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SHOULD YOU?

QUICK-FIX PLANNING SOLUTIONS



WHERE TO GO WHEN

Whatever month you choose for your honeymoon (tip – you can always have a 'mini-moon' and save the big splurge for later), our experts will know a destination that's guaranteed to sweep her away

JANUARY SUSIE FREEMAN FOUNDER, SUSIE FREEMAN TRAVEL

'I'd go to **South Africa's Cape** because the weather is glorious, the scenery stunning and there are lots of romantic hideaways, like Le Quartier Français, tucked away among the vineyards. And if you need excitement, Cape Town is around the corner.'

■ Susie Freeman Travel (01488 668821; susiefreemantravel.com) specialises in honeymoons to South Africa, Mauritius and the Seychelles

FEBRUARY TANYA DALTON PR & MARKETING MANAGER, GREAVES TRAVEL

'From the majestic peaks of the Himalayas, regal palaces and jungles of the North to the bohemian beaches and backwaters of the South, you can create an adventure that is all yours. Stay in glorious palaces, small family-run forts or fabulous five-star retreats,



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to make the most of this enchanting country.'

■ Greaves Travel (020 7487 9111; greavesindia.com) offers tailor-made holidays to India

MARCH DOMINIC SPEAKMAN CEO, DESTINOLOGY

'Mauritius is one of my personal favourites. There are waterfalls, world-class golf, deep-sea fishing and every watersport. As well as luxury resorts and beautiful beaches, the island has a culture rich in Indian, Chinese, African, French and British influences.'

■ Destinology (0800 634 2866; destinology.co.uk) offers 7 nights at Oberoi Mauritius from £1,849pp (valid from 21 April-30 June and 20 July-30 September), including economy flights, transfers and 1 candlelit dinner for 2 with a bottle of wine

APRIL THIERRY MACQUET MARKETING MANAGER EUROPE, NIAIDE RESORTS

'April is the perfect time to honeymoon in the Maldives – guaranteed sunshine, pristine empty beaches and for active couples who like diving, it is the whale shark season so chances of spotting the magnificent whale shark are higher than ever. Spoil yourselves with a sunset sail and

a bespoke his and her couples massage in the luxury Anne Semonin Spa.'

■ netflights.com offers 7 nights at Diva Maldives, half board, for £2,279pp, including Qatar Airways flights from London Gatwick, return seaplane transfers and pre-payable taxes. For further information visit www.netflights.com or call 0800 923 1803

MAY JAMES BELL CO-FOUNDER, TURQUOISE HOLIDAY COMPANY

'This is the perfect time to visit **Tahiti and Her Islands** – the weather's great, it's not too busy and the flowers are out. Make sure you visit at least two islands – Bora Bora is a must, and you'll love the remote Tuamotu Islands.'

■ The Turquoise Holiday Company (01494 678400; turquoiseholidays.co.uk) offers 10 nights in Tahiti and Her Islands from £2,700pp, including flights and transfers

JUNE MARK WHITE **CARIBBEAN** PRODUCT MANAGER, SEASONS IN STYLE

'I'd honeymoon at Parrot Cay in the Turks & Caicos – in June it's less crowded than peak season, but the weather's still great. It sits on its own 1,000 acre private island, with amazing clear blue waters and white sand, and there's an award-winning Como Shambala retreat.

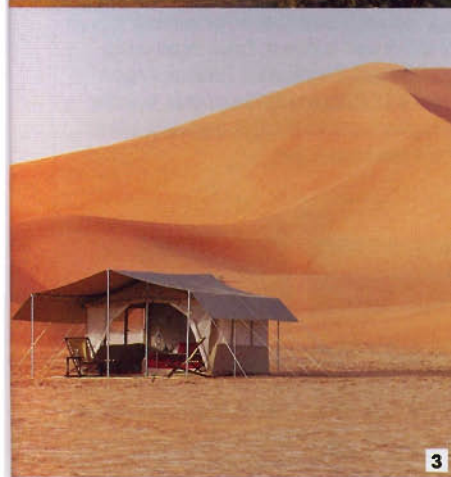


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■ Seasons in Style (01244 202000; seasonsinstyle.com) offers 7 nights for the price of 5 in a Garden View Room at Parrot Cay from £1,945pp b&b (a saving of £500), including BA flights and transfers. (Valid 19 April-20 December '09, subject to availability terms and conditions apply)

JULY YAO BUTWISATE FAR EAST PRODUCT MANAGER, COX & KINGS

'The weather in **Borneo** is at its best between May and September – warm and clear with minimal rainfall. July is fruiting season in the rainforest, so the wildlife is at its most active and easy to spot.'

■ Cox & Kings (020 7873 5000; coxandkings.co.uk) offers 14 nights in Borneo, taking in Sabah, Sarawak and 3 nights at the Shangri-La Rasa Ria, from £2,995pp, including flights, transfers and excursions

AUGUST ERIK HAUGEN CEO, KIWI COLLECTION

'For a recession-friendly honeymoon, take a short hop to Italy and book one of the 14 gorgeous Tuscan rooms at Castello Banfi Il Borgo – a stunning wine estate with hilltop pool. Re-live some Bond action in nearby Siena with the famous Palio horse race, as featured in Quantum of Solace.'

■ Il Palio di Siena is on August 16 and rooms at Il Borgo start from €300 per night per room. Ask for the 'Kiwi' rate, which includes a €50 credit in the estate's wine shop and guaranteed pampering. For more honeymoon ideas, visit kiwicollection.com

SEPTEMBER LLOYD BOUTCHER DIRECTOR, SUNVIL LATIN AMERICA

'I'd recommend **Peru** for a September honeymoon – it's full of history, spectacular scenery and diverse wildlife. It's the dry season so the climate isn't too hot or humid and there's a much better chance of seeing Machu Picchu without cloud cover and experiencing the Amazon without the tropical downpours.'

■ Sunvil Latin America (020 8758 4774; sunvil.co.uk) offers 8 nights in Peru from £5,400pp, including international and internal flights and transfers, and some privately guided excursions

OCTOBER TOM BARBER FOUNDER, ORIGINAL TRAVEL

'I'd combine a visit to **Oman** (a stay at the new **Six Senses Hideaway Zighy Bay**, a 4x4 safari, seeing giant turtles laying eggs on the beach, and nights under the stars in the desert) with **India** (tiger-spotting in

- 1 Beautiful India (February)
- 2 Inkaterra Reserva Amazonika, Peru (September)
- 3 Desert safari in Oman (October).
- 4 Cavas Wine Lodge, Argentina (November).
- 5 Parrot Cay, Turks & Caicos islands (June).
- 6 Orang-utan, Borneo (July).
- 7 Castello Banfi Il Borgo (August)

Ranthambore and then Oberoi Udaivilas, Udaipur, with a room overlooking the lake'

■ Original Travel (020 7978 7333; originaltravel.co.uk) offers 14-night honeymoons taking in the highlights of Oman and India from £5,400pp, including flights and transfers

NOVEMBER LEIJA GRAF CEO, SELECT COLLECTION

'I'd go to **Argentina** – it's an up-and-coming destination that offers unique experiences at great value. Start off at the Faena Hotel + Universe in Buenos Aires, the elegant and sophisticated capital that breathes passion. Then take in the Iguazu falls before Mendoza and a stay at the Cavas Wine Lodge. Finish off with a few days on a ranch on the pampas outside Buenos Aires.'

■ Select Collection (020 7491 7171; selectcollection.co.uk) offers 16 nights in Argentina from £6,465pp, including return Business Class flights, all internal flights and transfers, and VIP treatment throughout

DECEMBER THE GROOMS TEAM

'It's Christmas. Forget the honeymoon and invite all your family to the marital home. It's time to see how your new wife copes with cooking turkey for 43 in-laws.'