



The Alliance

bulletin

Issue 114 : mid-April 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](#) (journalist)/[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.

Independence Missouri

Independence Missouri is happy to work with Alliance members on assignment and will consider lodging, food and admission to attractions and will create customized itineraries.

Some reasons to visit Independence include :

The 2011 Reader's Survey by Travel and Leisure magazine scored Kansas City as the most affordable getaway out of 35 major cities in America.

The drive from the historic Independence Square to downtown Kansas City is about fifteen minutes.

The USA's 33rd president, Harry Truman, has his presidential library in Independence.

Visit : www.trumanlibrary.org.

Independence, was the site of two Civil War battles and is home to the 1859 Jail and Marshal's Home Museum, which features items on notorious outlaws like William Clark Quantrill, Frank James and other members of Jesse's gang.

Visit : www.jchs.org/jail/museum.html.

Leila's Hair Museum, has over 400 framed hair "wreaths" and over 2,500 pieces of art and jewelry made from human hair.

There is hair of those including Abe Lincoln, Marilyn Monroe and Elvis.

Visitors can play golf on a course that sits over an active mine? Miners set off blasts each day about 3 p.m. at the Winterstone golf course, referred to by golfers as "thunder time.

Visit : www.visitindependence.com. Contact : Janeen Aggen at janeena@sbcglobal.net.

Polo in Argentina

Guapa Polo offers personalised polo lessons in the Argentine countryside with a professional polo player.

The full day out takes place on a beautiful, working estancia (ranch), only 50 minutes from Buenos Aires.

Transfers from the capital are included, as is a traditional Argentine barbecue (vegetarians also catered for).

Guapa Polo would love to hear from journalists who are able to obtain a commission.

Visit: www.guapapolo.com.ar Contact: clemmy@guapapolo.com.ar

The AllWays traveller bulletin



The International Travel Writers Alliance is now producing its monthly *AllWays traveller* bulletin.

AllWays traveller has been launched to provide independent travellers with an equally independent view of the world from the professional travel journalists in the Alliance.

Visit : www.allwaystraveller.com.

To download the April issue of the bulletin click :

http://www.allwaystraveller.com/bulletin_AM/2%20April%202012.pdf

If you would like to include items in future issues of the AllWays traveller bulletin or would like to submit features for the *AllWays online* section of the website email : Ashley@itwalliance.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

Adelboden, Switzerland

Experience for yourself the fascination of a traditional chalet village and its welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere.

All along the central Dorfstrasse you will find a wide range of shops and a variety of bars and restaurants.

Adelboden is easy to reach by public or private transport and only one hour away from the well-connected regional airport at Bern-Belp.

Spectacular winter setting! 72 modern mountain transport installations serve a piste network covering 210 km (130 miles), which is one of the largest and most attractive ski centres in Switzerland: Adelboden–Lenk.

In summer or in autumn, there are so many ways to spend your leisure time in the Region Adelboden-Frutigen. Enjoy the unique, natural and cultural alpine world on a network of footpaths, hiking trails and mountain routes covering 300 km and by bicycle or mountain bike (70 km network).

A very warm welcome to Adelboden, the most beautiful valley end in the world!

Visit : www.adelboden.ch. Contact : Adrian Roesti at a.roesti@adelboden.ch.

Faite Ireland

Faite Ireland is the national tourism Development Authority for Ireland

Visit : www.visitdublin.com. Contact : Catherine McCluskey at catherine.mccluskey@faiteireland.ie.

The Tourism Society (UK)

The Tourism Society is the professional membership body for people working in the tourism and travel industry, whether directly or indirectly, in the UK and overseas.

Existing members represent tour operators, hotel chains, PR, marketing and representation companies, tourist attractions, national, regional and local tourist boards, restaurants, trade media, charities, consultants, academics, students and educational establishments, among others.

The Tourism Management Institute (TMI) and Tourism Consultants Network are professional sections within the Society.

The Society organises 20+ events throughout the year and publishes a quarterly journal examining a wide range of topics relevant to the industry as a whole.

Visit : www.visitdublin.com. Gregory Yeoman at gregory@tourismsociety.org.

Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic features a stunning array of sandy beaches, dazzling green landscapes, mountains studded with waterfalls, exotic cuisine and a remarkable variety of arts and entertainment options that attract international travellers, sport stars and celebrities alike.

The destination offers something for everyone and can fulfil the holiday dreams of those seeking sophisticated luxury, eco-adventure, arts and culture or simple lazy days on white sandy beaches. Year-round sports, effervescent nightlife, distinctive shopping, relaxing resorts, designer golf courses and magnificent national parks make for a fun-filled holiday to-do list.

Visit : www.godominicanrepublic.com. Contact : Esther Smith at pr.uk@godominicanrepublic.com.

Ripley's Believe It or Not! London

With more than 700 amazing artefacts on display over five floors, the attraction celebrates the weird, wonderful and bizarre in all its forms.

With everything you can imagine (and plenty more you can't), Ripley's Believe It or Not! London is a family day

Visit : www.ripleyslondon.com. Contact : Alka Chandolia at sabah.khan@sirencomms.com.

The RAF Waddington International Airshow (UK)

The RAF Waddington International Airshow is the largest RAF Airshow in the country, held over the first weekend in July and regularly attracting over 140,000 visitors.

Situated 3 miles south of the historic city of Lincoln this family friendly bonanza is

Visit : www.waddingtonairshow.co.uk. Contact : Danny Mellor at dmellor@waddingtonairshow.co.uk.

Le Logis du Paradis (France)

Le Logis du Paradis a lovely old complex of buildings from 1712, including its former Cognac distillery, is built around a large, enclosed, classic Charentais courtyard. It is near a small river and in the midst of the vines of the Grande Champagne Cognac

Visit : www.logisduparadis.com. Contact : Nicholas Brimblecombe at nick@gtcharente.com.

The Puglia Travel Experts (Italy)

The Puglia Travel Experts - Active and Cultural Travel in Southern Italy. The region of Puglia on the heel of the boot. Guided & self guided cycling, culinary and wine tours. Immerse yourself in genuine Italy.

Visit : www.southernvisionstravel.com. Contact : Leigh Vincola at leigh.vincola@southernvisionstravel.com.

Harrison Maxwell (UK)

Harrison Maxwell is a UK based inbound concierge for U.S. and Canadian market travelling anywhere within western Europe.

Contact : SimonMaxwell at simon@harrisonmaxwell.com. Visit : www.harrisonmaxwell.com.

Agencies

The Limtiaco Company (USA)

Dynamic, results driven communications consultants with its headquarters in Honolulu, HI and a satellite office in Naples, FL.

Visit : www.TheLimtiacoCompany.com. Contact : Elizabeth Fitzgerald at fitzgerea@earthlink.net.

Purple

Purple is a leading PR agency with an international reputation for its luxury fashion, beauty, lifestyle, music and events clientele

Visit : www.purplepr.com. Contact : Nadia Kassas at nadia@purplepr.com.

News

The Madeira Film Festival

Madeira will host its first film festival at the Reid's Palace hotel, from 2 to 6 May.

The Madeira Film Festival will showcase feature, short and documentary films by directors from around the world. Reid's Palace has hosted some of the biggest names from the silver screen, and provided a home to John Huston and Gregory Peck during the filming of Moby Dick.

Visit : www.madeirafilmfestival.com and www.reidspalace.com. Contact : Emily Wilson at emily.wilson@orient-express.com.

Discovery Centre Museum in Rockford, Illinois

Forbes (a leading source of analysis on travel) has rated DiscoveryCentreMuseum in Rockford, Illinois as one of the top 12 Best Children's Museums in the USA.

Visit www.gorockford.com and www.discoverycentermuseum.org. Contact : Fiona at Fiona@cellet.co.uk.

Rabbie's photographic tours of Scotland

Rabbie's Small Group Tours is launching a west coast of Scotland tour for photographers to coincide with Visit Scotland's Year of the Creative 2012

The tour for photographers of all abilities to experience some of Scotland's most spectacular scenic highlights. All trips are restricted to 16 guests.

Visit : www.rabbies.com. Contact : Faiza Amjid at Faiza.amjid@freshwater-uk.com.

Sea World Orlando

SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment announced an opening date of 27 April for TurtleTrek at SeaWorld Orlando.

TurtleTrek, a 3-D/360-degree film, will open at Sea World, Orlando in April. It is the first of three all-new attractions by SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment opening over the next two years in Orlando.

Visit : seaworldorlando.com. Contact : lucy@cubo.com.

Leads

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

EUROPA-PARK

EUROPA-PARK, the seasonal theme park in SouthWest Germany opens for the 2012 season on 31 March.

Germany's biggest theme park, located in the tri-border region of Germany, France and Switzerland, offers guests more than 100 attractions and international shows in 13 European themed areas, over 90 hectares until 4 November.

The park also has Live shows and five themed hotels. New for 2012 is a WODAN - Timbercoaster, a wooden roller coaster and Bell Rock, a 4-star Superior hotel.

Visit : www.europapark.com. Contact : Isabel Bohny at isabel.bohny@europapark.de.

Seatplans.com

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

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

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

Live From Jodrell Bank, Cheshire UK

The Live From Jodrell Bank series sees artists performing in front of the giant Lovell Telescope.

Throughout each day leading up to the evening concerts, attendees can participate in a range of hands-on experiments and workshops on site at Jodrell Bank.

This year the Science Arena at Live from Jodrell Bank offers full access to the Discovery centre included in every ticket.

The giant Lovell Telescope at Jodrell Bank is an internationally known landmark for astronomers, which has been exploring the depths of outer space for over 50 years.

It remains one of the biggest and most powerful radio telescopes in the world.

Visit : www.livefromjodrellbank.com. Contact : Georgia at georgia@thezeitgeistagency.com.

The Master Paintings Week, London

The fourth Master Paintings Week takes place from 29 June to 6 July 2012 and is one of the key events in London's Summer season.

This collaboration between twenty-three leading dealers and three auction houses offers a wide selection of European paintings dating from the 15th to the 20th centuries.

Visit : www.masterpaintingsweek.co.uk. Contact : Annie Roper at annie@suebond.co.uk.

Puglia, Italy

Puglia comprises the very heel of the 'boot' of Italy, being a long thin region that spans two seas, the Adriatic and the Ionian.

The area specialises in fresh seafood, with a still thriving fishing tradition, and is the home of orecchiette pasta, Primitivo with recipes passed down from generation to generation.

There are also 50 million olive trees in the region making it the largest supplier of olive oil in the world.

Southern Visions Travel provides vacations to this region of "undiscovered Italy".

Visit : www.southernvisionstravel.com. Contact : Leigh Vincola at leigh.vincola@southernvisionstravel.com.

What's on

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

Events in Holland

City2Cities International Literature Festival

21-29 April 2012

City2Cities is a new literary event connecting the city of Utrecht with two other literary cities in Europe. This year those cities will be Prague and Barcelona.

Visit : www.city2cities.nl

Festival aan de Werf, Utrecht

17-26 May

Festival aan de Werf is an annual festival of installations, theatre, dance and music performances.

Visit : www.festivalaandewerf.nl/english.php.

Dunya Festival, Rotterdam

27 May 2012

An annual world performing arts festival in Rotterdam with more than fifty performances presented on five stages in the Euromast Park. Visit : www.dunya.nl.

Vlaggetjesdag (Celebrating the new herring season)

9 June 2012

Herring from the North Sea were first sold on the Dutch markets in the 17th century and the new herring season has been celebrated ever since. Visit : www.denhaag.nl

Open Garden Day Utrecht

30 June 2012

Around 40 gardens of museums, institutions and Utrecht residents will be open to the public. Visit : www.opentuinendagutrecht.nl

North Sea Jazz

6 to 8 July

North Sea Jazz enjoys an international reputation for staging many jazz genres from traditional New Orleans jazz, swing, bop, free jazz, fusion, avant-garde jazz; to blues, gospel, funk, soul, R&B, hip hop, world beat and Latin. Visit : www.northseajazz.com

Amsterdam Fashion Week

11 to 15 July 2012

The summer edition of the Amsterdam International Fashion Week takes over the streets of Amsterdam. Visit : www.amsterdamfashionweek.com.

Canal Festival, Amsterdam

10 to 19 August 2012

An annual classical music event featuring performances in locations throughout central Amsterdam. Visit : www.amsterdamfestivals.com.

Gaudeamus Musical Week

2 to 9 September 2012

The Gaudeamus Musical Week is an international festival for young composers and new music. Visit : www.muziekweek.nl

World Port Days, Rotterdam

7 to 9 September 2012

The World Port Days is an opportunity for visitors to get a glimpse behind the scenes of the largest port of Europe. Visit : www.wereldhavendagen.nl.

Visit : www.holland.com. Contact : Rianne Ojeh at rojeh@holland.com.

Spring food events in Scotland

Paisley Beer Festival

25 to 28 April

This four-day festival is the biggest real ale festival in Scotland and attracts thousands of people keen to sample over 130 real cask conditioned ales and foreign and foreign beers.

Visit : www.paisleybeerfestival.org.uk.

Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival

3 to 7 May 2012

A major whisky festival with over 200 events. Speyside invites whisky lovers and devotees to come and discover the passion behind Scotland's whiskies.

Visit : www.spiritofspeyside.com.

Feis Ile, the Islay Festival of Malt and Music

25 May to 3 June 2012

Feis Ile, the Islay Festival of Malt and Music, was founded to celebrate the heritage and culture of Isle of Islay.

Since 2000 Feis Ile has run in conjunction with the distilleries of Islay and Jura and Port Ellen Maltings. Each distillery has its own open day, putting on special events. Musical talent is also showcased at the ceilidhs..

Visit : www.theislayfestival.co.uk.

The Royal Highland Show

The Highland Showgrounds, Edinburgh

21 to 24 June 2012

The Royal Highland Show is a celebration of Scottish farming, food and rural life. Over 100 Scottish food and drink exhibitors will attend alongside gourmet suppliers from across the UK.

Visit : wroyalhighlandshow.org.

www.visitscotland.com/surprise. Contact : Glenda Reid at Glenda.Reid@visitscotland.com.

The St. Kitts Music Festival

28 to 30 June 2012

The 16th Annual St. Kitts Music Festival, which is held at the Warner Park Stadium in Basseterre, features a wide range of musical styles.

Visit : www.stkittsmusicfestival.com and www.stkittstourism.kn. Contact : Deirdre Cumberbatch at deirdre@talktoriver.com.

Reasons to write about

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

Volcanoes Safaris, Uganda

Volcanoes Safaris are the only properties in Uganda and Rwanda to be sold on an all inclusive basis including all meals, soft and alcoholic drinks, complimentary massage and any activities guests may wish to indulge in whilst at the lodge.

Situated on the edge of the Kyambura Gorge and Queen Elizabeth National Park, Volcanoes' new Kyambura Gorge Lodge, has views over the Gorge and the lush savannah of the park, with the peaks of the Rwenzori Mountains in the distance.

The main lodge building was originally a coffee store and processing plant, surrounded by coffee plantations.

From the Lodge guests can experience chimp tracking in the Kyambura Gorge or Kalinzu forest and take a game drive on the plains of Queen Elizabeth to spot lions, elephant, antelope, buffalo and some of the 600 birds species that live in this national park.

Visit : www.volcanoessafaris.com. Contact : Puja Khanna at pujak@me.com.

A Northwest Passage Cruise

The Northwest Passage, which links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, aboard the Akademik Ioffe provides travellers with a wide variety of wildlife during a voyage through the Canadian High Arctic.

Travelling along one of the most legendary shipping routes in the world also provides a opportunity to follow in the footsteps of a host of polar explorers, including the ill-fated Sir John Franklin and Roald Amundsen, the first to successfully traverse the Northwest Passage..

The 14-night trip, which travels between Kangerlussuaq in Greenland and Coppermine in Canada, includes the sight of steep-sided fjords and tabular icebergs; the chance to visit remote Inuit communities and meet traditional Greenlandic kayakers; and the opportunity to participate in hiking, kayaking, photographic and birding expeditions in the company of expert guides.

Visit www.oneoceanexpeditions.com. Contact : Debra Taylor at debra@toucanmoon.com.

Botanical San Francisco

Conservatory of Flowers

The oldest structure in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park and the oldest wooden framed conservatory in the nation is a museum of living plants, and known for its extensive collection of orchids. Visit www.conservatoryofflowers.org.

San Francisco Botanical Garden

The San Francisco Botanical Garden which covers 55 acres and includes more than 8,000 varieties of plants from around the world. Visit www.sfbotanicalgarden.org.

San Francisco Flower Market

Located on Sixth Street between Brannan and Bryant Streets, this is the "best flower market in the country," according to "Martha Stewart Living." Visit : www.sfflmarket.com.

Grace Marchant Garden

Tumbling down the eastern slope of Telegraph Hill, the Grace Marchant Garden (off Filbert Street) is one of the most beautiful spots in the city.

Grace embarked on her labor of love when she was 63 and groomed this hillside retreat for 33 years. Offering views of the bay, the two-acre plot is cared for by a cadre of neighbors and volunteers.

Yerba Buena Gardens

Located in the heart of San Francisco, Yerba Buena Gardens is the site of several gardens including the "butterfly garden" in the northeast corner; the Sister Cities Garden, home to a diverse collection of flowering plants from San Francisco's 13 sister cities, and a secluded rooftop garden above Moscone South at Howard and Third streets.

Visit : www.yerbabuenagardens.com

San Francisco Community Gardens

Almost 40 community gardens throughout San Francisco are supported and managed by the Recreation and Park Department.

Visit : www.parks.sfgov.org/site.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Beginning where the Pacific Ocean meets San Francisco Bay, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area has grown to more than 75,000 acres since it was established in 1972.

Visit www.nps.gov/goga.

Alcatraz Historic Gardens Project

In 2003 the Garden Conservancy and the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy formed a partnership with the National Park Service to restore and maintain key gardens on Alcatraz.

Through the Alcatraz Historic Gardens Project, partner organisations preserve, rebuild, and maintain the gardens created by those who lived on the island during its military and prison eras. The San Francisco Travel Association is the official tourism marketing organization for the City and County of San Francisco.

Visit : www.sanfrancisco.travel. Contact : Alexandra Cave at ACave@sanfrancisco.travel.

The National Theatre, UK

Between 2 June and 9 September 2012, the National will stage *NATIONAL THEATRE INSIDE OUT*, supported by American Express, whereby activities normally conducted inside the Theatre will spill out onto the terraces and squares.

Over the next three years, the National Theatre will offer audiences in the UK and worldwide unprecedented access to its work. Through youth participation, touring, transfer, overseas productions and broadcast, the theatre expect its annual audience to exceed three million by 2014.

Among its theatrical initiatives a second tour of *One Man, Two Guvnors* will visit England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland in autumn 2012 and *War Horse* will embark on a nine-month tour of UK cities in autumn 2013.

In addition, *Connections* will commission 30 new plays for 600 youth theatres nationwide over the next three years.

Visit : www.nationaltheatre.org.uk. Contact: Lucinda Morrison at lmorrison@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Flanders, Belgium

Westvleteren 12 Belgian beer

Westvleteren has been voted winner in the RateBeer Awards 2012.

Westvleteren is a trappist beer brewed by the monks of the Sint-Sixtus abbey of Westvleteren, Flanders. The Ratebeer Awards is the largest annual beer competition worldwide in which 140.000 beers are rated by 12.000 brewers worldwide.

Visit : www.ratebeer.com.

The Cook and Book bookshop, Brussels

The Cook and Book bookshop in Brussels has been selected by American cultural website Flavorpill as one of the world's most beautiful bookstores in the world.

Visit : www.cookandbook.be.

The In Flanders Fields Museum, Ypres

The In Flanders Fields Museum reopens on 11 June 2012 following a major renovation and re-vamp of its home at Cloth Hall.

The museum, which tells of the everyday lives of soldiers during the 'Great War', will be at least 50% bigger with a new WW1 Knowledge centre.

Visit : www.inflandersfields.be.

Forthcoming Contemporary Art festivals and Exhibitions

Brussels Museum on Eroticism and Mythology

The new Brussels Museum on Eroticism and Mythology has opened in the Sablon area of the city.

The museum comprises a private collection of paintings, sculptures, Greco-roman antiquities, ivories, Japanese prints covering the history of erotic art.

Ypres Cat Parade

13 May 2012

In 962, the then Count of Flanders, Baldwin III, ordered his citizens to throw their cats from the castle tower.

Cats were a sign of paganism and therefore in conflict with Christianity. In modern times, the tradition in Ypres has resumed albeit with soft toy cats and sweets as the ammunition!

The Cat parade is now a colourful triennial spectacle with music and dance as just part of the celebration which performs with nearly 2,000 extras and a large number of floats and giant characters parading in a huge spectacle.

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

Palm Springs, California

Hotels

The Saguaro Palm Springs

Opened in February 2012, The Saguaro Palm Springs is the second in a collection of Saguaro hotels managed by Joie de Vivre Hotels.

The three-story structure, originally constructed in 1965, features the Tinto restaurant run by celebrity chef Jose Garces.

Visit : www.thesaguaro.com.

La Maison

Located in the heart of Palm Springs, the new La Maison is a Mediterranean style boutique hotel.
Visit : www.lamaisonpalmsprings.com.

Bearfoot Inn

The Bearfoot Inn, which is a gay men's resort that opens this spring, is located in Movie Colony, in the palm Springs Uptown Design District. Visit : www.bearfootinn.com

Attractions

Sunnylands

Sunnylands, the winter home of Ambassador Walter and Leonore Annenberg, occupies more than 200 acres in Rancho Mirage.

Designed by architect A. Quincy Jones, one of the pioneers of mid-century modern architecture, the 25,000 square-foot mid-century modern house has hosted six U.S. Presidents, International political figures and British royalty.

Visit : www.sunnylands.org.

Desert Adventures' Indian Canyons Jeep Eco-Tour

This is a three-hour guided jeep and walking tour of the ancient Indian Canyons, that offers guests the chance to learn about the geology, flora and fauna of the canyons, along with the history and legends of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians.

Visit : www.red-jeep.com.

Big Wheel Tours' Wildlands Preserves Nature Tour

This new, four-hour Wildlands Preserves Nature Tour explores three diverse nature preserves of the Colorado and Mojave deserts.

Visit : www.bwbttours.com.

Palm Springs Desert Resorts Restaurant Week

Dates: June 1-10, 2012

Palm Springs Restaurant Week highlights the valley from Palm Springs to Indio as a premiere dining destination with three-course, prix fix menus from over 100 unique locations.

Visit : www.palmspringsrestaurantweek.com.

A place to stay

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

London hotels

The Wellesley, Knightsbridge

The Wellesley opens in November 2012 with a contemporary and 1920s style design enhancing the building's Art Deco history.

Visit : www.thewellesley.co.uk.

Ten Manchester Street

Ten Manchester Street has 45 bedrooms, some of which include heated 'garden' terraces.

www.tenmanchesterstreethotel.com

The Landmark

This five star hotel is One of the last railway hotels, and located opposite Marleybone station.

Visit : www.landmarklondon.co.uk

Bermondsey Square Hotel

The Bermondsey Square Hotel has announced a collaboration with MasterChef presenter Gregg Wallace to open Gregg's Table restaurant and bar across the ground floor.

Visit : www.bermondseysquarehotel.co.uk

Contact : Rosalind at Rosalind@rivapr.co.uk.

ITC Grand Chola, India

The ITC Grand Chola in set to open in Chennai in April 2012.

This 600-room, 10-storey property is set in the southern state of Tamil Nadu on the Coromandel coast and named for the Chola Empire, which reigned over most of south India from the 9th-13th century.

Visit : www.itchotels.in/ITCGrandChola. Contact : Alicia at ad@verypcc.com.

The Attwater, Rhode Island

The Attwater, a boutique hotel under the Lark Hotels Umbrella, will open in Newport, Rhode Island on 1 June 2012. The Attwater is located within walking distance of Newport's beaches, prime shopping and dining areas, as well as the destination's famed Cliff Walk and mansion district.

Currently under a full-scale renovation, The Attwater, built in 1910, will feature 12 guest rooms. Lark Hotels has hotels in Kennebunkport, ME; Nantucket, MA and Newport, RI.

Visit : www.theattwater.com and www.larkhotels.com. Contact : rebecca@witnesspr.com.

Château Les Carrasses, Languedoc, South of France

The Château Les Carrasses, in the Languedoc, South of France, is a 19th century Château and vineyard estate. Guests can enjoy wine tastings hosted by local winemakers, tours of nearby fishing villages, medieval castles and antique markets. The canal-side village of Capestang is a kilometre away.

Visit www.lescarrasses.com. contact : Vicky Hayes at chateaullescarrasses@brightergroup.com.

Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Resort, Orlando

The Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Resort has completed a \$25-million renovation with redesigned pool areas, guestrooms, dining options and meeting wrapped around the new 27 Palms Pool Club.

Visit : www.sheratonlakebuenavistaresort.com. Contact : Autumn Barnes Mayfield at amayfield@mayfieldpr.com.

New Hyatt hotels

Hyatt French Quarter, New Orleans

The Chateau Bourbon Hotel will be renamed the Hyatt French Quarter and reopened in mid-2012.

Built in 1849 as the D. H. Holmes department store and converted to a hotel in 1995, Hyatt French Quarter is located at the intersection of Bourbon Street and Canal Street.

Andaz Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The Andaz Amsterdam will be located on the site of the former Public Library on Amsterdam's Prinsengracht and within close walking distance from the city's major attractions.

Hyatt Regency Vladivostok, Golden Horn, Russia

Hyatt Regency Vladivostok, Golden Horn is located at the Korabelnaya Embankment in the city's central business district.

Hyatt Regency Qingdao, China

The hotel will open in one of China's most historically colorful cities, on the western section of the Old Stoneman Beach in the Laoshan District.

Hyatt Santa Barbara, California

Hyatt Santa Barbara, which opened in July 2011) was built in 1931. This historic Santa Barbara hotel is detailed with a fusion of Spanish Colonial architecture blended with modern conveniences.

Hyatt Regency Dar Es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, East Africa

Located in East Africa, just south of the equator along the Indian Ocean, Hyatt Regency Dar Es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro is located the heart of the city, the largest in Tanzania.

Visit www.hyatt.com. Contact : Lucia Roberts at lucia@grifcopr.com.

A place to stay in Spain

Hotel Alfonso XIII, Seville

The Hotel Alfonso XIII will re-open in March after extensive redevelopment.

The renowned Neo Moorish Palace was first commissioned by King Alfonso XIII to house patrons of the Ibero-American Congress in 1929.

Visit : www.hotel-alfonsoxiii-seville.com.

Caro Hotel Palacio Marqués de Caro, Valencia

Located in the heart of Valencia's Old Town, the new five star Caro Hotel Palacio Marqués de Caro has over 2000 years of history, with original features such as the stone wall facades featuring a Valentia Edetanorum mosaic dating back to II BC.

Visit : www.carohotel.com

Rusticae Hotels

Rusticae has added 12 Spanish properties to their portfolio including :

- AF Pesquera (Valladolid)
- Altair (Santiago)
- Amada Carlota (Asturias)
- Can Cuch (Barcelona)
- Caro Hotel (Valencia)
- Calle Mayor (La Rioja)
- Fontana Hotel Therman (Mallorca)
- Palacio Carrascalino (Salamanca)
- Palacio de Samaniego (Álava)
- Primero Primera (Barcelona)
- Moure (Santiago), and
- Villa Clementina (Navarra).

Visit : www.rusticae.es.

Sheraton Madrid Mirasierra Hotel & Spa, Madrid

The Sheraton Madrid Mirasierra Hotel & Spa is set to open this spring following the conversion and adaptation of the existing Mirasierra Suites Hotel. The five star property is located in Mirasierra, a residential area in the North of Madrid, close by to the financial district and the Convention Centre.

Visit : www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/index.html.

Europe's largest camping ground opens in Alicante

The Marjal Costa Blanca Eco Camping Resort, which is located on Alicante's southern coast close to the Parque Natural de El Hondo and 15km from the beach.

Visit : www.marjalcostablanca.com/en/eco-camping-resort/

Visit www.spain.info. Contact : Kate McWilliams at Kate@lotus-uk.co.uk.

The Gaya Island Resort, Borneo

The Gaya Island Resort in Borneo opens on the 1st July 2012.

The resort is located off the coast of Kota Kinabalu and set on the shores of Pulau Gaya, the largest island in the Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park.

Gaya Island Resort offers a base from which to discover Borneo with its beaches, diving sites and untouched tropical rainforests, which are home to many rare species, including the orangutan, the proboscis monkey and the pygmy elephant.

YTL Hotels owns and manages a collection of resorts, hotels and spas including Pangkor Laut Resort, voted the world's best resort in 2003.

The group also has hotels in Saint-Tropez, Niseko Village, Shanghai and Borneo in 2012, in addition to its portfolio in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the UK.

Visit : www.ytlhotels.com. Alliance members wishing to make arrangements to experience a YTL Hotels property should contact Charlie Fox at Charlie@grifcopr.com.

Sheraton Hotels

Starwood Hotels & Resorts will be opening 20 new hotels during 2012 with 12 of these in China, in locations including Huzhou, Changbaishan and Xiangshan. The other eight will include a new flagship resort in Bali, Indonesia and its second resort in Huizhou.

Visit : www.sheraton.com. Contact : Sarah Whitham at Sarah.Whitham@starwoodhotels.com.

The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba

Luxury hotel brand Ritz-Carlton will open its exclusive oceanfront resort on Aruba's Palm Beach in October 2013. The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba will be the brand's seventh property in the Caribbean.

Palm Beach, Aruba, was voted No2 in the annual 'Top Beach Destinations In The World' by TripAdvisor's users.

Visit : www.aruba.com and www.ritzcarlton.com. Contact : Tom Panagos at tom@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Lark Hotels, New England

Lark Hotels, an independent hospitality group that launched in 2012, has added the 11-room Chapman House, Nantucket, to its portfolio of coastal New England properties.

Situated in the heart of Nantucket, in a landmark structure built in 1717, Chapman House will open on 15 June 2012. It joins Veranda House, the group's sister property in the town, which is located in a structure built in 1684.

In addition to its two Nantucket properties, the Lark Hotels portfolio includes Captain Fairfield Inn, in Kennebunkport ME and The Attwater in Newport, RI.

Visit www.larkhotels.com. Contact : Rebecca Widness at rebecca@widness-co-pr.com.

The Daios Cove Luxury Resort and Villas, Crete

The Daios Cove Luxury Resort and Villas, Crete will reopen for the 2012 season on 17 April.

Visit : www.daioscovecrete.com. Contact : Lucia Roberts at Lucia@grifcopr.com.

Pennsylvania Castle, Dorset UK

Pennsylvania Castle - The Penn as it is known – was built by John Penn, grandson of William Penn who founded the US state and once played host to King George III as he celebrated a wedding anniversary in the castle in 1800.

The Penn has nine bedrooms, lounge, library and orangery all with sea views.

Nearby, there is stunning coastline and historic landmarks and a range of local restaurants serving freshly caught sea food.

The Penn is available for long or short stays including weekends.

Visit : www.thepenn.co.uk. Contact : Katie Murphy at katie@fosburypr.com.

Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa

The Park Hyatt Maldives , which opened in the Gaafu Alifu Atoll in April 2011, has launched the Hyatt Thrive project, which enables employees to contribute to their communities despite living away from home.

The nearby Gemanafushi and Dhaandhoo islands are the first communities to take part in kick-off projects.

Currently more than 55% of the resort's employees are Maldivian and despite most coming from the nearby islands, the remote location of Hadahaa means nearly all staff live on the island.

Located in the second largest natural atoll in the world, the Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa is located 400 kilometres south of Male, and excellent for those wanting to explore the coral reef, which rings the island.

Visit : www.maldives.hadahaa.park.hyatt.com. Contact Lizzie Morrison at parkhyatt@verypcc.com.

Section two : ongoing opportunities

Alerts

Ongoing independent press trip opportunities for Alliance members

- **Visit Dublin** offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a Media Pass (the Dublin Pass), which provides free entry to 34 visitor attractions in Dublin. Visit : www.visitdublin.com and www.dublinpass.com. Contact : Catherine McCluskey at Catherine.mccluskey@failteireland.ie.
- **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.
- **Adventure Cat Sailing, San Francisco Bay**, will be delighted to 'comp' Alliance travel writers. Visit : www.adventurecat.com. Contact : Sharon Schrum at sharon@adventurecat.com.
- **BusyBus, Liverpool & Chester – UK** a sightseeing tour operator will be delighted to host Alliance members and journalists (with a guest) on a review basis. Visit: www.busybus.co.uk . Contact : Vera de Ruiter: vera@busybus.co.uk.
- **Visit Orlando** offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a complimentary Journalist VIP Passport. Visit : www.VisitOrlando.com/media. Contact : Amy Rodenbrock at amy.rodenbrock@visitorlando.com.
- **La Residencia, Mallorca** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members on assignment. Visit : www.laresidencia.com. Contact : Louise Davis at louise.davis@laresidencia.com.
- **The Broadway Collection New York**, a group of 17 new and classic Broadway musicals, will be delighted to host Alliance members with a commission. Visit www.broadwaycollection.com Contact: Della Tully at Della.Tully@btinternet.com
- **Luxe PR**, a specialist agency representing 2,000 hotel guestrooms in London and across England will be delighted to host Alliance members for a review stay in one of its central London hotels, or its country house hotels based in Derbyshire, Yorkshire and the Cotswolds. Visit : www.luxepr.com. Contact : Tamsin Cocks at tamsin@luxepr.com.
- **The Mariott Paris Champs-Elysees**, which is the only five-star hotel on the Champs-Elysees, will be happy to offer accommodation to Alliance members who are in the city on an assignment. Visit : www.parismariott.com. Contact Bernice Saltzer at bernice@sortedpr.com.
- **Bath Tourism Plus** will host press visits to the Georgian and UNESCO World Heritage city of Bath. Visit : www.visitbath.co.uk. Contact : Lucy Ryder at lucy_ryder@bathtourism.co.uk.
- **City Running Tours-Chicago** will be delighted to give free 5k running or walking tours to Alliance members. Visit : www.cityrunningtours.com/chicago. Contact : Marlin Keesler at marlin@cityrunningtours.com.
- **The Cyprus Tourism Organisation** will host group and individual trips for Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.visitcyprus.com. Contact : June Field at june.field@kallaway.com.

- **theExplorateur** reviews of hotels, shops, restaurants and travel-related products around the world. Visit : www.theExplorateur.com. For press trips to review any of theExplorateur properties contact Gabriella Ribeiro Truman at gabriella@trumarketing.com.
- **Three Nelson Hotels in Cheshire**: The Grosvenor Pulford Hotel & Spa (www.grosvenorpulfordhotel.co.uk), The Pheasant Inn (www.thepheasantinn.co.uk) and The Bear's Paw (www.thebearspaw.co.uk) will be happy to accommodate Alliance members with a commission. Contact : Karen Floyd at karen.floyd@symmetrypr.com.
- **Great Hotels of the World**, representing over 200 of the world's finest hotels and resorts would be pleased to consider offering press trip accommodation to alliance members. Visit www.ghotw.com. Contact: Brooke Jester at bjester@ghotw.com.
- **The Cranley and The Royal Park** two London luxury, boutique townhouse hotels will be pleased to consider providing accommodation to Alliance members on commission. Visit www.thecranley.com or www.theroyalpark.com. Contact : Li Boatwright at li@storringtoncommunications.com.
- **Mead Brown**, a vacation rental company in Costa Rica, is happy to host writers on assignment. Visit : www.meadbrown.com. Contact : Michael Brown at michael@meadbrown.com.
- **LocalGuiding.com** – Personal tours by local guides, will be pleased to offer tours around the world to Alliance members. Visit: www.LocalGuiding.com. Contact: Robert Blessing at rb@localguiding.com.
- **Shakespeare Country**, UK will host Alliance members and their family for one or two nights with passes to visit the attractions and tickets to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre, subject to availability. Visit : www.Shakespeare-Country.co.uk. Contact : Tanya Aspinall at tanya@marketingaloud.co.uk.
- **Mallorca Hotels: Hotel Bon Sol Resort & Spa, Hotel Tres and Hotel Dalt Murada, and Hotel Mar i Vent, Mallorca** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members with a commission. Visit : www.hotelbonsol.es, www.hoteltres.com, www.daltmurada.com and www.hotelmarivent.com. Contact Cathryn Hicks at cathryn@douggoodmanpr.com
- **Atholl Estates, Perthshire, Scotland** will be delighted to host Alliance members. The country estate has historic lodges, modern woodland lodges and a 5-star holiday park. Onsite activities include a pony trekking centre, land rover safaris, stunning gardens/wildlife and the historic Blair Castle. Visit: www.atholl-estates.co.uk. Contact: Lee MacGregor at lee@leemacgregorpr.com.
- **The five-star Arlberg Hospiz Hotel and its sister four-star Goldener Berg in St. Christoph am Arlberg, Austria** has the 600 year old wine cellar of the Brotherhood of St. Christoph. Visit : www.hospiz.com. Contact Karen Luard at kp@kpcommunications.co.uk
- **The Villa Pambuffetti in Montefalco, Umbria, Italy** will be pleased to offer accommodation to Alliance members. Visit : www.villapambuffetti.com. Contact Alessandra Pambuffetti at info@villapambuffetti.com.
- **Eustatia Island, British Virgin Islands** an extraordinary 26-acre, low impact, private island estate will be happy to host press visits for Alliance members with an appropriate commission. Visit : www.eustatia.com. Contact: Alastair 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@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Health retreats on Vancouver Island**, British Columbia, Canada. Visit : www.vancouverisland.com. Contact : Pamela Irving at livingcomms@telus.net.
- **Red Mangrove Galapagos Lodges** offers a land-based alternative to exploring the Galapagos that until now was a cruise-only destination. Visit : www.redmangrove.com. Contact : Dave Wiggins dave@travelnewssource.com
- **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.
- **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 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.visit1066ocountry.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@crimsonedge.co.uk.
- **The Isles of Scilly** will be delighted to consider offering travel and accommodation to Alliance members on assignment, with a commission or who are able to obtain one. Visit: www.simplyscilly.co.uk. Contact: Karen Baker at karen@mercury-pr.co.uk.
- **The Park Hyatt Istanbul-Maçka Palas, Turkey** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.hyatt.com. Kathryn Peel at Kathryn@grifcopr.com.
- **Helpful Holidays, UK** will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members. Visit: www.helpfulholidays.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
- **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.

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.

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.

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

The Dublin pass

Visit Dublin offers Alliance members visiting on-assignment a Media Pass (the Dublin Pass), which provides free entry to 34 visitor attractions in Dublin

Visit : www.visitdublin.com and www.dublinpass.com. Contact : Catherine McCluskey at Catherine.mccluskey@failteireland.ie.

ELITE's luxury car hire

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

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

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

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

Visit : www.eliterent.com. Contact : Jan Klima at jan.klima@eliterent.com.

Æther mobile

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

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

CitySightseeing Worldwide

CitySightseeing Worldwide is one of the world's leading, hop-on-hop-off, open top bus tour operators offering multi-lingual commentary or live guide.

Alliance members producing features an article a specific City Sightseeing tour destination can apply for a complimentary ticket or two.

Alliance members/family/friends can receive a 20% discount from all 100 City Sightseeing tours around the world by booking via its website.

Visit www.city-sightseeing.com and click on the relevant tour page for details and using dedicated code ITWA20.

Free tickets have to be issued by our local operators whose telephone number is on the CitySightseeing website.

Visit : www.city-sightseeing.com. Contact : Graham Toone at Graham.Toone@city-sightseeing.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

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