



The Alliance

bulletin

Issue 113 : March 2012 : www.itwalliance.com

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

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



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



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

Registering with the Alliance

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

Opportunities

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

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

Journeys of Distinction Light

Journeys of Distinction Light, which launches in 2012, will offer trips to Borneo, Burma, Costa Rica, Spain, Italy and Croatia for the budget conscious.

Journeys of Distinction itself is a luxury travel company offering 30 worldwide locations including China, Australia, South America, Africa, Canada, India, Japan, Russia and Sri Lanka.

Visit : www.jod.uk.com. For press trip opportunities contact : Emma at jod@brazenpr.com.

International press trips to Birmingham

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

Birmingham has been named as one of the top 20 places to visit in 2012 by the New York Times. Alliance members who write for an international outlet in Europe or the USA and would like to be considered for a media visit.

Those visiting the city will

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

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

Augill Castle, Cumbria UK

Augill Castle in Cumbria is a luxury castle with offering chic bed and breakfast accommodation near Kirkby Stephen in Cumbria.

Augill Castle will be happy to host press visits for Alliance journalists with a commission.

Visit : www.stayinacastle.com , www.golakes.co.uk and www.cumbriatourism.org. Contact : Rachel Bell at rbell@cumbriatourism.org.

Windjammer Landing, St. Lucia

Windjammer Landing, the luxury villa beach resort, wants visitors to opt for St. Lucia, and is offering a 20% saving on its new Gold Medal Escape summer package to get UK holiday makers to choose this Caribbean island.

Visit : www.windjammer-landing.com To request a press visit to Windjammer Landing contact : Nina Zapala at nina@anson-stoner.com.

Press trips to Luxembourg during 2012

The Luxembourg Tourist Office is running a series of press trips to the country as follows :

Architecture (region: Centre / South / Moselle)

Tuesday 20 to Thursday 22 March 2012

Hiking 'Outdoor for Everybody'

(region: Mullerthal: 'Hiking Mullerthaltrail'
'Walking without Luggage' + Herringermillen)
Tuesday 17 April to Friday 20 April 2012

Region Ardennes

Hiking Nature Park Upper-Sûre resp. Nature
Park Our – Hiking without luggage
Tuesday 24 to Friday 27 April 2012

Region Ardennes, Mullerthal

Quality Hiking Trails
Tuesday 27 to Friday 30 March 2012

Culture – Unesco Heritage in Luxemburg

Monday 28 to Wednesday 30 May 2012

Family friendly Luxemburg

Grandparents with young grandchildren 7-11
years - Journalist with child)
Monday, 7 to Thursday 10 May 2012

E-Bikes

Biking Tour
Tuesday 8 to Thursday 10 May 2012

Golf Trip/Wellness/Culinary

Tuesday 22 May to Thursday 24 May 2012

Luxembourg-city, the perfect city break

Friday 20 to Sunday 22 April, 2012

Visit : www.luxembourg.co.uk. Contact : Serge Moes at tourism@luxembourg.co.uk

Warwick Castle, Warwickshire, UK

Alliance members with a partner or friend are invited to get tickets to spend a day at Warwick Castle.
Visit : www.warwick-castle.co.uk. Contact : Rosie.Beale@whitetigerpr.com.

DoubleTree by Hilton Newcastle International Airport Hotel

The DoubleTree by Hilton Newcastle International Airport hotel offers contemporary, upscale accommodation immediately adjacent to Newcastle International Airport.

It has onsite car parking, direct access to the terminals and express links to Newcastle city centre via the nearby Metro line and is a good option for business and leisure travellers seeking a convenient layover, a first port of call in their trip to the North East or to be on time for an early morning flight.

The hotel, which was opened in December 2011 following a multi-million pound investment by the North-East based Cairn Hotel Group

Visit : www.newcastleinternationalairport.doubletree.com. For a review visit at DoubleTree by Hilton Newcastle Airport contact : Claire Buchan at claire@sortedpr.com.

Working with the Alliance

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

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

Partners

The Finger Lakes Region

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

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

Moevenpick Hotel Gammarth Tunis

Moevenpick Hotel Gammarth Tunis a boutique Luxury 5 star hotel and is the unique and modern location. Located in a exclusive residential area this hotel overlooks the beautiful bays of the Mediterranean and the hills of Sidi Bou Said, the hotel can be easily reached by car from the Airport.

It is only a few minutes away from La Marsa and Carthage, has two restaurants overlooking the sea and a Moroccan restaurant that offers an oriental atmosphere. Relax in Kallisti spa offering a fitness and health club .

Visit : www.moevenpick-hotels.com. Contact : Wissem Arfa at hotel.gammarth.sales@moevenpick.com.

Birding Ecotours

Birding Ecotours provides small group and custom-made birding and wildlife tours worldwide. We donate a minimum of 10 % of profits to conservation and local communities

Visit : www.birdingecotours.co.za. Contact : Chris Lotz at info@birdingecotours.co.za.

Salzburg

Salzburg, birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and location of the immortal movie The sound of Music. Since 1920 host of the unique Festival ""Salzburger Festspiele"" and a wonderful combination of great Baroque architecture, modern artwork and the wonderful surroundings as the lake district Salzkammergut or the Saltmines!"

Visit : www.salzburg.info. Contact : Gunda Bleckmann at bleckmann@salzburg.info.

Discover Walks

Travel Company Discover Walks is dedicated to bringing you fun times discovering major cities. Join native-born guides on walking tours and authentic, local activities – ethnic cooking classes, photo tours, traditional sports, etc.

Discover Walks launched in Summer 2010. It entertained over 40,000 guests in 2011. Discover Walks activities are now available in Paris, San Francisco, Barcelona and Prague."

Visit : www.discoverwalks.com. Contact : Alexandre Gourevitch at alexg@discoverwalks.com.

Agencies

Bennett & Company (USA)

Bennett & Company has spent nearly 30 years as one of the leading public relations agencies in Florida representing hotels, attractions, restaurants, airlines and cruise lines.

Visit : www.bennettandco.com. Contact : Laura Bennett at laura@bennettandco.com.

Inaossen (UK)

With the business motto "Quality is not act. it is a habit", INAOSSIEN works side by side with hoteliers, destinations and other hospitality related companies assisting them to NOT let the emphasis of hospitality lie just in bed and board... but to make the overall experience of their guests memorable and inviting!

Visit : www.i-inaossien.com. Contact : Eleni Koi at services@i-inaossien.com.

Kate Selley Public Relations (UK)

Kate Selley Public Relations is a boutique travel PR consultancy offering a bespoke service to both clients and the media.

Whether you're a travel brand with something to shout about or a journalist looking for original and exclusive story ideas Kate Selley Public Relations delivers outstanding results."

Visit : www.kateselleypr.co.uk. Contact : Kate Selley at kate@kateselleypr.co.uk.

Lemongrass Marketing (UK)

Lemongrass Marketing is a fully integrated travel PR, Sales and Representation consultancy. We help travel brands worldwide to launch, re-launch or re-position themselves in the UK and Irish markets

Visit : www.lemongrassmarketing.com. Contact : Jessica Dollard at jessica@lemongrassmarketing.com.

Rain Communications

Rain Communications is an independent agency that specialises in news, features and content generation.

We deliver innovative and compelling story angles and packages that cut across print, online, social and broadcast media. Our core aim is to deliver maximum exposure for our clients, raise their profiles and establish them as leaders in their respective sectors.

Visit : www.raincommunications.co.uk. Contact : Alison Wood at alison.wood@raincommunications.co.uk.

News

Packing problems

New research from British Airways reveals that nine out of ten holiday-makers don't use up to 30 per cent of the items they take on holiday

The survey also asked Brits what the most random item they've taken on holiday and not used with tea-bags and kettles featured as well as food items including tomatoes, sardines, peanut butter, super noodles, marmite and a potato peeler.

British Airways allows everyone to check in a bag weighing up to 23kgs and to carry two bags on to the plane free of charge.

Visit : www.britishairways.com. Contact : Amanda Allan at media.relations@ba.com.

Pegasus Airlines

Pegasus Airlines, Turkey's leading low-cost airline, now ranks fifth among Europe's low cost carriers carrying 11.3 million passengers in 2011.

Serving 50 destinations in 23 countries on a Boeing 737-800 fleet with the average age of just 2.51 years, Pegasus expanded its international network during 2011 with new routes into the Balkans, the Baltics and the Middle East.

Visit : www.flypgs.com. Contact : Ceyda S Pekenc at ceyda@redmintcomms.co.uk

The Global Sustainable Tourism Council

The Global Sustainable Tourism Council is a global initiative dedicated to promoting sustainable tourism efforts around the world.

The organisation works to expand understanding of and access to sustainable tourism practices; helps identify and generate markets for sustainable tourism; educates about and advocates for a set of universal principles.

Amadeus, Melia, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd, Sabre Holdings and TUI Travel are among the first group to be recognised by GSTC as publicly committing to promoting sustainable tourism products and services.

Visit : www.gstcouncil.org. Contact: Erika Harms at Eharms@unfoundation.org.

AITO

AITO operators and AITO Specialist Travel Agents are to hold their joint overseas conference in Madeira between Portugal, as the setting for their 2012 joint overseas conference between 14-17 June 2012.

The conference is sponsored by Madeira Promotion Bureau.

Visit : www.aitoagents.com and www.visitmadeira.pt.

Leads

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

The Oxford Official Guided Walking Tour

The Oxford Official Guided Walking Tour Programme features an extensive programme of themed tours to the city in English and in German, Spanish and French.

New for 2012 are Oxford's Olympic History and the Plaques of Oxford tours.

Visit : www.visitoxfordandoxfordshire.com. Contact : Susi Golding on sgolding@oxford.gov.uk.

G Adventures

G Adventures is an adventure-travel company offering affordable small-group tours, safaris and expeditions to more than 100 countries on all seven continents.

The authentic and sustainable approach to small-group travel introduces travellers to the highlights of a destination while offering the freedom to explore it on their own.

Visit : www.gadventures.com. Contact: Casey Mead at caseym@gadventures.com.

The Southern Spirit, Australia

The Southern Spirit is an exclusive six day/five night rail journey from Adelaide or Melbourne to Brisbane, and vice versa, covering 2,810 kms as it winds its way through four states – South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

Visit : www.greatsouthernrail.com.au. Contact : Jovanka Ristich at jovanka@independent-pr.co.uk.

Amari Ludhiana, India

ONYX Hospitality will run the 127-suite Amari Ludhiana, which will open in the second half of 2012 in the business capital of the Punjab.

Located on Canal Road, a major bypass road in the city, the hotel will be the largest hotel in the Punjab.

Visit www.onyx-hospitality.com. Contact: Jessica Flood at jessicaf@hillsbalfour.com.

Rabbie's Small Group Tours

Following almost 20 years of success in Scotland, independent small-group tour operator, Rabbie's Small Group Tours, has turned its sights to London by launching its first range of tours departing from the Capital in May 2012.

Rabbie's offers London's visitors the opportunity to explore some of the country's most iconic and spectacular scenery with two to five day tours including Oxford, Snowdonia, Dartmoor, Bath, the Cotswolds, Devon and Cornwall.

Travelling in Mercedes mini-coaches with a maximum of just 16 passengers, the new tours will take guests off the beaten track to experience the real England, its people, history, legends and culture.

Visit : www.rabbies.com. Contact : Jonathan Perkins at Jonathan.Perkins@freshwater-uk.com.

PlanetWildlife

PlanetWildlife is a leading provider of diverse wildlife travel and tours around the world.

The PlanetWildlife website features over 300 itineraries to Africa, India, and South America, including a range of photography safaris, hiking expeditions and bird-watching trips including ocean cruises to the Arctic and Antarctica.

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

Grand Canyon Skywalk

Located at Grand Canyon West's Eagle Point, the Skywalk is the only place where visitors can step out onto a glass walkway nearly 4,000 feet above the floor of the Grand Canyon.

The other four are :

- Henderson Waves Pedestrian Bridge, Singapore
- Millau Viaduct, Millau, France
- Ponte della Costituzione, Venice, Italy
- Langkawi Sky Bridge, Langkawi, Malaysia

Grand Canyon West is a collection of viewpoints and attractions spread over 9000 acres of the Grand Canyon's West Rim in Northwest Arizona, 120 miles east of Las Vegas, Nevada.

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

Shark Reef Encounter

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

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

G Adventures launches G-Plus

G Adventures has expanded its range of 'comfort' tours with the launch of G-Plus, which offers more than 150 tours in 33 countries.

Led by local 'chief experience officers' the tours include arrival transfers, more meals and trip activities; hand picked accommodation with extra amenities and services and upgraded transport including planes, trains and private vehicles.

G Adventures is an adventure-travel operator offering small-group tours, safaris and expeditions to more than 100 countries.

Visit www.gadventures.com. Contact : Casey Mead at caseym@gadventures.com.

Green loons

Sustainable travel company Greenloons has added Alaska and Galapagos cruises and land operators in Sweden and Patagonia to its portfolio.

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

What's on

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

Marco Polo Challenge , Korčula Island, Croatia

The Marco Polo Challenge 2012 triathlon takes place on 28 April on Korčula, considered Croatia's island of culture. The event is named after the merchant traveller who spent his childhood years on this adriatic island.

Visit : www.marcopolochallenge.com. Contact : Kate Hall at k.hall@whitetigerpr.com.

Picasso and Modern British Art, Tate Britain, London

15 February to 15 July 2012

In February 2012 Tate Britain will stage the first exhibition to explore Pablo Picasso's lifelong connections with Britain.

The exhibition will explore Picasso's rise in Britain as a figure of controversy and celebrity, tracing the ways in which his work was exhibited and collected here during his lifetime.

Visit www.Tate.org.uk. Contact : Selina Jones at pressoffice@tate.org.uk

Spring events in Salzburg

Easter Festival Salzburg

31 March to 9 April 2012:

Opera: „Carmen“, G. Bizet; Orchestral concerts: Berliner Philharmoniker (Bruckner, Schumann, Berio, Fauré, Beethoven, Mahler). Visit : www.osterfestspiele-salzburg.at.

St. George's fair

20 to 22 April 2012

The “Kirchweihfest” features market stalls on Kapitelplatz square and enactment of St George's ride up to the castle. Visit : www.buergergarde-salzburg.at.

Festival An Encounter

3 to 6 May 2012

Orchestra: Camerata Salzburg (Beethoven, Schubert, Woodborne, Mozart, Liszt, Enescu, Bartók). Visit : www.mozarteum.at an www.camerata.at.

Aspects Festival 2012

9 to 13 May 2012

Festival of contemporary music. Visit : www.aspekte-salzburg.at.

Salzburg Whitsun Festival

May 25 – 28, 2012

Opera: „Giulio Cesare in Egitto“ von G. F. Händel, lecture: "Antony and Cleopatra" von W. Shakespeare. Visit : www.salzburgfestival.at.

Festival for brass and wind music Salzburg
17 to 20 May 2012

Marching music concerts, traditional brass and wind music concerts, etc. Visit : www.future-events.at.

Salzburg Literature Festival
30 May to 3 June 2012

Visit : www.literaturfest-salzburg.at.

Visit : www.salzburg.info. For press trips to Salzburg contact : Bleckmann Gunda at Bleckmann@salzburg.info.

Stranger events in England UK

Coal Carrying , Ossett, West Yorkshire
9 April 2012

Held each year on Easter Monday, the World Coal Carrying Contest is a test of strength and stamina in which participants carry 50kg (men) or 20kg (women) of coal over a mile-long uphill course.

The contest dates back to 1963.

Visit : www.gawthorpe.ndo.co.uk/coal.htm

The Olimpicks, Dover's Hill, near Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire
1 June 2012

Started by local barrister Captain Robert Dover in 1612, the annual Cotswold Olimpicks attracts thousands of spectators and features some well-known countryside games such as tug-of-war, obstacle races and wrestling as well as a few stranger events - including shin-kicking.

The two contestants first fill their trouser legs with straw - to help reduce the pain – before holding one another's arms and kicking each other wearing steel toe-capped boots.

This year marks the Olimpicks' 400th anniversary.

Visit : www.olimpickgames.co.uk

Cheese Rolling, Brockworth, Gloucestershire
4 June 2012

This annual event involves daredevils hurling themselves down the steep, grassy slopes in pursuit of Double Gloucester cheeses.

The race starts with the master of ceremonies rolling a 4kg Double Gloucester cheese down the hill. On the whistle, competitors run, roll and somersault down the hill after it.

The event dates back to medieval times and is popular with international competitors.

Visit : www.cheese-rolling.co.uk

Egg Throwing, Helpringham & Swaton, Lincolnshire

24 June 2012

In the annual World Egg Throwing Championships, contestants must construct a gravity-powered egg-hurling device to launch an egg to a waiting team member.

To achieve points, the team member must either catch the egg unbroken or get struck by the egg. As the egg can be traveling at speeds of up to 120 mph this is particularly tricky and can be painful. Distances to be achieved start at 30 meters but can be extended up to 150 in the knock out competition.

Visit : www.eggthrowing.com

Pea Shooting, Witcham, Cambridgeshire

14 July 2012

This international event brings challengers from as far as New Zealand and the USA to compete for the World Pea Shooting trophy.

Accuracy, not distance, is the aim of this competition, with contestants shooting a pea through a 12-inch tube, 12 feet towards a 12-inch target.

Visit : www.eastcambs.gov.uk/tourism

Toe Wrestling, Fenny Bentley, Ashbourne, Kent

25 August 2012,

Each August the Bentley Brook Inn in Derbyshire hosts the Ben & Jerry's World Toe Wrestling Championship.

Competitors locked their big toes together, and attempted to force their opponent's foot to the ground. The organisers applied (unsuccessfully) in 1997 for its inclusion in the Olympic Games.

Visit : www.bentleybrookinn.co.uk

Gravy Wrestling, the Rose & Bowl Inn, Bacup, Rossendale, Lancashire

27 August 2012

The World Gravy Wrestling Championships take place annually as part of the Pennine Lancashire Festival of Food & Culture.

Teams slide around in lukewarm gravy and attempt to wrestle on another to the ground. Team members win points for pinning the opposition down in the gravy.

www.worldgravywrestling.com

Black Pudding Throwing, Royal Oak, Bridge Street, Ramsbottom, Lancashire

9 September 2012

Lancashire is known for the production of black pudding along with tripe (cow's stomach) and elder (steamed cows' udder).

The aim is to throw a black pudding that has been wrapped in a pair of ladies tights at a collection of Yorkshire puddings on a plinth 20 feet up a tower built in the middle of the main street in Ramsbottom.

Visit : www.ramsbottomonline.com.

The World Conker Championships, Ashton, near Oundle, Peterborough

14 October 2012

The World Conker Championships are held each year on the village green in Ashton, Peterborough and attract over 300 competitors attempting to become the King or Queen of Conkers.

There are various categories for the knockout competition – ladies, men, teenagers and children.

Visit : www.worldconkerchampionships.com

Contact: Yolanda Copes-Stepney at yolanda.copes-stepney@visitengland.org.

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.

South Dakota

South Dakota has five national parks, monuments and memorials as well as 54 state parks and recreation areas that allow visitors to experience the natural beauty of the state.

In the southeast, Lewis and Clark State Recreation Area features three campgrounds, biking trails, sandy beaches and the largest marina in South Dakota.

Palisades State Park features 50-foot cliffs composed of 1.2 billion-year-old Sioux quartzite, walking trails, campgrounds and historical sites.

Travellers to the northeast region of the state can visit Fort Sisseton Historical State Park, an area where history enthusiasts can take a guided tour and walk among 14 original buildings while adventurers explore the waters by canoe or kayak.

The state capitol of Pierre is located just below the Oahe Dam, Farm Island State Recreation Area and Oahe Downstream State Recreation Area allowing visitors to take in the Missouri River.

Nearby Lake Oahe offers world-class walleye fishing and outdoor recreation.

The western region of the state takes in the Badlands National Park, the Black Hills National Forest, Mount Rushmore National Memorial and the Custer State Park, Crazy Horse Memorial, Wind Cave National Park and Jewel Cave National Monument.

Visit : www.travelsd.com. Contact : Maureen Droz at maureen.droz@state.sd.us.

Canada and the Titanic

During 2012, the focus of commemorations for the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic will be on two Canadian provinces: Newfoundland & Labrador and Nova Scotia.

The RMS *Titanic* was on her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York when, just before midnight on 14 April 1912, she struck an iceberg 380 miles southeast of Newfoundland.

The White Star Liner, a celebrity among ships and dubbed the 'unsinkable' – sank. More than 1,500 of the 2,200 passengers and crew drowned.

The survivors went on to New York, but the victims were taken to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Newfoundland and Labrador

The closest land-based wireless station to receive the *Titanic's* distress signals was the Marconi Marine Radio Station at Cape Race.

Opening this spring is a re-construction of the station named for the Myrick family, generations of whom worked there from 1874 to 2007. Find out how they coordinated rescue efforts; watch giant icebergs drifting south along 'Iceberg Alley'.

In St. John's, the Centre for Marine Simulation has a huge virtual reality production that recreates *Titanic's* bridge, with actors, ocean and the menacing ice (April 15 through the summer).

Also in St. John's, the Johnson Geo Centre's *Titanic Story* permanent exhibit analyses why the tragedy occurred, while The Rooms Provincial Museum has a collection of *Titanic* artefacts, documents and images, and a 'virtual *Titanic*' resource guide.

The Ryan Hotel that was designed in the same style as the Grand Staircase on the *Titanic*, and fitted by the same craftsmen.

Visit : www.newfoundlandlabrador.com and www.ryanmansion.com.

Nova Scotia

The *Titanic* story remains an important part of Halifax's history.

Halifax was the closest major port to the 1912 sinking and all the recovered bodies were brought to Halifax, along with many pieces of the wreckage.

In Halifax, at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, *Titanic: The Unsinkable Ship* is an exhibit of the world's finest collection of the liner's wooden artefacts, from an iconic, near perfectly-preserved deckchair to a heartrending pair of child's shoes.

In 2012, the *Titanic Memorial Cruises*, sailing between Southampton and New York, will dock in Halifax.

Visit : www.novascotia.com/titanic and www.titanicmemorialcruise.co.uk

Contact : Tanya Hillman at tanya.hillman@kbc-pr.com

Alacati, Turkey

The historical town of Alacati on Turkey's Aegean coast with its old Ottoman houses and cobbled streets lined with pavements cafes, and virtually unknown by foreign holidaymakers, is now included in Green Island Holidays' portfolio.

Many of the town's old Ottoman houses have been converted into boutique hotels including the newly opened Beyevi and the Morro, built recently in a style sympathetic to its historical setting in the centre of town.

Others include the converted pasha's palace Nars Ilica; Alacati's first ever boutique hotel, Tas; the larger Solto Alacati and Cadde 75, a modern hotel.

Visit : www.greenislandholidays.com. Contact : Hulya Soylyu at greenisland@redmintcomms.co.uk.

The Chamorro cultural theme park, Guam

Guam is the largest of the Mariana Islands located in the western Pacific Ocean.

Guam's first Chamorro cultural theme park recreates Chamorro life 500 years ago.

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

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

The park features a visitor center displaying cultural artifacts and a brief film about the Chamorro creation belief.

A nature walk filled with tropical flowers, medicinal plants, and fruit trees leads visitors to the recreation of an ancient Chamorro village.

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

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.

Meliá Hotels in Mallorca

Meliá Hotels International's comprehensive regeneration project in Magalluf, one of the most popular tourist destinations in Mallorca, will open in June 2012.

The Calvià Beach Resort by Sol Hotels will encompass the Sol Antillas, Sol Barbados, the Royal Beach and Mallorca Beach. The project will also see the regeneration of the beachfront area.

Visit : www.solmelia.com/hotels. Contact : Anita Keshi at anita@katchpr.com.

The Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh, UK

The Manor House Hotel, Moreton-in-Marsh has won Silver in the Small Hotel of the Year category at the South West Tourism Excellence Awards.

The Manor House Hotel is located in Moreton-in-Marsh, the largest town in the North Cotswolds. A gateway to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Moreton provides a great base from which to explore Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, the picturesque local towns of Chipping Campden and Stow-on-the-Wold, as well as surrounding villages.

The four-star Manor House Hotel is housed in an historic 16th century building and has just 35 rooms.

Highlights include *The Mulberry Restaurant* with its two AA Rosettes, The Beagle Bar & Brasserie and the sheltered gardens, where Apple Cottage, a luxurious suite with its own sitting room is located.

The Manor House is run by Cotswold Inns & Hotels, which is an independent collection of properties housed in historic buildings that have been refurbished with contemporary touches.

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

Andaz Liverpool Street, London

Andaz Liverpool Street is running a series of themed afternoon tea between February and June this year, in honour of the Queen's Jubilee.

Andaz Liverpool Street is the first property of the lifestyle brand of Hyatt Hotels International.

It opened in 2007 and was followed by Andaz West Hollywood in 2009, Andaz Wall Street in 2010, Andaz San Diego and Andaz 5th Avenue in 2010 and Andaz Shanghai in 2011.

Future openings include:

- Andaz Hawaii
- Andaz Austin
- Andaz Costa Rica
- Andaz Sanya Sunny Bay
- Andaz Delhi
- Andaz Turks & Caicos, and
- Andaz Amsterda

Visit : www.andaz.com. Contact : Amber Greenwood at Amber.Greenwood@luchfordapm.com.

Kempinski Hotel Barbaros Bay Six Senses Spa

The Kempinski Hotel Barbaros Bay Six Senses Spa has been selected amongst the "Best 10 Hotel Spas in Europe, Asia Minor & Russian Federation" by the Readers of Condé Nast Traveller.

Kempinski Hotels, Europe's oldest luxury hotel group has 66 five-star hotels in 29 countries.

Visit : www.kempinski.com. Contact : Gizem Oflazoglu at gizem.oflazoglu@kempinski.com.

Park Hyatt Ningbo Resort and Spa, China

The Park Hyatt Ningbo Resort and Spa in the eastern coastal city of Ningbo, China has opened.

Ningbo, a prosperous city with a history of foreign trade dating back to the 7th century, is a two-and-a-half hour drive from Shanghai.

Located on the banks of Dong Qian Lake, one of the most scenic areas in the region, the Park Hyatt Ningbo Resort and Spa is surrounded by tea plantations, ancient Buddhist temples, caves and stone carvings, and working fishing villages—a landscape that is reminiscent of a classical Chinese painting.

Visit www.hyatt.com. Contact : Emma Powell at emma@grifcopr.com.

The Churchill Hyatt Regency, London

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

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

Palacio Nazarenas, Peru

Orient-Express will open Palacio Nazarenas, its sixth hotel in Peru, in June 2012. The hotel is in a former 16th century convent and Senzo, the new restaurant, will only serve carefully prepared locally sourced Andean cuisine, a first for the city.

Visit : www.palacionazarenas.com. Contact Sara Mirza at sara.mirza@orient-express.com.

Generator Hostels

European hostel chain, Generator Hostels, has a hostel in Hamburg, Germany - the 6th in its portfolio.

The company has invested 30 million euro in the renovation of the building providing free Wi-Fi in all communal areas, a coffee shop and outdoor terrace and bar. The 684-bed hostel is located in the Klockmann-House, where the Beatles, recorded nine songs in the 1960s.

Generator Hostels caters for backpackers with hostels located in central Berlin, Copenhagen, Dublin, Hamburg, London and Venice,

Visit : www.generatorhostels.com. Contact: Kate Axelby at generatorhostels@lewispr.com.

Andaz 5th Avenue, New York

Andaz 5th Avenue has added artist Claudia Gold, known as Claw Money, to its art initiative.

The hotel now has four artists; Claw Money, John Hung Ha, Mister Cartoon, and M.Dreeland, who each as painted their "View of New York – Today" on the doors leading to the bar downstairs, located on the Fifth Avenue.

Andaz 5th Avenue faces the iconic New York Public Library and is steps away from Bryant Park in the heart of mid-town.

Visit www.andaz5thavenue.com. Contact : Charlotte Hill at charlotte@grifcopr.com.

The May Fair, London

Situated in the heart of London's Mayfair, the May Fair Hotel was first opened by King George V in 1927 and was once owned by the filmmaking Danziger Brothers.

It has been recognised for having "The Best Hotel Bar in London" by The Evening Standard.

Visit : www.themayfairhotel.co.uk. Contact : Dora Reeves at Dora@mason-williams.com.

Grand Oasis Palm And Oasis Palm Resorts, Cancun, Mexico

Oasis Hotels & Resorts has reopened the Grand Oasis Palm and Oasis Palm resorts following a refurbishment program. The new resorts are situated on a protected stretch of beach and have been repositioned as family resorts.

Oasis Hotels & Resorts operates seven properties in Cancun including the Grand Oasis Cancun, Oasis Cancun, Sens Del Mar, Grand Oasis Palm, Oasis Palm, Oasis America, and Sens America.

Visit www.oasishotels.com. Contact : Jane Coloccia at janecoloccia@gmail.com

The Gran Meliá Rome Villa Agrippina

The Gran Meliá Rome Villa Agrippina hotel will open near to the Eternal City during in April 2012.

Located in the centre of the city by the Tiber River, the hotel will be surrounded by shops and monuments such as the Coliseum, Saint Peter's Basilica, the Castel Sant'Angelo, Piazza Navona and the Oratorio del Gonfalone, all within easy walking distance.

Visit : www.solmelia.com. Contact : Contact : Anita Keshi at anita@katchpr.com.

Section two : ongoing opportunities

Alerts

Ongoing independent press trip opportunities for Alliance members

- **Hidden Pousadas Brazil**, which offers independent travellers with a one-stop collection of uniquely places to stay, will offer accommodation to Alliance members out of high season. Visit : www.hiddenpousadasbrazil.com. Contact : Fola Odumosu at fola@hiddenpousadasbrazil.com.
- **Norfolk Hideaways**, which provides luxury self-catering holiday cottages along the north Norfolk coastline will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.norfolkhideaways.co.uk Contact : Kate Morfoot at kate@junglepr.com.
- **The DoubleTree by Hilton Newcastle International Airport** provides review accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.newcastleinternationalairport.doubletree.com. Contact : Claire Buchan at claire@sortedpr.com
- **Newmarket Racecourses** offers Alliance members a day at the races, the food and entertainment. Visit : www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk. Contact : Rachael at Rachael@junglepr.com
- **Warwick Castle, Warwickshire, UK** invites Alliance members with a partner or friend to get tickets to spend a day at Warwick Castle. Visit : www.warwick-castle.co.uk. Contact : Rosie.Beale@whitetigerpr.com.
- **Adventure Cat Sailing, San Francisco Bay**, will be delighted to 'comp' Alliance travel writers. Visit : www.adventurecat.com. Contact : Sharon Schrum at sharon@adventurecat.com.
- **BusyBus, Liverpool & Chester – UK** a sightseeing tour operator will be delighted to host Alliance members and journalists (with a guest) on a review basis. Visit: www.busybus.co.uk . Contact : Vera de Ruiten: vera@busybus.co.uk.
- **Visit Orlando** offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a complimentary Journalist VIP Passport. Visit : www.VisitOrlando.com/media. Contact : Amy Rodenbrock at amy.rodenbrock@visitorlando.com.
- **La Residencia, Mallorca** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members on assignment. Visit : www.laresidencia.com. Contact : Louise Davis at louise.davis@laresidencia.com.
- **The Broadway Collection New York**, a group of 17 new and classic Broadway musicals, will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.broadwaycollection.com Contact: Della Tully at Della.Tully@btinternet.com
- **Luxe PR**, a specialist agency representing 2,000 hotel guestrooms in London and across England will be delighted to host Alliance members for a review stay in one of its central London hotels, or its country house hotels based in Derbyshire, Yorkshire and the Cotswolds. Visit : www.luxepr.com. Contact : Tamsin Cocks at tamsin@luxepr.com.
- **The Mariott Paris Champs-Elysees**, which is the only five-star hotel on the Champs-Elysees, will be happy to offer accommodation to Alliance members who are in the city on an assignment. Visit : www.parismariott.com. Contact Bernice Saltzer at bernice@sortedpr.com.

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

- **The Villa Pambuffetti in Montefalco, Umbria, Italy** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.villapambuffetti.com. Contact Alessandra Pambuffetti at info@villapambuffetti.com.
- **Eustatia Island, British Virgin Islands** an extraordinary 26-acre, low impact, private island estate will be happy to host press visits for Alliance members with an appropriate commission. Visit : www.eustatia.com. Contact: Alastair Abreheart, 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@dougoodmanpr.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
- **Middlethorpe Hall & Spa**, Yorkshire, UK will be delighted to offer DB&B and use of the Spa to Alliance members. Visit : www.middlethorpe.com. Contact Daisy Parker at daisy@iscott.co.uk.
- **Swaziland and Malawi** : Geo Group will be delighted to consider press trips to either Swaziland or Malawi for Alliance members with suitable commissions. Visit : www.welcometoswaziland.com and www.malawitourism.com. Contact: Kelly White at tourism@geo-group.co.uk.
- **Holidaylettings**, which offers a selection of chalets and apartments around the world will consider arranging accommodation at its listed properties. Visit : www.holidaylettings.co.uk. Contact : Kate Stinchcombe-Gillies at kate@holidaylettings.co.uk.
- **Malta** will be happy to consider for press trips for Alliance members. Visit : www.visitmalta.com. Contact : Anne Kapranos at Anne@essence-communications.com.
- **Peckforton Castle, Cheshire UK** a grade I listed building, built in the 1840s in the style of a medieval castle will be delighted to host Alliance members on a review basis. Visit : www.peckfortoncastle.co.uk. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.
- **Tongabezi Lodge**, which is upstream from Victoria Falls, and the new eco-friendly Sindabezi Island are located on the Zambezi River in Zambia. Tongabezi would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.tongabezi.com. Contact Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **Ker & Downey Botswana**, located in the heart of the Okavango Delta and Moremi Game Reserve, will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.kerdowneybotswana.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.

- **Adventure Life**, which provides small group tours to Central and South America that have a positive impact on the local culture and environment, will consider press trip requests. Visit : www.adventure-life.com. Contact : Adam York at adam@sublimepub.com.
- **Rosen Hotels** will be delighted to host Alliance members who will be in the Orlando area, at the new 1500-room, 14-story Rosen Shingle Creek. Visit www.rosenshinglecreek.com. Contact Mary Deatrick at mdeatrick@cfl.rr.com.
- **Migis Lodge on the shores of Maine's Sebago Lake** invites travel journalists to experience Maine Lakeside Luxury. Visit : www.migis.com. Contact : Susan Soltero at ssoltero@cmcommunications.com.
- **The North West Development Agency** area, which includes Cumbria, Lancashire, Manchester, Liverpool and Cheshire will be delighted to host Alliance members with commissions. Visit : www.nwda.co.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **The George Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.principal-hayley.com/venues-and-hotels/the-george-hotel. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Peace and Plenty, Bahamas** will be delighted to provide accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.peaceandplenty.com. Contact: 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, Forres, Scotland**, will be delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members for a 2-night stay in one of their 15 individually-themed rooms and dinner on one of the nights in their recently refurbished restaurant, The Grill. Visit: www.knockomie.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **South Lakeland Parks** is the north-west UK's leading holiday park operator featuring nine sites within Morecambe Bay, Ribble Valley and Lake District. Visit : www.southlakelandparks.co.uk. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Cumbria Tourism**, the tourism body for Cumbria, UK incorporating the Lake District will be delighted to let Alliance members sample its delights from the great outdoors and exciting attractions to stylish hotels and high quality restaurants. Visit : www.golakes.co.uk.

- **South Luangwa, Zambia** : The Luangwa Valley has long been regarded as one of Africa's finest wildlife destinations. Their portfolio includes Kapani Lodge and Kakuli, Luwi, Nsolo and Mchenja Camps. Norman Carr Safaris would be delighted to consider press visits to their properties to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.honourway.com. Contact : Honour Schram de Jong at honour@honourway.com.
- **New York Circle Line Sightseeing Cruises** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.circleline42.com Contact: Lisa Chamberlain at lisa.chamberlain@btinternet.com
- **The Haweswater Hotel**, a new art-deco hotel located next to the secluded Haweswater Reservoir, Cumbria, UK, will be happy to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.haweswaterhotel.com. Contact : Samantha Marsh: samantha@infinitypublicrelations.co.uk
- **Premier Cottages** has a range of stunning four and five star self-catering holiday cottages throughout the UK, Channel Islands and Ireland. Visit : www.premiercottages.co.uk. Contact : Liz Blakeborough at liz@blakeborough.com.
- **St Mary's Hall Hotel**, the Isles of Scilly is happy to provide press trip opportunities to Alliance members. Visit : www.stmaryshallhotel.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk
- **Woodovis Park**, the independently run holiday park on the edge of Dartmoor, Devon UK invites Alliance members to review. Visit : www.woodovis.com. Contact : Samantha Kirton at samantha@independentpr.co.uk
- **1066 Country** which comprises the area of Battle, Bexhill, Hastings, Herstmonceux, Pevensey and Rye in East Sussex, UK. Visit : www.visit1066country.com. Contact : Jane Ellis at jjmellis@hastings.gov.uk.
- **The Wineport Lodge, Glasson County Westmeath, Ireland** is happy to arrange press Alliance Members and can provide a range of story ideas related to food, wine, romance, weddings/honeymoons and spa escapes. Visit : www.wineport.ie. Contact: Nina Zapala at zapala@fzkllc.com.
- **The Inn on Fifth**, a luxurious, 87-room boutique hotel located in the heart of downtown Naples in Southwest Florida will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit www.innonfifth.com. Contact : Kelly Grass Prieto at kelly@hayworthcreative.com.
- **base2stay Liverpool** will be delighted to offer accommodation for Alliance members able to review the hotel. Visit : www.base2stay.com/press_page/Liverpool.html. Contact : Jon Brown at brown@paversmith.co.uk.
- **Visit Chester and Cheshire and Visit Lincoln and Lincolnshire** will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.visitchester.com and www.lincoln.gov.uk. Contact : Oliver Bennett at oliverbennett@blueyonder.co.uk.
- **Swiss-Belhotel International**, manages hotels, resorts and residences throughout the Asia Pacific, Southeast Asia, China and The Middle East regions. Visit : www.swiss-belhotel.com. Contact : Ayla Hass at aylahaas@swiss-belhotel.com.
- **Pembrokeshire, South West Wales** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.pembrokeshire.com. Contact: Pat Edgar PRMatters@dsl.pipex.com

- **The Rutland Hotel, Edinburgh**, will be delighted to invite Alliance members to review this boutique hotel. Visit www.therutlandhotel.com. Contact Yvonne or Fiona at info@nicheworks.co.uk.
- **The Galapagos Islands** : Quasar Expeditions would like to invite Alliance members to cover trips aboard the M/Y Grace, its vintage yacht in the Galapagos Islands. Visit : www.galapagosexpeditions.com/gracepresskit.php. Contact : Paul Schicke at paul@quasarex.com.
- **Focus Hotels** invite Alliance members to review their three and four-star properties located in key destinations across the UK. Visit : www.focushotels.co.uk. Contact : Nat Frogley at nat@bacall.net.
- **The 5* Blythswood Square Hotel**, Glasgow, formerly headquarters to the Royal Scottish Automobile Club, has been redeveloped by the Town House Collection Visit www.blythswoodsquare.com or www.thetownhousecollection.com. Contact: Jo Murphy at Jo@thespaprcompany.com.
- **Aspects Holidays** specialises in providing self-catering accommodation, from luxury apartments to traditional fisherman's cottages in and around St Ives and the West Cornwall area of the UK. Aspects will be pleased to consider press visits to Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.aspects-holidays.co.uk. Contact : Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Inn at Lathones**, Scotland's only 4 star inn, is delighted to consider press trips from Alliance members. The 17th-century listed building near St Andrews is one of Scotland's oldest coaching inns and boasts 21 recently refurbished external rooms/suites, an award-winning restaurant, an intimate stone-walled bar and converted stables that host regular music events. For more information visit: www.theinn.co.uk Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com
- **Cornwall Cottages** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.cornwallcottages.co.uk. Contact: Sue Bradbury at jess@suebradburypr.com.
- **Hartland Peninsula Arts**, which runs landscape painting courses on the North Devon coast will be pleased to offer courses to Alliance members. Visit : www.landscapepaintingholidays.co.uk. Contact: Karen Outred at ko@freelancepr.fsnet.co.uk.
- **Frontier Travel** organise tailor-made holidays to Canada in both the Summer (www.frontier-canada.co.uk) and the Winter (www.frontier-ski.co.uk). The company will consider offering individuals press trips for Alliance members. Contact: Dave Ashmore at dave@frontier-travel.co.uk.
- **Sail Lofts St Ives**, a group of 12 luxury holiday apartments just metres from Porthmeor Beach, will be pleased to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit: www.thesaillofts.co.uk. Contact: Peter Hutchinson at peter@thesaillofts.co.uk.
- **The Alfajiri Villas and Galdessa Camp** would like to invite Alliance members to stay at Alfajiri Villas (www.alfajirivillas.com) or Galdessa Camp (www.galdessa.com). Visit : www.FazendinPortfolio.com. Contact Sarah Fazendin at sarah@fazendinportfolio.com.
- **The Peat Inn and 5-star restaurant** in St.Andrews, Scotland will provide Alliance members able to review the Inn will receive complimentary dinner, bed and breakfast including guest. Visit : <http://www.thepeatinn.co.uk>. Contact : Megan Davidson at megan@crimsonedg.co.uk.
- **The Isles of Scilly** will be delighted to consider offering travel and accommodation to Alliance members on assignment, with a commission or who are able to obtain one. Visit: www.simplyscilly.co.uk. Contact: Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.

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

Travel products and services

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

Kangol Headwear

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

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

Airport lounges in London

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

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

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

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

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

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

Silhouette

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

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

Simple

Californian footwear brand Simple has your feet ready for summer with these eco friendly organic cotton plimsoles. Exclusive to Schuh, they are available in white and navy with ribbon laces- the perfect footwear for French Riviera chic.

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

Mitchum

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

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

Teva

Teva's Contoured Ribbon Mush is the most comfortable flip flop in the world. Using state of the art memory foam you will feel like you are walking on clouds when walking on the beach, boardwalk or pavement this summer.

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

John Masters Organics

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

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

Delph

Delph Sun Care offers a comprehensive range of family products from SPF 8 to 50, rated UVA 4* for their "superior" protection.

The range has been fully tested to medical standards (not tested on animals) and is one of only 6 sun creams listed on the UK Drug Tariff allowing it to be prescribed by GP's.

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

ELITE's luxury car hire

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

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

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

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

Dollar rent a car

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

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

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

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 into any unlocked phone.

Among the features and benefits :

- 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
- 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

All æther mobile SIMs have a UK telephone number; +44 7.

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

The Leisure Pass

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

Alliance members can get review passes for the cities covered.

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

Travel guides

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

AA Travel Guides

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

Anova Books

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

Berlitz

www.berlitzpublishing.com.

Bradt Travel

www.bradtguides.com. Rachel Fielding at rachel.fielding@bradtguides.com

Brit's Guide

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

Cicerone

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

Eland Publishing

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

Fisher's Travel SOS

www.fisherstravelsos.com. Furqan Syed at furqan.syed@fisherstravelsos.com.

Global Travel Publishers

www.africa-adventure.com. Kate Bandos at kate@ksbpromotions.com.

Globetrotters LogBook

www.globetrotterslogbook.com. Giedo Claes at giedo@globetrotterslogbook.com

Inn House Publishing

www.innhousepublishing.com. Kathryn McWhirter at kathrynmcwhirter@btopenworld.com.

Insight

www.insightguides.com. Julia Spence at julia.spence@ukonline.co.uk.

In your pocket guides

www.inyourpocket.com. Craig Turp at editor@inyourpocket.com.

Jane's Smart Art Guides

www.JanesSmartArt.com. Jane McIntosh at MJM@JanesSmartArt.com

Jonglez Publishing

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

Kuperard Publishers

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

Lonely Planet

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

Morris Communications

www.themilepost.com. Contact Kate Bandos at kate@ksbpromotions.com.

Odyssey Books & Guides

www.odysseypublications.com. Contact : Caroline Eden at caroline@odysseypublications.com

Oxygen Books city-lit

www.oxygenbooks.co.uk Malcom Burgess at malcolm@oxygenbooks.co.uk

Rough Guides

www.roughguides.com. Contact : press@roughguides.

Summersdale travel publications

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

Take two Books

www.taketwobooks.com Sarah Duvalle at Sarah@taketwobooks.com.

Turnleft

www.turnleftguides.com Contact: Nick Buteau at nick@turnleftguides.com



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