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How Spain's thrilling El Caminito
del Rey became an adventure
travel hotspot

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Welcome



Spring always brings new ways to expand our horizons, and at Wizz Air, we're planning more unforgettable journeys. As the days grow longer and the weather gets brighter, I am delighted to share how we're preparing to take care of our passengers' travels, whether for leisure, business or visiting friends and relatives, ahead of the busy summer.

In 2026, our focus is on accelerating growth in Central and Eastern Europe and unlocking opportunities in markets that remain underserved and full of long-term potential. And we will continue to invest in operational excellence, digital tools and having one of the world's youngest aircraft fleets, to further improve our punctuality, resilience and customer experience.

Our expanding summer network brings exciting new possibilities, with beach escapes and city breaks covered. Check out our new routes from Belgrade to Alghero and Palermo, and Budapest to Menorca, Dubrovnik

and Zadar. London Gatwick now has a Wizz Air route to Santorini, while we're also connecting Naples to Palma de Mallorca. In time for the summer, we are also launching our largest-ever leisure programme from Katowice, Poland, featuring eight based aircraft, a new route to Dubrovnik and increased frequencies to popular destinations like Alicante, Malaga and Tirana. And that's just the beginning – see our full list of new routes on p101.

These new additions reflect our commitment to making travel more accessible and inspiring than ever. It follows from our success in 2025, when we welcomed 42 new aircraft into our fleet, launched more than 320 new routes and carried more passengers than ever before – 68.6 million, a 9.4% increase year-on-year.

“Our expanding summer network brings exciting new possibilities”

We accomplished all this while strengthening the reliability of our operations, supported by targeted initiatives in maintenance, ground handling, crew planning and operational control. This combination of scaling up and improving performance is exactly what sets Wizz Air apart.

As the summer sun beckons, I encourage you to take full advantage of these expanded opportunities. Thank you for choosing Wizz Air. We look forward to welcoming you on board again soon.

József Váradi
Chief Executive Officer

Wizz by numbers



258
aircraft



180+
destinations
in 45 countries



36
bases in
19 countries



800+
routes



10,000+
staff



68.6m
passengers
carried*



Batumi
GEORGIA

#visitbatumi



10 REASONS TO VISIT BATUMI, GEORGIA

1. Batumi Boulevard

A walk along Batumi Boulevard is one of the easiest ways to enjoy the city. The long promenade stretches along the Black Sea, lined with palm trees, gardens, sculptures, and cafés. It is ideal for a relaxed walk, cycling, or watching the sunset.

2. Ali and Nino Statue

The moving sculpture Ali and Nino Statue is a symbol of Batumi, telling a story of love and unity.

3. Batumi Botanical Garden

The Batumi Botanical Garden lies on a green hillside above the coast and gathers plant species from around the world. Its paths offer peaceful nature and views of the Black Sea.

4. Batumi Cable Car

The Argo Cable Car lifts visitors above the coastline, revealing views of the sea, mountains, and city skyline.

5. Old Batumi

The historic center features narrow streets, balconies, and colorful buildings reflecting the city's diverse architectural past. Cafés and small squares create a welcoming atmosphere.

6. Georgian Gastronomy and the Supra

The Georgian supra is more than a meal. It is a gathering where people share food, hospitality, polyphonic singing, and traditional dances. A famous regional dish is Ajarian Khachapuri.

7. Mountains, Sea, and Protected Nature

Ajara is known for strong natural contrasts. Near the coast visitors quickly reach green mountains, rivers, and waterfalls.

8. Goderdzi Ski Resort

In winter, Goderdzi Ski Resort offers natural snow and peaceful alpine surroundings for skiing.

9. Birthplace of Wine

Georgia is often called the cradle of wine, with winemaking traditions over 8 000 years old.

10. Batumi Street Art

Murals and colorful paintings appear on buildings, turning many streets into open-air galleries that reflect Batumi's creative energy.



in this **issue**



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Channeling Wes Anderson in Milan; Berlin art; Eurovision bingo near Bratislava; beach breaks near Larnaca; and chili eating in Eindhoven

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In celebration of the people working behind the scenes at Wizz Air

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Editor's letter

Spring has finally arrived, and the longer, less rainy days are getting us excited for our summer holidays this year. There's plenty of inspiration within these pages for a sunny break. Test your mettle on the El Caminito del Rey walking route in the hills behind Malaga (p36), have a digital detox in an off-grid village near Antalya (p49), dance all night to French electro in Paris (p58) and indulge in an all-inclusive stay at one of Tenerife's newer luxury resorts (p68). If sun, sea and sand is what the doctor ordered, you'll find tips on having the perfect beach break near Larnaca on p14 - while on p16 you can determine whether you could take the heat at a chili-eating contest in Eindhoven.

If a city break is calling, we recommend gorging on fresh pasta in Bologna (p20), going on an architectural tour of Comillas, near Santander (p25) or grabbing a cappuccino and attending a morning dance party in Warsaw (p30) - and that's if you can tear yourself away from the outlandish performances at this year's Eurovision in Vienna, just an hour's journey from Bratislava (play Eurovision bingo on p12) or taking #AccidentallyWesAnderson snaps at a special café in Milan (p11).

Wherever you're flying to today, I hope that sunshine and adventure is waiting for you. Enjoy the magazine, and your journey with Wizz Air today.

Florence Derrick, Editor

HOW TO CONTACT WIZZ AIR

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X Like real-time updates? Follow us on X. We will keep it short, and you will always know if something is #happeningnow here at WIZZ.

Instagram Go behind the scenes with our staff on #IamWIZZcrew or get inspired by beautiful shots on #IamWIZZtraveller and enter our photo contests.

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Where to go, what to do and why

in place



Follow Wes Anderson in Milan

Die-hard Wes Anderson fans will be scouring the internet for details of his next film, co-written by Roman Coppola and Richard Ayoade and due to be shot in Europe this year. Minimal details have been teased out of the trio so far, but what better setting could there be for your deep dive into the [r/wesanderson](#) subreddit than Milan's Bar Luce? Designed by Anderson in 2015, the café at the entrance of Fondazione Prada displays the trademark pastel colours and symmetrical patterns of the director's sets. "While I do think it would make a pretty good movie set, I think it would be an even better place to write a movie," he said.

fondazioneprada.org/barluce

✈ Wizz Air flies to Milan

WORDS: SARAH WARWICK. PHOTO: ATTILIO MARANZANO. COURTESY FONDAZIONE PRADA



Stroke your beard in Berlin

In a crowded field, Gallery Weekend Berlin is one of the city's very best cultural events. From 1-3 May, 63 galleries will give complementary entry to 80 newly curated exhibitions of painting, sculpture and installation. It's a chance to see innovation and expression on a grand scale: a must for serious art lovers and collectors. Here are three must-see shows from the event.

gallery-weekend-berlin.de

Petrit Halilaj

At ChertLüdde, the Kosovan artist presents his vast walk-through collages, which have impressive power even to the uninformed.

Daniel Buren

Bold patterns and bright colours are the instantly recognisable hallmarks of this French minimalist icon, exhibiting at Konrad Fischer Galerie.

Brook Hsu

A New Yorker with a rising profile in the art world, Hsu mixes themes from her life and pure fantasy to create eerie canvases - showing at Kraupa-Tuskany Zeidler.

✈ [Wizz Air flies to Berlin](#)

Play Eurovision bingo near Bratislava

The Eurovision Song Contest returns to Vienna (an hour's drive from Bratislava) for a third time this May and - like or loathe the kitsch event - it's set to bring a joyful vibe to the city and surrounding regions. Last year's winner, JJ, will perform at the Wiener Stadthalle final on 16 May, and fans are hoping for a potential duet (or at least a cameo) by former Austrian winner (and fabulous bearded diva) Conchita Wurst. Outside the town hall, the Eurovision Village will be open daily from 11am-midnight each day from 10 May until the final, and events will be shown free on live screens - so you can play Eurovision bingo without paying a cent. eurovision.com

✈ [Wizz Air flies to Bratislava](#)

FAKE RAIN

SYNCHRONISED DANCE ROUTINE

SOMEONE IN THE AUDIENCE WITH FLAG FACEPAINT

PERFORMER WINKS AT CAMERA

THANKING HOST COUNTRY FOR A WONDERFUL EVENING

BOOING

FIRE

SPACE DOG

MID-SONG COSTUME CHANGE

THE UK GETS ONE POINT

WIND MACHINE

OBVIOUSLY FAKE INSTRUMENT PLAYING

CONTESTANT CRIES HAPPY TEARS

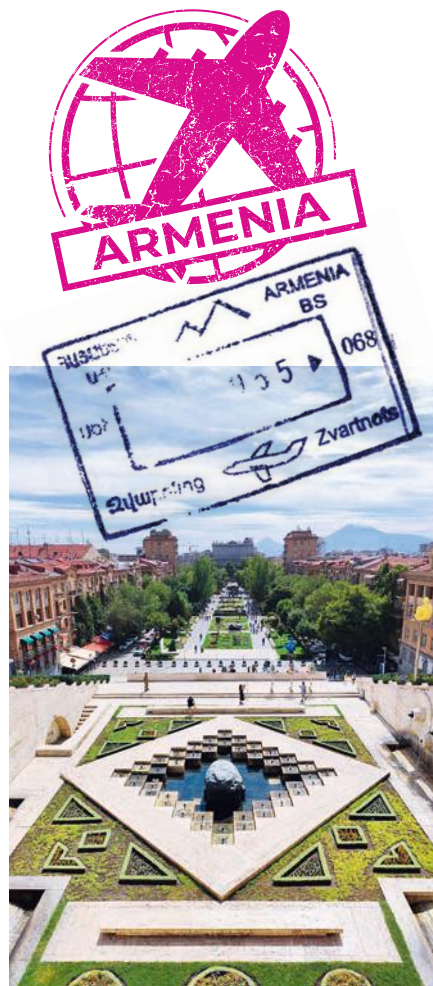
KEY CHANGE

SAX SOLO



FEATHERS	PRESENTER OUTFIT CHANGE
SINGING OUT OF TUNE	SOMETHING GOES WRONG
RAPPING	DRAMATIC DRUMMING
GLITTER CANNON	THIS COUNTRY ISN'T IN EUROPE
ANOTHER BREAK-UP SONG	DRY ICE

Above JJ celebrates his Eurovision victory last year



HAVE AN EASY-PEASY JOURNEY INTO YEREVAN

Here's some great news for those who love to collect new passport stamps: Armenia has introduced a temporary suspension of visa requirements until 1 July for travellers from 113 countries including the UK, US and those in the EU. Take the opportunity to explore Yerevan, one of the world's oldest cities, hassle free. As well as evergreen highlights like the vibrant Vernissage open-air market, sweeping city views from the Cascade Complex, and historic streets like Abovyan Street, there's the new Matenadaran Gardens opening this spring.

✈️ **Wizz Air flies to Yerevan**

Have the perfect spring break near Larnaca

Just 40 minutes' drive from Larnaca is the chilled-out resort of Protaras, a short trip from blingy Ayia Napa. Visit both in a coastal

jaunt that combines striking natural beauty with the first pool parties of the season, in April or May.

✈️ **Wizz Air flies to Larnaca**



MUST-SEE SPOTS

▲ **BEST HOTEL:** Opening in April, AYĀ Resort brings adults-only glamour to Ayia Thekla Beach. The 48-suite retreat pairs a vast central pool and swim-up options with Mediterranean dining at Männa Restaurant, plus a sushi bar.

◀ **BEST BEACH:** At the heart of Protaras lies Fig Tree Bay, ranked among Europe's top beaches. Here, calm shallows and clear, warm water make it ideal for swimming, snorkelling, parasailing or simply soaking up the sun.

■ **BEST RESTAURANT:** Elia Restaurant Cyprus stands out as one of the finest modern eateries in Protaras, praised for its fresh, local ingredients and impeccable service. Don't leave without trying the *galaktobourekó* (filo custard pie).

■ **BEST BAR:** When it's time for sundowners, swerve the usual sugary holiday drinks and go for the signature Ghetto Punch (Rum and Cypriot almond syrup) at Ghetto Cocktail Bar.

◀ **BEST ACTIVITY:** Protaras' underwater realm is a definite highlight, known for exceptional visibility and a variety of sites like Green Bay and Cyclops Cave. The area is a paradise for freediving and scuba enthusiasts alike.



PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK, NINO THEODOULOU

The biggest Shakespeare Festival in the world returns from 21 to 31 May 2026 in Craiova, Romania! The theme, WILL matters, is an invitation to explore our creative force, in a city that becomes an open stage! This edition includes over 450 performances and events theatre, dance, concerts, exhibitions, talks, movies, and innovative formats across 60 venues.

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Festival**



www.shakespearefestival.online



Stress test your tastebuds in Eindhoven

Brace yourself: the Dutch Chili Festival returns on 12 April to celebrate everything spicy. If you're a hot pepper obsessive, book ahead for the Hottest Pepper Eating Competition. Can you handle the heat? Rate yourself on the Scoville scale above, which measures the hottest peppers. Are you hot or not? chili-fest.com

✈ Wizz Air flies to Eindhoven

Bird's eye chili ▶
Some like it hot, and you're one of them.

Jalepeño ▶
You prefer it mild and mellow, thanks.

◀ **Ghost pepper**
You're hot to trot. Ever considered launching your own hot sauce brand?

◀ **Red pepper**
More sweet than spicy – bless.

GET OUT ON THE TRAIL IN THE ALGARVE

Portugal's sunny south has plenty to offer when it comes to adventure travel, and this year the region is celebrating the 17th anniversary of its Via Algarviana hiking route. Stretching around 300km from Alcoutim in the east to Cabo de São Vicente in the west, it's a chance to see the real Portugal, a rich fertile area known as 'Barrocal'. The whole path can be hiked in 8-10 days or biked in five, but this year there will be shorter taster events, including free guided walks on Sundays in April. viaalgarviana.org

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Results available:



Colourful characters from around the network

in person



PHOTO: JONNY HUGHES

**Tasting proper
bolognese**
in Bologna

p20

**Finding Gaudí
treasures**
in Santander

p25

**Raving with your
coffee mug**
in Warsaw

p30

“I laugh when I see spaghetti bolognese on menus abroad”

Europe’s favourite comfort food doesn’t exist in Bologna, its supposed birthplace. We went there to learn how to make ragù alla bolognese – the city’s trademark minced beef sauce, which is never served with spaghetti

📍 Words by Florence Derrick 📷 Photography by Jonny Hughes



In the pan, a cocoa-brown liquid bubbles gently, minced beef melted into a sauce that’s perfectly combined after 12 hours of simmering. The aroma is savoury, earthy, creamy. To the untrained eye, especially if you were brought up in the UK or Germany, this looks like a bolognese sauce – ready to slap on top of a big bowl of spaghetti and cover in generous gratings of cheddar cheese. But this would be sacrilege to the Bolognese cook that made this exquisite ragù.

“In Bologna, we don’t eat this with spaghetti,” says Veronica Menarini, who hosts cooking classes under the umbrella of Cesarine, the Bologna-founded network of Italian cooks who invite guests into their homes to learn about traditional Italian cuisine. “I laugh when I see spaghetti

bolognese on menus abroad. Spaghetti is not suitable for ragù. It doesn’t absorb the sauce. Ragù needs a larger surface to attach to, which is why we serve it with tagliatelle.”

Much like chicken tikka masala was invented in 1970s Glasgow, ‘spag bol’ as many of us know it doesn’t bear much resemblance to the rich meat sauce served with long, flat ribbons of tagliatelle in the northern Italian city of Bologna. Home cooks across Europe – myself and Jamie Oliver included – tend to throw together a quick minced beef sauce with lashings of crushed garlic, a tin of chopped tomatoes and dried mixed herbs, pour it over spaghetti and call it spaghetti bolognese. But don’t mention any of this to a chef in Bologna. There’s no doubt that the city is a food-



in person



lover's paradise, but here, the notion that a dish that evolved outside of Bolognese kitchens – no one seems to know exactly where or when – has put it on the world map is considered criminal.

There is, however, a minced beef sauce that's similar – and closely regulated – in Bologna. While every *nonna* has a personal take on ragù alla bolognese, an official recipe was registered by the Italian Academy of Cuisine (Accademia Italiana della Cucina) in 1982. It specifies which ingredients you must – and must never – add to create an authentic ragù. For example, the sauce must be made with a soffritto of carrot, celery and onion. Pancetta, milk, wine and tomato paste can be added – but fresh tomatoes are forbidden,

Clockwise from top left Piazza Maggiore; Trattoria Da Me; Bologna; Bottega Portici, Garisenda Tower; balsamic vinegar; the Cesarine cooking class

as is garlic, rosemary, parsley or oregano. Former mayor of Bologna Virginio Merola got so fed up of foreign cooks getting it wrong, he launched an awareness campaign about Bolognese food in 2019, calling spaghetti bolognese “fake news”.

When you think about the geography of Italy, the recipe's restrictions make sense. While fresh tomatoes, garlic and spaghetti are the hallmarks of southern Italian cuisine, Bologna is cradled in the country's north – in a wide valley sandwiched between the Alps and the Apennine Mountains. It's the capital of Emilia-Romagna, a food-producing region that's responsible for 40% of Italy's agriculture, says Maria Cristina Pirani, a Bologna Food Tour guide, as we tuck into tigella

the challenge BOLOGNA



flatbread stuffed with local mortadella ham earlier that day at bistro Bella Vita.

Study a map of the region surrounding Bologna and it reads like a who's who of famous Italian products. Parma, with its dry-cured ham and nutty parmesan cheese, is an hour's drive away – and you'll pass Modena, the home of syrupy balsamic vinegar, en route. Black truffles are sniffed out by dogs in the surrounding, forested hills, and you can hardly walk for two minutes through the city centre without passing a mouth-watering deli window display of dangling legs of prosciutto, enormous wheels of cheese and hand-crimped tortellini – a pasta shape that originated here, as well as lasagne. There's not a plate of spaghetti bolognese in sight.

Tagliatelle al ragù alla bolognese, however, is plentiful. The lunch bowl I order at Bottega Portici, a fresh pasta spot beneath the Portici Academy cooking school, is drizzled in sweet balsamic and heavy on the tomato. The ragù I tasted the night before, at celebrated restaurant Trattoria da Me, is almost greasy with fatty pork, and tender with sirloin beef simmered for so long, chefs tend to it across multiple shifts. Even after hours of cooking, the chunks of carrot retain a bit of bite – a sign of a perfectly cooked ragù, I learn from Veronica at my Cesarine cooking class.

"It has to be creamy and crunchy at the same time," she says, making generations of passed-down culinary

From left to right

Handmade pasta in the window of Atti Tortellini; Florence tucks into ragù at Trattoria Da Me; Bella Vita bistro

wisdom sound like the easiest thing in the world to pick up. "Chop the vegetables small, but don't puree them. Stir gently and add the liquid – milk, broth – slowly, like in a risotto."

When it's time to taste Veronica's ragù, she suggests a fun experiment: we'll try a spoonful with spaghetti first, before mixing the rest with fresh tagliatelle we've made by hand. She has the first mouthful. "No, no, no, no! It's just not right," she cries – although she polishes off the bowl. "I don't want to waste it," she says with a wink.

I secretly think that Veronica's creamy, complex sauce tastes great with spaghetti. But the portion with tagliatelle blows it out of the water. The pasta is soft yet al dente, and perfectly coated

in sauce, complementing rather than overpowering the beef. I make a mental note to replace spaghetti with tagliatelle when I get home.

Leaving Bologna with a too-tight waistband and hint of heartburn, I pay my respects to the Italian nonnas that have made their cuisine an art form. Cooking ragù is about getting the ingredients right, of course, but equally important is patience with the process, spending hours tending to the low simmer that holds centuries of culinary history in its depths. I'll never think of spag bol as a quick weeknight dinner again – or at the very least, I'll serve my own minced beef sauce with the right kind of pasta.

✈ Wizz Air flies to Bologna

FUN FACTS ALLA BOLOGNESE

- The world's smallest tortellini is handmade at Bologna's Art Deco pasta shop Atti Tortellini

- Bologna has 62km of covered walkways – the longest arcade in the world, dating back to 1200 and UNESCO protected in 2021

- The Italian slang word for 'food coma' is *abboccato* – a useful term for any city break to Bologna



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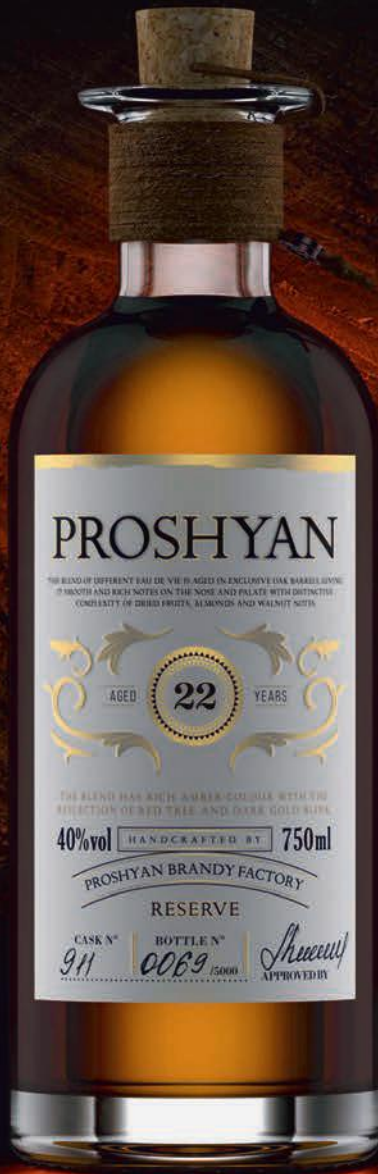
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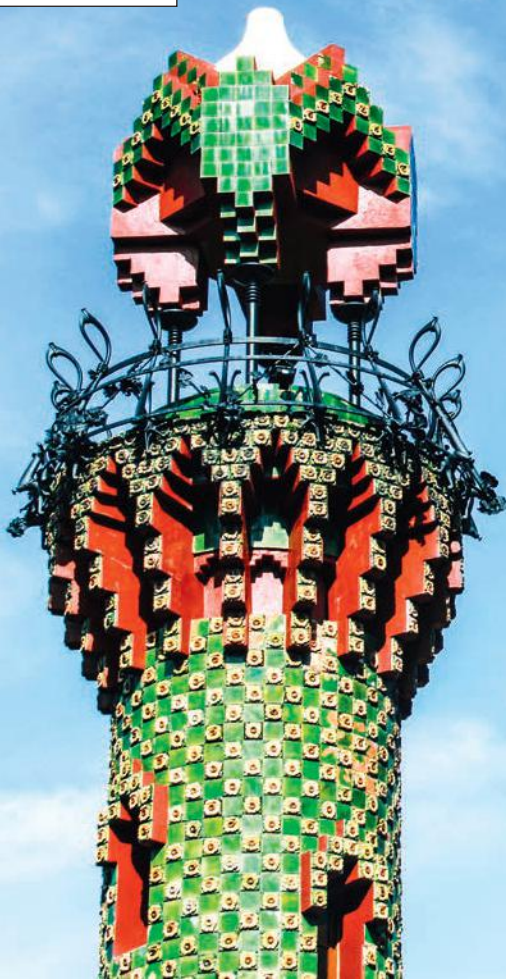
“Comillas was one of the birthplaces of Modernism”

As the centenary of Antoni Gaudí’s death is commemorated in Catalonia, we take a trip north to explore his lesser-known works near Santander

 Words by Adam Turner

PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK

Here El Capricho has more than 6,000 sunflower and green leaf tiles



Clockwise from left The music note metalwork at the top of El Capricho; Puerta de la Antigua Universidad Pontificia; El Capricho is one Gaudí's lesser-known masterpieces

exhibitions – focused on his most famous works, including Casa Batlló, Casa Vicens and Parc Güell.

However, for some, the pilgrimage extends beyond Catalonia – to the unassuming town of Comillas, in northern Spain, and this rare Gaudí work outside of his home region that was constructed in the same year as work began on the Sagrada. Most travellers arrive via Santander, a city blessed with a sweeping bay backed by lush mountain ranges, with a centre consisting of higgledy-piggledy streets, sun-soaked plazas and a jumble of restaurants, bars and cafés.

A 50-minute drive through impossibly green Cantabrian countryside, past sequoia trees and dense forests, takes you to Comillas – a small town with a population of around 2,000. The hilly, picturesque seaside resort is known for its grand villas, rugged cliffs, a golden sandy beach just steps from the town centre, and a scattering of unusual-looking structures – with most architecture fans making a beeline for El Capricho.

El Capricho stands out from the other palatial villas in the town of Comillas. Cloaked by tall trees, its colourful façade is clad in over 6,000 yellow sunflower and green leaf tiles that glisten in the Cantabrian sun. It looks like something lifted from a children's book or a zany young designer's sketchpad: part fairytale castle, part architectural experiment.

The unusual building was designed in 1883 by Antoni Gaudí, better-known for his surreal masterpiece 750km away in Barcelona, the *Basílica de la Sagrada Família* – which will finally be completed in June this year. Gaudí is considered the pioneer of Catalan Modernism – a movement characterised by organic forms, intricate decorative details and bold colours that began in the late 19th century. This year marks the centenary of his death, which will be commemorated in the Catalan capital with a year of one-off events – from Catholic masses to

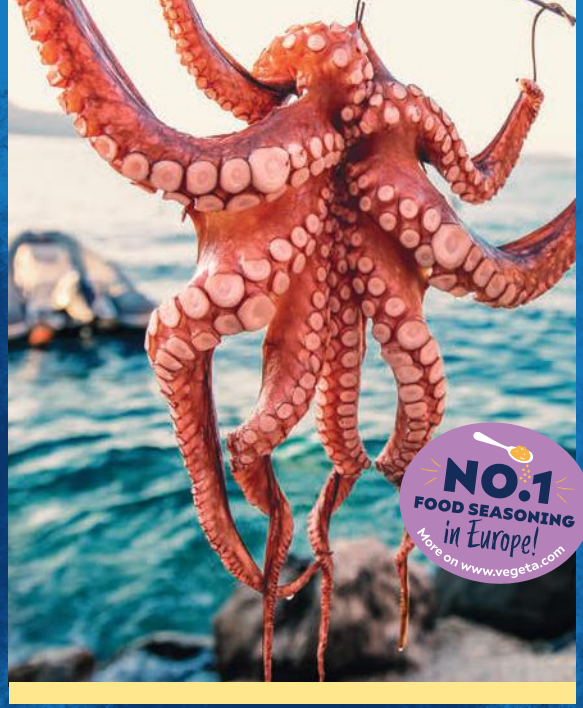




But Comillas' relationship with Modernism doesn't end there. On a designated trail, the Ruta del Modernista (Modernist Route), design enthusiasts can explore over a dozen constructions by other pioneers of Catalan Modernism, on a half-day tour with travel companies like Exploring Cantabria. Their tour includes a visit to the ornate pink ceramic gate, the Puerta de la Antigua Universidad Pontificia, designed by Lluís Domènech i Montaner – the architect behind the whimsical Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona, and Gaudí's former friend and classmate. It's at the entrance to a grand Neo-Gothic former university designed by Gaudí's mentor Joan Martorell in 1889. The building's perched on a hillside overlooking rolling hills and dramatic coastlines, and boasts interiors designed in part by Montaner.

Here, visitors get a closer look at the surrealist flourishes associated with Catalan Modernism

PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK



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– a whimsical dragon here, a peculiar animalistic wooden sculpture there.

“You could say Comillas was one of the birthplaces of Modernism,” tour guide Pepe de la Peña explains at another of the town’s Modernist constructions, Cementerio de Comillas. Also designed by Montaner, the cemetery sits on a wind-battered hill overlooking the Bay of Biscay.

“The wealthy Marqués family envisioned Comillas as a luxury vacation resort for the king at the time, which explains why there are so many unusual Modernist structures here,” Pepe says. The Marqués family were wealthy Spaniards who emigrated to the Americas and returned with great fortunes.

The tour swings by Palacio de Sobrellano, too, another of Martorell’s Neo-Gothic buildings, where he’s thought to have asked Gaudí to design furniture for the chapel. Marqués family’s lawyer, Máximo Díaz de Quijano, was so enchanted by the result that he commissioned the architect to build him a home nearby

Above Comillas helped shape Modernism
Below Details on a column at El Capricho



– El Capricho – which sits on the same grounds. Díaz was a keen pianist, so Gaudí incorporated subtle nods to music into El Capricho’s design. The metalwork on the tower is shaped like musical notes, and in the music room, a window fitted with a pulley system chimes like a bell when opened, which visitors delight in testing out.

Other Modernist monuments are scattered liberally around Comillas, if you know where to look. These include the Fuente de los Tres Caños fountain and another lesser-known Gaudí creation, La Puerta de los Pájaros. The abstract stone gate has three entrances – one for birds, one for horse-drawn carts (now cars), and one for people, in another nod to the natural world that shaped much of the Modernist movement at the time.

“I’ve been to Comillas many, many times,” says Pepe. “I’ve passed this street and visited almost every Modernist building, but I had never been to the gate – so I guess I’m seeing new things here, too.”

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the pioneers
WARSAW

*“We wanted to party
without having a hangover
the next day”*



DJ duo Niedzielni hold a regular Sunday-morning coffee rave in their hometown Warsaw, where the sober living movement is taking hold. We grab a latte and join in

 Words by Ally Wybrew



Beneath human-sized Oscar statuettes and artsy film posters, a crowd of music-lovers pulses to an electro beat. Some are clad in neon tank tops with matching face paint, others in skintight athleisurewear. One woman sports hiking gear while she munches on a flaky *paszteciki* pastry. The rhythmic beats of Ultra Nate's 'Free' thump out from behind a low table, just loud enough that you have to strain your voice to be heard, while the dimmed lights hide the party space from Warsaw's sunlit streets outside.

It's 10am on a Sunday morning, and a couple of hundred people are dancing in the foyer of Kinoteka, the cinema inside the Palace of Culture and Science in the centre of the Polish capital. They're here because of longtime friends and DJ duo Niedzielni (meaning 'Sunday'), who are hosting one of their now-famous coffee parties – responding to a popular new social trend for sober raving.

"We wanted to make an environment for people to dance and listen to music, but also to meet each other – offline – and spend time together," DJ and Graphic Designer Damian Ziółkowski, one half of Niedzielni, explains. "That's why we started this party. I think people are tired of the nightlife. We wanted to try something new and without a rave hangover the next day."

The musicians describe their offering as a "morning dancers movement", and since beginning in February 2025, attendance at their events has surpassed expectations. Their first gathering drew close to 100 people, considerably

more than the 15 or so they'd expected. "It was a very big surprise for us," DJ Miki Kudełka shares. "At that point we understood that maybe this was something people needed."

Clubbing has undergone a transformation in recent years. While coffee raves began popping up in London and New York as much as a decade ago, they're now proving popular all across Europe – no doubt accelerated by the lifestyle changes brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. Endless queues, sticky floors and nocturnal opening hours are out, and communal events where dancers drink coffee, smoothies or simply water are very much in.

Today, health-conscious Gen Z is prioritising wellbeing, flocking to sober parties across the continent, and swapping alcohol and hangovers for a cup of joe after a good night's sleep.

While Gen Z undeniably provides a backbone for many of these gatherings, daytime party events also appeal to nostalgic clubbers heading into their 40s and 50s. On arrival at Kinoteka, the diversity of the audience is remarkable. There are pregnant women, people with





pets and dancers spanning at least three decades in age. Miki explains how the party started with a crowd of 30-somethings, but quickly expanded once word got out. “Everyone is coming,” he grins.

There’s a fair number of solo partiers here, too. Twenty-seven-year-old Darina came alone after seeing an online ad. She doesn’t drink alcohol and is having a blast. Magda, who recently turned 40, follows the DJs on social media and has come along with a pal. Her reason for coming? “I like music. I like people,” she says.

While coffee might have been the spark to set this new wave of partying alight, daytime dancing events have broadened rapidly into wellness hubs. In the UK, Daybreaker and Morning Gloryville run sober morning events while The Playhouse Project combines daytime parties with child-friendly activities, for a family-focused festival vibe. In Scandinavia, sauna raves

are taking off, while in the US, events booking company Eventbrite saw a 92% increase in searches for ‘sober-curious’ gatherings between 2023 and 2024. Attendance for running-based get-togethers there also increased by 146%.

Niedzielni are varying their offerings, too. On the floor of Kinoteka’s bar (which serves pastries, coffee and herbal teas, alongside alcohol) a woman has laid out mats and is guiding a group of partygoers through a session of face yoga, all while Miki pumps out MGMT’s ‘Electric Feel’ next door.

While the wellness benefits are clearly part of the appeal, the variety of venues adds a fun spark of spontaneity to each function. In 2025, Niedzielni hosted raves almost every other week in Warsaw’s trendy bars and coffee houses, a boutique Porsche dealership and the Centrum Bankowo-Finansowe, the former site of the Warsaw Stock Exchange. All are free to attend. The duo are now in such high demand that potential venues and brand partners approach them for collaborations. H&M, Brita and L’Oreal are among the labels lending their names (and finances) to the parties.

While Niedzielni have taken their events all over Poland – playing in places such as Poznań and Olsztyn – Warsaw is where they both call home, and is, in their opinion, the best place to play. “It’s a fast city,” Damian explains. “People get four hours to rest, to socialise, and then you have other activities. I think this is one of the reasons why [the parties] work better here than in other cities in Poland.”

For Miki, it’s also a case of quantity. “We have a lot of people from different small cities coming here to study and work,” he says.

The pair view their events as an opportunity for people to ‘rest’ and take a break from the responsibilities of day-to-day life – although it doesn’t seem to be something they are very good at doing themselves. In just one month last year, Miki played a staggering 21 gigs, and on arrival at Kinoteka, both he and Damian are working on two hours of sleep. The clubbing scene might be evolving, but the life of a DJ still has some catching up to do. @niedzielni

✈ Wizz Air flies to Warsaw



THE 0% CLUB

Amid a growing interest in sober living across Europe, Poland is leading the charge when it comes to alcohol-free brews. Poland is responsible for 10% of the EU’s total beer production and is one of the largest producers of non-alcoholic beers in Europe. Around 8% of all beer sales in Poland are now 0%.



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Getting to the heart of the story

in depth



PHOTO: BEN READ

**A high-wire
odyssey**
in Malaga

p36

**Going off-grid
in a village**
near Antalya

p49

**A musical
touch of class**
in Paris

p58

**In the lap
of luxury**
in Tenerife

p68

MALAGA

Walk

the

line



Words by Laura Martin

Photography by Ben Read

Once dubbed the world's most dangerous walkway, Spain's El Caminito del Rey has been restored into a mountain experience that's now accessible to all - but retains all its original thrills



this would be the perfect spot for a hydroelectric power station. They were right. Harnessing the awesome natural resources of the wild Gaitanes Gorge ('the gorge of the vultures') allowed them at one point to power the entire Malaga province.

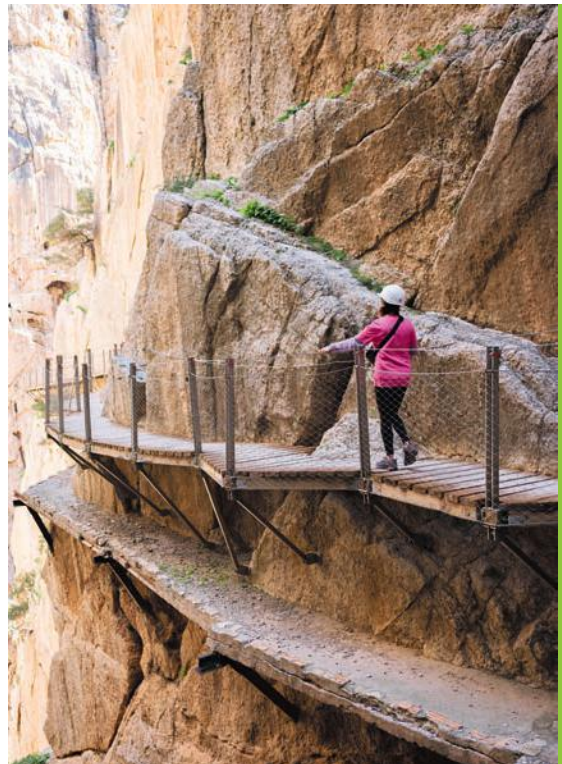
The only problem with their incredible feat of industrial-era engineering? How the workers would travel through the gorge between the power plants for maintenance. So in 1901, work on a walkway began, designed by Rafael Benjumea y Burín and built by shipbuilders. They created a rudimentary, 1m-wide metal and concrete walkway, secured toweringly high on the vast walls of the canyon. It was designed to transport the workers, local people and even donkeys through the canyon and from the Conde de Guadalhorce reservoir over to the little village of El Chorro. Initially called Balconcillos de los Gaitanes, a visit from King Alfonso XIII in 1921 led to it being renamed El Caminito Del Rey - the King's Little Walkway - in his honour.

But after more than a century of use, the walkway fell into disrepair. It was officially closed for safety reasons in 2000, but still daredevil climbers continued, many of whom posted

White-knuckled, I'm clinging to the alarmingly thin wire handrail of a swaying bridge and trying to ignore the sheer, 105m drop - and the loud, rushing Guadalhorce river - beneath me. Closing my eyes isn't an option, so instead I fixate on the craggy rockface opposite, rather than the nightmare-inducing plunge below. My tour guide's words ring in my ears. "It's just 30 metres," she'd said. "It will be all over in one minute." With one slow but steady step in front of another, I begin perhaps the most thrilling 60 seconds of my life.

Visitors to Malaga, southern Andalusia, usually come for a relaxing beach holiday, for the city's museums and galleries, or to munch on tapas in the restaurants that spill out onto the pretty, marble-stone streets of Centro. But one activity has increasingly been luring thrill-seekers into the mountains, about an hour's drive north-west of the picturesque city.

It's here, nestled in between the dramatic peaks of the khaki-coloured Sierra de Huma mountains and with the cascading grey-green flow of the ancient river at its feet, that 125 years ago, pioneering Andalusian engineers realised that





Clockwise from left
Writer Laura Martin walks
along the narrow paths of El
Caminito del Rey, tackling a
bridge across the Guadalhorce
river along the way

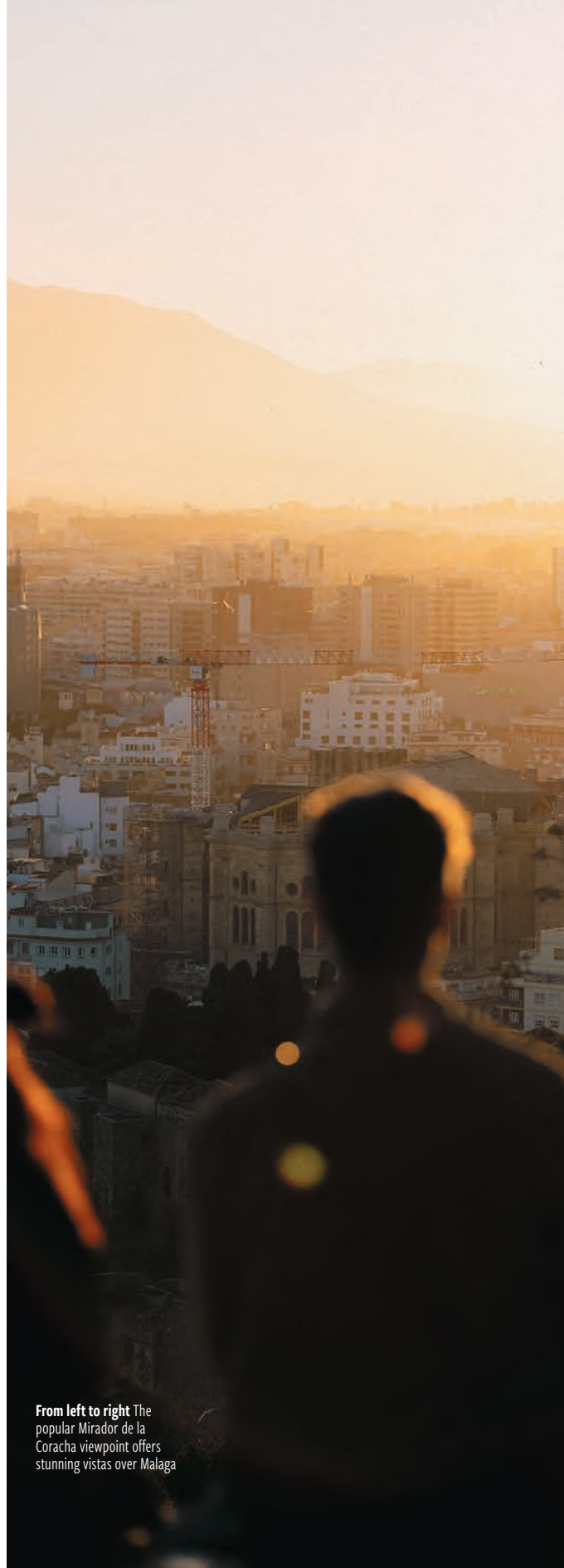


videos online of them attempting the walk along the decaying path, riddled with gaping holes from falling rocks overhead. After several tragic accidents, it gained its newer, bleaker nickname as the world's most dangerous walkway.

However, in 2013, the authorities decided this unique part of Andalusian history should be preserved, and that it should be made safe and accessible for visitors to walk, too. So with an investment of some €5.5 million by the Malaga County Council, the whole 7.7km walk was completely updated with a brand new, secure pathway placed above the original derelict route. It opened again to the public in 2015.

I decided that just over a decade of visitors to El Caminito was a sufficient test period for me to finally face my fear of heights head-on. It was time to tackle my high altitude-phobia with some extreme exposure therapy.

Arriving in Malaga, I ease myself in the world of towering heights by heading to the Mirador de la Coracha viewpoint, between Alcazaba, the Moorish medieval fortress, and the Castle of Gibralfaro. Presumably in the past a great lookout spot for invaders, in 2026, there's a chilled vibe here as the sun sets. Groups of friends gather for sundowners on the steep grassy hills and rocks, watching the terracotta light spread and illuminate Malaga Cathedral at the heart of the Old Town below, while a melodic tune from a musician playing a hang drum floats around us.



From left to right The popular Mirador de la Coracha viewpoint offers stunning vistas over Malaga



***At sunset the
terracotta
light illuminates
Malaga Cathedral***

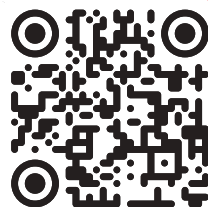
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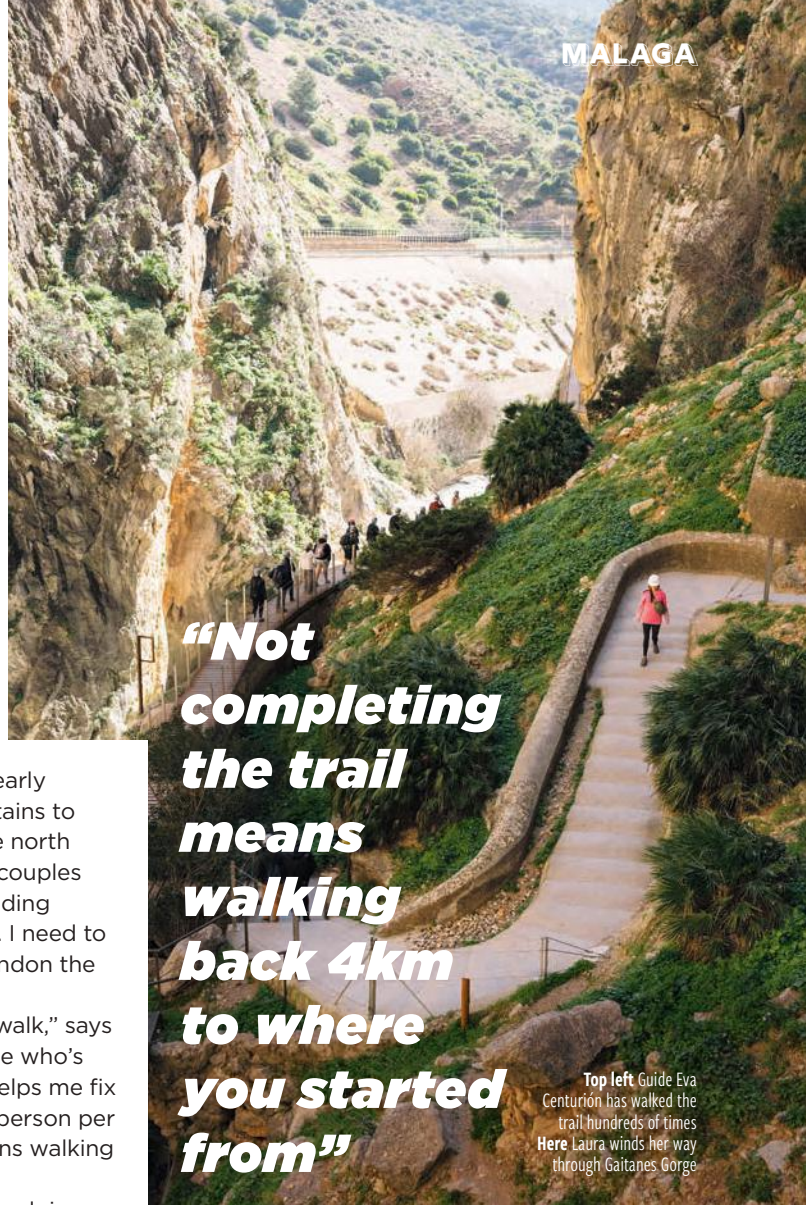
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“Not completing the trail means walking back 4km to where you started from”

Top left Guide Eva Centuri3n has walked the trail hundreds of times. **Here** Laura winds her way through Gaitanes Gorge.

The following day, I’m up bright and early for the winding drive up into the mountains to El Caminito. Once inside the gate of the north access starting point, alongside young couples on a wild date, families and iPhone-wielding teenagers, my knees are knocking a bit. I need to know: does anybody freak out and abandon the walk halfway through?

“I’d say 99% of people complete the walk,” says Eva Centuri3n, the knowledgeable guide who’s accompanying me on my hike, as she helps me fix on my mandatory helmet. “Maybe one person per month can’t complete it – but that means walking back 4km to where you started from.”

With an average of 1,200 people a day doing the walk, though, those are good odds. I’m further emboldened when she tells me that just last month, a 95-year-old woman completed the entire track and bridge all by herself. If she can do it, then at 50-plus years younger, I’ve got no excuse not to make it to the end.

It’s a pleasant start to the walk, down the gravel path alongside the river and past the flowing waterfall. Then the elevation, along with my anxiety, slowly creeps up. The new wooden walkway feels incredibly secure, though I’m still grateful for the handrail, especially as we soon find ourselves 30m above the water on a path that still feels like an architectural mystery as to how it’s sticking to the rockface. At points, it feels like the mountains have been sliced in two as we walk through a gap the river has carved through the rock over millions of years. The stunning

colour changes of layers in the stone go back to Jurassic times. We even spot a few ammonites curled up, entombed in the gorge forever.

We reach the plateau of a valley that’s back on ground level, and it’s nice to take a breather and level out the adrenaline. Despite the steady procession of walkers coming through the wilderness, some cute baby mountain goats are brave enough to poke their heads out of the bushes. “They also like to climb up into the trees!” Eva tells me. Elsewhere, there are rabbits, lizards and bats, and sometimes, otters frolic in the rushing waters. Thanks to the area’s incredible biodiversity, it’s also a bird-watching paradise with more than 150 species to look for, as it’s also the route migrating birds take down to Africa. There are African swifts, peregrine falcons,



“It’s the unique experience of being so high up with nothing but nature, and the canyon”



osprey and golden eagles, as well as the gorge's resident vultures who, slightly disconcertingly, circle overhead along our entire walk. Meanwhile, several white butterflies cross our path, signalling that spring is well underway. "It's so peaceful here," says Eva, who has worked on the Caminito trail for three years and has walked it around 380 times. "It's also the unique experience of being so high up with nothing but nature, and the canyon."

For the hot climes of southern Spain, the scenery alongside the rocks is surprisingly green. Wild olive trees sprout out from wacky angles from the cliff faces and Aleppo pine trees and rosemary bushes fragrance our path as we stomp through in our hiking boots. "Try some of this mastic root," says Eva, breaking off a little bit for me to taste. "It's what the workers used for toothpaste when they'd walk along to work." It's like gnawing on nature's toothbrush - bitter, woody and slightly minty.

Speaking of the workers, Eva tells me that the valley was previously home to six families, who lived off the land, but their children had to go to school over in the church of El Chorro. Unbelievably, children aged from six to 11 would trip-trap along the high-wire track to and from school four times a day (coming home for lunch).

While the Caminito is open from 8am - although the €10 tickets often sell out months in

Clockwise from left

The Caminito hugs the canyon; wildlife takes the short route down the mountain; ibex takes the short route down the mountain; El Caminito del Rey mapped out; one of the bridges along the trail



“You can hear all the sounds of the birds, the trees, the water”

advance – Eva tells me one member of staff walks the full path before visitors arrive to make sure there are no problems on the track. “This is my absolute favourite time. When you are all alone, I feel so tiny, but it’s amazing. You can hear all the sounds of the birds, the trees, the water.”

The peaceful, almost spiritual side of the walk has inspired others to make long-lasting memories here, too. A glass-bottomed balcony about halfway through the walk is the site of one or two wedding proposals a month, and group hikes for family celebrations are common. “Just last week,” Eva says, “a couple were on the glass balcony and the woman pulled out a pregnancy test and said ‘I’m pregnant!’. The man looked so shocked, it was such a great moment.”

Round the corner, the incline begins again, but I feel like I’m becoming accustomed to the height now. The rushing sound of the water rapids below feels almost therapeutic. I even manage to peer over the edge of the walkway once or twice to take in the magnitude of the view below.

But it’s all been leading up to the last suspended bridge. This is where nervous types usually turn back, says Eva. Surely I haven’t come all this way just to quit? The wind whips up as I start a little shuffle along the exposed bridge, holding on with two hands. I feel the blood pumping, but I’m determined to keep going. A few steps later, I’ve made it and I feel elated – while equally keen to ascend back down to the ground on the last, 1km stretch to El Chorro.

“Some people get really emotional when they finish,” explains Eva. “There was one woman recently who was so afraid and when she finished, she started to cry. She had spent the whole time thinking she couldn’t do it.” It’s just one of the many triumphs over adversity that have taken place here over the past century. You’re walking in the footsteps of others who have not only conquered the historic Caminito, but their fears, too. caminitodelrey.info

✈ Wizz Air flies to Malaga

How to boss El Caminito

Bring: A round-the-neck rope holder for phones and sunglasses

The director of El Caminito, Marcelino Méndez-Trelles Juárez, says about two or three phones are dropped each month, but “most are recovered”. Don’t take the risk.

Don’t bring: Selfie sticks or drones

El Caminito had to ban selfie sticks as the walkways became congested with people stopping to take photos or videos with them. Drones are banned, too.

Bring: Lots of water

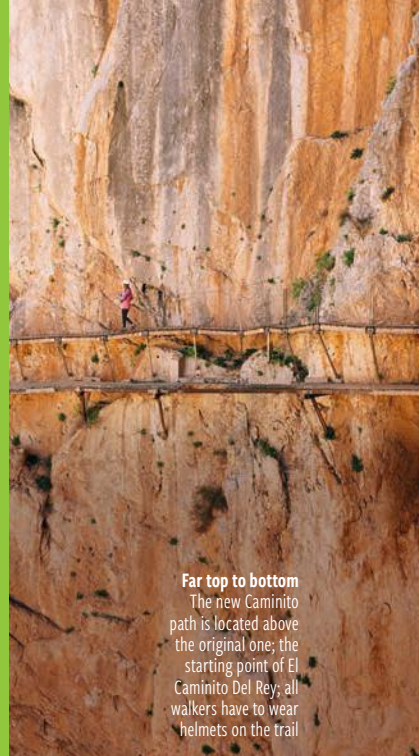
If you’re visiting during the summer months, the canyon can reach temperatures of up to 40°C. Eva recommends bringing at least three litres of water to drink on the walk in these scorching temperatures.

Don’t bring: a picnic

Despite a section of the walk being through a picturesque valley, picnics or BBQs are strictly forbidden. So bring a stash of energy bars, nuts and fruit to nibble on along the way, but take all rubbish away with you, as there are no bins along the route.

Bring: A few euros, in cash

The walkway runs one way, from Ardales in the north to Álora in the south, and you can park a car at either end and then get a shuttle bus to which end you need to get to. As of January 2026, bus tickets cost €2.50, one way.



Far top to bottom
The new Caminito path is located above the original one; the starting point of El Caminito Del Rey; all walkers have to wear helmets on the trail





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How to switch off

Unlike enforced detoxes and wellness resorts, the remote village of Simena doesn't promise transformation. It simply offers space to breathe, away from pollution, notifications and noise – which may be the greatest luxury of all

 Words by Suzy Pope



Be honest, how many times have you decided on a holiday destination with a little help from social media scrolling?

The influence of Instagram and TikTok on our holiday habits continues to grow, and while it's helpful to crowdsource information online, there's a marked downside. Travel to holiday hotspots – even so-called 'hidden gems' – can feel more about queueing for selfie spots and staging videos than doing what we really crave: enjoying the moment, in a beautiful place.

But alongside polished influencer videos, TikTok creators are now tackling 'brain rot' – how excessive time online causes a slow, foggy feeling in the brain – by promoting long walks, time outdoors and writing by hand. These analogue activities are more about delayed gratification than instant dopamine hits, and they're finding their way back into the way we travel.

While resort hotels boast about high-speed Wi-Fi in every room, more and more travellers are actively seeking to

unplug. A 2023 digital wellbeing report found that over 55% of Gen Z respondents need a break from social media and digital life, while online searches for digital detox retreats tripled between 2024 and 2025. Screen fatigue and nostalgia for simpler times has us abandoning our phones and embracing quiet, screen-free travel.

Unlike at the better-known resort towns along Türkiye's Turquoise Coast, you won't find modern hotel chains and mod cons in the remote, car-free village of Simena, which tumbles from a Byzantine castle down to the shore of the Med.

Instead, there's just a handful of family-run guesthouses and ramshackle tavernas, clustered around the seashore where you might spot sea turtles drifting by. With no traffic and very little phone signal, it feels like Simena hasn't changed much since it was founded in the 4th century BC.

Here's how Simena ticks all our boxes for a digital detox holiday – without even having to try.



PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK



1. You can't get any phone signal

The only way to reach Simena is by boat from Üçağız and Kaş, or on foot. The ancient village sits on the Lycian Way, a long-distance hiking route from Antalya to Fethiye. From the nearest town Kapaklı, it's an 8.5km walk along a trail that hugs the coastline along Gökkaya Bay, where forested islets float in shimmering teal water and the occasional day boat is the

Opposite page

Exploring the ruins of Simena Castle

Here Car-free Simena can only be reached by boat or on foot

only sign of civilisation. Simena's geographic isolation, tucked between towering, forested hills, means weak phone signal is inevitable – naturally pulling you into an offline world, with no rules or lockboxes required, and where you feel like you've gone back in time.

"In other towns, the ruins are fenced off. In Simena, the ancient Lycian sarcophagi are part of the village furniture," says Paul Forrester, founder of Amber Travel, which offers multi-day or single-day hikes. During the Middle Ages, the village was plagued by pirates, so the Byzantines built a dramatic fortress on the hilltop, and little has changed since then. "It's an analogue dream, forcing you to slow down to the speed of a rowboat," Paul says.

"Simena forces you to slow down to the speed of a rowboat"



2. It's a ready-made 'quietcation' destination

As one of the last car-free villages on Türkiye's Turquoise Coast, Simena is blissfully free of the sounds of car horns and distant traffic hum. A 2024 study published in The BMJ confirmed what many of us already instinctively feel: that traffic noise can raise blood pressure, increase stress hormones and worsen cardiac function. Across Europe, it's rare to find a true escape from the persistent, low-level rush of vehicles, but it's something we all badly need. Enter the 'quietcation', a major trend for Gen Z travellers in 2026.

"Simena lacks the noise of modern life. Instead of engines, you hear goat bells and the rhythmic lapping of the Mediterranean," Paul says. As there's little by way of nightlife, you won't hear the thud of bass-heavy club music or the cackle of late-night revellers. It's a quietcation destination without even trying.

The idea of a quietcation is often misunderstood as a holiday where you do nothing. But it's not about boredom – it's about relief, softening the nervous system naturally with a lack of modern noise and abundance of sea air, natural landscapes and stars at night. Paul recommends stargazing in Simena. "With almost no light pollution, the Milky Way is spectacular here," he says.



“Instead of horns, you hear goat bells and the Mediterranean”



From top to bottom
With no real nightlife, expect quiet, tranquil evenings in Simena; Simena Castle was built to protect the town from pirates



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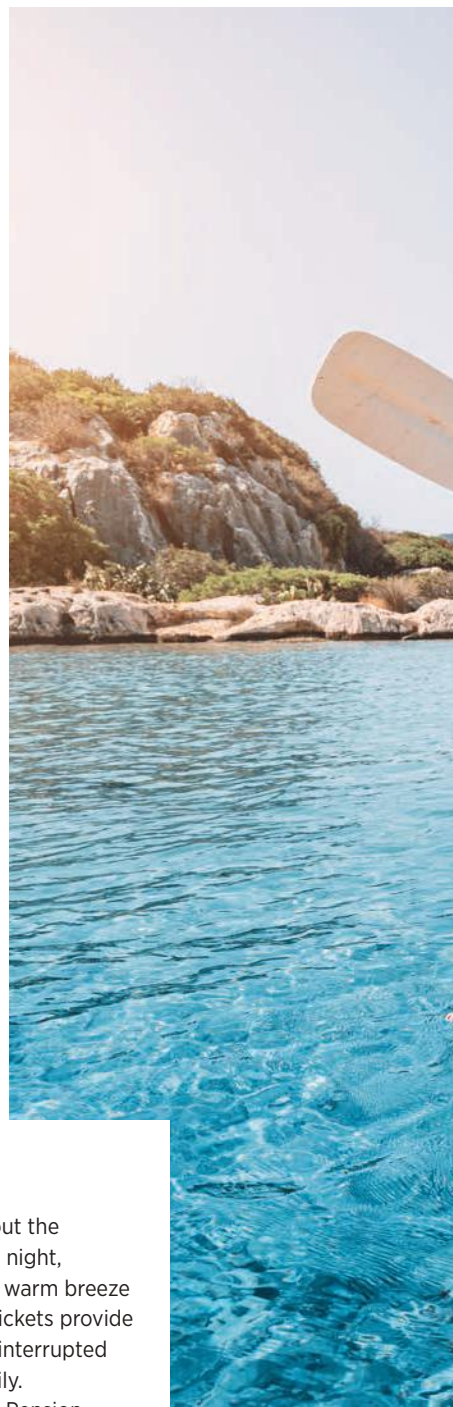
3. Wi-Fi barely exists

Wi-Fi has crept into some of the cafés and guesthouses, but it's not guaranteed or expected. "There are no grand hotels in Simena, only family-run guesthouses where the 'lobby' is a wooden jetty and room service is a bowl of fruit from the garden, by your bed," Paul says.

Mehtap Pension is a perfect example, where bougainvillea-dappled terraces overlook the water. Dinner is fish caught fresh, local cheese and sweet peppers. The hillside rooms feel like cottages, each with a sea view. The family owners will take you to and from Üçağız by private boat and offer trips around the rocky islands to see the ruins of ancient Lycia.

Wi-Fi exists, but barely. Without the temptation to scroll late into the night, evenings slow down naturally. A warm breeze drifts through open windows, crickets provide gentle white noise and deep, uninterrupted and restorative sleep comes easily.

Down on the waterfront, Sahil Pension offers more basic accommodation. Wi-Fi is nonexistent here. Instead, the focus is lounging on the private dock between plunges into the crystal-clear water and on the hammock-strewn terrace. The rooms won't win any awards for luxury, but have all you need for deep sleep: comfortable beds and windows that open to the sound of waves.



Above from left to right The view from Mehtap Pension; the best way to see the Sunken City of Kekova is from a kayak

“Kayaking offers an intimacy a standard boat tour can’t”



4. There are no influencers in sight

Social media hasn't found Simena yet. The village's isolation means far fewer visitors than the rest of Türkiye's Riviera, and "this physical barrier has kept the mass out of mass tourism," says Paul. Without intimidating must-see lists online, there's zero pressure to sightsee, and any tourist activities you do have a refreshing sense of the unknown about them.

You might follow the Lycian Way to Smugglers Cove – a tumbledown, pirate-themed bar hidden in a forested bay where a small jetty juts into emerald water, for

paddleboarding and wild swims. Or you could climb past shops selling burnt-milk or cactus fruit ice cream, to the ruins of Simena Castle. Within the walls, an ancient amphitheatre sees 300 seats carved into the rock – the smallest theatre in Lycia – and wooden walkways weave between the crumbling, crenulated walls.

"Kayaking the Sunken City of Kekova is a highlight," Paul says. "It offers an intimacy that a standard boat tour can't." Amber Travel offers guided kayaking experiences in Simena, and Mehtap Pension has kayak rental included with each stay. "While large gulets must keep their distance from the protected archaeological site, kayaking lets you float inches away from 2,000-year-old Lycian staircases leading into the turquoise depths," Paul explains. "There's something hauntingly beautiful about the clack of your paddle being the only sound as you hover over submerged walls and terracotta amphorae shards."



5. It's got wellbeing written all over it

Türkiye's Riviera is drenched in sunshine 300 days a year, and deep into autumn you'll still see wall-to-wall sunshine and a dry heat climbing into the high 20s. That steady infusion of vitamin D alone feels like therapy, and after days of taking it slow, your body feels completely unwound.

Here, food is slow, simple and hasn't been jazzed up for Instagram. Family kitchens turn out 'peasant' dishes perfected over generations: stuffed sweet peppers, grilled aubergine drenched in local olive oil and glistening pomegranate seeds adding a sharp punch to salads. Food is fuel for fishing or tending the land, and perfect for days spent hiking, kayaking and swimming. While health resorts started to construct menus around the Mediterranean diet in the 1990s, Simena's restaurants have always used the bounty of the land without thinking about it.

Simena is a place to get outside and touch grass. It's made for reading long-ignored books, keeping handwritten journals and doing analogue activities. For watching the light fade from the water's edge, and sitting in silence without feeling the temptation to scroll on your phone. Detoxing never felt so natural.

✈ **Wizz Air flies to Antalya**



After days of taking it slow, your body feels completely unwound

Above The marina near the town of Kekova is the ideal launch pad to hike to Simena Castle

PHOTOS: ADOBE STOCK

A 10-day single journey from Moldova to Armenia

Explore Moldova's countryside and Armenia's breathtaking mountains in one unforgettable route, on this new, 10-day travel experience developed by tourism partners from both countries

What links Moldova and Armenia? Wine, ancient traditions and a famously warm welcome. Though modest in size, both countries offer cultural heritage, striking landscapes and authentic experiences that remain largely undiscovered by international travellers. Thanks to a collaboration among the National Inbound and Domestic Tourism Association of Moldova, Armenian Tourism Federation and the Strategic Development Agency in Armenia, joint regional tour packages are being developed by partners within the scope of the RECONOMY program (funded by Sweden and implemented by Helvetas). The initiative invites you to discover both destinations in one journey.

Developed alongside local tour operators in each country, the programme introduces a 10-day combined itinerary (five days in Moldova and five days in Armenia) highlighting both shared heritage and unique identity. In Moldova, you can explore the capital, Chişinău, visit the remarkable cultural landscape of Orheiul Vechi and



discover traditional villages like Butuceni and Trebujeni. Take part in culinary masterclasses in rural guesthouses, learn to prepare traditional dishes such as plăcinte, sample local honey and learn traditional crafts, such as Bessarabian carpet weaving. The journey also includes visits to historic landmarks like Tighina Fortress and the autonomous region of Gagauzia, rich with distinctive traditions and cuisine.

The adventure continues in Armenia, where ancient history meets breathtaking landscapes. From monasteries perched on mountain cliffs (Khor Virap,



Noravank, and Tatev Monastery) to the vibrant streets of Yerevan filled with culture, music and hospitality, every corner tells a story. Taste rich traditions in every dish, walk scenic trails with unforgettable views and enjoy wines from one of the world's oldest winemaking regions.

Together, Moldova and Armenia form a distinctive route between Eastern Europe and the Caucasus that's rich in culture, nature, gastronomy and local experiences.

Discover more on the official tourism websites:

moldova.travel | armenia.travel

PARIS



Can't

touch

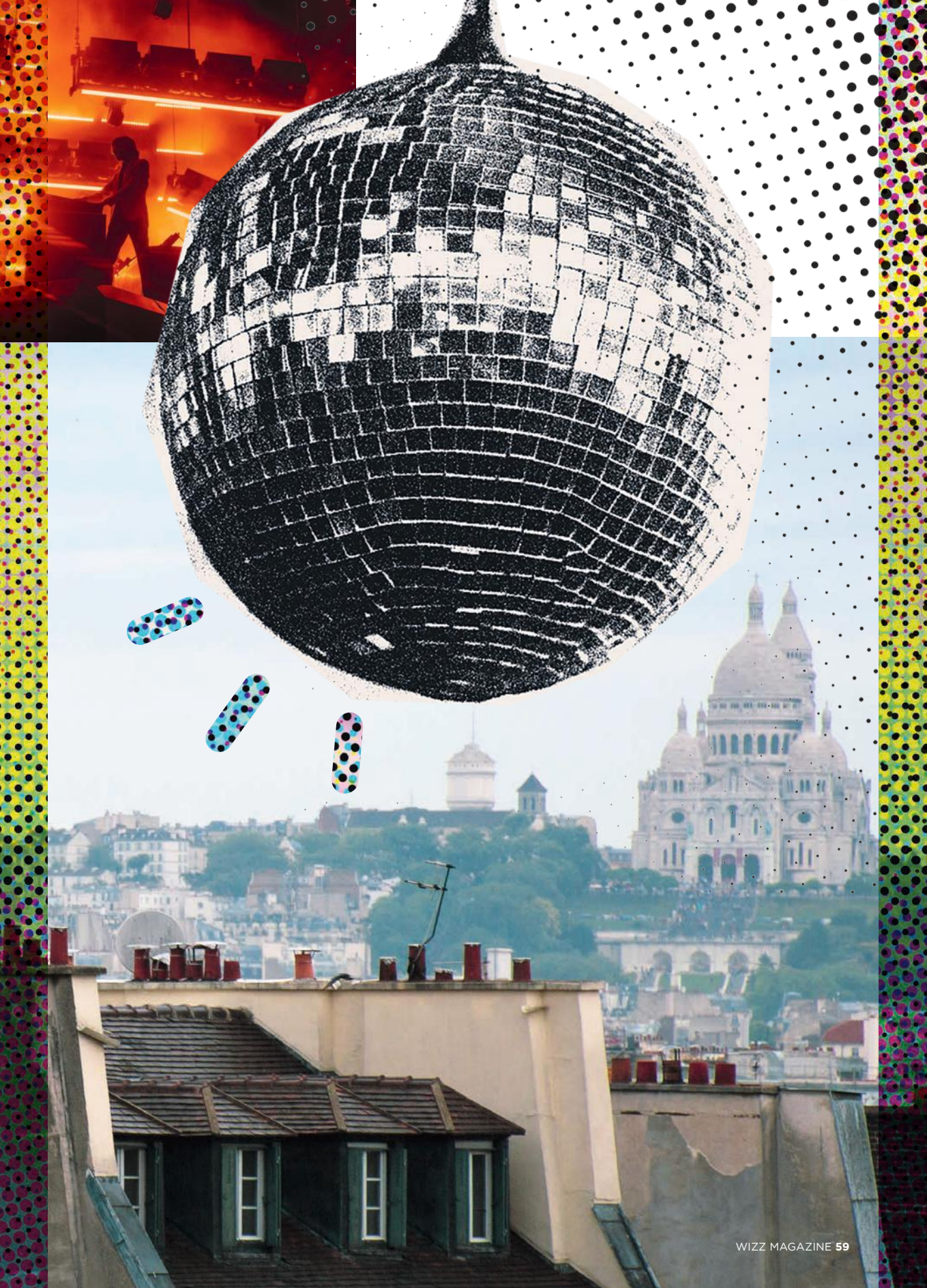
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French Touch electro reshaped the country's musical identity in the 90s and 00s and is now in line for UNESCO protection in the future. We head to Paris, where the genre is experiencing a major revival

 Words by Christian Koch



PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK, RAPHAEL CHÉNE, ALEX CRANE





The 24 DJs waiting to perform at the Paris Paralympics 2024 closing ceremony, in front of 80,000 people in the Stade de France and a stomach-clenching 193 million watching on TV, had every reason to feel terrified. Most of these turntablists hailed from the French Touch scene, the genre pioneered by Daft Punk. The disco-funk brand of house music, born in the clubs and teenage bedrooms of mid-1990s Paris, had certainly been influential – but it was hardly mainstream. And though the opening ceremony to the 2024 Paris Summer Olympics hadn't been without controversy, it had revolved around far more traditional French cultural mainstays: the accordion, songs by Edith Piaf, the can-can and *Le Petit Prince*.

They needn't have worried. As fireworks exploded, the musician Myd took to the decks draped in a giant tricolour flag while French president Emmanuel Macron watched on from the rainy stadium stands, perhaps mulling over a decision that he made public in December 2025: to add French Touch music to France's Intangible Cultural Heritage list.

It's the first step towards the genre being recognised by UNESCO – the United Nations' cultural and educational body – as a tradition worth protecting, alongside Alençon needle lace-making and 'artisanal know-how of baguette bread', some of the country's most highly revered art forms. But French



Clockwise from above DJ Myd works the crowd; French Touch icons Daft Punk; the Montmartre district around the Sacré-Coeur has become a dance music hotspot

Touch is hardly an endangered species. Today, its influence is everywhere, from Charli XCX's 'Guess' (which quotes Daft Punk's 'Technologic') and Dua Lipa's shimmering disco-pop, to any number of auto-tuned tracks clogging the charts.

"There's a new generation of kids in their early 20s discovering this music and thinking it sounds different," says DJ and producer Fred Falke, who along with fellow house pioneer Alan Braxe created seminal French Touch tracks such as 'Intro'. "It's not nostalgia, because this music came out before they were even born. For some reason, it speaks to them."

To understand the importance of the genre, we need to rewind to a Paris bedroom in 1993. It was here that a duo of shy Parisian teenagers, Thomas Bangalter and Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo, turned to techno after a short-

PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK, SAINT AMBROISE, ALAMY





18^e Arrt
RUE
ANDRÉ MESSAGER
(1853 - 1929)
COMPOSITEUR
DIRECTEUR DE L'OPÉRA

10 KEY MOMENTS IN FRENCH ELECTRONIC MUSIC HISTORY

1963

Musique concrète composer Pierre Henry creates a ballet score using tape loops of squeaking doors, creaky hinges and human sighs. Influential? Yes. Listenable? Not really.

1976-1977

Jean-Michel Jarre's *Oxygène* and Cerrone's *Supernature* are released: two pioneering works of French electro.

1996

Motorbass – the duo of Étienne de Crécy and future Cassius member Philippe Zdar – releases *Pansoul*, widely regarded as the first French Touch album.

1998

France wins the World Cup. Stardust, Daft Punk and Air dominate magazine covers and radio playlists. The world goes mad for all things French.

2000

Alan Braxe & Fred Falke drop 'Intro', a catchier-than-headline club classic that sounds like the music aliens would play in their spaceships in 500 years' time.



“We were excited by what everybody else was doing”



From top to bottom
House pioneers Alan Braxe and Fred Falke have shaped the sound of the genre in France since 2000; the Ed Banger Records logo

lived rock project fizzled out. The result was Daft Punk's 1997 *Homework* album – a huge success powered by hits like ‘Da Funk’ and ‘Around the World’, and striking videos by Michel Gondry and Spike Jonze. Still, the pair refused to embrace fame, hiding behind Halloween masks in photos – which would later evolve into their robot helmet look.

Just one week after the French football team lifted the 1998 FIFA World Cup on home soil, ‘Music Sounds Better with You’ was released by Stardust – a one-off collaboration between Bangalter,

Braxe and singer Benjamin Diamond. The serotonin-boosting hit ended up selling 2 million singles worldwide, while in Paris, there was an outpouring of club-friendly records, from Étienne de Crécy's *Super Discount* and Cassius's 1999 to Phoenix's *United*. Air's loungecore *Moon Safari* and St Germain's jazzy *Rose Rouge* provided the Sunday morning comedown tracks after the others' Saturday-night highs.

By the time Mr Oizo (aka techno DJ Quentin Dupieux) and his shabby flea-market-find puppet, Flat Eric, cropped up in a 1999 Levi's advert and scored number ones across Europe, Paris was firmly on the global musical map.

“We were continually excited by what everybody else was doing,” remembers Falke. “When acts like Cassius got signed, we were like ‘wow’ because it felt like they were carrying the torch for us. Suddenly, we'd be flying to London and going to parties there.”

As the 21st century kicked off, Daft Punk became unstoppable. In 2003, Ed Banger Records was founded by Daft Punk's manager Pedro Winter, a skateboarding law school dropout. Within years, the label was unleashing a new wave of electro so cutting-edge it should have come with a box of plasters. French Touch 2.0 – as Winter calls it – was louder and brasher: Justice's rock and disco-influenced riffs, Uffie's expletive-filled raps or DJ Mehdi's hip hop-inflected electro. Overseas, Eric Prydz adopted French Touch looping and sampling styles on his smash hit ‘Call on Me’, while Madonna's electropop

2002-2003

Kylie Minogue's French Touch-influenced ‘Love at First Sight’ is released. Ed Banger Records launches. French Touch gets louder, messier and swarier.

2006

The US falls in love with Daft Punk after they play Coachella inside a giant pyramid. Fans include Mark Zuckerberg, with the duo's music soundtracking his early coding escapades.

2008

Sébastien Tellier represents France at Eurovision with Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo song ‘Divine’. Driving a golf buggy and inhaling a balloon onstage, he finishes 19th.

2021

Daft Punk announce their split via a video which sees one robot self-destruct and the other silently walking into the desert.

2024

Iconic producer Jean-Michel Jarre leads a French electronic music tribute at the Paralympics closing ceremony featuring DJs, breakdancers and *beau coup de lasers*.



“In terms of attendance, the electro scene is the biggest we’ve ever had”

single ‘Music’ showed the genre’s growing influence among the pop elite. In 2007, while Justice toured summer festivals with their debut album *Cross*, Scottish record producer Calvin Harris riffed off French Touch sounds in his synth-heavy release *I Created Disco*.

In 2021 Daft Punk logged off for the last time, not before landing their biggest hit: 2013’s ‘Get Lucky’, featuring Pharrell Williams and Nile Rodgers. But as the 2024 Paralympics closing ceremony showed, their influence would show no sign of slowing down.

One more time

Nowhere is the current resurgence of French Touch more evident than in Paris. On dancefloors at the 2nd



Left Justice has been one of the driving forces of the French electro music revolution
Here Rex Club in the second arrondissement is the spiritual home of French Touch

arrondissement’s Rex Club (the scene’s spiritual home) or open-air Jardin21, Gen Z partiers (and a few Gen X-ers too) can be seen punching the air to the genre’s glittery, feelgood anthems. During Paris fashion week, parties and runways are scored by musicians such as Justice and SebastiAn.

Step inside a designer store in the upscale Triangle d’Or neighbourhood and you’re likely to hear Kid Loco or Air on the speakers. French Touch 3.0 DJs Notre Dame and L’Impératrice perform at ex-Ed Banger haunt, warehouse-chic club Sacré, and the Left Bank’s house and soul venue Djoon.

“In terms of attendance, the electro scene is the biggest we’ve ever had – more than 10 times what it was 30 years ago,” says Fabrice Desprez from Paris-based Phunk PR, who has been involved with French Touch since the mid-90s. “Whenever you arrive at a party, it’s always packed.”

The influence goes beyond music. In the Marais district and along the Canal Saint-Martin, young creatives can be seen channeling Uffie’s trademark, indie-sleaze aesthetic, or rocking the leather jacket, five-day stubble look made famous by Justice in their 2007 heyday. In Montmartre, a bohemian uniform of trucker caps, worn-in Converse and arty tote bags nod to the 100-or-so record labels and music businesses now housed



THE ULTIMATE FRENCH TOUCH PLAYLIST

- ‘Around the World’ – **Daft Punk** (1997)
- ‘Sexy Boy’ – **Air** (1998)
- ‘Music Sounds Better With You’ – **Stardust** (1998)
- ‘Flat Beat’ – **Mr Oizo** (1999)
- ‘Heatwave’ – **Phoenix** (1999)
- ‘Intro’ – **Alan Braxe & Fred Falke** (2000)
- ‘Rose Rouge’ – **St Germain** (2001)
- ‘Pop the Glock’ – **Uffie** (2006)
- ‘D.A.N.C.E.’ – **Justice** (2007)
- ‘Get Lucky’ – **Daft Punk** (2013)

PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK, ALEX CRANE, GETTY IMAGES



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GET LUCKY

Feel the beat at these French Touch-influenced events in Paris

APRIL CLUBNIGHTS

Sacré présente: COEO all night long Sacré, 142 rue Montmartre, 4 April, 11pm-06am
The German disco-house duo brings soulful, euphoric beats to an all-night set. [@sacre142](#)

One More Time / La soirée French Touch Supersonic, 9 Rue Biscornet, 3 April, 12pm-6am
A throw-back night featuring tracks by Daft Punk, Justice, Laurent Garnier and more.

[supersonic-club.fr](#)

MAY FESTIVALS

Versailles Electro Château de Versailles, 24 May, 10pm-midnight
French Touch pioneer Bob Sinclar headlines a festival line-up packed with French electro stars.

[www.chateauversailles-spectacles.fr](#)

Cercle Festival Musée de l'air et de l'espace, 22-24 May
Founding father of French Touch Étienne de Crécy and Eric Prydz feature on the line-up of this electro festival by Paris-Le Bourget Airport. [festival.cercle.io](#)



Clockwise from left Paris has seen a thrilling revival of French Touch music; Dizonord record shop; Sébastien Teller brought French Touch to Eurovision with his song 'Divine'

(which Cassius loved so much they named an album after it), or Justice nursing glasses in the wine bar and record shop hybrid Rock Bottles. Record shops like Dizonord host aperitifs and flea markets, and give DJ lessons to kids in the neighbourhood.

It's taken three decades, but French Touch has broken down barriers between club culture and mainstream appeal, all without disrupting its indie charm. Its enduring popularity, and the notion that it could be UNESCO protected in the coming years, suggests that France now sees electronic music part of its national story – alongside Impressionist painters, brain-scrambling philosophers and stinky cheese.

Perhaps the clearest sign was when Macron baffled Donald Trump during his 2017 state visit with a military band performing Daft Punk tunes. "Today when you go to Sweden, you see ABBA everywhere, from the moment you land at the airport," says Falke. "Maybe visitors will get that when arriving in Paris – hearing Daft Punk."

✦ [Wizz Air flies to Paris](#)



in the hilltop neighbourhood's once-vacant bakeries.

In the 1990s, the cheap rents of this then-scruffy district attracted DJ Laurent Garnier, who set up techno label F Communications on rue André Messager, a 15-minute walk north of the Sacré-Coeur. Daft Punk and Cassius also lived in Montmartre, while nearby Pigalle's music stores helped develop the scene. "New equipment was expensive, so musicians like us and Daft Punk turned to old machines from the 1970s or 80s," says Falke. "Pigalle was the place to find them."

Today, the collection of streets around rue André Messager, rue Émile-Blémont and rue Letort are known collectively as rue de la Musique ('music street'). Montmartre's music-led revival has been aided by local incubator and coworking space Le Mila, which negotiates affordable rents for entrepreneurs and hosts block parties for residents and record labels.

Hang around long enough and you may spot Daft Punk's Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo at bistro Au Rêve



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The package holiday glow up





 Words by Florence Derrick



Tenerife has been a popular all-inclusive destination since the concept exploded in the 90s – but what we expect from package holidays is fast evolving

Go 40 years back in time to the Costa Adeje, southern Tenerife, and you'll find an uncultivated, sun-scorched piece of dry Atlantic coastline, ripe for development. Fast-forward to now, and it's the focal point of the Canary Islands' well-established luxury resort scene. Red-earth, traditional-style hotels cling to the shore, framed by palm trees and hibiscus flowers, and lagoon-style swimming pools glimmering in the sunshine.

But the island hasn't always been known for high-end spas and regenerative retreats. When Spain experienced the first wave of a megaboom of cheap, package holidays in the 1990s, Tenerife was one of its most popular destinations. And the southern, sunny part of the island started to become known for boozy, all-inclusive packages at sprawling, budget hotels – particularly around Playa de las Américas.

But in 2026, what we expect from our holidays is in flux. Luxury hotels on Tenerife's south-west coast are increasingly catering to a modern market, made up of younger travellers interested in wellness, gastronomy and having a sleek grid of holiday snaps on their social media. Authentic cultural experiences and spa treatments are in, while cheap-and-cheerful alcohol packages are gradually falling out of favour. Take the Ritz-Carlton Abama and its restaurant M.B.'s two Michelin stars, or the award-toting GF Gran Costa Adeje, which gives the all-inclusive concept a makeover.

"Tenerife is moving towards a more quality-focused, sustainable and diversified tourism model, where luxury is understood not only as exclusivity, but as experience, excellence and respect for the land," says Dimple Melwani, CEO of Turismo de Tenerife. And the rise in quality is not limited to the south of the island.

"In recent years, there has been significant growth in high-end and luxury accommodation in the north," says Alejandro Páez Sedano, managing partner and CCO of Canarian Hospitality. "Luxury

is no longer about price. Northern Tenerife is evolving towards a low-density, high-quality destination, appealing to guests who value tranquillity, nature, gastronomy and wellbeing rather than crowded beach resorts." Among new openings, Tenerife's original resort, Gran Hotel Taoro, has relaunched following a sensitive restoration to revive the building that welcomed the island's first-ever guests in 1890.

It's all taking place to the backdrop of local protests about a housing and cost of living crisis last summer, as they did across Europe's major tourist hotspots. Hotel groups are under pressure to address the concerns of communities, with assistance from the tourism authority. The authorities are taking action, which will affect the visitor experience going forward.

"Important efforts are being made to ensure that the benefits of tourism reach the entire population," says Dimple. "The Government of the Canary Islands recently passed its first law to regulate tourist housing, and there's a firm commitment to sustainability, too."

A 2026 eco-tax for visiting Mount Teide, capping tourist bus sizes and limits on holiday rentals are part of the authorities' plan to reduce visitor capacity in areas deemed vulnerable to the negative impact of mass

tourism, moving towards a quality-over-quantity model. That approach happens to be perfect for the luxury hotel market.

"Hotels have invested a lot in recent years with the local tourism council," says Ane Ugarte, sales and marketing director at the five-star Hotel Bahía del Duque. "The investment has been huge from the private and the public sector, and it is now producing results." Those results are barefoot seclusion, sub-tropical gardens and palm-fringed spas increasingly coming to mind when you think of an all-inclusive package in Tenerife – with not a single wristband in sight. Here are five hotels that are hitting the mark.





“Important efforts are being made to ensure that the benefits of tourism reach the entire population”

Opposite page The golden sands of Santa Cruz de Tenerife
This page clockwise from above Canyon Masca; the pool area at Radisson Resort & Residences; Tenerife's rugged coastline



For northern soul Radisson Resort & Residences Tenerife

This five-star, adults-only hotel opened in January in Puerto de la Cruz, in the north of the island – where lush, tropical plant life and a mild microclimate set it apart from the sun loungers of the south. And it's ahead of the curve, offering what hotel guests are increasingly looking for: access to nature, wide vistas, authentic cultural exchange and premium amenities. Local architectural traditions complement panoramic terraces named after surrounding national parks, creating a sense of place that's further refined by the regional cuisine at Tremor Restaurant and the wellness centre's aromatherapy rituals. Upgrade the experience with the Crown Service option, which gives you à la carte breakfast and lunch in a VIP lounge, plus airport transfers. [radissonhotels.com](https://www.radissonhotels.com)

For the ultimate escape

Royal Hideaway Corales Villas

Exclusivity is the name of the game at the third hotel in the interconnected luxury complex in Costa Adeje, which includes the adults-only Corales Beach and the apartment style Corales Suites. Soft-launched in March, Corales Villas has already caused a stir on Tenerife's luxury hotel scene thanks to its all-villas and suites setup, each with a private pool, views cascading down to the Atlantic Ocean and access to wellness facilities (think yoga, a sauna and a state-of-the-art gym). In the evenings, the bonfire restaurant grills local specialities while during the day, it's hard to beat cocktails by the pool. A new bar has been set for private luxury in Tenerife. barcelo.com



A new bar has been set for private luxury in Tenerife



Opposite page Chill or challenge yourself at Tivoli La Caleta Tenerife Resort
This page clockwise from left A pool and spa treatment at Bahía Wellness Retreat; palm-lined Hotel Bahía del Duque; the sleek adults-only Royal Hideaway Corales Villas



For spa breaks

Hotel Bahía del Duque

Gone are the days when a hotel could pop a sauna in the basement and call it a spa. The global obsession with wellness shows no sign of slowing, and there's good reason why this Costa Adeje hotel's spa was nominated for the Best Spa Resort – Spain award in the Luxury Spa Edit 2026. The Bahía Wellness Retreat is truly extraordinary, with its outdoor Thalasso in a tropical garden and 360 approach to mental and physical wellbeing – from yoga instruction to Thai massage and physiotherapy. It's one central pillar to a deluxe stay here, accompanied by the beautiful new beach club, Upalupa, and the Michelin-starred restaurant, Nub. thetaishotels.com

PHOTOS: BAHÍA DEL DUQUE

For active holidays Tivoli La Caleta Tenerife Resort

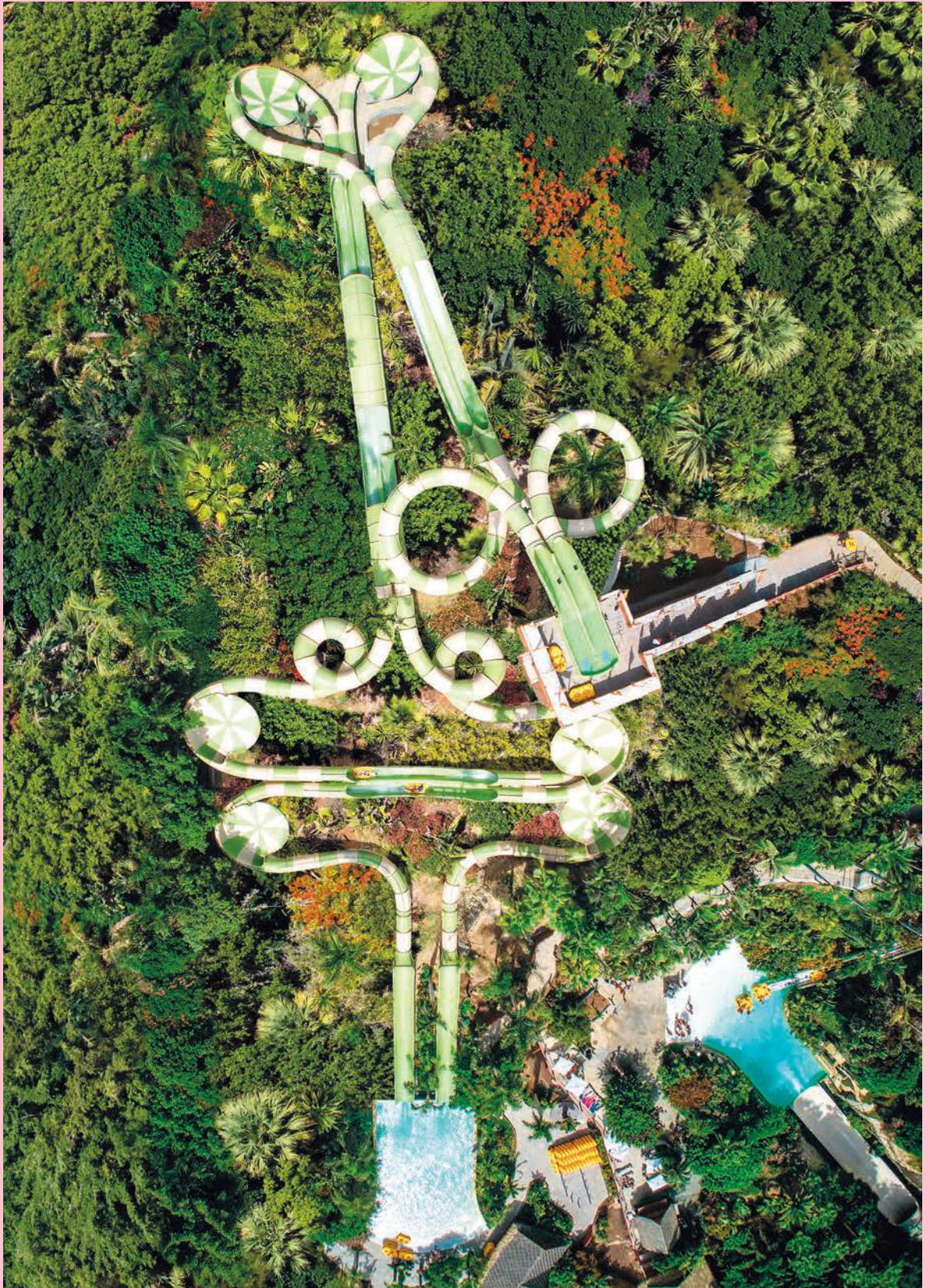
This new opening in Costa Adeje marked Spain's first Tivoli outpost and Tenerife's very first Anantara Spa – a heavenly combination of hydrotherapy, hot and cold plunge pools, and three lagoon pools shaded by palm trees. With its classically Canarian, terracotta-hued architecture there's no mistaking where you are, while authentic seafood restaurants are a 15-minute walk away at the bay in La Caleta. The seafront setting means that surfing, diving or sailing are never more than a few minutes' away – but padel and golf are even closer, if that floats your boat. tivolihotels.com



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Splash out

Tenerife's beloved waterpark, Siam Park, is keeping pace with the island's hotels by enhancing its luxury offerings. VIP amenities include private cabañas, houses or villas on site, plus a champagne club with private Bali bed and the new 1,000m² wave pool, Coco Beach, boasting a special type of sand that – apparently – doesn't stick to your skin. We're here for all of the above. siampark.net

✈️ [Wizz Air](#) flies to Tenerife



From top to bottom
With musical instruments in the room and gigs by the pool, the Hard Rock Hotel is one of Tenerife's coolest stays



For families Hard Rock Hotel Tenerife

In the aptly named Playa Paraiso, a few minutes' drive north of the Costa Adeje hotel hub, is this hard-to-beat favourite that this year celebrates its 10-year anniversary of landing in Tenerife. Hard Rock brings the vibes to Tenerife's luxury hotel scene, with an open-arms welcome for all – from unruly kids to pets. You can hardly turn a corner here without stumbling upon a new musical experience, whether it's an ambient DJ session by one of the four pools or a major international act on the big stage. In-room jam sessions on Fender guitars, vinyl selections and curated playlists complete the picture. And best of all? It's an all-out five-star hotel with the all-inclusive experience baked in. Luxury doesn't get much easier, or more fun.

hotel.hardrock.com

Restaurant guide

Planning your next foodie trip? These are the restaurants that you need to book right now



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A breakfast worth getting up for

At Neața Omelette Bistro, breakfast unfolds around plates made to be shared and savoured. From flavourful chicken wraps and the signature Neața steak, to fluffy pancakes and freshly prepared Turkish eggs, every dish is fresh and balanced. Paired with specialty coffee, the experience invites guests to slow down and enjoy the moment. In the heart of Timișoara, Neața offers a welcoming stop for travellers seeking comfort, quality and a relaxed start to the day. Follow us on Instagram: [@neataomelettebistro](https://www.instagram.com/neataomelettebistro)



Armenian heritage on the table

Mayrig is a refined Armenian restaurant shaped by memory, heritage and mastery of technique. Founded in 2003 to safeguard the culinary traditions of Armenia, the restaurant has a menu that creates a meaningful dialogue between Western and Eastern Armenian flavours, thoughtfully combined. Each dish reflects craftsmanship, authenticity and a deep respect for heritage. Since 2018, Mayrig has continued its journey in Yerevan, bringing its signature experience to the Armenian capital. mayrigrestaurant.com



Taste history, savour tradition

Since opening in Chisinau in 2008, Popasul Dacilor has been more than a restaurant. It's a living tribute to Moldova's history and culinary heritage. Crafted by passionate local artisans, it offers a unique cultural experience. Over the years, it has earned prestigious international awards: Gold in Geneva, Platinum in Frankfurt, Diamond in London (2018) and Vienna (2024) and Quality Trophy in Dubai (2025). Discover authentic flavours and tradition at this neighbourhood spot where history is alive in every dish. Visit: popasuldacilor.md



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Ribs of Prague, in the heart of the city, serves up juicy ribs, hearty comfort food and cold beer in a warm, lively atmosphere. The rotating grill allows guests to watch the ribs as they cook, making the experience even more memorable. A favourite among both local diners and travellers, it is the perfect place to relax and enjoy great food. To make a reservation, call **+420 777 878 788** or visit ribsofprague.cz



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p89



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In buzzing Shoreditch, this London chapter of the nhow hotel group cleverly incorporates the area's past and present into its style. The 'London Reloaded' design by Project Orange sees East London's industrial heritage reflected in rough-finish concrete walls and ceilings with exposed silver venting, while graffiti in the bedrooms pays homage to Shoreditch's current status as a creative hub. It's a compelling blend that makes nhow one of the capital's hippest stays. Further upping the cool factor in the

rooms are old phones, paint-splattered armchairs and murals of historical figures in the bathroom (having Henry VIII watch over you while you're on the loo may take some getting used to).

The slick aesthetics extend to Guilty by Olivier - the hotel's restaurant set up for cheat meals - and the scrambled-egg-yellow cocktail bar. Even pooches get a style upgrade thanks to "pawtastic pet rooms" that come with funky pillows for doggo to nap on. As one piece of bedroom graffiti explains: "It's a London thing."

WORDS: PIERRE DE VILLIERS



AC Nice Nice

You'll find the AC Nice Hotel's undoubted star attraction on the seventh floor. Featuring sweeping vistas of the Mediterranean Sea, the rooftop bar is the perfect place for sundowners – especially if you float around in the pool with one of AC Nice's homemade white sangrias in your hand.

The Farago On The Roof restaurant serves up sharable dishes plucked from Mediterranean and Swiss cuisine (from lobster roll to Valaisan Röstli) while local artists provide a sun-kissed soundtrack. Down

below, AC Nice's chic 143 rooms offer more views of the sea or the city and come with a serene colour scheme of muted greens and blues to help you relax further. A small fitness centre will get the blood pumping, but chances are you'll want to get your steps in on the nearby Promenade des Anglais, Nice's famous seaside boulevard. Just make sure you're back in time to book a spot on the roof for the sunset. Fun fact: plane spotters love this place, as jets soar overhead on their descent into Nice Côte d'Azur.



The Landmark

London

Piano music and rows of palm trees welcome you in the gorgeous atrium of The Landmark, a hotel that's been a London icon since 1899. The rooms are as opulent here as you'd expect from a five-star stay in the heart of the capital, while the spa and pool area have just undergone a multi-million-pound spruce-up. Your most memorable experiences in the hotel will be found beneath the high palms, though, whether enjoying afternoon tea or relaxing under the green canopy of the Champagne Bar.



Mercure Paris Montparnasse Pasteur

Paris

A restaurant called L'Antidote with the quote "*Ayez le culte de l'esprit critique*" ('Cultivate critical thinking') on the wall is part of the homage paid to scientist Louis Pasteur at the lovely Mercure Paris Montparnasse Pasteur. Head for the Labotanic bar, where you can sip cocktails in a cocoon of greenery, before doing some sightseeing – the hotel is on one of the city's biggest transport hubs, for visiting the entire metropolis and escaping the city limits, too.

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Almanac X Alcron Prague Prague

The medieval quirks of the nearby Old Town combine with modern elegance at this five-star hotel, in a way that's both understated and welcoming. The lobby colour scheme features dark green and burnt orange - a nod to the roofs and façades in the surrounding streets - while the hotel's upscale polish comes with a cosy, boutique feel. Nowhere is this more evident than in the bedrooms, which are soothing and spacious - made for waking up refreshed and ready to take on cobblestones, Czech culture and, of course, dumplings. The beds are topped with plump, decadent pillows, but there's also a pillow menu to play around with, if you wish.

WORDS: SARAH RODRIGUES. PHOTOS: SIVAN ASKAYO, VOJTĚCH TESÁREK

A sauna and 24-hour fitness facilities are available for guest use, and the Alcron Restaurant has been a cornerstone of Czech cuisine since 1932, attracting well-known faces such as Charlie Chaplin and Winston Churchill. Have a drink at the recently refurbished Art Deco bar before finding a table to sample a menu made up of traditional Czech dishes cooked with local ingredients, with an elegantly modern interpretation.

The black truffle French fries are a stand-out, as is the Czech-inspired rabbit roulade. Organic free-range, grass-fed steaks also form part of the daily offering, and are cooked to blush-pink perfection.









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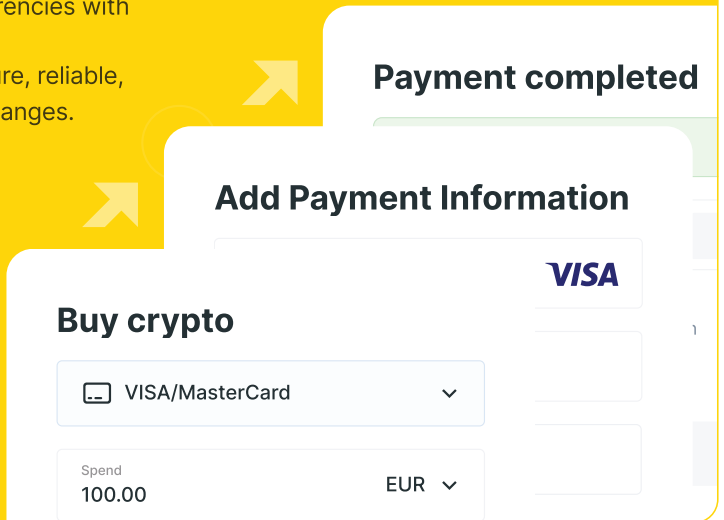
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
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Art Deco brought to life in Kaunas

Discover the understated luxury and Art Deco elegance of Kaunas – home to Lithuania’s UNESCO-listed modernist architecture

Arriving in this historic city is like stepping into a film director’s dream. Serving as Lithuania’s capital between the world wars, Kaunas grew rapidly into a European metropolis with a dense network of modernist architecture now recognised by UNESCO. Cinemas, banks and elegant apartment buildings unfold before your eyes like an open-air museum, yet remain vibrant and alive. To truly feel the pulse of Kaunas, however, you must look behind the ornamented doors.

First up? The Art Deco Museum. When you book a visit, you are first invited to admire the corner building from across the intersection, its facade

shimmering with a rich grey finish. After climbing the stairs past colourful stained-glass windows, you are welcomed as a personal guest. Settling into a tapestried sofa with a glass of sparkling wine and artisanal Lithuanian chocolate, your journey through time begins.

The Art Deco Museum is one of two gems founded by Karolis Banys and Petras Gaidamavičius. Together with the Amsterdam School Museum, these private spaces use colours, textures and photography to tell the intimate stories of those who once lived and loved here. This is a perfect way to discover the slow rhythm and quiet luxury that defines Lithuania’s rich past.

Perhaps you’d rather combine historical discovery with the tranquility of nature? Stay at Vila Grabytė, an authentic retreat in the Panemunė pine wood along the Nemunas River, which has belonged to the same family for a century. The villa offers a rare opportunity to experience living history. You decide the pace of your immersion into the soul of Kaunas, whether you stay here for a night, a weekend, a fortnight or longer.

Kaunas’ UNESCO-listed modernist architecture provides a cinematic backdrop for rich narratives and exclusive, slow-paced experiences. Find more inspiration for your visit at:

kaunasin.lt



Top left: Amsterdam School Museum, this is the only building in Lithuania representing the Amsterdam School architectural style, which borrows Art Deco and Art Nouveau elements



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THE EATS

Where to go for a great meal across the WIZZ network

Tortello London



If the divine aromas coming from the kitchen aren't enough to tell you that Tortello is a superior Italian restaurant, there's always the light-green Fiat parked in the corner. Everything at this fabulous eatery (located, appropriately enough, opposite Hyde Park's Italian Gardens) is a celebration of the craftsmanship of Italy – the sort of skill needed to make the restaurant's signature tortelli. And, believe us, they are truly little works of art. Whether it's the Orkney crab tortelli with charcoal pasta, langoustine and parsley butter sauce as a starter, or the beef shin and red wine variety, with

beef reduction and grated Parmigiano Reggiano as a main, they melt as soon as they hit the tastebuds. Those steering clear of meat are also well catered for, through the black truffle and ricotta tortelli with truffle butter emulsion or the delicate pumpkin tortelli that comes with brown butter, crispy sage and toasted hazelnut. Beyond the tortelli-athon there are a number of other delicious pasta dishes, slow-cooked beef cheeks and chicken cotoletta Milanese – all made using old Italian recipes with a modern touch. *Molto delizioso.* royallancaster.com/bars/tortello



Goja Rooftop

Barcelona

Calçots form the centrepiece of the dishes at this al fresco favourite in Barcelona, which reopened in February after a renovation. Try the Catalan green onions with sausage, beef rib, escalivada, artichokes and celeriac. Or opt for totopos, pescadito frito and beef empanadas from the à la carte menu while taking in stunning views of the City of Counts' most famous landmarks, including the *Basílica de la Sagrada Família*. gojarooftop.com



Le Berkeley Paris

Paris

To step inside Le Berkeley Paris is to follow in the footsteps of Salvador Dalí, Maria Callas and Brigitte Bardot, who all once frequented this 1920s eatery near the Champs-Élysées. The cuisine harks back to great Parisian brasseries and gives it a contemporary twist. Think crab with pondicherry red pepper, tuna tartar with avocado, or salmon with sorrel sauce – consumed in a wood-panelled interior featuring a double spiral staircase. leberkeley.com

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A summer season driven by curiosity

A summer guide to Trenčín, the European Capital of Culture for 2026

Travel feels better when your finger's on the pulse. In 2026, Trenčín, a historic city in western Slovakia crowned by a medieval castle, turns curiosity into a travel plan. As the European Capital of Culture 2026, its cultural programme shapes a season of experiences that connect people, places and creativity.

June: the river parade that locals love

Start with the simple things: a walk under the castle, a coffee in the old town, a river breeze by the Váh. Then let the programme pull you in. On 20 June 2026, Splaneok 2.0 brings a Trenčín legend back to life: handmade, wildly imaginative floating vessels

take over the river and turn the banks into a sunlit stage.

July-August: fresh sounds and festival energy

From 3-5 July, cultural initiative Garáž showcases the freshest young Slovak bands, with dozens of concerts being held. And if you love big festivals, the wider Trenčín region is a magnet in summer. Slovak legend Pohoda Festival returns to celebrate its 30th edition, while Grape Festival adds another strong reason to plan your summer around music.

August-September: interesting art, before a big finale

In August, make time for the *Global Equality and Hospitality (Invalidated Ideas?)* project, a



major international exhibition curated by Ilona Németh and Edit András. Then, September brings the season's high point with Fiesta Festival, celebrating Trenčín's new symbol, Fiesta Bridge, with theatre, music, family activities and sport bringing both banks together.

Trenčín 2026 is not just a one-year celebration. It's a long-term transformation that will reverberate around the city long after summer ends. For more information visit: trencin2026.eu

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Poland is becoming a hub for ambitious students and researchers from around the world. At the heart of Europe, it offers high-quality degree programmes, strong universities and internationally recognised research institutions within a fast-developing academic environment.

Polish universities and research centres are closely connected to global networks. They offer programmes taught in English, modern research infrastructure and international projects that bring together partners from different countries. What often comes as a surprise is just how open, international and pragmatic the academic community in Poland has become.

The Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (NAWA) offers scholarships, mobility opportunities and structured support to students, PhD candidates and researchers, designed to help them develop their careers and build lasting international connections.



Find out more at **study.gov.pl** or **researchinpoland.org**.

Spring in Craiova: festivals, music and markets

Start the spring in a city bursting with colour and energy. In Craiova, Romania, spectacular parks, events and hundreds of thousands of flowers create the perfect setting for a seasonal escape

One of Romania's leading cities, Craiova lies close to the majestic Danube River and the Carpathian Mountains. Easily accessible by plane from across Europe, it is a destination that begins to charm visitors from the moment they land.

Known for its lively atmosphere, Craiova invites travellers to enjoy a unique multi-sensory experience from 3 April-3 May 2026. During this period, the city hosts what many consider Europe's most beautiful Easter Market, inspired this year by the magic of fairy tales. Set in Romanescu Park, one of Europe's largest parks, the Craiova Easter Market welcomes visitors with enchanting fairytale-inspired decorations and impressive light installations. Holographic projections shimmer across the lake, while artists perform live on a stage designed with storybook scenery.

Charming wooden cottages, created by local artists, are decorated in soft pastel colours and adorned with oversized flowers and butterflies. Specially created illuminated installations brighten clearings across the park, while gondola rides on the lake add a romantic touch, creating a memorable and magical atmosphere.

If you're looking for a more energetic city break, visit Craiova between 21 and 31 May, when the city becomes the



global capital of Shakespeare for the International Shakespeare Festival. Over 10 days, more than 2,500 artists present the Bard's works through 450 performances and events held in over 60 venues across the city.

Bring your friends and family to discover Craiova, the perfect destination for a spring city break. For more information, download the *Discover Dolj & Craiova* app from the App Store or Google Play. Visit: facebook.com/govisitcraiova



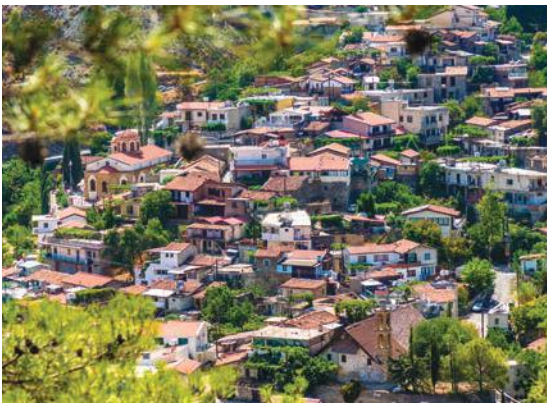
Nonloso Bistro sets a new culinary tone

Nonloso is redefining modern Budapest bistro dining under Chef Pál Tóth. Steps from St. Stephen's Basilica, the restaurant brings together seasonal Hungarian produce, technical precision and understated elegance. The menu reflects a clear culinary direction: clean flavours, balanced compositions and a contemporary interpretation of tradition. It is a place where craftsmanship and hospitality meet in confident harmony. Visit nonloso.hu



Budapest's iconic House of Music

Discover this cultural destination in the heart of City Park. Set in an award-winning building designed by Sou Fujimoto, the House invites visitors to explore music in all its forms, from world music to classical, pop, electronic and jazz. Enjoy live concerts indoors and outdoors, an immersive exhibition about the history of music, and the 360-degree Sound Dome cinema experience. Don't miss the Freddie Mercury exhibition from May, which celebrates the legendary artist's life and music. Visit: houseofmusic.hu



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The most authentic side of Cyprus can be revealed through an agrotourism experience. Stay in beautifully restored village homes, taste traditional cuisine, participate in local festivals and experience the island's rich nature. From mountain trails and wine routes, to local crafts and warm hospitality, agrotourism offers a peaceful alternative to busy resorts. And you can create unforgettable memories while supporting local communities and sustainable travel across the island. Visit: agrotourism.com.cy



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A city that's full of life

Yerevan, capital of Armenia, buzzes with music and conversation

Even if you have visited Yerevan before, the city never stays the same. New parks, cafés and cultural spaces appear each year, and familiar corners are rediscovered in fresh and surprising ways. Armenia's capital feels constantly renewed, yet deeply rooted in history.

Founded in 782 BC, Yerevan is one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities, but it greets visitors with youthful energy. First-time travellers are often struck by how easy Yerevan is to navigate, and before long, you might find yourself giving someone else directions.

But what truly defines Yerevan is its people. Warmth is a given here. Locals are quick to help, eager to chat and always welcoming. Built from

rose-coloured tuff stone, the Pink City glows at sunrise and sunset, revealing layers of Armenia's rich past in every neighbourhood.

Exploring on foot is the best way to connect with this walkable city. Northern Avenue leads from Republic Square to the Opera House through a modern promenade filled with boutiques, cafés and buskers. In the evening, Saryan Street buzzes with music, conversation and the aromas of local wines.

Cultural landmarks are close by: the ancient manuscripts of the Matenadaran, the National Gallery and History Museum in Republic Square, the Erebuni fortress where Yerevan was founded, and the Cafesjian Centre in Cascade, offering unforgettable views of Mounts Ararat and Aragats.

Festivals bring an extra rhythm to city life. Vardavar, Yerevan's joyful water festival, turns streets and fountains into a playful summer celebration. Yerevan Wine Days honours Armenia's 6,000-year-old winemaking tradition with tastings, music and vibrant street life. The Yerevan Ballet Festival gathers world-renowned artists and theatres to transform the city into a stage of elegance and movement. On New Year's Eve, Republic Square unites thousands beneath lights, music, and fireworks, while Erebuni-Yerevan Day celebrates the city's founding with cultural events and concerts across iconic locations.

Yerevan is open, expressive and unforgettable, long after your journey continues. More information at: visityerevan.am

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Check out our
new destinations

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news

Want to know what we've been up to, how to get the most out of your journey and what's new in the dynamic world of WIZZ? Then read on...



Reaching 500 million passengers

In February, Wizz Air celebrated a historic milestone: since we launched operations nearly 22 years ago, 500 million passengers have flown with us. The achievement demonstrates our rapid growth to becoming Europe's third-largest low-cost carrier, and work toward making air travel more accessible.

Reaching half a billion passengers isn't just symbolic. The number reflects a sustained customer demand for our affordable fares, expanding route network and reliable service. Wizz Air surpassed 100 million passengers in just 11 years, then accelerated sharply, adding 200 million in the past three years alone.

"We didn't just grow," says Wizz Air CEO József Váradi. "We outpaced the market, expanding our network, strengthening our bases and reaching record levels of traffic and investment."



Safety in numbers

Wizz Air began 2026 on a high, being ranked among the world's 50 safest airlines by [AirlineRatings.com](#), and landing a place in the top 10 for low-cost carriers thanks to our young fleet and efficient operations. "This recognition from Airline Ratings reflects our strong safety culture, the professionalism of our people, and our continuous investment into training, modern aircraft and operational discipline," says József Váradi, CEO of Wizz Air.



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800+ routes



10,000+ staff



68.6m passengers carried*

*FIGURE FOR 2025. PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK



New base lands in Palermo

Wizz Air is opening a new base at Palermo Falcone Borsellino Airport, in partnership with GESAP. It means that Wizz Air is now Italy's second-largest carrier.

From 1 August, two Airbus A321neo aircraft will be based in Palermo, operating 11 routes across seven countries and offering up to one million seats next year, with fares starting from just €14.99. This will more than triple the current capacity.

Improving domestic connectivity for Sicilian residents, the expansion also brings local benefits, including 80 direct jobs and hundreds more across the wider supply chain.



Hitting the WeRoad

Adventure travel brand WeRoad, catering to solo travellers on group tours, recently teamed up with Wizz Air for a campaign celebrating the thrill of travelling into the unknown.

Travel influencers were invited to pack their bags and head off on a mystery European trip, discovering their destination only at the airport. The result? A weekend getaway to Rome, coinciding with the launch of the WeRoad Weekend portfolio and reaching over 500,000 followers on Instagram and TikTok.



New routes

Belgrade – Alghero, Palermo

Budapest – Menorca, Dubrovnik, Zadar

Bucharest Băneasa – Stockholm Arlanda

Bratislava – Nice, Podgorica

Catania – Tirana, Podgorica

Chişinău – Stuttgart, Cologne, Rimini, Rhodes, Basel

Cluj-Napoca – Malta, Dubrovnik

Craiova – Venice

Iaşi – Milan, Pisa

Katowice – Varna, Dubrovnik

Kraków – Rhodes

London Gatwick –

Santorini

Milan – Bilbao, Naples

Naples – Palma de Mallorca

Palermo – Milan, Bologna, Venice, Turin, Sharm el Sheikh

Rome – Alexandria, Oslo

Skopje – Alghero, Palermo

Sofia – Santander, Corfu, Budapest, Palermo, Rhodes, Sharm el Sheikh, Hurghada, Tirana

Timișoara – Berlin, Prague, Birmingham

Varna – Larnaca

Warsaw Modlin – Varna, Rimini

Warsaw Chopin – Zadar

Yerevan – Rhodes



“WHEN PEOPLE GO THROUGH VERY TOUGH TIMES PERSONALLY, WE’RE THERE TO HELP AND SUPPORT THEM”

To raise funds and awareness in the battle against bullying, Wizz Air recently partnered up with charity Kidscape to scale Kilimanjaro. We speak to some of the team behind the epic challenge

Even for someone who has spent a large part of his professional life at 35,000ft, the majestic view that Philip Cullen experienced earlier this year was truly special.

In February, Wizz Air UK’s Head of Operations (who is a seasoned pilot) found himself on the ‘Roof of Africa’ after scaling the 5,895m-high Mount Kilimanjaro as part of a partnership between WIZZ and charity Kidscape to raise money and awareness in the fight against bullying. It was, he admits, a tough climb, with a huge payoff at the summit.

“When you reach about 3,000m you really start to feel a lack of oxygen – it’s like an elephant sitting on your chest,” recalls Philip, who was joined by 25 fellow climbers on the seven-day ascent in Tanzania. “There is also the mental challenge of summiting through the night. It’s steep, it’s got boulders, it’s got shale, and everybody has a voice in their head asking, can I really do this?”

“When you are finally on the summit looking out over Africa as the sun is rising – it’s emotional. I don’t know anybody who didn’t shed a tear

at the top of the mountain. It’s absolutely life changing.”

Reaching the top of Kilimanjaro goes far beyond a personal triumph for Philip and the other climbers. Not only did the climb raise £100,000, but it also helped raise a lot of awareness about preventing and coping with bullying. Efforts to spread the anti-bullying word will be boosted by a documentary chronicling the trip, called *The Roof of Africa – Bullied: The Mountain We Face* and premiering in London in September.

“It’s about getting the message out to kids that if

PHOTO: ADOBE STOCK

they're going through bullying, there is a way they can get help," says Philip. "That's what Kidscape is there for. It supports parents and teachers in how to manage bullies and how to manage their child when they have been bullied.

"It's something that's close to my heart because I was bullied at school. Actually, everybody who did the climb was bullied at school and now has a very senior position somewhere. That really sends a message – a lot of people have fought their way through it."

For Wizz Air, teaming up with Kidscape is a perfect fit, with the charity organisation's values aligning with those of the airline.

"At Wizz Air, we have a very strict policy on harassment and bullying in the workplace," adds Philip. "Some of our core

values are integrity, inclusivity and positivity. The workplace should be, psychologically, a safe place.

"So, we make sure that everybody's supported at work. Some people go through very tough times personally and we're there to help and support them, not to judge."

According to celebrity hairdresser Andrew Barton, a Kidscape ambassador and one of the Kilimanjaro climbers, Wizz Air is playing a vital role in getting the bullying prevention message out there.

"Working with Wizz Air has enabled this epic challenge and its message of support to children and young people dealing with bullying situations to be shared far and wide," he says. "The documentary will create awareness and support for Kidscape and its important

work. Alongside the £100,000 raised we are sharing messages of support to thousands of the young people that are affected by bullying.

"Having been severely bullied as a child, it was a proud moment for me as a Kidscape ambassador to ascend the mountain and plant the flag of WIZZ and our supporting sponsors on the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro."

Lucy Black, Director at Bright Cause, the company that shot the documentary, describes the charity climb as one of the highlights of her career.

"Sharing the individual stories and shining a light on community, compassion and heart, the documentary showcases what is possible when people align for a purpose," she says. "One team, one goal – to the top."

From left to right The Wizz Air and Kidscape expedition participants with their flag; Mount Kilimanjaro is known as the 'Roof of Africa'



Optimised for today. Mindful of tomorrow.

More about
sustainability
at Wizz Air.



We launched Wizz Air with the strong belief that air travel should not be a privilege. That we will create a world of opportunity for all through affordable travel. And we are continually delivering on that promise.

Aviation plays a vital role in connecting people, enabling economic growth and supporting regional development. While the environmental impact of flying must be addressed, the solution lies in innovation and industry collaboration. At Wizz Air, we are committed to making aviation

more accessible to everyone, ensuring it continues to serve communities while reducing its footprint. Through deliberate choices in aircraft design, seating configuration and operational efficiency, we maintain high load factors and minimise fuel use.

We've never pursued business-class seating or hub-and-spoke models, nor do we substitute short train journeys with flights. Instead, we focus on technological innovation. Our fleet is among the youngest and most fuel-efficient in Europe,

equipped with modern engines that help reduce our carbon intensity.* As a result, we achieve one of the lowest CO₂ emissions per passenger kilometre in the industry, outperforming both legacy and comparable low-cost carriers.**

We acknowledge aviation has a significant environmental impact. However, we are focused on minimising emissions through operational efficiency and fleet modernisation – based on current, measurable performance, not future projections.

Did you know?

Low-cost carriers, such as Wizz Air, prioritise fuel efficiency, and fly point-to-point. This contributes to a reduced environmental impact when compared to connecting flights operating on the same route.

Sharklets

These amazing inventions can reduce fuel burn by 2% and CO₂ emissions by 600 tonnes per year per plane

Single-engine taxiing after landing

We save fuel by turning off one of the engines after arrival

Noise pollution reduction

Our A321neo aircraft use two Pratt & Whitney GTF engines, which reduce our noise footprint by almost 50% compared to previous generation aircraft

Lighter seats

We're continuously investing in newer, lighter seats to reduce the aircraft's weight, which decreases fuel burn

Washing the engines regularly

We wash every engine twice per year – the cleaner they are, the smoother they run, and therefore less fuel is needed

Paperless flight deck

We use tablets in our flight decks, saving over 25,000 printed pages in the aircraft

** Carbon intensity is a key environmental performance metric used by airlines to measure the efficiency of their operations in terms of greenhouse gas emissions. It is defined as: CO₂ emissions per Revenue Passenger Kilometre (CO₂/RPK). This means the grams of CO₂ emitted for every kilometre flown by a paying passenger. ** Based on publicly available emissions intensity data for the financial year 2025, and industry recognition, Wizz Air was named the world's most emissions-efficient airline by Cirium, and received the Sustainable Airline of the Year 2025 award from Airline Economics.*

Our fleet

Younger, efficient and growing

Wizz Air has a single-type fleet of 258 aircraft from the Airbus A320 family. It's among the youngest and most efficient in the world – and the safest. The average age of our aircraft is 4.43 years, well below the average fleet age of our major competitors, which is around 10

years. Our planes already have the most sophisticated safety equipment, and over the coming years we will expand our fleet to 500 aircraft. Our neo aircraft feature advanced systems and engines that help us reduce our carbon emissions intensity, as well as noise and cost, helping us keep

fares low and accessible and providing the most carbon-efficient choice of air travel available. Wizz Air is currently the largest operator of the most efficient single-aisle aircraft in Europe, the Airbus A321neo, with the lowest fuel consumption per seat kilometre in its category.

Airbus A320ceo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 22

Seat capacity 180/186 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 4



Airbus A321ceo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 40

Seat capacity 230 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 5



Airbus A320neo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 6

Seat capacity 186 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 4



Airbus A321neo

Max. cruise speed 903km/h
Economical cruise speed 840km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 183

Seat capacity 239 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 5



Airbus A321XLR

Max. cruise speed 978km/h
Economical cruise speed 930km/h

Wingspan 35.8m (117ft 5in)

Number of aircraft* 7

Seat capacity 239 **Flight crew** 2 **Cabin crew** 5



Top marks for safety

Wizz Air is registered under the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) Operational Safety Audit (IOSA), the global benchmark in airline safety recognition. Wizz Air has also been awarded the **highest seven-star safety ranking** from the world's only one-stop airline safety and product rating agency, **AirlineRatings.com**

*DATA AS OF 1 APRIL 2026

World of WIZZ

At wizzair.com you'll find the answers to all of your travel needs, from adding luggage and changing flights, to car rental, airport parking and more

The right fare for you

We understand that flexibility is crucial when it comes to travel. That's why our bundles offer flexible options, allowing you to tailor your trip to your preferences. Whether you're planning a tropical getaway or a city escape, our bundles have everything you need to make your trip unforgettable. Take the stress out of planning and let us handle all the details for you.

		BASIC	WIZZ SMART	WIZZ GO	WIZZ PLUS
BAGS	Carry-on bag 40x30x20cm	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Trolley bag 55x40x23cm		✓		✓
	20kg checked-in bag			✓	
	32kg checked-in bag				✓
SEATS	Seat selection		✓	✓	
	Premium seat selection				✓
CHECK-IN	Online check-in	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Airport check-in			✓	✓
	Priority check-in		✓		✓
	Auto check-in				✓
BOARDING	Priority Boarding		✓		✓
FLEXIBILITY	WIZZ Flex				✓
	Refund to WIZZ account				✓

WIZZ DISCOUNT CLUB

Fly with us for less

Our WIZZ Discount Club offers a wide range of discounts on travel and related services.

<p>Wizz DISCOUNT CLUB LIGHT</p> <p>Non-paid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusive onboard coupons WIZZ Café & Boutique promotions €10 discount on flight fares from €29.99* and €5 discount on checked-in baggage purchased online** (not included) Exclusive ticket promotions and personalised offers, priority care and enhanced benefits with our partners (not included) 2 cabin bags and priority (not included) Premium (unlimited) seat selection (not included) 	<p>Wizz DISCOUNT CLUB STANDARD</p> <p>€59.99 / year Benefits for you and one companion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusive onboard coupons WIZZ Café & Boutique promotions €10 discount on flight fares from €29.99* and €5 discount on checked-in baggage purchased online** Exclusive ticket promotions and personalised offers, priority care and enhanced benefits with our partners 2 cabin bags and priority (not included) Premium (unlimited) seat selection (not included) 	<p>Wizz DISCOUNT CLUB PREMIUM</p> <p>€349.99 / year Benefits for you and one companion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclusive onboard coupons WIZZ Café & Boutique promotions €10 discount on flight fares from €29.99* and €5 discount on checked-in baggage purchased online** Exclusive ticket promotions and personalised offers, priority care and enhanced benefits with our partners 2 cabin bags and priority Premium (unlimited) seat selection
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Flexible travel

Fare lock

You can secure the fare of your selected tickets for 48 hours before you complete your booking for bookings made more than seven days prior to the outbound flight's departure date.

WIZZ Flex

You can modify your tickets (including passenger name) without paying a flight change fee, or cancel your flight and request a full refund (additional services will not be refunded) to your WIZZ account, which can be used for 90 days to purchase new tickets.

Travel insurance

Our comprehensive travel insurance includes medical expenses and cancellation cover. Add your insurance to your basket together with your flights or buy it later in Manage My Booking.

Flexible travel partner

Create a new reservation without providing each passenger's name at the time of booking.

On the ground

Car rental

Enjoy our best value car hire at over 50,000 locations and earn up to 10% back in WIZZ credits whenever you book with us. Check out our offers while booking your flight or at cars.wizzair.com.

Airport parking

Choose from our flexible airport parking options and secure your spot even during busy travel times, saving up to 60%. Book with your ticket or via wizzparking.com.

Airport transfer

For a comfortable trip, simply book your airport transfer when purchasing your ticket or visit wizztransfer.com. You can travel by shuttle, bus or private transfer – as you wish.



Download our app!



Booking cheap flights is now even easier. Use our app to buy WIZZ Discount Club membership, review bookings, add baggage, upgrade, choose or change seats, get travel insurance, check in, check your flight status and board.



eSIM data roaming

Did you know with our eSIM you can enjoy up to 5G connection in 190+ countries? Scan the QR code, purchase yours, and stay connected!



Wizz ALL YOU CAN FLY

Our annual one-time payment subscription programme allows you to fly more while saving money by paying the flat ticket fee of €9.99 every time you fly. Available across the entire network.

Wizz MULTIPASS

Fly more and spend less with our monthly payment subscription! By paying an initial first-month fee followed by fixed recurring monthly payments, you have access to available flights across the entire network, to and from your selected country.

WIZZ Memberships

Choose from one of these programmes designed to enhance your travel experience



Wizz DISCOUNT CLUB

Get year-round discounts on tickets and bags

- ✓ **Perfect for:** Friends and families travelling twice or more a year
- ✓ **Ticket and bag discounts:** Save €10 on each ticket and €5 on bags
- ✓ **Earn rewards:** Receive credits towards hotel and car rental bookings
- ✓ **Exclusive offers:** Enjoy exclusive onboard coupons and promotions
- ✓ **Tailored options:** Find your personalised offers with different tiers to suit your unique needs
- ✓ **Travel together:** Share the experience and the discounts with one or more companions



Wizz MULTIPASS

Fly more, save more: unlock new adventures with our monthly flight subscription

- ✓ **Perfect for:** Frequent flyers travelling at least six times a year
- ✓ **Fixed prices:** Even during the high season and for last-minute bookings
- ✓ **Fly monthly:** Redeem your monthly one-way flights or round trips
- ✓ **Plan ahead:** Make your next 12 months hassle-free and smartly budgeted
- ✓ **Global coverage:** Access our full network to and from your chosen country
- ✓ **Customise your plan:** Add-ons available without extra costs to suit your unique needs



Wizz ALL YOU CAN FLY

Ultimate travel freedom with a one-time payment for a yearly pass!

- ✓ **Perfect for:** Spontaneous adventurers and digital nomads travelling more than six times a year
- ✓ **Fixed prices:** Even during the high season and for last-minute bookings
- ✓ **Fly daily:** Pay a fixed fee and fly as much as you like
- ✓ **Embrace spontaneity:** Book today, travel tomorrow!
- ✓ **Global coverage:** Access our full international network of destinations
- ✓ **Full flexibility:** Tailor your journey with optional added services

Why smoking is banned on flights

Airlines started banning smoking in the late 1980s and by 2000 it was made illegal across the world. Here are the reasons why



Secondhand smoke: It contains over 7,000 chemicals, including at least 70 known carcinogens. Breathing them in the confined space of an aircraft poses serious health risks.

It impacts air quality: Cigarette smoke jeopardises how the cabin pressure system functions, which can result in a lack of oxygen at high altitude.

It's a fire hazard: A lit cigarette can ignite flammable materials, potentially leading to a fire.

Electronic cigarettes/vapes/ IQOS are also not allowed:

While e-cigarettes produce vapour rather than smoke, they use lithium-ion batteries that can overheat or explode while being used.

Dry air conditions: The dry air in the aircraft cabin can make fuel more flammable.

Smoke detectors: The smoke detector in the toilets is linked to a warning system, which triggers an audible alarm.

SMOKING ON A PLANE COULD LEAD TO:

- Fines of up to €3,000
- A ban from flying with that airline for life
- As per the applicable law, smokers on board may face prosecution

Remember, lighting up during a flight is not only illegal but also jeopardises the wellbeing and safety of everyone on board. The ashtrays in the passenger cabin and restrooms are not an optional design element and not an invitation to smoke. Cabin crew members are trained to extinguish smoke and fire and eliminate any potential danger.

Why you can't drink your own alcohol on an airplane

And why it's a bad idea anyway

Flying can be stressful, and a drink or two might seem like the perfect way to relax. But before you crack open that mini bottle of whisky you picked up at duty-free, remember that consuming your own alcohol on a commercial flight is **prohibited by law**. This rule applies regardless of where the alcohol was purchased. Cabin crew are trained to monitor alcohol consumption and are responsible for ensuring that no passenger becomes intoxicated or disruptive during the flight.

ALCOHOL AFFECTS YOU DIFFERENTLY IN THE AIR

The cabin pressure in commercial aircraft is equivalent to being at about 6,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level. This means:

- You may feel drunk faster
- Your judgment and coordination may be impaired more than usual
- You may experience dehydration and fatigue more quickly

Combined with the stress of travel, jet lag and limited mobility, alcohol can increase the risk of medical emergencies, conflict with other passengers or non-compliance with the crew.

PREVENTING DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOUR

Airlines have seen a rise in air rage incidents,



many of which are linked to alcohol. By restricting alcohol service to flight attendants, airlines can:

- Limit overconsumption
- Refuse service to visibly intoxicated passengers
- De-escalate situations before they become dangerous

THE BOTTOM LINE

While it might be tempting, drinking your own alcohol on board is illegal, unsafe and inconsiderate. If you'd like a drink, let the cabin crew serve you – they're trained to do so responsibly. And if you're feeling anxious or stressed, consider deep breathing, listening to music or watching a movie to relax.

Your onboard safety

Please show consideration for your fellow passengers and pay attention to the following information. Remember that by purchasing your Wizz Air ticket, you have accepted the Wizz Air General Conditions of Carriage (available in full at wizzair.com)



Lithium batteries

Portable electronic devices (PED) such as phones, laptops and tablets can contain lithium batteries. When damaged, faulty or overheated, these batteries can catch fire and explode.

If you recognise any issues with your device, inform the cabin crew immediately. Charging electronic devices on board using a portable battery charger is forbidden. Please refrain from storing your electronics and power banks in the overhead compartments.



Safe handling of hand luggage

Ensure that your larger hand luggage remains safely stowed in the locker and the smaller ones are under the seat in front of you for take-off, landing and whenever instructed by the crew. Passengers seated in the emergency rows and first row must store their cabin bags in the overhead lockers. Take care when opening lockers, as falling items may injure fellow passengers.

In case of evacuation, all baggage must be left on board, and the instructions of the cabin crew must be strictly followed.



Safety equipment

It is an offence to tamper with or remove safety equipment, including adult and infant life vests, infant safety belts or extension belts. You are not allowed to remove or damage any onboard informative placards.



Sharp items

To dispose of sharp items (e.g. hypodermic needles), contact a cabin crew member. Do not leave it behind.



Turbulence management

Turbulence can occur unexpectedly. Whenever seatbelt signs are switched on, remain seated, keep seatbelts fastened and stow away large electronic devices. For your safety, we recommend that you keep your seatbelts visibly fastened at all times when seated.



Safety of infants on board

Wizz Air has a clear procedure for infant (a child under two) restraint systems. You can only use the single hook infant seatbelt – vests/slings cannot be used with the infant seatbelt. Wizz Air only accepts aft-facing car seats when an extra seat is purchased. **However, during take-off, landing and whenever the seatbelt sign is switched on, infants must sit on an adult's lap with the seatbelt fastened.** Life vests for infants are available and are provided whenever flying over water. Lavatories equipped with nursing tables are marked with placards. Do not leave children unattended in the cabin.



Seat policy

For safety purposes, regulations prohibit passengers under 16 years old, overweight passengers, individuals with special needs, expectant mothers, and those travelling with infants (under 2 years old) from occupying Extra Legroom or Front Row seats. Passenger occupying the Extra Legroom or Front Row seats must have a basic understanding of the English language and must be able-bodied.



Electronic devices

Some electronic devices can be used during the flight with **WLAN/Wi-Fi/Bluetooth turned off.**

Larger electronic devices that cannot be held in one hand, exceed ca. 1kg in weight and do not qualify as handheld devices (e.g. laptops, notebooks etc.) must be stowed away for takeoff, landing and whenever required by the cabin crew. **If in doubt, please ask your cabin crew.**



Inflight health tips

Read these tips on how to stay fit when travelling.

Before your air travel

Consult your doctor before travelling if you have any medical concerns. Pregnant women and those with heart or respiratory problems, blood diseases or ear, nose and sinus infections should seek medical advice before flying. **Crew members are entitled to call for medical assistance pre-flight if they deem it necessary and are in doubt about your fitness for the flight.**



Medical supplies on board

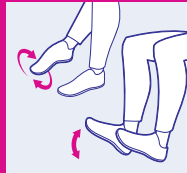
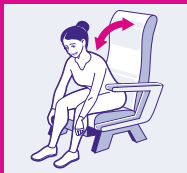
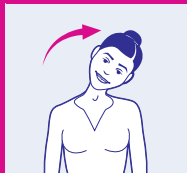
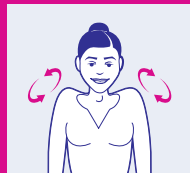
Keep any medication you may need in your hand luggage and in its original packaging. **Inform cabin crew of allergies or illnesses.** If you are seriously ill or travelling post-surgery, you will need a medical certificate confirming that you are fit to fly. If you have limited mobility, are hearing- or sight-impaired, pregnant, or unable to understand/react to safety instructions, you will be unable to sit in the emergency exit rows or the front row. **If you start to feel unwell during the flight, do not hesitate to talk to the cabin crew.**



Nut allergy

During our WIZZ Café service we offer peanuts and some snacks containing peanuts/nuts traces. **If you have any allergies we strongly encourage you to take all necessary medical precautions before flying, and to inform the cabin crew during boarding about your allergy.**

Exercise Be as active as possible. Try the following routine every 30 minutes:



Your security

...is one of our top priorities. In order to ensure a smooth and pleasant flight, please read the following rules of conduct



We encourage you to...

- Follow crew instructions, which will keep you safe
- Be respectful towards everyone on board
- Use suitable language, and stay calm and cooperative

...so you can:

- Travel in a pleasant and peaceful atmosphere
- Relax on board
- Get to your destination as soon as possible

Not tolerated on board...



- Smoking on board (including classic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, pipes, vapes), might result in a fine of up to €3,000 or prosecution. Additionally all existing Wizz Air flight bookings will be cancelled



- Consuming alcohol that was not purchased on board. Alcohol is served at the crew's discretion to passengers of legal drinking age. The crew reserves the right to stop serving alcohol to any passenger who is, or appears to be, intoxicated



- Being under the influence of drugs or substances that may affect your behaviour or self-control
- Damaging the aircraft or onboard equipment
- Wasting, polluting or contaminating the cabin
- Endangering the safety of the flight by any means



- Breaching, or refusing to follow, crew instructions
- Harassing fellow passengers and/or crew members in any way (including sexual harassment)
- Threatening or being aggressive towards fellow passengers and/or crew members



- Being violent or behave in a hostile, erratic manner
- Filming or photographing the cabin crew without their permission

...or face the consequences:

You are fully responsible for your behaviour. Disruptive behaviour on board and before boarding will not be tolerated and will be reported to the authorities. You will be held legally and financially responsible in all cases.

The following consequences* will occur for such misconduct:

- Denied boarding
- Diversion of the flight and prosecution.
- Reimbursement of cost of diversion: €10,000-€80,000
- Criminal procedure and court litigation*
- Cancellation of all of your existing Wizz Air flight bookings
- A ban from flying with Wizz Air in the future
- Penalty/fine or arrest by local police:
 - Smoking on board, including in the lavatory: up to €3,000*
 - Unruly behaviour due to intoxication: up to €5,000 and two years in prison*
 - Endangering the safety of an aircraft: up to five years in prison*



*Subject to applicable jurisdiction

For more information, please refer to the General Conditions of Carriage on wizzair.com

ERSTE

Wizz Air pontokkal akár ingyen is repülhetsz!

Gyűjtsd a pontokat Wizz Air Hitelkártyával!

erstebank.hu/wizzair

THM 44,66%

a 2025. 01. 01. – 2026. 06. 30. között újonnan igényelt Wizz Air Hitelkártya-szolgáltatás (főkártya) esetén. A THM 375 000 Ft-ra és 12 hónap futamidőre került meghatározásra.



KiberPajzs
Védjéled a kiberbűnözők ellen

Vétezd fel magad a kiberesalásokkal szemben,
látogass el a KiberPajzs honlapra! (kiberpajzs.hu)

LET'S TAKE YOUR CAREER TO NEW HEIGHTS

LET'S




careers.wizzair.com



JOIN OUR FLIGHT CREW AND CABIN CREW TEAMS!



WIZZ RUN SERIES

2026

JOIN OUR RACES, COLLECT POINTS AND WIN WIZZ AWARDS.

1st

ALL YOU CAN FLY

MEMBERSHIP

2nd

1000 €

WIZZ CREDIT

3rd

800 €

WIZZ CREDIT









LET'S
Wizz

ELEVATE YOUR TRAVEL EXPERIENCE WITH **WIZZ DISCOUNT CLUB!**

Do you travel a lot? Do you want to save even more while enjoying a wide range of benefits?

WIZZ Discount Club Standard has all you need for only €59.99 / year!

-  Special onboard coupons
-  Exclusive ticket promotions and personalized offers
-  €10.00 discount on flight fares from €29.99*
-  €5.00 discount on checked-in baggage or 2 cabin bags & priority purchased online **
-  Priority customer care
-  Up to 10% WIZZ Credit back for stays and car rentals***

Check out
**WIZZ Discount
Club PREMIUM!**

Subscribe to the WIZZ Discount Club when you book your next flight or download our app to buy a WIZZ Discount Club membership!

Wizz DISCOUNT CLUB STANDARD

* For all the details check out WIZZ Discount Club General Terms and Conditions at wizzair.com

** Valid for 20kg, 26kg and 32kg checked-in bags or WIZZ Priority (2 cabin bags & priority) purchased online

*** As a WIZZ Discount Club Standard or Standard Plus member, you get 7% in WIZZ Credit, and as a WIZZ Discount Club Premium or Premium Plus member, you get 10% in WIZZ Credit of your booking value with Booking.com stays and car rental bookings made via wizzair.com or in the Wizz Air application



Medal-worthy flavours

Poland’s iconic Soplica celebrates 135 years with signature flavours, award-winning liqueurs and shared memories

Soplica is the world’s no. 8 vodka brand and a true Polish icon of hospitality. For 135 years, it has been present in Polish culture at key occasions like holidays, family celebrations and spontaneous nights out with friends. Rooted in tradition yet open to modern tastes, the brand has built a reputation for warmth, quality and a strong connection to shared moments around the table.

The Soplica range includes classic vodka as well as a variety of fruit liqueurs and other flavoured variants. Some of the best-loved flavours include lemon, quince,

cherry and raspberry, as well as cream liqueurs with chocolate. Soplica Gorzka is a standout that offers a balance of sweet and bitter flavours, ideal for cocktails or enjoyed neat. It also works well as an aperitif. Soplica Gorzka Mint adds a fresh, herbal lift and a more refreshing character.

In 2025, the brand celebrated a strong awards season. At the prestigious New York International Spirits Competition 2025, Soplica won ‘Polish Liqueur of the Year’ plus six medals for its products, including one Double Gold.

Soplica is found not only on



shelves, but at the centre of special memories. Fans love sharing their top ‘Soplica moments’ on social media, which include photos from home gatherings and creative cocktail serves.

Soplica is found in shops, bars and restaurants, served as chilled shots or in iconic Soplica cocktails such as Sunny Quince and A Classic of the Genre.

Adults only. Enjoy responsibly.

- The Spirits Business - the biggest-selling vodka brands in 2023 by volume, visit: thespiritsbusiness.com/2024/06/the-biggest-selling-vodka-brands-in-2023/ (accessed June 19, 2024).

- The New York International Spirits Competition 2025 was held in June 2025. The competition results are available at: drinks-intel.com/spirits/new-york-international-spirits-competition-2025-international-individual-winners/



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