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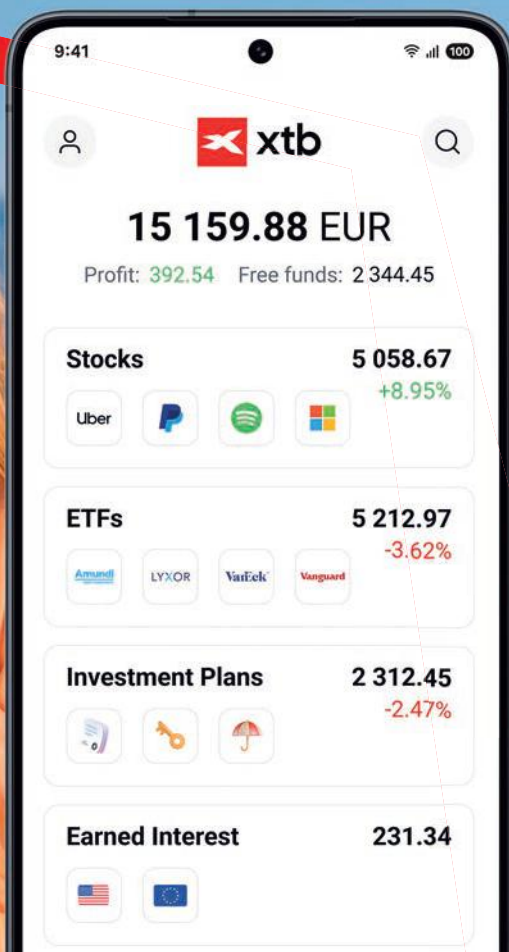
An ancient pilgrimage route
is attracting a new kind of
wanderer to Sicily

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Welcome



Welcome to your Wizz Air flight today. As we head into the golden days of late summer and early autumn, exciting developments are taking shape at Wizz Air. We're introducing new innovations that will transform the way you book and experience your next getaway.

Whether it's a last-minute holiday to capture the last of the summer sun or a leafy city break to close out the year, are you ready to plan your next escape with zero stress? Enter WIZZ Holidays, our new all-in-one booking platform that includes flights, accommodation and transfers, perfectly tailored to your budget and travel preferences.

Thanks to our AI-powered system, the days of comparing multiple holidays on different webpages are over: we will do all the legwork for you. All you have to do is select your personalised holiday and payment plan, with options to 'buy now, pay later' in place to help.

We are delighted to expand our presence in Spain with the launch of

two new bases in Madrid and Valencia this November, bringing more aircraft, new routes and greater travel choice for passengers. The investment marks another important milestone in Wizz Air's growth – strengthening connectivity between Spain and destinations across Europe and beyond.

We're proud to announce a historic deal with Starlink to provide high-speed, reliable, low-latency internet at 30,000 feet to our passengers, from 2027. We're the first European low-cost carrier to do this, and it's just another way that we're serving our customers' needs and continuing to enhance our services on board.

Planning on travelling to London this September? Don't miss west London's biggest running event, the Ealing Half Marathon, for which Wizz Air is the new

“Are you ready to plan your next escape with zero stress? Enter WIZZ Holidays”

title sponsor. Over 8,000 participants will lace up their trainers on 27 September, and we'll be there joining in, and cheering from the sidelines, too.

And the summer isn't quite over yet. We've been providing the soundtrack to the season's adventures by teaming up with pop star INNA to release 'Wizz Away', a summer anthem designed to celebrate the freedom of sun-soaked travel and inspire your next trip.

Thank you for choosing Wizz Air today. We hope you enjoy your journey with us.

József Váradi
Chief Executive Officer

Wizz
by numbers



269
aircraft



180+
destinations
in 45 countries



40
operating
bases



1,000+
routes



10,000+
staff



68.6m
passengers
carried*

in this issue



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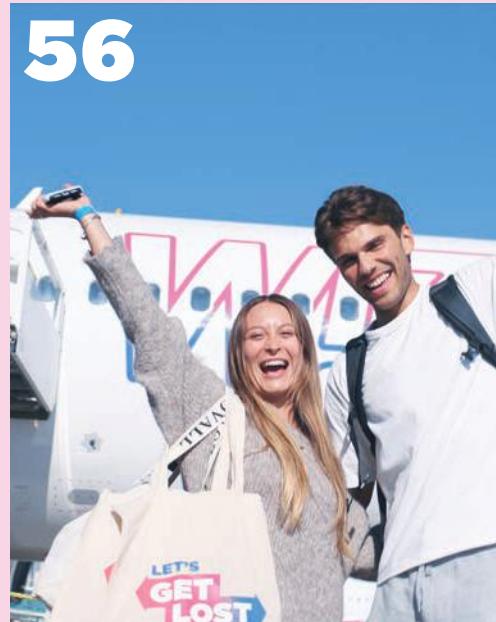
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Editor's letter

How do you find inner peace? Human beings have been on a quest to seek it out for as long as our consciousness has allowed. In the Middle Ages, religious pilgrimages were a rite of passage for Catholic Europeans, to Jerusalem, Rome and Santiago de Compostela in Spain – while the 8th to 14th centuries saw a golden age for Islamic Hajj.

Today, pilgrimages are having a revival, but religion isn't always the driving factor. Post pandemic and in a world ruled by tech, more of us are seeking a different connection – with nature, each other and the cosmos (more about that on p70, to honour the total solar eclipse on 12 August). For our cover story, we headed to Sicily to walk a historic pilgrimage route up Monte Pellegrino, the mountain that overshadows the city of Palermo. Young hikers are finding modern kinds of peace and purpose among its cobbled paths, jaw-dropping views and ancient edifices (p34).

But ancient traditions don't always have to be spiritual. We delve into the wine culture being revived in Faro (p27), rural sports contests in Bilbao (p22) and river swimming in Basel (p17) – before keeping things ultra-modern at Berlin's new design festival (p46) and in the revived resort of Magaluf, Mallorca, which is having a cultural makeover (p61).

Inner peace takes a lifetime to discover, but I hope you find inspiration for adventure and wellbeing within these pages. **Florence Derrick, Editor**



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Instagram The Visual Hub. Travel inspiration, destination highlights, and helpful tips that inspire your next adventure.

TikTok The Scroll Stopper. Fun, fast and full of inspiration. Discover destinations, travel tips and bite-sized aviation content designed to entertain, inform and spark your next adventure.

Facebook The Planner. Get the latest route updates, helpful tips, and destination inspiration

to make planning and booking your trip easier.

LinkedIn The Company. Discover company news, major milestones, innovation and sustainability initiatives shaping the future of travel.

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the Wizz Air experience to life. Designed to inspire and help travellers discover more.

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PHOTO: BEN READ



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Following runway shows at Paris Fashion Week in 2025 and 2026, HAYELI gained international acclaim for its minimalist aesthetic, artistic identity and cultural roots. This autumn, the brand opens its flagship store in Soho, Manhattan.

Discover HAYELI in the heart of Yerevan — for fashion-forward visitors travelling to Armenia, HAYELI has become a must for its style, creativity and cultural soul. Collections are available at YOOTO stores on Northern Avenue in Yerevan and online worldwide.

hayelinyc.com



Where to go, what to do and why

in place

Take the plunge in London

The transformation of Canary Wharf from nine-to-five business district to 24/7 destination takes another leap this summer, with the recent opening of Sea Lanes Canary Wharf. Set in Eden Dock, the floating complex features a 50m-long, natural-water pool, plus saunas, wellness events and waterside food and drink. It's designed for year-round swimming (although it's unheated), and everyone from serious swimmers to curious first-timers are welcome. It's another sign that London's former banking powerhouse is increasingly becoming a place to play hard, not just work hard.

sealanescanarywharf.co.uk

✈ Wizz Air flies to London

WORDS: SARAH WARWICK, FLORENCE DERRICK, JEZ FIELDER. PHOTO: CWG



See an incredible handmade paper model of Prague

The historic building of the Museum of Prague has finally reopened after several years of reconstruction – and it's free to enter until the end of the year. Look out for the new permanent *City in Time* exhibition, centred around a huge, 3D paper model of the city entirely handmade by Antonin Langweil. Stretching over 20m², it was started in 1826 and took 11 years to finish. The model is a groundbreaking achievement and an incredible way to immerse yourself in the Czech capital of the past.

muzeumprahy.cz

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Prague**

Stay sober in Turin

Turin gifted the world the aperitif back in 1786, when classic vermouth was first paired with pre-dinner snacks. Now the city is embracing another leading drinks trend: going alcohol-free.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Turin**



SMILE TREE

Part tea house, part wellness retreat, Smile Tree offers a calmer take on socialising. Choose a sparkling matcha-based mocktail or non-alcoholic botanical creation like the Midori No-hi, to pair with the venue's vegan aperitivo menu. **smiletreetorino.com**

CAFFÈ PLATTI

Opened in 1875, Caffè Platti is a Turin institution. Order the alcohol-free Conte Verde, a refreshing blend of mint, basil and lemon oils inspired by Piedmontese ingredients, then soak up the city's grand café culture. **platti1875.com**

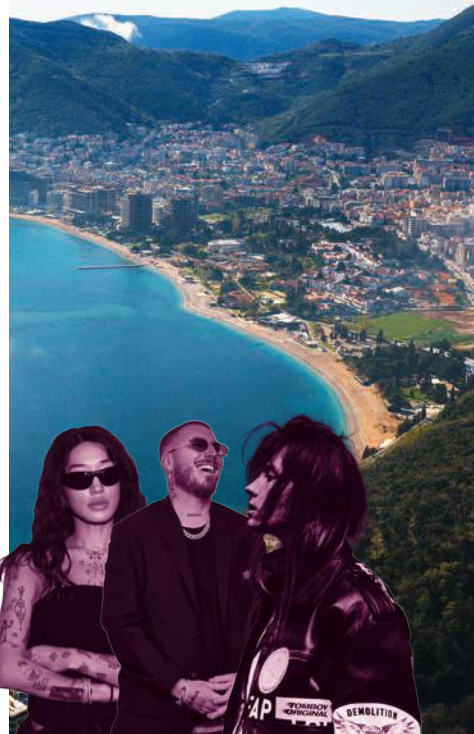
AFFINI

Affini's Dry 0.0 menu showcases inventive alcohol-free drinks made with the same care as its celebrated cocktails. Try the Turin Mole, made with house-fermented kombucha in place of ginger beer. **affinitorino.it**





in place



PARTY HARD FOR FREE IN MONTENEGRO

After 25 iconic years of raving in Novi Sad, Serbia, the legendary EXIT Festival has now relocated and expanded its flagship event - launching two, free-entry weekender editions in Montenegro. EXIT to Montenegro already took over Long Beach, Ulcinj from 3-6 July and is now heading to Bečići Beach, Budva for a Sea Dance Edition on 28-31 August. Heavy hitters Charlotte de Witte and Peggy Gou are heading up the bill, with other sets by Hugel, Enrico Sangiuliano and John Newman taking place over the weekend. All you have to do to score a ticket is register online.

exit2montenegro.me

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Podgorica**

Protect the turtles in Zakynthos

Zakynthos is the premier Mediterranean destination to see endangered *Caretta caretta* (loggerhead) turtles – with peak nesting season occurring from June to August. The best way to spot them is via eco-friendly boat trips, glass-bottom boats or snorkeling.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Zakynthos

TOP TIPS

- 1 Head out in the early morning for spotting before the beaches get busy.
- 2 Choose eco-friendly tours that are authorised by the National Marine Park of Zakynthos. Small boat tours offer a less intrusive experience than larger, louder boats.
- 3 Do not touch, chase or feed the turtles. Keep a distance of at least 15m to avoid causing stress to them.
- 4 On nesting beaches like Gerakas and Kalamaki, keep within 5m of the water and avoid the dunes where nests are located.
- 5 Visit the Zakynthos Turtle Rescue Centre in Vasilikos to learn about conservation efforts – you can even volunteer.



WHERE TO SPOT THEM

◀ Marathonisi (Turtle Island):

A small, turtle-shaped islet in Laganas Bay with a designated nesting beach.

Laganas Bay & Kalamaki

Beach: The main nesting area, best visited via tours designed to spot turtles without disturbing them.



PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK

GET OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE IN BRUSSELS

If you're a fan of quirky travel, look no further than Belgium's capital – where tourist experiences are far from dull. **visit.brussels**

✈️ Wizz Air flies to Brussels



1. FIRE A CROSSBOW LIKE A MEDIEVAL LOCAL

At the Grand Serment Royal Crossbow Guild, founded in 1381, you can try actual crossbow shooting. On selected Thursday evenings near Place Royale, you'll hold centuries of tradition in your hands, in a surprisingly addictive target practice.



2. CRAWL BELOW GROUND AT THE SEWER MUSEUM

Most cities hide their dirty secrets, but Brussels sells tickets to them. Descend into the Sewer Museum and explore around 300m of underground sewer network beneath the capital. Weird? Definitely. Fascinating? Also yes.



3. IMAGINE YOURSELF IN A CARTOON

Follow the Comic Strip Trail year-round through the city centre, spotting Tintin, The Smurfs and dozens more comic-book legends splashed across building walls. It's city sightseeing disguised as an animated treasure hunt.



4. SOAK IN A BEER SPA (WHILE DRINKING BEER)

Only in Belgium would bathing in beer count as wellness. At the Good Beer Spa, you'll sink into tubs infused with hops, malt and brewer's yeast while pouring yourself a fresh Belgian brew. Beer plus beer? Don't mind if we do.



5. SEE THE WORLD'S MOST HIDDEN SCULPTURE

Most sculptures try to be noticed. Moment – Point Zéro does the opposite. This 12.5-ton artwork is buried beneath a square in Molenbeek, leaving just a tiny stone disc visible above ground. It's almost invisible, but still worth finding.

Go to the dogs in Vilnius



A hundred years ago, you could only really find Pembrokeshire Corgis in Wales, where they spent their time herding cattle. Now this cute, fox-eared dog breed – whose name means 'dwarf dog' – is the darling of the British Royal Family, the star of a billion Instagram posts and one of the most popular breeds across the world. If you're a fan of these mini doggos, head to Lithuania on 15 August for the annual Vilnius Corgi Race event. As well as racing against the clock, the pups will strut their stuff in a costume parade, hunt for treats in puzzle challenges and compete for top barking rights in the Mightiest Voice competition. It's a woofing good time for all. **corgiracevilnius.com**

✈️ Wizz Air flies to Vilnius



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Colourful characters from around the network

in person



PHOTO: DANIEL JAMES CLARKE

**A wild swimming
adventure
in Basel**

p17

**Watching
rural sports
in Bilbao**

p22

**Pioneering
vintners
in Faro**

p27



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“It’s a DIY, strip-off-and-jump-in culture”

With 5,000 people expected to join in Basel’s annual Rhine River Swim on 11 August, we dip a toe in the urban swimming scene in Switzerland and beyond

PHOTO: BASEL TOURISM



Words by Laura Martin



Standing on the rocky edge of a rushing river, I clutch a waterproof bag that has all my most important possessions in it and prepare to leap off the banks, submerge myself in the shock of fresh water and get carried downstream.

Taking an inner-city dip has become a popular summer tradition in Basel, and it's not alone in the trend. Come summertime, Europe's rivers, canals and waterways can now be found teeming with city swimmers – from Brygge Harbour Bath in Copenhagen, Denmark, which pioneered the use of turning formerly industrial waterways into public swimming spots, to the nine-year plan to make swimming in the Seine suitable for the Paris Olympics in 2024.

The rising wellness trend of wild swimming is behind the phenomenon, as well as the impact of strict EU laws on water quality. The UK's open water community has doubled since the



pandemic, and some 70% of swimmers say it aids their mental health.

Here in Basel, once the water temperature reaches over 18°C, residents looking to cool off join the Rhine River from the beach area under the Museum Tinguely, and use the current to drift down almost 3km of a designated section of the river. While it's very much a DIY, strip-off-and-jump-in culture, as a first-timer, I decided to join a swim group led by

Basel Art Summer Camps director Tayla Bastion (the Art Basel fair is taking place while I'm there).

Along the shoreline, there are currently about 30 people gingerly entering the water, clutching brightly coloured buoyancy aids. These are Wickelfisch: fish-shaped waterproof bags that double up as flotation devices, which changed the game in terms of safety and convenience for urban swimmers here in 2002. It allows people to put all their clothes and phones inside the



Clockwise from left
Swimmers clutch their Wickelfisch bags; the sunny banks of the Rhine; writer Laura Martin gets ready to take the plunge; taking a dip in the Rhine goes all the way back to the Middle Ages



bag, ride the river downtown, then jump out and change back into their day clothes. Some people even use the river to commute from work.

There are no changing rooms, so I wiggle into my swimsuit with a towel around me, then try to figure out my giant red Wickelfisch bag. "You need to wave it around a bit to get some air in," says Tayla, moving it around like an air sock, "put your stuff inside, then fold it over seven times before clicking it shut." My bag puffs up like a lifebuoy, acting as a float to clutch on to in the water.

The practice of Rhine River swimming dates back to the Middle Ages, when nuns from the former Klingental Abbey in Basel began to take a chaste dip during the summer. However, by the 19th century, landowners banned the public from swimming in the river, and in 1986, a spill from an agrochemical factory polluted the river so badly that it turned red.

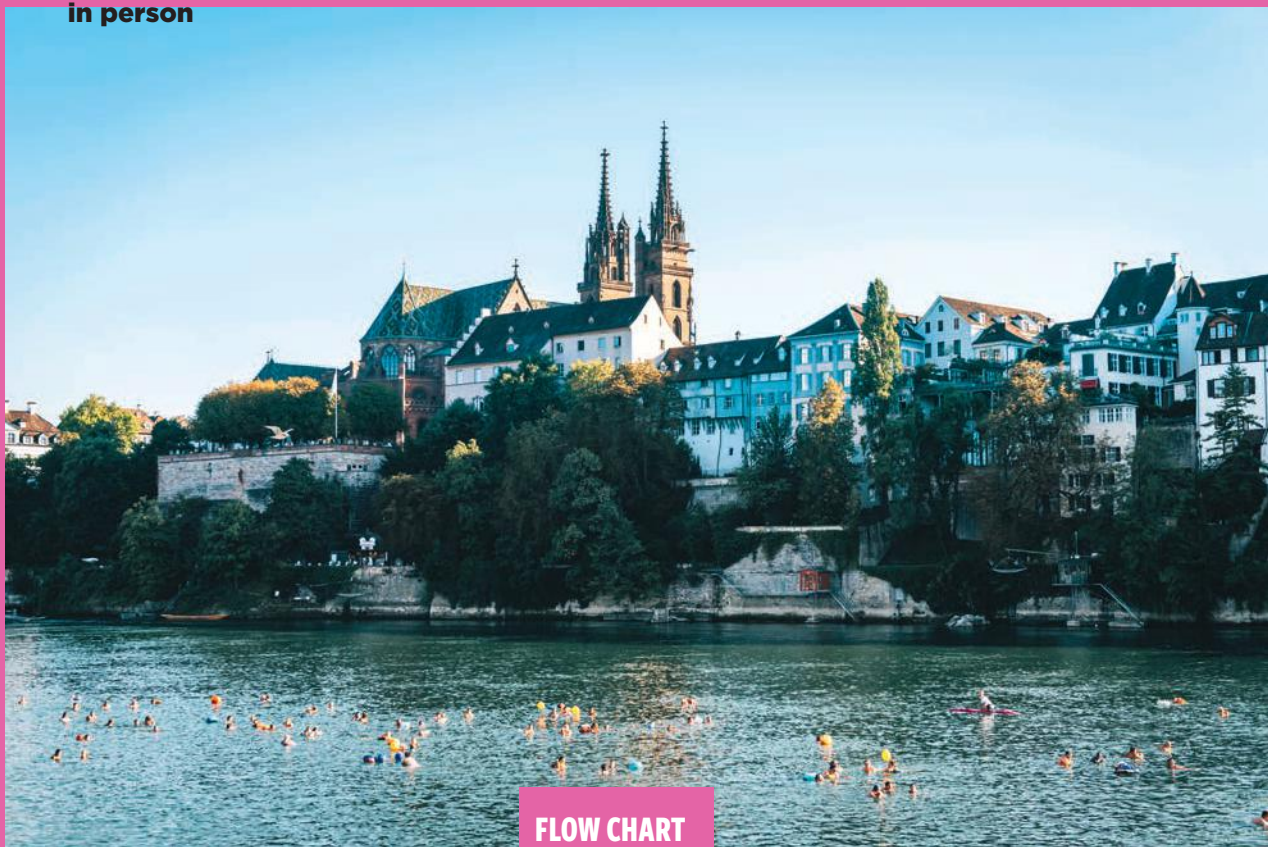
Then, the great clean-up began. "It took about 15 years to make the river habitable again," Monica Malonni-Kopp, the marketing manager of

PHOTOS: TANJA ECKER, BASEL TOURISM

EST 1807
LE COQ

SEX ON THE BEACH
READY MIXED
ORANGE TASTE

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FLOW CHART

Here's how to keep safe in the water

- Stay close to the shore, as currents can be fast in the deeper parts
- Only enter the water if you're a strong swimmer, and the water temperature is above 18°C
- Avoid shipping channels and stick to the recommended swimming areas
- Don't jump in from bridges or jetties
- Don't attach the Wickelfisch tightly to your body or use any other floats
- Never swim alone

Wickelfisch tells me. The fish, the birds and eventually the humans returned.

With my own bag in hand, I'm a little nervous about going in. How fast will the water rush? "The closer you are to the shore, the slower it is," explains Tayla. "If you want to speed up at all, go closer to the middle of the river."

I cling on to my bag as I tiptoe into the cooling stream. Once in, there are essentially two ways to do this: float on your front while holding on to the bag and letting the river gently drift you downstream, or swim, pulling it along behind you.

It's a remarkable way to see a city and one that gives you a totally unique perspective. Cutting through the centre of Basel, it's like watching a panoramic film in real life, as the Gothic Basel Minster, a water mill and medieval houses go rushing past on one side. On the other, towering offices of pharmaceutical companies and conference centres loom overhead.

Groups of friends sunbathe on the concrete blocks lining the river, while

others barbecue on grassy knolls. I swish past a nudist beach, dodge some river grass, and begin to look longingly at one of the seasonal *buvettes* that pop up every 200m or so – small pop-up cafés offering coffees and snacks to the sun-seekers on the shore.

Occasionally, I accidentally drift into another member of my swim gang. "Don't worry!" says fellow swimmer Alexandra Steinacker-Clark. "If you bump into someone it means you're meant to be best friends for life!", which is a sweet sentiment for my misdemeanor.

It's time to exit the river. Swimmers must leave before the Dreirosenbrücke bridge, where it turns into the industrial port – which is undoubtedly harder than getting in. "Have a clear idea of when and where you want to get out," advises Tayla. We all signal to each other with a quick shout and get out, clambering over the rocky shoreline back to terra firma. A quick check of my bag later – everything is dry! – we have a well-deserved ice cream. The Rhine in summertime is a peaceful place to just go with the flow.

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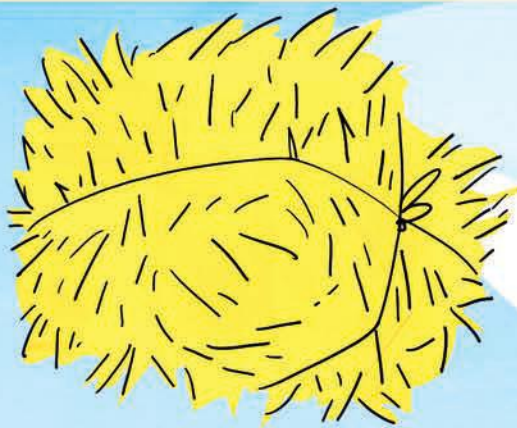

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“Cheers fill the air as a bale of hay flies overhead”

Bilbao's liveliest festival, Aste Nagusia, brings the unique tradition of rural sports to the streets of the Basque city this August



Words by Emily-Ann Elliott



Illustration by Jamie Wignall

Silence falls across a crowd bedecked in blue and white neckerchiefs, as a man in a smeared white vest and trousers enters the ring. He claps his chalked hands and bends his knees, before hauling a 100kg, cylinder-shaped stone onto his shoulder and then dropping it onto a crash mat.

Onlookers cheer as he repeats the sequence, determined to get the most lifts in one minute. This is *harri-jasotzaileak* – a stone-lifting challenge and a uniquely old-school version of a Strongman or Strongwoman competition. It's just one of the traditional Basque sports known as *herri kirolak* held during Bilbao's biggest festival – Aste Nagusia (Great Week) – from 22 to 30 August.

These rural sports (which also include wood chopping, the tug of war and hay bale tossing) began life in agricultural communities in the Middle Ages, when Basque-region farmers competed to see who could complete everyday chores the quickest. “In the very beginning it was an amateur thing,” explains Basque history and culture specialist Pedro Oiarzabal, at Bilbao Paso

a Paso tourism agency. “In rural sports there is a tradition of betting, of knowing who the strongest guy in the town is. So there have always been these kinds of sports and competitions.”

However, as technology has taken over many manual jobs previously done on farms, the traditions have been maintained in a more professional capacity, with local groups and federations forming to continue the tournaments.

Nowadays, both men and women compete and visitors flock to Bilbao to experience *herri kirolak* (which translates as ‘people’s sports’ in Basque) during Aste Nagusia, one of the most extravagant festivals in Spain’s Basque region. Around 1.5 million people attend over nine days, enjoying firework displays, outdoor concerts and theatrical performances. In Bilbao’s Old Town, you can cheer on the immense physical power of the *herri kirolak* competitors, from *txinga eramatea* (weight carrying) endurance tests to the unwavering grit of *sokatira* (tug of war) teams. Here are three not to miss during the Aste Nagusia festival.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Bilbao**



LEVEL ONE LASTO BOTATZEA

Cheers fill the air as a bale of hay flies over a 6m-high bar. The man who has thrown it from a pitchfork, which now rests on his shoulder, looks pleased with himself. The height is raised for his competitor and the contest will continue, until someone fails to clear the rung.

It's easy to imagine how this eccentric sport, *lasto botatzea* (bale tossing), began on farms.

A man wearing a Basque beret, a thin cigar balanced in the corner of his mouth, eyes the proceedings. A table of judges sit ready to give their verdicts. With a small run and a jump, the next contestant's bale clears the bar and the competition is on.

Basque rural sports continue to grow in popularity and are showcased on televised sports programmes. Pedro doesn't see that changing any time soon. "People do it because of the love of Basque culture. There is a lot of sacrifice when you are in a professional sport," he says. "But I don't think it will die off. I think that it's going to remain strong in the future."



LEVEL TWO **HARRI- JASOTZAILEAK**

Before stepping into the makeshift arena, where an eager crowd has gathered beneath the hot sun, a woman dressed entirely in black unfurls a metres-long piece of material. A friend winds it around

her waist, building up layers of back support. Moments later she heaves a solid stone sphere – larger than a beach ball – onto her shoulder, before dropping it onto a crash mat, accompanied by whistles from the spectators.

Traditionally, *harri-jasotzaileak* (stone lifting) competitions were male dominated, but now women

take part in the gruelling sport. Stones come in different shapes including sphere, cylinder and cube, and weights vary from 100kg to 300kg. In 1998, Mieltxo Saralegi broke the heaviest lift record with a 329kg stone – heavier than a grand piano. It took him 18 seconds to lift the weight and enter the Guinness Book of World Records.

LEVEL THREE **AIZKORA PROBA**

Two men balance on horizontal logs, their legs wide apart, with an axe held aloft above their heads. On the referee's whistle they ferociously crash down their tools – and the race is on to see who can chop the log in half the fastest.

They work in a staggeringly organised fashion, cutting at right angles on one side of the log, before turning to do the same on the other, weakening it in the middle. Each axe swing comes nail-bitingly close to their toes, and the crowd sits in suspense as the precise action unfolds on the banks of the Nervión River in front of Bilbao's Areatzako park.

Historically, *aizkora proba* (wood chopping) would have been an essential farm task, since firewood was constantly in high demand.

"*Vamos!*" shouts the compere as splints of wood fly through the air. With a final swing the first log splits and, now standing on two separate pieces of wood, the victor punches the air.



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“This generation is giving new life to the Algarve’s wine”



Southern Portugal's wineries are undergoing a revival as they embrace wine tourism with an experiential twist. We head to Faro to meet the women reshaping the scene



Words and photography by Daniel James Clarke

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Birds chirp and a light breeze carries the scent of citrus groves, ruffling the grape leaves at Vinhas de Nexe – a family-run vineyard 15 minutes’ drive from Faro Airport. Among the rows of vines, weighed down with ripening bunches, Mónica Pires scatters puffy cushions around a picnic of regional treats. It oozes authenticity, yet has a familiar, TikTok aesthetic. She includes a bottle of wine, of course – but drinking is, perhaps surprisingly, no longer the sole focus at the Algarve’s wineries.

“Seventy per cent of our visitors are young, around 25 to 35,” says Mónica, of the changing demographics. It’s not just the visitors who are younger. Many of the Algarve’s wineries are newborns compared to Portugal’s more mature Douro wine region. And as they’re not bound by the same traditional expectations, they’re creating an experience-led revival of interest in wine cultivation – most suited to an approach that favours authentic, profound experiences over drinking alcohol for its own sake.

Viticulture in the Algarve dates back some 2,500 years, but the industry was decimated in the 19th century by a vine-killing phylloxera epidemic. Over the last decade, a wave of young



vintners – including many women in a historically male-dominated industry – have reestablished and reimagined the region’s wineries. Now, these verdant pockets are popular social spaces for wine sippers and non-drinkers alike, providing a Gen Z-friendly and ‘gram-worthy backdrop to rival the Algarve’s famous craggy coves and beaches. Creative workshops, culinary experiences and evening events now complement age-old traditions, such as *vindimas*, the annual wine-harvest celebration.

“Visitors can harvest early in the morning, do the foot treading and then enjoy some social snacks and wines,” Mónica says. Unlike the later-harvesting northern wine regions, *vindimas* starts here in August and September, inviting summer travellers to join local communities for a chat while squashing grapes the old-school way.

Wine tourism is also creating new gateways to overlooked regions. Quinta da Tôr, 25 minutes northwest of Faro, has brought more visitors to the Barrocal – central Algarve’s oak-clad, limestone landscape – since it opened in 2018. It’s become a popular pit stop for people heading inland to rock climb or see the waterfalls of the recently UNESCO-listed Algarvensis Geopark.



Clockwise from top left A picnic at Vinhas de Nexe; Mónica Pires; some delicious wine to go with al fresco snacks; stomping grapes is all part of the winery experience

In Albufeira, better known for its thumping party scene, Quinta do Canhoto – a clean-lined, bioclimatic winery designed by architect Joana Fernandes, who runs it with her parents – is also embracing its natural setting. On the panoramic terrace, in the shade of an olive tree, artist Catarina Olef teaches her Watercolours with Wine workshops, which use wine in addition to watercolour paint (while offering an optional glass to drink, naturally).

“The biggest problem is people forget which glass is for which,” she laughs, swirling a brush in a glass of ruby red. “The workshop isn’t to learn how to paint – you can do that everywhere. My idea is to inspire people with a glass of wine,” she says of the relaxed, natural setting. “You can enjoy the place without having a drink.”

Around the cities of Lagoa and Silves, which flank the vine-friendly Arade River’s terroir, the creativity continues. At Quinta dos Vales, where winemaker Rita Xavier teaches visitors how to blend and bottle, vivid sculptures create a playful backdrop for yoga classes, fado concerts and starlit movie nights.

Nearby, Morgado do Quintão, a historic estate founded in 1810 by the Count of Silves, teaches candle making and cooking classes, while Quinta dos Santos brews craft beer.

The Atlantic-meeting Arade River has long been a vintner’s waterway. Roman wine-transporting vessels have been discovered in the silt. Today,



travellers can still take a traditional fishing boat up the river to the trendy, terracotta-hued tasting room at Arvad Wines. Operations here are run by Algarve-born Mariana Canelas, who developed a passion for wine during a decade working as cabin crew. “It was a great opportunity to get to know different wineries in different countries, and different styles of wine,” she says. After studying at Le Cordon Bleu in Lima, Peru, and doing an internship at nearby Cabrita Wines, she joined Arvad’s team when it opened in 2020.

“This generation of wine producers is giving a completely new life to Algarve wine,” she says, noting how lighter, fresher wines, including crisp whites, light rosés and even sparkling wines, are now abundant.

Outside, on the river-facing terrace, the strum of a guitar rises above chatter and laughter as Arvad’s weekly, summer Sunset Session begins. A social staple, these are a welcome early-evening gathering, given that the region’s clubs rarely kick off before midnight. Couples clink glasses under rattan lamps and groups of friends take selfies among the vines, under the sun’s golden glow. It might feel timeless – but in this region of the Algarve, it’s all innovation.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Faro**



Clockwise from left
Artist Catarina Olef;
a sculpture at Quinta
dos Vales; painting with
wine at Albufeira; Sunset
Sessions at Arvad Wines;
the sun sets over Arvad;
Mariana Canelas with a
bottle of the good stuff
at Arvad



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Getting to the heart of the story

indepth



PHOTO: 2026 FUNDACIÓN CALVIA 365

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in Palermo

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The long and winding road



Each September, as Sicily's summer heat subsides, visitors and locals walk a 400-year-old pilgrimage path in Palermo – but it's no longer reserved for religious experiences

Words by Rory Buccheri

Photography by Ben Read



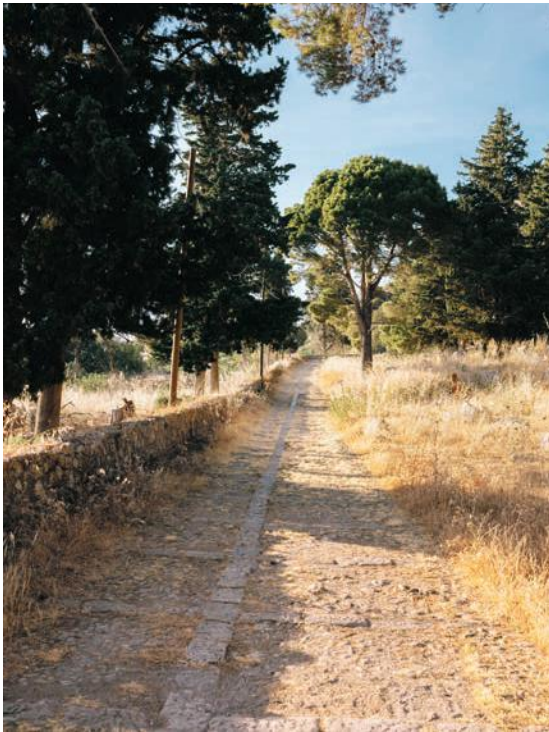
As the rounded stones

underfoot give way to crunching gravel, the scene around me begins to change radically. Cedar trees and teardrop-shaped cacti, heavy with fragrant prickly pears, are replaced by the slim silhouettes of tawny Mediterranean pines. It marks the point where a charming, cobbled city path transforms into an ascent towards Palermo's most elevated viewpoint.

There is no other place like Monte Pellegrino in Palermo. At a modest 600m above sea level, it is still the city's tallest mountain and forms the natural border where the city once ended. The foot of the mountain, in the Sicilian capital's Northern Monte Pellegrino district, is where the 402-year-old Acchianata pilgrimage route begins.

I'm one of many thousands to have walked this ancient path. Over the past four centuries, pilgrims to Palermo have smoothed the limestone boulders with the soles of their shoes, to come and pay homage to Saint Rosalia – the city's beloved patron saint. While this 8km trek originated as a spiritual journey, younger





Clockwise from here
Our cover model tackles the Acchianata; a marker along the way; a tribute to Saint Rosalia; a road sign to the sanctuary; the cobbled footpath; prickly pear cacti; glimpsing Castello Utveggi; the Scala Vecchia



generations of walkers are now giving it a new lease of secular life.

In recent years, ancient pilgrimage routes have found themselves in the limelight worldwide. Younger tourists are often looking to reconnect with their surroundings and embrace a slower, more mindful way of travelling – rather than seeking a religious experience.

“We’ve seen the number of pilgrimage-related queries skyrocket in recent years,” says Marcin Starkowski at travel agency eSky. “Bookings for European destinations associated with pilgrimage and spiritual tourism increased by nearly 60% in 2026, compared to last year.”

Among the heavy hitters are the Camino de Santiago in Spain and the Via Francigena in Italy. According to Marcin, it boils down to “wanting opportunities for reflection” that go “beyond traditional sightseeing”.

This is especially true for Gen Z travellers, who make up over 50% of the numbers and link it to broader trends like digital detoxing and outdoor experiences. Destinations that offer a break from the online world, and an authentic connection



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Above The route to the Santuario Santa Rosalia follows that of a 17th-century merchant

Below Road signs ensure pilgrims stay on track while on the Acchianata trail

to nature, are the top appeal for the 15-30 age group, according to recent insights by Mintel.

Throughout my childhood in Palermo, the story of Saint Rosalia – a 12th-century hermit said to have lived in a cave on Monte Pellegrino – captivated me. Each year, I would eat *pane e panelle* (chickpea fritters) and drink bittersweet chinotto as the parade flooded the streets on 14 July – the annual Festival of Santa Rosalia.

But it's on 4 September each year, when the scorching summer heat has subsided, that the people of Palermo walk the Acchianata – following the same route that a 17th-century merchant walked, during a devastating plague, to invoke Santa Rosalia, allegedly leading to the miraculous end of the plague.

The climb follows the Scala Vecchia (an 18th-century staircase and stone path) and starts at the roundabout of Via Bonanno Pietro, facing the Fiera del Mediterraneo. Following the marked Itinerarium

Rosaliae signage, it goes on for 4km up to the Santuario Santa Rosalia, a church carved into a spectacular grotto (where the saint is said to have lived and died). While the stone terrain is well maintained and easily tackled, you'll work up a sweat as the elevation increases.

It takes about two hours at a leisurely pace to reach the top, and once there, most take a local bus (812) back down to the city centre. Early morning and dusk, just as the golden-hour light shimmers on the mountain's limestone and the distant sea, are the best times to walk it.

There are countless opportunities to disconnect and enjoy the scenery en route. For the first 3km, the harbour is laid out beneath you in view after spectacular view, flanked by the shrub-covered hills casting their long shadow on the city. It's here that I meet 31-year-old Ahsan, who lives in one of the city's newest neighbourhoods, and routinely leaves his devices at





Clockwise from left
Taking a breather; views
of Palermo; the green
hills outside the city; the
402-year-old Acchianata
trail; Castello Utveggio;
taking in the vistas along
the route

home to walk the route. Like me, he's found the small edicola bench a welcome respite from the first stretch of the road, which is also the steepest section.

"The first time I walked the Acchianata, someone said to me 'there's no service up there, no point bringing your phone'. I spent the whole car ride there worrying about setting an automated message response, or whether I'd miss my BeReal," he tells me. "Why was I so anxious?"

After enjoying his phone-free day, Ahsan started inviting his friends to join and encouraging them to switch off for a day, something they also struggled with at first. Yet, "it's been a great excuse to not obsess about being online for a day," he says.

Regaining my breath, I continue to walk past a fragrant Mediterranean shrub, with stocky lemon and cedar trees sharing space with *Fico d'India* (prickly pear cacti). Before long, the open sky gets narrower as a canopy of fragrant pine trees cluster together, nourished by the sea breeze and higher altitude. An ideal place for a



***"I like the way it makes me focus
on what's going on in my head"***



picnic, this is where the Acchianata rewards its hikers with shaded spots and the cadence of cricket song.

It's at this point that my favourite monument in Palermo comes into view in all its majestic beauty: Castello Utveggi. The peach-pink castle's recent reopening to the public, after more than a decade in disrepair, has been the talk of the town. Visitors must pre-book a guided visit to access the sumptuous Liberty-style dining rooms, frescoed halls, and sprawling belvedere terraces. The crenellated façade warms to a Barbie pink when bathed in evening sunlight.

I meet another walker, laden with photo gear. "I first came here to show my Erasmus exchange partner what *The White Lotus* looked like in real life," says Alessandra. She is 26 and has just graduated from Palermo University.

"It's silly, I know. But once we got to the view at the top, it was beyond my wildest dreams. I had no idea this was in my backyard."

She is referring to the viewpoint on the mountain's western flank, one of the postcard-



Clockwise from here The views at the top of Monte Pellegrino are worth the effort; arriving at the Saint Rosalia Sanctuary; a road sign on the trail

“Once we got to the view at the top, it was beyond my wildest dreams”



perfect hotspots of the hike. You get a 360-degree view of the city below, from the deep, sparkling waters of the Addaura fishing neighbourhood, to the sunwashed, ochre buildings in the city centre.

The next time Alessandra came back, it was in very different circumstances. "I had a stress-induced breakdown shortly before finishing my thesis, in part because I was stuck inside my flat 24/7. I remembered I'd come here once before, and it was a great hike to blow some steam off."

Following that lightbulb moment, she came back almost every day for two months, healing herself in the process. "My parents and grandparents did the Acchianata for the religious aspect, but I like the way it allows me to focus on what's going on in my head."

Alessandra is not the only one who's replaced the religious core of the pilgrimage with a personal pursuit.

"In the religious sense, pilgrimages are a more intimate way to have a personal contact with the divine," says Palermo-based ethnomusicologist Barbara Crescimanno. She has devoted her life's

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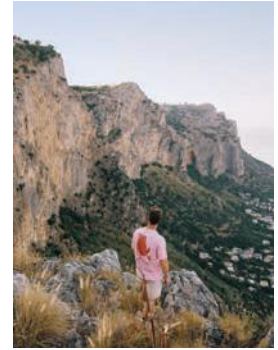
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Left: The Piano della Ciotola woodland
Right: Taking in views of Monte Pellegrino



“It was a great hike to blow some steam off”

research to Sicily’s pre-Christian, ancestral culture. “The travel trend follows the same pattern. You follow your own feelings and connect with your surroundings.”

Barbara organises an Acchianata every year with an ensemble of traditional tambourines and rawhide instruments, to visit and rediscover Sicily’s often overshadowed pagan roots. The itinerary includes a stone labyrinth on Monte Pellegrino’s middle plateau, which has come to symbolise the multitude of ways people in Palermo interact with the mountain path.

“There are as many ways to do the hike as there are people in Palermo,” Barbara says. “Some drive on the asphalt road, some trek the ancient cobblestones cutting through the curves, others only come to stop at geocaching sites along the way.”

Many bravely tackle the road by bike, while the rest of us pant our way to the top. Ahead of me, the thinning cypresses stand like a banner, marking the last stretch of a long marathon.

The Santa Rosalia sanctuary is near. Here, the road splits in two: on the right, you can walk Goethe’s Path, a 1.3km rough, rocky terrain that takes you to the viewpoint on the western flank. To the left, the



Palermo picks

Our writer Rory Bucchieri, a Palermo native, shares their top three travel secrets in the city

For snacking

Don’t miss I Cuochini, a hole-in-the-wall bakery serving classic roscicceria in the heart of the Massimo/Politeama quarter.

For culture

I love Santa Maria dello Spasimo, a former convent turned cultural venue that now hosts concerts, festivals and weddings.

For a sugar hit

It’s got to be the artisanal gelato maker La Delizia, in the former fishing district of Sferracavallo, just steps away from one of the city’s best stretches of sea.

cypress-laden gravel path marks the last half kilometre to the sanctuary, and culmination of the hike.

It’s on this final stretch that I meet Sisira, second-generation Sri Lankan-Italian, whose family has lived in Palermo for 20 years. From her, I learn that the Acchianata connects the many cultures that exist in Palermo.

“Hiking to the sanctuary is a reminder for my siblings and me, of our connection to the mountain pilgrimage our mum used to do in Sri Lanka when she was young.” Sisira is referring to the Mount Kataragama pilgrimage dedicated to the Hindu goddess Valli Amma. It turns out that she has much in common with Santa Rosalia, and this connection has been kept alive by the Tamil community in Palermo.

As I reach the sandy-yellow sanctuary, semi-engulfed by the rock face, I reflect on the thousands of ways you could do this journey. Sipping an espresso at the piazzetta’s only rest stop, the Bar Costantino, an octogenarian jogger whisks past me, a boombox blasting Italian 60s music under his arm. On the sanctuary’s stone steps, a couple of teenagers lounge in the sun – no devices to be seen.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Palermo**



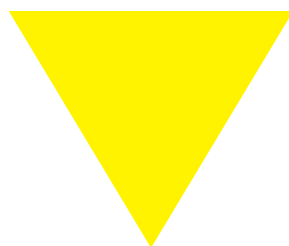
As Berlin celebrates two decades as a UNESCO City of Design, the inaugural DesignDays.Berlin festival showcases why the city is considered one of the world's great design capitals

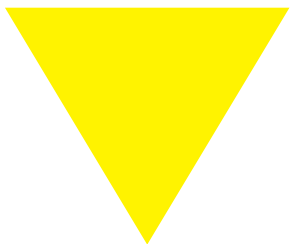
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Words by Mandi Keighran





Rising above Breitscheidplatz, a public square in Berlin's Charlottenburg, the fractured spire of a 19th-century church is mirrored by a Modernist tower of blue glass and concrete. Together, the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church and Egon Eiermann's 1960s addition offer a fitting metaphor for Berlin's design scene, which is also shaped by dynamic contrast. What's more, it's this tension that makes the city's creativity so captivating. From underground ideas, avant-garde fashion and DIY experimentation to the polished showrooms of global interiors brands and industrial spaces reimagined as creative hubs, Berlin has a buzzing energy that few cities can match.

So, it felt fitting when Berlin became the first German city to be named a UNESCO City of

Design in 2006, and became part of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. Fast forward to 2026 and the city is celebrating the 20th anniversary of that designation throughout the year, with exciting festivals including Berlin Design Week, the Forward Festival and the FORM/FUTURE conference. On 24-26 September, a new festival will be added to the calendar: the new three-day DesignDays.Berlin event that will open up design showrooms, studios, galleries and cultural spaces to visitors to the city. "Berlin has always been a city of ideas, but its design scene is still far more powerful than it is visible," says Monika Dagrée, owner of on time PR and co-founder of the design festival alongside Angelika Müller, publishing director of H.O.M.E. design magazine.

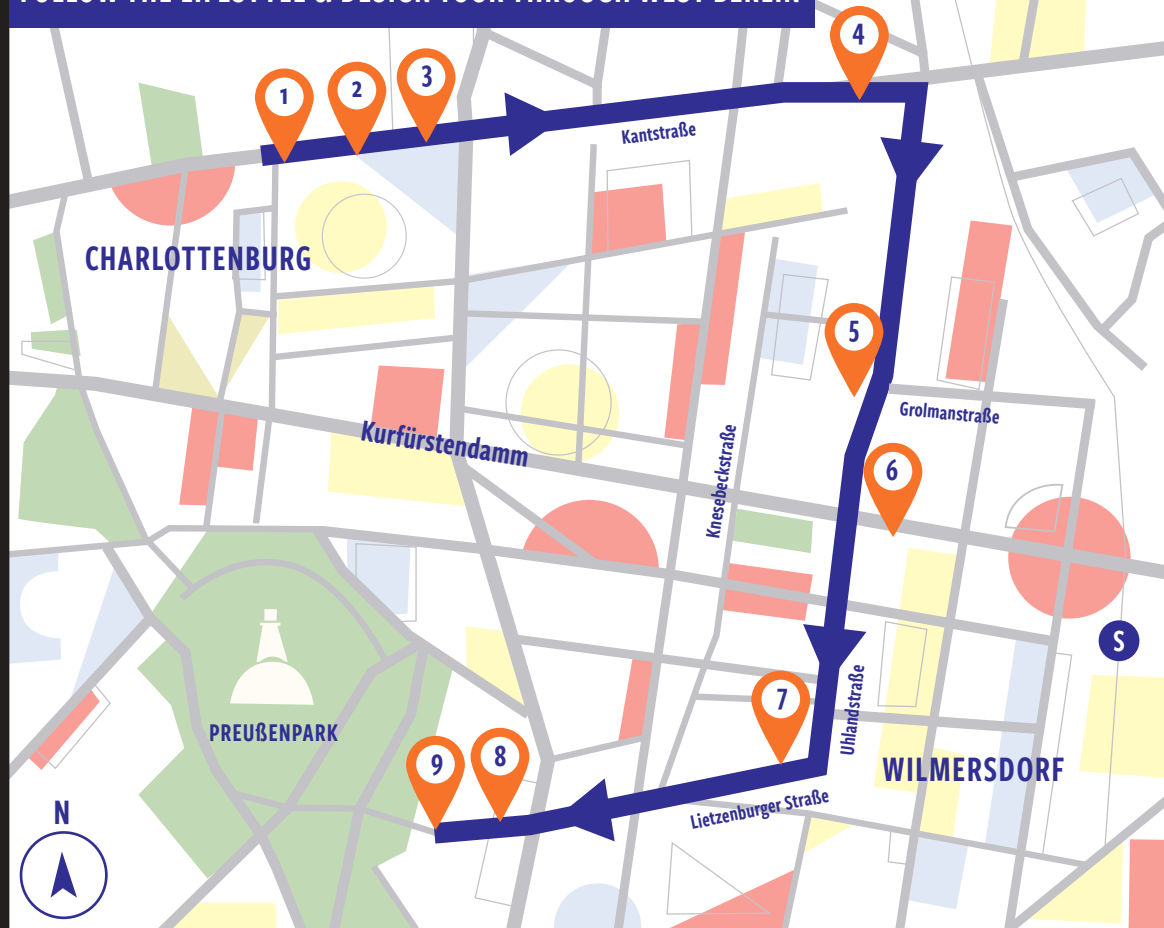
To make navigating the sprawling, city-wide design festival more manageable, the organisers have created neighbourhood tours like this half-day Lifestyle & Design route through Charlottenburg. Grab a takeaway coffee and get to grips with west Berlin's most dynamic creative quarter.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Berlin

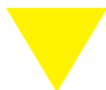


PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK, ON TIME PR, VISITBERLIN, MAP ILLUSTRATION: GEORGE BARNETT

FOLLOW THE LIFESTYLE & DESIGN TOUR THROUGH WEST BERLIN



Clockwise from left
Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church
next to Egon Eiermann's tower;
the Lifestyle & Design route;
Monika Dagrée; the Modernist
high-rise, Shell-Haus



THE TOUR BEGINS on Kantstraße, a long street known as Berlin's unofficial Chinatown (if you're hungry, Lon Men's Noodle House does excellent chilli wontons and hand-cut noodles, while Good Friends is the place for Cantonese dim sum).

1. LAUFEN Space Berlin

The first stop, at the corner of Schlüterstraße, is this Swiss bathroom maker's Berlin showroom. It was designed by German designer Konstantin Grcic as a hybrid of archive, workshop and event space. Discover more about Grcic with a detour to the nearby Deutsches Design Museum on Uhlandstraße, which is hosting STREETWISE, a solo show dedicated to his work (until 26 September).

During the DesignDays.Berlin festival, LAUFEN Space Berlin will be spotlighting VOLTA, a washbasin conceived by the Swiss-American designer and big-wave surfer Yves Béhar. It has a distinctive vortex form that allows you to appreciate the movement of the water for a few moments before it disappears down the drain.

The showroom will also host a Meet the Designer session with Yves Béhar on 26 September.



2. TEAM 7 Berlin

A short walk on, browse the flagship store of Austrian timber furniture brand TEAM 7 at Kantstraße 17. For the festival, it's presenting the new NYA chair and table, created by local designer Stephanie Jasny. All pieces are handcrafted by the same artisans in Austria who make the high-precision wooden slats for Steinway's world-famous grand pianos. The NYA collection "feels both calm and inviting while celebrating the natural beauty of solid wood," says Jasny.



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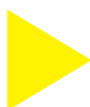




3. LIVING Berlin

TEAM 7 is within one of the largest design stores in Germany, which is worth exploring in its own right. The impressive LIVING Berlin centre brings together some 40 national and international names – from Ligne Roset and Rolf Benz, to Bretz, Roche Bobois and Niessing – under one roof. Make sure to catch the Bang & Olufsen display. The Danish audio brand is showing two limited-edition collaborations for DesignDays.Berlin, with the influential Japanese designer Hiroshi Fujiwara and the experimental clothing brand Vollebak, known for copper jackets and electromagnetic-shielding suits.

Next, turn right to follow the Stadtbahnbögen back towards Savignyplatz.



The star of the show is the dusty pink bathtub



4. KALDEWEI Brand Space Berlin

Under the arches at Stadtbahnbogen 590, the KALDEWEI Brand Space is the spot to fantasise about the ultimate bathroom renovation. The star of the show? A dusty pink Meisterstück bathtub to soak away your troubles.



5. COR Studio Berlin

Continue south down Uhlandstraße, discovering more galleries and studios tucked away on side streets, until you reach the Kurfürstendamm (known as Ku'damm) – the grand boulevard that has been west Berlin's shopping promenade since the 1880s. Rest tired feet at COR Studio Berlin, one of Germany's oldest seating specialists, where sofas and armchairs are arranged in sculptural displays.



6. JAB ANSTOETZ

A little further along, JAB ANSTOETZ has been a byword for premium textile interiors since 1946, offering luxury curtain and upholstery fabrics, carpets and flooring, furniture and carefully curated home accessories. As part of its DesignDays.Berlin programme, JAB ANSTOETZ will host *The Haptics of Colour* (a talk and workshop with one of the world's leading colour psychologists Professor Dr. Axel Buether) followed by an informal networking session.



Treat yourself

It's not just design studios and showrooms taking part in DesignDays.Berlin. Many of the city's hotels and restaurants are joining in, offering ticket holders either a discount or a welcome gift.

Hotel Zoo

A grand Ku'damm address turned 141-room boutique hotel (above), styled by US designer Dayna Lee as the townhouse of a globetrotting, art-loving family.
hotelzoo.de

Grace Restaurant

Also designed by Dayna Lee, Hotel Zoo's restaurant is where chef Martin Bruhn serves European and Asian flavours: think miso pork belly or wasabi carpaccio.
grace-berlin.com

Dorint Hotel

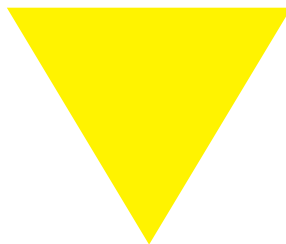
Architect Jan Kleihues designed every detail of this Art Deco-inflected Ku'damm landmark, including its brasserie, Le Faubourg, which serves modern French cuisine.
hotel-berlin.dorint.com



BW: Bespoke Works

Part of the JAB ANSTOETZ Group, BW Bielefelder Werkstätten partners with leading industrial designers to create characterful yet timeless contemporary furniture. For more than 70 years, the brand has strived for exceptional craftsmanship, using premium materials and a bespoke approach that favours precision, individuality and quality. Look out for some high-profile collaborations at DesignDays.Berlin.

“Berlin continues to evolve, adapt and redefine itself”



7. BERLINRODEO

Head around the block to this creative studio, whose public face BERLINRODEO[lab] is a hybrid exhibition, event and community space that hosts talks, workshops, exhibitions and collaborations. During DesignDays.Berlin, BERLINRODEO[lab] is taken over by an exhibition celebrating the studio's 20th anniversary. BERLIN CHANGED, SO DID WE showcases a curated collection of original objects created by BERLINRODEO.

“Inspired by Berlin's enduring spirit of reinvention, the project reflects on two decades of creative practice shaped by a city that continues to evolve, adapt, and redefine itself,” says BERLINRODEO CEO Ingo Hölters.

8. bulthaup am preußenpark

Take a right onto Lietzenburger Straße and head towards the park to check out the newly renovated showroom for luxury kitchen brand bulthaup. The brand is known for crafting chef-worthy luxury kitchens and will be launching its new functional show kitchen during DesignDays.Berlin.





Here BUR Objects are showcasing modular shelving systems

9. on time PR showcase

The festival's co-organisers, on time PR, are throwing open their own Charlottenburg showroom to show off an impressive collection of design brands: the sustainable label Ekomia, Dutch tableware specialist Mepal, furniture house Rowico and, making its debut, the Berlin maker BUR Objects.

BUR Objects will be showcasing modular shelving systems, plus a solid-wood wall lamp held in place by magnets, and more – all designed and made in Berlin. “For the first time, we will show our furniture and lighting to a large design audience,” says designer and founder Julian Bauer. “Everything we do is rooted in an obsession with the little details and how they can make something feel just right.”

The route ends at Preußenpark, known to Berliners as Thaipark. On warm weekends, Thai vendors unfurl parasols and fire up portable burners, cooking som tam, grilled skewers, spring rolls and mango sticky rice. For a proper sit-down lunch, double back towards Bismarckstraße to Österelli, another festival participant, where modern Alpine cooking – think milk-veal schnitzel, handmade dumplings, and Kaiserschmarrn – is served in a design festival-worthy setting decorated with iconic Verner Panton lamps and Hans Wegner chairs.

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LET'S
**GET
LOST**
LONDON

DESTINATION UNKNOWN

Our boarding passes say 'Unknown'. In order for this to work, the airport has to be in on it



Writer Ralph Jones takes part in Let's Get Lost London, Wizz Air's viral campaign that sends competition winners on a dream trip to an undisclosed destination



I'm at London Luton

Airport at 7:09am, and I have no idea where I'm going. Along with around 100 other people, I'm booked onto a Wizz Air flight to an unidentified destination. We are, essentially, all volunteering to be kidnapped.

A shortlist of exciting potential destinations has been teased on the Wizz Air social channels: Lithuania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Armenia, Moldova and Albania. At the airport, our boarding passes say 'Unknown', as do the boards showing our flight destination. In order for this whole operation to work, the airport has to be in on it. We have been told to expect temperatures in the mid-20s°C. Beyond that, we're flying blind.

What's going on? I'm taking part in Let's Get Lost, a viral Wizz Air campaign where passengers board a plane without knowing where it's going. Over 60 seats are allocated to 30 competition

winners who won a prize draw on social media, and their plus ones, while the rest of the seats are occupied by journalists and content creators.

"Who's ready to get lost?" shouts Yvonne Moynihan, Wizz Air UK's Managing Director, once we've taken our seats. A cheer erupts from the plane, which we have entirely to ourselves. I'm sitting next to Juan, a competition winner, and his friend Crystal. Like everyone else, Juan found out he'd won with a week's notice.

Everyone has a theory as to where we're going. One man announces during our ascent that he thinks we're going to Moldova. A woman later says: "It's not Bosnia, we would have landed by now." I wonder how much I can trust about the flight. Is a slight change of direction the beginning of our descent? Although the cabin crew knows our destination, they won't be bribed for information (I tried). The Let's Get Lost team

“Passengers not knowing Yerevan was waiting made the flight special”



08:25	Warsaw
08:30	Katowice
08:30	Gdansk
08:30	Budapest
08:40	Barcelona
08:45	Vilnius
09:00	Dublin
09:00	Palma
09:00	Unknown
09:05	Palma
09:15	Rome

has even hidden the flight on Flight Radar, which gives the code 'ZZF' to unknown flights.

After about five hours in the air, our pilot reveals that we are approaching our mystery destination. Mountain ranges stretch out anonymously beneath us. “I would like to very warmly welcome you to Yerevan in Armenia,” says the senior cabin attendant. We all woop, the influencers’ phones held in the air, recording.

“Being part of our Let’s Get Lost London campaign is great fun,” says Wizz Air UK pilot Captain Gareth Blakeley. “As pilots, we’re usually the first people to know exactly where we’re heading, so having a cabin full of passengers with no idea that Yerevan was waiting for them made the flight rather special.”

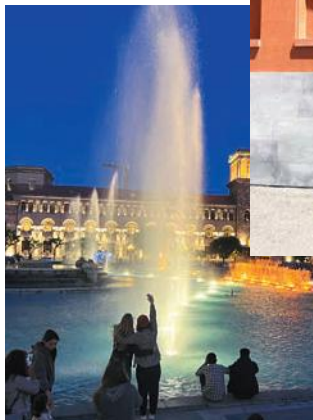
After a thrilling welcome dance at the airport, we are whisked to the National Gallery of Armenia, where we are treated to a reception as though we are royal delegates, complete with a live string quartet. “Armenia is a bit of an undiscovered place,” says Paul Morris, Deputy



Head of Mission and HM Consul at the British Embassy in Yerevan. “The place is really progressing. It’s forward-thinking and there’s a very young population who are keen to speak English.”

Armenia is considered a ‘bridge’ between Europe and Asia, and shares borders with Türkiye, Iran, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The Tourism Committee of Armenia, with the support of local partners, have covered accommodation, meals and on-the-ground experiences to show off the country – and because Wizz Air now offers flights from London Luton Airport to Yerevan, the first direct link between the two destinations in years.

Over the next three days, we get a crash course in all things Armenian, with help from our tour guide, Sonia. Inside the Geghard Monastery, at the entrance to the Azat Valley, we are sung to with breathtaking beauty by a three-



Clockwise from top left
The Let’s Get Lost team; the board at Luton; a dancer at the Cascade Complex; a delicious spread is served up; Armenia Wine; the Singing Fountains

This page The lucky winners, journalists and influencers who joined Wizz Air's Let's Get Lost trip to Yerevan



“The best trips happen when you let go of the plan”

person choir flanked by vast stone columns. A little to the west, the pagan Garni Temple has 24 columns representing every hour of the day, meaning that it also acts as a sun dial. The views of the Azat River gorge and the sunlit mountains are gorgeous.

The hospitality we are shown is remarkable. At almost every meal we are treated to a song and a dance. It's the first time I've had a waiter pour water and belt out some opera. The city even has Singing Fountains – beguiling waterworks outside

the History Museum of Armenia that feature a light show and music. We also stop at Armenia Wine, one of the biggest wineries in the country, and the Ararat Brandy Museum, where I learn about an old tradition that saw visitors weighed next to a barrel of brandy. They could take away as much brandy as they weighed.

By the end of the trip, the element of the unknown has helped people to bond. The fact that we didn't know where we were going ruled out any planning, second-guessing or prejudice. As for Armenia, I left wanting to go back – and next time, I'll know where the flight is going.

“I'm incredibly proud that we helped introduce so many people to a place they may never have considered visiting,” says Galana Enyaeva, Marketing Manager, Wizz Air UK. “It's proof that the best trips happen when you let go of the plan and just go with it.” wizzair.com

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Yerevan**

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TIDES OF CHANGE

Once defined by cheap booze and bad decisions, Magaluf is betting big on culture and conservation in what might be the Mediterranean's most ambitious reboot yet

 Words by Hannah Ralph



Hair salty from the turquoise-green waters of Playa del Mago – a small cove where hunks of rock are peppered with sleepy, sun-drunk locals – it's time for *tardeo*. We trade the coast for Castell Son Claret, a 15th-century fortress-turned-five-star hotel, to perfect the especially Spanish fine art of letting afternoon tapas blur into early-evening drinks. We toast to a weekend of wandering around crumbling watchtowers (once used to spot pirates) and honey-stoned towns, silent but for the sound of birdsong and cathedral bells.

You'd be forgiven for thinking this is some low-key part of Menorca, or the quiet shores of northern Ibiza. But believe it or not, this is Magaluf – just not the version you're thinking of. Away from the artificial glow of its infamous strip, this corner of Mallorca's Calvià region has always had a softer, slower side, made wary by years of bad press. Who can Magaluf trust to tell its story? Certainly not the partygoers who descend on this gorgeous slice of coast every summer. The ambitious officials at Calvià Town Hall are hellbent on rehabilitating the image of Magaluf as a resort for stag dos and cheap drinks, offering up its cultural and family-friendly strengths



Clockwise from left
The sandstone cliffs at Portals
Vells; 15th-century Castell
Son Claret has been
transformed into a hotel



Top and bottom
The stunning azure waters of Cala Comtesa have drawn tourists and filmmakers

“Public opinion is very slow to catch up with the progress we are making”

instead. But the scale of the challenge isn't lost on any of them.

Director General of Tourism and Communication for the Calvià Town Council, Jaime Mora, is frustrated. “We are running at 100mph,” he says from El Faro del Toro, a darling restaurant on the Port Adriano marina, “but the collective consciousness is running at 20. The public opinion of Magaluf is very slow to catch up with the progress we are making here.” Cultural cliché is a difficult script to rewrite. Las Vegas is tacky. British food is beige. When a reputation is so entrenched, where do you begin?

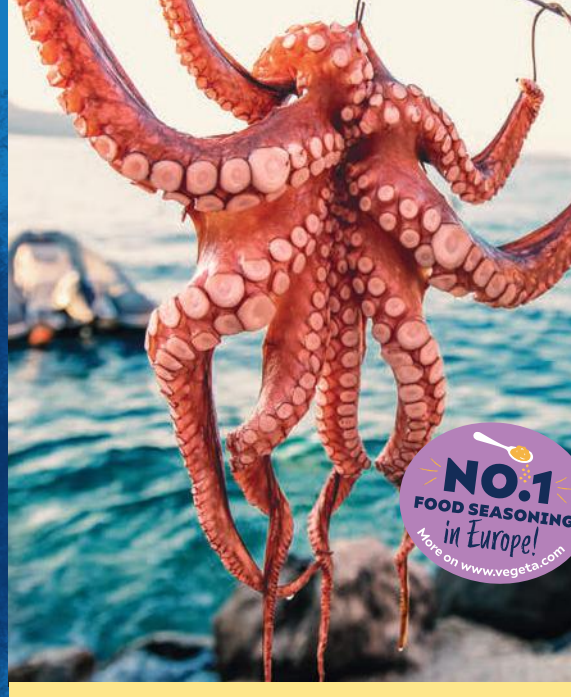
Calle Punta Ballena, the neon-lit obstacle course of open-air bars, late-night kebabs and free shots that is Magaluf's main nightlife centre, was put on the map when in 2011 *The Inbetweeners Movie* was shot here, standing in for Malia in Greece. The film features the same stereotypes seen here today: sunburnt Brits and wedding parties in fancy dress. The one person you'll rarely see here is a local. “This just isn't Mallorca to me,” says Marta Fiol Pujadas, our Mallorquin host. But if cinema helped cement the reputation of one street in Magaluf, the wider region Calvià is hoping it can help with another.

Launched this spring, the new Calvià, Plató de Cine trail marks out 10 filming locations across the municipality. K-pop music videos have been filmed against the spacey sandstone caves of Portals Vells, south of Magaluf, while Agatha Christie adaptations have been created beside the impossible blue of Caló d'en Monjo to the west. The tour highlights a milestone moment in Spanish film, when 60s glamazon Elke Sommer wore the first bikini to feature in Spanish cinema on Santa Ponça beach – a radical act at the time.





PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK, 2026 FUNDACION CALVIA 365



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“People travel outside peak season for meaningful Mallorcan experiences”



A packed cultural calendar reveals Calvià's lean towards the arts, including Magaluf's own literature festival, FLEM. It was co-founded in 2021 by another homegrown heavyweight championing the resort: Meliá Hotels. "We've seen firsthand how events like FLEM can attract a new generation of travellers," Sofia Muntaner of INNSIDE by Meliá says. "These people are increasingly willing to travel outside peak season in search of more meaningful and authentic Mallorcan experiences."

The Spanish hospitality group hasn't just invested mega-euros to attract a more discerning, shoulder-season crowd, but has pioneered a shift that's seen more than 80% of hotels in Calvià and Magaluf now boasting four or five stars.

I'm staying at Meliá Calvià Beach, a sleek boutique decorated in biscuit hues and baby blues that sits right on one of Calvià's 15 award-winning beaches (the municipality has the highest number of 'Q Quality' flags in the Balearics). A short walk away, Magaluf's seafront promenade has recently been renamed as the Gabriel Escarrer Julià Promenade, after Meliá's founder. Acting as a buffer between a long line of



beachside restaurants and the sands themselves, the boardwalk has been cleverly re-engineered to harvest rainwater, improve wheelchair accessibility and integrate new beach showers. It's framed by drought-proof thickets of native flora and low-impact dunes, designed to (literally) keep the beach in place.

Nearby, legendary beach club Nikki Beach has always sent its punters from their plush, white daybeds at 7pm – foreshadowing the resort's pivot from late-night revelry to selfies beneath the midday sun. Since 2024, anti-excess laws limit hotel

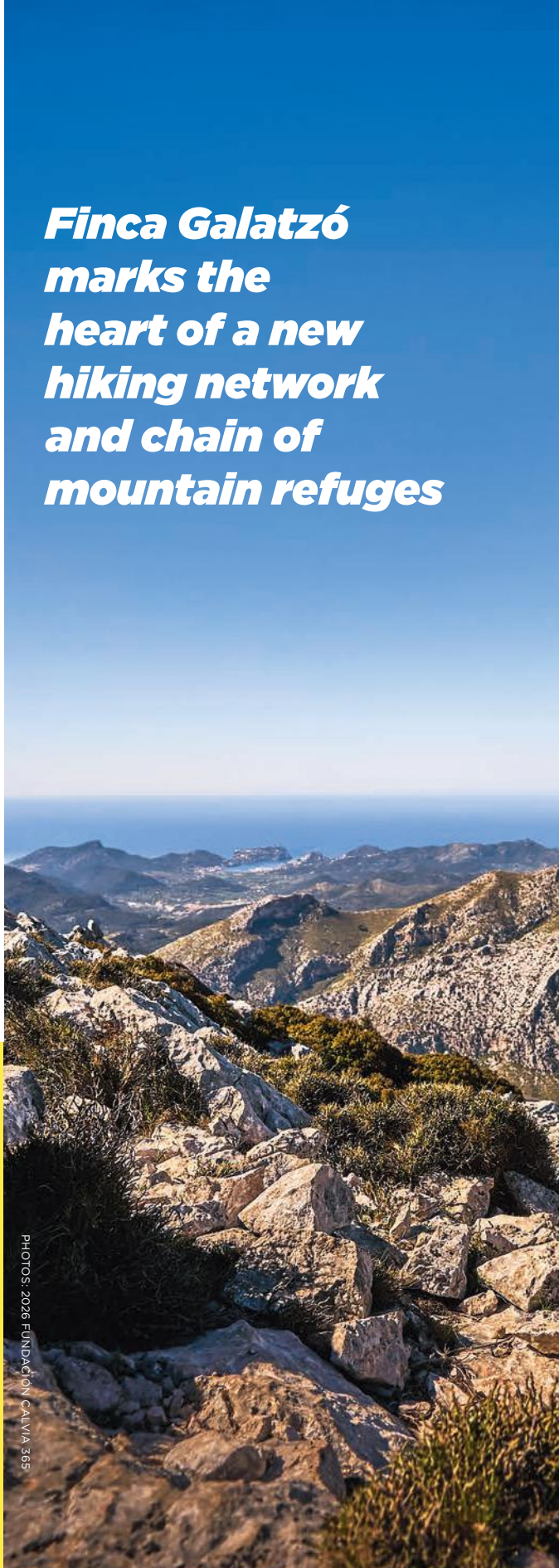
From top Hotel de Mar Gran Meliá; Magaluf is rebranding itself as a destination for the whole family not just partygoers

drinks and slap tourists with fines up to €3,000 for drinking alcohol on the streets. Across the increasingly family-friendly bars and restaurants that overlook the waves, the mass deployment of rattan chairs and cappuccino-toned cushions brings a sense of high-end calm. Fuelled by a playground of options – from theme parks like Katmandu Park, to go-kart tracks and pop-up funfairs – flights to Palma are now packed with young families and multi-generational tribes. The resort's most infamous former party hotel, the BH Magaluf, has even been reborn as the FERGUS Club Mallorca Waterpark – a four-star flagship targeted at the premium family market.

Much of the progress in Calvià can be attributed to the Balearic's wildly successful, and refreshingly transparent, Sustainable Tourism Tax. Alongside the renovated boardwalk, other projects in this region benefiting from this tax include the Torrenova tower – a forgotten, 16th-century watchtower being reimagined into a modern cultural landmark at Calvià Beach. Over the next year, the restored site will open to public with two adjacent abandoned buildings (designed by Mallorcan architect, José Ferragut Pou) transformed into an immersive mini-museum and an artist-in-residence gallery space.

In Calvià's mountainous north, a multi-million-euro renovation will see the historic Finca Galatzó estate reopen following vital repairs. Already a haven for biodiversity, the almond tree-dotted, 14 million-square-metre grounds also mark the heart

Finca Galatzó marks the heart of a new hiking network and chain of mountain refuges



PHOTOS: 2026 FUNDACIÓ CALVIÀ 365

Clockwise from bottom left Go-karting in Magaluf; hiking across the vast Finca Galatzó estate; mountainbiking the Serra de Tramuntana range



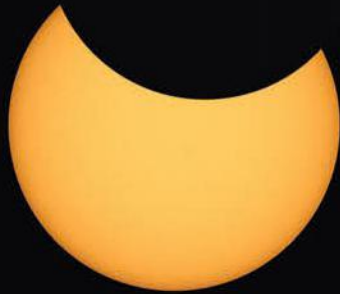
of a new hiking network and chain of cheap-and-cheerful mountain refuges, allowing for multi-day hikes into the surrounding Serra de Tramuntana range. At Puig de sa Morisca Archaeological Park, just west of Magaluf, visitors will find not just ancient rocks beneath their boots (it's home to one of the largest concentrations of prehistoric ruins on the island), but a new museum, where Roman wine-tasting and pottery-making make up just some of the immersive experiences in the works.

Together with the Torrenova estate, these two projects forge what is being described as Calvià's green triangle. They speak to a preservation of heritage that's not been celebrated enough in Magaluf in recent decades – from the indigenous Talaïotic warriors, renowned for their deadly skill with the slingshot, to the invading Romans. The truth is, outsiders have always wanted what Calvià has – year-round sunshine, excellent seafood and some of the bluest, clearest waters you've ever seen.

While the region works towards a more eco-conscious, culturally engaged version of Magaluf, does it risk alienating the budget holidaymakers who gave the resort its buzz in the first place? Rather than all-out gentrification, this shift marks more of a gentle widening of the net.

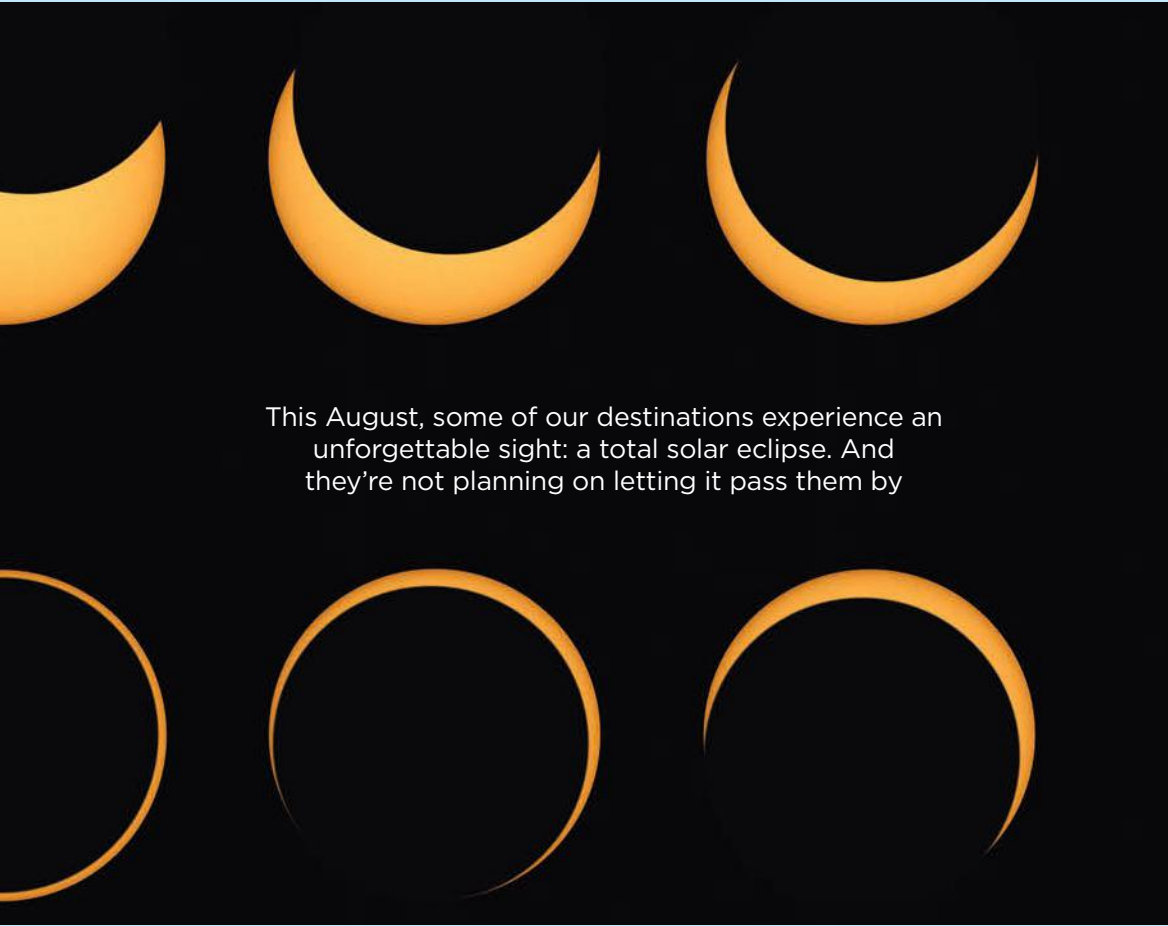
Magaluf's cheap-and-cheerful pulse is very much alive, just like its timeless coastline and priceless cultural heritage. Cheap parties and cheesy karaoke might never cease to be a classic Magaluf experience – and the island would perhaps lose a part of its cultural identity if they did. [visitcalvia.org](https://www.visitcalvia.org)

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Palma de Mallorca**



TOTAL ECLIPSE





This August, some of our destinations experience an unforgettable sight: a total solar eclipse. And they're not planning on letting it pass them by

OF THE HEART



 Words by Andy Hill



“A total solar eclipse is one of the most awe-inspiring events most of us will ever witness,” declares Mitch Morales, founder of Iceland Eclipse Festival. “We stand together, at a rare threshold in space and time, where the earth, moon and sun align, reminding us of our connection to something far greater than ourselves.”

Perhaps that’s a little out-of-this-world, even for a rave promoter. But forgive him for getting starry-eyed. On 12 August, in one of Europe’s rarest celestial spectacles, a total solar eclipse will sweep across Greenland, Iceland, northern Spain and a small corner of Portugal.

Meanwhile, NASA, no less, confirms the sun is now in its solar maximum, the peak of an 11-year activity cycle, and the global market for so-called ‘astro-tourism’ – worth almost €1 billion – is forecast to grow at least 10% year-on-year this decade. From full-moon cocktails to dark sky glacier dance-offs, here are some sparkly ways to make your summer look up.



01 Dance under dark skies near Madrid

If you've ever felt a techno festival needed a smidge more astronomy, then congrats, your weirdly specific wish has been granted. **Astral Plane: Total Eclipse Festival** takes place from 10 to 12 August at La Pinilla Mountain Resort in Segovia, around an hour from Madrid, with three stages sprawled across the Sierra de Ayllón mountains. The centrepiece? A four-hour eclipse set from Detroit techno pioneer Kevin Saunderson, timed to the all-important moment of totality at 8:30pm.

There'll also be sets from the likes of Ellen Allien, Ben Sims, Lilly Palmer and Luke Slater, plus a mountaintop stage reached by ski lift or hiking. Come for the cosmic alignment, stay for the moment when thousands collectively realise that the sun has disappeared and the bassline absolutely has not.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Madrid**

02 Sink a sundowner in Ibiza

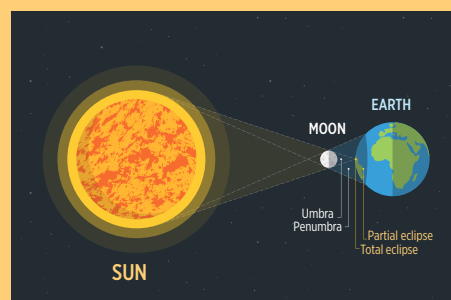
Ibiza is never short of sunset theatrics, but this eclipse season **TRS Ibiza Hotel** is adding its own cosmic flourish. The five-star adults-only hotel in Sant Antoni de Portmany is hosting a Special Total Eclipse Week. The main event is at Gravity Rooftop from 6:30pm to 11pm on 12 August, with the 8:33pm solar eclipse timed for the middle. Guests can marvel at the partially eclipsed sun as it sets over the Med, dancing to live music and DJs, with a light show, cocktails and posh nibbles.

The hotel is also laying on an Eclipse Essence Stay package, with event access, spa water circuit, welcome gift and sound-healing yoga session. For couples, the Private Eclipse Romance package chucks in panoramic rooms and in-room service during the eclipse. Some will watch the event through specialist glasses in a field. Others will be sipping cocktails on a rooftop. There are no wrong answers here.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Ibiza**

What is a solar eclipse?

During a total solar eclipse, the moon blocks the face of the sun, creating near-complete darkness





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03 Go full cosmic in Iceland

The setting is very much the star at **Iceland Eclipse Festival**. Taking place from 11 to 15 August on the Snæfellsnes Peninsula – the glacier-capped volcanic landscape that inspired Jules Verne's *Journey to the Centre of the Earth* – it's billed as an immersive experience for "visionaries, artists and eclipse seekers," spanning music, art, science, wellness and tech. Capacity is capped at just 3,333 guests, which feels appropriately mystical.

The timing is extraordinary: at 5:47pm UTC on 12 August, totality sweeps across Snæfellsnes for over two full minutes – one of the longest periods in the world. It won't return to Iceland until the year 2196, so no pressure.

Off-site "Side Quests" are where things get properly surreal: Emiliana Torrini performs inside a 5,000-year-old lava tunnel, while Nightmares on Wax take to the decks inside a glacier. It's basically the universe showing off.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Reykjavík

The last total solar eclipse in Iceland was in 1954

04 Stargaze from Wrocław to the dark skies of Iżera

As you might expect from the home of Copernicus, Poland does astro-tourism with a pleasingly scholarly vibe. The planetarium at Wrocław University is ideal for anyone who likes stargazing with a side of scientific rigour. However, the real adventure lies further west in the **Iżera Dark Sky Park**, on the Czech border. The preserve is the kind of increasingly rare place where the night feels actually nocturnal: shadowy forests, moody mountain ridges and enough visible stars to make the average city dweller's eyes flash with envy. September is one of the best times to stargaze.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Wrocław



05 Meet the Milky Way above Tirana

Just outside Tirana, **Dajti Mountain** rises high above the Albanian capital, offering an escape from the city hubbub and views over the surrounding landscape. On clear nights, especially around the new moon, the slopes offer a pretty intro to the magic of Balkan stargazing.

Consider it a city break with a cosmic after-hours option. By day, Tirana is all about colour, café culture, Ottoman traces, Italianate boulevards and a capital veritably buzzing with reinvention. By night, head uphill, with the city aglow below you, and come face-to-face with the cosmos. Not a bad way to finish off a long weekend.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Tirana**

06 Look up in Kefalonia's Dark Sky Park

Kefalonia is already generously endowed with Ionian good looks: pine forests, twisty mountain roads, turquoise coves and villages tailor-made for long, leisurely lunches. Mount Aenos makes the island even more special.

Aenos International Dark Sky Park became Greece's first certified International Dark Sky Park in 2023, recognised for its outstanding night-sky quality. Come for the beaches, stay for the starry-eyed companions.

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07 Join the full moon in Protaras

Not every moonlit experience needs a telescope. **MoonWalk in Protaras**, within easy reach of Larnaca, transforms Cyprus's seafront into a full-on full-moon spectacular, with around 130 artists across 35 stages along the coastal promenade. It's basically a music festival, by the light of the moon. The 2026 edition falls on 27 September, under summer's final full moon. Swing by and make like that Toploader song, *Dancing in the Moonlight*.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Larnaca

08 Hear Bedouin stories under Jordan's stars

Stargaze Jordan, based in Wadi Rum – famous for its red sand and sandstone cliffs – combines telescope-led sky viewing with Bedouin storytelling and warm desert hospitality. Guests are welcomed into one of the Middle East's most spectacular landscapes for guided astronomy, local oral traditions and the kind of night sky that makes you contemplate eternity. Or at least look up from your phone.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Amman



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The best of Italy

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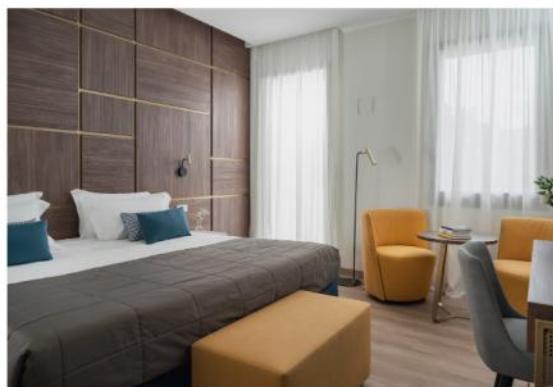


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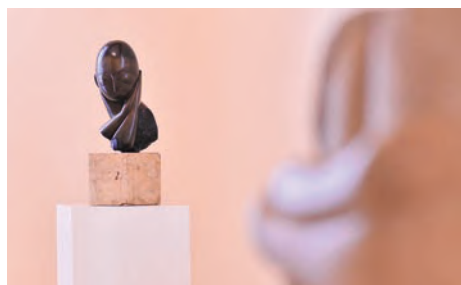
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Craiova, where the arts occupy the streets

Performing arts take over the Romanian city in late summer

Every summer, Craiova, Romania becomes a stage unlike any other. Its streets, squares and parks are transformed into a living theatre where imagination knows no bounds.

From 25 August to 1 September, eight unforgettable days with more than 400 free events transform Craiova into one of Europe's largest open-air cultural stages. Giant puppets rise through the city at *The Puppets Occupy Street Festival - STARDUST Edition*. Internationally acclaimed theatre companies and artists fill parks, streets, squares and shopping centres. The entire city becomes a place where art steps out of traditional venues and takes over public spaces,

inviting visitors of all ages into a world with no boundaries.

Recently featured by Forbes International as one of Europe's Best Summer Events 2026, Puppets Occupy Street Festival has firmly placed Craiova among the continent's most compelling cultural destinations.

But the story does not end with the final parade. Craiova was named one of the Best European Cultural Breaks by Forbes in 2025. Throughout the year, visitors encounter a city shaped by art, history and remarkable architecture, where creativity runs deep and culture is woven into everyday life.

This year, Craiova pays tribute to Constantin Brâncuși, inviting visitors to explore the sculptor's early works

at the Craiova Art Museum, housed within the magnificent Jean Mihail Palace. It is a rare glimpse into the beginnings of an artist whose revolutionary vision went on to redefine modern sculpture. Brâncuși's *Danaida* sculpture had a record-breaking sale after being promoted by the famous actor Nicole Kidman.

From one of Europe's most spectacular street festivals to the timeless legacy of Brâncuși, Craiova offers far more than a holiday destination. It is a city where culture leaves museum walls and becomes part of the rhythm of everyday life.

*Stay for the story,
leave inspired,
visit Craiova.*





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Barceló Málaga

Málaga



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Checking in is infinitely more exciting at the Barceló Málaga as, if you're brave enough, whizzing down a giant silver slide will deposit you at the reception of the colourful hotel.

The 221 rooms of the fun four-star hotel – which first opened in 2006 – are spacious and stylish, but the other big draw for guests is likely to be the pool on the rooftop terrace. Making full use of Málaga's 320 days of sunshine a year, unlike other hotels in Spain, this little pool is open all year round, which makes lounging about with blue skies overhead – and

a drink from the micro-bar – enjoyable even in winter.

And forget taking the lift back down. Instead, jump onto the slide to the in-house Gastrobar La Santa María, for tacos, ceviche and cocktails that draw on local Andalusian ingredients, delivered with an international twist.

The facilities also boast a well-equipped gym and sauna (which looks out onto the gym through a one-way mirror), and the staff are as cheery as the hotel's decor. After a stay here, you'll be leaving with a smile on your face, too.

WORDS: LAURA MARTIN, SARAH WARWICK, FLORENCE DERRICK



The Queens Hotel Leeds

For almost 100 years, the grand façade of The Queens Hotel has been the first impression of Leeds for anyone arriving by train. Towering above the station and built from two million bricks, the Grade II-listed structure remains one of the city's most recognisable landmarks. And now, a comprehensive, €18 million refurbishment has given it a first-class makeover.

Designers have taken inspiration from the building's Art Deco style, while creating spaces that feel fresh and contemporary. Black-and-white photography celebrating Leeds' history lines the walls, while a sophisticated palette

of greys and muted blues runs throughout the hotel.

Rooms are comfortable and thoughtfully equipped, with effective air conditioning, blackout curtains and exceptionally comfortable beds. The en-suite bathrooms are modern and well appointed, featuring rainfall showers and quality toiletries. Despite the hotel's station-side location, rooms are impressively quiet.

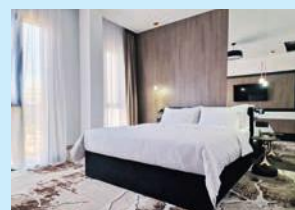
The hotel's biggest surprise is Cinnamon Kitchen, part of an acclaimed Indian restaurant group offering authentic Indian cuisine with a classically British twist. Lamb rogan josh shepherd's pie anyone?



Ruby Frida

Stockholm

Ruby's first hotel opening in Sweden is housed in a 1960s Modernist landmark, and taps into the music and creativity that defines the Stockholm district of Kungsholmen. Around the corner from the 187-room hotel is Cheiron Studios where pop megastars including Britney Spears recorded in the late 90s. In the hotel, vintage details, vinyl references and soft lighting hark back to the swinging 60s. Choose between simple, cosy rooms and showstoppers with balconies overlooking the city.



Hotel Galaxy Timișoara

Timișoara

The Radisson Individuals brand has debuted in Timișoara, which has been attracting attention since it was named European Capital of Culture in 2023. This 45-room hotel near the central train station, National Opera and airport also has three long-stay apartments; a spa with sauna, gym and treatment rooms; and an outdoor Jacuzzi on the upper terrace with views of the Baroque rooftops. Tuck into Austro-Hungarian eats all day at Essenza Restaurant and Essenza Brasserie.

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Menorca, step away from the noise

Discover an island where slowing down is a part of daily life – yet the greatest luxury

There are two kinds of places: those that you visit, and those that change the way you feel – like Menorca.

In a world that rarely slows down, this Mediterranean island invites you to do just that. Here, travel is not about ticking attractions off a list or rushing from one place to the next. It is about finding the time to breathe, reconnect with nature and enjoy every moment at your own pace.

Walk along the ancient Camí de Cavalls coastal trail, where every bend reveals another hidden cove or sea view. Wander through whitewashed villages filled with local cafés, artisan shops and lively squares. Spend an afternoon swimming in crystal-clear waters, tasting fresh local cuisine or simply watching the sunset paint the coastline in shades of gold.

As a Unesco Biosphere Reserve, Menorca has preserved its natural beauty, cultural heritage and authentic way of life. Sustainability here is not a trend but a commitment that shapes the landscape and the visitor experience alike.

Even during the height of summer, Menorca rewards those who choose curiosity over crowds. Venture inland to discover prehistoric monuments, vineyards and traditional farms, or follow quiet country roads leading to places where time seems to stand still.

The greatest luxury today is having the freedom to slow down, disconnect from the constant noise and truly experience the place you're in. This is the essence of Menorca.

It's not simply another Mediterranean destination,



but an island that reminds you how rewarding travelling can be when you leave space for wonder, for silence and most importantly, for yourself.

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The upgrade

*Better ways to live,
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Explore two captivating destinations

Armenia: A journey through autumn colours and winter slopes

In autumn, Armenia transforms into a landscape of golden vineyards and crimson hills, where breathtaking scenery create unforgettable experiences. Celebrate the season at the *Areni Wine Festival* on the first Saturday of October in one of Armenia's renowned wine regions, and discover more than 6,100 years of winemaking heritage through exceptional wines, folk performances and traditional cuisine.

As winter arrives, Armenia becomes a snowy playground. Enjoy alpine sports at world-class mountain resorts MyLer and Tsaghkadzor, while experiencing scenic ropeway rides above snow-capped peaks. End the day with a warm bowl of traditional khach or a slice of homemade gata beside a crackling fire, completing the perfect winter escape.



Moldova: The perfect place to hike, sip and discover

Autumn is one of the most rewarding times to explore Moldova. Gentle hiking trails through forests, rolling hills and sunlit vineyards invite visitors to reconnect with nature while enjoying the crisp air and spectacular autumn colours. After a day in nature, travellers can immerse themselves in one of the country's most anticipated events, National Wine Day. Held on 3 October in Chişinău, this vibrant festival celebrates Moldova's centuries-old winemaking tradition, bringing together wineries from across the country alongside local gastronomy, live music and artisan crafts. It's the perfect combination of outdoor adventure, authentic flavours and warm hospitality, making autumn an unforgettable season for discovering Moldova.



Trade the ordinary for extraordinary: Explore exclusive joint tour packages to Armenia and Moldova developed within the RECONOMY program - funded by Sweden and implemented by Helvetas in partnership with the Strategic Development Agency.

Visit TATI, a farm-to-table destination in Budapest

TATI combines Hungarian traditions and a farm-to-table philosophy in central Budapest. Seasonal ingredients arrive from the restaurant's farm and selected local producers, shaping dishes that follow nature's rhythm throughout the year. Whether it's a quick lunch, a Michelin-recommended dinner, a tasting menu, or a weekend Farm Brunch, every experience is rooted in seasonality, sustainability, and genuine hospitality. Visit: tatibudapest.com



Oradea. The city you didn't expect

This October, Oradea transforms into one giant open-air stage. Live music, spectacular street performances and surprising artistic moments take over the city's iconic Art Nouveau streets, creating a weekend unlike any other. This is the perfect time to discover one of Europe's most surprising cities.

9-11 October | Oradea FestiFall 2026

Discover more on Instagram: [@oradeafestifall](https://www.instagram.com/oradeafestifall) or visit: [visitoradea.com](https://www.visitoradea.com)

Taste Hungary differently

Abigél is redefining modern Budapest bistro dining under Chef Pál Tóth. Steps from St. Stephen's Basilica, the restaurant brings together seasonal Hungarian produce, technical precision and understated elegance. The menu reflects a clear culinary direction: clean flavours, balanced compositions and a contemporary interpretation of tradition. It is a place where craftsmanship and hospitality meet in confident harmony. For more information visit abigelbistro.hu



TASTE HUNGARY. DIFFERENTLY.



A serene seaside retreat

Sea Sense Boutique Villa welcomes guests to a refined coastal hideaway designed for privacy, comfort and relaxation. Featuring elegant rooms and studios, sea views, direct beach access, an infinity pool, and a wellness area with sauna, steam bath, massage treatments and fitness facilities, the villa offers an effortless escape. Inspired by Mediterranean beauty, natural materials and understated luxury, Sea Sense delivers a tranquil stay shaped by the soothing rhythm of the sea. Call: **+359 883 301090, +359 883 302090** Visit: seasense.bg | Instagram: [@seasense.sozopol](https://www.instagram.com/seasense.sozopol)

Float above Bulgaria's iconic Belogradchik Rocks

See the magic of Bulgaria from the sky with an unforgettable hot air balloon flight, above the stunning Belogradchik Rocks. Drift peacefully over dramatic sandstone formations and breathtaking landscapes, taking in views of one of Europe's most remarkable natural wonders. For fans of romance and nature, Belogradchik offers memories to last a lifetime. Book your adventure today and see Bulgaria from a new perspective. Visit: adventure-bg.com



TODO Mexican Kitchen

Just two years since it opened, TODO Mexican Kitchen has already become one of Budapest's best-known Mexican restaurants. It's earned 12.5 points in the *Gault&Millau 2026 Guide* and been awarded the *SELLO M* certification by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico and the Mexican Academy of Gastronomy, given to restaurants that authentically represent Mexican cuisine abroad. Experience the flavours of Mexico's UNESCO-recognised culinary heritage, on Szervita Square. Visit: todomexico.hu

Helping businesses hire faster, smarter and with confidence

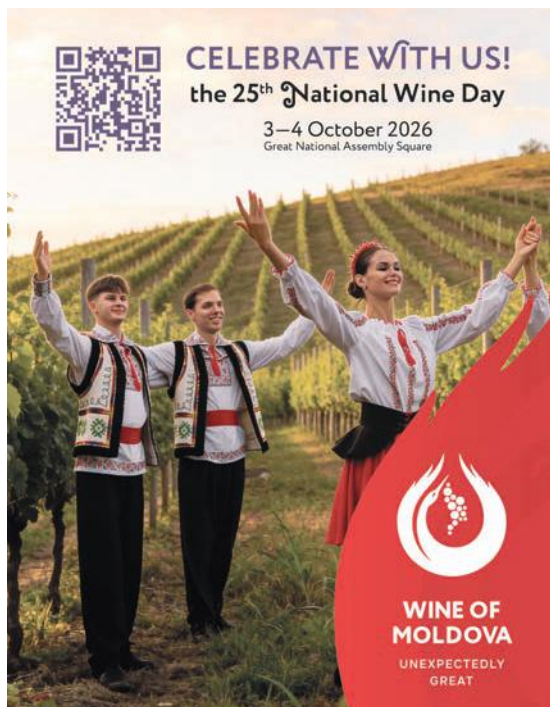
Headshot is a specialist recruitment agency for the high-risk industry, headquartered in Limassol, Cyprus. We connect ambitious companies with exceptional talent across APAC, MENA, the US, Europe and LATAM.

Recognised as HR Brand of the Year at the G GATE Awards 2026, Headshot has become the recruitment partner of choice for companies operating in online entertainment, digital finance, AdTech, FinTech, Cybersecurity and AI/ML, where finding the right talent is both challenging and business-critical.

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This August and September, our team will be attending the industry's leading conferences. Come and meet us to discuss the talent market, learn who's currently available, and discover how we help businesses secure top specialists. Book a meeting at headshothire.com





Three different views of Moldova

Wine, open-air culture and city energy, all in one compact destination

How do you like to get to know a country? Through raising a glass in celebration, listening to music beneath open skies, or exploring its capital with your own two feet? In 2026, Moldova offers all three. It's small enough for an easy escape, yet rich enough to endlessly surprise you.

Butuceni Opera

22 August 2026 - Butuceni, Orhei

Swap theatre walls for open skies. Set among limestone cliffs, cave monasteries and rolling hills, the Butuceni Opera invites travellers to experience music in one of Moldova's most striking rural landscapes. This is culture with a view – intimate, unexpected and deeply memorable.

International Chisinau Marathon 2026

12-13 September 2026 - Chişinău

Experience Moldova's capital in motion at the International Chisinau Marathon 2026, which brings runners to the streets for an energetic weekend through green boulevards, city life and cheering crowds. Run, support or simply explore, then stay for the cafés, wine bars, parks and easy-

going rhythm that make Chişinău one of Eastern Europe's most underrated city break destinations.

National Wine Day

3-4 October 2026 - Chişinău and regions

Imagine a city filled with music, local food and glasses raised in celebration. Marking its 25th anniversary in 2026, Moldova's National Wine Day will bring a record number of wineries to the heart of Chişinău, spanning legendary cellars and young, daring producers. In 2025, the event gathered 106 wineries plus guests from more than 30 countries, turning the capital into a meeting point for wine lovers, curious travellers and international visitors. Come curious and leave with a new favourite wine, a few new stories and the feeling that Moldova has welcomed you into its extended family.

Plan your trip and find more travel inspiration at turism.gov.md and moldova.travel.

Explore the full 2026 cultural-touristic agenda via the QR code.



Wave goodbye to average skiing and snowboarding

Life's too short for average turns. Join Cold Candy Snowschool & Academy for epic ski camps, instructor courses and next-level coaching in Austria. Push your limits, build confidence and ski with people who share your passion. From first turns to instructor qualifications, we'll help you become the skier or boarder you've always wanted to be. Scan the QR code for a chance to win a free camp. For more information visit: **cold-candy.com**



The Middle East on a plate

Santé Restaurant is a hidden gem that brings authentic Levantine and traditional Syrian cuisine to Sofia. Renowned for its charcoal barbecue, the restaurant serves fresh fish and expertly grilled kebabs made with premium ingredients. Located just outside the city centre, it offers a welcoming atmosphere and a charming garden terrace for the warmer months. The Santé brand also includes two centrally located Santé Middle East street-food outlets, famous for their shawarma and fresh take on Sofia's sandwich culture. Visit: **santebg.eu**

Sip smart, stay safe

Avoid drink spiking with G-CHECK

Whether you're heading to a festival, exploring a new city or enjoying a night out, feeling safe matters. G-CHECK is a fast and discreet drink safety test designed to support drink safety by detecting GHB - one of the most commonly used drugs slipped into drinks.

Using G-CHECK is simple: place a drop of your drink on the test surface and watch for the colour change. The result appears in less than a minute.

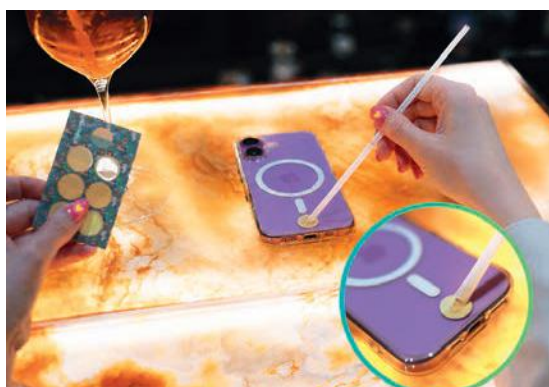
Thanks to its compact design, G-CHECK is always within easy reach. Attach it to the back of your phone, wear it on your fingernail or use it as a wristband, so it's ready whenever you want to check your drink.

G-CHECK supports safety and informed decision making, helping you feel safer while travelling. Because every adventure deserves peace of mind.

Find out more at **gcheck.hu**



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WINE OF
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GREAT

3-4 OCTOBER
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unforgettable experiences



TRADITIONAL
NATIONAL DISHES



LIVE FOLK
MUSIC



SUMMER
GARDENS

Hadjidragan's restaurants take you on a culinary journey through time without leaving the capital. Located in the heart of Sofia, these two restaurants also function as museums, showcasing original exhibits donated by old Bulgarian families. Thousands of household items from ancient Bulgarian villages come to life before your eyes, along with stunning costumes, painted carts, a weaving loom, and more.

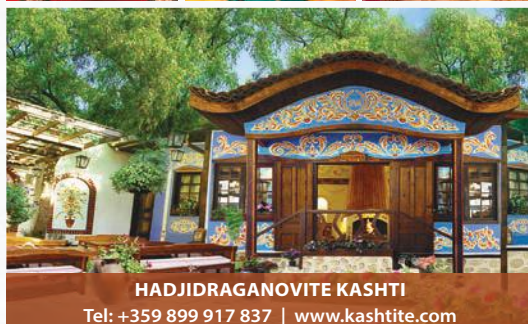
Come and sample some traditional Bulgarian dishes, including oven-roasted lamb, chicken in an egg, banitsa and shopska salad. Choose one of the two restaurants, relax, savour your meal, and take comfort in knowing that you have just experienced some of Bulgaria's most exciting sights.

BOOK YOUR TABLE TODAY!



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Restaurant guide

Planning your next foodie trip? These are the restaurants that you need to book right now



Taste Greek craftsmanship in Athens

Founded in 2005, Basegrill is renowned for its exceptional meats, heritage Greek breeds and authentic hospitality. Working closely with small-scale Greek producers, the restaurant honours the country's culinary heritage through carefully sourced ingredients, dry aged cuts and generous servings crafted with precision. More than a restaurant, Basegrill is a gathering place where guests experience warmth, generosity and the spirit of Greek dining in Athens. Discover more on instagram: [@basegrillathens](https://www.instagram.com/basegrillathens)



Tuck into premium ribs, pork knuckle and tasty barbecue

Ribs of Prague, in the heart of the city, serves up juicy ribs, hearty comfort food and cold beer in a warm, lively atmosphere. The rotating grill allows guests to watch the ribs as they cook, making the experience even more memorable.

A favourite among both local diners and travellers, it is the perfect place to relax and enjoy great food. To make a reservation, call **+420 777 878 788** or visit [ribsofprague.cz](https://www.ribsofprague.cz)



Taste history, savour tradition

Since opening in Chisinau in 2008, Popasul Dacilor has been more than a restaurant. It's a living tribute to Moldova's history and culinary heritage. Crafted by passionate local artisans, it offers a unique cultural experience. Over the years, it has earned prestigious international awards: Gold in Geneva, Platinum in Frankfurt, Diamond in London (2018) and Vienna (2024) and Quality Trophy in Dubai (2025). Discover authentic flavours and tradition at this neighbourhood spot where history is alive in every dish. Visit: [popasuldacilor.md](https://www.popasuldacilor.md)



Welcome to Sophie Budapest!

Located in the heart of Budapest, right next to the Opera, our restaurant offers a cozy atmosphere with a unique mix of international cuisine and traditional Hungarian cuisine. Enjoy fresh ingredients, homemade pasta dishes, seasonal specialties, and refreshing cocktails in an elegant yet relaxed setting. Visit us in downtown Budapest for a quick lunch or an unforgettable dinner with live music from Tuesday to Saturday. For more information visit: sophiebudapest.hu.



Armenian heritage on the table

Mayrig is a refined Armenian restaurant shaped by memory, heritage and mastery of technique. Founded in 2003 to safeguard the culinary traditions of Armenia, the restaurant has a menu that creates a meaningful dialogue between Western and Eastern Armenian flavours, thoughtfully combined. Each dish reflects craftsmanship, authenticity and a deep respect for heritage. Since 2018, Mayrig has continued its journey in Yerevan, bringing its signature experience to the Armenian capital. mayrigrestaurant.com



Social dining in Sofia

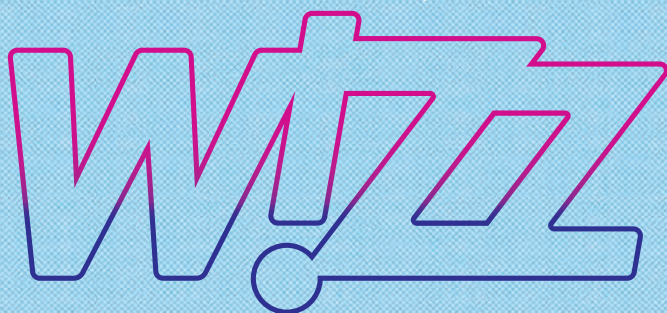
Try a whole new social dining experience at the Social Cafe, Bar and Kitchen in Bulgaria's capital. It serves throughout the day, from coffee and breakfast to lunch and dinner. On the menu you'll find imaginative salads, homemade pasta and pizzas, burgers and steaks, followed by signature comfort-food desserts. It's a unique and cosy venue in which to relax and appreciate Bulgarian hospitality, in the heart of Sofia at 16 Vitosha Blvd. Open Monday-Sunday from 9.30am to midnight. Call **+359 87 6767 647** or visit: socialcafe.bg



Traditional Black Sea dining at Varna's most scenic spot

Right on Varna's charming fishing port, MORE marina restaurant offers the best panoramic views of the city. The menu celebrates traditional Black Sea cuisine, crafted exclusively from the catch of the day and premium local farm products. Elevate your meal with a visit to the in-house wine shop, featuring a curated selection of exceptional regional and international wines. Taste authenticity, enjoy the view. Visit: morerestaurant.bg





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new destinations

We never stop searching for new destinations. We fly to 180+ places in 45 countries and counting – to add to your bucket list and make planning your next holiday a breeze.

EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENSURE THIS MAP IS ACCURATE, BUT PLEASE NOTE IT IS FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY





news

Want to know what we've been up to, how to get the most out of your journey and what's new in the dynamic world of WIZZ? Then read on...



Holiday planning, reinvented

Planning your next getaway has never been easier. With WIZZ Holidays, you can book your flights, accommodation and transfers in one seamless booking – all in one place. Using AI technology powered by Tryp.com, it can suggest trips based on your budget, travel dates or preferences, helping

uncover destinations you haven't considered. And the era of comparing travel websites is over – the WIZZ Holidays platform does that for you, collating all the results in one place and offering 24/7 support.

The platform can build flexible itineraries by combining routes, while comparing hotels and adding extras such as luggage and seats, with everything managed in one place after booking. Flexible payment options are also available, and WIZZ Holidays Flex offers extra peace of mind if plans change.



The beginning of the end for airplane mode

From 2027, Wizz Air will begin introducing Starlink across its fleet, bringing passengers fast, reliable, gate-to-gate internet in the sky. Stay connected to work, stream your favourite content, chat with friends and family, or simply browse with ease, making every journey more connected, productive and enjoyable than ever before.



by
numbers



269
aircraft



180+
destinations
in 45 countries



40
operating
bases



1,000+ 10,000+
routes



staff



68.6m
passengers
carried*

*FIGURE FOR 2025. ICON: LLISOLE/THEMOUNPROJECT

TWO BIG BRANDS,
ONE HUGE PARTY

Wizz Air is the airline partner of the Sziget Festival, bringing together festival-goers from over 100 countries to Budapest from 11-15 August.



Summer sounds

Looking for the soundtrack to your next getaway? Pop star INNA has teamed up with Wizz Air to release 'Wizz Away', a breezy summer anthem celebrating the freedom and fun of an unforgettable holiday. Released in June, the song is available on Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube.

"I wanted this song to reflect the sense of freedom, excitement and adventure that comes with discovering the world and embracing new experiences," says INNA.



Lace up with Wizz Air

Running shoes at the ready: Wizz Air is the new title sponsor of the Ealing Half Marathon, marking the start of a three-year partnership with West London's biggest running event. Returning on 27 September 2026, the race is expected to welcome more than 8,000 participants. Plus, it's joining the WIZZ Run Series, linking runners with events across Europe. Whether you're chasing a personal best or soaking up the atmosphere, it's another great reason to fly to London this autumn.



New routes

Bilbao – Málaga, Santiago

de Compostela

Bratislava – Agadir,

Hurghada, Baku

Budapest – Marsa Alam,

Oslo

Bucharest Otopeni –

Almería

Chişinău – Alicante,

Frankfurt-Hahn

Gdańsk – Agadir, Marsa

Alam, Sharm el-Sheikh,

Turin

Katowice – Hurghada,

Marsa Alam, Sharm

el-Sheikh, Turin

Kraków – Marsa Alam

London Gatwick –

Chişinău

London Luton – Asturias,

Granada, Málaga

Madrid – Asturias, Palma

de Mallorca, Pisa, Santiago

de Compostela

Prague – Poprad-Tatry,

Turin

Sofia – Berlin

Valencia – Asturias, Bilbao,

Braşov, Naples, Palma de

Mallorca, Santander,

Santiago de Compostela

Varna – Basel-Mulhouse-

Freiburg

Vilnius – Berlin

Warsaw Chopin – Lyon

Warsaw Modlin –

Hurghada, Marsa Alam,

Sharm el-Sheikh

Wrocław – Bilbao,

Hurghada, Turin

“PEOPLE STAY ENGAGED WHEN THEY FEEL THAT THEIR CONTRIBUTION MATTERS”

Wizz Air’s Sustainability Ambassador Programme successfully concluded its third term in June. Here, we spotlight two of the 10 ambassadors for 2026 whose work has driven impactful initiatives across the network



FLÓRA RADÓCZ

Sustainability Ambassador of the Year 2026 and Cabin Attendant at Wizz Air's Budapest base

You created handmade educational toys from recycled materials. What inspired you to do this?

I wanted to show children that everyday materials can have a second life and be transformed into something useful and fun. Sustainability education is most effective when it is interactive, so I decided to create educational toys from reused materials. The children were very enthusiastic and curious. They enjoyed

learning through play, especially the waste-sorting game.

Why is it so important to start sustainability education early?

Children develop habits and values at a young age, so introducing sustainability early can have a big impact. When environmental responsibility becomes a natural part of everyday learning, children are more likely to carry those habits into adulthood. Teaching sustainability through engaging activities and games, we can help to create a generation that is more aware of its environmental impact.

What motivated you to also focus on donation drives?

Donation drives are a great way to give unused items a second life while helping families and children in need. During the holiday shoebox campaign, our colleagues came together to donate gifts, and together we filled more than 25 boxes for children in need. It was inspiring to see such generosity and teamwork, and knowing that these donations brought joy to children made the initiative especially meaningful.

Your initiatives have been very diverse. How did you keep colleagues engaged?

I tried to offer a variety of initiatives so that everyone could find something that interested them. I believe people stay engaged when they feel that their contribution matters and that together we can make a positive difference.



MARTINA DELOGU

*Sustainability Ambassador
Awarded Special Recognition
for Broadest Impact and Cabin
Attendant at Wizz Air's Milan base*

The clean-up initiative you participated in with your coworkers resulted in 55 bags of collected waste. What was that day like, and how did it feel to see the impact?

The clean-up was a great experience. As we collected litter, seeing the number of bags grow highlighted the impact we were making together. By the end of the day, the visible transformation reminded us that even small actions, when done collectively, can make a meaningful difference.

You organised a hospital visit and donation drive for children with long-term illnesses. What moments from these experiences have stayed with you the most?

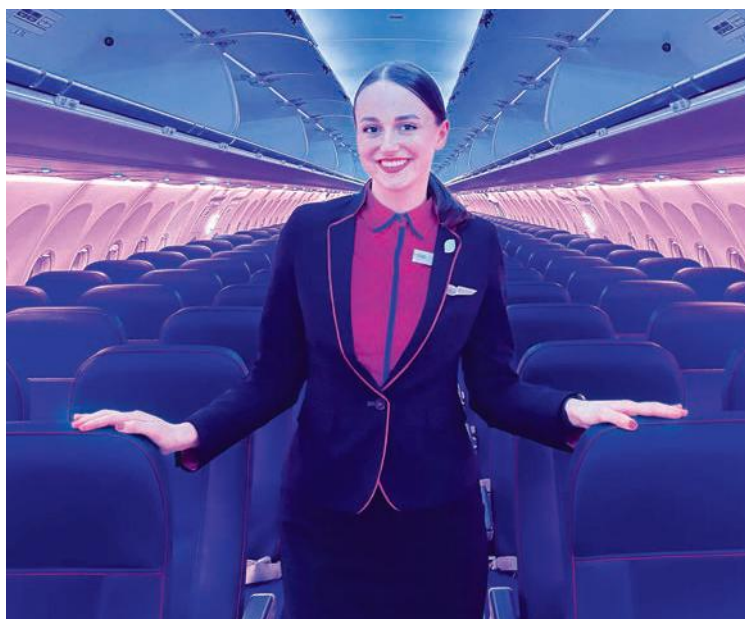
The hospital visit is something that has stayed with me long after the event. It was heartwarming to see how much joy a simple visit, some time together, and a few thoughtful



donations could bring. Those moments were a powerful reminder of the importance of compassion, connection and supporting our community.

Bringing colleagues together for environmental and social initiatives isn't easy. What helped you mobilise such strong participation?

Between flying and personal commitments, finding the time is not always easy, yet many colleagues still chose to dedicate a few hours of their day to make a difference. People are motivated to get involved when they feel connected to a cause and can clearly see the impact of their efforts. These initiatives were a team effort, and I am especially grateful to my colleagues, whose support, enthusiasm and dedication played a key role in making them both impactful and successful.



Insights from other ambassadors

"The Sustainability Ambassador Programme gave me an opportunity to turn my personal commitment to sustainability into practical actions."

Petros Stavrou, Larnaca base

"I'm most proud of a tree planting initiative I coordinated. Together, we planted 300 pine trees, and we continue to monitor their growth."

Brajan Shkurta, Tirana base

"Seeing colleagues come together with such enthusiasm and generosity was one of the clearest examples of the positive impact of our work."

Francesca Trapella, Rome Fiumicino base

"The Programme reinforced my belief that sustainability in aviation isn't only about large-scale industry measures – it's also about building a culture where individuals contribute through everyday actions."

Luca Telek, Budapest office

"The project created new connections and strengthened our sense of community while promoting social sustainability and inclusion."

Weronika Rurarz, Wrocław base

"Becoming a Wizz Air Sustainability Ambassador gives the opportunity to develop leadership skills, promote positive environmental change and inspire more sustainable practices."

Szabolcs Soos, Cluj-Napoca base

Optimised for today. Mindful of tomorrow.

More about
sustainability
at Wizz Air.



We launched Wizz Air with the strong belief that air travel should not be a privilege. That we will create a world of opportunity for all through affordable travel. And we are continually delivering on that promise.

Aviation plays a vital role in connecting people, enabling economic growth and supporting regional development. While the environmental impact of flying must be addressed, the solution lies in innovation and industry collaboration. At Wizz Air, we are committed to making aviation

more accessible to everyone, ensuring it continues to serve communities while reducing its footprint. Through deliberate choices in aircraft design, seating configuration and operational efficiency, we maintain high load factors and minimise fuel use.

We've never pursued business-class seating or hub-and-spoke models, nor do we substitute short train journeys with flights. Instead, we focus on technological innovation. Our fleet is among the youngest and most fuel-efficient in Europe,

equipped with modern engines that help reduce our carbon intensity.* As a result, we achieve one of the lowest CO₂ emissions per passenger kilometre in the industry, outperforming both legacy and comparable low-cost carriers.**

We acknowledge aviation has a significant environmental impact. However, we are focused on minimising emissions through operational efficiency and fleet modernisation – based on current, measurable performance, not future projections.

Did you know?

Low-cost carriers, such as Wizz Air, prioritise fuel efficiency, and fly point-to-point. This contributes to a reduced environmental impact when compared to connecting flights operating on the same route.

Sharklets

These amazing inventions can reduce fuel burn by 2% and CO₂ emissions by 600 tonnes per year per plane

Single-engine taxiing after landing

We save fuel by turning off one of the engines after arrival

Noise pollution reduction

Our A321neo aircraft use two Pratt & Whitney GTF engines, which reduce our noise footprint by almost 50% compared to previous generation aircraft

Lighter seats

We're continuously investing in newer, lighter seats to reduce the aircraft's weight, which decreases fuel burn

Washing the engines regularly

We wash every engine twice per year – the cleaner they are, the smoother they run, and therefore less fuel is needed

Paperless flight deck

We use tablets in our flight decks, saving over 25,000 printed pages in the aircraft

** Carbon intensity is a key environmental performance metric used by airlines to measure the efficiency of their operations in terms of greenhouse gas emissions. It is defined as: CO₂ emissions per Revenue Passenger Kilometre (CO₂/RPK). This means the grams of CO₂ emitted for every kilometre flown by a paying passenger.*

*** Based on publicly available emissions intensity data for the financial year 2025, and industry recognition, Wizz Air was named the world's most emissions-efficient airline by Cirium, and received the Sustainable Airline of the Year 2025 award from Airline Economics.*

Our fleet

Younger, efficient and growing

Wizz Air has a single-type fleet of 269 aircraft from the Airbus A320 family. It's among the youngest and most efficient in the world – and the safest. The average age of our aircraft is 4.56 years, well below the average fleet age of our major competitors, which is around 10

years. Our planes already have the most sophisticated safety equipment, and over the coming years we will expand our fleet to 500 aircraft. Our neo aircraft feature advanced systems and engines that help us reduce our carbon emissions intensity, as well as noise and cost, helping us keep

fares low and accessible and providing the most carbon-efficient choice of air travel available. Wizz Air is currently the largest operator of the most efficient single-aisle aircraft in Europe, the Airbus A321neo, with the lowest fuel consumption per seat kilometre in its category.

Airbus A320ceo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 22

Seat capacity 180/186 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 4



Airbus A321ceo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 39

Seat capacity 230 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 5



Airbus A320neo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 6

Seat capacity 186 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 4



Airbus A321neo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 193

Seat capacity 239 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 5



Airbus A321XLR

Max. cruise speed 978km/h
Economical cruise speed 930km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 9

Seat capacity 239 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 5



Top marks for safety

Wizz Air is registered under the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) Operational Safety Audit (IOSA), the global benchmark in airline safety recognition. Wizz Air has also been awarded the **highest seven-star safety ranking** from the world's only one-stop airline safety and product rating agency, [AirlineRatings.com](https://www.airlineratings.com)

World of WIZZ

At **wizzair.com** you'll find the answers to all of your travel needs, from adding luggage and changing flights, to car rental, airport parking and more

The right fare for you

We understand that flexibility is crucial when it comes to travel. That's why our bundles offer flexible options, allowing you to tailor your trip to your preferences. Whether you're planning a tropical getaway or a city escape, our bundles have everything you need to make your trip unforgettable. Take the stress out of planning and let us handle all the details for you.

		BASIC	WIZZ SMART	WIZZ GO	WIZZ PLUS
BAGS	Carry-on bag 40x30x20cm	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Trolley bag 55x40x23cm		✓		✓
	20kg checked-in bag			✓	
	32kg checked-in bag				✓
SEATS	Seat selection		✓	✓	
	Premium seat selection				✓
CHECK-IN	Online check-in	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Airport check-in			✓	✓
	Priority check-in		✓		✓
	Auto check-in				✓
BOARDING	Priority Boarding		✓		✓
FLEXIBILITY	WIZZ Flex				✓
	Refund to WIZZ account				✓



Fly with us for less

Our WIZZ Discount Club offers a wide range of discounts on travel and related services.

WIZZ DISCOUNT CLUB LIGHT Non-paid - Exclusive onboard coupons - WIZZ Café & Boutique promotions €10 discount on flight fares from €29.99* and €5 discount on checked-in baggage purchased online** (not included) - Exclusive ticket promotions and personalised offers, priority care and enhanced benefits with our partners (not included) 2 cabin bags and priority (not included) - Premium (unlimited) seat selection (not included)	WIZZ DISCOUNT CLUB STANDARD €39.99 / year Benefits for you and one companion - Exclusive onboard coupons - WIZZ Café & Boutique promotions €10 discount on flight fares from €29.99* and €5 discount on checked-in baggage purchased online** - Exclusive ticket promotions and personalised offers, priority care and enhanced benefits with our partners 2 cabin bags and priority (not included) - Premium (unlimited) seat selection (not included)	WIZZ DISCOUNT CLUB PREMIUM €349.99 / year Benefits for you and one companion - Exclusive onboard coupons - WIZZ Café & Boutique promotions €10 discount on flight fares from €29.99* and €5 discount on checked-in baggage purchased online** - Exclusive ticket promotions and personalised offers, priority care and enhanced benefits with our partners 2 cabin bags and priority - Premium (unlimited) seat selection
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Flexible travel

Fare lock

You can secure the fare of your selected tickets for 48 hours before you complete your booking for bookings made more than seven days prior to the outbound flight's departure date.

WIZZ Flex

You can modify your tickets (including passenger name) without paying a flight change fee, or cancel your flight and request a full refund (additional services will not be refunded) to your WIZZ account, which can be used for 90 days to purchase new tickets.

Travel insurance

Our comprehensive travel insurance includes medical expenses and cancellation cover. Add

your insurance to your basket together with your flights or buy it later in Manage My Booking.

Disruption Assistance

Designed to provide you with flexibility and control during unexpected travel disruptions, disruption assistance is available as an optional add-on during the booking process on our website and app.

WIZZ Class

Enjoy the extra comfort with an empty middle seat in the first row, and treat yourself to a complimentary snack and drink on board. WIZZ Class is available as an add-on to fare bundles.

On the ground

Car rental

Enjoy our best value car hire at over 50,000 locations and earn up to 10% back in WIZZ credits whenever you book with us. Check out our offers while booking your flight or at cars.wizzair.com.

Airport parking

Choose from our flexible airport parking options and secure your spot even during busy travel times, saving up to 60%. Book with your ticket or via wizzparking.com.

Airport transfer

For a comfortable trip, simply book your airport transfer when purchasing your ticket or visit wizztransfer.com. You can travel by shuttle, bus or private transfer – as you wish.



Download our app!



Booking cheap flights is now even easier. Use our app to buy WIZZ Discount Club membership, review bookings, add baggage, upgrade, choose or change seats, get travel insurance, check in, check your flight status and board.



eSIM data roaming

Did you know with our eSIM you can enjoy up to 5G connection in 190+ countries? Scan the QR code, purchase yours, and stay connected!

5G

Wizz MULTIPASS

Fly more and spend less with our monthly payment subscription! By paying an initial first-month fee followed by fixed recurring monthly payments, you have access to available flights across the entire network, to and from your selected country.



Fare Finder

Looking for cheap flights? Search for the lowest available fare for your journey, and book your ticket at the best price.

Set price alerts on web and app, and be the first to get the greatest deals!



WIZZ Memberships

Choose from one of these programmes designed to enhance your travel experience



Wizz DISCOUNT CLUB

Get year-round discounts on tickets and bags

- ✓ **Perfect for:** Friends and families travelling twice or more a year
- ✓ **Ticket and bag discounts:** Save €10 on each ticket and €5 on bags
- ✓ **Earn rewards:** Receive credits towards hotel and car rental bookings
- ✓ **Exclusive offers:** Enjoy exclusive onboard coupons and promotions
- ✓ **Tailored options:** Find your personalised offers with different tiers to suit your unique needs
- ✓ **Travel together:** Share the experience and the discounts with one or more companions



Wizz MULTIPASS

Fly more, save more: unlock new adventures with our monthly flight subscription

- ✓ **Perfect for:** Frequent flyers travelling at least six times a year
- ✓ **Fixed prices:** Even during the high season and for last-minute bookings
- ✓ **Fly monthly:** Redeem your monthly one-way flights or round trips
- ✓ **Plan ahead:** Make your next 12 months hassle-free and smartly budgeted
- ✓ **Global coverage:** Access our full network to and from your chosen country
- ✓ **Customise your plan:** Add-ons available without extra costs to suit your unique needs



Wizz ALL YOU CAN FLY

Ultimate travel freedom with a one-time payment for a yearly pass!

- ✓ **Perfect for:** Spontaneous adventurers and digital nomads travelling more than six times a year
- ✓ **Fixed prices:** Even during the high season and for last-minute bookings
- ✓ **Fly daily:** Pay a fixed fee and fly as much as you like
- ✓ **Embrace spontaneity:** Book today, travel tomorrow!
- ✓ **Global coverage:** Access our full international network of destinations
- ✓ **Full flexibility:** Tailor your journey with optional added services

Why smoking is banned on flights

Airlines started banning smoking in the late 1980s and by 2000 it was made illegal across the world. Here are the reasons why



Secondhand smoke: It contains over 7,000 chemicals, including at least 70 known carcinogens. Breathing them in the confined space of an aircraft poses serious health risks.

It impacts air quality: Cigarette smoke jeopardises how the cabin pressure system functions, which can result in a lack of oxygen at high altitude.

It's a fire hazard: A lit cigarette can ignite flammable materials, potentially leading to a fire.

Electronic cigarettes/vapes/ IQOS are also not allowed:

While e-cigarettes produce vapour rather than smoke, they use lithium-ion batteries that can overheat or explode while being used.

Dry air conditions: The dry air in the aircraft cabin can make fuel more flammable.

Smoke detectors: The smoke detector in the toilets is linked to a warning system, which triggers an audible alarm.

SMOKING ON A PLANE COULD LEAD TO:

- Fines of up to €3,000
- A ban from flying with that airline for life
- As per the applicable law, smokers on board may face prosecution

Remember, lighting up during a flight is not only illegal but also jeopardises the wellbeing and safety of everyone on board. The ashtrays in the passenger cabin and restrooms are not an optional design element and not an invitation to smoke. Cabin crew members are trained to extinguish smoke and fire and eliminate any potential danger.

Why you can't drink your own alcohol on an airplane

And why it's a bad idea anyway

Flying can be stressful, and a drink or two might seem like the perfect way to relax. But before you crack open that mini bottle of whisky you picked up at duty-free, remember that consuming your own alcohol on a commercial flight is **prohibited by law**. This rule applies regardless of where the alcohol was purchased. Cabin crew are trained to monitor alcohol consumption and are responsible for ensuring that no passenger becomes intoxicated or disruptive during the flight.

ALCOHOL AFFECTS YOU DIFFERENTLY IN THE AIR

The cabin pressure in commercial aircraft is equivalent to being at about 6,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level. This means:

- You may feel drunk faster
- Your judgment and coordination may be impaired more than usual
- You may experience dehydration and fatigue more quickly

Combined with the stress of travel, jet lag and limited mobility, alcohol can increase the risk of medical emergencies, conflict with other passengers or non-compliance with the crew.

PREVENTING DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR

Airlines have seen a rise in air rage incidents,



many of which are linked to alcohol. By restricting alcohol service to flight attendants, airlines can:

- Limit overconsumption
- Refuse service to visibly intoxicated passengers
- De-escalate situations before they become dangerous

THE BOTTOM LINE

While it might be tempting, drinking your own alcohol on board is illegal, unsafe and inconsiderate. If you'd like a drink, let the cabin crew serve you – they're trained to do so responsibly. And if you're feeling anxious or stressed, consider deep breathing, listening to music or watching a movie to relax.

Your onboard safety

Please show consideration for your fellow passengers and pay attention to the following information. Remember that by purchasing your Wizz Air ticket, you have accepted the Wizz Air General Conditions of Carriage (available in full at wizzair.com)



Lithium batteries

Portable electronic devices (PED) such as phones, laptops and tablets can contain lithium batteries. When damaged, faulty or overheated, these batteries can catch fire and explode.

If you recognise any issues with your device, inform the cabin crew immediately.

Charging electronic devices on board using a power bank is forbidden. Please refrain from storing your electronics and power banks in the overhead compartments.



Safe handling of hand luggage

Ensure that your larger hand luggage remains safely stowed in the locker and the smaller ones are under the seat in front of you for take-off, landing and whenever instructed by the crew. Passengers seated in the emergency rows and first row must store their cabin bags in the overhead lockers. Take care when opening lockers, as falling items may injure fellow passengers.

In case of evacuation, all baggage must be left on board, and the instructions of the cabin crew must be strictly followed.



Safety equipment

It is an offence to tamper with or remove safety equipment, including adult and infant life vests, infant safety belts or extension belts. You are not allowed to remove or damage any onboard informative placards.



Sharp items

To dispose of sharp items (e.g. hypodermic needles), contact a cabin crew member. Do not leave it behind.



Turbulence management

Turbulence can occur unexpectedly. Whenever seatbelt signs are switched on, remain seated, keep seatbelts fastened and stow away large electronic devices. For your safety, we recommend that you keep your seatbelts visibly fastened at all times when seated.



Safety of infants on board

Wizz Air has a clear procedure for infant (a child under two) restraint systems. You can only use the single hook infant seatbelt – vests/slings cannot be used with the infant seatbelt. Wizz Air only accepts aft-facing car seats when an extra seat is purchased. **However, during take-off, landing and whenever the seatbelt sign is switched on, infants must sit on an adult's lap with the seatbelt fastened.** Life vests for infants are available and are provided whenever flying over water. Lavatories equipped with nursing tables are marked with placards. Do not leave children unattended in the cabin.



Seat policy

For safety purposes, regulations prohibit passengers under 16 years old, overweight passengers, individuals with special needs, expectant mothers, and those travelling with infants (under 2 years old) from occupying Extra Legroom or Front Row seats. Passenger occupying the Extra Legroom or Front Row seats must have a basic understanding of the English language and must be able-bodied.



Electronic devices

Some electronic devices can be used during the flight **with WLAN/Wi-Fi/Bluetooth turned off.**

Larger electronic devices that cannot be held in one hand, exceed ca. 1kg in weight and do not qualify as handheld devices (e.g. laptops, notebooks etc.) must be stowed away for takeoff, landing and whenever required by the cabin crew. **If in doubt, please ask your cabin crew.**



Inflight health tips

Read these tips on how to stay fit when travelling.

Before your air travel

Consult your doctor before travelling if you have any medical concerns. Pregnant women and those with heart or respiratory problems, blood diseases or ear, nose and sinus infections should seek medical advice before flying. **Crew members are entitled to call for medical assistance pre-flight if they deem it necessary and are in doubt about your fitness for the flight.**



Medical supplies on board

Keep any medication you may need in your hand luggage and in its original packaging. **Inform cabin crew of allergies or illnesses.** If you are seriously ill or travelling post-surgery, you will need a medical certificate confirming that you are fit to fly. If you have limited mobility, are hearing- or sight-impaired, pregnant, or unable to understand/react to safety instructions, you will be unable to sit in the emergency exit rows or the front row.

If you start to feel unwell during the flight, do not hesitate to talk to the cabin crew.

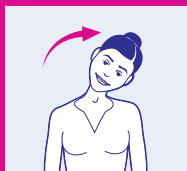
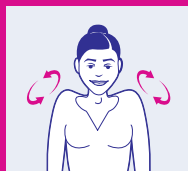


Nut allergy

During our WIZZ Café service we offer peanuts and some snacks containing peanuts/nuts traces.

If you have any allergies we strongly encourage you to take all necessary medical precautions before flying, and to inform the cabin crew during boarding about your allergy.

Exercise Be as active as possible. Try the following routine every 30 minutes:



Your security

...is one of our top priorities. In order to ensure a smooth and pleasant flight, please read the following rules of conduct



We encourage you to...

- Follow crew instructions, which will keep you safe
- Be respectful towards everyone on board
- Use suitable language, and stay calm and cooperative

...so you can:

- Travel in a pleasant and peaceful atmosphere
- Relax on board
- Get to your destination as soon as possible

Not tolerated on board...



- Smoking on board (including classic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, pipes, vapes), might result in a fine of up to €3,000 or prosecution. Additionally all existing Wizz Air flight bookings will be cancelled
- Consuming alcohol that was not purchased on board. Alcohol is served at the crew's discretion to passengers of legal drinking age. The crew reserves the right to stop serving alcohol to any passenger who is, or appears to be, intoxicated
- Being under the influence of drugs or substances that may affect your behaviour or self-control
- Damaging the aircraft or onboard equipment
- Wasting, polluting or contaminating the cabin
- Endangering the safety of the flight by any means
- Breaching, or refusing to follow, crew instructions
- Harassing fellow passengers and/or crew members in any way (including sexual harassment)
- Threatening or being aggressive towards fellow passengers and/or crew members
- Being violent or behave in a hostile, erratic manner
- Filming or photographing the cabin crew without their permission

...or face the consequences:



You are fully responsible for your behaviour. Disruptive behaviour on board and before boarding will not be tolerated and will be reported to the authorities. You will be held legally and financially responsible in all cases.

The following consequences* will occur for such misconduct:

- Denied boarding
- Diversion of the flight and prosecution.
- Reimbursement of cost of diversion: €10,000-€80,000
- Criminal procedure and court litigation*
- Cancellation of all of your existing Wizz Air flight bookings
- A ban from flying with Wizz Air in the future
- Penalty/fine or arrest by local police:
 - Smoking on board, including in the lavatory: up to €3,000*
 - Unruly behaviour due to intoxication: up to €5,000 and two years in prison*
 - Endangering the safety of an aircraft: up to five years in prison*



*Subject to applicable jurisdiction

For more information, please refer to the General Conditions of Carriage on wizzair.com

ERSTE

Wizz Air pontokkal akár ingyen is repülhetsz!

Gyűjtsd a pontokat Wizz Air Hitelkártyával!

erstebank.hu/wizzair

THM 44,49%

a 2026. 07. 01. – 2026. 12. 31. között újonnan igényelt Wizz Air Hitelkártya-szolgáltatás (főkártya) esetén. A THM 375 000 Ft-ra és 12 hónap futamidőre került meghatározásra.



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2026 MARATHONS

- 5 SEP - Wizz Air Warsaw Praski Night Half Marathon
- 6 SEP - Wizz Air Budapest Half Marathon
- 27 SEP - Wizz Air Ealing Half Marathon
- 4 OCT - Wizz Air Skopje Marathon
- 11 OCT - Wizz Air Sofia Marathon
- 18 OCT - Wizz Air Rome Half Marathon
- 25 OCT - Wizz Air Venice Marathon

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THIS IS YOUR VIEW

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WITH WIZZ AIR PILOT ACADEMY

BECOME A WIZZ AIR PILOT FROM SCRATCH WITHIN **2 YEARS!**

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WIZZ AIR PILOT ACADEMY

Wizz
wizzair.com

Bring home memories, and nothing more

Taking probiotics can help prevent tummy troubles on holiday

One of the best things about travelling is discovering new foods. Pizza in Naples, fresh fruit from a market in Madeira, olives and seafood in Greece, warm bread from a local bakery or a snack picked up at a small street market. Travelling makes us want to try everything – and that's part of the adventure. The problem is, our digestive systems don't always enjoy so many changes at once.

When we travel, almost everything changes. We eat at different times, often in a hurry. We sleep less, drink less water than we should, and our bodies are exposed to new bacteria. This also presents a challenge for the gut microbiota – the community of microorganisms that supports digestion, immunity and normal gut function. It's no surprise that bloating, stomach pain, diarrhoea or digestive discomfort are more common when we are on holiday. And while we might often blame a single meal, the real cause is usually much more complex.

This doesn't mean you should avoid local food – quite the opposite. Simply remember a few basic rules. Wash your hands before eating, choose water from safe sources, wash raw fruit and vegetables thoroughly and give your body time to adapt to new foods. You don't have to try everything on the first day.

If you know that your digestive system is sensitive when travelling, or you often

experience digestive problems after changing your diet, it may be worth considering an appropriate probiotic before your trip. However, the effectiveness of probiotics depends on the specific bacterial strain and the scientific evidence supporting it.

One of the best-studied strains for digestive comfort is

Lactiplantibacillus plantarum 299v.

Exciting new flavours should leave you with happy memories – not stomach troubles.

For more information, visit: sanprobi.pl





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AIRTOX isn't just a safety shoe – it's "fear nothing" straight outta Copenhagen, we're flipping the script with next-level luxury and untamed innovation. Fuel your rebel spirit with safety that's seriously stylish.

www.airtox.com

