

AITO KNOW IT ALL – MEDIA E-NEWSLETTER, APRIL 2019

AITO's (www.aito.com) 120-plus specialist holiday companies create inspiring trips and experiences for travellers of all ages and abilities to enjoy. Here is a selection of new itineraries, member updates and exciting events this month, taking you into the spring and summer season.

New tours and news from AITO members

*Travellers can book directly through the AITO members featured in this newsletter. AITO members marked * can also be booked through a local, trusted [AITO Specialist Travel Agency](#).*

Missed the last newsletter from AITO members? See it [here](#).

Archipelago Choice has introduced a new range of [bespoke holidays to Namibia](#). Ranging from luxury fly-in safaris to family, walking and wildlife holidays, there is something for everyone. Prices start from £2,178 pp (group of four) for the 13-night self-drive holiday, including flights from the UK, staying in lodges, guesthouses and guest farms (half-board), with some nights spent camping under the stars. Departs year round.

CICERONI Travel offers the opportunity to attend Parma's world-famous [Verdi Festival](#) with Professor Peter Hill, including opera performances of *Aida*, *Nabucco*, *Luisa Miller* and (optional) *Die Foscari*. Explore the craft of stringed-instrument making in delightful Cremona and enjoy lectures and private recitals. From £2,975 pp, including flights (London), transfers, four nights' accommodation with breakfast at the four-star Hotel Maria Luigia, two dinners and four lunches. Departs 21 October, 2019.

Discover Adventure has a new, 10-day trip giving you the chance to [Trek Kerala](#). From tea and mango plantations to lush green-forested and cardamom-scented hills, this rich and varied landscape makes for a vibrant and cultured trekking experience. From £2,049 pp, including most meals, accommodation, flights (London), and transfers. Departs 16 November, 2019.

Dragoman Overland* presents an exhilarating holiday through the [Chaos, Charm and Calm of India and Nepal](#). Travelling on a purpose-built overland vehicle, you'll explore the beautiful forests of Chitwan National Park, spend three nights at a remote tea plantation at Karmi Farm, Darjeeling, and explore the temples of Kathmandu. From £980 pp (plus kitty) for accommodation, some meals and activities. Excludes flights. Departs year round.

Kudu Travel* offers an [Adventurous Walking Tour](#) of Oman, including the museums and forts of Muscat, the wildly-scenic Jebel Akhdhar Mountains, the desert of the Empty Quarter and the superb beaches of the Afro-tropical south. This 13-day trip costs from £5,976 pp (two sharing), including full-board accommodation and domestic flights. Excludes international flights. Departs 2 November, 2019.

Inntravel* marks the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of Germany with [Beyond the Iron Curtain](#). Trace the timeline of a historical revolution on a self-guided rail trail between Berlin, Leipzig and Dresden and marvel at the cultural treasures of three of Germany's most enigmatic cities. Prices from £775 pp (two sharing), excluding flights. Includes B&B accommodation and rail travel within Germany. Departs year round.

InsideAsia Tours* has rare last-minute availability on selected small group tours, including its bestselling [Japan Enchantment](#) tour. This 14-night trip combines traditional and modern elements of Japanese culture and enables travellers to experience the best of Japan in comfort and style. From £6,295 pp (two sharing), including superior-grade accommodation, seven evening meals and transfers. Excludes international flights. Departs 20 April, 2019.

Pettitts Travel* presents its 'Red Rose' city of Petra tour, exploring [Jordan: The Hashemite Kingdom](#). Visit the Roman ruins of Jerash and relax in the Dead Sea. This 15-day tailor-made trip costs from £3,495 pp and includes flights (London), private car and driver, sightseeing with local English-speaking guides, half-board hotel accommodation and taxes. Departs year round.

Ramblers Walking Holidays* offers a seven-night half-board Austrian escape to [Bad Hofgastein](#), allowing you to build up fitness with two levels of walks each day and plenty of refreshing alpine swimming. Discover high peaks, remote lakes and wild-flower pastures. Starts from £1,175 pp (two sharing), including flights (London) and half-board en suite accommodation. Multiple departures from 20 June, 2019.

Sunvil* has observed an increased demand for holidays to Athens in 2019, combining the sites and buzz of the capital with the country's lesser-known attractions and islands. The seven-night [Birthplace of the Olympics](#) fly/drive trip transports visitors back to the Olympiad of old. From £825 pp (two sharing), including flights (London), B&B accommodation and car hire. Sites visited include Athens, Delphi, Olympia and Nafplion, the first capital of Greece post-Independence. Departs year round.

Wilderness Scotland* has a new week-long guided cycling tour, taking in the very best of the Highlands' natural wild places along Scotland's answer to Route 66: the [North Coast 500](#). One of the world's epic routes, this trip is best enjoyed on two wheels. Includes half-board accommodation, short transfers en route and some meals. Excludes travel to Scotland. From £1,795 pp, with multiple departures from 11 May, 2019.

Latest news from AITO-affiliated Tourist Boards

A Coruña Tourism Board invites you to its lively port city in the north-western corner of Spain. In June 2019, A Coruña hosts a range of events celebrating 10 years since the [Tower of Hercules](#), the only Roman lighthouse still in use today, was declared a World Heritage Site. Overlooking the Atlantic, the Tower was the first sight of land for pilgrims travelling to Santiago.

Belarus Touristic Union extends a warm invitation to visit Minsk for the [Second European Games](#), a glorious celebration of sport, from 21 to 30 June, 2019. Significant relaxation of visa rules means there has never been a better time to discover all the country has to offer. The doors are open and the secret is out!

CzechTourism invites you on a **press trip** to sample [Traditional Czech Spas](#), which will take place from 9th to 12th May, 2019. Enjoy the peaceful and relaxing atmosphere of two of the best Czech spas, Karlovy Vary and Mariánské Lázně. You will get a chance to experience the annual opening of the spa season in Mariánské Lázně, too. **Register your interest now.**

The **Portuguese National Tourist Office** launches a new marketing campaign - [#Brelcome. Portugal will never leave you](#) - to remind British travellers that, no matter what happens with Brexit, they will always be welcome. After all, we have been friends and allies for over 800 years...

VisitGuernsey announces that [Hauteville House](#), the former home of acclaimed French writer Victor Hugo, and one of Guernsey's most-loved attractions, will reopen to the public on 7 April, 2019, following a €3 million refurbishment. The renovations will not only return Hugo's house to its former glory, but also improve accessibility and enhance the visitor experience.

Ends

Note to Editors:

AITO, www.aito.com, is an alliance of over 120 of the best travel specialists. AITO members collectively provide an unrivalled range of holidays to every corner of the world. They are passionate about what they do and pride themselves on their attention to every detail of their customers' holidays.

AITO members' joint aim is to offer personal, caring service, to look after the environment in the places in which they work and to provide holidays that deliver both good value and high standards. All AITO holiday companies

are required, as a condition of membership, to take full financial protection measures on behalf of their clients via the appropriate industry bonding schemes.

Travel PR will happily email all AITO members with any queries that travel writers may have – it's a great way to receive speedy feedback or information from AITO experts via just one email request.

For further information on AITO, please contact Travel PR on 020 8891 4440 or email Sue Ockwell (s.ockwell@travelpr.co.uk), Jackie Franklin (j.franklin@travelpr.co.uk) or Charlotte Griffiths (c.griffiths@travelpr.co.uk).

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AITO

18 Bridle Lane, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW1 3EG

Telephone: +44 (0)20 8744 9280

www.aito.com