



The Alliance

bulletin

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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.

La Residencia (Mallorca)

La Residencia is a luxury hotel on Mallorca and part of the Orient-Express group.

The hotel is situated in the Tramuntana area of the island, which has been declared a Natural Heritage site by UNESCO.

La Residencia will be delighted to consider offering accommodation to Alliance members on assignment.

Visit : www.laresidencia.com. Contact : Louise Davis at louise.davis@laresidencia.com.

Taiwan

Expansion of the National Palace Museum

Taipei's National Palace Museum will begin an expansion project in 2012 that will expand the exhibition area by five times and will include a 4.8 hectare 'Cultural Creative Park' opposite the museum.

The National Palace Museum holds the largest and most valuable collection of Chinese artefacts and national treasure in the world, with more than 682,000 objects from the collections of the Song Dynasty (960-1279AD), the Yuan, Ming, Qing Dynasties and republican periods to the present day.

The project is due to be completed by 2022.

Visit www.npm.gov.tw/en and www.taiwan.net.tw.

Alliance members interested in visiting Taiwan on an individual or group press trip contact David Ezra at david@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Australia's Gold Coast

Australia's Gold Coast will host the 2018 Commonwealth Games, the largest international event to be held in Australia over the next decade. The Gold Coast is the sixth largest region in Australia and is one of the country's most popular holiday destinations.

Visit : www.VisitGoldCoast.com. For press trip enquiries contact: Daniela Resenterra at daniela@hillsbalfour.com

Norfolk Hideaways (UK)

Norfolk Hideaways specialises in providing luxury self-catering holiday cottages along the north Norfolk coastline from traditional fisherman's cottages to country houses sleeping up to 16 people.

Norfolk Hideaways 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.

Newmarket Racecourses, UK

Newmarket Racecourses is the historic 'Home of Racing.'

As well as two Racecourses, the Rowley Mile and the English July Course, the destination has exceptional restaurants, a wide selection of private spaces and world class racing with 38 days of flat racing each year.

Newmarket Racecourses also plays host to world-class music nights

Visit : www.newmarketracecourses.co.uk. To review a day at the races, the food and entertainment contact : Rachel at Rachael@junglepr.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

Bankside, London

Bankside is one of central London's riverside destinations, stretching from Blackfriars to London Bridge with attractions including Tate Modern, Shakespeare's Globe and Borough Market.

The area offers a true alternative to the West End and is famous for its intriguing history, iconic landmarks, vibrant art scene, world class markets, atmospheric pubs, award winning restaurants and shops.

To find out more about this historic and progressive part of London, get up-to-the-minute event information and take advantage of special offers visit www.visitbankside.com

Visit : www.visitbankside.com. Contact : Louise Errington at le@betterbankside.co.uk.

Camp Denali & North Face Lodge (USA)

Family-owned Camp Denali & North Face Lodge are the only accommodations in Denali National Park with views of North America's highest peak, Mt. McKinley. Located in the geographic center of the park, Camp Denali & North Face Lodge offer in-depth experiences for active travelers.

Visit : www.campdenali.com. Contact : Anne Beaulaurier at info@campdenali.com

The Indianapolis Convention & Visitors Association

The Indianapolis Convention & Visitors Association works with travel writers like yourself to showcase why 20 million people from around the world visit Indianapolis each year -- making Indy a Top 25 Most Visited U.S. Destination.

Visit : www.visitindy.com. Contact : Morgan Greenlee at mgreenlee@visitindy.com.

Out & About Travel (USA)

Gay Travel Information Blog is run by Out & About Travel, one of the Internet's top gay & lesbian online travel agencies. It provides honest reviews of gay & lesbian friendly businesses worldwide.

Visit : www.gaytravelinformation.com. Contact : Desiree Sousa at info@gaytravelpros.com.

Travel In Depth

Travel In Depth is a boutique tour operator specialising in creating bespoke holidays to just a handful of destinations, places that they know well and are passionate about.

Its holidays to Argentina, Chile, the Falkland Islands, Guyana and New Zealand are designed with care and expertise by Paul Carberry and Yvonne Cohen who are the owners of the company and who have intimate, expert knowledge of the landscapes, wildlife, unique experiences and accommodation of their destinations.

Visit : www.travel-indepth.co.uk. Contact : Paul Carberry at paul@travel-indepth.co.uk.

Conrad Indianapolis

Voted a "Top U.S. Hotel" by Conde Nast Traveler Magazine's Readers' Choice Awards for the fifth year in a row, Conrad Indianapolis is the hotel discerning travellers visiting the "Circle City."

Located at one of the city's most prominent intersections, the hotel is truly in the center of it all – connected to Circle Centre Mall and just steps from nearly everything that downtown has to offer including museums, live music and theatre, and the Indianapolis Zoo & White River Gardens State Park.

The hotel is also connected via elevated skywalk to the Indiana Convention Center. The 23-story building features 243 guest rooms, 15,000 square feet of intimate, state-of-the-art meeting space and 15 private residences. Dining can be enjoyed in Tastings Wine Bar or The Capital Grille® restaurant, and there is the Evan Todd Spa & Salon. Conrad Indianapolis, open since March, 2006, is the city's first true luxury hotel.

Visit : www.conradindianapolis.com. Contact : Maddy Barnas at maddy.barnas@conradhotels.com.

Agencies

Expansion (Italy)

A National and international company specialising in public relations, advertising, web, Media.

Press & PR is led by Federica Zanda, who after 11 years abroad (UK and Germany) has decided to move back to Italy after two years working from on of the best luxury hotel chain in Italy, Eleganzia Hotels & Spas.

Visit : www.expansion.sm. Contact : Federica Zanda at federiczanda@hotmail.com.

Fuller and Sander (USA)

Fuller and Sander is a proactive, successful media/client connection in the world of food, wine, travel and hospitality.

Visit : www.fullerandsander.com. Contact : Monty Sander at monty@fullerandsander.com.

Grayling (UK)

Grayling is a global communications network, combining national champion businesses across 70 offices to deliver collective intelligence and authentic understanding of what unites and differentiates the many cultures and geographies in which they operate.

Clients include Accor Hotels and United Airlines.

Visit : www.grayling.com. Contact : Sarah Stevens at sarah.stevens@grayling.com and Phoebe Campbell at phoebe.campbell@grayling.com.

Opera PR (UK)

Full service PR & marketing consultancy, with expertise in leisure, property, architecture and design, and high tech manufacturing.

Visit : www.operapr.com. Contact : Simon Turton at simon@operapr.com.

Andrew Freeman & Co (USA)

Andrew Freeman & Co. is a high-energy hospitality consulting agency with a unique blend of expertise in marketing, public relations and creative services headquartered in San Francisco.

Visit : www.afandco.com. Contact : Claire Bentley at Claire@afandco.com.

Opinion PR (UK)

Public relations services for businesses and organisations involved in, and wishing to access, online communities.

The company successful launch of the world's largest travel community, TripAdvisor, in the UK and its subsequent roll-out in France and Germany and has extensive experience managing multi-country programmes in Europe, Asia and Australia.

Visit : www.opinionpr.co.uk. Contact : Ian Rungay at ian@opinionpr.co.uk.

News

Hong Kong Airlines

Hong Kong Airlines has been granted traffic rights between Hong Kong and Taiwan and will launch four daily passenger flights on Taipei or Kaohsiung routes commencing in the first quarter of 2012. Taiwan is one of the fast-developing passenger and cargo markets in Asia, with continued strong and fast-growing demand in the tourism and freight industries.

The addition of these two cities further extends Hong Kong Airlines network of onward connections, including Shanghai and Tokyo.

Hong Kong Airlines will launch the world's first all Club Class wide body long-haul scheduled service between London and Hong Kong on 8 March 2012.

The airline has ordered three Airbus A330-200 aircraft for the new route, configured with just 116 seats in an exclusive all Club Class offering; Club Premier and Club Classic.

Visit : www.hongkongairlines.com/club. Contact : Gail Palmer at gail@ktapr.com.

Ecoventura

Ecoventura which takes guests sailing with its environmentally friendly fleet of small expedition vessels in the Galapagos, has earned Rainforest Alliance verification in recognition of its commitment to conserving the environment and supporting local communities.

Rainforest Alliance verification is an assurance that a hotel or tour operator has met comprehensive social, environmental and economic standards that conserve natural resources, protect wildlife and help local communities thrive.

Rainforest Alliance verification is aligned with the Global Sustainable Tourism Council's criteria, the gold standard for sustainable tourism.

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

Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet have launched 48 hour city guides to 12 US cities.

The bite-sized guides are designed for travellers who are short of time so need to get to the heart of the city quickly.

Priced at 99p on Apple and £1.14 on Amazon, the guides include activities for a variety of interests, food and drink, hotel recommendations and an easy to use map.

Taken from Lonely Planet's popular USA Trips series, Miami, Boston, Las Vegas, San Francisco, Austin, Los Angeles, San Diego, St Louis, Denver, New Orleans, Seattle and Manhattan are all now available on the iBookstore and the Kindle Store.

Visit : www.lonelyplanet.co.uk. Contact : Laura Lindsay at Laura.Lindsay@lonelyplanet.co.uk.

Grape Escapes, Alsace

Grape Escapes, the wine tour specialist, has launched a new itinerary to Alsace in eastern France, with two to three night breaks to the 16th century village of Riquewihr visiting Alsatian vineyards and dining in local winstubs.

The small medieval village of Riquewihr is located at the foot of the Vosges Mountains on the Alsace wine route and is known for its Riesling. Grape Escapes' guests stay at the boutique Hôtel de la Couronne in the centre of Riquewihr, which dates back to 1550.

Visit : www.grapeescapes.net. Contact : Jenny Groutage at jenny@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Virgin Atlantic

With Vancouver celebrating its 125th in 2012, Virgin Atlantic will launch a new route from London Heathrow in May.

The new service will operate four times a week on a Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday and initially run until October 2012. This will see up to 40,000 Virgin Atlantic customers travelling between London and Vancouver in the first season.

The route will be the airline's 34th worldwide.

Visit : www.fly.virgin.com. Contact: Anna Catchpole at anna.catchpole@fly.virgin.com.

Visit Britain

VisitBritain has launched a campaign to encourage UK businesses to invite their friends, relatives and past customers from around the world to visit Britain in 2012.

A tourism industry tool kit is available free of charge on www.visitbritain.org for businesses looking participate.

Visit : www.visitbritain.org. Contact : Mark Di-Toro at mark.di-toro@visitbritain.org.

Grand Canyon Tour and Travel

Grand Canyon Tour and Travel have launched VIP Spirit, a new range of tours in Mercedes Benz Sprinter Vehicles.

Visit : www.grandcanyontourandtravel.com. Contact : info@18004canyon.com.

London's West End launches digital media centre

London's West End has launched a digital media centre in preparation for the influx of visitors to the UK during Olympic year.

The centre is run by the New West End Company, which represents 600 businesses in Bond Street, Oxford Street and Regent Street, and the Heart of London Business Alliance representing over 200 businesses in Piccadilly Circus and Leicester Square.

There are 200 million visits to London's West End each year spending over £7.6bn.

Of these visitors 37% are from overseas and a further 21% are from outside of London.

Visit : www.westendmediacentre.com, www.newwestend.com and www.heartoflondonbid.co.uk.
Contact : Alison Wood at alison.wood@raincommunications.co.

Whitecraigs station, East Renfrewshire, Scotland

Whitecraigs station in East Renfrewshire, Scotland has been named the top station in the country by Keep Scotland Beautiful, the environmental charity, and awarded platinum status.

The organisation spent six months assessing all 346 stations in Scotland on issues ranging from clearing litter to recycling, waste management and community links.

Visit : www.firstgroup.com and www.ksbscotland.org.uk. Contact : Clare Meikle at clare.meikle@firstgroup.com and Juliette Camburn at juliette.camburn@ksbscotland.org.uk.

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.

Quintessential Bed and Breakfast

Quintessential Bed and Breakfast is a website showcasing 18 luxury bed and breakfast homes. These range in style from Cotswold stone cottages to Baroque country seats.

Visit : www.quintessentialbedandbreakfast.com. Contact : Nicola Crewe-Read at nicola@quintessentialbedandbreakfast.com.

The Waitukubuli National Trail

The launch of the Waitukubuli National Trail is the only long distance hiking trail in the Caribbean traversing the entire island.

Named after the indigenous name for Dominica (meaning “tall is her body”), the Trail runs for 115 miles from the south to the north of the island and will be divided into 14 sections.

Hikers will be able to complete one section per day so in total it will take two weeks to cover the entire trail. It traverses forest reserves, national parks, old slave routes, ruins of plantations that once processed sugar, coffee and limes, small farms and country villages.

Dominica is a green island of rugged mountains, lush rainforests and rushing rivers in the Eastern Caribbean, lying south of Guadeloupe and north of Martinique.

Visit : www.waitukubulitrail.com. Contact : Chloe Buchanan at chloe@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Cape Benton, Nova Scotia, Canada

Cape Breton Island is known for its picturesque coastal roads, friendly people and Celtic traditions.

The Island offers the Cabot Trail, which takes in 185 miles of ocean views, craggy cliffs, the occasional tiny harbour and great opportunities to spot moose, whales and seabirds. There is also the chance to take a whale-watching cruise from Pleasant.

Visit : www.cabottrail.com. Contact : www.golfpei.ca. Contact : Kylie Rathbone at kylie.rathbone@kbc-pr.com.

Prince Edward Island, Canada

Prince Edward Island, has two of North America’s top golf courses. The Links at Crowbush Cove, Dunderave Golf Course and the Brudenell River Golf Course. These have helped PEI being voted the 2011 Undiscovered Golf Destination of the Year.

Contact : www.golfpei.ca. Contact : Kylie Rathbone at kylie.rathbone@kbc-pr.com.

Quintessential Bed and Breakfast

Quintessential Bed and Breakfast is a website showcasing 18 luxury bed and breakfast homes.

These range in style from Cotswold stone cottages to Baroque country seats.

Visit : www.quintessentialbedandbreakfast.com. Contact : Nicola Crewe-Read at nicola@quintessentialbedandbreakfast.com.

HouseTrip.com

HouseTrip.com, the European website offering holiday apartments and houses to over 7,000 destinations in 55,000 properties around the world, has also launched in the UK market.

Visit : www.housetrip.com. Contact : Ryan Levitt at rl@housetrip.com.

The Mousetrap, London

The Mousetrap, the world's longest running stage production celebrates it's 60th consecutive year in London's West End in 2012.

In September 2012 The Mousetrap will also begin its first ever UK tour, which will run for 60 weeks and The tour is planned to run for 60 weeks and visit Canterbury, Glasgow, Milton Keynes, Belfast, Cardiff, Plymouth, Manchester, Edinburgh, Southampton, Woking and Bradford.

Visit : www.the-mousetrap.co.uk. Contact : Chloe Pritchard-Gordon at chloe@thecornershoppr.com.

Ententecordiale Tours (UK)

Ententecordiale Tours is a provider of bespoke battlefields tours for groups of families, friends, workplace colleagues, ex servicemen organisations, schools and colleges. Specialising in WW1 France and Belgium. Over 20 years experience.

Visit : www.ententecordialetours.co.uk. Contact : Ged Ellis at geraldellis.ect@gmail.com

Oxfordshire gardens, UK

Visit Oxfordshire has published its first *Gardens Guide* featuring some of the county's most glorious gardens, is now available.

Oxfordshire's gardens include :

- Stowe, constructed on a magnificent scale with more than 40 temples and monuments, wooded walks by lakes and fun play elements for children
- Blenheim Palace Park, landscaped by 'Capability' Brown. Its formal Rose, Italian, and Secret Gardens Water Terraces
- Stonor, whose rolling deer park and walled garden planted with roses and apple trees
- Ironstone Hills, Broughton Castle which looks over its moat, parkland and fleur-de-lys shaped box hedges, enclosing rare and historic roses
- Waterperry Gardens, famed for their magnificent herbaceous borders and productive orchards.

Central Oxford is the home of the Oxford University's Botanic Garden, where JRR Tolkien's favourite tree still soars above the crumbling walls and over 7000 plant species from around the world rub shoulders in their riverside setting.

Harcourt Arboretum at Nuneham Courtenay, displays newly restored wild flower meadows conserving some of England's threatened floral heritage.

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

What's on

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

Banff National Park's 'SnowDays' Festival

14 January to 12 February 2012

The Banff National Park's 'SnowDays' Festival is a month of activities that builds on the park's previous winter carnivals.

The festival brings together ice climbing in downtown Banff; skating on the town's new ice rink; creative snow sculptures; cross-country skiing, curling and snowshoeing.

The month of activities will be rounded off with Banff's first-ever 'Take It To The Street' ball hockey tournament.

Visit : www.banfflakelouise.com. Contact : Mary Morrison at mary@banfflakelouise.com.

The Tropical Extravaganza Festival, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London

4 February - 4 March 2012

The Tropical Extravaganza Festival has displays of exotic orchids, tropical flowers and foliage in the Princess of Wales Conservatory. The theme for this year's festival is Forces of Nature, and how plants and fungi interact with the four forces of nature - earth, fire, wind, and water.

Visit : www.kew.org. Contact : pr@kew.org.uk.

The Mall of America, Bloomington, Minnesota

4 February to 10 June 2012

The Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota is to host an exhibition showcasing Princess Diana to celebrate its 20th anniversary.

Among the exhibits will be Diana's wedding dress and 28 of her other designer dresses. Also included are a number of family heirlooms, personal mementos, items connected to her extensive charity work, paintings and rare home movies and photos.

The original text of Earl Spencer's moving tribute to his sister at her funeral in 1997 in Westminster Abbey and books of condolences left by people throughout the world can also be viewed.

Visit bloomingtonmn.org. Contact : Fiona Pettitt at Fiona@cellet.co.uk.

Imagine, the Southbank Centre, London

11 to 26 February 2012

For six days children take over the running of Southbank Centre, from managing the cloakroom to selling programmes and making sure shows start on time.

Festival themes include a celebration of Roald Dahl and an exploration of children in care in literature.

Visit : www.southbankcentre.org. Contact Helena Zedig at helena.zedig@southbankcentre.co.uk.

Monte Rei Golf & Country Club, the Algarve, Portugal

25 and 27 April 2012

The Monte Rei Golf & Country Club in the Algarve will host to the Sir Michael Bonallack Trophy between the 25 and 27 April 2012.

Known for its Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course, the first of its kind in the Algarve, the Monte Rei is held as one of the top courses in Europe..

The Trophy is contested in matchplay format between elite Amateurs from Europe against counterparts from Asia/Pacific, and is played over three days.

Visit : www.monte-rei.com. Contact : Melissa Holstegge at Melissa.holstegge@brightergroup.com.

The Isle of White Festival, UK

22 to 24 June 2012

Bruce Springsteen, Pearl Jam and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers will headline the 2012 Isle of Wight Festival. The three-day event will also feature Elbow, Biffy Clyro, Madness, Example, Noah and the Whale and Noel Gallagher.

The Isle of Wight Festival was first held in 1968.

The 1969 event starred Bob Dylan and The Band. In 1970, with The Who, Jimi Hendrix, Miles Davis and the Doors headlining, the festival attracted an estimated crowd of 600,000.

The Isle of Wight is England's largest island, lying 3–6km (2–4 miles) off the south coast. Over half the island is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and it attracts around 2.6 million visitors a year.

There are ferry crossings to the island from Southampton, Portsmouth and Lymington.

Visit : [Www.isleofwightfestival.com](http://www.isleofwightfestival.com). Contact : isleofwight@amazingmedia.co.uk.

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.

Cadiz, Spain

Cadiz will be celebrating the bicentenary of “La Pepa”, the first European Liberal Constitution, during 2012.

The objective of the 2012 celebrations will be to foster the economic, social, political and cultural development of the city, underlining the ‘spirit of Cadiz’.

The city will also celebrate the fact that while the French bombed the city with more than 15,000 missiles, Cadiz’s theatre and drama culture continued to thrive.

The celebrations will continue throughout the year with shows, parades, historical re-enactments, conferences, concerts, boat rallies, fashion shows and food tastings. Throughout 2012, Cadiz will also be the Ibero-American Capital of Culture.

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

Tree houses in England

Chewton Glen Tree House Suites, Hampshire

In July 2012 the five-star Chewton Glen will open six Tree House Suites in the grounds of the hotel.

Each tree house will be on stilts, like floating lily pads balancing between the valley and tree canopy. Floor-to-ceiling glass will provide panoramic views of the New Forest.

Visit : www.chewtonglen.com.

Treehouses at Centre Parcs, Longleat Forest

Following the success of the Treehouses at Centre Parcs' Sherwood Forest property, three Treehouses are now available at Longleat Forest.

The luxury two-storey Treehouses will be set among the trees in a quiet corner of the 400 acres of woodland at Longleat Forest in Wiltshire and feature 4 en-suite bedrooms, an open plan kitchen, dining and living area, separate games den (accessed along a timber walkway) and a private hot tub.

Visit : www.differentview.centerparcs.co.uk/treehouse.php

Fair Oak Farm, East Sussex

Two new luxury eco-lodge treehouses are now available to book for self-catering breaks at Fair Oak Farm, Mayfield.

Set amid mature trees, both lodges provide couples with complete privacy and uninterrupted valley views across the stunning Sussex countryside. Built almost entirely of sustainable timber and fully insulated, the tree houses have sheltered balconies and are connected to a dedicated parking area by a winding path.

Visit : www.fairoakfarm.co.uk.

Castle Cottage Treehouse, Sussex

Built into a huge sweet chestnut tree on the edge of a wood, a substantial staircase leads you up to a thatched room with a double bed set between the tree branches, looking out through large glass doors to the tree tops.

It has an en-suite shower room bathed in light from the glass roof and covered with handmade mosaic tiles. A large balcony with swing seats sets the scene to the perfect romantic break.

Visit : www.castlecottage.info/thetreehouse.html

Alnwick Treehouse, Northumberland – A restaurant with a difference

This wooden turreted eatery, entered via a wobbly, candle-lit suspension bridge has nature all around guests, with creepers clinging onto the walls and wood just about everywhere you look – including on the tables – which are formed from tree slices.

www.alnwickgarden.com

Contact: Mark Anthony McCulloch at mark.mcculloch@visitengland.org.

Chien Bleu and Sit 'n Stay Global

Chien Bleu, the UK luxury travel specialist for dogs and their owners, is collaborating with Sit 'n Stay Global, the US-based pet travel provider.

From the beginning of 2012, Chien Bleu will be offering a global portfolio of pet-friendly accommodation allowing international pet owners to travel overseas with great ease.

Sit 'n Stay Global provides certified flight attendants to care for dogs and pets onboard private jets.

More and more people are choosing to fly on private jets not only for the security, convenience and comfort they provide, but also to be able to bring their pet along with them in the cabin.

Sit 'n Stay flight attendants come equipped with pet oxygen masks, pet flotation devices and pet seat restraints.

Visit : www.chienbleutavel.com. Contact : Sophie Furness at sophie@grifcopr.com.

Kensington Palace, London

Kensington Palace in London will re-open to visitors on 26 March 2012 after a £12-million transformation with a new permanent exhibition that explores the life and reign of Queen Victoria through her own words.

Visitors will learn about Victoria's first day as Queen at Kensington Palace, the romance of her early relationship with Prince Albert, their family life and Prince Albert's involvement in the 1851 Great Exhibition.

The Kensington Palace exhibition will be in the rooms where Victoria lived as a child and will include paintings by Franz Xaver Winterhalter and Sir Edwin Landseer, gifts that Queen Victoria exchanged with Prince Albert during their engagement in 1839 and her wedding dress.

The Palace will also hold a temporary summer exhibition from May called Jubilee, telling the story of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 1897.

The current Kensington Palace, which is owned by Queen Elizabeth II on behalf of the nation, was rebuilt for King George I in the early 18th century. Queen Victoria was born there on 24 May 1819, and lived there as a Princess until she became Queen on 20 June 1837.

Diana, Princess of Wales lived in the apartments in the north-west part of the palace from 1981 to 1997.

Visit : www.hrp.org.uk/KensingtonPalace. Contact : Nicola Osmond-Evans at nicola.osmond-evans@hrp.org.uk.

Wildlife hotspots in 2012

PlanetWildlife.com, a provider of diverse wildlife travel and tours around the world, has highlighted wildlife's Hot Spots during 2012.

January - India

January is the breeding season for the green sea turtles around the Galapagos Islands.

This is also an excellent time of year to go tiger spotting in India when the clement weather facilitates close study of these rare and endangered big cats.

February - Nepal

February is a good time to go trekking in Nepal with better than usual odds of spotting the famed Bengal Tiger.

February also sees the gathering of hundreds of thousands of spectacular pink flamingos on Lake Nakuru in Kenya, Africa.

March – the Arctic

When the days start to lengthen and become milder in the Arctic region, this is a good time to spot Aurora Borealis – the Northern Lights.

April - Galapagos

April presents another opportunity to go bird-watching in Galapagos where enthusiasts can spot blue-footed boobies, swallow tailed gullies, frigate birds and red-billed tropic birds amongst others.

May - India – Ladhak and Karnataka

In India, the weather is good for an extensive trek around Ladhak in the Himalayas.

This is also an opportune month to visit Karnataka in India and the Bandipur National Park and Tiger Reserve, the natural habitat of Bengal tigers, leopards, elephants and hyenas.

June - Rwanda

Rwanda in June provides the chance to witness a unique baby gorilla naming ceremony, “Kwitalzina” – an annual ceremony attended by hundreds of local villagers but international visitors are also welcome.

July - Costa Rica and Brazil

Spot the endangered green and hawksbill turtles nest on the Caribbean beaches of Tortuguero National Park, Costa Rica. The park is also home to manatees, crocodiles, tropical gar, jaguars, sloths and basilisks, amongst other exotic wildlife.

In Brazil's Pantanal area this is the best time of year for jaguar sightings and for close study of many other endangered species including the hyacinth macaw and the maned wolf.

August - Kenya

Kenya in August gives the chance to witness the annual Great Migration sees thousands of wildebeest, gazelles and zebras make a dash across the Mara River risking death from predators such as the crocodile.

September - Botswana

Botswana in September gives the chance to explore the wilderness of Chobe National Park and the Okavango delta and take in the full majesty of the famed Victoria Falls.

October - Madagascar

During this dry month off the coast of Africa, lemurs are particularly active on the island of Madagascar.

November – the Falkland Islands

The Falkland Islands (classified under the Antarctic zone) in November gives the opportunity to watch five different species of penguins breed at this special time: the King, Rockhopper, Gentoo, Magallanic and Macaroni penguins and also the chance to spot the rare black-browed albatross.

December - Sri Lanka

In southern Sri Lanka, this is the best time of year to spot one of the natural wonders of the world - the Blue Whale....nowhere else do they come as close to the land as they do near the coast of Sri Lanka.

PlanetWildlife is as a leading international provider of diverse wildlife and safari tours with over 300 creative itineraries in 26 countries around the world catering to a wide range of interests and budgets.

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

A place to stay

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

Hotels in Spain

Sunburn Yacht Hotel, Barcelona

Husa Hotels will open the five star Sunborn yacht hotel in the Port Forum marina, Barcelona in spring 2012. Onboard amenities include; a fine dining restaurant, infinity pool and day spa, as well as extensive conference and banqueting facilities.

Visit : www.sunborn.com/s200-sunborn-barcelona/

Hostal El Laurel, Ibi, Alicante

The Hostal El Laurel which has operated since 1939 has reopened as the Hotel del Juguete (Toy Hotel) to reflect the history of toy making in the area.

Visit : www.hoteldeljuguete.com.

Three new Relais & Châteaux hotels in 2012

The Relais & Chateaux guide for 2012, which features 518 establishments across five continents features three new Spanish properties:

- Castillo de Arteaga in Vizcaya
- Neri Hotel & Restaurant in Barcelona, and
- Ramón Freixa Restaurant in Madrid.

Visit : www.relaischateaux.com.

AC Palacio del Carmen

The international hotel chain AC Hotels by Marriott has added the five-star AC Palacio del Carmen in Santiago de Compostela to it's Autograph Collection. The 74-roomed hotel is housed in the Convent of the Oblatas de Santiago de Compostela.

Visit : www.marriott.co.uk/autograph-collection-hotel/travel.mi#/Autograph.

Ayre Hotels, Madrid

Ayre Hoteles (part of Fiesta Hotel) is to open a new boutique Madrid property in winter 2012.

Located in the heart of Madrid's city centre on Calle Barquillo, the new four star property will feature 70 bedrooms and will be located in an old 19th century Spanish palace, previously owned by the Marchioness Viuda de Aldama.

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

The Sherwood, Taipei, Taiwan

The Sherwood Taipei has been named Taiwan's Leading Hotel and Taiwan's Leading Business Hotel by the World Travel Awards. The five star property is located in the heart of Taipei and is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World.

Visit: www.sherwood.com.tw/en and www.taiwan.net.tw. Alliance members interested in visiting Taiwan on an individual or group press trip contact David Ezra at david@saltmarshpr.co.uk.

Hilton Bogota

Hilton Hotels & Resorts has opened the Hilton Bogota, it's first managed full-service hotel in Bogota, Colombia. The hotel is located near to El Dorado International Airport in the city's bustling financial district and an area known as the "new" downtown.

Hilton Bogota aims to appeal to the capital city's growing number of leisure guests with its proximity to downtown, the city's renowned Zona G dining and entertainment quarter and museums and theatres.

Hilton Worldwide currently has 46 hotels and resorts in Latin America and is expanding throughout the region with properties in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

Visit www.bogota.hilton.com and www.HiltonWorldwide.com/Media. Contact : Hayley Coleman at HColeman@golleyslater.co.uk.

The Mount Somerset Hotel (UK)

The Eden Hotel Collection of luxury hotels in the UK, have added the Mount Somerset Hotel & Spa.

The Mount Somerset Hotel and Spa is a Georgian country house hotel, set in four acres of grounds between the Quantock and Blackdown Hills. The hotel holds three AA Stars and two AA Rosettes.

Other hotels in the collection include :

- Michelin star Mallory Court Hotel in Leamington Spa
- Buckland Tout-Saints Hotel in Devon
- The Kings Hotel in Chipping Campden
- The Arden Hotel in Stratford-upon-Avon,
- Brockencote Hall in Worcestershire, and
- The Greenway Hotel and Spa in Cheltenham.

Visit : www.edenhotelcollection.com. Contact : Lindsay Butler at lindsay.butler@edenhotelcollection.com.

Section two : ongoing opportunities

Alerts

Ongoing independent press trip opportunities for Alliance members

- **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 Abrehart, alastair@broadswordpr.com.
- **Africa Safari Holidays** will be happy to offer any press trip services to professional travel journalist to East Africa. Visit : www.africasafariholidays.net. Contact : Agnes Njagi at info@africasafariholidays.net.
- **Reykjavik Bike Tours** provide press tours of Iceland's capital for Alliance members. Visit : www.icelandbike.com. Contact : Stefan Helgi Valsson at valsson@centrum.is.
- **Champagne-Ardenne Tourisme**, four French departments boasting historic sites and chateaux, walking and cycling routes, a variety of sports, superb natural scenery and Champagne will be pleased to consider press visits for Alliance members. Visit : www.tourisme-champagne-ardenne.com. Contact: Doug Goodman at doug@douggoodmanpr.com.
- **Health retreats on Vancouver Island**, British Columbia, Canada. Visit : www.vancouverisland.com. Contact : Pamela Irving at livingcomms@telus.net.
- **Red Mangrove Galapagos Lodges** offers a land-based alternative to exploring the Galapagos that until now was a cruise-only destination. Visit : www.redmangrove.com. Contact : Dave Wiggins dave@travelnewssource.com

- **Midlethorpe Hall & Spa**, Yorkshire, UK will be delighted to offer DB&B and use of the Spa to Alliance members. Visit : www.middlethorpe.com. Contact Daisy Parker at daisy@iscott.co.uk.
- **Swaziland and Malawi** : Geo Group will be delighted to consider press trips to either Swaziland or Malawi for Alliance members with suitable commissions. Visit : www.welcometoswaziland.com and www.malawitourism.com. Contact: Kelly White at tourism@geo-group.co.uk.
- **Holidaylettings**, which offers a selection of chalets and apartments around the world will consider arranging accommodation at its listed properties. Visit : www.holidaylettings.co.uk. Contact : 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.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
- **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.

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.

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 : Maritza Morales at maritza@eliterent.com

Æther mobile

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

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

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

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