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6

FRENCH WINE  
ODYSSEY

SPRING / SUMMER 2013 (PACIFIC)

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EXPERIENCE THE SOUTH WEST



**SYDNEY**  
PUB CRAWL

**GOURMET**  
GOLD COAST



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la dolce vita

{the good life}

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page 31  
to find helpful  
holiday  
planning tips!



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# 20

Walk where Romans once walked and  
unravel the legend of King Arthur

# Spring/Summer 2013

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*Pearl of the Orient*  
Rid those inhibitions, come dance  
Goan style



### ON THE COVER

Cornwall, **England.**

Check out [endlessvacation.com](http://endlessvacation.com)



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out our website RCI.com.

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Total Marketing Management.



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Nature's ultimate playground



## Welcome



Charisse Cox, RCI Pacific Managing Director, presents the Gold Crown award to Yvette Davies of Club Paihia.

At the recent Australian timeshare industry conference, it was my pleasure to present the RCI Gold Crown and Silver Crown awards to recognize those resorts who achieve very high ratings from our members following their exchange holidays. Even though we have such a mix of timeshare properties available for RCI members in the Pacific region, ranging from 30 year old resorts to the very modern new Club properties, every year we find that there is very high satisfaction across all of the different levels of affiliated resorts. And an absolute stand-out is the amazingly high percentage of resorts consistently achieving a hospitality rating of 4.6 or better year on year on year - that's out of a maximum 5 rating! That really is what makes such a difference to the timeshare holiday - the commitment and dedication of the staff at the resorts that you visit for your holidays. I took pleasure in thanking all of those managers present at the conference for their efforts in making our RCI exchange guests feel so welcome!

This issue we have some great destinations for you to explore, from wine tasting in France to shopping in Seoul. And catch up on some of the latest resort news (page 38). Happy reading and happy holidays!

*Charisse*

Charisse Cox  
Managing Director - RCI Pacific

Please note: Walk in appointments for Members are no longer available at our Bundall office.

Email [pacific.member@rci.com](mailto:pacific.member@rci.com)  
Phone 1300 368 800 AU, 0800 368 800 NZ  
Post AU PO Box 6495, GCMC, QLD 9726  
Post NZ PO Box 11561, Ellerslie, 1542



ready,  
set,  
go

AUSTRALIA

# Giving Back

Give Back Project for our returning soldiers

Mariner Shores is currently trialing a 20 week Give Back Project in conjunction with the Australian Defense Force (ADF). Each week, for 20 weeks, one two bedroom apartment is made available free of charge for a soldier returning from active duty in Afghanistan to spend time with his/her family in a relaxed holiday environment without the normal every day pressures.

General Manager, Mariner Shores, Mr. Brent Schafer said that the ADF were very pleased to accept this offer. "We

have met some incredible soldiers and their families. These are the people who take the big risks to make sure we here in Australia remain safe and free and we are pleased to assist where we can," said Mr Schafer. In other news, Mariner Shores will be closing its doors temporarily in November for refurbishing. See the full article on page 39.



**REMEMBERED NOT FORGOTTEN:** Soldiers are offered a dawn patrol of a very different kind at Burleigh Heads by Mariner Shores. Soldiers can take time to relax with their families at one of Australia's best beaches.

ready,  
set,  
go

The winner; Wyndham Treetops Coffs Harbour.

## RCI Green Award Gong goes to...

This year's RCI Go Green first-prize winner, Wyndham Treetops Coffs Harbour, demonstrates the outcomes that are possible when receptive and committed senior management work effectively with motivated and innovative middle management to achieve desired environmental objectives. These outcomes include a visually stunning natural landscaping program, initiated in the past two years, which uses minimal energy and hosts a variety of native wildlife. Equally impressive are interior and infrastructure initiatives such as the progressive installation of LED lighting and state-of-the-art low energy pool pump facilities. All these initiatives not only exemplify best practice environmental management but also enhance the quality of the resort experience.

Club Paihia, this year's Go Green runner-up, is a two-time first prize winner that continues to demonstrate how cost-effective environmentally responsible practices can be implemented within an older property through refurbishments and ongoing site planning. These practices, which included comprehensive recycling, nature-scaping and green supply chain management, are being successfully progressed in the face of challenges associated with steep slopes, maturing native vegetation, and a wet maritime climate.

The Edgewater Club, this year's third place winner, displays a commitment to implementing environmental initiatives, both interior and exterior, that add to the attractiveness of the units and the site while reducing costs and carbon footprint. This is taking place on a site where many facilities and services are shared with another resort.



They call me Bruce.

### SYDNEY

#### Madame Tussauds Sydney welcomes Bruce Lee

Madame Tussauds Sydney has welcomed the addition of one of the world's greatest martial arts icons, Bruce Lee, to its collection of wax figures. Dressed in the iconic yellow and black jumpsuit from his final film, Game of Death, it took Madame Tussauds sculptors over 800 hours to immortalise the star - with 140 of those hours being spent on inserting each strand of hair.

[www.madametussauds.com/sydney](http://www.madametussauds.com/sydney)

Margaret River, friendly...

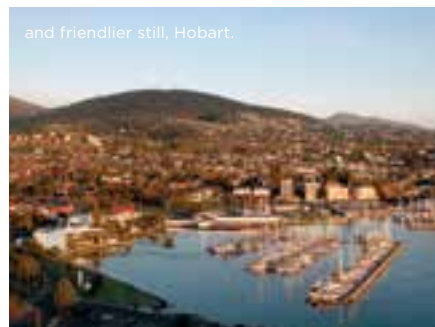


### AUSTRALIA

#### Margaret River & Hobart among globe's 'Top 10 Friendliest Places'

Margaret River and Hobart have both been named among the world's Top 10 friendliest places, according to a readers' choice survey by acclaimed travel magazine Conde Nast Traveler. Hobart was named in second place for its 'unique location, beauty and kind, friendly city natives' and Margaret River tied for sixth place, praised for its stunning vineyards and beaches. [www.margaretriver.com](http://www.margaretriver.com) and [www.discovertasmania.com.au](http://www.discovertasmania.com.au)

and friendlier still, Hobart.



### GOLD COAST

#### Paradise Hub 4217

Surfers Paradise Transit Centre is set to become 'The 4217' village hub, a vibrant village hub offering locals and tourists high quality food and dining in an ever-evolving creative space. Named after the area's postcode, The 4217 is expected to open later this year and will bring together passionate food providers and ever-changing art installations by contemporary Australian artists. So far the village hub will include a coffee house with onsite coffee roasting, Italian gelateria and bakery, fresh food delicatessen plus a mix of restaurants. [www.the4217.com](http://www.the4217.com)



# Too Sick to Fly?

WHAT YOU CAN DO WHEN YOU BECOME ILL WHILE YOU'RE AWAY ON HOLIDAY.

BASED ON AN ARTICLE BY HANNAH WALLACE, TOO SICK TO FLY (U.S. ENDLESS VACATION MAGAZINE)

**W**e all know not to fly when we're sick - an airplane is a petri dish for germs. But what if you're already at your destination when you catch something? We interviewed Devyani Lal, M.D., a rhinologist at the Mayo Clinic's Arizona campus, for advice including how to alleviate your symptoms and avoid infecting other travelers.



## Postpone your flight

"If you are really sick, you should just stay at your destination," Dr Lal says. Most airlines let you rebook, but you'll be charged a cancellation fee (anywhere from \$100 to \$150, depending on the type of ticket you purchased) and any difference in airfare. Travel Insurance may cover the cost of rescheduling your flight, though you will probably need a doctor's certificate. [Smartraveller.com.au](http://Smartraveller.com.au) states travel insurance is as essential as your passport, regardless of your travel destination. If you can't afford travel insurance, you can't afford to travel! If you incur medical expenses while overseas and you don't have travel insurance, you are personally liable for covering these costs. The Government cannot pay for medical expenses overseas. Nor will your domestic private health insurance. Some travel insurance offer a trip-interruption benefit that includes illness. So if you're too sick to board the plane and you get a doctors certificate you may be covered.

## If you must travel, wear a mask

It will undoubtedly call attention to you, and that's probably a good thing. If you're

sick "you're creating a virus factory," Dr Lal says, and you don't want to subject others to your germs. (As Lal points out, 90 percent of colds are caused by viruses, which are highly contagious. Bacterial infections are less common and don't spread as easily.) Some pharmacies and airport vendors sell masks.

## Congestion relief

The Neti pot is an Indian device used to clean out the sinuses: You pour warm, salty water from the pot into one nostril and let it drain out the other. "The Neti pot has very low side effects and is well tolerated by most patients, Dr. Lal says. "I'd say that 99 percent of my patients like it." As another option, try squirting salty water (either previously boiled or distilled) into your nostrils with a plastic squeeze bottle. Both Neti pots and nasal squeeze bottles are sold at pharmacies. (Be sure to clean the Neti pot or squeeze bottle as directed between uses.)\*

## Help for a sinus infection

Start treatment with a nasal decongestant (such as Vicks Sinex), since there are fewer side effects, Dr. Lal says. If that doesn't help, try an oral decongestant such as Sudafed.

(Don't take Sudafed if you have severe high blood pressure, or severe coronary artery disease.) To keep your ears from hurting during the flight, use a nasal spray 25 minutes before takeoff and 25 minutes before landing. "The lining of the nose is connected to the eustachian tube, which equalizes pressure from the ear to prevent pain," Dr. Lal explains.

## Antibiotics - the last resort

As viruses cause most sinus infections and colds, antibiotics are useless against them (and a cold will go away in a week anyway). But should your cold not go away after a week, or has gotten worse, you may have a bacterial infection. See a doctor, who may prescribe antibiotics. If you're prone to infection and are traveling to a country where finding antibiotics may be difficult, consider asking your doctor to give you a short course of antibiotics to carry with you just in case. **EV**





LANDMARKS  
FRENCH VINEYARDS

# Vine Tuning

RHONE VALLEY AND THE RIVIERA

BASED ON AN ARTICLE BY GARY WALTHER, VINE TUNING  
(U.S. ENDLESS VACATION MAGAZINE)



**S**cads of wineries in France welcome visitors, but the point is to visit the ones that are grand cru (that is, exceptional) in terms of both history and landscape - offering not just a taste of the wine but also a taste of the regional wine culture and terroir. Here are 5 French estates that do just that.







## THE RIVIERA

### Château de Crémât

The intertwined C's carved into the stonework and etched into the windows here should look familiar. That's right, they make up the Chanel logo, except Crémât had the logo first. In the 1920s, Coco Chanel was pals with the then owner, and he gave her the copyright as a gift. (The château's logo is now CK, for current owner Cornelis Kamerbeek.) Crémât stands in the hills above Nice in the Bellet appellation, the smallest in France. Don't miss the Terrasse du Ciel (Terrace of Heaven) for its panoramic view of Nice and the sea. The easiest way to get there is on the No. 62 bus from Nice. Catch it at the Magnan bus station, and after a scenic 25-minute ride, it will stop right outside the château's gates. *442 Chemin de Crémât, Nice*

### Clos Sainte Magdeleine

This is the Miss World of vineyards, set on a thumb-shaped peninsula high above the Mediterranean. The wines are from the Cassis appellation (pronounced cass-see to distinguish it from the black currant liqueur) and the estate is best known for its white wine, exotic with notes of almond and honey. The tour takes in the domaine, where groves of olive, mulberry and almond trees grow, and the cellar, concluding with a tasting (\$18 per person). Cassis, a particularly comely town, is 15 miles southeast of Marseilles. For one of the most scenic drives on this coast, follow the winding Route du Crête from Cassis to La Ciotat. *clossaintemagdeleine.fr*

**NOTHING TO WINE ABOUT:** (left to right) Avignon is only 20 miles from Domaine de Coyeux and is well worth the detour. Bonnieux, a classic, picture perfect Provençal hill town. Wine tasting for purely scientific purposes. Facing page. (clockwise from top) Chateau de Beaucastel, fantastic wine and an equally impressive setting. Grand Cru vineyard in the Rhone Valley. Cassis, a beautiful and unique wine making region that overlooks Neice.

## RHONE VALLEY


### Château de Beaucastel

This top winery shows off the rugged vineyard landscape of Châteauneuf-du-Pape. The terrain's chief peculiarity is its galets, softball-sized stones that look like the remnants of a meteor shower. In fact, they were torn from the Alps during the last Ice Age and deposited here. Some experts say the stones help ripen the grapes by absorbing heat during the day and releasing it at night. Beaucastel, one of Châteauneuf-du-Pape's best, is the only property that still uses all 13 grape varieties permitted by law in the appellation. You will be delighted by the impressive barrel room and the charming tour guide. By appointment only; *beaucastel.com*

### Domaine de Coyeux

Beaumes-de-Venise, 20 miles northeast of Avignon, is the sweet spot of the Rhone Valley, known particularly for its dessert wine made from muscat, once called the Nectar of the Pope. The tasting room at this top producer, which also makes red wine, has an impossibly beautiful setting. The vineyards undulate away toward robust rock outcroppings called the Dentelles de Montmirail for their teethlike shape. The tasting room is in a modern rendition of a traditional Provençal mas, or farmhouse. *Route de Lafare, Beaumes-de-Venise*

### Château la Canorgue

This property is in Bonnieux, the classic Provençal hill town that formed the heart of the world described by Peter Mayle in his best seller, "A Good Year". In fact, the 17th-century château is such an exemplar - honey-colored stone, cornflower-blue shutters - that it was the setting for the 2006 film of the same name, starring Russell Crowe and Albert Finney. (Trivia: A swimming pool installed for the movie was later covered over and the ground replanted with vines.) The château is known for its handsome blue bottles - more like packaging for Swedish water than for French wine. *Route du Pont Julien, Bonnieux* 



## STAY

RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS IN FRANCE  
PYRENEES INCLUDE:

### Thalacap Catalogne 4180

Located at Banyuls Sur Mer, a few miles from Spain. Thalacap is a thalassotherapy (seawater) center and offers a five-day vitality treatment at very good rates for RCI members. You can also explore the region, enjoy the beach or for the more energetic, go mountain bike riding.

### Cela Alenya A217

Located in the centre of Alenya village in the southern part of the Languedoc Roussillon, 5 minutes away from the beach and the 18-hole golf course of Saint Cyprien. It offers sports and leisure facilities such as bar, jacuzzi, swimming pool, and medical beauty treatments.

### Cela Canet Malibu Village 2576

Between the Mediterranean and the Pyrenees, discover the exceptional environment and the ideal location of the Malibu Village. When it's time to play the resort has 6 swimming pools, tennis, squash and games plus a choice of 3 onsite restaurants.

### Cela Canet Malibu Premier 3731

On site amenities include restaurant, snack bar, bar, squash and tennis courts. Malibu Village has its own superb pool. A car is necessary to fully enjoy the area.

**For additional resort listings, visit [RCI.com](http://RCI.com) or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ**



FOOD  
GOLD COAST HINTERLAND

# Mountains of Food

TAKE AN EXCITING JOURNEY OF CULINARY DISCOVERY  
THROUGH THE GOLD COAST HINTERLAND

BY LEANNE DE TOERKENCZY

The Gold Coast Hinterland has an amazing variety of gourmet food and wine for the fervent foodie. Get ready for a journey of discovery taking you to some of the best food and wine producers in the Gold Coast Hinterland.

With a humungous collection of gastronomical delights including wineries, breweries, fudge shops, cafes, coffee houses, tea houses, cheese factories and restaurants, here's just a snippet of what you'll find in this amazing area.

Purlingbrook Falls, Springbrook.

**Witches Chase Cheese Company**  
165-185 Long Road, North Tamborine  
Tel: 07 5545 2032

[www.witcheschasecheese.com.au](http://www.witcheschasecheese.com.au)

Open Mon-Thurs 9:30-4pm  
Fri-Sun 9:30-5pm

A producer of fine cheese, Witches Chase Cheese Company makes Camembert, washed rind, feta, blue cheese and more using goat's and cow's milk. And when visiting you can't go past their delicious gourmet ice cream. View the cheese-making process and enjoy a free tasting. You can even learn to do it yourself with cheese-making classes held throughout the year.

**Dancing Waters Café**  
33 Forestry Road, Springbrook  
Tel: 07 5533 5335

[www.dancingwaterscafe.com](http://www.dancingwaterscafe.com)

Open every day 10am-4:30  
(sometimes closes at 4pm for massage clients)

Located right next door to Springbrook National Park and the Purlingbrook Falls walking track, the café has been established for around 25 years. Anastasia Theodore, who has been operating the cafe since late 2007, has added her naturopathic philosophy and experience to the menu and quality of ingredients used. Anastasia provides a healthy cafe selection of foods including vegetarian, vegan and gluten free alternatives.

**The Chocolate Kingdom**  
Shop 2, St Bernards Shopping Centre,  
Siganto Street, Mount Tamborine  
Open daily

The Chocolate Kingdom offers exclusive hand made chocolates and confectionery. Try the Dutch licorice range or diabetic chocolate. Learn from the experienced chocolatier as you watch the chocolate making process through factory windows or visit the retail store in Gallery Walk.

**Sirromet Wines**  
Mount Cotton  
850 Mt Cotton Road, Mt Cotton  
[www.sirromet.com](http://www.sirromet.com)

The Cellar Door is open seven days from 9am to 4.30pm. Light Meals served and tours operate between Wednesday and Sunday. Dinner Thursday to Saturday and breakfast on weekends.

Sirromet is a first-class winery located at Mount Cotton, just 40 minutes drive from the Gold Coast. Siromet combines a fully operational winery, vineyard, cellar door and award-winning restaurant. Take in a Winery Tour and Tasting and go behind the scenes of a working winery and learn about the winemaking process. The award-winning Restaurant Lurleen's with resident celebrity Executive Chef Andrew Mirosch at its reigns is a dining experience not to be missed. Enjoy mouth-watering Modern Australian cuisine with panoramic views to Moreton Bay.





**ALL OF THE MAJOR FOOD GROUPS:** Handmade chocolates and fudges, cheeses, multiple vineyards (with cellar doors!), fine dining and hearty fair restaurants the Gold Coast Hinterland has the culinary chops to silence the loudest tummy rumbles.

**The Old Teahouse Gallery**  
7 Johns Road, Mudgeeraba  
Tel: 07 55253053

Open Friday 11am to 2.30pm,  
Saturday, Sunday 10am to 4pm.  
Closed first Friday of each month  
Reservations recommended

Nestled in the green of the hinterland, close to Mudgeeraba, being in easy reach of the Gold Coast and Brisbane. It's the perfect place to relax and enjoy being pampered in elegant surroundings. Its old-world grace and charm and its peaceful, leafy setting make The Old Teahouse Gallery the perfect choice for those looking to take high tea Gold Coast style.

**Grannie Macs Fudge and Lolly Shop**  
139 Long Road, Gallery Walk,  
Eagle Heights, Mount Tamborine.  
Tel: 07 5545 1999

This is an absolute hit with everyone who loves fudge. For fudge and a whole lot more, sample from over 50 flavours of fabulous

home made fudge. UK and Dutch lollies, licorice, ice cream, sugar and gluten free products. Also find Australia's collectable Beanie Kids in store.

**The Wine Barrel Restaurant & Lounge**  
Shop 8/59 Railway Street, Mudgeeraba  
Tel: 07 5569 0017

The Wine Barrel Restaurant & Lounge is a little gem tucked away on Railway Street in Mudgeeraba. This suburban haunt is frequented by locals who fell in love at first dine; it's the perfect place for wine after work, a romantic dinner or Sunday brunch. The owners knew The Wine Barrel was needed in the area so they built it from the ground up, adding to the restaurant's rustic charm and modern layout. It is ever enticing with welcoming service and beautifully prepared dishes. Choose between tapas and the a la carte menu, or enjoy a bit of both - perhaps paprika salted tempura soft shell crab followed by confit duck leg with Congo puree, white asparagus and cinnamon cherries. 



## STAY

RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS ON  
THE GOLD COAST  
INCLUDE:



### **Mariner Shores Resort 1726**

Beachfront resort located conveniently opposite North Burleigh beach and offers a unique family holiday. Burleigh Heads National Park and a multitude of restaurants and surf clubs are accessible via beachside walking and cycle paths.

### **Beachcomber International Resort 1811**

Set back one block from Coolangatta Beach, Beachcomber International Resort is a high rise building located in the heart of Coolangatta with access to restaurants, bars, and shops

### **Beach House Seaside Resort 1483**

This resort is located in an idyllic location overlooking the magnificent Coolangatta Beach, known for its spectacular surfing conditions and stunning scenery.

## RENTAL RESORTS

### **Australis Sovereign**

**7 nights from AU\$799/NZ\$929 1brm**  
Comfortable accommodation minutes away from the beach and the buzzing town centre of Surfers Paradise.

### **Breakfree Imperial Surf**

**7 nights from AU\$799/NZ\$929 2brm**  
Situated just a short stroll from a patrolled beach and on the doorstep to the hub of the Gold Coast's Surfers Paradise.

\*Subject to availability, prices current at time of print

**For additional resort listings, visit RCI.com or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ**



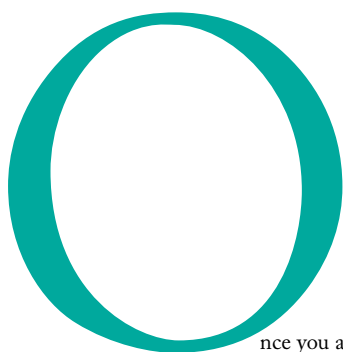


GOOD VALUE  
Caribbean

# Tobago's Turn

*Tobago feels like the Caribbean the way it used to be.  
How much longer can we keep it a secret?*

BASED ON AN ARTICLE BY BARBARA PECK, SMALL WONDERS  
(U.S. ENDLESS VACATION MAGAZINE)



Once you arrive on Tobago, power down your smartphone and put away your shoes. No, really, thongs or flops will do fine. Fancy clothes? Not needed here; you're on one of the Caribbean's least glitzy islands.

The littler of the two sisters that make up the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago sits just off the coast of Venezuela and is less than 120 square miles. You can drive around the island in a day, even if you stop to marvel

at the views in its hilly northern half, where each palm-fringed bay seems lovelier than the last.

## Getting Around

Renting a car gives you the most freedom, but be aware that roads can be steep and winding. Taxis are available, or you can book a tour. A boat tour is another good option - especially in a glass-bottomed boat.

## Beach Time

Pigeon Point is the headquarters of Tobago Waterholics, one of many companies offering deep-sea fishing, dive trips to the famous Buccoo Reef and boat tours. Along the way you'll see countless pelicans and maybe spot dolphins and giant leatherback sea turtles. *Pigeon Point Road; 868-688-7669; [tobagowaterholics.com](http://tobagowaterholics.com); coastal tour, \$93 per person*

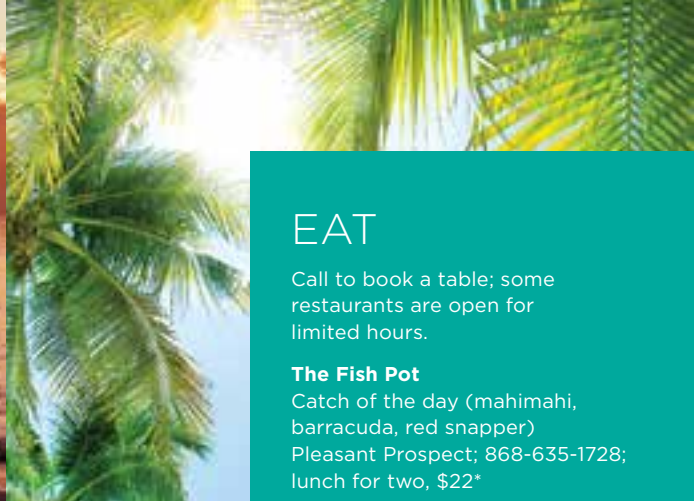
## Into the Wild

When you book an Off-Road Safari with Tobago Now, your guide will probably be the irrepressible Fabrizio Ceppi, of Swiss-Italian heritage. He drives through isolated villages, like Culloden and Mason Hall, and if swimming under a waterfall has always been a fantasy, ask Fab to take you to the Highland Waterfall. *868-639-1476; [tobagonow.com](http://tobagonow.com); six-hour Off-Road Safari, \$82 per person, includes a light lunch.*

## To Market, to Market

Scarborough, the capital, won't require a long visit. But the market is worth seeing, especially on a busy Friday or Saturday. While you're in the vicinity, keep an eye out for locals lining up beside a food truck. They're probably waiting for doubles, and you should too. These are East Indian sandwiches consisting of hot, fluffy fried





**ALWAYS SUMMER** (Left to right) Locals wearing brightly colour traditional dress. Bougainvillea in full bloom. Market stall in Scarborough. Sunset at Pigeon Point Tobago. Picturesque Parlatuvier Bay.

bread wrapped around a filling of channa (curried chick peas) and doused with chutney and hot sauce. It's the fast-food snack that's satisfying at any hour (and costs less than \$1 a piece).

Just outside Scarborough is Fort King George, built in the 1770s by the British. Its museum offers an overview of island history and well worth a visit. Admission is about 90 cents.

### Time to Spare

German ex-pat Veronika La Fortune and her Trinidadian husband, Lennon, run a horse-rescue operation called Being With Horses.


Besides therapy sessions for disabled children and adults (plus an annual summer camp), they offer rides to tourists.

*Buccoo Bay; 868-639-0953;*

***being-with-horses.com;***

*two-hour ride, \$84 per person*

*For a change of pace, take a yoga class at Kariwak Village, Crown Point;*

*868-639-8442; yoga class, about \$12* 

GO "ON LOCATION"  
ON TOBAGO AT  
**ENDLESSVACATION.COM**



## EAT

Call to book a table; some restaurants are open for limited hours.

### The Fish Pot

Catch of the day (mahimahi, barracuda, red snapper)  
Pleasant Prospect; 868-635-1728;  
lunch for two, \$22\*

### Blue Crab

Stop here for a lunch of local cuisine-blue crab with dumplings, Main & Robinson Sts., Scarborough; 868-639-2737; lunch for two, \$24; cooking demo, about \$45 per person, including meal

### Jemma's Seaview Kitchen

The only Tobago restaurant that's right on the beach. Main Rd., Speyside; 868-660-4066; dinner for two, \$60

*\*Estimated meal prices are in AU dollar and do not include drinks, tax or tip.*



## STAY

RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS ON  
TOBAGO INCLUDE:

### Sandy Point Beach Club 0080

A beachfront property with a swimming pool, tennis court, clubhouse and more. *Crown Point*

**Member Reviews:** "Great resort if you like beaches, wonderful people, an untouristy place, reggae and calypso, inexpensive holiday, West Indian food."

"The rooms are very clean. I love the nightly entertainment."

"The staff is by far the best we have yet encountered. Courteous, helpful and quickly responding to any questions or problems."

**For complete member reviews (as member reviews have been condensed) and additional resort listings, visit RCI.com**



SHOPPING  
SEOUL

# Gangnam Style

PACK YOUR BIGGEST SUITCASE AND COME SHOPPING IN SEOUL

BY LEANNE DE TOERKENCZY

The capital of South Korea, Seoul, is a fascinating mix of the old and the new: from the Buddhist temples and palaces to the fashion runways of downtown.

Seoul is one of the most popular tourist destinations and it is packed with traditional markets, high end labels, cutting edge shopping and some great bargains. So wear comfortable shoes, put on a smile, bring your money and let's go shopping.



Temple overlooking Gangnam district.

**Myeongdong** If you love fashion and style you are in for a treat. Megeongdong is the centre of shopping in Seoul consisting of over 300,000 square meters of pure shopping. Here you will find big brand names such as Zara, the fashion giant UNIQLO, H&M and Nike. Migliore Mall is a major draw card for visitors and shoppers. There is easy access to it's stores through various subway connections and it is regarded as the shopping district for the 5 to 20+ age group. Teenagers tend to flock here, as there is entertainment and a great Food

Hall on level seven. There are so many shops here, and many sell unique self-designed clothes, bags and shoes. Plus it has the famous Lotte Department store with several floors of duty free shopping where you buy hands free and pick up at the airport later. Some shops have prices on them but many don't so get ready to bargain, it's all part of the fun.

**Dongdaemun** This is a mega shopping experience where you can shop all day and shop all night. There are a number of large buildings and there is





It's not all about retail therapy: **Left** South Korea has a rich cultural heritage you can experience like the royal guard parade of ceremony in Kyongbokkung Palace. **Right** Seoul is a modern, sprawling metropolis but you can still find a slice of serenity in places like the Park of Namsan Tower (which is particularly beautiful in Winter).

shopping inside and outside the buildings. Many shops specialise in Korean made fashion and you will no doubt find yourself in shopper's paradise with over 26 malls to wander through. One of the best things about Dongdaemun is the night markets. The vendors setup around 9pm and you can shop until the sun rises. This really is shopping utopia! This is also a fantastic place to try out some local cuisine.

**Apgujeong** One of the wealthiest areas in Seoul, Apgujeong is where all the high end fashionistas hangout. Name brands such as Louis Vuitton, Prada and Chanel have setup their main shops here. There's also the Galleria Department Store, housing top line fashion labels. If you love high end shopping, and people watching you'll be in seventh heaven. Despite the high end shops there are also plenty of affordable, yet trendy

shops to check out as well, so don't be too scared off by all the luxury.

**Itaewon** Famous for its custom tailored suits, Itaewon is well worth paying a visit. This area is renowned for providing excellent quality at great prices. The price of a tailored, custom designed suit starts as little as \$200 and most tailors speak English. There is also plenty of the hip-hop fashion and general clothing plus the street shopping is awesome.

**Garosugil** One of the newest hotspots in Seoul Garosugil has some of the latest global trends and fashion. Keep in mind when its cutting edge the price can be pretty expensive so best shop sparingly. Remember, window shopping can also be lots of fun plus there are some fabulous cafes and restaurants to chill out and watch the fashionistic world go by.



Cheonggyecheon stream in Seoul, is the result of a massive urban renewal project.



## STAY

RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS IN SEOUL  
INCLUDE:



**Springdale Golf & Resort D469**  
Situated in Seogwipo, famous for its location on the southern tip of the island, featuring the magnificent Mt. Hallasan and Seogwipo coastline with beautiful cliffs and rock formations, this is an ideal location to stay. The two story resort boasts environmentally friendly spacious, modern and simple rooms and features Hinoki Tree accents to promote stress relief.



**Casaville Shinchon Seoul C949**  
This resort is located in the heart of Gangbuk and only one minute walk to the Shinchon subway station. Featuring modern and stylish furnishings this property provides comfort and pleasure for your holiday. 24 hour service and close proximity to all modes of transport and restaurants.

**For additional resort listings,  
visit [RCI.com](http://RCI.com) or call  
1300 368 800 AU or  
0800 368 800 NZ**

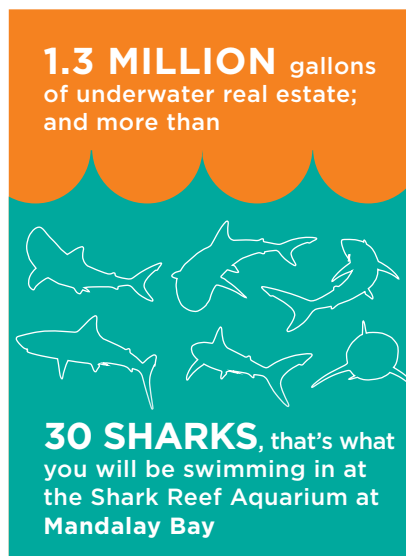
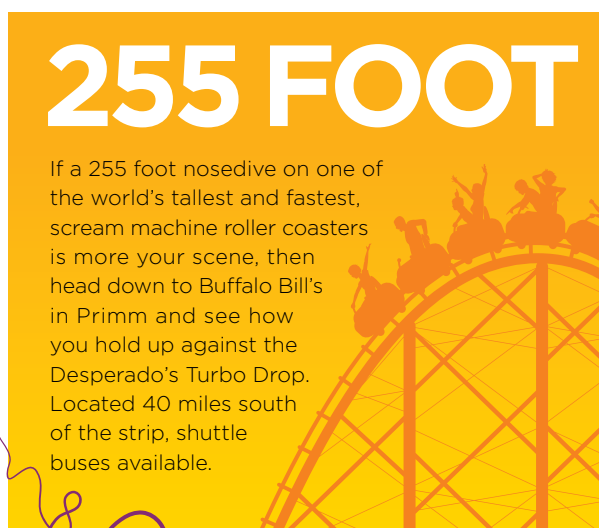


## AT A GLANCE

NEW THINGS IN OUR  
FAVOURITE PLACES

# LAS VEGAS

WHAT'S NEW IN THIS PART OF THE USA



## STAY RCI affiliated resorts in Las Vegas include:

**Exchange:** Grandview At Las Vegas 6923, Holiday Inn-Desert Club Resort 0110,  
Wyndham Grand Desert 6052

**Bonus Weeks 7 nights** The Cliffs At Peace Cany Las Vegas 6389  
Grandview At Las Vegas 6923 **AU\$368 NZ\$424 1brm units**

For additional resort listings, visit [RCI.com](http://RCI.com) or call 1300 368 800 or 0800 368 800 NZ

For information about tours and activities check out [www.lasvegas.com](http://www.lasvegas.com)





LANDMARKS  
HISTORICAL SYDNEY

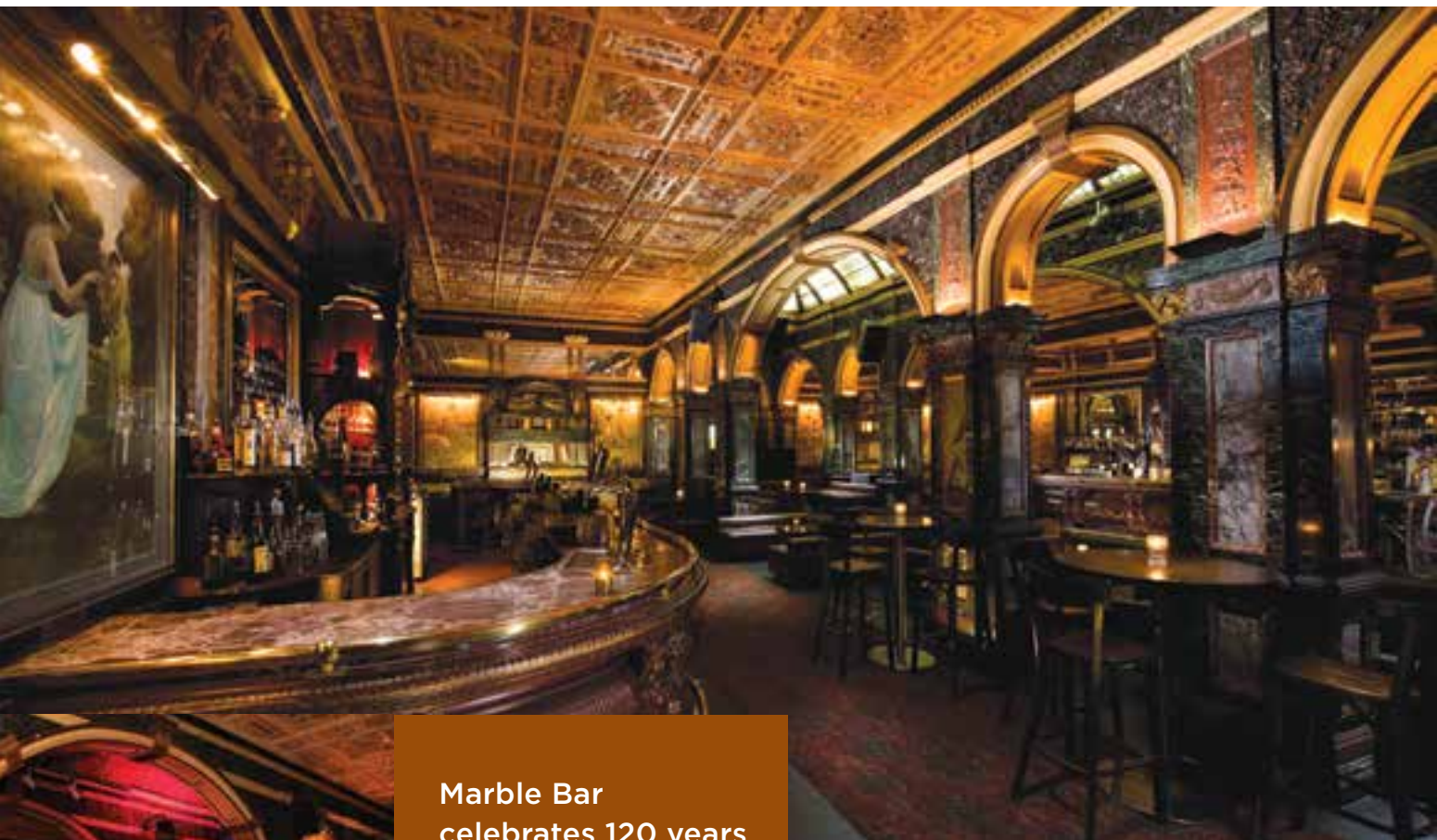
# Sydney Pub Crawl

*Soak up Australia's  
colourful past in  
these historic bars*

BASED ON AN ARTICLE  
BY TONY PERROTTET, SYDNEY PUB CRAWL  
(U.S. ENDLESS VACATION MAGAZINE)

**Any Sydneysider** can map the city by its historic pubs. These atmospheric watering holes (officially called hotels because they once offered rooms as well as beer) provide a hedonistic key to exploring Australia's most beautiful city. They range from venerable sandstone relics to elegant Victorian bars and boisterous 1920's workingmen's pubs the height of Sydney fashion. Many now have top-notch restaurants, others spectacular views. But each offers a bar-side window onto Australia's past, which, as Mark Twain observed after a 1895 visit, **"does not read like history, but the most beautiful lies."**





## Marble Bar celebrates 120 years in October 2013

Live entertainment every day, History Wall, and try the 120 Marble Cocktail as part of the celebrations during October.



## 1 Marble Bar

After the gold rush of 1851, Sydney became one of the jewels in Queen Victoria's crown, its grand Imperial architecture reflecting its new status. The most opulent bar of the era was the Adams Hotel, built in 1893 in renaissance revival style with funds gotten by George Adams from his private club for horseracing enthusiasts. Today the Marble Bar is a miraculous survivor: Before the original building was torn down, in 1972, the main bar was dismantled and reassembled in the basement of the new Hilton Hotel. Visitors tend to gasp in amazement at the lavish display of carved cedar, stained glass, richly veined marbles and paintings by Australia's Julian Ashton (1851-1942). The mood can be hushed and reverential, but live music brings the bar to life on weekend nights.

*Hilton Sydney Hotel, 488 George Street*  
*[marblebarsydney.com.au](http://marblebarsydney.com.au)*





### 3 Lord Nelson

Australians were once ashamed of their convict past, but now embrace it with pride. The lively Lord Nelson, in the Rocks, prominently displays a framed passenger list from the first fleet of ships bringing prisoners to Sydney, in 1788, and many a customer has eagerly searched it for family names. The 1841 stone pub has been renovated into a posh, comfortable establishment with a microbrewery; try the dark porter called Nelson's Blood, along with a range of ales. The kitchen serves fresh 'damper' (campfire-baked bread that was a staple of pioneer life); modern Australian delicacies, with fresh crab and chili; and the quintessential Sydney pub lunch - beer battered catch of the day (fish).

19 Kent Street [lordnelsonbrewery.com](http://lordnelsonbrewery.com)



### 2 Hero of Waterloo

The oldest Sydney pubs lie in the waterfront district called the Rocks, where the British first landed, in 1788, to establish Australia as a penal colony. It wasn't long before visitors were shocked by the proliferation of 'grog shops'; rum was even legal tender for a spell. Those wild days can best be imagined at the Hero of Waterloo, built in 1843 from sandstone blocks that convicts had carved by hand. In the barracks style interior, ale is served beneath a portrait of the Duke of Wellington. If the publican is in the right mood, you may even be offered a tour of the ancient cellar, one room of which once doubled as a lockup for securing prisoners after hours and who's tunnel was used to spirit involuntarily recruited sallyes to the dock.

81 Lower Fort Street [heroofwaterloo.com.au](http://heroofwaterloo.com.au)



## 4 East Village

Sydney's pub culture lost its respectability in 1916, when a riot by World War I soldiers led to laws that forced all bars to close at 6pm. In the 1920's Sydney workers finishing at 5pm would try to drink as much beer as they could before closing time - a rite referred to as the six o'clock closing swill. As in Prohibition era America, criminal gangs became involved in 'sly grogging' (bootlegging) and many pubs were frequented by thugs and prostitutes. Today the era's shadiest pub, the Tradesman's Arms, has been renamed the East Village Hotel, and its trendy ambiance could not be further from its wicked past. A complete renovation has revealed an airy art deco dining room and a rooftop bar. Few remember that Tilly Devine, a notorious Sydney madam, once managed her empire of 30 brothels from a bar stool here.

234 Palmer Street [theeastvillage.com.au](http://theeastvillage.com.au)



## 5 Exchange

Many Victorian pubs were graced with wrought iron balconies referred to as iron lace. The majestic three story Exchange Hotel still presides in the harbor front neighborhood of Balmain, easily reached from the city centre aboard one of Sydney's yellow and green public ferries. As it has a pub on almost every corner, Balmain is ideal for a pub crawl, with the Exchange as its pleasant ultimate goal. The affection of generations of locals for the heritage listed edifice has not been dimmed by its latest renovation. The pub now has a chic upstairs bistro with a breezy veranda whose upholstered banquettes may be the perfect place to while away a summer evening.

94 Beattie Street [exchangehotel.com.au](http://exchangehotel.com.au)



## 6 Australian Heritage

Built for dockworkers high in Millers Point in 1913, this charming pub is another with an improbable gangland past. In 1956 for example, a certain John William Manners was shot dead on the doorstep before the eyes of patrons. Inside, the original salon style doors and etched signage evoke a century of memories. But these days, the young professionals thronging the outdoor seating every night are more focused on which gourmet pizza to order. The pub's Aussie/Asian fusion selection is famous. Among the topping are kangaroo, barbecued tiger prawn, and saltwater crocodile marinated in Thai herbs and a spicy coconut broth.

100 Cumberland Street [australianheritagehotel.com](http://australianheritagehotel.com)





## 7 Watsons Bay

Sydney-siders know that you don't have to leave the city to get to the beach. The Harbour has dozens of sandy coves, and one of the first to become popular with daytrippers was Watsons Bay, near South Head, the spectacular sandstone bluff that frames the Harbour's entrance. The newly renovated Watsons Bay Boutique Hotel has been an added attraction since 1937. The venue has just undergone a multi-million dollar refurb and is ready to entertain! The Beach Club is a large outdoor space perched right on the water's edge and remains Sydney's favourite place for fresh seafood served up with sweeping sunset views of the city skyline. Sip on an island inspired rum cocktail and watch the boats go by or try your luck at a game of ping pong or shuffle board.

1 Military Road

[watsonsbayboutiquehotel.com.au](http://watsonsbayboutiquehotel.com.au)



## 8 Woolloomooloo Bay

Woolloomooloo Bay (from an Aboriginal word for kangaroo) was the site of navy dockyards. Today its long wharf houses luxury residences for the likes of Russell Crowe, but the antique pub still has the prime location. The upstairs restaurant offers the best views; the downstairs bar is a haven for sports fans. Stop by Harry's Café de Wheels, parked right outside. For more than 70 years, the truck has served meat pies to sailors, clubbers and celebrities from Frank Sinatra to Kylie Minogue.

2 Bourke Street

[woolloomooloobayhotel.com.au](http://woolloomooloobayhotel.com.au)



## 9 Harbour View

For the best pub view in town, visit the sleek cocktail veranda of the beautifully renovated Harbour View Hotel. An art deco masterpiece from the 1930's, it is squeezed beside an enormous stone pylon of the Harbour Bridge, nicknamed the Coat Hanger. The perspective of the massive iron bridge, as it soars across the blue sky, could not be more dramatic. While you sample the famed Sydney rock oysters and chilled sauvignon blanc, you can wave to the teams of nervous climbers heading off with safety ropes to ascend via internal stairs to the very summit of the bridge. If you're tempted to joining them, note that the climb is best made sober.

18 Lower Fort Street

[harbourview.com.au](http://harbourview.com.au)



### STAY

RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS IN SYDNEY  
INCLUDE:

#### Wyndham Sydney 8728

Centrally located and just a stone's throw from some of Sydney's must-see attractions including Darling Harbour, Hyde Park and Oxford Street. The Sydney hotel is 10 minutes walk to the Sydney CBD and you can take a leisurely stroll through the city to the Opera House and Harbour Bridge at Circular Quay. There are many restaurants, cafés, bars and world-class shops nearby. Wyndham Sydney offers 1 and 2 bedroom suites with all the creature comforts. Onsite, enjoy the resort's rooftop gymnasium, street-level café, and modern access to this thriving, multicultural center.

#### Oaks Goldsbrough RA30

##### 3 Nights from

**AU\$699/NZ\$819 1brm**

**AU\$1099/NZ\$1279 2brm**

Situated in the hub of Darling Harbour and combining the charm and elegance of the 1800s, with all the modern amenities Oaks Goldsbrough is a great spot to stay. With a magnificent neo-classical facade, original tallow wood floors and exposed ironbark columns featured throughout the hotel, as well as views from many of the rooms over the skyline of Sydney and one of its major attractions, Darling Harbour.

Prices valid October to December 2013  
\*Subject to availability

A large, detailed photograph of Salisbury Cathedral, a Gothic-style church with a very tall, slender spire. The cathedral is made of light-colored stone and is surrounded by a large, green lawn. Several large, leafy trees are in the foreground, partially obscuring the view of the cathedral. People are seen sitting on the grass in the foreground. The sky is blue with some light clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Experience, Discover, Enjoy

# SOUTH WEST ENGLAND

BY LEANNE DE TOERKENCZY

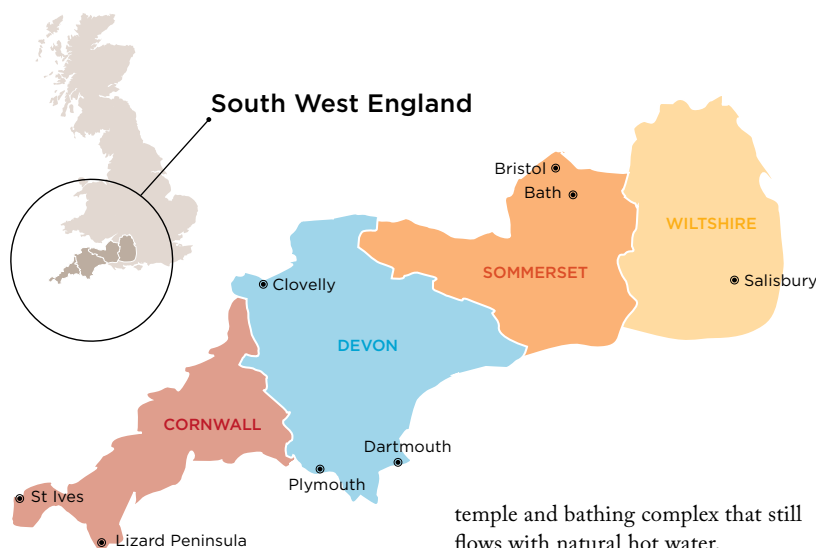
From cliff-top castle walks to scrumptious tearoom treats, South West England is bursting with wonderful days out for your entire family.

**T**his is the home of iconic Stonehenge, magnificent Bath Spa and quaint honey coloured Cotswold villages. Beautiful Cornish beaches, gently rolling Devonshire hills and miles of lush English countryside just waiting to be discovered.

Pack your best walking boots for this holiday and get ready to enjoy some of the best cream tea, discover historical cathedrals and castles and walk where Romans once walked as we explore an absolutely beautiful part of England.

It's a good idea to consider purchasing a 9 or 16 day heritage admission pass. This will give you free entry into over 100 historic attractions plus free or reduced entry to hundreds of events and includes maps. Cost from \$42. [www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)





## SOMMERSET

**BATH** is the perfect base to explore the West Country, including the Cotswolds and Stonehenge. There is a range of tours to the surrounding area. You can join an organised tour or contact one of the local guiding companies who can tailor a tour to suit your requirements.

### *When in Bath do as Romans do...*

Nourished by Britain's only natural hot springs, Bath is a city shaped by its waters. Today you can visit the magnificent Roman Baths temple or bathe in Bath's warm, mineral-rich waters at Thermae Bath Spa. Visit the heart of the World Heritage Site. Around Britain's only hot spring, the Romans built a magnificent

temple and bathing complex that still flows with natural hot water.

Special package includes 2 hour session at Thermae Bath Spa, a ticket to the Roman Baths and a 3 course lunch in the Pump Room. Cost \$109 per person. Details and bookings are available at Bath Tourist Information Centre.

[www.visitbath.co.uk](http://www.visitbath.co.uk)

**BRISTOL** has an amazing choice for shoppers with Bristol Shopping Quarter in the heart of the city, the out-of-town complex at The Mall Cribbs Causeway, the abundance of independent boutiques in Clifton and St Nicholas Market in the Old City. In the city centre, Bristol Shopping Quarter is home to Cabot Circus, Quakers Friars, The Galleries and Broadmead, which together have over 500 stores. With two covered shopping centres, easy access and great value parking for over 3500 cars, Bristol's city centre is a not to be missed shopping destination.



## WILTSHIRE

A prehistoric monument of Wiltshire and one of the most famous sites in the world, Stonehenge is the remains of a ring of standing stones set within earthworks dedicated to worship the sun and the moon. Situated about 2 miles west of Amesbury and 8 miles north of Salisbury. Stonehenge was constructed in three phases. It has been estimated that the three phases of the construction required more than thirty million hours of labour. And speculation on the reason it was built range from human sacrifice to astronomy.

[www.stonehenge.co.uk](http://www.stonehenge.co.uk)

**SALISBURY** claims its fame from Salisbury Cathedral. Be inspired by the peace and beauty of one of Britain's finest medieval cathedrals, set within eight acres of lawn and surrounded by historic buildings and museums in the beautiful Cathedral Close. This spectacular building is unique in being built almost entirely in one architectural style, Early English Gothic and has Britain's tallest spire (123m/404ft) plus numerous famous literary connections.

Explore the roof spaces on a tower tour, climbing 332 steps to the base of the spire to enjoy the magnificent views across Salisbury. Or just relax in the Refectory restaurant with a choice of homemade treats and a fabulous view of the spire. The famous boy and girl choristers sing daily services with Evensong at 5.30pm Monday to Saturday or 4.30pm on Sunday.

[www.salisburycathedral.org.uk](http://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk)

**Ancient monuments** The city of Bath is well known for its rich Roman history and its baths are World Heritage listed; Stonehenge is a monument that leaves all who visit the site in awe of this ancient engineering feat.





**National gems** Rolling fields dot the landscape throughout Devonshire; Clovelly clings defiantly to its steep hillside setting; The Union Jack proudly waves over the family favourite beach of Woolacombe; Plymouth's picturesque harbour.



North Devon's spectacular coastline.

## DEVON

Devon has such a diverse and beautiful natural environment combined with a mild climate that it's not hard to see why visitors return here year after year.

Two coastlines provide miles of sweeping golden beaches presenting spectacular cliff top walks. The Exmore and Dartmoor National Parks offer ideal prospects to explore some of nature's best unspoilt open regions and the timeless Devonshire countryside is a peaceful setting of farms, fields and dense overgrown hedgerows teeming with wildlife who inhabit them.

Delightful towns, charming old villages and busy fishing harbours are perfect for a traditional British seaside holiday. There are beautiful gardens, castles and gracious homes to explore.

North Devon has some of the premium sandy beaches in the British Isles including Woolacombe, a blue-flag beach, which was recently voted one of the world's top ten. Quaint harbours at Lynmouth, Clovelly and Ilfracombe provide a charming contrast to the spectacular coastline including the Hartland Peninsula where the coastal path follows dramatic cliffs and tiny coves.

There is a unique collection of English parish churches in North Devon. They are free to visit and include irreplaceable

examples of architecture, archaeology and art across 1,000 years of history.

### Historic churches to visit in North Devon & Exmoor

- Church of St. Martin of the Tours, Elworthy. Open daily
- St. James' Church, Luffincott, Holsworthy. Open daily
- St. James' Tower, Upton. Exterior access only
- St. Petrock's Church, Parracombe. Open daily
- St. Peter's Church, Satterleigh, nr. Umberleigh. Open daily

Devon's always been known for its fabulous food. Its farms and coast produce some of the best fresh produce in the country, and it boasts wonderful tearooms, great foodie pubs, and one of the top-rated fine-dining restaurants in the UK Michael Caines' Gidleigh Park.

And Devon now has another big foodie draw: Plymouth. This up-and-coming coastal city has become a celebrity chef restaurant hotspot, with diners able to choose from Hugh Fearnly-Whittingstall, James and Chris Tanner, Gary Rhodes, Mitch Tonks and Anton Piotrowski. So if food is your thing then be prepared for some gastronomic courses that are sure to ignite your palate.





**The sights** Colourful fishing boats on long stretches of pebbled beaches are a sight throughout Devon; Polperro fishing village in England's South West; Dartmouth Castle guards the entrance to the Dart Estuary.



## HISTORIC HOUSES



**Hartland Abbey** is a fascinating house. Built across a narrow, wooded valley leading to an Atlantic cove, Henry VIII gifted the Abbey to The Keeper of his Wine Cellar, whose descendants live here today. Experience not only the stunning interiors, collections, beautiful gardens and walks but also the warmth and friendliness only found in a family home cherished for generations.



**Arlington Court** is an unexpected jewel: a complete family estate. The intimate Regency house contains treasures for all tastes, from model ships to shells, all collected by the Chichesters. Offering incident and contrast, the 19th-century picturesque garden is a perfect place to explore, picnic or play. There are working horses and carriage rides to keep the story alive.

**Adult - \$14.75**  
**Family (2 adult, 2 child) - \$36.90**  
**Child - \$7.40**

**PLYMOUTH** is one of the most lively and captivating locations to visit in Devon. With its rich maritime heritage and its status as the regional capital for culture. If you're a nautical enthusiast, then be sure to make a trip to Plymouth Hoe. This is one of the most beautiful natural harbours in the world. If you are willing to climb 93 steps up Smeaton's Tower you can get fantastic views of Plymouth. Or if that sounds too hard you can hop on the Wheel of Plymouth. Also set against the backdrop of Plymouth's picturesque harbour is Barbican, a bustling collection of specialist shops, cafes, restaurants, and world-class attractions in Devon. In addition, there's Sutton Harbour, where you can visit the world-famous Plymouth Gin Distillery or drop in on the National Marine Aquarium.

**CLOVELLY** clings to a steep 400ft cliff where donkeys were once used to transport people and goods up the steep cobbled streets. The Quay (stone platform for unloading and loading ships) here dates back to the 14th Century and has a great deal of smuggling and pirate history associated with it. This picture-postcard, once bustling fishing village has kept its original charms. Colourful, flower bedecked cottages line the steep cobbled streets (where traffic is banned) and lead down to the ancient harbour below. High Street in Clovelly is steep and can be slippery - so do

wear sensible footwear. If you walk down you can take the fare-paying Land Rover service back to the top. Your entrance fee to the village covers an audio-visual programme introducing you to Clovelly's fascinating history, two museums - the Kingsley Museum and the Fisherman's Cottage, Clovelly Court Gardens and Parking. It's good to know that a substantial part of your fee contributes to Clovelly's ongoing restoration and maintenance program. *Adult: \$11*  
*Child: \$7 (ages 7 to 16)*  
*Family: \$29 (2 adults, 2 children).*

**DARTMOUTH** is home to Dartmouth Castle, one of the most beautifully located fortresses in England. For over 600 years Dartmouth Castle has guarded the narrow entrance to the Dart Estuary and the busy, vibrant port of Dartmouth. Climb to the top for dramatic views across the estuary and see how it could be blocked in wartime by a heavy chain. There's also plenty to do inside the castle and if the weather is fine, you can make it a full day out with a riverboat trip from the town quay up to the castle, landing you a minute's walk away from the castle entrance. After you have explored the castle, there is a riverside tearoom with light lunches and snacks. *Entry: Adult \$8.60, Child (5-15 years) \$5.20, Concession \$7.80 and Family \$22.30.*



## CORNWALL

This is a land of myths and legends, from King Arthur and his supposed birthplace at Tintagel Castle to the dragons, pixies and giants that roam along the 50 miles of heritage coastline. It also has a more tangible maritime and mining history.

If you love the ocean you will be in your element exploring picturesque fishing villages, drinking local ales in smuggler's inns, sampling freshly caught seafood, taking on new water sports or simply losing track of time on Cornwall's 300 or so beautiful golden beaches.

With the longest stretch of continuous coastline in Britain, you'll discover tiny Cornish fishing villages, secret coves, spectacular beaches, sweeping bays and dramatic cliffs, plus beautiful moorland and stunning countryside.

**ST IVES** is a quaint village with cobbled streets and fisherman's houses. Steeped in unique history, legend and tradition, much of which can be revealed through the physical remains and standing buildings located in the town. Some of the remains are located in obscure places and others are seldom recognised as being of importance particularly if you don't

know what you are looking for. One of the best ways to explore St Ives and learn about the town's rich and varied past is to take a guided walking tour which can be arranged at the Guildhall Tourist Information centre. Departs at 10am cost \$17.15 [www.stiveswalks.co.uk/](http://www.stiveswalks.co.uk/)

### THE LIZARD PENINSULA

the most southerly part of the British mainland, is a place apart. A combination of the mild maritime climate and complex and unique geology has produced an area with a distinctive character. Take a long walk along the beach and take in the breathtaking views, seals basking in the sunshine and listen out for the call of the Cornish Chough bird. A couple of miles along the road is Cadgwith and quaint little fishing village with a pebbled beach dotted with colourful boats. Pop in for some Cornish icecream you are sure to love it.

Minack Theatre is an open-air theatre dramatically situated on the cliffs at Porthcumo, near Land's End, and hosts a season of plays and musicals from May to September. This is an awesome way to go to the theatre. Visit during the day and take in the breathtaking views plus the café serves a fantastic Cornish cream tea. It does get cold at night, even in the summer so take plenty of layers. ☺

**Southern Seas** The quaint fishing village of Port Isaac, on the North Cornwall Coast.



## STAY

**RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS IN SOUTH  
WEST ENGLAND  
INCLUDE:**

### Tresco 0591

Located on Tresco Island only 28 miles off the Cornish coast. This exclusive private subtropical island is 30 miles from Lands End, where seals and dolphins swim, crowds are unknown, children play in safety, cars are banned, and the only sound is bird-song. The 3 and 4 bedroom converted period cottages are in rural and beach settings.

### Kentisbury Grange Country Park RB03

Nestling on the edge of Exmoor National Park, Kentisbury Grange Country Park commands some of the county's most arresting views of sweeping horizons and panoramic vistas of seemingly endless natural beauty. Just a short drive away, the magnificent dune-lined beaches of Saunton Sands and Ilfracombe are crying out to be explored.

### Woodford Bridge Country Club 1916

The resort offers an indoor pool, health club with exercise equipment, hot tub and sauna, massage, and beauty and hair salon services. There's also a games room, Internet access, restaurant, snack bar, and live entertainment. Fishing, squash, badminton, and a playground are available on the property as well.

### Tregenna Country Club 3576

Nestling on the edge of Exmoor National Park, Kentisbury Grange Country Park commands some of the county's most arresting views of sweeping horizons and panoramic vistas of seemingly endless natural beauty. Just a short drive away, the magnificent dune-lined beaches of Saunton Sands and Ilfracombe are crying out to be explored.

**For additional resort listings,  
visit [RCI.com](http://RCI.com) or call  
1300 368 800 AU or  
0800 368 800 NZ**

*\*Prices are subject to change due to currency exchange rate.*



# English Cream Tea

BY LEANNE DE TOERKENCZY

The cream tea is considered the regional dish of Devon. Today Devonshire Tea has been adopted with varied recipes around the world in many tourist regions. However, the traditional scone is made from just a few ingredients and things that you would normally find on a farm. That's how scones with clotted cream and jam originally come from farms. So the best place to savour your scones is Devon, but if you can't get there yet, try out our simple recipes.

## SCONES

Makes 12

Best served warm from the oven (if hot the cream slides off) and should be eaten on the day.

**Oven temperature:** 220 °C preheat

**Cooking time:** 10-15 minutes

**Cooking utensil:** greased oven tray

### Ingredients

2 cups self raising flour  
¼ teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon of butter  
¾ cup milk

### Method

- 1 Collect ingredients
- 2 Rub butter into flour and salt, using the fingertips
- 3 Mix into a soft dough with milk. Add additional milk if required
- 4 Turn on to a lightly floured board and knead until smooth and elastic
- 5 Roll out 2cm thick and cut into shapes using a cutter or knife
- 6 Arrange on oven tray and glaze tops with milk using a pastry brush
- 7 Place in oven above the centre and bake until golden brown. To test, the sides of the scone should be set
- 8 Lift onto a cake cooler
- 9 While still warm break in half and serve with clotted cream and strawberry jam and a pot of tea.



**FOOD**  
English Cream Tea



## A pot of tea

A good tea is recommended to help wash down all the sugar and complements the dish brilliantly.

While milk is optional, the teapot is essential for a good cup of tea and it really does taste better from a China cup.

## QUICK STRAWBERRY JAM

Makes ¾ to 1 cup

Refrigerate for up to 10 days or freeze for longer storage.

### Ingredients

2 cups strawberries, hulled  
¼ cup sugar  
1 Tbsp. lemon juice

### Method

- 1 Place the strawberries in a food processor or blender and process until smooth or chunky, whichever way you like
- 2 Put strawberries, sugar and lemon juice into a non-stick skillet and bring to a boil over medium-high heat
- 3 Let boil rapidly until reduced and thickened, approximately 10 minutes. Pour into a jar and allow to cool to room temperature before covering and storing in the fridge

## CLOTTED CREAM

Makes 2 ½ cups

(Refrigerate for up to 5 days)

### Ingredients

2 cups (500ml) pure cream

### Method

Stir cream until smooth and pour into a shallow ovenproof dish. Place dish in a water bath on the lowest shelf of the oven and bake at 100 degrees for about 6 hours. Refrigerate the cream until chilled and set. Use as required.



# GOA STYLE

Exotic sun-kissed sea beaches, magnificent scenic beauty, adventure sports, carnivals and architectural splendors of its temples and Portuguese churches have made Goa an absolute favourite with holidaymakers around the world.

BY LEANNE DE TOERKENCZY





**A MANY SPLENDORED THING:** (clockwise from top) The fleet is in for the day. Not you average crowded beach. The cathedral of Saint Francis in Old Goa. There is no better place for beach yoga... than in the home of yoga. Every kind of beach sport is at your fingertips. The beach is great but the food... one of the true pleasures when in India.

**S**ituated on the western coast of India in the coastal belt known as Konkan, Goa has a soul that reaches deep into its thought-provoking history, rich culture and some of the most beautiful natural scenery that India has to offer.

Legends from Hindu mythology, credit Lord Parshuram, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu with the creation of Goa. Over the centuries various dynasties including Rashtrakutas, Kadambas, Silaharas, Chalukyas, Bahamani Muslims and most notably the Portuguese have ruled Goa. On December 19, 1961 the Indian Army from Portuguese colonisation liberated Goa and it became a Union Territory along with the enclaves of Daman and Diu. On May 30, 1987 Goa was conferred statehood and became the 25th state of the Indian Republic.

Goa has a multi-hued and distinctive lifestyle quite different from the rest of India. Hindu and Catholic communities

make up almost the entire population with minority representation of Muslims and other religions. Because of its diversity there are some great activities to do and places to go when holidaying in this unique part of the world. Let's take a glimpse.

#### **BODY ART**

Get a black henna tattoo painted onto any part of your body by a tribal tattoo artist right on the beach. You can choose from a large variety of designs, ranging from simple to really intricate. And the best thing about a henna tattoo is that it fades away after a few weeks so you can't be bound for too long to your choice of design!

#### **PARTY**

There is live entertainment and dancing music in Goa's popular nightspots so let your hair down, rid those inhibitions and join in with some traditional Goan dancing. Goa has many popular cultural events throughout the year so check out their calendar to see

what is happening during your planned holiday. [www.goatourism.gov.in](http://www.goatourism.gov.in)

#### **SNACK SHACKS**

When it comes to food Goa certainly knows how to please our taste buds. There are numerous shacks that provide an amazing range of food and aside from the stellar menus and wonderful cooks, they are a great place to hang out with your friends and family. Infantaria at Calangute has a large collection of superbly prepared snacks and bakes. Their breakfast options are superb. Curly's on Anjuna is a shack that serves some seriously good food. You'll always find a group of hippies sitting around here and young people playing ball on the beach in front. Britto's at Baga is a very popular beachside multi cuisine restaurant with tables leading onto the beach where you can dig your toes in the sand while digging into a grilled lobster. At night, all their tables are candle lit and the sea breeze is just perfect.



### OLD GOA

Visiting Old Goa is quite the experience and one feels totally transported back in time wandering around its corridors and by-lanes.

Goa has some of the best and oldest churches - so make a point of visiting a shrine or two during your holiday and appreciate the culture and architecture. The Basilica of Bom Jesus, located in Old Goa is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Containing the tomb and mortal remains of St Francis Xavier, this 3-tiered structure of Doric, Corinthian and Composite styles is a must visit for first-timers! Mary Immaculate Conception Church in Panjim is also an intriguing piece of architecture. When visiting South Goa a must visit is a trip to the Church of St. Alex this is the oldest church in GOA and the first chapel church situated on the banks of the Angoddi Tollem Lake.

### BEACHES

Goa has endless beaches including Palolem Beach one of the worlds top beaches,

located in South Goa. North Beaches steal the limelight but the South beaches can be calmer and beautiful. Asvern Beach and Calangute Beach are both in North Goa. Dotted with shacks and lounges be prepared to kick back with a Mojito or Pina Colada. Among the exotic beaches of South Goa Arassim Beach and Utordo Beach are also very popular. If you are after peace and quiet, Aganda Beach is well worth a visit. It is unspoiled and untouched by fisherman and tourists with a serene beach setting located near the town of Maordo.

If you plan your trip to Ashwem anywhere in between September to February don't forget to check out the Olive Ridley turtles. Ashwem is the nesting place for this rare species of turtles.

### WATER SPORTS

Goan beaches are filled with water sport opportunities including water skiing, jet skiing, scuba diving, banana boat or take a sunset/moonlight boat cruise along the

Mandovi River. You might be lucky enough to do some dolphin spotting while you are enjoying your cruise.

### TOUR THE SPICE PLANTATION

Visit the Spice Plantation in Ponda area called Sahakari Spice Plantation. This hidden gem is the largest spice plantation in the region. There are regular tours so you can learn about the different spices including Peri Peri (hottest chilies in the world). You will be welcomed in a traditional way by offering Aarti, Kumkum, and a garland of flowers. Then you will be served with herbal team. Enjoy a healthy and nutritious Goan lunch, served in the traditional manner on a banana leaf.

### SPLASH WITH THE ELEPHANTS

A fun thing to do when visiting Goa is to bath an elephant. The Tropical Spice Plantation will not only give you a traditional cultural and history tour but you will be treated to an amazing experience with their gentle giants (elephants).





**FRESH FISH TO FIREWORKS:** (clockwise from left) Fresh fish and cocktails on the beach. The view over the verdant surrounds of Old Goa. Handcrafted jewellery at one of Goa's many markets. Fire-twirling is a common yet striking sight on the beaches of Goa. Say goodbye to your white t-shirt and show your true colours at the Festival of Colour.

You can enjoy a brief ride on an elephant but the best fun is the elephant bath. The elephants are in the water and you get to wade in and climb on their backs and soon you will be enjoying a bath with the elephants. Be prepared to have lots of laughter and get drenched. You can spend as much time as you want with the elephants and feed them as well. It will no doubt be a memorable experience and a highlight of your holiday.

### SHOPPING SPREE

Ingo's Saturday Night Bazaar in Apará is a must. Here you will find hundreds of vendor stalls selling beads and jewelry, clothing, stoner paraphernalia and music. Even if you are not a big shopper, this is a fun place to go, as there is plenty of nightlife entertainment including jugglers, live musicians and plenty of food. The street shops are also popular, situated in the cities of Baga and Calangute. You can expect to find souvenirs, sarongs, swimwear, jholas (colourful trendy bags), and beads. Plus most beaches have vendors

touting their wares, but stay firm with what you want and your price as they are known to be a bit pushy.

### RELAX

While in Goa take time out and enjoy some pampering. There are many Ayurvedic/Ayurveda centres in Goa, which allow the ancient healing and medicines to distress and reenergize. Ayu means life and Veda means knowledge, and so Ayurveda is often referred to as the "Science of Life". Treat your senses to a transcendent atmosphere with a perfect balance of physical and spiritual wellness. The Balinese Massage at Snip Salon and Spa is located on the main road between Calangute and Candolim. Try their aromatic massage where you will drift away as you blissfully retreat from the cares of the world. [www.snip.co.in](http://www.snip.co.in)

### HOW TO GET THERE

Dabolim Airport, the sole airport of Goa is the nearest airport to the state. This civilian cum military airport connects the place

to both national as well as international destinations. Flights to Goa are frequent and well connected to all the corners of India. The airport is owned by the Indian Navy and is 30 kms away from Panaji.

### GETTING AROUND

Travelling around Goa is fairly easy. There is an extensive road network, which connects most places in Goa.

**By Bus:** There are private as well as state transport corporation run bus services which service all the major locations. Despite the overcrowding, noise and off-schedule service, there is a special charm in travelling in the private buses which are brightly painted and filled with colourful local characters.

**By Car:** A number of companies offer rental cars, both self and chauffeur-driven. Besides rented cars, there are the ubiquitous tourist taxis, which are available near most hotels and resorts and at all the tourist



**VARIETY IS THE SPICE OF LIFE:** (clockwise from above) India is famous for its spices and Goa is no exception. A great place to watch the sun go down. I don't know art but I know what I like... pick up the ultimate souvenir.

attractions. There are two types of taxis, the white-colored tourist taxis, and the yellow-topped black regular taxis. Almost all major towns and tourist attractions have a taxi stand, where both types of taxis are available. Most hotels also arrange a taxi for you on request. Ensure that you fix a price for the entire journey before you sit in, so that you don't get overcharged at the end of the trip

**By Motorcycle:** Goa has a unique and very popular mode of transport known as a 'pilot'. This is in reality a motorcycle taxi. The motorcycle taxis are easily recognised by the yellow mudguards and yellow number plates. The driver who is known as the 'pilot' carries only one pillion rider at a time. Bargain with the pilot for a good rate for the trip before you set out.

Another great way to see Goa is to hire a Vespa (scooter/motorized bike). It's the best way to explore the numerous roads and tracks, which will take you out into the villages and farming area. Scooters or motorbikes for rent are available in the main street on all popular Goa beaches. Scooters or motorbikes that are legally registered for hire have Black/Yellow, tourist vehicle and number plates.

**By Auto-rickshaw:** The three-wheeled auto-rickshaw taxi, painted yellow and black, is a common site in all Goan towns. This taxi is basically the front half of a motor scooter with a couple of seats mounted on the back. They usually take two to three passengers and are quite speedy on the crowded roads of Goan towns. Above all, they are very cheap as compared to taxis for travelling around the town.



## STAY

RCI AFFILIATED  
RESORTS IN GOA  
INCLUDE:



### Royal Goan Beach

#### Club-Haathi Mahal 4129

This resort blends an Indian and Goan atmosphere with modern Western amenities. The central feature of this spectacular resort is a 3-tier swimming with sunken bar surrounded by landscaped gardens and waterfalls that also include water slides, Jacuzzi and children's pool.

### Phoenix Park Inn Resort 5677

Located north of Goa and just five minute walk to the famous Candolim beach. Features include a large swimming pool and children's pool, an English pub, bar, barbeque, fitness center, Ayurvedic massage therapy and live entertainment on most evenings.

### The Royal Goan Beach Club

#### at Royal Palms 3594

An elegant colonial-style complex, pools, palm trees, sidewalk, and flowers fill the spaces between the residence buildings, creating a peaceful, tropical atmosphere. An on-site restaurant serves classic Indian dishes and continental cuisine.

**For additional resort listings in GOA, visit [RCI.com](http://RCI.com) or call 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ**



# GET ON HOLIDAY

RCI WEEKS SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS

WITH RCI

More than 150,000 RCI members in North America took a holiday in Autumn 2012.

## Why don't you join them this year?

2013 is ticking away. If you haven't already booked a holiday with RCI this year, what are you waiting for? Each season offers plenty of holiday experiences for you to enjoy - from relaxing to invigorating, seaside to mountainside, a romantic trip for two to a lively family gathering. With RCI you have access to great holiday options that can make anytime of the year a holiday season!

On pages 42 and 43 you'll find more interesting and inspirational statistics about where your fellow RCI members from North America are travelling and how they're taking advantage of their RCI member benefits. Isn't it time you joined them? Even if you've already enjoyed an exchange holiday with RCI this year, you have access to other travel benefits through RCI that can help you spend even more time on holiday.

**Start planning now and add your name to the list of RCI members who will be counted among the happy holidaymakers of 2013.**

See page 32  
for Special Rental  
offers and escape  
on an extra  
holiday!

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Find your holiday experience **FASTER AND EASIER** when you search on [RCI.com!](http://RCI.com!)



# Summer is Just Around the Corner



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## **MANTRA TRILOGY** CAIRNS QLD

7 nights from

**AU\$729/NZ\$849** 1 brm

**AU\$849/NZ\$989** 2 brm

---

Set above the newly developed waterfront esplanade, Trilogy Resort's premier location and landmark architecture amount to a superior expression of the Far North Queensland lifestyle. Just a short walk to the restaurants, casino and shops this is a perfect location for your next holiday.







### CAIRNS BEACH RESORT

Cairns Qld

Just a short walk and no more than 10 minutes drive from most area activities, enjoy the tropical gardens and salt water pool that surround Cairns Beach Resort. Dine at Coolums on the Beach, a beachfront restaurant and bar and relax to the sounds of the waves lapping at the shore.

7 nights from

**AU\$669/NZ\$819** 1 brm



### BREAKFREE ACAPULCO

Gold Coast Qld

This luxurious high-rise apartment is situated only a short stroll from the heart of Surfers Paradise. Shopping, restaurants, nightlife and magnificent beaches are at your doorstep. Easy access to arrange tours, theme parks or simply relax around the pool, enjoy the steam room and sauna.

7 nights from

**AU\$799/NZ\$929** 2 brm



### BREAKFREE IMPERIAL SURF

Gold Coast Qld

Featuring ocean views and just a short stroll across the road to the patrolled beach. The resort is located at the doorstep to the hub of the Gold Coast. Walk to Surfers Paradise Mall or laze around the beautiful tropically landscaped gardens and salt water pool.

7 nights from

**AU\$799/NZ\$929** 2 brm



### SWELL RESORT

Gold Coast Qld

Just a short walk from the patrolled surf beach of Burleigh Heads, Swell Resort offers heated outdoor pool and spa (in season) and poolside BBQ facilities, full-sized, lit tennis courts and a complete gymnasium, and on-site dining options, all in a lovely, landscaped garden environment. Located close to the popular James street shops and cafes.

7 nights from

**AU\$769/NZ\$899** 1 brm

**AU\$899/NZ\$1049** 2 brm



### BLUE HORIZON RESORT APARTMENTS

Airlie Beach - Whitsundays Qld

Airlie Beach is situated on a peninsula reaching out into the Whitsunday waters and is the ideal base from which to enjoy activities such as sailing the Whitsunday Islands, day trips to The Great Barrier Reef, skydiving, diving, and snorkeling.

7 nights from

**AU\$999/NZ\$1169** 1 brm

**AU\$1289/NZ\$1499** 2 brm



### GRAND MERCURE APARTMENTS

Magnetic Island Qld

Nestled among the natural beauty of the island the beach-house style apartments are designed to take advantage of the uninterrupted view of the coral sea. The resort is located next to the new harbour precinct and only a short walk to restaurants, cafes, local galleries, and attractions.

7 nights from

**AU\$1289/NZ\$1499** 2 brm



### ARLIA SANDS

Hervey Bay Qld

Hervey Bay is the "Whale Watch" capital of Australia and gateway to World-Heritage-listed Fraser Island. Arlia Sands Apartments are situated in the middle of Torquay, 80 yards from Hervey Bays' best beach. This is a motel style property. Best Swimming at Shelley Beach - clean water & miles of beautiful sand to walk along, plus there are great restaurants within walking distance,

7 nights from

**AU\$779/NZ\$909** 2 brm



### BREAKFREE COSMOPOLITAN

Gold Coast Qld

This apartment complex is right in the centre of Surfers Paradise. Step outside and you will find all the restaurants, clubs, nightclubs, supermarkets and the great shopping of Surfers Paradise. You can also walk to famous Cavill Avenue and Surfers Paradise beach from the complex.

7 nights from

**AU\$649/NZ\$759** 1 brm



### ARUBA SURF

Gold Coast Qld

Only 2 blocks away from one of the most popular tourist destinations in Queensland, Aruba Surf resort puts you in the centre of the action!

7 nights from

**AU\$639/NZ\$749** 1 brm



**SAVE**  
\$800  
per couple



## WINDSTAR

### Wind Spirit

7 Night Tahiti Islands  
cruises round trip Papeete

Selected departures between May  
and November 2014

Outside Stateroom (Cat AX) Twin Share  
Today's Retail price from \$4152pp

**Now from \$3751pp**

Twin Share includes exchange fee



**SAVE**  
\$1100  
per couple



## PRINCESS CRUISES

### Pacific Princess

28 Night South America,  
Amazon cruise round  
trip Fort Lauderdale

Selected departure in December 2013  
Balcony Stateroom (Cat BB) Twin Share  
Today's Retail price from \$9105pp

**Now from \$8555pp**

Twin Share includes exchange fee



**SAVE**  
\$1000  
per couple



## ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL

### Radiance of the Seas

17 Night cruise between  
Fremantle and Sydney

Selected departure in November 2013  
Balcony Stateroom (Cat E3) Twin Share  
Today's Retail price from \$3530pp

**Now from \$2999pp**

Twin Share includes exchange fee

# EXPERIENCE REAL FREEDOM



**SAVE**  
\$1270  
per couple



## ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL

### Radiance of the Seas

19 Night Transpacific  
cruise between Honolulu  
and Sydney

Selected departure in September 2014  
Balcony Stateroom (Cat E3) Twin Share  
Today's Retail price from \$3628pp

**Now from \$2993pp**

Twin Share includes exchange fee



**SAVE**  
\$1000  
per couple



## COSTA CRUISE

### Costa Victoria

8 Night Asia cruise  
round trip Singapore

Selected departures in November  
and December 2013  
Balcony Stateroom (Cat BP) Twin Share  
Today's Retail price from \$1629pp

**Now from \$1129pp**

Twin Share includes exchange fee



**SAVE**  
\$800  
per couple



## P&O CRUISES

### Pacific Jewel

12 Night Asia cruise  
round trip Fremantle

Selected departure in March 2015  
Suite with Balcony (Cat MA) Twin Share  
Today's Retail price from \$3149pp

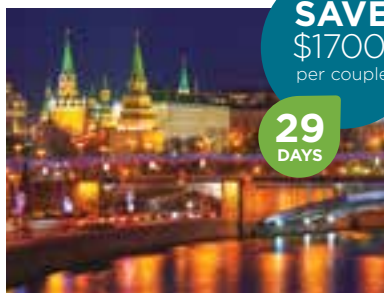
**Now from \$2748pp**

Twin Share includes exchange fee

See these offers and more at [rcicruiseholidays.com](http://rcicruiseholidays.com)  
or call **1300 724 263 AU/0800 724 263 NZ**

(\*grats included) All prices in AU dollars.





**SAVE**  
\$1700\*  
per couple

**29**  
DAYS

### SCENIC TOURS Spectacular Scandinavia & Imperial Jewels of Russia Copenhagen to Moscow

This incredible 29 day tour incorporates the best Scandinavia has to offer with a 15 day Jewels of Russia River cruise on board the Scenic Tsar.



RRP \$17,940pp

**NOW FROM \$17,090pp\***

*RCI Exchange fee included*



**SAVE**  
\$1500\*  
per couple

**12**  
DAYS

### PEREGRINE RESERVE Italian Lakes, Portofino & Cinque Terre

Be seduced by the colours of Italy - from the lush greens of the Lakes District, the sapphire water surrounding Portofino and the crayon box charm of the Cinque Terre.



RRP \$9,995pp

**NOW FROM \$9,245pp\***

*RCI Exchange fee included*



**SAVE**  
\$1600\*  
per couple

**21**  
DAYS

### TRAFALGAR Grand European

Experience the handsome jewels of Europe's crown including London, Brussels, Amsterdam, Vienna and Paris. Spend seven nights in glorious Italy where you can really get to know Venice, Pisa, Florence, Rome, Pompeii and more.

RRP \$6,335pp

**TRAFALGAR**

**NOW FROM \$5,515pp\***

*RCI Exchange fee included  
Must pay in full by the 15th January 2014*

**PARTNER FLY FREE\***



**SAVE**  
\$1000\*  
per couple

**26**  
DAYS

### HELEN WONG Splendid Yangtze

This is the most comprehensive and diverse journey of our **China travel tours** - a true asian adventure through ancient lands and rivers. Kicking off with the cosmopolitan flair in Shanghai and ending with four days enjoying the amazing sights of Beijing, including the Great Wall. Enjoy the welcoming smiles of the minority nationalities of Yunnan and see the archaeological discoveries of Xian, which blend perfectly with the scenic beauty encountered on this remarkable odyssey

#### PASSENGER 1

WAS \$8,340pp

**NOW ONLY \$7,840pp**

#### PASSENGER 2

WAS \$7,360pp

**NOW ONLY \$6,860pp**

*RCI Exchange fee included  
Valid for travel between Aug - 15 Nov 2013,  
SALE ends 31st Oct 2013*



**SAVE**  
\$1200\*  
per couple

**23**  
DAYS

### TRAVELMARVEL Enchanting Rockies & Alaskan Cruise + the Great Bear Experience

Discover the Enchanting Rockies including a Rocky Mountaineer rail journey. Spend 8 days waking up to the breathtaking sight of the Alaskan coastline with an Inside Passage Cruise.

**PLUS** The Great Bear Lodge is the perfect base to observe grizzly bears from and explore the diverse wildlife of this region. Travelmarvel offers a 4 day Short Break, beginning and ending in Vancouver.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Flights between Vancouver and Port Hardy, Seaplane transfers between Port Hardy and Great Bear Lodge, Two nights at Great Bear Lodge, Four bear viewing sessions, Tipping included at Great Bear Lodge, Overnight stay in Port Hardy at the Quarterdeck Inn.



RRP \$9,890pp

**NOW FROM \$9,290pp\***

*RCI Exchange fee included*



**SAVE**  
\$1200\*  
per couple

**22**  
DAYS

### INSIGHT VACATIONS Rhythms and Flavours of America with Cruise Deluxe Outside Stateroom

Rhythms and flavours, food and music - pay homage to two of life's greatest pleasures; visit the musical Meccas of Nashville and Memphis, while for globe-trotting gastronomes, all roads lead to zesty New Orleans

RRP \$9,046pp

**INSIGHT  
VACATIONS**  
*The Art of Travel in Style*

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Book and pay in full by the 31st October 2013*

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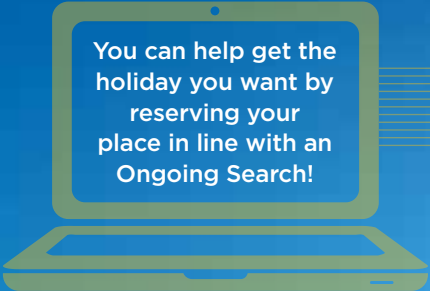
[rcitourexchange.com](http://rcitourexchange.com)

*\*Prices based on per person, twin share and are in AU dollars. Supplier conditions apply.*

# Be Among the First in Line


An Ongoing Search with RCI gives your holiday request prioritized access!

**STARTING AN ONGOING SEARCH** for an RCI® Exchange holiday is a lot like getting a table at a popular restaurant. You wouldn't show up without a reservation at the nicest, most romantic restaurant in town for Valentine's Day dinner and expect to get a great table. In fact, you might call months in advance to secure the reservation you want. With RCI, an Ongoing Search is similar - just submit your desired holiday place and time and it gets you in line for the holiday you want, and is especially helpful if the holiday destination you want is high in demand.



You can help get the holiday you want by reserving your place in line with an Ongoing Search!





*Reserved*

On average, more than **12,500** RCI exchange holidays are **confirmed** through Ongoing Search **each month**.

As many as **50%** of holidays confirmed in an Ongoing Search **occur within 12 days** of opening the search.

Think of an Ongoing Search as a waiting list for the holiday you want. When you start an Ongoing Search, you can tell RCI where you want to go and what ranges of dates you can travel and set unit configuration preferences. Then **RCI will continually search its systems-24 hours a day, seven days a week** - for holiday options that match your selected criteria.

As new deposits come into the system, **RCI checks all Ongoing Searches first to see if there is a match before those deposits are available for anyone else** to book through regular search on RCI.com or through the Call Centre. It's just like when a table opens up at a restaurant;

a party with a reservation will be seated before a part without one. It's also important to start your search early because one of the main factors determining where 'in line' you are is when you began your search.

An Ongoing Search lets you control your holiday search without having to manually search again and again. You can periodically check the status of your Ongoing Search online - that way you can let RCI know right away if you want to book a matched unit or continue searching for something else.

If you're not placing Ongoing Searches regularly, you could be missing out of some of the best holiday exchanges RCI has to offer!

### DID YOU KNOW?

When setting up your Ongoing Search, be sure you have enough Deposit Trading Power for the week you're interested in, and find out what your dream week has historically traded for by using the Exchange Planner on RCI.com. If you're searching for a holiday that is in demand or that typically trades for more Trading Power than your deposit is worth, consider combining deposits to improve your chances of getting the holiday you're looking for.

To learn more about starting an Ongoing Search, visit [RCIapacific.com.au/insiderci/ongoingsearch](http://RCIapacific.com.au/insiderci/ongoingsearch).

## NEPEAN COUNTRY CLUB Now Pet Friendly\*

“ Recently we had the pleasure of staying at our favourite resort, Nepean Country Club in Rosebud Victoria.

Not only is the resort and its facilities fantastic but they have recently updated and designed a apartment specifically for dog owners. We are currently carers of a Vision Australia Labrador and the apartment suited us perfectly.

There has been a doggy door fitted which allows your dog to visit a purpose built grassed courtyard. The apartment is on the ground floor and is beautifully presented. (The best we had stayed in for many years). Finally, we were delighted to find a welcome gift for our dog, a little doggy pack with a special dog rug and chewy dog biscuit in it.

Well done, Nepean, a real winner for responsible dog owners and happy pups. ”

*Kind regards*

**STUART ROME**  
BALWYN VICTORIA  
RCI MEMBER



\*A small additional fee is applicable to reserve this unit.



## ISLAND PALMS RESORT Re-Paint Project

Each levy year, at Island Palms Resort, we budget for a major refurbishment project, and most of them require a lot of know-how and labour by Resort co-manager, John. This year the resort exterior will be repainted (last done in 1995) and it's certainly no job for John! Obviously, it is a job that needed to be timed to avoid our humid tropical months. The contractors expect the job to take approximately 4 weeks and work is due to commence 5.8.2013.

Island Palms Resort has always worked to a 10 Year Plan for refurbishment and for the current levy year, we had already secured approximations of cost in time for our May 2013 budget meeting. We approached two island painting companies and one mainland (Townsville) company. We only approached Island companies who had large enough staff numbers to tackle our job. We also knew that there could be an issue with Island companies being able to access or affordably quote for the inclusion of scaffolding and a cherry-picker to access our 10 meter building.

In typical 'island' style, only one island company quoted. After 10 years of managing Island Palms Resort, we also know we were lucky to find a mainland company that was willing to quote. Historically, town companies state it is not worth the effort travelling to the island for work, mostly due to the freight/ferry costs. Our Board of Directors opted to accept the quote offered by the Townsville company. That long established company offers a broad range of property maintenance services throughout Australia and New Zealand. Our project's expense will be paid off over a 7 year contract versus a once in-full payment. In addition, the contract involves a full external painted surface wash down annually for the subsequent 6 years, along with repair to any damaged/scuffed external paintwork. This staged payment plan will greatly benefit our cash flow for this not insignificant expense.

Now we're sure you're wondering about colours ... so are we! It's been the biggest challenge of all (nearly the end of a successful management team, let alone a 33 year marriage!). Since 1995 the resort has been one colour - a very pale blue/green. We sought a professional recommendation from an Interior Designer who is very





familiar with our property. We have had the designer's colour board in Reception for several months, welcoming comments, along with a variety of test colour 'splodges' on various parts of the resort building ... there's nothing like seeing it in situ. The bottom line is with so many varying personal preferences; we continued to be guided by a design specialist.

We had to work our way through a number of colour concepts. Rather than refreshing the building with a single colour, we considered a three colour concept. We whittled choices down to two concepts. All our 12 apartments face the same way - when you look at the building front on there are 8 'faces', so we will use accent colours on 4 of the 8 'faces' to add interest and depth. One concept picked up on our backdrop of granite rocks and profusion of palm trees, offering two accent colours of charcoal and chartreuse, to work in with a

neutral of a sand colour. It was a very dramatic, vibrant change, which resulted in "love it" or "hate it" feedback, nothing in-between. The second concept offered accent colours of a dark blue-grey and grey-raw umber, again with a neutral of a sand colour. The latter has been selected, as it was far less controversial yet very smart and modern.

It's a very exciting event for Island Palms Resort owners, and the colour scheme make-over will bring our 30 year old property up with current trends and enhance our island resort ambience.

Keep an eye out for updated images on our resort website [www.islandpalms.net](http://www.islandpalms.net) or our resort Facebook page [www.facebook.com/IslandPalmsResort](http://www.facebook.com/IslandPalmsResort).

Sheena & John Austin

Resort Managers - Island Palms Resort

## MARINER SHORES RESORT Refurbishment



**Mariner Shores Resort will close for** approximately one month in November this year due to the need for refurbishment of many public areas throughout the resort and for the substantial upgrade of the outdoor pool and surrounds.

We have been working on these projects for some time and have conducted a trial Tile Removal on the public walkways in front of Units 11, 12 & 14. A couple of finishes have been trialed and none were deemed acceptable, but the majority agrees that a "flake" finish will provide a suitable result. Part of this learning process has been the discovery that the terracotta tiles are expanding and contracting with the heat and this has allowed water/moisture to remain under the tiles, effectively leaving the bottom of the steel door frames sitting in water, hence why they have rusted from the ground up. Further we have now found that we can replace the steel frames with specially coated timber frames and still remain fire compliant. Needless to say any metal we can remove from the resort is less metal to rust.

We are proposing to also replace the front

door to each unit as part of this upgrade, non fire doors will become 1200mm wide with glass inserts, Fire Door will appear to be solid timber doors. Skirting around the bottom of all walkways will also be replaced. Please note, we aim to do the Norfolk building and the lower 4 floors of the towers during this closure (these are the worst areas), the remaining 5 floors of the towers will be addressed as soon as possible in the future.

The other item on the agenda for the closure is the upgrade of the outdoor pool and surrounding areas. We will remove the two old domestic spas and replace them with one larger commercial spa, on a new raised deck that will be the same level as the BBQ Area. The Putt Putt course will be moved to the area beside this and will extend down the northern side of the tower building. An under cover, wheel chair compliant, access ramp will be installed from the games room to the rear towers.

A small viewing platform will be created slightly higher than the outdoor pool, with a wheel chair ramp created within the pool. Additionally a toddlers pool will also be

created within the outdoor pool.

To finish the family area we intend to add a "Spray Park" aimed at children aged 1 to 6 years old.

The large stair case from the games room to the pool will be replaced and the stairs from Reception re-modeled to make them more user friendly. Additionally we are addressing some of the known structural concerns in the concrete substrate of the resort.

The best part of this news is that the resort will fund the entire upgrades from existing reserves and therefore there will be no special levies. Although we would have liked to be able to do more, we sincerely believe the proposed improvements will substantially upgrade the public areas of the resort and make sure Mariner Shores continues to be a high demand, resort. Finally the Lounge Chair refurbishment is progressing well and most of the units will be completed in the coming month.

Brent Schafer

General Manager - Mariner Shores Club Ltd



# Cutting Through the Jargon....

## Timeshare

Timeshare is a form of holiday ownership. You own the right (either directly or through a "club") to use a week (or longer) in resort accommodation for a set period of time.

Also known as **"holiday ownership", "your week", "shared ownership"**

## Affiliated resort

A resort which has been entered into a current business agreement with RCI.

Also known as **"partner", "associate", "resort"**

## Developer

The company owning the freehold of the resort; who construct the accommodation and leisure facilities. They may also employ a management company to run the resort.

Also known as **"resort", "affiliate", "management company"**

## Deposit

Deposit your week with RCI to exchange for another week of comparable value.

Also known as **"bank", "spacebank"**

## Deposit window

The 24-month period in which members may deposit their week(s).

Also known as **"reservation window"**

## Holiday

Exchange your week to go to another resort in another destination.

Also known as **"swap", "vacation", "exchange"**

## Bonus Week

Week long holidays at RCI-affiliated resorts which you book with cash.

Also known as **"extra holiday", "cash booking", "rental"**



We know how confusing some terms can be, that's why we've included this guide to help it all make sense.



### Deposit Trading Power

When you deposit your week, RCI assigns it a trading power, known as Deposit Trading Power.

Also known as **"DTP", "credit", "currency", "value of your week"**

### Fixed Week

You own a week of timeshare at an RCI-affiliated resort that does not change every year.

Also known as **"home week", "fixed ownership", "timeshare week"**

### Exchange Trading Power

Every option in the RCI exchange system is assigned trading power, known as Exchange Trading Power.

Also known as **"ETP", "exchange value", "value of your exchange"**

### Floating Week

You own a week of timeshare at an RCI-affiliated resort which is not fixed. You will need to contact RCI.

Also known as **"floating time", "variable week", "floating deposit"**

### Combine your Deposit

Combine your deposits or Deposit Credit so that you can exchange for a holiday that has greater trading power than your deposited week.

Also known as **"bundle your weeks", "join your weeks", "mix your weeks"**

### Maintenance fees

You pay maintenance fees direct to the resort to ensure general upkeep and quality of your resort and it covers everything from refurbishment of rooms and facilities to the day-to-day running costs.

Also known as **"management fees", "dues", "resort fees"**

### Deposit Credit

If the trading power of your Exchange Holiday is less than the trading power of the weeks you have deposited, you will receive a Deposit Credit that can be used (or combined) towards a future Exchange Holiday.

Also known as **"change back", "credit", "change"**

### Resort rating

Each of RCI's affiliated resorts are awarded a quality rating based on the comment card scores received from RCI members. They are known as RCI Hospitality, RCI Silver Crown and RCI Gold Crown.

Also known as **"3-star", "4-star", "5-star", "key rating"**

RCI® SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS BY THE NUMBERS

# RCI: Holidays You Can Count On

With RCI you have access to holidays at more than 4,000 RCI affiliated resorts in popular destinations around the world.<sup>1</sup> Curious about how your holiday stacks up among other RCI members' holidays? Here's a look at what RCI members in North America have been up to, where they've been and how they've been taking advantage of their RCI membership benefits.

In the last 5 years:

One RCI member has  
gone on holidays in  
**25 countries**  
through RCI

One RCI member has  
gone on holidays in  
**33 states  
and provinces**  
throughout the  
United States  
and Canada

PORTUGAL



SPAIN



BRITAIN



ITALY



GREECE



RCI Members have visited these  
European countries most frequently

More than  
**8,000**  
RCI Members  
holidayed  
in Asia

More than  
**7,000**  
RCI Members  
holidayed  
in Africa





In 2012:

79 members  
took more than  
20 holidays  
each through RCI!

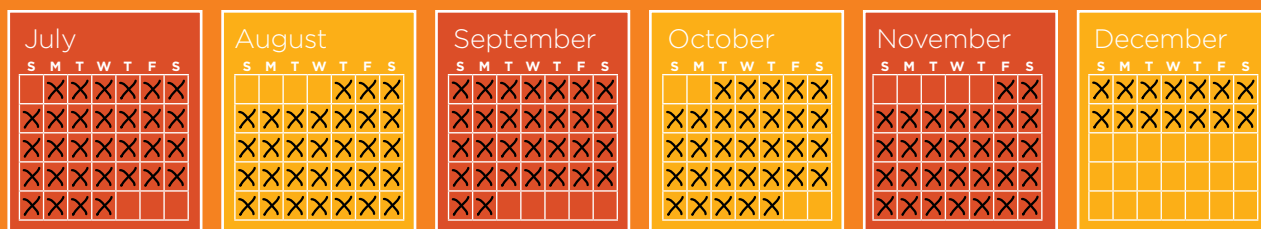


1310 Kilometres  
to their holiday  
destination in 2012

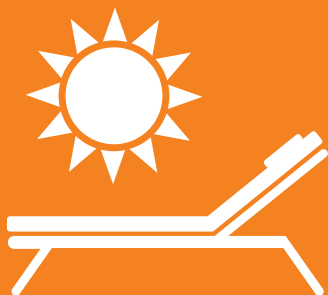


RCI members  
holidaying domestically  
travelled an average of

One RCI Member holidayed for **24 weeks** continuously in 2012!



That's nearly **6 months**, or **168 days**, of holidays in a row!



More than  
**150,000**  
RCI members took  
a Summer holiday  
in 2012



More than  
**100,000**  
members sent family  
or friends on holiday  
with a Guest Certificate<sup>2</sup>  
in 2012

Have you booked your Summer holiday yet?  
Start planning now at **RCI.com!**



<sup>1</sup> These holidays are limited and subject to availability. RCI Weeks Members: Subject to availability based on value holiday exchange principals/ RCI Points Members: Subject to availability and your accessible balance.

<sup>2</sup> Guest certificate recipient must be at least 21 years of age. Certain fees and time restrictions apply.

# weekenders

## Hobart... On Top Down Under.

ARTICLE COURTESY OF  
TOURISM TASMANIA

Unique perspective Huon Valley. Image: Bluescope Steel

NESTLED AT THE FOOT OF THE MAJESTIC MOUNT WELLINGTON ON THE BANKS OF THE DERWENT RIVER THIS ECLECTIC HAVEN LAYS CLAIM TO A RUTHLESS HISTORY, BURGEONING CULTURAL SCENE AND AWARD-WINNING FOOD AND WINE, ALL ENCOMPASSED IN THE MOST SEDUCTIVE OF SCENERY.

Begin your Hobart adventure on a Sullivans Cove Walk, located on Hobart's waterfront. Take a guided tour to discover the many colourful characters, stories and events that have helped shape this city's intriguing past. Or choose to take a leisurely stroll on your own and explore the many galleries, theatres, cafes, craft shops, restaurants and Salamanca's Saturday Market.

<< HOBART, AU

TAUPO, NZ >>

If you like markets you will love Salamanca.  
Image: Rob Burnett



Nearby is the booking office for MONA, Australia's largest privately owned museum. Take the fast ferry from Brooke Street and in no time you'll be wandering through three levels of subterranean art space, described by the museum's owner as a 'subversive adult Disneyland.'

MONA is a great place to grab some lunch, with options from fine dining to sharing a platter on the grass with your partner and a glass of wine.

Another option is a Tasmanian Air Adventures flight. Departing from Hobart's waterfront, you'll be able to see Tasmania's wilderness like it was meant to be seen - in all its grandeur.

For those looking for a challenge, the Hartz Peak Walk won't disappoint. Taking 3 to 5 hours return, in fine weather the summit offers the most spectacular views of the southwest.



## weekenders HOBART, AU

Alternatively you can venture 30 minutes south of Hobart to Huon Valley. Take an exhilarating ride up the gentle rapids of the Huon River on the Huon Jet Boat. Then pop into the School of Wooden Boat Building on the river at Franklin.

Once you've got over your sea legs, put on your air legs at the Tahune Airwalk. Here you'll walk 40 metres above the riverside rainforest canopy. You can take a return walk over the swinging bridges or try the thrill of the Eagle Glide.

If visiting the area on a Friday or Saturday, a must stop for lunch is Masaaki's in Geeveston. Here you will be spoilt with sushi of delicate flavour combinations only rivalled by the charming manner of owner, Masaaki Koyama.

Then enjoy dinner at one of Hobart's many world class restaurants.

Image: Scott Leggo

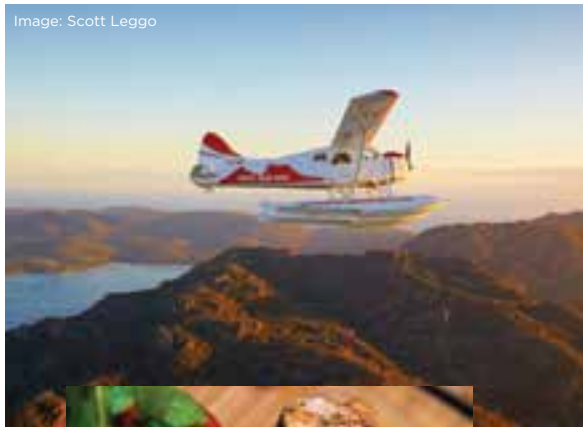
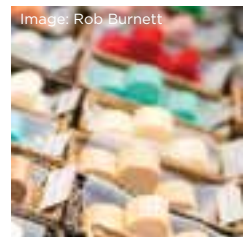


Image: Rob Burnett



### ADVENTURE & GOOD EATS

Clockwise from left: Take to the skies and be rewarded with breathtaking views. Clean up at Salamanca Markets. Treat yourself to the special of the day.



Image: Rob Burnett

## weekenders HOBART, AU

### EAT

**Ethos Eat Drink** T: 03 6231 1165.  
100 Elizabeth St Hobart TAS 7000. Dine in a 193 year old space once a stable and carriage way now one of Hobart's most talked about restaurants and enjoy food with honesty from sources with integrity. [ethosateatdrink.com](http://ethosateatdrink.com)

**Garagistes** T: 03 6231 0558.  
103 Murray Street Hobart TAS 7000 Food that celebrates produce sourced from local growers, fisherman and farmers with a changing menu reflecting seasonality. [garagistes.com.au](http://garagistes.com.au)

**Smolt** T: 03 6224 2554.  
2 Salamanca Place Battery Point Hobart TAS 7004. Located in the midst of Hobart's bustling waterfront dining district Smolt showcases local produce and dishes influenced by and Italian and Spanish approach to food. [smolt.com.au](http://smolt.com.au)

**The Red Velvet Lounge** T: 03 6295 0466.  
24 Mary Street, Cygnet TAS 7112. Take a short journey to The Red Velvet Lounge, an eclectic country café by day restaurant by night proving it is as much about community as it is about food. Much of the produce is sourced from the Huon Valley and the Channel from farmers and gardeners, some even from his own garden. [theredvelvetlounge.com.au](http://theredvelvetlounge.com.au)

### RELAX

**Harmony Hills Wellness and Organic Spa Retreat** T: 03 6294 8177. 210 Old Bernies Road Margate - 30mins drive from Hobart CBD. Harmony Hills offers a range of Eastern and Western natural therapies delivered by highly skilled Asian therapists. [organicspa-retreat.com](http://organicspa-retreat.com)

**MONA** T: 03 6223 6064.  
655 Main Road Berriedale, Hobart TAS 7011. If relaxing translates to getting spoilt, catch the ferry to MONA with a Posh Pit Pass. Browse the art collection and then use your pass to relax in the exclusive lounge. Flash your pass once more for a private introduction to Moorilla with tastings in the Barrel Room. [posh.as.mona.net.au](http://posh.as.mona.net.au)

**Peppermint Bay Cruise** T: 03 6267 4088.  
Cruise, wine, graze, wine, cruise - what more could you ask for? Take a cruise to Woodbridge and the multi-award winning Peppermint Bay complex where a three course banquet awaits. Browse the providore and look around Peppermint Bay and Woodbridge. [peppermintbay.com.au](http://peppermintbay.com.au)

### EXPLORE

**Cascade Female Factory Historic Site** T: 03 6233 665616. Degraives Street, South Hobart TAS 7004. Discover the stories of women transported to Tasmania for their crimes. Take a heritage tour of the Cascade Female Factory Historic Site or hear 'Her Story', part history lesson, part roaming theatre. [femalefactory.org.au](http://femalefactory.org.au)

**TMAG** T: 03 6211 4134

Dunn Pl Hobart TAS 7000. The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery feature collections that will enthrall and stories that will move you. [tmag.tas.gov.au](http://tmag.tas.gov.au)

**Tasmanian Air Adventures** T: 1300 359 822  
King Pier Marina, Hobart. Step from the waterfront into a seaplane where discovery reaches new heights. Within minutes you can touch down in Wineglass Bay, Gordon River or Port Arthur. Hear stories of past convicts or go on walks in some of the most isolated places in Tasmania. [tasmanianairadventures.com.au](http://tasmanianairadventures.com.au)

## STAY

### RCI affiliated resorts in Tasmania include:

**Wyndham Seven Mile Beach Resort** 8726  
Set in a prime beachfront location in southern Tasmania and only 20 minutes from Hobart, Wyndham Vacation Resorts Seven Mile Beach offers the best of a relaxing beach holiday. The self-contained apartments are spacious and stylishly appointed with contemporary, cosy furniture and superior amenities. Includes heated outdoor pool and spa, tennis court, barbecue area and gym, games room, playground and splash fountain for the children

# Taupo... Nature's Ultimate Playground.

ARTICLE COURTESY OF  
TOURISM NEW ZEALAND

Taupo, where lush greenery meets crystal clear water.

THIS SORT AFTER HOLIDAY DESTINATION BOASTS THE LARGEST FRESHWATER LAKE IN AUSTRALASIA AND ITS MOUNTAINS ARE MOST FAMOUS INTERNATIONALLY FOR BEING FEATURED AS THE OMINOUS MT DOOM IN THE LORD OF THE RINGS TRILOGY.

Lake Taupo is New Zealand's largest lake, source of spectacular Huka Falls, and centre of an active volcanic region where geothermal energy bursts through the earth's thin crust. The Lake Taupo region is a sporting paradise, and destination for holiday adventures and relaxation.

## PICTURE PERFECT

You will need to travel a long way to find a more pristine environment than that occupied by Taupo, where glorious green hills meet crystal clear water.

Lake Taupo - the North Island's heart according to Māori legend - is the largest fresh water lake in Australasia. The lake was created in an ancient volcanic eruption, and the region is full of natural thermal springs and bubbling mud pools. Huka Falls, New Zealand's most visited natural attraction, are on the Waikato River just north of Lake Taupo. South of the lake, Tongariro National Park has dual World Heritage status recognising important Māori cultural and spiritual associations as well as its outstanding volcanic features.

Lake Taupo region is culturally significant for Māori, and has many examples of historic and contemporary Māori culture. Māori rock carvings, on a cliff at the southern end of Mine Bay, are an important contemporary cultural attraction. Wairakei Terraces gives another insight into Māori history and culture. The replica Māori village at the world-first man-made silica terraces has Māori carving treasures, culture performances and traditional hangi (earth oven) food. Guided tours into native forest highlight the spiritual relationship between Māori and the land, local cultural history, and New Zealand's unique flora and fauna.

Lake Taupo region is a vast playground for fishing, hiking and adventure. Tongariro River - on Lake Taupo's southern tip - is considered one of the world's best fishing spots. Private guides also take anglers to remote rivers and streams only accessible to those-in-the-know. The Tongariro is also the perfect river for first-time rafters and recreational kayakers. Tour operators offer day or overnight camping adventures along the river.



## weekenders LAKE TAUPO, NZ



Tongariro National Park - a World Heritage Area south of Lake Taupo - is also the location of the Tongariro Crossing. The famous alpine crossing over active volcanoes is one of the world's best one-day mountain treks. Closer to Taupo, there are many forest and mountain walking tracks for all fitness levels. For adrenalin



junkies, Taupo has one of New Zealand's most spectacular bungy jumps - 47m from a cantilever platform above the Waikato river for either a 'water touch' or 'high and dry' thrill. Sky diving is another popular adventure activity that offers unique views of the volcanic landscape.



### WATER WORLD

(Left to right) Geothermal activity, Taupo is full of thermal springs. If you prefer colder water you could try your hand at fly fishing or keep your feet dry and walk over Huka Falls.

## weekenders LAKE TAUPO, NZ



### EAT

**Café Pinot** T: 07 376 0260.

Discover the fantastic food, friendly service and stunning views by dining in the alfresco style café for lunch or dinner.

56 Huka Falls Road Taupo  
[www.hukafallsresort.com](http://www.hukafallsresort.com)

**Paetiki Bakery** T: 07 378 7900.

Meat pies are an authentic Kiwi taste, and Taupo's Paetiki Bakery is one of the best places to try.  
199 Rifle Range Rd, Tauhara

### RELAX

**Taupo DeBretts** T: 07 378 8559.

Restore and balance your mind and body with a day at the Spa. Hot Volcanic Stone Massage 75 minutes - \$155  
76 Napier Taupo Highway, Taupo [www.taupodebretts.co.nz](http://www.taupodebretts.co.nz)

### EXPLORE

**Taupo Bungy** T: 0800 888 408.

For some extreme fun, try the Cliff Hanger (\$99) or Water touch bungy (\$149)

202 Spa Road, Taupo, [www.taupobungy.co.nz](http://www.taupobungy.co.nz)

**Huku Prawn Park** T: 07 374 8474

Packed with cool and quirky activities throughout the magnificent park, you will want to stay all day! All day pass including access to the Fishing Park, Guided Nursery and Hatchery Tour plus a 10 minute fishing lesson - Adults \$26, Children 15 or family pass \$65.  
Karetoto Road, Wairakei Tourist Park, Lake Taupo [www.hukaprawnpark.co.nz](http://www.hukaprawnpark.co.nz)

**Tongariro River Rafting** T: 0800 10 10 24

The Tongariro Whitewater 2 hours 13 kilometers 60 rapids OARSOME FUN.



Gentle Family Float, Adults \$74, Child \$65 or White Water Rafting, Adults \$115, Child \$105. Conditions apply.  
The Rafting Centre, Atirau Road, PO Box 281.  
[www.trr.co.nz](http://www.trr.co.nz)

## STAY

### RCI affiliated resorts in Lake Taupo include:

**Taupo Ika Nui** 0900

Overlooking the beautiful Lake Taupo, Taupo Ika Nui offers some of the best views in town of Lake Taupo and the mountains.

**The Lakeside Villas** 3004

Lakeside Villas is perfectly located along the lakefront with super vistas of the mountains and lake. The quiet and laid-back atmosphere of the complex makes this a most enjoyable holiday setting with many natural attractions close by.

**Kaimanawa Lodge** 1812

An ideal getaway for families or just the two of you, here you will find plenty of opportunities for relaxation and adventure.

**Lake Edge Resort** 1708

Take in the picturesque view looking south down the lake, where the Tongariro National Park Mountain ranges lie.



# Your RCI Holiday story

## WIN an iPad<sup>®</sup> Mini Competition

Thank you to all the RCI Members that have shared their holiday stories and photos for our recent competition. It was fun reading about your adventures and creative holiday experiences! We look forward to sharing many more of your stories with your fellow RCI Members over the coming months.

However, there can only be one winner, and it wasn't easy to choose as you all submitted such amazing stories. As an added bonus, we have decided to provide two \$50 RCI Member Rewards to two Runner Up RCI Member stories.

We have landed.



It is so cold.



This is what life is about.



### And the winner is....

“ On a RCI arranged tour of Alaska we went to Girdwood. At the local airstrip and after a safety briefing and dressing up like the Michelin Man we board a helicopter which is so small I am looking for a remote control-for a short flight up to Punchbowl Glacier (so called because it is shaped like one). We alight into a world of pure white-ice, snow and low cloud. It is breathtaking and bitterly cold. It is the scene we all think of when we think of Alaska. And then the dogs start up- a cacophony of howls and barks from about 60 sled dogs. We are going sledding with an Iditarod Race musher. The dogs are begging to be chosen for harnessing. They go crazy and it is obvious they love their job. So the scene is this: a surround of majestic peaks, low thick

white cloud, a team of dogs and then it snows, not much but enough to make this a special highlight of our trip. Soon we are off on a 45 minute ride of a lifetime. We fly across the snow pulled by 16 dog power with my partner Robert taking the reins and me holding on for dear life and loving every second of it. When we return we swap the chance of unharnessing the dogs for the guest tent, which is blissfully warm. And then the icing on the cake, Mike the musher brings in the cutest puppy for us to cuddle. Not long after we board the mosquito sized helicopter for the trip back to Girdwood and a memory for a lifetime. ”

**ROBERT BAKER & RONITA WHEELER**  
RCI MEMBER



...and the two  
Runner Up  
winners are...

## Hitting the jackpot!

“ My family has been Timeshare owners for over 20 years. I have tried on four separate occasions over the last 15 years to get a timeshare exchange at Walt Disney World with RCI, to stay on property, and last year we finally hit the jackpot, not once but twice!!! I couldn't believe my ears when I received the call that two weeks had come through, one at Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge Villas and one at Disney's Wilderness Lodge villas. So in April this year my husband and I took our 3 children to Florida for our big Disney Vacation. These 2 timeshare resorts were just



spectacular and Disney really do know how to cater to their guests. Sitting on the balcony watching the giraffes, zebras, kudu, gazelle etc grazing just below at Animal Kingdom Lodge was just amazing and my kids absolutely loved it, particularly my seven year old. The hotel rooms were large and the facilities were brilliant but the best thing for us was the Samawati Springs kids water play area where my 18 month old son could play safely in this purpose built area. We could have spent all day every day just at the pool. They had kids activities on all day long and the marshmallow roast



as the sun went down was a fantastic end to each day. Wilderness Lodge Villas were a different experience again but equally as impressive and we loved the evening outdoor movies by Bay Lake, and of course the marshmallow roast. Disney World is an awesome holiday destination and we would love to go back one day, even just to stay at these amazing Disney Hotels. Thanks RCI. ”

**SUE ATHERTON**  
RCI MEMBER

## The simple things...

“ From cold and now earthquake affected Christchurch an annual highlight for us is to have a winter timeshare 'escape ' to somewhere warm. Our favourite Resort and place is The Beach House in Coolangatta. Flying into the Gold Coast Airport we can catch a local bus or taxi and be sitting in a Unit overlooking the beach and up the Coast to the Surfers 'skyline' within 20 minutes of clearing customs. The staff at the Beach House are exceptional - we know this because we have been coming to stay there for more than 15 years most winter school holidays. They 'run' a great activities program for the children, including teenagers and our

son has the most amazing memories of fun times had in Coolangatta. Now our foster daughter is getting to enjoy the experience and already the Activities Officer, Marty, is a favourite, just as he was with James. Being on the southern part of the Gold Coast still gives us ready accessibility to all the 'attractions' (including the Theme Parks, etc.) but enables us not to need hire a car but walk everywhere to get anything required. Although we own timeshare in NZ we have been fortunate in always securing an exchange or very occasionally buying a rental week at the Beach House or Beachcomber through RCI. If you want



a warm, magical and relaxing holiday then Coolangatta is the place to be with some great timeshare options there or very close by in Northern N.S.W or further up the Coast. ”

**GYTHLIAN LOVEDAY**  
RCI MEMBER



# Bonus Weeks

## Relax, Explore, Play and Save!

Bonus Weeks are excess accommodation offered as cash holidays. This means you can enjoy an additional week without depositing! These great Victorian holidays are to be taken in November 2013.



**MURRAY VALLEY RESORT**  
Yarrawonga, Victoria  
7 nights from  
**AU\$299/NZ\$349 2BRM**



**SUNRAYSIA RESORT**  
Mildura, Victoria  
7 nights from  
**AU\$299/ NZ\$349 2BRM**



**MANSFIELD COUNTRY RESORT**  
Mansfield, Victoria  
7 nights from  
**AU\$299/NZ\$349 2BRM**



**KYNETON BUSHLAND RESORT**  
Kyneton, Victoria  
7 nights from  
**AU\$299/NZ\$349 2BRM**



**LAKESIDE COUNTRY CLUB**  
Numurka, Victoria  
7 nights from  
**AU\$249/ NZ\$289 1BRM**  
**AU\$299/ NZ\$349 2BRM**

7 Nights from  
**AU\$249**  
**NZ\$289**

**Hurry!**  
Great Holidays  
in November  
limited availability

Take advantage of these unbelievable deals!

Visit [www.rcipacific.com.au/bonusweek](http://www.rcipacific.com.au/bonusweek) or call an RCI Reservation Consultant on 1300 368 800 AU or 0800 368 800 NZ

**RCI**<sup>®</sup>

Subject to limited availability at time of publishing. Must be taken in November 2013. No Spacebank or RCI Points contribution required.