

THE

LIST

*So you want to...MAKE SUSHI
IN TOKYO. TAKE THE KIDS
ON A SCAVENGER HUNT IN
THE ISLANDS OF GREECE.
TRACK TIGERS IN INDIA.*

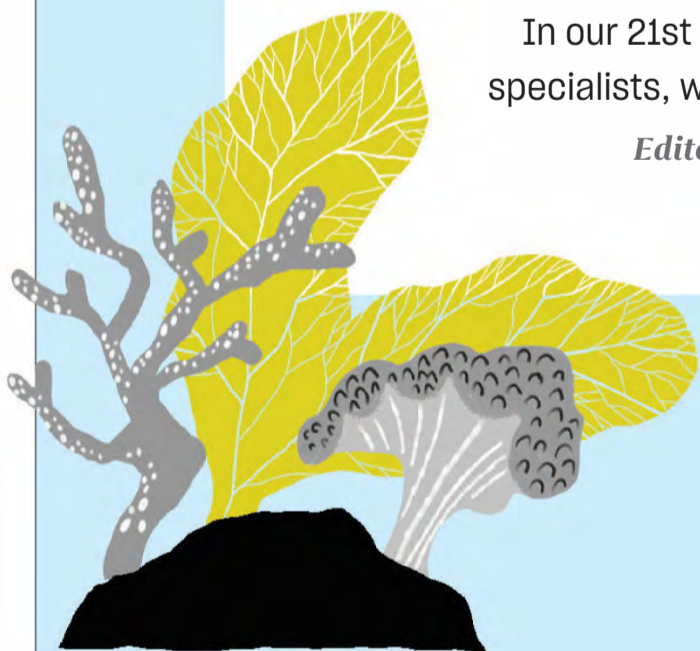
*SLEEP IN AN UNDERWATER SUITE
IN THE GREAT BARRIER REEF.
LEARN TO WINDSURF IN PERU...*

We've got a travel advisor for that.

In our 21st annual A-List, we bring you the world's top vacation specialists, who can take your trip from enjoyable to extraordinary.

Edited by Elizabeth Cantrell and Samantha Falewée

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LUKE BEST



When the U.S., CANADA, or the CARIBBEAN calls.

★ = Travel Advisory Board member



Boating on Lake Josephine, in Montana's Glacier National Park.

ALASKA AND HAWAII

Norman Aynbinder

Whether it's an immersive history tour of Hawaii, with special access to the archives of the Bishop Museum and the Iolani Palace, or a 10-day journey through Alaska, Aynbinder shows the best of these two spectacular states. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* incoming@excursionist.com; excursionist.com.

CANADA

Jessica Renshaw

Outdoor pursuits are Renshaw's specialty. She gets clients out horseback riding in Jasper, Alberta; biking around Vancouver; and beluga-whale watching in the high Arctic. Lately, she's also been recommending trips to Nova Scotia, particularly the vineyards of the Annapolis Valley and the port towns of Lunenburg and Mahone Bay. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* jessica@renshawtravel.com; renshawtravel.com.

Marc Télió

Télió can get you to Canada's less-traveled provinces with thoughtfully designed itineraries. That might mean hiking in Yukon's Tombstone Territorial Park, with a stay at the Aurora Inn in the gold-rush town of Dawson City, or meeting with Indigenous elders in the Northwest Territories before dog-sledding across Arctic Ocean ice. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* marc@entree-destinations.com; entreedestinations.com.

THE CARIBBEAN

Margie Hand

For one couple's multi-country anniversary adventure, Hand planned a sailing day off Palm Island, in the Grenadines; a diving excursion to a shipwreck in Grenada; and a private dinner on a Barbados beach. *Average daily spend: \$500.* margie.hand@andavotravel.com; andavovacations.com.

Brittney Magner

Special-occasion celebrations in the islands are Magner's bread and butter. For a 50th birthday bash on St. Bart's, she handled all the logistics for an over-the-top all-nighter. For another multiday, multigenerational celebration on Anguilla, she organized private dinners, boat charters—even babysitters. *Average daily spend: \$750.* bmagner@royal-travel.com; royal-travel.com.

Ragan Stone

Looking for a villa rental in the British Virgin Islands, Turks and Caicos, or St. Bart's? Call Stone, who can also secure private chefs and bartenders. She's keen to help clients stay active, booking fishing excursions and catamaran sailings; for one 18-person party, she even converted a tennis court so guests could play pickleball. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* ragan@raganstonetravel.com; raganstonetravel.com.

HAWAII

Jim Bendt

Bendt has rare access to parts of the state that are still underexplored (yes, they do exist). He can arrange a helicopter landing on the private Ni'ihau Island, home to endangered monk seals, or send travelers to Molokai to learn traditional cast-net fishing. *Average daily spend: \$700.* jimb@piquetravel.com; piquetravel.com.

Marilyn Clark

This longtime expert plans epic trips across the archipelago—no matter where a client's interests lie. For one animal-loving family, she organized a tour of a parrot-rescue sanctuary, night snorkeling with manta rays, and beach-hopping to spot sea turtles. *Average daily spend: \$875.* marilyn@lighthouse-travel.net; lighthouse-travel.net.

U.S. NATIONAL PARKS

Mike Augustine

A client's recent trip through Montana and Wyoming included all the iconic sights of Yellowstone and Grand Teton—but Augustine also worked in visits to a state fair, a night at the Jackson, Wyoming, rodeo, and dinner in a backcountry yurt. Stays at luxury properties like Montana's Green O and Montage Big Sky are par for the course. *Average daily spend: \$700.* mikeaugustine@mtsobek.com; mtsobek.com.

U.S. SOUTHWEST

Mary Cropper

Cropper focuses on the region's natural wonders, booking helicopter rides over the Grand Canyon, sunset tours in the Navajo Nation with an Indigenous guide, and hiking trips through Zion National Park. *Average daily spend: \$300.* mary.cropper@audleytravel.com; audleytravel.com.



Explore the wild spaces of **CENTRAL AMERICA, MEXICO,** and **SOUTH AMERICA.**

ARGENTINA, CHILE, AND URUGUAY

Maita Barrenechea

This longtime A-Lister has a passion for trips centered around wine, gastronomy, and art. A recent tour in Argentina introduced clients to silversmiths in La Pampa province, furniture designers in Mendoza, and Indigenous weavers in the Santiago del Estero area. *Average daily spend: \$500. maita@mai10.com.ar; mai10.com.ar.*

BELIZE

Patricia Johnson

Among the immersive trips Johnson has planned: a six-night catamaran journey from Belize to Guatemala's Río Dulce that incorporated visits to local homes, galleries, and creative co-ops around Lake Atitlán. *Average daily spend: \$500. patricia@absolutebelize.com; absolutebelize.com.*

BRAZIL

Paul Irvine

From a flight over the Amazon rainforest with climate-change researchers to a private food tour and tasting led by celebrity chef Alberto Landgraf, Irvine's itineraries illustrate his knowledge and connections in South America's largest country. *Average daily spend: \$900. paul.irvine@dehouche.com; dehouche.com.*

CENTRAL AMERICA

Maurice Smith

Whatever the destination, Smith is committed to sending clients to luxurious eco-conscious properties. Lately, he is seeing new interest in the Gulf of Chiriquí, on the Pacific coast of Panama. *Average daily spend: \$500. info@eugenetoriko.com; eugenetoriko.com.*

COLOMBIA

Joe Sandillo

Recently, Sandillo planned a trip for a group of young professionals who wanted to learn about Colombia's political history and to meet with local businesspeople.

He also arranged a sit-down with a boutique hotel owner at her family's estancia outside Bogotá. *Average daily spend: \$650. joe@almazjourneys.com; almazjourneys.com.*

Boris Seckovic

Seckovic impresses clients with countrywide pilgrimages centered around novelist Gabriel García Márquez, farm visits to pick produce like lulo, the Andean fruit, and tours of jewelry workshops in the town of Santa Cruz de Mompox. *Average daily spend: \$500. boris@amakuna.com; amakuna.com.*

ECUADOR AND PERU

Allie Almario

Almario has a knack for active trips throughout these neighboring countries—like lodge-to-lodge kayaking in the Amazon and multi-week catamaran sailings in the Galápagos. *Average daily spend: \$650. alliea@premier-tours.com; premiertours.com.*

GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Erin Correia

Years of planning (and a local office in Ecuador) allow Correia to act on the fly. On one trip, when volcanoes unexpectedly erupted in the Galápagos, she swiftly coordinated logistics so her travelers could witness an active lava flow from the safety of their cruise ship. *Average daily spend: \$825. erin.correia@adventure-life.com; adventure-life.com.*

MEXICO

Zachary Rabinor

Three decades of experience and long-standing relationships across Mexico enable Rabinor, whose office is in Puerto Vallarta, to pull off special moments such as private use of a cenote for a luxury picnic or off-hours access to Chichén Itzá. *Average daily spend: \$500. info@journeymexico.com; journeymexico.com.*

PATAGONIA (ARGENTINA AND CHILE)

Jordan Harvey

Harvey's adventures go deep into this arresting region. On a recent Argentina trip, travelers went horseback riding on the cliffs of the Uco Valley and kayaking under the Perito Moreno Glacier. *Average daily spend: \$600. jordan@knowmadadventures.com; knowmadadventures.com.*

PERU

Thomas Robinson

Robinson's trips show off the best of this popular country, whether they involve kitesurfing along the Peruvian coast or an archaeological

Average daily spend: \$2,000. emmanuel@blueparallel.com; blueparallel.com.

Jen Richt

Whether arranging a visit to an artist's studio in Chile or finding a guide with a passion for photography to lead a hike in the Amazon, Richt knows exactly how to cater to travelers' interests. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. jennifer@jacadatravel.com; jacada-travel.com.*

Jeaninne Sanz Bernay

Sanz Bernay has expertise across the continent, but her specialty is Patagonia. When a grandmother booked a family tour, Sanz Bernay set

Want to arrive at Machu Picchu in style? Take the luxury Belmond Hiram Bingham train.



expedition to Inca ruins. *Average daily spend: \$750. thomas.robinson@dehouche.com; dehouche.com.*

SOUTH AMERICA

Emmanuel Burgio

Exclusive experiences—helicopter rides around Christ the Redeemer in Rio, a chartered floatplane in the Amazon—keep Burgio's clients coming back.

up a gentle hike to the top of Llaolao Hill in Argentina's Río Negro region, snorkeling over a sunken ship, and even a surprise magic performance for the kids. *Average daily spend: \$675. hello@jsbjourneys.com; jsbjourneys.com.*

Plan a grand tour of **EUROPE.**

AUSTRIA AND GERMANY

Sofia Markovich

Born and raised in Germany, Markovich has next-level insider knowledge—whether you want to visit Linderhof Palace, drive a Porsche on the Autobahn, or stroll through the Bavarian town of Garmisch-Partenkirchen. She also sends travelers to explore Alpine villages in Austria. *Average daily spend: \$650. sofia.markovich@sofiastravel.com; sofiastravel.com.*

THE BALKANS

Wanda S. Radetti

Though she began operating in Croatia 27 years ago, Radetti has expanded to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Slovenia. She can arrange yachting in the Elaphiti Islands, a visit to the world's largest Lipizzan horse stud farm, or tickets to a performance of the centuries-old Moreska dance on Korčula Island. *Average daily spend: \$600. concierge@visitcroatia.com; visitcroatia.com.*

CENTRAL EUROPE

Gwen Kozlowski

Kozlowski creates memorable trips in Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland. She might set up visits to sites from *The Sound of Music* or picturesque driving itineraries. Recently, she handled travel logistics for volunteers with World Central Kitchen working near the Poland-Ukraine border. *Average daily spend: \$500. gwen@exeterinternational.com; exeterinternational.com.*

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Jay Ternavan

Candlelit dinner cruises in Budapest, private beer-tasting tours in Prague, and trips to the wineries of the Wachau Valley outside Vienna are the kind of knockout experiences Ternavan offers. *Average daily spend: \$400. t.and.l@jaywaytravel.com; jaywaytravel.com.*

Daria Westerfield

For one of her clients, a classical musician, Westerfield arranged a visit with a master violin maker in Serbia. For a family vacation in Slovenia, she booked a rafting trip on the Soča River; hiking in Triglav National Park was also a highlight. *Average daily spend: \$750. dasha@riveroaks.com; riveroaksagency.com.*

CROATIA, PORTUGAL, AND SPAIN

Marco Palermo

Lately, Palermo has been setting up stays at Meneghetti Wine Hotel on Croatia's Istrian Peninsula, as well as visits to Quinta do Crasto winery in Portugal's Douro Valley. Not that his trips are exclusively about indulgence—he's often quick to suggest active pursuits, like biking around Barcelona. *Average daily spend: \$900. marco@authentic-explorations.com; authentic-explorations.com.*

EUROPE

Olga Placeres ★

As the head of a Florida-based agency, Placeres, who has traveled to all seven continents, oversees a team of luxury travel and cruise experts. During her 35 years of business, she has made customized European tours and cruises a specialty. She is also adept at adding land vacations onto sailings. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. olga@preferrednaples.com; preferrednaples.com.*

Tesa Totengco ★

A former fashion industry executive, Totengco prides herself on delivering world-class travel experiences in Europe and around the globe, whether it's a private lunch at an art collector's Irish estate, making pottery in Greece, or a self-driving adventure in Namibia. *Average daily spend: \$500. tesa@travelswithtesa.com; travelswithtesa.com.*

FINLAND, ICELAND, AND SCANDINAVIA

Melissa Lee

Lee is especially good at combining urban luxury with active endeavors. For example, she pairs hiking and biking in the Faroe Islands with contemporary design in Stockholm (and a tour of the ABBA museum.) She'll also secure reservations at top restaurants, such as Olo, in Helsinki. *Average daily spend: \$750. mlee@royal-travel.com; royal-travel.com.*

FRANCE

Mark Bonte

Bonte excels at itineraries centered around history. Clients might explore the Roman ruins of Glanum, in St.-Rémy-de-Provence; tour the cathedral of Rouen, in Normandy; and visit the square (also in Rouen) where Joan of Arc was burned at the stake. Naturally, Bonte books exquisite hotels along the way. *Average daily spend: \$750. contact@frenchsidetravel.com; frenchsidetravel.com.*

Philip Haslett

Wine tastings in Burgundy, Bordeaux, and the Loire Valley are a particular focus for this 35-year expert, who often plans multi-week trips that span the entire nation. Haslett also builds in cultural experiences, like a private after-hours tour of the Louvre. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. philip@kairos-travel.com; kairos-travel.com.*

Bob Preston

Trips with Preston showcase the best of French living. One mother-daughter birthday celebration included a yacht cruise, complete with champagne, from Cap d'Antibes to Monaco, as well as a fashion-focused tour of Paris with VIP access. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. bob@globebleu.com; globebleu.com.*

FRANCE, ITALY, AND THE U.K.

Jim Strong ★

Texas-based Strong and his staff are experts on all things

luxury. They're particularly plugged-in when it comes to Europe, from biking in Provence to art tours in Florence. *jim@strongtravel.com; strongtravel.com.*

GREECE

Petros G. Zissimos

Since joining his family's business in 2005, Zissimos has showcased the best of the mainland and the islands, from sailing around Santorini to a cooking class in a farmhouse outside Chania, Crete. *Average daily spend: \$300. pzissimos@hellenic-holidays.com; hellenic-holidays.com.*

GREECE AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Mina Agnos

After 22 years in business, Agnos knows Greece inside and out. She recently planned a trip for a couple who used a speedboat to explore the smaller Cycladic Islands. Traveling with family? Agnos once developed a kid-focused tour complete with a mythology-themed scavenger hunt. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. mina@travelive.com; travelive.com.*

Christos Stergiou

Stergiou recently pulled out all the stops when setting up a monthlong trip for 20 friends. For one musically inclined member of the party, he even supplied a guitar—and arranged for an in-the-know driver to take her to local tavernas, where she performed. *Average daily spend: \$600. mytrip@true-trips.com; true-trips.com.*

IRELAND

Crothúr Murphy

A round of golf with a PGA Tournament champion, a cooking class and dinner at the home of one of the country's celebrity chefs, or a helicopter ride over the Cliffs of Moher are all par for the course for this Dublin-based expert. *Average daily spend: \$900. crothur@craftedireland.com; craftedireland.com.*





Skiing on Zugspitze, Germany's highest mountain.

★ = Travel Advisory Board member

ITALY

Matteo Della Grazia and Daniela Mencarelli

These 15-year travel veterans can plan the Rome or Venice vacation of your dreams. But they also have intimate knowledge of less-crowded places: the Mediterranean coastline of Sardinia, the colorful towns of the Italian Riviera, and the food festivals and wine cellars of Piedmont and Valle d'Aosta. *Average daily spend: \$650. matteo@discoveryouritaly.com; discoveryouritaly.com.*

Joyce Falcone

Falcone, a dual American-Italian citizen, has personally met every vendor she works with. She recently planned a seven-week trip for a solo traveler that highlighted music, with an Andrea Bocelli concert in the ancient town of Lajatico and a Puccini recital in Lucca. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. info@italianconcierge.com; italianconcierge.com.*

Andrea Grisdale and Stefano Sancassani

When this mother-and-son team is in charge, travelers often get a chance to develop new skills. Recent guests have learned to dye wool and silk using aromatic herbs in Sardinia and chatted with shopkeepers and bar owners in Palermo. *Average daily spend: \$1,200. travelandleisure@icbellagio.com; icbellagio.com.*

Gary Portuesi

For a group of 24, Portuesi

programmed an Italian tour that included a Shabbat dinner with chef Massimo Bottura and a private concert at what was once the home of opera singer Luciano Pavarotti. Plus, guests got to drive Ferraris on the company's test track. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. gary@authentic-explorations.com; authentic-explorations.com.*

John Skelton

A recent highlight for Skelton was planning a three-week trip for a solo LGBTQ traveler through Capri, Tuscany, and Umbria, ending at Lake Como. For a family of four, he organized a Vespa tour in Rome and a private glassblowing class in Venice. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. john@johnskeltontravels.com; johnskeltontravels.com.*

NORWAY

Torunn Tronsvang

Culinary itineraries are one of Tronsvang's specialties—this year, she planned a weeklong trip to Trondheim-Trøndelag, a European Region of Gastronomy. Standouts included herb and vegetable foraging, brewery visits, and farm stays along the Norwegian coast. *Average daily spend: \$510. travel@upnorway.com; upnorway.com.*

PORTUGAL

Danilo Cerqueira

Cerqueira's thoughtful itineraries incorporate stays in relaxing destinations, like the resort town of Sintra, with hands-on cultural activities such as pottery workshops. *Average daily spend: \$450. danilo.cerqueira@tempovip.com; tempovip.com.*

Gonçalo Correia

Whether booking a coveted reservation at the Michelin two-starred Belcanto or planning a 4 x 4 excursion to see prehistoric petroglyphs in the Foz Côa Valley, Correia provides clients a range of only-in-Portugal experiences. *Average daily spend: \$500. goncalo.correia@toursforyou.pt; toursforyou.pt.*

Sheree M. Mitchell

Mitchell orchestrates next-level trips, such as a recent six-person, 45-day tour of the entire country, which included a week in the Azores. *Average daily spend: \$500. sheree@immersaglobal.com; immersaglobal.com.*

PORTUGAL AND SPAIN

Steven Vigor

Vigor can execute an art-and-design-themed stay in Barcelona, with access to local studios, pop-up galleries, and a graffiti tour, or an Azores excursion focused on the history of whaling (including a surprise swim with dolphins). *Average daily spend: \$350. travel@iberian-escapes.com; iberian-escapes.com.*

SLOVENIA

Gwen Nicol

A vacation with Nicol might have travelers exploring the Piran salt pans along the Adriatic coast, dining at Michelin-starred restaurants in Ljubljana, or visiting the Renaissance-era Predjama Castle. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. gwen.nicol@scottdunn.com; scottdunn.com.*

SPAIN

Nigel Hack

Hack prides himself on "un-Googleable" cultural immersions—church tours through secret entrances, exclusive access to artisans' workshops—to give travelers an insider look at the Iberian peninsula. *Average daily spend: \$600. nigel@madridandbeyond.com; madridandbeyond.com.*

TURKEY

Engin Kadaster

While Istanbul and the Aegean are important entry points, Kadaster adds in experiences in lesser-known places, like cheese making in Boğatepe or a hike on Mount Nemrut, which is believed to contain the tomb of the Mesopotamian king Antiochus I. *Average daily spend: \$400. engin@turkey*

atitsbest.net; turkeyatitsbest.net.

THE U.K.

Nicola Butler

Fancy a tour of the English countryside that includes a helicopter flight over Stonehenge and a sheep-shearing class? English-born Butler shows clients the hidden corners of the British Isles, especially Wales. *Average daily spend: \$900. nicola@noteworthy.co.uk; noteworthy.co.uk.*

Jonathan Epstein

Epstein is particularly strong at celebratory trips—blowout birthday vacations can include Wimbledon matches, whisky tastings, and coveted reservations at properties like Beaverbrook, in Surrey. *Average daily spend: \$750. jonathan@celebratedexperiences.com; celebratedexperiences.com.*

Siobhan Byrne Learat

Whether it's a hunting trip with the Duke of Abercorn or spending the night at Lord Brookeborough's estate, Learat has the connections to get clients behind closed doors. She also plans comprehensive tours of Northern Ireland. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. siobhan@adamsandbutler.com; adamsandbutler.com.*

Ellen LeCompte

LeCompte specializes in unusual experiences, like dining at 16th-century Middle Temple Hall, in London, and learning from blacksmiths and falconers in the Cotswolds. *Average daily spend: \$850. ellen@lecompte-travel.com; travel-xperts.com.*

Rachel Shoemaker

Shoemaker directs travelers to relaxed estates in English villages, like the Retreat at Elcot Park, in Newbury. She is especially keen on horticultural itineraries, and can arrange tea with celebrity gardeners. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. rachel@louisawhite.com; louisawhite.com.*



It's time to go back to **ASIA**.

★ = Travel Advisory Board member

BHUTAN, INDIA, AND NEPAL

Carole Cambata

Cambata knows that travelers want plenty of room for improvisation: mornings are for prearranged tours, but in the afternoons, guests have a driver on call to make a spontaneous visit to a museum or artisan's studio. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. tours@greavestours.com; greavesindia.com.*

CENTRAL ASIA

Zulya Rajabova

For many adventurous travelers, a visit to the ancient Silk Road is a dream trip. Uzbekistan-born Rajabova can make it a reality, with activities like horseback riding around Lake Ysyk, in Kyrgyzstan, and picnics in Tajikistan's stunning Fann Mountains. *Average daily spend: \$325. zulya@silkroadtreasuretours.com; silkroadtreasuretours.com.*

CHINA

Mei Zhang

Out-of-the-ordinary trips are where Zhang shines. Lately, she's been setting up vineyard tours in the wine region of Ningxia. She also directs clients to Gansu and recommends the Dongyi Dunhuang Hotel, where the architecture blends seamlessly into the surrounding desert. Zhang's company also recently launched on-the-ground operations in Taiwan. *Average daily spend: \$500. mei.zhang@wildchina.com; wildchina.com.*

INDIA

Viji Krishna

From camel rides through the Rajasthan desert to stargazing and hiking in the jungles of Pench National Park (known for its tigers), Krishna's itineraries highlight India's natural beauty. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. viji@rothschildsafaris.com; rothschildsafaris.com.*

Marion Miller

Once-in-a-lifetime experiences for Miller's clients

have included a private concert in the home of a master sitarist in Varanasi and a spiritual talk on the banks of the Ganges River. *Average daily spend: \$2,000. mmiller@micato.com; micato.com.*

INDIA AND NEPAL

Niall Causer

When working with food lovers, Causer can pack an India itinerary with both market meals and fine dining. Walking enthusiasts might combine a few days exploring the city of Kolkata before embarking on a four-night village-to-village trek in the Himalayan foothills. *Average daily spend: \$450. causer@audleytravel.com; audleytravel.com.*

INDONESIA

Jarrold Hobson

Hobson's clients can count on memorable encounters, like dancing to live gamelan music and sampling rice wine in a village in Bali or dining with the King of Sumba at his royal compound. *Average daily spend: \$500. jarrod@atj.com; atj.com.*

Erina Pindar ★

A global citizen who grew up in Jakarta, Pindar has a knack for matching personalities with far-flung destinations. She recently created a honey-moon that encompassed Bali and Sumba, with additional stops in Japan. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. erina@smartflyer.com; smartflyer.com.*

JAPAN

Scott Gilman

Whether it's a client's first visit or a return trip, Gilman seeks out under-the-radar experiences, such as a private tour of a tea estate in the town of Uji, outside Kyoto, where matcha cultivation is thriving, or sailing the Inland Sea on a 19-room yacht that feels like an intimate floating *ryokan*. *Average daily spend: \$2,300. scott@japanquestjourneys.com; japanquestjourneys.com.*



Kiyomizu-dera, a temple in Kyoto.

Mark Lakin ★

Lakin can arrange behind-the-scenes sumo wrestling sessions and classes with samurai-sword makers. He also knows Africa's best destinations, from Zanzibar's white-sand beaches to the Virunga cloud forests in Rwanda. *Average daily spend: \$800. ml@thelegacyuntold.com; thelegacyuntold.com.*

Rebecca Mazzaro

Mazzaro excels at one-on-one cultural exchanges. In Tokyo, travelers might walk the floor of the Toyosu wholesale fish market with a sushi chef, then continue to the restaurant to observe how various dishes are prepared—and taste the results. In Okinawa, clients might get a private demonstration from a karate master. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. rebecca@atj.com; atj.com.*

Amy Tadehara

Tadehara achieves the seemingly impossible, like securing a stay at the private residence at Ninna-ji, a ninth-century Buddhist temple in Kyoto. She also delivers deeply personal moments—one client wanted to visit her grandfather's birthplace in

the town of Hidaka, and Tadehara surprised her with a welcome lunch attended by villagers who knew him. *Average daily spend: \$500. amy.tadehara@insidejapantours.com; insidejapantours.com.*

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Grant Ekelund

Ekelund sets himself apart by catering to clients' hyper-specific interests, from craft-beer tours by *tuk-tuk* in Phnom Penh to a deep dive into Lanna cooking in northern Thailand. *Average daily spend: \$500. grant.ekelund@insideasiatours.com; insideasiatours.com.*

Jack Tydeman

Championing less-explored places, Tydeman's itineraries might include stays at Khao Sok National Park, in southern Thailand, and a riverboat cruise with a naturalist to learn about the country's flora and fauna. This year he is excited about Kampot, a laid-back town on Cambodia's southern coast. *Average daily spend: \$450. jack.tydeman@audleytravel.com; audleytravel.com.*



For the ultimate **AFRICA SAFARI**, turn to these pros.

AFRICA

Cherri Briggs

With nearly three decades of experience, Briggs has the knowledge and clout to arrange dream journeys across the continent, whether that's a trip to new lodges like KuKaya and Lolebezi, both in Zambia, or a classic gorilla-trekking itinerary in Rwanda. Giving back is a focus for Briggs, and she often helps clients connect with established nonprofits during their travels. *Average daily spend: \$1,850. info@exploreinc.com; exploreinc.com.*

Sandy Cunningham

A pro when it comes to multigenerational safaris, Cunningham has particular expertise in East Africa, sending travelers to camps managed by Bush & Beyond, Great Plains, and Nomads Tanzania. She also keeps an eye on emerging destinations, including Mozambique, where she recommends the beachfront bungalows at Sussurro.

Average daily spend: \$1,700. sandy@gouncharted.com; gouncharted.com.

Julian Harrison

This South Africa-born expert—who once worked as a guide—speaks Zulu and Afrikaans fluently, has written a safari guidebook, and has planned trips for illustrious clients such as Kristen Stewart and Charlize Theron. He once designed a safari centered around sound, touch, and smell for a visually impaired client. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. julianh@premiertours.com; premiertours.com.*

Crisney Lane

Lane is an all-around safari expert who arranges magical honeymoons and family-friendly itineraries. She recently put together an adventure that seamlessly paired remote wilderness stays with Kigali and Nairobi, two of East Africa's most dynamic cities. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. crisney@mosaic safaris.com; mosaic safaris.com.*

Chris Liebenberg

Liebenberg often leads his own small-group trips, such as a recent science-focused expedition (with researchers in tow) in the Central African Republic and Republic of the Congo for 10 intrepid travelers interested in spotting forest elephants and lowland gorillas. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. chris@piperandheath.com; piperandheath.com.*

CENTRAL, EAST, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA SAFARIS

Karin Jones

For Jones, the most memorable Africa trips are those that tap into travelers' passions. For wine enthusiasts, that means cellar tours in South Africa's Stellenbosch region; for a family of animal lovers, it's private access to the Reteti Elephant Sanctuary, in northern Kenya. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. karin@anastasiasafrica.com; anastasiasafrica.com.*

William Jones

When nothing but the most out-there adventure will suffice, Jones is the person to call. He has coordinated chopper flights over the deserts of Chad, built mobile "fly camps" on the shores of Lake Turkana, in the Rift Valley, and planned passages by cargo vessel down the Omo River, in Ethiopia. *Average daily spend: \$2,000. will@journeysbydesign.com; journeysbydesign.com.*

Alison and Mark Nolting

This safari power couple is particularly strong in Botswana and Tanzania, where they've cultivated long-standing relationships with top guides. They can also help travelers get hands-on with conservation projects, including research teams involved in rhino tracking. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. safari@africanadventure.com; africa-adventure.com.*

EAST AFRICA SAFARIS

Liz Wheeler

Wheeler can execute traditional wildlife-focused trips, with stays at the camps and lodges of Elewana Collection, or a more niche experience like fossil hunting in the Turkana Basin alongside noteworthy paleoanthropologists. *Average daily spend: \$3,250. lwheeler@micato.com; micato.com.*

EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA SAFARIS

Craig Beal

With an encyclopedic knowledge of the top camps in Botswana, Kenya, and Uganda, Beal is adept at luxury stays. He's particularly excited about two new South Africa destinations: the six-tent, eco-friendly Loapi Camp, in the Tswalu Kalahari private game reserve, and the Farmstead at Royal Malewane, a high-end lodge next to Kruger National Park. *Average daily spend: \$1,600. craigb@travelbeyond.com; travelbeyond.com.*

Giraffes in Zambia's Luangwa Valley.



AFRICA AND SAFARIS

Deborah Calmeyer

Calmeyer excels at women's retreats, like one that connected visitors with RwandAir CEO Yvonne Manzi Makolo. She also crafts complex multigenerational trips to some of Africa's finest private villas. *Average daily spend: \$2,500. welcome@roarafrica.com; roar africa.com.*

Tamsyn Fricker

Milestone birthdays are a specialty for Fricker, who designs conservation-minded safaris that stop in some of Africa's most iconic wildlife destinations, with stays at andBeyond and Singita properties. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. tamsyn@travelartistryafrica.com; travelartistryafrica.com.*

Samantha Gee

Gee knows it's never too late—or too early—to spend time in the wild. Recent happy customers include a meerkat-obsessed nine-year-old, who spent her birthday in the company of her favorite critters, and an older traveler with limited mobility: the 83-year-old had long dreamed of seeing gorillas in

their natural habitat, so Gee arranged to make the trek accessible. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. sgee@red savannah.com; red savannah.com.*

Elizabeth Gordon

With a knack for going beyond the typical safari, Gordon arranges culturally immersive itineraries that include introductions to tastemakers, curators, and even a South African celebrity chef. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. elizabethg@ejafrika.com; extraordinaryjourneys.com.*

Susan Neva

Neva's expansive knowledge takes clients to quieter (but no less spectacular) parts of the continent, whether that's Usangu Expedition Camp, in Tanzania's Ruaha National Park; Shawa Luangwa Camp, in eastern Zambia; or lesser-known lodges by Wilderness Safaris. *Average daily spend: \$1,200. susan@alluringafrica.com; alluringafrica.com.*

Brandi and Jay Parmar

This wife-and-husband duo have a wide remit, whether it's planning a quintessential safari in East Africa, arranging

for a food-and-wine-focused trip, or devising the ultimate romantic getaway at remote lodges operated by African Bush Camps. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. jay@wander-africa.com; wander africa.com.*

Daniel Saperstein

Saperstein is keen on securing private access with conservationists and researchers, including white-rhino experts in Kenya and elephant specialists in Zimbabwe. *Average daily spend: \$800. dan@hippocreeksafaris.com; hippocreek safaris.com.*

Scott Simpson

Simpson has arranged ambitious multigenerational reunions—some have covered as many as 12 countries. He also delivered a heart-stirring vow renewal for one safari-loving couple, who arrived for the ceremony via helicopter. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. scott@exetersafaris.com; exetersafaricompany.com.*

Raza Visram

Kenya-born Visram connects travelers with top guides for spotting the Big Five in the

Serengeti and tracking chimpanzees in the mountains of Tanzania. He's also clued in to lesser-known camps and lodges, like those of the Dar es Salaam-based Wellworth Hospitality Collection. *Average daily spend: \$1,125. sales@africanmecca.com; africanmecca safaris.com.*

FAMILY SAFARIS

Leora Rothschild

Rothschild excels at insider access, from spending the day with a wildlife filmmaker to connecting adventurous guests with a helicopter crew for forays to Kenya's most remote corners. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. leora@rothschildsafaris.com; rothschildsafaris.com.*

Teresa Sullivan

Sullivan is the go-to expert for kid-friendly safaris, adept at planning trips to Indian Ocean islands or the remote reaches of Namibia. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. teresa@mango safari.com; mangoafrican safaris.com.*

MADAGASCAR

Will Bolsover

Jungle safaris are Bolsover's forte. Clients can embark on lemur treks, take helicopter rides above the Indian Ocean coastline to look for humpback whales, and stay at the best properties, like the villa-only Miavana, on the secluded island of Nosy Anka. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. sales@naturalworld safaris.com; naturalworld safaris.com.*

MOROCCO

Michael Diamond

Diamond's thoughtful experiences might include a private lunch at a café owned by contemporary artist Hassan Hajjaj or a meeting with the leather makers of Fez's famed Chouara tanneries. *Average daily spend: \$1,600. michael@cobblestoneprivatetravel.com; cobblestoneprivate travel.com.*



The Koutoubia Mosque is the largest in Marrakesh.



Visit ancient sites and dynamic cities in **EGYPT** and the **MIDDLE EAST**.

EGYPT

Chris Bazos

For travelers looking to get off the beaten path, Bazos can arrange a tour of one of Egypt's top Arabian horse farms—and schedule time with the owner and with newborn foals—or a mountain-biking tour outside Cairo that ends with a traditional lunch in a Bedouin tent. *Average daily spend: \$450. life@travelous.com; travelous.com.*

Malaka Hilton

Hilton offers insider access that makes traveling within the country both smooth and meaningful—such as a driver and an accompanying Egyptologist who can give insight into classic sites like the Pyramids. Recently she's seen an interest in buyouts of dahabiyas, the small sailboats that cruise the Nile. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. malaka@admiraltravel.com; admiraltravel.com.*

ISRAEL

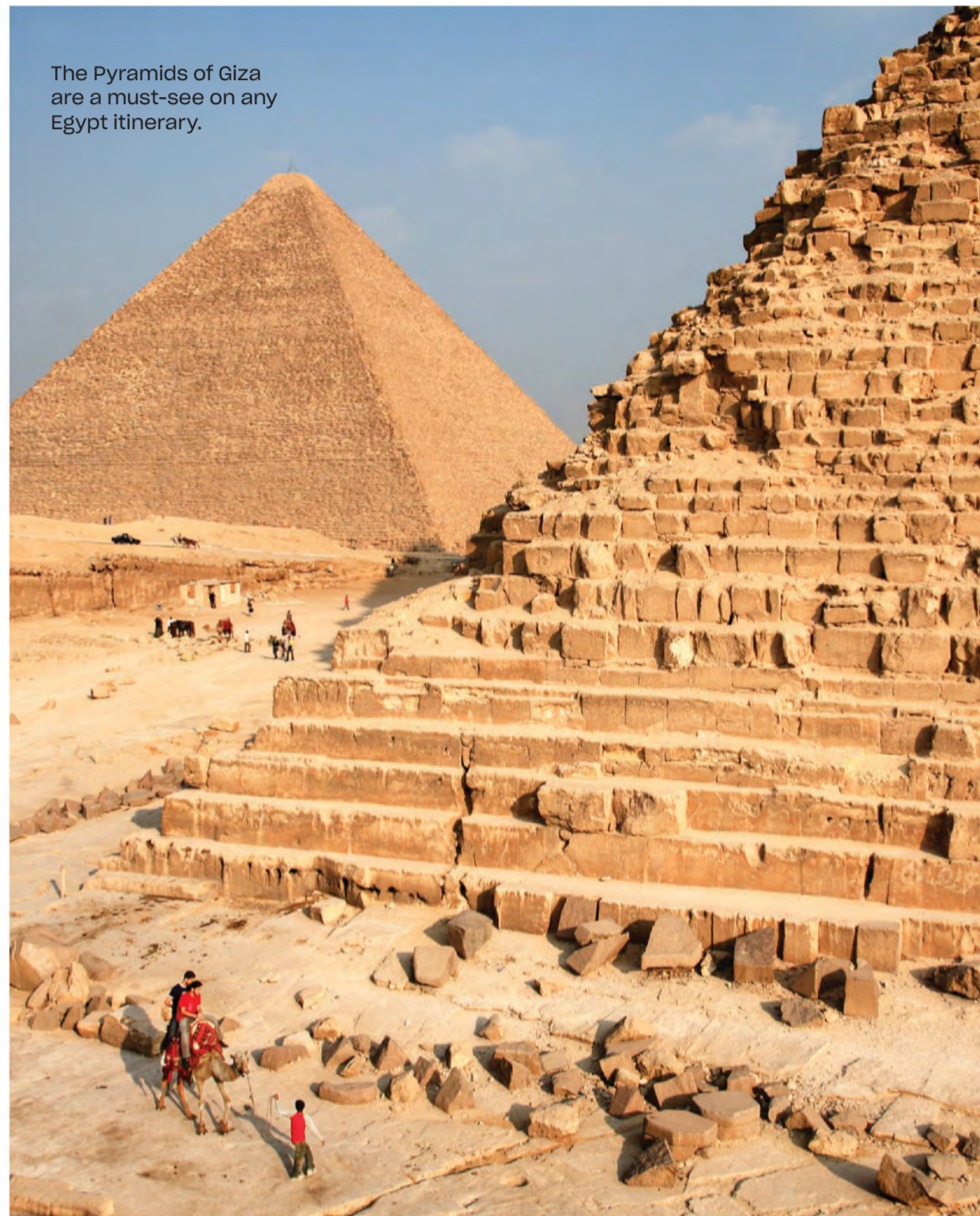
Tova Wald

Wald loves sharing the many facets of her native Israel, whether through a food tour of Tel Aviv or a three-day walk in the Negev Desert with Bedouin guides. She can also create a luxury itinerary incorporating neighboring Egypt and Jordan. *Average daily spend: \$2,000. tovawald.com; tovawald.com.*

ISRAEL, JORDAN, AND THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Jonathan Rose and Joseph Yudin

This pair knows exactly how to tap into what's new in this ancient region: Yudin, a historian with a Ph.D. in Israeli studies, recently arranged a visit to an archaeological dig, where a guest uncovered a 3,000-year-old pot. *Average daily spend: \$750. jonathan@touringisrael.com; touringisrael.com.*



The Pyramids of Giza are a must-see on any Egypt itinerary.

MIDDLE EAST

Stephanie Fisher

Fisher dreams up fresh ways to discover popular landmarks (cocktails in the shadow of the Sphinx) and get clients excited about less-visited destinations. On her radar in Saudi Arabia: the ancient Nabatean city of Hegra and the hypermodern Neom development on the Red Sea coast. *Average daily spend: \$875. stephanie@huffmantravel.com; huffmantravel.com.*

OMAN, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, AND THE U.A.E.

Amalia Lazarov

When planning itineraries in the Gulf, Lazarov seamlessly combines the ultra-luxe—lunch on a private yacht in Dubai, a spa resort on the Oman coast—with low-key activities, like a walking tour of Al-Balad (Jeddah's old town) or gazelle-spotting in the Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve. She especially loves working with women traveling solo—something she has done many times herself. *Average daily spend: \$300. amalia@247travel365.com; travelicioustravel.com.*

SAUDI ARABIA AND THE U.A.E.

Ashley Gallo

Gallo, who fell in love with the U.A.E. while working there as a teacher, can create memorable experiences in all its corners, from a souk tour in Dubai to dinner aboard a dhow off the coast of Abu Dhabi. She also specializes in Saudi Arabia, where she recently organized a business trip to AlUla for several dozen executives. *Average daily spend: \$500. agallo@royal-travel.com; royal-travel.com.*



AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, and the SOUTH PACIFIC are waiting.



Mitre Peak rises above Milford Sound, in New Zealand.

AUSTRALIA

Cassandra Bookholder

Bookholder's 17 years of experience help her showcase the best of her home country. A recent trip to the Great Barrier Reef for a client who feared getting into water included a helicopter ride to view the marine life, followed by an overnight stay at ReefSuites, where the underwater rooms offer views of the ecosystem. *Average daily spend: \$750. cassandrab@camelbacktravel.com; camelbacktravel.com.*

Drew Kluska

Over-the-top flourishes arranged by Kluska include swimming with whale sharks in the Ningaloo Reef alongside a marine biologist and a birthday picnic in the Daintree Rainforest with a serenade from a renowned opera singer. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. info@thetailor.com; thetailor.com.*

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Corinne Goodman

Goodman creates dual-country itineraries that combine spectacular dining and wildlife-watching. For a

father-daughter pair, she planned a photography safari through Kangaroo Island and Tasmania that also introduced them to local winemakers and "bush tucker," or local cuisine. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. cg@downunderendeavours.com; downunderendeavours.com.*

Suzy Mercien-Ferol

Whether chartering a superyacht in the Whitsunday Islands or arranging a helicopter flight over the Eyre Peninsula, Brisbane-based Mercien-Ferol immerses clients in the best of the

region. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. luxurytravel@touringtreasures.com; touringtreasures.com.*

FRENCH POLYNESIA

Christina Turrini

With a list of personal connections built up over 20 years, Turrini organizes vacations to Tahiti that might include a visit to a pearl farm and a vanilla plantation or a naturalist-led excursion to secluded lagoons, followed by a picnic lunch. She also plans trips in the Cook Islands and Fiji. *Average daily spend: \$500. christina.turrini@frosch.com; frosch.com.*

When you're ready to book that **CRUISE...**

NEW ZEALAND

Jean-Michel Jefferson

Jefferson shines when it comes to catering to clients' passions, whether they're motivated by rugby, cycling, Maori traditions (like wood or bone carving), or simply searching for a spiritual connection to the land. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. jean-michel@ahipara.com; ahipara.com.*

Donna Thomas

Close friendships forged with Kiwis, including many Maori elders, allow Thomas to craft intimate journeys focused on New Zealand's majestic landscapes and singular way of life. For one couple, Thomas arranged dinner in Abel Tasman National Park with an astronomer; she also scouted a sheltered cove where the clients swam with seals. *Average daily spend: \$300. donna@newzealandtravel.org; newzealandtravel.org.*

NEW ZEALAND AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Sarah Farag

For 27 years, Farag has provided experiences like viewing the flightless kakapo parrot in its natural habitat, or kayaking the Hawea River to arrive at a picnic lunch by the riverside—with New Zealand wines, of course. *Average daily spend: \$750. sarah@southern-crossings.com; southern-crossings.com.*

THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Susanne Hamer

For one couple's 10-day honeymoon, Hamer prepared an itinerary that included a private sightseeing flight above Tupai, in Bora-Bora; a 4 x 4 ride into the mountains of Tahiti to view a volcanic crater; and a six-night stay at the Brando, on Tetiaroa. *Average daily spend: \$500. susanne.h@travelstore.com; travelstore.com.*

EXPEDITION

Ashton Palmer

Palmer knows the best ships for navigating polar regions and warm-weather spots where adventure, wildlife-watching, and scientific research intersect. He recently arranged a number of custom trips to Alaska and the Galápagos Islands. *Average daily spend: \$1,700. ashton@expeditiontrips.com; expeditiontrips.com.*

EXPEDITION, MEDIUM, AND SMALL SHIPS

Eric Goldring

With a knack for connecting travelers with the right ship for adventure-filled voyages to the polar regions, Goldring also knows the perfect vessel for destination immersions, like the two-week Greece and Turkey itinerary he planned around the cuisine of the eastern Mediterranean. *Average daily spend: \$1,125. eric@goldringtravel.com; goldringtravel.com.*

LARGE, MEDIUM, AND SMALL SHIPS

Rob Clabbers ★

Clabbers specializes in expedition-style journeys to remote destinations like Antarctica. Another focus: trips to his home country, the Netherlands, which he can arrange in combination with a European river or ocean cruise or as a stand-alone itinerary. *Average daily spend: \$500. rob@qcruisetravel.com; qcruisetravel.com.*

Valerie Wilson

A longtime luxury cruise expert, Wilson has deep knowledge of the industry's most exciting ships—including intimate Windstar vessels and Seabourn's fleet—as well as the most compelling ports, whether they are European city stops or dreamy South Pacific islands. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. valeriew@vwti.com; valeriewilsontravel.com.*

SMALL SHIPS

Mary Curry

A small-ship aficionado, Curry knows the best vessels operating in the polar regions, including *Le Commandant Charcot* and *Magellan Explorer*. Her expertise for matching guests to ships also extends to places like the Galápagos Islands and, lately, Alaska's Inside Passage. *Average daily spend: \$625. mary.curry@adventure-life.com; adventure-life.com.*

Mary Ann Ramsey

Ramsey is the person to call for bookings on over-the-top lines like Regent Seven Seas Cruises, Seabourn, and Silversea. She's also adept at arranging private shore excursions, as well as pre- and post-sail adventures. *Average daily spend: \$3,750. maryann@bettymacleantravel.com; bettymacleantravel.com.*

★ = Travel Advisory Board member



The Ponant expedition ship *Le Commandant Charcot* moves through the Prince Gustav Channel, near Antarctica.

CAROL SACHS

Have a **SPECIAL INTEREST?** Talk to these experts.

AIR TRAVEL

Paul Tumpowsky ★

An expert at arranging discounted business- and first-class fares on major carriers, Tumpowsky saves clients thousands of dollars by seamlessly navigating increasingly complex flight changes and cancellations. *Average daily spend: \$500. p@skylark.com; skylark.com.*

ARCTIC TRAVEL

Kate Herz

Herz executes adventurous family trips in places such as Iceland, Norway, and Sweden that offer a mix of thrills for kids and adults alike: polar bear viewing, hiking in lava caves, reindeer herding, and spotting the northern lights. *Average daily spend: \$1,200. kate@jacadatravel.com; jacadatravel.com.*

BUSINESS TRAVEL

Jennifer Wilson-Buttigieg

This industry veteran, who excels at keeping execs moving around the world, also has a knack for intricate friends' trips. On a 17-day trek through Scotland, Wilson-Buttigieg managed everyone's interests: securing tee times at legendary golf courses, sending some of the group on historical tours of Culloden Battlefield, and whisking others off for a few days in London. *Average daily spend: \$1,250. jenniferwb@vwti.com; valeriewilsontravel.com.*

CULTURAL TRIPS

Kareem George ★

With his background as an arts administrator, George is a pro at devising luxurious trips centered on arts and culture, particularly in Europe, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and southern Africa. He also serves on the Black Travel Advisory Board for the cruise company Hurtigruten. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. kgeorge@culturetraveler.com; culturetraveler.com.*

DESTINATION CELEBRATIONS

Jody Bear

Hyper-personalization is what sets Bear apart. She recently helped a family explore their ancestry in Poland and arranged a private tour of Krakow's Jewish Quarter with an Auschwitz survivor. For a musically inclined traveler who wanted a smashing 60th birthday in New Orleans, Bear set up a special second-line parade—and got the client into a recording studio to sing backup vocals with a local band. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. jodyb@beartvl.com; bearandbear.travel.*

Kristin Chambers

If total relaxation and cultural immersion are what you're after, Chambers is the one to

call. For a six-night buyout of Baoase Luxury Resort, in Curaçao, for 30 guests, she organized nightly performances of dance and music that showcased the island's rich Dutch, Portuguese, and West African traditions. Wine is also a passion for Chambers, a certified sommelier—she recently sent a fellow oenophile to Verona, Italy, for a 10-day wine-buying trip. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. kristin@daluxurytravel.com; daluxurytravel.com.*

Jack Ezon ★

The founder of a boutique travel firm, Ezon crafts blowout trips and weddings in the Caribbean, Mexico, and beyond, partnering with some of the most influential event

planners in the world. His seemingly endless Rolodex has helped him host a party in Versailles and book celebrity entertainers (John Legend, Bruno Mars) for special occasions. *jack@embarkbeyond.com; embarkbeyond.com.*

Barkley Hickox ★

Client service and personalization are the foundation of Hickox's business, which she and her three business partners founded in 2015. Since then, they've focused on extravagant multigenerational trips and over-the-top getaways for an elite group of well-traveled clients. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. barkley.hickox@localforeigner.com; localforeigner.com.*



ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS TRAVEL

Linda Scroggins ★

Scroggins executes large trips without a hitch, whether it's a friends' getaway to see a big game and have dinner with a Dallas Cowboy or a blowout trip to catch a Formula 1 race. She also has expertise in group tours of Antarctica and the Maldives. *Average daily spend: \$5,000.* linda@affluentluxurytravel.net; affluentluxurytravel.net.

FAMILY AND SKIING

Kendra Thornton ★

Thornton heads a second-generation family-owned agency that just celebrated its 50th anniversary. An avid skier, she sends clients to Europe's great ski meccas, like Courchevel and Zermatt. Stateside, she recommends Utah's Deer Valley and Snowmass, in Colorado. She also curates yacht charters and epic girls' trips around the globe. *Average daily spend: \$775.* ktornton@royal-travel.com; royal-travel.com.

FAMILY TRAVEL

Laura Asilis

This 17-year industry veteran takes care to assess a family's needs, whether that's creating a wheelchair-accessible itinerary throughout Florence, Paris, Rome, and Venice—no easy feat—or recognizing that an overworked client wanted total relaxation for his family of five. Cue the 80-foot yacht charter on the French and Italian Rivas. *Average daily spend: \$700.* laura.asilis@travelwise.com.do; travelwise.com.do.

Christie Holmes

Holmes goes above and beyond for families chasing their dreams, like the group who spent 16 days in Bali catching waves, touring temples, and learning Indonesian recipes. She also includes talking points in her itineraries to encourage deeper engagement with

each destination. *Average daily spend: \$500.* cholmes@nooneisforeign.com; globalcommunitytravel.com.

Jessica Griscavage

Griscavage excels at complex, multicountry itineraries in Europe. What keeps the trips from feeling overwhelming is a balance between engagement and relaxation. After arranging sightseeing in Rome, she makes sure to send clients to Positano for some beach time. For a driving itinerary focused on Ireland's stunning landscapes, Griscavage also secured a few nights of pampering at Ashford Castle. *Average daily spend: \$750.* jessica@runwaytravelco.com; runwaytravelco.com.

Shawna Huffman Owen ★

A former management consultant, Huffman Owen pulls off epic trips for discerning families and multigenerational groups worldwide, though France and Italy are particular specialties. She can build vacations that have you hitting the beaches of St.-Tropez, hiking in the Dolomites, and exploring hidden trails along the Amalfi Coast. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* shawna@huffmantravel.com; huffmantravel.com.

Julia B. Pirrung ★

Pirrung founded her company in 2005 and has been tailormaking each client's trips ever since. She's tested numerous hotels, resorts, and villas with her own family in tow so she can design bespoke, kid-approved itineraries. She once arranged for a family with teenage girls to meet a Bangkok tailor, who then created custom dresses. She has also organized a family scavenger hunt through Rome by Vespa. *Average daily spend: \$750.* julia@jetsetworldtravel.com; jetsetworldtravel.com.



An advisor favorite: a surfing adventure at Berawa Beach, in Bali.

Carmen Teresa Targa ★

As a mom of three small children, Puerto Rico-based Targa is familiar with all the ups and downs of family vacations—and knows how to turn them into truly unforgettable trips. *Average daily spend: \$500.* carmentarga@condadotravel.com; condadotravel.com.

Keith Waldon ★

After 16 years as an executive at the travel-advisor network Virtuoso, Waldon founded his own agency. His more than 150 advisors specialize in luxury trips that deliver unforgettable moments and top-notch service. Waldon splits his time between Texas and Tuscany. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* kwaldon@departurelounge.com; departurelounge.com.

Kimberly Wilson Wetty ★

Wilson Wetty, who is the copresident of her firm, builds long-term relationships with clients by keeping track of their travel histories and passions. That familiarity helps inform her trip suggestions, whether that means a safari adventure in Africa or a luxury cruise ending in a relaxing beach escape. *Average daily spend: \$1,500.* kimberlyww@vwti.com; valeriewilsontravel.com.

FLY-FISHING

Betsy Donley

Angling is a longtime passion for Donley, who has been in the travel business for 25 years. While she operates worldwide, the American West is her specialty: she recently orchestrated an epic Alaska adventure that combined fishing with viewing bears and marine wildlife at two lodges, including one 200 miles north of Anchorage on the Iditarod Trail. Montana's Big Horn River is another of Donley's favorite fishing grounds. *Average daily spend: \$1,000.* betsydonley@camelbacktravel.com; camelbacktravel.com.

HONEYMOONS AND WEDDINGS

Josh Alexander

A proposal at a private château in Bordeaux, complete with violin players and fireworks? A five-night wedding at Amanera, in the Dominican Republic? If you can dream it, Alexander can do it. He can also coordinate other milestones, like a 50th-birthday buyout of Necker Island, in the British Virgin Islands. *Average daily spend: \$850.* josh.alexander@protravelinc.com; protravelinc.com.

SPECIAL INTEREST

Kara Bebell and Harlan deBell

This sister-and-brother team pulls out all the stops, even before the big day. For one proposal, after-hours at the Doge's Palace in Venice, the duo set up a private dinner overlooking the lagoon. For a whisky-fueled bachelor party throughout Scotland, meanwhile, a base camp at Gleneagles was a must. Of course, they can also pull off the perfect wedding anywhere in the world. *Average daily spend: \$1,500. hello@thetravelsiblings.com; thetravelsiblings.com.*

Kristen Korey Pike

For one wedding, Pike secured a buyout of Il Pellicano, on the coast of Tuscany. She also planned custom itineraries for all 300 guests. To top it off, she crafted the couple's 10-day honeymoon to South Africa and the Seychelles. All part of the gig for this Atlanta-based advisor. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. kristen@kktww.com; kktww.com.*

Kemi Wells ★

This U.K. native, who owns a boutique agency in Vancouver, specializes in building magical honeymoons and romantic adventures, whether that means gorilla trekking in Rwanda, private-island dinners in French Polynesia, or heli-hiking in New Zealand. *Average daily spend: \$2,000. kemi@wellsluxurytravel.com; wellsluxurytravel.com.*

HOTEL STAYS AND INSIDER ACCESS

Steve Orens ★

For travelers looking for suite upgrades, Orens has close ties with many of the top hotel brands in the world, including Four Seasons, Rosewood, and Marriott's luxury names, such as Ritz-Carlton and St. Regis. *steve@plazatravel.com; plazatravel.com.*

LGBTQ TRAVEL

John Clifford

Clifford crafts active itineraries that get LGBTQ travelers off the beaten path, whether that means snowmobiling and heli-skiing in Iceland (with stays at Deplar Farm and Eldar Lodge) or tracking howler monkeys and jaguars in Belize, with a home base at the Coppola family-owned Blancaneaux Lodge. *Average daily spend: \$750. john@internationaltravelmanagement.com; internationaltravelmanagement.com.*

David Rubin

Rubin works closely with his clients to match their lives at home to each destination, sending a doctor to tour obscure medical museums in Italy, or connecting LGBTQ travelers with allies and members of the community around the world. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. david@davidtravel.com; davidtravel.com.*

OVER-THE-TOP TRIPS

Stacy Fischer-Rosenthal ★

Seemingly impossible feats—booking Eric Ripert to cook for a private birthday bash in the Hamptons; scheduling workouts with Daniel Craig's personal trainer; even connecting with Prince Harry's former nanny—are within her reach. *Average daily spend: \$2,000. travel@fischertravel.com; fischertravel.com.*

Judy Stein

Stein offers her clients the reach of a large agency combined with the white-glove attention of a high-touch trip planner. Her vacations have included celebratory couples' trips, from truffle hunting in Italy to a surprise-filled journey through Japan. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. judy@smartflyer.com; smartflyer.com.*

POLAR TRAVEL

Jonathan Alder

Alder excels at arranging Arctic trips, such as a three-week expedition from the northern coast of Norway with a full circumnavigation of Svalbard and a port stop in Murmansk, Russia. He also plans forays to the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia Island, and other remote spots. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. jonathan.a@jonathanstravels.us; jonathanstravels.us.*

PRIVATE TRAVEL

David Lowy ★

This private-jet expert works with high-net-worth individuals looking for experiences they didn't know were possible, from a stay on

a tropical island to the ultimate safari or Italian getaway. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. dlowy@renshawtravel.com; renshawtravel.com.*

TRAIN TRAVEL

Eleanor Hardy

Hardy has been crafting luxury train journeys for nearly four decades. A perennial favorite? A 17-day Australian whirlwind via the Ghan and Indian Pacific lines. She recently planned a two-week trip from Paris to Istanbul aboard the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express, complete with excursions to Bulgaria and Romania. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. ehardy@irtsociety.com; irtsociety.com.*



JESSICA SAMPLE



The beach at Hotel Kia Ora Resort & Spa, in Tahiti.

★ = Travel Advisory Board member

and accommodations at California heavy-hitters, like the Madrona, in Healdsburg, or Stanly Ranch, Auberge Resorts Collection, in Napa. Her European itineraries include fun touches like a private street-art workshop in London and cycling trips in Mallorca. *Average daily spend: \$1,750. michelle@azurinetravel.com; azurinetravel.com.*

Jennifer Schwartz

For a weeklong jaunt through Italy, a wine-loving client wanted to bring 20 friends. Schwartz seamlessly coordinated restaurant reservations, tastings, golf outings, shopping, and biking to keep the group both well-fed and active. The cherry on top? A buyout of Osteria Francescana. *Average daily spend: \$1,000. jennifer@authentic-explorations.com; authentic-explorations.com.*

YACHT CHARTERS

Andy Moran

Whether it's a private catamaran sailing through the Maldives or a 130-foot cruiser outfitted with scuba gear and its own submarine for a trip around the Bahamas, Moran pairs his clients with the perfect vessel. *Average daily spend: \$10,000–\$70,000. andy.moran@kensingtontours.com; kensingtontours.com.*

Reported by Paul Brady, Sarah Bruning, Cassidy Grubisic, Tim Latterner, Peter Terzian, Hannah Walkout, and John Wogan

WILDLIFE

Lily Bunker

Animal encounters in Antarctica and South America are Bunker's passion. During one five-week journey across both continents, a client went whale-watching, tracked pumas, and looked for Andean condors. Bunker also emphasizes gastronomy, booking the best chocolate tastings in Ecuador and setting up asado lunches in Patagonia. *Average daily spend: \$850. lily@jacada.travel.com; jacadatravel.com.*

WINE AND GASTRONOMY

Michelle Murré

Drawing on 18 years of experience to coordinate big-ticket wine getaways, Murré secures the best tastings

The rates listed indicate average daily spend, per person per day, as provided by the advisor. Some Travel Advisory Board (TAB) members do not book trips, so no rates are listed.

TRAVEL ADVISORY BOARD

THIS ELITE GROUP, which shares its industry knowledge with the editors of T+L, oversees tens of thousands of individual trips each year. While not all of these 27 experts personally assist clients, many do—you can find them throughout this listing under their respective specialties. The rest lead teams who excel at creating memorable adventures.

Marcus Barlow

An executive at American Express Travel & Lifestyle Services, Barlow leads a team that works with premium card members to plan trips around the world. *marcus.c.barlow@aexp.com; americanexpress.com.*

Rob Clabbers

See Cruise, page 36

Jack Ezon

See Special Interest, page 37

Stacy Fischer-Rosenthal

See Special Interest, page 42

Gina Gabbard

Currently vice president at OvationNetwork, this industry veteran has long-standing connections with suppliers and agents. *ggabbard@theovationnetwork.com; theovationnetwork.com.*

Kareem George

See Special Interest, page 37

Albert M. Herrera

As executive vice president of partner relations at Internova Travel Group, Herrera secures top-tier access for both travel advisors and clients. *aherrera@internova.com; internova.com.*

Barkley Hickox

See Special Interest, page 37

Shawna Huffman Owen

See Special Interest, page 38

Dan Ilves

Ilves and his team help clients navigate all manner of travel challenges, and he has a particular expertise in planning group and cruise vacations. *dan.i@travelstore.com; travelstore.com.*

Mark Lakin

See Asia, page 24

David Lowy

See Special Interest, page 42

Steve Orens

See Special Interest, page 42

Erina Pindar

See Asia, page 24

Julia B. Pirrung

See Special Interest, page 38

Olga Placeres

See Europe, page 22

Sandy Schadler

Schadler and her team plan executive vacations and leisure incentive travel for blue-chip companies, as well as unforgettable experiences for those who vacation like it's their job. *sandy.schadler@travelink.com; travelink.com.*

Linda Scroggins

See Special Interest, page 38

Jim Strong

See Europe, page 22

Carmen Teresa Targa

See Special Interest, page 38

Kendra Thornton

See Special Interest, page 38

Tesa Totengco

See Europe, page 22

Paul Tumpowsky

See Special Interest, page 37

David Van Ness

Van Ness has a fashion background; today he's an expert at managing corporate travel—or finding the perfect cruise. *davidvn@all-travel.com; all-travel.com.*

Keith Waldon

See Special Interest, page 38

Kemi Wells

See Special Interest, page 42

Kimberly Wilson Wetty

See Special Interest, page 38

