

Travel

Head to the coast for fresh air, great food and pampering at these great resorts...

BY GERALDINE MCKELVIE

1 SCARLET HOTEL, CORNWALL

One night from £120pp

This four-star eco hotel in Mawgan Porth is perfect for a child-free break. Enjoy the cliff-top views from one of its log-fired hot tubs, take a dip in the natural reed-bed pool, sunbathe on the Retreat Terrace or relax in one of the cocoon-like pods in the spa after a massage. Recharge with a complimentary yoga or meditation class or go for a stroll on the beach at Mawgan Porth.

THE DEAL: One night at the Scarlet Hotel in Mawgan Porth, Cornwall, from £120pp, based on two sharing a double room including a two-course breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

2 BRUDENELL HOTEL, SUFFOLK

One night from £110pp

A break at the four-star Brudenell in Aldeburgh could be just the tonic, especially if its mixed with local gin Adnams Copper House – voted the World's best gin in 2013. The hotel's Seafood & Grill Restaurant has panoramic sea views and the menu features Suffolk oysters, south coast scallops and Norfolk crab.

THE DEAL: One night at the Brudenell Hotel costs from £220 for two sharing an Aldeburgh room including Suffolk breakfast, dinner (£32pp allowance for food).

mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

3 SEAHAM HALL, COUNTY DURHAM

One night from £98pp

For serious pampering by the sea, head north to this five-star 20-suite hotel overlooking the dramatic Durham coastline, on the cliffs above Seaham Beach. Award-winning Serenity Spa is rated one of the best in the UK with 17 treatment rooms, hydrotherapy pool, a hammam and outdoor hot tubs. Byron's Restaurant serves traditional British cuisine.

THE DEAL: One night B&B at Seaham Hall costs from £98pp, based on two sharing, with access to the spa. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

4 HOTEL DU VIN, BRIGHTON

One night from £82.50pp

For sun, sea and shopping, this four-star hotel ticks all the boxes.



2 Break is perfect tonic at Brudenell Hotel, Suffolk



3 Achieve serenity at the Seaham Hall spa



4 Go all quirky at Hotel Du Vin in Brighton



5 Try some California dreamin' at the Gallivant

and it's just a pebble's throw from Brighton Pier. And last month the hotel revealed its revamped Bistro. Trawl Brighton's quirky boutique emporiums and antique stores and don't miss out on the British Airways i360, the 450ft high observation tower on the site of the West Pier (britishairwaysi360.com).

THE DEAL: One night at Hotel du Vin costs from £82.50pp, based on two sharing, and includes breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

TOP 10 Seaside hotels



1 Cliff-top views at the Scarlet Hotel in Cornwall are amazing



6 Terrace bar takes in marina at Quay Hotel in Conwy



7 Art Deco class at Midland Hotel in Morecambe



5 GALLIVANT HOTEL, EAST SUSSEX

One night from £95pp

Just across the road you'll find Camber Sands which has the only dunes in the county. Modelled on the coastal motels of California, the Gallivant's 20 rooms have recently been renovated and have a cool American vibe. For pampering, the beach hut spa in the hotel's garden opens in September.

THE DEAL: One night at the three-star Gallivant Hotel costs from £95pp, based on two sharing, including breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

6 THE QUAY HOTEL AND SPA, CONWY

One night from £58pp

Set in the Conwy estuary, next

to Deganwy Marina, this cool four-star hotel looks out over the North Wales coast, while its terrace bar has unrivalled views. Its marina restaurant specialises in Welsh produce. Explore Conwy's medieval castle and 15th century church and the Victorian seaside town of Llandudno is 15 minutes away.

THE DEAL: One night at The Quay Hotel and Spa, Conwy, costs from £58pp with breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

7 MIDLAND HOTEL, MORECAMBE

One night from £75pp

Housed in an iconic 1930s Art Deco building on Morecambe's seafront, this lovely four-star hotel commands stunning views across

the bay. The Grade II listing building has a rich past, with notable guests including Coco Chanel, Laurence Olivier and Noel Coward. It was given a major refurbishment, re-opening in 2008, and featured in a TV adaptation of Agatha Christie's Poirot.

THE DEAL: Superbreak has a one-night break at the Midland Hotel starting at £75pp including breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

8 HOTEL BROUGHTY FERRY, DUNDEE

One night from £44pp

This four-star hotel is perfect for a beach and city break. It's less than five minutes' walk from the sandy beach at Broughty Ferry and only a 10-minute drive from Dundee.

Bears, cowboys, canyons and

FROM PAGE 43

where a US soldier or a Native American warrior fell. We reached the gorgeous town of Cody, due south in Wyoming, via some more spectacular scenery – this is aptly named Big Sky country.

From the amazing coffee at Rawhide café to the mouth-watering steaks at Proud Cut Saloon via fancy footwear at Wayne's Boot Shop, everything in Cody has "cowboy" running through it like a stick of rock. Everyone wears Wrangler jeans and drives huge 4x4s on the way to the Stampede Rodeo on the outskirts of town.

I asked the manager at our charming Chamberlin Inn if the roads were bad up here in the winter, what with all the big trucks, but he simply

said: "Naw, that's just cowboys for ya." And the most famous cowboy of them all has an entire museum dedicated to him.

The brilliant Buffalo Bill Center of the West celebrates the extraordinary life of William F Cody – Pony Express rider, gold prospector, Army scout, fur trapper, buffalo hunter, skilled marksman, soldier – and finally, flamboyant showman with his Buffalo Bill's Wild West show.

Queen Victoria was so impressed with the extravaganza when she saw it in London in 1887 that she gifted a huge cherrywood bar to his Irma Hotel. It's still there, in the historic building which dominates the main drag.

After heading down through Yellowstone, we

weren't done with looking for bears yet. The jaw-dropping Grand Teton National Park, named after its magnificent mountain range, awaited.

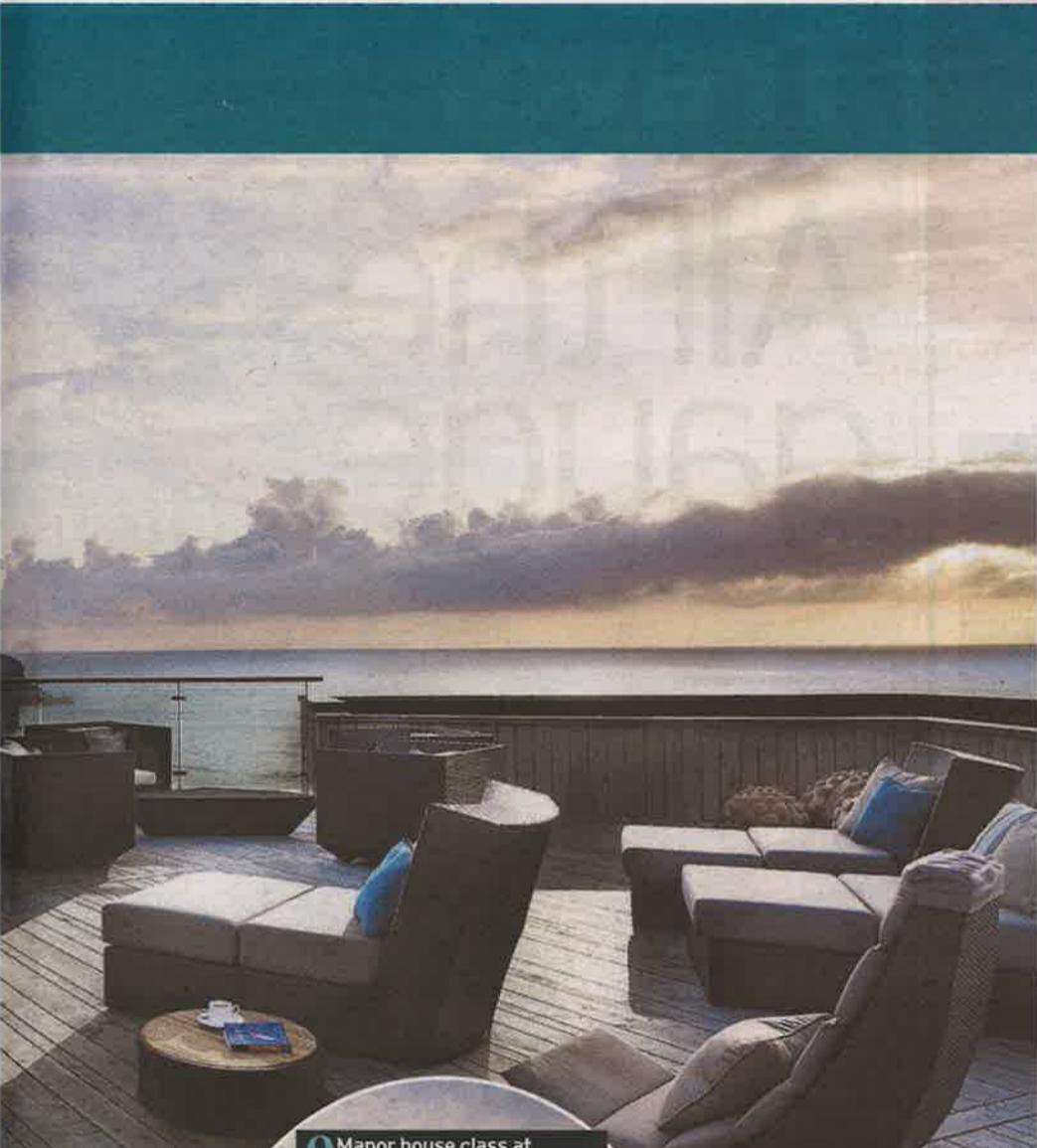
We based ourselves around the cracking town of Jackson – kids will love the rustic log cabins at the Hatchet Resort, while sporty types will prefer the ski centre at The Inn at Jackson Hole.

After a weird but tasty lunch at Gather (duck salad with waffle croutons!), we joined an expert guide from Jackson Hole Wildlife Safaris for an afternoon flushing out pronghorns (similar to antelope), moose, elk, mule deer and beavers.

Elk and moose shed their antlers every year, and the town square is piled high with horns every May as they are sold for mounting, carving



BREATHTAKING James and Karin in Grand Teton



9 Manor house class at Romney Bay House Hotel

10 Scandinavian chic at The Little Gloster

8 Sandy beach at Hotel Broughty Ferry, Dundee

Its award-winning restaurant has an extensive Asian and European menu and guests can take advantage of a large leisure suite with a big heated pool. Wander round Broughty Ferry's quaint pubs and shops, or explore the castle.

THE DEAL: One night at Hotel Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, costs from £44 per person, based on two people sharing, and includes breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

9 ROMNEY BAY HOUSE HOTEL, KENT

Two nights from £145pp Facing the English Channel, this 1920s manor hotel in New Romney, has an acclaimed fish restaurant. Local attractions include the world's smallest railway, from New Romney to Dungeness in one direction, and to Hythe in

the other. Dover – with its cracking castle – is just under an hour away by car. **THE DEAL:** Two nights' B&B at the Romney Bay House Hotel costs from £145pp, which includes dinner on one night. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

10 THE LITTLE GLOSTER, ISLE OF WIGHT

One night from £80pp Family-run, this Scandinavian inspired hotel offers just two suites and one room, overlooking the water. Its restaurant, recently named the best in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and featured in the Michelin Guide, offers a mouth-watering menu which uses mainly locally sourced produce. Cowes is a 30-minute walk away.

THE DEAL: One night at The Little Gloster costs from £80pp, based on two sharing with breakfast. mirror.co.uk/traveltop10

big skies

and making chandeliers. On our final day we had loads of fun with the crew at Mad River Boat Trips as we surged down the Snake River on a white-water rafting trip. Less adventurous types can try a scenic float down calmer stretches.

For our last hurrah, we pushed the boat out at the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar, where chef Paulie creates amazing food. Delicious tuna wonton tacos were followed by bison and elk steaks cooked to perfection, served with a palate-blowing bone marrow and cheddar fondue.

We then hit the bar upstairs where they had both kinds of music – country and western – as well as a competition to win a hunting rifle.

I think I'll stick to bear spray.

TRAVEL FILE

WHEN TO GO Spring is quiet and you might see baby bears and wolves. Everywhere gets busy after Memorial Day (the last Monday in May).

DON'T MISS Bozeman museumoftherockies.org £11pp; Buffalo Bill centerofthewest.org £15pp; Yellowstone & Grand Teton nps.gov £38; Safari jacksonhole wildlifesafaris.com £100pp; River rafting mad-river.com £65pp

WHERE TO EAT Gather gatherjh.com; Million Dollar Cowboy Steakhouse jhcowboy steakhouse.com

GET THERE American & Worldwide Travel has 8 nights from £1,684pp. With Delta flights via Salt Lake City (into Bozeman, ex Jackson) from Heathrow on May 14, hotels and car hire. awwt.co.uk 01892 779900

MORE INFO realamerica.co.uk visitmt.com travelwyoming.com

CRUISES

COSMOS tours & cruises

Call Us Now On 0800 049 9057 or contact your travel agent www.cosmostoursandcruises.co.uk



Cruises from £230*



Save AN EXTRA £25pp when booking a holiday that departs before 31st Oct 2016. QUOTE: SAVE25

CRUISE	DAYS	DATE	WAS	NOW
Christmas Markets Shopping Cruise	4 Days	18/12/2016	£460	£230
Baltic Cities & St. Petersburg	13 Days	01/10/2016	£1,699	£699
Canary Islands & Madeira Cruise LESS THAN HALF PRICE	16 Days	14/10/2016	£1,739	£849
Venice from the Lagoon (4 nights)	5 Days	24/10/2016	£949	£849
Land of the Northern Lights LESS THAN HALF PRICE	15 Days	29/10/2016	£1,719	£849
Best of Bordeaux	7 Days	22/10/2016	£1,049	£975
Gems of Croatia (Split to Split)	8 Days	08/10/2016	£999	£985
Paris to Normandy Beaches LUXURY RIVER CRUISE	8 Days	10/09/2016	£2,288	£999
Russian River Cruise (St. Petersburg to Moscow)	11 Days	17/09/2016	£1,279	£1,125

We are a member of ABTA and our flight inclusive holidays are protected by the CAA's ATOL scheme meaning you and your money are completely protected. *Cruises from £230 applies to Christmas Markets Shopping Cruise departing on 18 December 2016. †Save £25 per person (£50 per couple) on European cruises departing before 31 October 2016. ‡Applies to new bookings made between 1-31 August 2016 when you quote SAVE25 at the time of booking. All prices include travel from the UK. Prices and savings are subject to availability and may be withdrawn or changed at any time. Correct at time of print 18 August 2016.

CROATIA

MercuryHolidays

Offer code: MCRO14

www.mercuryholidays.co.uk/tours

CROATIAN ISLAND CRUISE

SELECTED DEPARTURES FROM APRIL 2017 - SEPTEMBER 2017

8 DAYS FROM £595*



NO SUPPLEMENT FOR SINGLE TRAVELLERS ON SELECTED DEPARTURES* T&Cs APPLY

Tour Highlights:

- Explore Makarska's ancient cobbled streets
- Spend an evening in Korcula with its numerous restaurants & impressive fortress
- Visit the stunning Dubrovnik Old Town (pictured), a UNESCO Heritage Site
- Discover the picturesque forests of Mljet National Park
- Enjoy the island of Hvar, famous for its production of Lavender
- Wander the streets of Split and the world heritage site of Diocletian's Palace

Included in the price:

- English speaking tour director on the boat (does not accompany guests on land)
- Direct flights to Croatia from London Gatwick with Norwegian. Other regional flights are available at a supplement.
- All internal travel including air-conditioned transportation
- Accommodation on the MS Afrodita or MS Eden sailing boats with selected meals daily
- Entry fee to Mljet National Park

Extension: Enjoy a 4 night 4★ Half Board relaxing beach stay in Tucepi, Makarska from just £289

For more information or to book call 0843 224 0716



Our lines are open 7 days a week Mon-Fri: 9.00am-9.00pm, Sat: 9.00am-8.00pm & Sun: 10.00am-9.00pm *From price applies to departures on 29/04/17. Prices will vary dependent on departure date & airport choice. All offers are subject to availability & can be withdrawn without notice. Terms & conditions apply. Prices are per person based on 2 adults sharing. †Other regional flights are available at a supplement. For detailed itineraries visit www.mercuryholidays.co.uk/tours. ‡Limited availability. Calls will cost 7 pence per minute plus your telephone company's access charge.