

WORLD TRAVEL

Magazine
Dec/Jan 2015

Adventure
awaits in
intriguing
Kerala

GORGEOUS
TRAIN AND
CRUISE
JOURNEYS
2015

Quest for the
**FRENCH
RIVIERA'S**
best rose

Dream
destinations

Singapore S\$8
Malaysia RM 20
Thailand THB 200
Indonesia IDR 70,000
Vietnam VND 130,000
Hong Kong HK\$ 48

FEATURING: *Kenya, French Polynesia, New Zealand, Mexico, Antarctica, Myanmar, Ecuador*

TRAIN TRAVELS 2015

BY CHRISTINE LEE

These incredible experiences await the travellers
who yearn to sit back and relax as time and
landscapes gently scroll by.



Venice Simpleton - A cabin steward delivers afternoon tea to a compartment

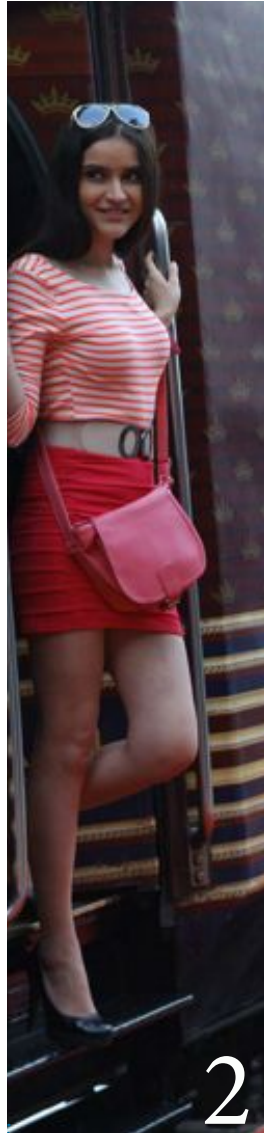


1

Country Homes and Gardens of Scotland

by Belmond Royal Scotsman

A journey on the Belmond Royal Scotsman is regarded as one of the world's great travel experiences. Encounter Scotland's ever-changing landscapes of sweeping glens, towering peaks and mirror-calm lochs as the train weaves through wild countryside and along virgin stretches of coast. Sitting in the Observation Car, a wee dram in hand, guests might spot a magnificent stag atop a heather-covered crag or glimpse a pine marten dashing for woodland cover. All journeys on the Royal Scotsman are round trip via Edinburgh. **Destinations Covered** Edinburgh, Glasgow, Keith **Departure Dates** April 2015 **Duration** 8 days/7 nights **Season** Mid-April – October, peak June-August **From** \$10,860



2

Indian Splendour Journey

by Maharaja Express

Soak up the spectacular regal heritage of Rajasthan with its magnificent forts, vibrant bazars and royal cuisine. This journey will leave you with everlasting memories of the Rajputana culture, history and its folklore.

Destinations

Covered Delhi, Agra, Ranthambore, Jaipur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Balasinor and Mumbai **Departure Dates** 28th Feb 2015 **Duration** 8 Days **From** \$5,980 **Season** October - April



3

Signature Journey

by Venice Simpleton-Orient-Express

Depart from Istanbul and travel through Turkey and Bulgaria. Arrive the next day in Bucharest for a one-night stay, and continue your journey towards Budapest where you spend the night. Rejoin the train the next day and travel into Austria, stopping for a short city tour in Vienna before your overnight journey to Venice, where your trip ends.

Destinations Covered

Istanbul, Bucharest, Budapest, Venice **Duration** 6 days/5 nights **Departure Dates** Sept, 4 2015 **From** \$9,270 **Season** September



4

Durban Safari

by Rovos

Join this three-day safari and experience the splendor of KwaZulu-Natal. Take in the Big Five, a battlefields tour with a world-class historian and unusual African ceramics. Enjoy a game drive in the Nambiti Conservancy and then, at Spionkop Lodge, explore the mountains, bush, birds and battlefields of the region.

Ardmore Ceramics is a story about the Zulu people whose sense of rhythm, color, dance and song, as well as the spirit of the African imagination, is exerting its influence on the other continents of the world. Pay a morning visit to this charming center in the rolling hills of the Midlands before the train makes its way to Durban.

Destinations Covered

Durban Departure Dates Every second week from December to February **Duration** 2 Nights **From** \$1,380



5

Venice, Florence & Portofino

by Venice Simpleton Orient-Express

Featuring an overnight journey on Venice Simpleton combined with stays in Venice, Florence & Portofino. Depart from London Victoria or Paris Gare de L'Est for the overnight journey to Venice. Explore the "Queen of Adriatic" and lagoon with private guide and boat. Private car transfers to Florence and a countryside tour of beautiful Tuscany. Continue the journey through Italy with a transfer to the spectacular harbour of Portofino with sightseeing en route. **Destinations Covered** Venice, Florence, Portofino **Departure Dates** March 22, 2015 **Duration** 11 days / 10 nights **From** \$970, **Season** March to November



6

The Fables of the Peninsula

by Eastern & Oriental Express

Start with an overnight stay at the legendary Raffles Singapore Hotel followed by a leisurely journey through Malaysia and Thailand.

Daily excursions include the lively city of Kuala Lumpur followed by complete relaxation in the rolling hills of the Cameron Highlands. An overnight stay at the Cameron Highlands Resort in the famous tea plantation is soothing. There is also a visit to historic Penang; tours of the rural community of Huay Yang finished off with snorkeling and a beach BBQ at Koh Chuan before finishing the journey in Bangkok.

Destinations Covered Singapore, Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur, Butterworth, Cameron Highlands and Penang) and Thailand (Hua Hin, Huay Yang and Bangkok) **Departure Dates** 29 March 2015 and 29 September 2015 **Duration** 7 Days 6 Nights **From** £ 4,800 **Season** Summer



7

Ancient Kingdom of Lanna

by Eastern & Oriental Express

Visit Chiang Mai, the ancient capital of the northern Thai kingdom of Lanna. This charming city's atmosphere retains remnants of its historical architecture and sections of the original great brick walls and towering gates which protected the city from invading armies over 700 years ago. Stroll through a quaint residential Soi (side-street), taste the fine Thai cuisines, shop in the traditional markets for arts and crafts and visit the Dhara Dhevi Tea House.

Destinations Covered Northern Thailand – Bangkok, Lampang and Chiang Mai **Departure Dates** 15 October 2015 and 26 November 2015 **Duration** 3 Days 2 Nights **From** £ 1,580 **Season** Its cool in the summer with a mostly cool and dry winter.



8

Cape Town Journey

by Rovos

Travel the grasslands of the gold-rich Highveld to the haunting barrenness of the Great Karoo; trundle through the spectacular mountain ranges and scenic winelands of the Cape. Journey's end is Cape Town, the Mother City of South Africa, cradled by the imposing bulk of Table Mountain, Devil's Peak and Lion's Head. Highlights include a visit to the historic village of Matjiesfontein, an authentic perfectly preserved Victorian Village, a visit to the Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole, the world's largest man-made excavation, in Kimberley.

Destinations Covered Cape Town **Departure Dates** Throughout the year **Duration** 2 Nights **From** \$ 1,380 **Season** All year



9

Victoria Falls

by Rovos

This three-nights adventure begins with the train's departure from Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria and winds its way south through Johannesburg and the goldfields of the Witwatersrand before travelling west alongside the Magaliesberg Mountains. After border formalities at Mafikeng, the train travels north the following day through Botswana's capital, Gaborone and to the Zimbabwean border at Plumtree.

The next day the train passes through Hwange National Park – a rich and diverse wildlife sanctuary – where animals can be spotted from the train and a game drive excursion is enjoyed. After a service stop at Thompsons Junction, the sojourn ends at the incomparable Victoria Falls.

Destinations Covered Victoria Falls **Departure Dates** Every second week from December to February **Duration** 4 Days & 3 Nights **From** \$1800



10

The Indian Panorama

by Maharaja Express

Relish Royalty, Spirituality and wilderness. Witness the immortal beauty of the Taj Mahal in Agra, the sensuous moods of the temples of Khajuraho, the elegance and imperial splendour in Lucknow and the wilderness of the Ranthambore National Park.

Destinations Covered Delhi, Jaipur, Ranthambore, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra, Gwalior, Orchha, Khajuraho, Varanasi, Lucknow and back to Delhi. **Departure Dates** 21st March 2015 **Duration** 8 Days **From** \$5,980 **Season** October - April