

escapism

THE UK'S BIGGEST INDEPENDENT TRAVEL MAGAZINE

THE WINTER SUN SPECIAL



DEPARTURES



A sailing holiday means you can reach parts of the sea that others can't. Taking a dip in balmy waters is nice, but doing it with only coral for company is even nicer.

JUST LANDED

WHAT'S NEW IN TRAVEL

Fancy channeling your inner Jay Z and sailing the high seas on a superyacht? Of course you do. And now you can, with Zizoo. Now, where did we leave that bottle of Cristal...

BOAT PARTY

ZIZOO BOAT CHARTER

First you could borrow someone's home, then their dog, and now their boat. **Zizoo** is a new online booking platform for people who love ogling superyachts and catamarans but don't have the salary to own one. Now you can charter someone else's boat for a fraction of the price, while channeling the A-list lifestyle (with less champers and more cava – but when we're wearing a captain's hat, we ain't complaining). It's one of a new wave of boat-charter sites; book now for discounts for 2016 sailings. zizoo.com

ROOM AT THE INN

INN PLACES

Back in the day, pubs and inns were places for weary travellers to down some ale, rest their horse and catch some shut eye. Cracking idea, we think, and Inn Places, a newly launched website featuring pubs and inns with rooms in the UK, is providing some great long-weekend inspiration. The site features anything from stately coaching inns to cosy 17th-century country pubs with very appealing post-session beds. Beer and sleep – we're sold. innplaces.co.uk



OUTSIDE THE BOX

HORSEBOX HOTEL

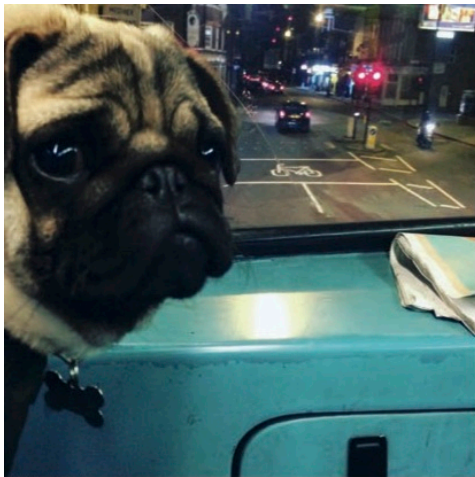
If you're hankering after the good old days of shovelling shit out of your pony's stable (what? you didn't do that? No, neither did we), then this might just satisfy your nostalgia. The Hobbit Box is a newly converted horse box bedroom located near the picturesque Suffolk coastline and bookable through One Off Places. On the box's glamping site you'll also have the chance to try whittling and bushcraft sessions (your guess is as good as ours), while your accommodation is of the cosy-and-rustic rather than freezing-and-damp kind. Time to hit the hay! (Sorry.) oneoffplaces.co.uk

GO PRO

SHERPA GEAR

The Nepalese Sherpa people are the real heroes of Himalayan mountaineering, and technical clothing brand Sherpa – itself Sherpa-owned – aims to give something back. The Paldorje Education Fund for Sherpa children receives a donation from the sale of every product, including the brand's new, high-performance Shakti jacket. £240; sherpaadventuregear.co.uk





DOGBUDDY

A HOLIDAY FOR YOUR DOG

According to ABTA, over 70% of us are opting for far-flung holidays over the staycation. All fine, until your dog gives you the sad-eyes treatment. Don't fret, though, because new dog-sitting app DogBuddy is here; a one-stop-shop of sitters who'll look after your pooch while you gallivant around the world. The site, and new app, features a map with sitters in your location, and each profile includes pictures of the sitter's home and their daily rate. Along with that, there are vets on 24/7 standby and you can receive pics of your dog on his own jollies. #selfie #pugalicious uk.dogbuddy.com



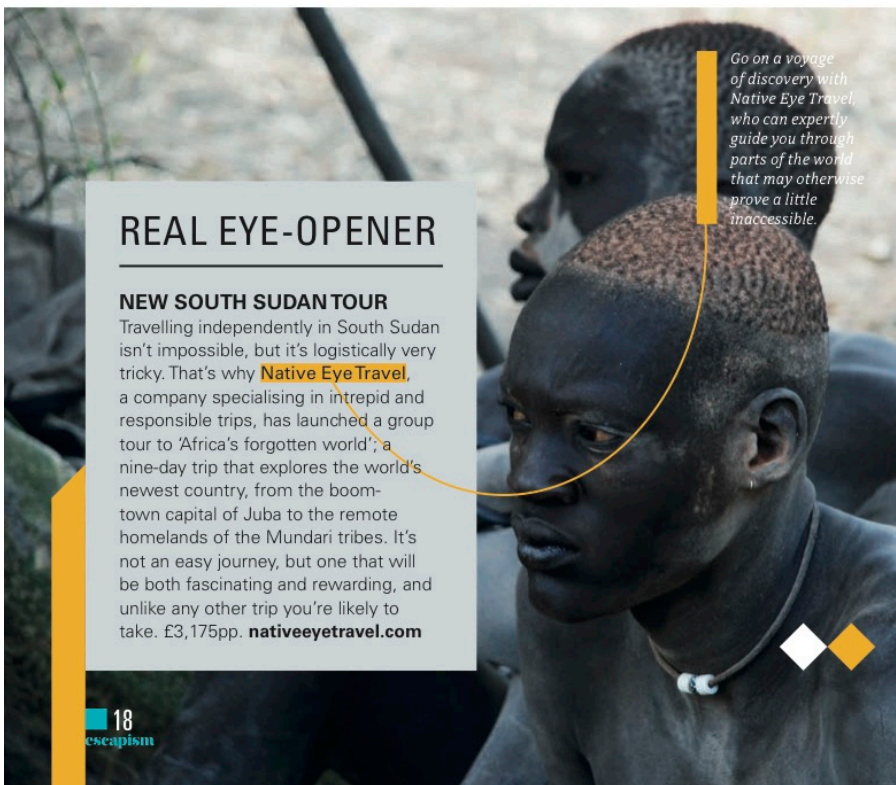
DEPARTURES

SOUL SEARCHING

SOUL & SURF SRI LANKA

Anyone who's tried to squeeze into a wetsuit knows it's a traumatic experience. So instead of learning to surf in the chilly waters of England's south coast, how about hopping on a plane to the new **Soul & Surf** outpost on the sun-drenched shores of southern Sri Lanka? Along with twice-daily surf lessons (including video analysis) the retreat includes yoga and meditation sessions, canoe-based river jaunts and pretty plush accommodation at Duwa Villas. From £775pp based on two sharing a room. soulandsurf.com

Learning to surf may not be the easiest of tasks, but your perseverance will pay off when you get to recover from a day of being bashed about by the waves at Duwa Villas.



REAL EYE-OPENER

NEW SOUTH SUDAN TOUR

Travelling independently in South Sudan isn't impossible, but it's logistically very tricky. That's why **Native Eye Travel**, a company specialising in intrepid and responsible trips, has launched a group tour to 'Africa's forgotten world'; a nine-day trip that explores the world's newest country, from the boom-town capital of Juba to the remote homelands of the Mundari tribes. It's not an easy journey, but one that will be both fascinating and rewarding, and unlike any other trip you're likely to take. £3,175pp. nativeeyetravel.com

Go on a voyage of discovery with Native Eye Travel, who can expertly guide you through parts of the world that may otherwise prove a little inaccessible.

GET OUT OF TOWN

NEW QUEENS HOTEL

Dutch Kills isn't as morbid as it sounds – promise. In fact, it's an emerging 'hood in Long Island City, Queens – that outer borough of New York that you definitely need to visit. The newly opened design-centric Boro Hotel is 108 bedrooms of industrial-chic, and its location means you can explore beyond Manhattan but still reach the sights by subway. From £120pn. borohotel.com

