



Connected Travel

SENSE OF ADVENTURE REQUIRED

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 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.

TRAVEL WITH PRIDE: EXPLORING THE WORLD AS YOUR AUTHENTIC SELF



June is Pride Month, a time to celebrate diversity, inclusion, visibility, and the freedom to live authentically. While Pride events around the world bring communities together in colourful and meaningful ways, Pride is also a reminder of the importance of belonging, acceptance, and being true to ourselves wherever life takes us. Including when we travel.

Travel has the power to broaden our horizons, connect us with different cultures, and create unforgettable memories. It allows us to step outside our daily routines and discover new perspectives. For many LGBTQIA+ travellers, however, choosing a destination involves more than simply selecting a place on a map. Feeling welcomed, respected, and safe can play an important role in deciding where to go and how to travel.



The good news is that the travel industry continues to evolve, with more destinations, accommodations, tour operators, and experiences embracing diversity and creating welcoming environments for all travellers.

Celebrate Pride Through Exploration

Pride is ultimately about authenticity. It's about embracing who you are and celebrating the diversity that makes our communities stronger. Travel offers a wonderful opportunity to do exactly that. Whether you're dreaming of a nature-based escape, a cultural discovery, a romantic getaway, or an active adventure, there are incredible experiences waiting to be explored.

As Pride Month reminds us, the world is at its best when everyone feels welcome to experience it fully and authentically. Happy Pride Month, and wherever your travels take you, may they be filled with connection, discovery, and unforgettable memories.

SOFT ADVENTURE TRAVEL HACK FOR PRIDE MONTH AND BEYOND

Whether you're planning a weekend getaway or a bucket-list adventure, a little preparation can help ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience.

Research Your Destination

Understanding local laws, customs, and attitudes towards LGBTQIA+ travellers can help you make informed travel decisions and feel more confident throughout your journey.

Choose Inclusive Accommodation

Many hotels and travel providers actively promote diversity and inclusion. Reading reviews and seeking recommendations can help identify welcoming places to stay.

Travel at Your Own Pace

One of the greatest gifts of soft-adventure travel is the opportunity to slow down and truly experience a destination. Leave room in your itinerary for unexpected discoveries and meaningful moments.

BABY BOOMERS DO, NOT JUST SAY WHEN IT COMES TO SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL



While 83% of Aussies say that sustainable travel is important to them, it is the older generations who are putting their money where their mouths are, according to Booking.com's new Travel & Sustainability Report. Despite Gen Zs and Millennials expressing a stronger desire to travel sustainably in the next 12 months (80% and 76% respectively vs 68% of Gen X and 48% of Boomers), it is travellers aged 45 and over who are showing a more robust commitment to take action. Three in four of Boomers and more than half (55%) of Gen X said they plan to reduce general waste on upcoming trips, in comparison to 52% of Millennials and just half of Gen Z. The figures revealed a similar story when it came to shopping at local stores, reducing energy consumption and travelling out of peak season, with Boomers taking the lead on all fronts. However, younger travellers across APAC are taking the charge in some sustainable areas, with 34% of Gen Z and 31% of Millennials participating in indigenous experiences, compared to 25% of Gen X & 21% of Boomers in the last year.

Fairways & Getaways

Vietnam Group Departure
13–20 March 2027

8 DAYS
7 Nights

4 ★ BEACHFRONT RESORT

from AUD **\$2,364** *With Golf

from AUD **\$1,380** Non-Golfers

based on 2 pax sharing

INCLUDES

- 7 nights accommodation
- 3 rounds of 18-hole golf including cart & caddies*
- Daily breakfast
- Private airport & touring transfers
- English-speaking local guides & entrance fees
- Local support throughout

This relaxed golf and lifestyle escape blends championship golf with cultural experiences, coastal scenery and free time in beautiful Hoi An. Designed for both golfers and non-golfers, the itinerary combines premium golf, immersive local touring, Vietnamese cuisine and downtime by the beach, all while staying at a stylish beachfront resort.

3 ROUNDS OF GOLF

WORLD-CLASS GOLF EXPERIENCE

Play three of Central Vietnam's premier golf courses including the riverside BRG Nicklaus Course, the scenic mountain setting of Ba Na Hills Golf Club and the coastal fairways of Vinpearl Golf Nam Hoi An — each offering a unique and memorable golfing experience.



BEACHFRONT RESORT RETREAT

WYNDHAM HOI AN ROYAL BEACHFRONT RESORT ★★★★★

Unwind at the Wyndham Hoi An Royal Beachfront Resort, a stylish coastal retreat set just steps from the beach. Combining spacious ocean-view rooms with resort facilities, pools and easy access to Hoi An's ancient town, it provides the perfect base for both relaxation and exploration.



BEYOND THE FAIRWAYS

HOI AN COUNTRYSIDE JEEP TOUR

Explore rural Hoi An by Jeep visiting local farms, traditional craft villages and countryside communities before enjoying a home-cooked Vietnamese lunch with a local family.

BA NA HILLS & GOLDEN BRIDGE

Ride one of Southeast Asia's most impressive cable car systems to Ba Na Hills, famous for its mountain scenery, before visiting the iconic Golden Bridge and enjoying panoramic views over Da Nang and the coastline.

RED BRIDGE COOKING CLASS

Visit Hoi An's vibrant market before cruising by boat to Red Bridge Cooking School for a hands-on Vietnamese cooking experience.



13–20 March 2027

SPACES LIMITED | ENQUIRE NOW



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FAIRWAYS & GETAWAYS – HOIAN, VIETNAM

MARCH 2027

I'm delighted to invite you to join me on Fairways & Getaways, a hosted small-group journey to the enchanting town of Hoi An, Vietnam, in March 2027.

This carefully curated experience combines exceptional golf, fascinating cultural encounters, delicious cuisine, and time to relax in one of Southeast Asia's most charming destinations. Best of all, it's designed for both golfers and non-golfers, making it the perfect getaway for couples, friends, and solo travellers alike.

Golfers will enjoy the opportunity to play some of Vietnam's most highly regarded golf courses, known for their spectacular settings and world-class design. Meanwhile, non-golfers can immerse themselves in the rich culture and craftsmanship that Hoi An is famous for.

Highlights for non-golfers include visits with skilled local artisans, including jewellery makers, expert tailors, and bespoke shoemakers renowned for their exceptional workmanship. There will also be the opportunity to participate in a Vietnamese cooking class, explore the colourful streets and markets, and perhaps commission a unique handcrafted piece to take home as a lasting reminder of the journey.

As your host, I will be travelling with the group throughout the trip, ensuring everything runs smoothly while sharing the experiences and creating a welcoming atmosphere for everyone.

Whether you're passionate about golf, interested in authentic cultural experiences, or simply looking for a memorable holiday with like-minded travellers, Fairways & Getaways offers the perfect balance of activity, discovery, and relaxation.

Expressions of Interest close on 26 June.

I invite you to view the detailed itinerary and learn more about this exciting hosted journey. Places are limited, so if you'd like to join us, please contact me as soon as possible to register your interest.

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE DETAILED ITINERARY](#)



Discover the world with On The Go Tours, a global travel company specialising in expertly guided group tours, private adventures, safaris, cruises, and cultural experiences across more than 90 destinations worldwide. Since 1998, they've been helping travellers experience authentic local culture through carefully curated itineraries, knowledgeable guides, and hassle-free travel planning. From iconic landmarks to hidden gems, On The Go Tours combines adventure, comfort, and meaningful travel experiences for every style and budget.

Trips for Every Style and Budget

They want to help everyone find the right trip for them, because travel means something different to each person. Whether it's about discovery, connection, relaxation or adventure, they look for new ways to help travellers experience the world in the way that suits them best.

From short getaways packed with highlights to longer, fully immersive travel experiences, there's something for every style and budget. The On The Go Tours website features thousands of multi-day trips, including guided tours, sailing adventures, safaris, city breaks and beach holidays. With so many experiences to choose from, it's easy to filter through a wide range of options and find the perfect trip that matches your interests, pace and budget.

Best deals on worldwide tours

 <p>2-for-1</p> <p>Vietnam Treasures of Vietnam</p> <p>9 Days Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi Age Range: 15 - 100 Max Group Size: 24</p> <p>From AUD \$5,100pp AUD \$2,550pp</p>	 <p>New</p> <p>Turkey Marmaris Fethiye Marmaris Cruise</p> <p>8 Days Marmaris back to Marmaris Age Range: 0 - 100 Max Group Size: 40</p> <p>From AUD \$3,690pp AUD \$1,845pp</p>	 <p>Save 45%</p> <p>Morocco Essential Morocco</p> <p>8 Days Casablanca to Marrakech Age Range: 15 - 100 Max Group Size: 16</p> <p>From AUD \$2,040pp AUD \$1,562pp</p>	 <p>Save 45%</p> <p>Italy Rome, Florence & Venice</p> <p>8 Days Rome back to Rome Age Range: 0 - 100 Max Group Size: 50</p> <p>From AUD \$4,315pp AUD \$2,374pp</p>
 <p>Save 45%</p> <p>Italy Italian Express</p> <p>5 Days Rome back to Rome Age Range: 0 - 100 Max Group Size: 50</p> <p>From AUD \$2,675pp AUD \$1,472pp</p>	 <p>Save 45%</p> <p>Italy La Dolce Vita</p> <p>11 Days Rome back to Rome Age Range: 0 - 100 Max Group Size: 50</p> <p>From AUD \$6,700pp AUD \$3,729pp</p>	 <p>Save 45%</p> <p>Turkey Essential Turkey</p> <p>7 Days Istanbul back to Istanbul Age Range: 15 - 100 Max Group Size: 32</p> <p>From AUD \$4,040pp AUD \$2,222pp</p>	 <p>Save 40%</p> <p>Turkey Turkey Unplugged</p> <p>10 Days Istanbul back to Istanbul Age Range: 15 - 100 Max Group Size: 24</p> <p>From AUD \$3,740pp AUD \$2,244pp</p>

THE FIVE STANS OF THE SILK ROAD

THE PERFECT JOURNEY FOR SOFT ADVENTURE TRAVELLERS

Not every adventure needs to be extreme. Those who crave culture, connection, incredible landscapes, and unforgettable stories without needing to summit mountains or sleep rough every night.

From the ancient cities of Uzbekistan to the alpine lakes of Kyrgyzstan, the colourful bazaars of Tajikistan, the dramatic canyons of Kazakhstan, and the nomadic traditions of Turkmenistan, this is travel that feels both adventurous and comfortable.

Think:

- Boutique stays and welcoming guesthouses
- Scenic drives through epic landscapes
- Easy hikes with breathtaking views
- Local food, tea houses, and authentic cultural experiences
- Ancient Silk Road history at every turn
- Small group camaraderie without the crowds

The Five Stans offer the kind of adventure that changes your perspective while still letting you enjoy a warm meal, a comfy bed, and time to truly soak it all in. If you've been looking for a destination that feels undiscovered yet accessible, this is it.



2027 DATES

19 Day Five Stans of The Silk Road 2027

\$6,499
typically \$8,999



THAILAND SLASHES VISA FREE STAY PERIOD

Thailand has announced plans to halve its visa-free stay period, which would see tourists from more than 90 countries, including Australia, only allowed to stay in the country for 30 days without a visa. While most holiday-makers will not be impacted, the rule change may deter a cohort of Aussies who are planning longer trips, including retired travellers and digital nomads. Tourism Minister Surasak Phanchaoenworakul told local media that most foreign tourists, including Australians, would be permitted to stay up to 30 days, while some may be granted 15 days on a case-by-case basis. The new rule, which was approved by the country's cabinet last week, is part of a crackdown on individuals misusing the visa system by committing crimes in the country, according to the country's Foreign Minister, Sihasak Phuanketkeow. Thai officials have said the new system will be introduced soon, but are yet to confirm a date. JM



MWTOURS

WANDERING SOUTH AFRICA

FROM **\$5,899** pp
PRICE PER PERSON TWIN SHARE | LAND ONLY

SURCHARGES MAY APPLY

14 DAYS | SMALL GROUP
FAMILY FRIENDLY | MIN. GROUP SIZE 2



YOUR PERFECT FIRST TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA

Discover South Africa's iconic highlights - 14 Day Africa Adventure

Imagine waking to the roar of lions in Kruger... standing on the edge of God's Window at sunrise... cruising a mirror-like lagoon at sunset... and ending your days with penguins on the beach and Table Mountain glowing behind you.

That's not a dream, that's Wandering South Africa. This hand-crafted 14-day small group journey is specially designed for first-time visitors who want the perfect mix of wildlife, culture, dramatic landscapes, and effortless comfort.

Here's what's waiting for you:

- Kruger National Park – Multiple game drives to spot the Big 5
- Panorama Route – God's Window, Blyde River Canyon & Bourke's Luck Potholes
- Eswatini (Swaziland) – Immersive visit to Matsamo Cultural Village
- Garden Route magic – Tsitsikamma National Park, Storms River, Knysna lagoon sunset cruise
- Oudtshoorn – Ostrich farm + the spectacular Cango Caves
- Cape Town & Peninsula – Chapman's Peak Drive, Boulders Beach penguins

You'll stay in hand-picked 4-star accommodation for 13 nights, with daily breakfast, selected lunches & dinners, a professional English-speaking guide, and small group travel so you actually get to enjoy every moment.

EMIRATES RESTORES 97% OF GLOBAL NETWORK AFTER UAE AIRSPACE REOPENS

Emirates has rebuilt nearly its entire route network following the full reopening of UAE airspace, with 97 per cent of destinations now back online after weeks of disruption – as Middle East carriers move to signal a broader regional recovery. The UAE General Civil Aviation Authority lifted all temporary airspace restrictions on 2 May 2026, clearing the way for the Dubai-based carrier to resume services across the Americas, Europe, Africa, West Asia, the Middle East, Far East and Australasia.



CONNECTED TIDES

EXPERTS KEY TO EXPEDITION CRUISING

Expert guidance is now the number one driver of expedition travel decisions, new research from Australian cruise line Aurora Expeditions has found. A survey of more than 700 expeditioners found that 95.3% of respondents rated the expertise of the expedition team as the most important factor, with itinerary coming second (94.2%), followed by small ship size (93.3%) and landings (92.9%).

Expert-led experiences has overtaken the default starting point of destination as the primary decision driver, which Aurora believes reflects a broader transformation in how travellers are approaching the sector. "As the category grows, travellers are becoming more discerning...it's no longer just about where you go, but how you experience it," global head of product Justin Ewin said. "The expertise of the expedition team plays a critical role in shaping that experience, from interpreting wildlife encounters to providing deeper context around the environments we visit," he added.

Aurora's findings come as the expedition cruise sector enters a period of rapid expansion, with global capacity for expedition ships forecast to grow by 150% between 2019 and 2029, according to CLIA. Demand is already accelerating in Australia, with the market taking 22% more expedition voyages year-on-year, from 9,000 in 2024 to 11,000 last year. Wildlife and nature encounters remain the leading inspiration for expedition travel, cited by nearly three-quarters (74%) of respondents, while adventure and active exploration ranked second (70%), followed by bucket list motivation (33%) and learning & enrichment (29%)



15 day itinerary

**Three Arctic Islands:
Iceland, Greenland,
Spitsbergen**

Starting from (per person)

\$13,951 USD ~~\$18,690 USD~~

Incl. Charter Flight & Hotel ⓘ



11 day itinerary

**Svalbard in Spring: Sea
Ice, Pristine Snow and
Wildlife**

Starting from (per person)

\$10,501 USD ~~\$12,090 USD~~

Incl. Charter Flight & Hotel ⓘ

130TH ANNIVERSARY OFFERS

In our 130th year of exploring beyond the horizon, we're celebrating what over a century of expertise makes possible – giving your clients special offers on over 300 expeditions and onboard experiences they won't find anywhere else.

Up to 25% Off
OR A
Free Suite Upgrade

Highlights include:

Destination	Itinerary	Ship	Tour Start	Duration	Cabins From	Suites From
Antarctica	Highlights of Antarctica	MS Fridtjof Nansen	30/10/2026	12 Days	\$14,592 pp	\$20,776 pp
Antarctica	Iconic Antarctica – The Explorer's Route	MS Roald Amundsen	31/10/26	16 Days	\$16,334 pp	\$22,833 pp
Antarctica	Life Returns – Springtime Expedition to Antarctica	MS Fram	16/10/26	23 Days	\$23,754 pp	\$31,894 pp
Greenland	Discovering Greenland – From Reykjavik to Nuuk	MS Fridtjof Nansen	02/06/27	14 Days	\$12,537 pp	\$17,830 pp
Alaska	Alaska's Inside Passage – Fjords of The Great Land	MS Roald Amundsen	22/05/27	10 Days	\$7,916 pp	\$12,377 pp
Iceland	Elemental Iceland – Circular Saga from Reykjavik	MS Fridtjof Nansen	19/05/27	8 Days	\$7,444 pp	\$10,422 pp

OFFERS END 31 AUGUST

Email: jen.camilleri@connectedtravel.com.au
Call: 0411 332 172



EXPEDITIONS

Change the way you see the world

ANTARCTICA | GREENLAND | SVALBARD | NORTHWEST PASSAGE | ALASKA | NORWAY | ICELAND



Mothers and daughters: a growing market

There are three distinct strata of mother-daughter travellers: older mothers in their 70s and 80s travelling with daughters in their 40s and 50s; mothers in their 40s and 50s with daughters in their 20s and 30s; and younger mothers bringing teenage daughters. Each dynamic brings its own motivation, but the thread running through all of them is the desire to reconnect at a new life stage – graduations, empty nests, retirements, milestone birthdays. Mother-daughter trips are part of a larger rise in multigenerational travel. Travel industry reports show strong growth in trips involving grandparents, parents, and adult children. Some surveys report that more than half of families are now planning trips involving extended family.



Missed Something Recently?

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

Asian Perfect Pairings

Why Bhutan Is the Ultimate Destination for the Soft Adventure Traveller

Celebrating Pride Month Through Travel: Exploring the World Authentically

Never miss a blog, subscribe to have them delivered straight to your inbox - [Click Here To Subscribe](#)



Soft Adventure Travel Tips - The Five Stans of the Silk Road

1. Pack for layers, not extremes

The region's landscapes range from deserts to mountains, and temperatures can change quickly throughout the day.

2. Embrace the slower pace

The magic of the Stans isn't just in the landmarks—it's in the tea houses, local markets, family-run guesthouses, and conversations with locals.

3. Choose experiences over challenges

Scenic drives, short walks to stunning viewpoints, cultural encounters, and historic city explorations offer all the rewards of adventure without the physical demands.

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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