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Africa's Leading
Inflight Magazine



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Remote Escapes

Mozambique,
Tanzania and the
loneliest isle



SPOTLIGHT ON:

Malaysia

Tourism industry players flocked to Cape Town in April for the third annual World Travel Market (WTM) Africa held at the city's International Convention Centre. One of the major exhibitors was Tourism Malaysia, a country hoping to attract 36 million visitors by 2020, an ambitious 30% increase on the 27 million travellers who visited it in 2014.

"In Malaysia we have four seasons: summer, summer, summer and summer," jokes Datuk Musa Yusof, Director of Tourism Malaysia's Asia/Africa promotional division, who says eco-tourism's one of the fastest-growing niche attractions of this diverse Asian country, with everything from mountain peaks and orangutans in the jungles of Borneo to Asiatic elephants and Malaysian tigers in the Royal Belum State Park.

Need more excitement? Formula 1 and MotoGP (Tourism Malaysia sponsors South African Moto3 rider Brad Binder) are also major drawcards, while golf is a key attraction of hot and humid Malaysia.

Golf tourism is centred on the island of Langkawi, where South African golfing legend Ernie Els designed his first signature course in the region: the Els Club Teluk Datai was voted the World's Best New Golf Course at the World Golf Awards soon after opening in 2014. In the south-east of Malaysia his next project, the Els Club Desaru Coast, is due to open this year.

However, says Yusof, it's shopping that's the major attraction for international travellers visiting Malaysia. Most goods are duty-free across the country and three major annual shopping festivals see prices drop even further. The country's home to three of the 10 largest shopping malls on the planet, with many combining theme park entertainments with retail therapy.

"We're selling shopping as experiential tourism," explains Yusof, adding that in 2015 shopping (at 31%) was the largest single contributor to tourism earnings. With convenient code-share flights to Malaysia available on SAA's Star Alliance partner Singapore Airlines, it's time for local travellers to charge their credit cards and head east. – **Richard Holmes**

TECH CORNER

Bang & Olufsen introduced its first headphone back in 1978, so it's had plenty of time to perfect them. The latest offering is the **BeoPLAY H6** (R8 299). Not only do they look as good as they sound, but the leather ear cushions are so comfortable that it's easy to forget you're wearing them. The sound is big and beautiful, with perfectly balanced bass and treble. Then there's the clever inline remote and microphone, so you can control your music *and* take calls... Go, Mr DJ! www.beoplay.com/products/beoplayh6



Measuring activity levels is the current fitness trend. If you like going straight from the boardroom to the bike, **Garmin** has you covered. The **fēnix 3 Sapphire Multisport Watch** (R10 299) for women comes in white and rose gold and offers smart training features, GPS



navigation, a scratch-resistant face and sunlight-readability. The men's **fēnix 3 Sapphire Titanium** (R14 999) has enhanced GPS reception and comes with an extra-UV-treated silicone band. The watches' faces, apps and widgets can be customised. Exercise has never been sexier! www.garmin.co.za



BIG LIGHTS... Right in **Boston's** Public Garden services include a complimentary house car, cookie-making classes and in-room spa treatments. It's also now offering a fourth night free of charge if you stay for three nights. The USA's most European city never felt better. www.fourseasons.com/boston

Diamond Hill, a neighbourhood just a 20-minute subway ride from the madness of central **Hong Kong**, was formerly a slum area, but is now enjoying a trendy reincarnation, with artists and young couples seeking affordable studios for rent and living. For more upmarket accommodation, head to the Peninsula Hong Kong. www.hongkong.peninsula.com



▲ **ATLANTIC CITY, USA:** Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa recently opened its \$14 million Premier Nightclub. Upcoming artists will include Steve Aoki, Ruckus, Ruby Rose and Diplo. It's the perfect escape from New York to hit the slots, see a show and live it up a little. www.theborgata.com

PARADISE BEACH NEVIS, ST KITTS & NEVIS With just seven villas, the "Queen of the Caribees" island revels in wellness. The options are endless: intensive spa time, a plethora of watersports, horse-riding, cricket, hiking to Mount Nevis past cocoa trees and hanging vines and even forest bathing under tree canopies. www.paradisebeachnevis.com



GLOBAL EYE

By Daniel Scheffler



▲ **LUANG PRABANG, LAOS:** The unexplored gem of South-East Asia, Laos has secrets and traditions that whisper to visitors. Red Savannah now offers a spring biking itinerary for seven nights. The ride starts and ends in the city of Luang Prabang, stretching north-east to Non Khiaw on the banks of the Nam Ou River, south-west to the hot springs of Muang La, following the river to Pakbeng and even popping past the Pak Ou Caves. www.redsavannah.com

▲ **NEW YORK:** Langham Place on Fifth Avenue is the place to visit for a sophisticated weekend brunch prepared by chef David Vandenberg. Order a cocktail and have the shades lifted, so you can people-watch in comfort. www.langhamhotels.com



◀ **COPENHAGEN, DENMARK:** Summer is the best time to visit this city, where you can see glorious scenery, churches and castles, as well as indulge in fabulous fashion and food (think pastries!). Its finest hotel, the D'Angleterre, has a new chef, so you can both eat and sleep like a royal. www.danglerterre.com



▲ **BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA:** With a new government and lease on life, BA's again rising as South America's finest city – and the Four Seasons in La Recoleta is the place to rest your head. It now allows guests to craft their own bespoke fragrances with legendary perfumier Julian Bedel. Spray the pillows for extra-sweet dreams. www.fourseasons.com/buenosaires