjoying naturalist-guided shore excursions hiking and kayaking.

EX JUNEAU GLACIER COUNTRY CRUISE INCLUDES
• 7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION IN A MARINER CABIN
• MEET & GREET AND TRANSFERS • ALL SHORE EXCURSIONS • SERVICES OF GUIDES, RANGERS & NATURALISTS • KAYAK & SMALL BOAT EXCURSIONS • ALL DRINKS • ALL MEALS • DEPARTURES MAY TO AUGUST 2010 • FROM AUD6,460.00 PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE
CONCIERGE BONUS PRIVILEGE: USD700.00 PER CABIN SAVING FOR BOOKINGS MADE BEFORE 31 MARCH 2010 • DISCRETIONARY TIPS NOT INCLUDED.

Contact Erika Affolter for more information on all of these packages on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at: eaffolter@conciergetraveller.com.au



CRUISE CALENDAR 2010



We are all aware that cruising offers a less hurried way to see the world. A slower pace, comfortable cabins and suites, inspired cuisine options, extensive selections of fine wines and spirits, appealing public spaces, cossetting health and beauty facilities and sophisticated entertainment choices – these are some of the elements which make cruising a form of travel that can maximise your well-being en route and not just at your destination.

Our master cruise Advisors, Julie Richards, John Chekian and Guy Batten are bursting with helpful

tips to steer you to a most suitable choice of cruise. Whether you are seeking a large or a small ship experience, they have a very broad first hand experience of the sample cruises in this list.

Contact Julie Richards for more information on (02) 8270 4800 or email her at jrichards@conciergetraveller.com.au



MONTH	SHIP	DAYS	ITINERARY	COST
January/March	Prince Albert II - 132 pax	10	Antarctica Ushuaia to Ushuaia - 6 days on the ice	FROM USD7866.00 pp
February	Queen Victoria - 2000 pax	19	Asia Voyage Sydney to Hong Kong - Via Melbourne/Adelaide/Albany/Exmouth/Kota Kinabalu	FROM AUD5100.00 pp
March to October	Viking Century Sun - 306 pax	11	Imperial Jewels of China Beijing/Xian/Yantgze River/Shanghai	FROM AUD3940.00 pp
March to November	Viking Primadonna - 148 pax	14	Eastern European Odyssey Oltensita/Belgrade/Budapest/Vienna/Linz/Passau	FROM AUD4420.00 pp
March to November	Viking Spirit - 150 pax	7	Paris and the Heart of Normandy Paris/Giverny/Vernon/Normandy beaches/Conflans	FROM AUD2700.00 pp
May to October	Viking Legend - 189 pax	14	Grand European Tour Amsterdam/Cologne/Vienna/Budapest	FROM AUD5600.00 pp
May to October	Viking Kirov - 210 pax	13	Waterways of the Czars Moscow/St. Petersburg/Kizhi/Goritzky/Uglich	FROM AUD7399.00 pp
June	Nautica - 684 pax	10	Historic Reflections Athens to Barcelona	FROM AUD4800.00 pp
August	Star Flyer - 170 pax	14	Under Sail - Rhodes to Monaco Via Turkey Sicily and Italian ports	FROM AUD7300.00 pp
September	Silver Whisper - 382 pax	11	Trans Atlantic - Southampton to New York Via Newfoundland and Nova Scotia	FROM AUD6300.00 pp
October	Silver Whisper - 382 pax	9	Autumn Colours - New York to New York Via Nova Scotia New Brunswick and Maine	FROM AUD6330.00 pp
November	RV La Margerite - 92 pax	10	Lower Mekong Explorer Saigon to Siem Reap	FROM AUD3560.00 pp
December	Sun Princess - 1950 pax	13	New Zealand Sydney to Sydney	FROM AUD3900.00 pp

• ALL PRICES ARE FROM AND BASED ON PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE.



Concierge Traveller

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