



Connected Travel

SENSE OF ADVENTURE REQUIRED

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026

WHERE COMFORT MEETS CURIOSITY, AND TRAVEL IS DESIGNED TO FEEL
AS GOOD AS IT LOOKS.

Welcome to Sense of Adventure Required

The Soft Adventure Edit

This is where I share destinations I know deeply, journeys I'd confidently send my own clients on, and the thoughtful details that turn a trip into something that stays with you. Expect considered advice, personal perspective, and travel ideas for those who want a sense of adventure, without rushing, roughing it, or ticking boxes.

YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE WORLD LIKE THIS YET

YOU HAVEN'T TRULY SEEN A DESTINATION UNTIL YOU'VE EXPERIENCED IT AT THE RIGHT PACE

Most people think they know what travel looks like.
They've seen the highlights.
They've followed the well-worn routes.
They've done the "must-sees" often at speed.

But there comes a point, especially for well-travelled, curious explorers, when ticking boxes no longer satisfies. When comfort matters more. When time feels more precious. And when the question shifts from Where should I go next? to How do I want to experience the world now.

I was reminded of this while travelling in Abu Dhabi, heading out into the desert as the sun was setting. That evening didn't unfold as a schedule. It unfolded as a feeling.



A traditional dinner served beneath the stars in a desert camp. Stopping at a camel farm interacting with a farmer and his camel, neither of us could speak the others language but we had a connection via the camel. Time to sit on a giant sand dune with nothing else on the horizon, to notice, to be present. The kind of experience that lingers not because it was dramatic, but because it was thoughtfully designed. It reinforced something I've learned time and again through my travels: **You haven't truly seen a destination until you've experienced it at the right pace.**

It's choosing experiences that allow a place to reveal itself, like arriving in the desert at sunset rather than midday, or building comfort into the journey so attention can be spent on the moment, not the logistics. That's why every journey I design is shaped around curiosity, comfort, and a sense of wonder, drawing on personal insight, trusted supplier relationships, and deep industry knowledge to create soft adventure experiences that feel immersive, intentional, and deeply memorable.

If you've travelled widely but sense there's another layer of the world still waiting, you're probably right. You just haven't seen it like this yet. To read more about our time in Abu Dhabi [**CLICK HERE.**](#)



TRAVEL HACK

TIME OF DAY CHANGES EVERYTHING

Some of the most unforgettable travel moments aren't about where you go, they're about when you go. Arriving at a landmark early, watching a desert landscape at sunset, or taking a scenic route when the light is low can transform an experience from ordinary to extraordinary. Crowds thin, temperatures drop, and the world feels more intimate. The same place can feel entirely different depending on timing, and noticing this is one of the easiest ways to elevate any journey.

I've seen it countless times:

- Abu Dhabi: Driving into the desert at dusk, the dunes glowing gold, then sitting down for a quiet traditional dinner under the stars. The moment lingers in a way no rushed tour could create.
- Greek Islands: Arriving at a tiny harbour before the ferries unload, wandering streets empty of tourists, and enjoying the sunrise on a quiet rooftop.
- Japan: Visiting a temple early in the morning before the crowds arrive, where the stillness allows you to truly feel the history around you.
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Pro tip: Build your itinerary around experience windows rather than just logistics. Consider what moments are best enjoyed in golden hour, early morning, or late afternoon and watch a familiar destination reveal a side you've never seen before.

When you travel with intention, timing isn't an afterthought it's part of the journey itself.

When it comes to travel that balances comfort, immersion, and meaningful experiences, few companies do it as consistently well as Wendy Wu Tours.

Known for their expertise across Asia, Wendy Wu Tours has spent decades building relationships with local suppliers, guides, and communities, the kind of connections that allow travellers to move beyond the obvious and experience destinations more deeply.

What sets them apart for soft adventure travellers is their attention to pace and design. These aren't trips that rush from one highlight to the next. Each itinerary is thoughtfully structured to balance iconic sights with authentic, local experiences, giving you time to breathe, reflect, and immerse.

From cruising the serene waters of Ha Long Bay to wandering the ancient avenues of Angkor Wat, or discovering the cultural heartbeat of Vietnam and Cambodia, Wendy Wu Tours combines well-planned logistics with experiences that let the destination speak for itself.

Some highlights that make their tours stand out for soft adventure travellers include:

- Small-group itineraries that create space for meaningful connections.
- Internal flights and comfortable transport to maximise time in each destination without exhausting travel days.
- Authentic cultural experiences from local markets and traditional crafts to guided encounters with communities.
- Expert guides who know the history, the culture, and the hidden gems, helping travellers see beyond the surface.

As someone who designs soft adventure journeys for travellers who value curiosity, comfort, and depth, I've long admired Wendy Wu Tours for the way they balance ease and engagement. Their itineraries make it easy to explore boldly, without ever feeling rushed or overwhelmed.

Whether you're revisiting a destination you love or discovering somewhere new, their tours provide a well-paced, thoughtfully curated path that aligns perfectly with how I approach travel design for my clients.

If destinations like Vietnam, Cambodia, or beyond are on your 2026 travel list, I'd love to help explore how a Wendy Wu Tours experience could be tailored to your own sense of adventure.



The image displays four promotional banners for Wendy Wu Tours, each with a distinct background and offer:

- TOURS:** Features a cherry blossom scene with a woman in a kimono. Offer: **SAVE UP TO \$2,500 PP** OVER 1,700 DATES ON SALE.
- TRAVEL SALE:** Features a world map with travel icons. Offer: **READY. SET. TRAVEL SALE**. Includes options for TOURS (SAVE UP TO \$2,500 PP), SOLO (FREE OR HALF PRICE), and CRUISE (SAVE UP TO \$3,000 PP OR CABIN UPGRADE).
- SOLO:** Features a person on the Great Wall of China. Offer: **READY. SET. SOLO**. **FREE OR HALF PRICE** SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS. **Everything YOU NEED IS ALREADY INCLUDED**.
- CRUISE:** Features a cruise ship on a bay. Offer: **READY. SET. CRUISE**. **SAVE UP TO \$3,000 PP OR CABIN UPGRADE**. **Everything YOU NEED IS ALREADY INCLUDED**.

Each banner includes a 'WHAT'S INCLUDED' section with icons for: Return International Airfare & Current Taxes, All Accommodation, Daily Activities & Entrance Fees, All Meals on Classic Tours, All Transportation, Visa Fees for Australian Passport Holders (where applicable), Return International Airfare, All Meals on Classic Tours, All Transportation, All Accommodation, Comprehensive Engineering & Daily Activities, and Visa Fees for Australian Passport Holders.

OVER 1,700 DATES ON SALE ACROSS 2026 & 2027

<p>FULLY INCLUSIVE CLASSIC TOUR</p> <p>OR HALF PRICE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT</p> <p>JAPAN UNCOVERED</p> <p>18 DAYS FROM \$14,180pp (WAS \$14,980pp)</p> <p>Osaka Nara Himeji Hiroshima Kyoto Kanazawa Takayama Nagano Mishima Mt Fuji Tokyo</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$800pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admire beautiful Mount Fuji Search for playful Snow Monkeys 	<p>FULLY INCLUSIVE CLASSIC TOUR</p> <p>OR HALF PRICE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT</p> <p>JAPAN BY RAIL</p> <p>22 DAYS FROM \$16,980pp (WAS \$17,980pp)</p> <p>Fukuoka Hiroshima Osaka Kyoto Kanazawa Takayama Matsumoto Suwa Tokyo Sendai Hakodate Sapporo</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$1,000pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discover Japan's three islands by bullet train Learn to make Maple leaf bean buns 	<p>FULLY INCLUSIVE CLASSIC TOUR</p> <p>OR HALF PRICE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT</p> <p>GEMS OF CHINA</p> <p>16 DAYS FROM \$7,780pp (WAS \$8,600pp)</p> <p>Beijing Xian Chengdu 3-night Yangtze River cruise Zhangjiajie Shanghai</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$800pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk across Zhangjiajie's Grand Canyon Uncover at the Terracotta Warriors in Xian
<p>FULLY INCLUSIVE CLASSIC TOUR</p> <p>OR FREE SINGLE SUPPLEMENT</p> <p>ANGKOR TO THE BAY</p> <p>18 DAYS FROM \$7,580pp (WAS \$8,380pp)</p> <p>Siem Reap Phnom Penh Saigon Mekong Delta Hoi An Danang Hue Hanoi Halong Bay</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$800pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be inspired by Cambodia's Angkor temples Cruise Vietnam's magnificent Halong Bay 	<p>FULLY INCLUSIVE CLASSIC TOUR</p> <p>RAJASTHAN PANORAMA</p> <p>22 DAYS FROM \$7,580pp (WAS \$8,400pp)</p> <p>Gurgaon Ahsar Gajner Jaisalmer Jodhpur Udaipur Pushkar Jaipur Ranthambore Agra Delhi</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$900pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Witness the spectacular Taj Mahal Venture into the enchanting Thar Desert 	<p>FULLY INCLUSIVE CLASSIC TOUR</p> <p>EGYPT & JORDAN ADVENTURE</p> <p>20 DAYS FROM \$16,580pp (WAS \$17,380pp)</p> <p>Cairo Alexandria Luxor 4-night Nile River Cruise Aswan Amman Petra Wadi Rum Dead Sea</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$800pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marvel at the breathtaking Pyramids of Giza Visit the iconic twin temples of Abu Simbel
<p>GO BEYOND TOUR</p> <p>ULTIMATE SOUTH AMERICA</p> <p>29 DAYS FROM \$26,180pp (WAS \$28,680pp)</p> <p>Lima Sacred Valley Cusco Puno La Paz Uyuni Atacama Santiago Mendoza Buenos Aires Iguazu Rio de Janeiro</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$2,500pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discover the ancient citadel of Machu Picchu Encounter the breathtaking Iguazu Falls 	<p>CRUISE & TOUR NEW TOUR</p> <p>ANTARCTICA, FALKLANDS & LATIN WONDERS</p> <p>25 DAYS FROM \$40,580pp (WAS \$43,580pp)</p> <p>Rio de Janeiro Iguazu Buenos Aires HX Hurtigruten Expedition Cruise (14N)</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$3,000pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience the diversity of Argentina 14-night cruise on MS Roald Amundsen 	<p>CRUISE & TOUR NEW TOUR</p> <p>OR CABIN UPGRADE</p> <p>WONDERS OF JAPAN BY LAND & SEA</p> <p>23 DAYS FROM \$16,580pp (WAS \$18,580pp)</p> <p>Kyoto Kanazawa Takayama Yudanaka Tokyo Princess Cruise (11N) Tokyo</p> <p>SAVE UP TO \$2,000pp</p> <p>TOUR HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immerse 9 nights in iconic Japan 11-night cruise on Sapphire Princess

Booking a Wendy Wu Tour through me as your independent travel consultant comes with advantages you won't get going direct. You pay exactly the same as you would booking through the company, but with the added benefit of personal insight from years of travel and first-hand experience with their itineraries, allowing me to tailor your journey to your pace, interests, and sense of adventure.

I handle the details, from room preferences, pre and post departure accommodation to other internal logistics, ensuring your experience is seamless from start to finish. Plus, I provide ongoing support before, during, and after your trip, giving you confidence and peace of mind every step of the way.

Essentially, you get all the trusted expertise of Wendy Wu Tours, with the personal care, flexibility, and insight only an independent agent can offer.

EXPLORING THE LATEST IN TRAVEL INSIGHTS FROM SUPPLIER EVENTS

Last week was an absolute whirlwind and an incredibly inspiring one! I've had the privilege of attending several supplier events, where I've been able to see first-hand the latest trends, offerings, and experiences from some of the world's top travel providers.

These events are always a highlight for me, not just because they're fun to attend, but because they allow me to discover exclusive deals and unique experiences that I can pass directly on to my clients. From luxury resorts to immersive cultural journeys, each event is a treasure trove of possibilities for your next adventure..



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60% off best-selling adventures

FLASH SALE. 60% OFF BEST SELLERS

CLICK HERE

Flash Sale



From Ho Chi Minh to Sapa, Vietnam's Wonder
Vietnam in 13 Days

From **\$2,599** ~~\$6,499~~ **60% off**

Flash Sale



Tradition & modernity: semi-guided Japan
Japan in 11 Days

From **\$3,799** ~~\$9,499~~ **60% off**

Flash Sale



Cape & Kruger Explorer
South Africa in 10 Days

From **\$4,199** ~~\$10,499~~ **60% off**

CONNECTED TIDES

ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISES - BIG ADVENTURES, BRILLIANT VALUE

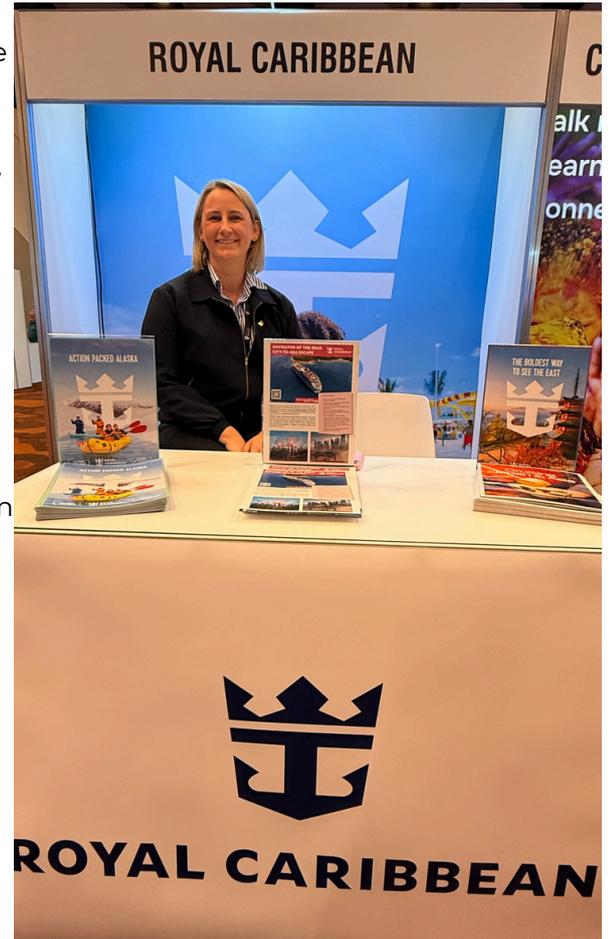
One of the highlights of the recent supplier events I attended was spending time with Royal Caribbean Cruises, and it's safe to say, the excitement around cruising is stronger than ever.

Royal Caribbean continues to redefine what a cruise holiday can be, blending innovative ships, immersive destinations, and unforgettable onboard experiences. Whether it's exploring tropical islands, discovering historic cities, or simply enjoying the journey at sea, their cruises are designed for travellers who want variety, comfort, and a sense of adventure all wrapped into one seamless holiday.

What really stood out during our conversations was how well Royal Caribbean aligns with today's soft adventure travel trend. Guests can enjoy enriching shore excursions, cultural experiences, active adventures, and moments of discovery, while still returning each day to the comfort of world-class dining, entertainment, and accommodation. It's adventure without the hassle, and exploration without compromise.

Even better, Royal Caribbean currently has some exceptional deals available, offering fantastic value for couples, families, and multigenerational travellers alike. These offers make it the perfect time to consider a cruise, whether it's your first time or you're a seasoned cruiser looking for your next unforgettable journey.

If cruising has been on your wish list, or if you're curious about how it could fit into your next holiday, now is a great time to explore the options. If you'd like to learn more about the current Royal Caribbean deals or start planning your next cruise adventure, feel free to get in touch. I'd love to help you find the perfect sailing.



AIR, LAND & SEA



Ultimate Caribbean Adventure

Miami Return

- Includes International Flights
- 1 Night Pre-Cruise in Miami
- 14 Night Cruise, *Icon of the Seas*
- Perfect Day at CocoCay

15 NIGHTS FROM
\$6,895pp*

Departs: 18 Sep 2026

Valid until: 31 Mar 2026

Bonus: SAVE up to \$2,180*

LAND & SEA



Mediterranean Brilliance

Rome to Barcelona

- 4 Nights Hotels
- Transfers between Hotels & Ports
- 7 Night Cruise, *Brilliance of the Seas*
- Main meals & entertainment on board

11 NIGHTS FROM
\$2,999pp*

Departs: 05 Sep 2026

Valid until: 31 Mar 2026

Bonus: SAVE up to \$450*

AIR, LAND & SEA



Transpacific Paradise

Honolulu to Sydney

- Includes International Flight
- 3 Nights Hotel in Honolulu
- 18 Night Cruise, *Anthem of the Seas*
- Main meals & entertainment onboard

21 NIGHTS FROM
\$5,299pp*

Departs: 08 Oct 2026

Valid until: 28 Feb 2026

Bonus: SAVE up to \$4,500*





Bunnik Tours reveals how this generation is reshaping travel by travelling and spending more

A whopping 84 per cent of Baby Boomers prefer small-group tours and are willing to pay more for authentic, intimate experiences.

There is overwhelming demand for off-the-beaten-path destinations (95%) and culturally immersive travel (93%) among this cohort. While traditional destinations, such as Japan, Italy and Spain, are still popular, interest is rising for lesser-known regions in Africa, South America and Central Asia, shaping Baby Boomer travel trends in 2026.

While geopolitics, safety and climate are top of mind for around 70 per cent of Baby Boomers, this generation remains highly motivated to travel, particularly when trips are supported, curated and stress-free.



Sense of Adventure Required

A Travel Blog Igniting Your Passion for Travel because the world is full of wonders waiting to be explored, my blog is here to inspire, guide, and spark your wanderlust. From hidden gems to unforgettable journeys, let's uncover the beauty of travel together.



Missed Something Recently?

If you've missed any of my recent blog posts, you can catch up via the link below. I share longer-form stories, destination insights, and thoughtful travel reflections there.

[How Soft Adventure Travel Redefines What Adventure Can Feel Like](#)

If you'd prefer, you can also subscribe to have them delivered straight to your inbox so you never miss what's next.

[Click Here To Subscribe](#)



Pack Moments, Not Just Gear....

1. Travel Tip: Let the Rhythm Guide You

Your day doesn't need to follow a strict schedule. Let the flow of the destination set the pace, you'll notice more, feel more, and leave with deeper memories.

2. Travel Tip: Comfort Unlocks Curiosity

Choosing a well-located hotel, a quiet ryokan, or a comfortable transport option isn't indulgence, it frees your energy to explore, connect, and immerse.

3. Travel Tip: Choose One Highlight, Really Explore It

Instead of trying to "see it all," pick one site or experience and spend the time to truly absorb it. Depth beats distance every time.

If this newsletter stirred something, a memory, a curiosity, or the sense that it might be time to plan a journey of your own, I'm always happy to help shape it. Thoughtfully planned, well connected, and designed around how you want to experience the world.

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I have been trained and certified to offer you the highest level of service and value when planning your cruise with Princess.
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