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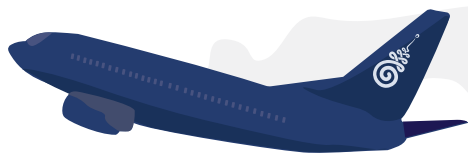
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Welcome!



Where will you travel to next?

At Inspiring Vacations, we're on a mission to inspire you to see the world. If you're dreaming of travelling to the most iconic destinations across the globe, you're in the right place. We couldn't be more excited to get you there.

Inside these pages, we showcase where we go, what we do, and bring you some insight into our favourite and most popular destinations.

Happy planning and, as always—safe travels.

Paul Ryan, CEO

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MEET OUR TRAVEL EXPERTS



Brendon, Head of Travel

Always looking for his next adventure—here in Australia or in a souk on the other side of the world—travel is serious business for Brendon, so much so, he co-founded Inspiring Vacations and as Head of Travel, he is responsible, along with Martin and Paul, for creating all the itineraries you see on our site.

Pro Tip: Don't wait to book—demand for travel has never been stronger. Take advantage of great offers available now and book that next trip before it's too late.



Martin, Product Manager

Martin loves nothing more than adventure travel and exploring the great outdoors. He loves exploring Australia (especially Tassie) and his native South America, so much so he made it his mission to get as many Inspiring Vacations customers to visit and fall in love with Peru as he can.

Pro Tip: Book your favourite trip now before it sells out—2023 and beyond will be a travel frenzy and I can't wait!



Paul, Product Manager

Planes, trains, automobiles—Paul loves them all, especially if they get you around Canada, his first love. Paul creates our Canada and Alaska itineraries (among others) so if you're thinking of exploring this part of the world on one of our tours, you're in good hands.

Pro Tip: It's the time to book your bucket list holiday. Time is precious and there is no better time than now to visit the destination you've always dreamed about. What are you waiting for?



Our DESTINATIONS





Forget Africa, Sri Lanka allows you to go on safari much closer to home. Home to an incredible array of animals (only out-matched by the African continent), see leopards, elephants, monkeys, deer and even bears if you are incredibly lucky. During the right time of year, cruise the waters to catch a glimpse of the mighty blue whale. It's an affordable, luxurious and mesmerising trip all in one.

– Brendon

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SRI LANKA

Sri Lanka boasts exquisite cuisine, world-class beaches and national parks as animal-rich as any in Africa.

It's a place of rich culture and tradition, influenced by its intriguing history. Stroll the streets of southern Galle and you'll encounter an eclectic architectural mix of east and west.



Just the thought of this colourful destination makes my senses tingle. Rajasthan is the go-to for many first-time visitors and with good reason: it is home to the ancient wonders of the Maharajas. An extension to Kerala gives the first-time traveller to India the full experience (until you return, of course).

– Brendon

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INDIA

India is a colourful country that takes its celebrations as seriously as its worship and has great pride in its gastronomy.

Step off the plane and prepare for a sensory overload: blaring car horns, lively markets, and aromatic spices that tickle your nose. Between its delicious cuisine, varying by region and season, and its phenomenal ancient structures—the Taj Mahal and the Amer Fort to name just two—India offers something for the curious traveller.



Is there a better destination that fuses old with new? Japan is so much more than just a rich history — it's home to sophisticated cuisine, deep spiritual connections and people that welcome you with open arms. It is a destination you can keep going back to time and time again.

– Brendon

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JAPAN

The land of the rising sun is a captivating destination unlike any other. A country of varied landscapes, its 6,852 islands are jam-packed with natural wonders and jaw-dropping architecture.

We know and love Japan: let us give you an authentic taste of this magical land of contrasts, where tradition and modernity intersect. From the kitsch neighbourhoods of buzzing Tokyo, to the torii-lined streets of traditional Kyoto and iconic treasures like Mount Fuji, Japan is truly unmissable.

It's a country jam-packed with natural beauty and rich history, with no shortage of famous temples, gardens, castles and shrines. Absorb grand relics of Japan's storied past, including Matsuyama Castle, Takayama's quaint old town and World Heritage Listed beauties like Golden Pavilion and Itsukushima shrines. The Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park provides a place for reflection, while the lush, peaceful green splendour of Arashiyama Bamboo Grove in Kyoto makes for a mesmerising experience.



Sawasdee krab! Everyone is familiar with Thailand as a fantastic beach destination, however northern Thailand holds a rich history and is steeped in traditions. Chiang Mai is fascinating with history dating back to ancient kingdoms of the 14th century.

– Brendon

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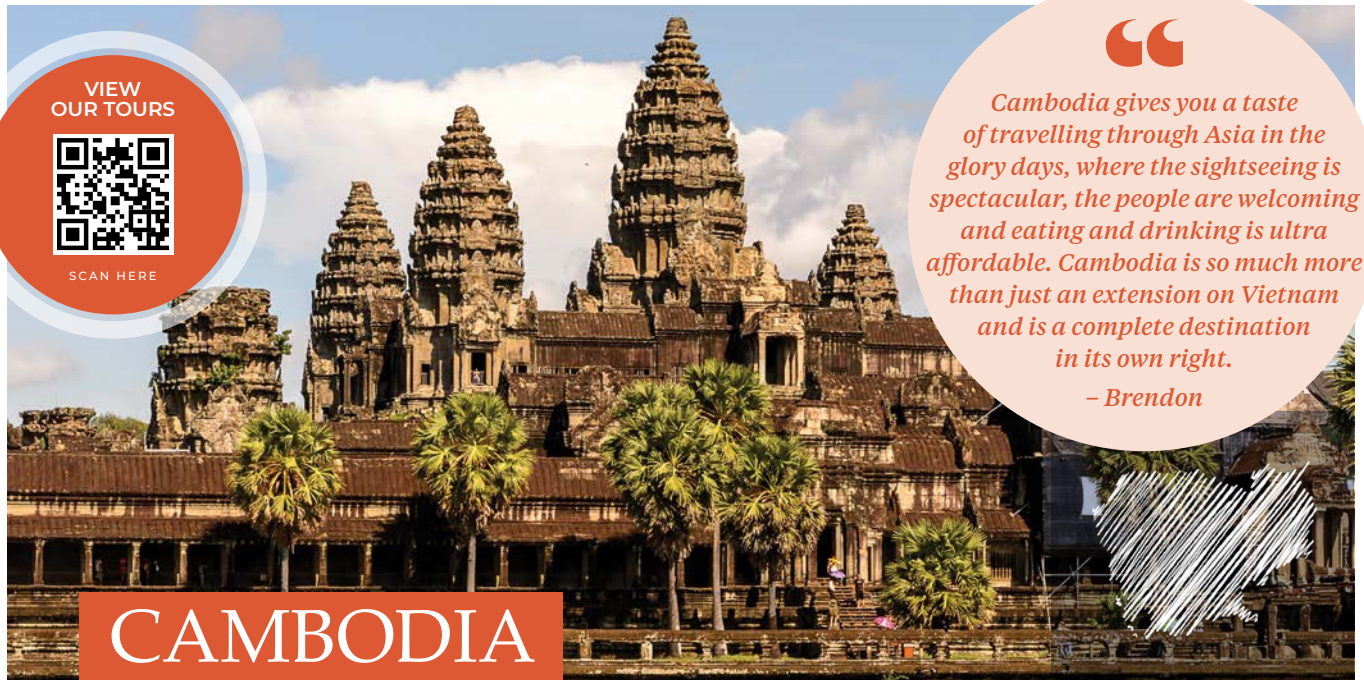


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Beloved for its culture and tasty cuisine, Thailand is one of the world's most visited destinations.

This wonderfully diverse country nestled between Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia, fulfills every preconception you may have: powder-white beaches, golden stupas, street carts selling tropical fruit and bustling markets.

Long-boat around the eastern islands, where craggy limestone karsts jut from impossibly blue waters, or head north to Chiang Mai—former capital of the Lanna Kingdom and Thailand's spiritual heart.



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Cambodia gives you a taste of travelling through Asia in the glory days, where the sightseeing is spectacular, the people are welcoming and eating and drinking is ultra affordable. Cambodia is so much more than just an extension on Vietnam and is a complete destination in its own right.

– Brendon

The small country of Cambodia is jam-packed with heritage, culture and beautiful landscapes.

Relics of this resilient nation's chequered history abound, from remnants of French colonial rule, ruins of glorious ancient kingdoms and sombre monuments

paying tribute to the suffering inflicted by the reign of Khmer Rouge in the 1970s.

Outside of the nation's renowned ancient treasures—like the magnificent temple complex of Angkor Wat—there's much to please the curious traveller: beautiful beaches and islands, lush jungles, welcoming locals and delectable local cuisine.



Vietnam is a must on every bucket list! From the chaotic melody of Ho Chi Minh to the composure of Hanoi, Vietnam will have you ready for adventure. The people are welcoming, the food is to die for, and the country beautiful. Make sure to dine at the many street food vendors for a taste of true Vietnam.

– Brendon

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VIETNAM

Home to vibrant streets, breathtaking bays and delicious cuisine, Vietnam is a proud nation with an intricate history.

Home to vibrant streets, breathtaking bays and delicious cuisine, Vietnam is a proud nation with an intricate history. From the diverse hill tribes of the mountainous north to the iconic Mekong Delta and the thronging capital Hanoi, the country inspires at

every turn. Over the course of history, the Vietnamese people have endured many challenges—war, foreign occupation and political instability, to name a few—yet they remain some of the most optimistic and welcoming in the world. Vietnam will charm you with its culture and entrance you with its beauty.

Kayak around the limestone pinnacles of Halong Bay, trek the lush rice paddies of Sapa, wander the lantern-lined streets of Hoi An and tuck into crusty *bánh mì* and bowls of *pho* along the way. Vietnam will charm you with its culture and entrance you with its beauty.



Bali is just one part of Indonesia, outside of Bali, Indonesia houses some of the greatest treasures in the world. The Borobudur complex in Java rivals the temples of Siem Reap and the pyramids of Egypt.

– Brendon

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INDONESIA

The Republic of Indonesia is the largest country in southeast Asia and comprises over 16,000 islands and 34 provinces spread over five main islands and four archipelagos.

The largest islands—Sumatra, Java, Kalimantan, Sulawesi, and Papua—are nestled among thousands of smaller islands, including the ever-popular Bali known for its natural beauty, holistic lifestyle, and welcoming locals.

Indonesia has one of the most diverse cultures in the world, with each region having its own distinctive cultural characteristics, local language (over 700 of them), dance, custom and costume. If you're a budding volcanologist, there are 147 volcanoes to visit in total with the most active found on Java.

Malaysia is a southeast Asian melting pot, where cultures and cuisines coalesce in a place like no other.



Living in the Pacific, Malaysia is on our doorstep, if you are further a field Malaysia is an exotic destination. Home to some of the greatest wildlife on earth, Malaysia comes alive when visiting Borneo and sits proudly as a wildlife mecca in line with Sri Lanka or Africa.

– Brendon

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MALAYSIA

Hopping from temple to mosque, high-rise to jungle is commonplace in a nation as diverse as this. If you're an animal lover, head to Penang National Park which boasts—at last count—271 wildlife species. If food is your first love, sample spicy curries, laksas, and rendang across the country.



It is almost impossible to sum up Africa in a few sentences. Africa has captivated explorers for centuries and rightly so. It is home to some of the world's greatest treasures, most breathtaking natural wonders and animals from every childhood fantasy. Make sure you tick off the must dos—game drives, Okavango Delta, Victoria Falls and Cape Town—to round out your adventure.

– Brendon

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AFRICA

Suitable for all travellers, from the curious, to the thrill-seekers and historians, Southern Africa has attractions galore and a world-class food and wine scene to boot.

From sundowners on the savannah to the crashing glory of Victoria Falls, the experiences are as big as they are wild—like the Makgadikgadi Salt Pan (one of the largest salt flats in the world), or the Okavango Delta.

An African adventure isn't complete without a superior safari experience: meerkats in the Kalahari, elephants at Chobe National Park and, of course, prime game viewing at Kruger National Park, with nearly two million hectares of unfenced African wilderness.



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Ancient Roman ruins, rolling dunes, imposing canyons, you can almost picture yourself as Lawrence of Arabia. The highlight of any traveller to Jordan is Petra but camping under the stars in Wadi Rum is something every traveller will remember forever.
 – Paul

JORDAN

As one of the driest countries in the world, it's no surprise that Jordan is home to sweeping deserts and otherworldly landscapes like Wadi Rum.

From wandering the world-famous Nabatean city of Petra in the southwest, to taking a dip in the Dead Sea—the world's lowest point—and tucking into a spicy zarb (Bedoin barbecue), a trip to Jordan is an unforgettable sensory journey.



“
Morocco is a spectacular fusion of Europe, Africa and the Middle East. The coastal cities are sophisticated but exotic at the same time but inland is really where Morocco comes alive. The medinas of Meknes and Fez are straight out of Indian Jones and life continues in a way it has for hundreds of years.
 – Paul

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MOROCCO

A land of rolling dunes, ancient medinas, and bustling souks, Morocco is the gem of northern Africa.

The country is a collision of extremes: old and new, vast desert and lush oases, crowded cities and soaring mountain ranges. Whether you're navigating the serpentine streets of Fes, or following the footsteps of T. E. Lawrence into the Sahara, prepare to be charmed by its diversity.



Nothing can prepare you for the first time you see the Pyramids of Giza. They are truly breathtaking in their scale and beauty, and form part of an endless wonderland of monuments as you travel throughout Egypt. I personally recommend visiting in summer to immerse yourself in this ancient world without the crowds.

– Paul

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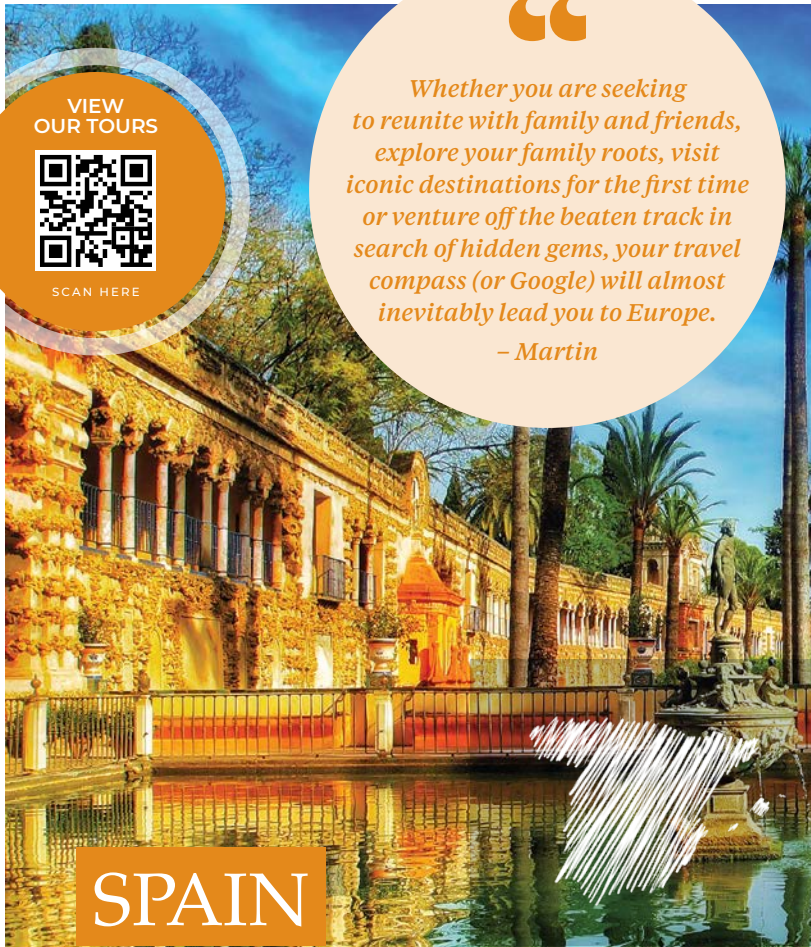


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EGYPT

While grand attractions like the Pyramids of Giza and Abu Simbel lure visitors to Egypt, its wonderfully diverse landscape captures their attention.

Traverse the vast nation from north to south and watch the scenery change from chaotic and loud, to ambling and serene. Windswept sand dunes and rugged deserts give way to lush oases along the Nile Delta and tropical beaches by the Red Sea.



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Whether you are seeking to reunite with family and friends, explore your family roots, visit iconic destinations for the first time or venture off the beaten track in search of hidden gems, your travel compass (or Google) will almost inevitably lead you to Europe.

– Martin

Remarkably charismatic and unapologetically vibrant, Spain is a true delight to explore.

Wander the streets from Barcelona to Madrid and prepare to be captivated by the infectious energy that radiates from every corner.

Lovers of fine food and wine will be amazed by the culinary creations on offer, from *gazpacho* to *paella*, and *croquetas de jamón* (ham croquettes) —and don't forget the *sangria*!

Spain's history is complex. Europe's oldest human bones have been found in Spain, while sophisticated cave paintings in the north hint at a hominid presence 12,000 years ago; in the time since, they've been both the conquerors and the conquered. Remnants of its past are scattered throughout *barrios* (neighbourhoods), hidden in cobbled *callejones* (alleys), and showcased in the array of architectural styles—from baroque to neoclassical and Antoni Gaudi's modernist. A journey through Spain is a treat for the heart and mind.



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With its picturesque countryside, ancient castles and dramatic beaches, Portugal is much more than port wine and pastéis de nata (custard tarts) — although both are well worth sampling.

It's a country of rich history, lively cities and elegant charm. As one of Europe's oldest countries and the home of the world's first global empire, Portugal has been a global powerhouse since the 15th century and is rapidly growing in popularity amongst travellers.

The country's petite size means you can start the day strolling the scenic vineyards of the Douro Valley, spend lunch in Lisbon eating *bacalhau* (cod) and sipping *ginjinha* (morello cherry liqueur), and finish with sunset over the rocks of Lagos' Praia do Camilo beach. Portugal delights the senses and warms the soul.

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TURKEY

Turkey is an enchanting country, with both culture and tradition in abundance.

The sprawling nation stretches across two continents and has been a place of enormous historical significance, hosting groups from the Hittites to the

Greeks and acting as capital of both the Byzantine and Ottoman empires. As for attractions, the country boasts abundant natural beauty and fascinating ruins. Everywhere you look, from cosmopolitan Istanbul to the cobbled streets of Antalya's old town Kaleiçi, you'll see the past and present collide in a fascinating fusion like no other.

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GREECE

A land of ancient mythology and archeological wonder, Greece is undoubtedly one of the most influential countries in the world.

With an astoundingly long list of famous people—Homer, Aristotle and Alexander the Great, to name a few—and a profound impact on all facets of modern society, it's clear how the country came to be known

as the Cradle of Democracy. Today, Greece lures travellers with its exotic landscape, beautiful islands, and lively culture.

For foodies, Greek cuisine is a mouthwatering showcase of Mediterranean produce, while beach lovers can bathe in the Aegean's crystalline waters and bake on its golden sand. From the streets of historic Athens to the peak of Mount Olympus and across to the white-washed buildings of Mykonos, every corner of Greece radiates charm and tradition.



Scandinavia is a unique destination, allowing you to enjoy the ‘best time’ to travel almost year round with both summer or winter drawcards. For me, it is the delights of winter with the opportunity to ride husky-pulled sleds, sleep in modern (and warm) glass igloos while gazing up at the sky hoping to see the Northern Lights.

– Brendon

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NORWAY

Norway is home to scenery so magical it looks otherworldly. Watch the celestial northern lights dance across skies in Tromsø, wander the colourful streets of the Lofoten islands, lead a fleet of huskies across snowy terrain and warm up with a tippel of akevitt (spirit flavoured with herbs)— Norway’s national drink.

Norway is sure to delight every traveller: landscapes are ideal for hiking, its cities for walking and its fjords for cruising, while its dramatic, Viking-filled past is sure to intrigue any history buff. The Original Norwegian Coastal Express connects key communities along the Norwegian coast, travelling north and south in all seasons for an authentic glimpse of everyday life along the coast.

You’ll come face-to-face with the stunning breadth of Norway’s landscapes. Scenery is the star of the show—no need for glitzy onboard entertainment. It’s a comfortable, casual and intimate cruising experience and in true Hurtigruten style, Coastal Experts onboard will share insights with you, like history, culture or photography.



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FINLAND

From the pastel, neoclassical streets of Helsinki to the farthest reaches of northern Lapland, Finland astounds at every turn — over 70% of the land is covered in forests, culminating in fresh air and spectacular scenery.

Head north to the famed Lappi (Lapland) region and prepare to be stunned by the winter wonderland that awaits. The maakunta's (region) capital Rovaniemi is known as the home of Santa Claus himself and boasts some of the world's best views of the northern lights. Go reindeer-sledding through the snowy forests and sip warm *glögi* (spiced berry juice) as the northern lights swirl across the sky.

Scandinavia is an unforgettable, once-in-a-lifetime destination for the inspired traveller.



Energetic Argentina beguiles visitors at every turn with its charm, culture, and stunning scenery. This proud South American nation boasts a rich European heritage, which has influenced many facets of Argentine culture, from music to architecture.

Its Italian roots mean delicious pizzas and pastas are menu staples, while mouth-watering *asado* (barbequed meat) is the national dish and adored as much as *fútbol* (soccer).

Wine, dine, and dance your way through the cosmopolitan streets of Buenos Aires, visit the thundering Iguazu Falls in the north, or head south into *gaucho* (cowboy) country, where grassy plains dominate the landscape. Keep driving and you'll reach Argentinian Patagonia—one of the world's great natural regions. Think: rare wildlife, cactus-covered steppes (treeless plains) and rugged glaciers. Argentina is a delight for the intrepid and the curious.



Brazil is vibrant in every sense of the word. From the thronging streets of Rio de Janeiro, to the depths of the Amazon and the golden shores of iconic Copacabana Beach, this South American giant radiates life.

While it's well-reputed for its nightlife and home to the world's biggest Carnival celebration, Brazil is so much more than a place to party. Leave the crowded main cities behind and you'll find cobbled colonial towns, lofty peaks and an estimated four million plant and animal species living within its borders.



Don't overthink when to visit. Only Antarctica and the Inca Trail are true, seasonal destinations. The rest of South America is ready to welcome you whenever you are ready to visit!

- Martin

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PERU

From desert oases to rugged Andean cordilleras (mountain ranges), through rainforests and seaside cities, Peru's landscape is the definition of diversity. This South American gem offers everything a visitor could wish for: ancient history, delicious cuisine, friendly locals, fascinating culture and staggering natural beauty.

Come for Machu Picchu and stay for the heartwarming hospitality.

Thanks to its Incan and colonial roots, the streets of Peru are dynamic, dotted with baroque buildings and Quechua ruins, while its culture is as vibrant as its handicrafts. Sip coca tea by day and Pisco sours by night in otherworldly Cusco, sample ceviche by the sea in Lima, dune board in Huacachina and meet llamas in the Sacred Valley. Peru is a true delight for the spirited traveller.



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Canada is so vast, seeing it in one trip is best left for a tour. From the rolling plains of the east to the mountainous alpins of the west, Canada is all about the scenery and wildlife. The best time to visit in my opinion, is at the start or end of the season (April or September) when snow still covers the tops of the mountains, the wildlife is the most active and the crowds are small.

– Paul

CANADA & ALASKA

Canada is one of the world's premier destinations and for good reason: endless peaks, breathtaking wilderness, and energetic cities dot the country's colossal landscape. Each of its 10 provinces offers visitors something special. Dive into the Rockies of southwestern Canada for a glimpse of rugged mountains and glacial lakes. Traverse the untamed western Yukon in search of Canadian history and wildlife.

Dubbed the final frontier, Alaska, the northern US state bordering Canada is teeming with natural wonders, from glaciers to mountains and volcanoes. Head north of the Arctic Circle and you'll find towns rich in Native Alaskan history. Almost otherworldly in its rugged beauty and remoteness, Alaska isn't all glaciers and bears; it's also bursting with attractions for culture vultures and nature-lovers alike.



Western Australia is Australia's true last frontier. After leaving the shining lights of Perth, WA is a vast landscape, home to a myriad of rich indigenous locations, mesmerising scenery and of course the Kimberley. Everyone must visit once in their lifetime.

– Paul

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AUSTRALIA

Few countries are as culturally rich or geographically blessed as...our own.

Get to know the farthest reaches of this vast island nation beyond cosmopolitan cities, from the remote Cape York Peninsula, down to the eucalypt forests of southern Tasmania, and prepare to be blown away by the landscapes that await.

Think: pristine tropical beaches, red deserts and remote outback plains. Outback, coast, reef or countryside—we've got it covered.

You'll get up close to the most awe-inspiring Australian icons and settings, whether it's flying over the Horizontal Falls or the Bungle Bungle Range, cruising Yellow Water Billabong or a 4WD adventure on the legendary Telegraph Track.



Forget Switzerland, New Zealand is right on our doorstep and the South Island is home to some of the world's most spectacular scenery. With mountains towering over 4000m and glacial runoff streams the most vivid of blues, New Zealand has a sense of familiarity and is absolutely jaw dropping.

– Paul

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NEW ZEALAND

Our Antipodean neighbour is no stranger to the spotlight.

Many dream of touring New Zealand's dramatic landscapes, from glacier-carved fjords to rugged mountain ranges and brilliant blue lakes. In the Land of the Long White Cloud, natural beauty thrives and cities, while cosmopolitan, harmonise with the surrounding scenery.

The country's two islands offer distinct experiences, with the north hosting Auckland and the capital Wellington, and the south home to adventure hub Queenstown—birthplace of the bungee. No matter where your journey takes you, discover New Zealand's Māoritanga (Maori culture) and proud heritage along the way. You won't be sitting on a tour bus—unless that's what you want!—with self-drive options and the chance to take in these stunning landscapes on our wildly beautiful rail journey.



Expedition cruising takes you to places only a few have ever been to before you. I'll never forget stepping foot on the eastern coast of Greenland. Uninhabited by humans and only home to the toughest wildlife, it was like I was the first person in history to have stepped in that location. Every day is different, every itinerary is unique.

– Brendon

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EXPEDITION CRUISING

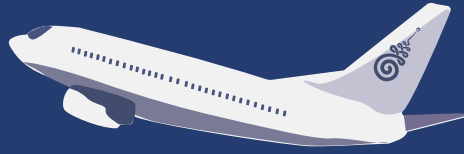
For those with a taste for adventure, or a desire for the extraordinary, expedition cruising is the ultimate voyage. Expedition ships are equipped with custom-features to suit the conditions they face, such as stabilisers and ice-breakers.

Explore the farthest horizons on vessels designed to go where larger ships cannot. Get up close with local wildlife, board a zodiac boat to access the most remote

parts of the planet, and learn from experts in the fields of science and sustainability.

On an expedition cruise, the destination is the main event, so while leisure facilities may be limited by the size of the ship, the profound experiences they enable are unforgettable.

Long known as the last frontier on Earth, Antarctica is wilderness at its most raw and beautiful and today, it's more accessible than ever. Navigate the Drake Passage, spot penguins, and follow in the footsteps of the world's great explorers as you journey across glaciers and ice sheets. The great white continent is a land of wonder and unlike anywhere else on the planet.



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