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A new private tour experience awaits your clients at the National Kiwi Hatchery, New Zealand. Photo credit - Chris McLennan

Experiential and Transformative Travel

Dear Friends,

Travel continues to transform us, both in the means by which we see the world and the way it reframes our view of it. Far beyond a simple flight, bus tour, or hotel stay, travel today is experiential, offering profound connections with the world around us.

Whether it's foraging for wild ingredients in the heart of London, tracing the cultural tapestry of Cape Town, or crafting a piece of Scottish heritage, these journeys go beyond memory-making and instead inspire a metamorphosis of thought. From Lowcountry cooking classes in Charleston, South Carolina, to sunrise yoga on Santorini, these purposeful journeys encourage your clients to engage with destinations on a deeper level.

Fondly,

Rebecca

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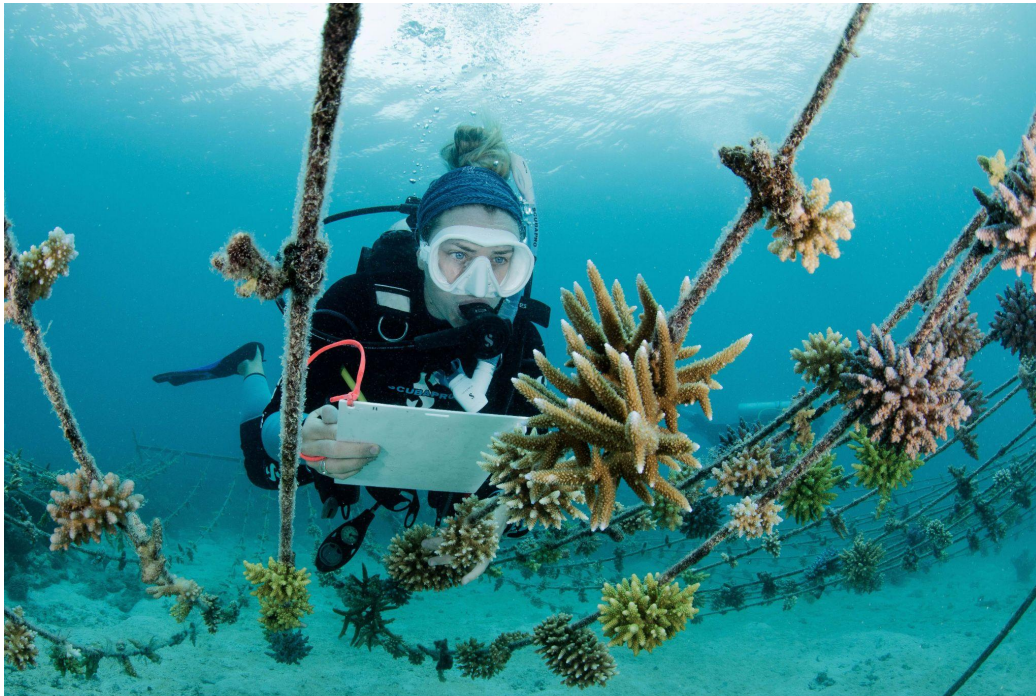
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Guests can participate in all stages of the resort's Coral Restoration Project at Kokomo Private Island, Fiji.

Southern Crossings, Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji - Making a Difference Where It Matters Down Under

Guided by the mission “to inspire and enrich by creating extraordinary journeys,” Southern Crossings is dedicated to delivering responsible luxury travel experiences that are as rewarding and restorative for the local environment and communities as they are for the travelers who journey with them.

As a bespoke luxury travel specialist, Southern Crossings curates one-of-a-kind itineraries that take travelers off the beaten path to spread economic benefit and reduce overtourism, and that invite authentic interactions with locals and ethical encounters with unique wildlife.

Through personalized and in-the-know recommendations and creative travel design, Southern Crossings travelers are encouraged to eat seasonal and regional, travel slower, explore deeper, and travel lightly. The company also supports [a range of philanthropic initiatives](#) to protect the region's reefs and rainforests, wildlife, and communities.

In addition, for travelers who are keen to actively participate in travel experiences with a positive impact, Southern Crossings provides countless opportunities to do so right across Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji. The following experiences provide just a small sampling.

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Guests can participate in a private touring experience with preeminent wildlife researchers studying local koala populations.

AUSTRALIA

Citizen Scientist Great Reef Census: Southern Crossings travelers can participate in the Citizens of the Reef [Great Reef Census](#) (mid-September to mid-January annually) with private charter luxury cruising experiences (from a day to a full week) on Australia's Great Barrier Reef accompanied by a member of Citizens of the Reef or the organization's founder Andy Ridley himself (an engaging and inspiring environmental visionary who was previously also the co-founder of the global Earth Hour initiative).

Koala Researcher for a Day: Through Southern Crossings' exclusive partnership with leading Australian wildlife research and conservation organization [Science for Wildlife](#), travelers have the opportunity to travel well off the beaten tourist trail in the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains National Park to walk alongside one of Australia's preeminent wildlife researchers. They'll participate in important studies of the unique and endangered local koala populations. The privileged overnight private touring experience from Sydney, which can be tailored to guests' interests and fitness levels, also includes a behind-the-scenes visit to a local wildlife sanctuary with the opportunity to see koalas, quolls, wallabies, Tasmanian Devils, and mountain pygmy possums up close.

On Australia's Kangaroo Island, often referred to as Australia's Galapagos for the wide range of unique native wildlife experiences on offer, the team at Southern Crossings can tailor private day-touring experiences to participate in hands-on activities including ornithologist-led native bird-banding experiences, and dolphin-monitoring surveys that support local conservation initiatives.

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For clients keen to gain a deeper understanding of the world's oldest living culture, the team at Southern Crossings can provide opportunities for authentic and immersive interactions with local Indigenous personalities and communities throughout the country, whether that be a hands-on cooking class and bush-tucker picnic in one of Sydney's national parks or a dot-painting masterclass on restricted Aboriginal lands in the outback.



A private tour of the Te Puia allows your clients to watch artists create Maori cultural arts and crafts while listening to stories passed down through the ages.

NEW ZEALAND

Across the Tasman, at the National Kiwi Hatchery (just 15 minutes from Rotorua), a new private tour experience provides a unique and privileged look at the full lifecycle (from embryo to the wild) of New Zealand's national bird, the flightless kiwi. The experience includes the opportunity to see kiwis foraging in their purpose-built Nocturnal House, learn about kiwi breeding in the hatchery, go behind the scenes to observe a kiwi chick health check in the "brooder room" and explore their closed-to-the-public kiwi creche to see kiwi chicks before they are returned to the wild. The fully guided experience also includes the opportunity for a photo alongside one of the kiwi keepers with one of the kiwis and a fabulous lunch of local fare with a kiwi expert at Bowen House with views over the hatchery, creche, and Lake Rotorua. This experience includes the opportunity to sponsor and name a kiwi chick in the hatchery - and follow its journey back into the wild. Guests leave having also sponsored a kiwi through the program, with the opportunity to also name their chick.

Just nearby, Ta Puia provides visitors with a window into New Zealand's Maori culture and customs. The on-site New Zealand Maori Arts and Craft Institute is a school dedicated to preserving traditional carving and weaving techniques. It is operated by the local iwi and fully funded by visitors. On a private tour of the Te

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Puia, visitors can watch artists weave their magic whilst listening to stories passed down through generations.

From Wanaka in the South Island, visitors have the opportunity to walk through beautiful forests and breathtaking high country with a local conservation officer, learning about native flora, fauna, and conservation practices while also checking on local predator trapping projects. The private touring experience can also include hands-on tree planting activities and a mountaintop picnic overlooking Lake Wanaka.

FIJI

In Fiji's tropical paradise, too, Southern Crossings can connect travelers with hands-on and meaningful positive-impact travel experiences.

At Likuliku Lagoon Resort guests can learn about the resort's efforts to bring the Fijian Crested Iguana back from extinction with a personalized tour of their Iguana Sanctuary.



Guests can assist staff with the Kokomo Manta Conservation Project. Photo credit - Kokomo Manta Conservation

On Kokomo Private Island, guests can participate in all stages of the resort's Coral Restoration Project: planting coral fragments in their nursery and transplanting the corals to the Kokomo house reef. Alternatively, guests can also participate in the Kokomo Manta Conservation Project by adopting a manta or snorkeling with them to take photos that assist with identification and research. The island's new marine biologist-led experiences also include educational and hands-on activities for children.

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A specially curated garden tour is not to be missed while at Babylonstoren.

[Babylonstoren, Franschhoek Wine Valley, South Africa](#) - Farm-Fresh Stays in South Africa

Your clients will enjoy a glimpse of South African farm life on a visit to Babylonstoren in the Franschhoek Wine Valley. The hotel is on a working farm, offering guests an immersive Winelands experience. Visitors can get a glimpse of farm operations through various experiences, such as olive oil blending, a cellar tour, and observing the essential oil distillery in the Scented Room.



Additionally, guests can enjoy an early-morning guided tour of the farm's herd of water buffalo that produce the creamiest gelato and mozzarella, witness the daily milking process, and join in feeding the calves.

Other in-depth experiences - hosted by master gardeners, chefs, and specialists on a variety of topics - are offered in regular workshops. The daily garden tours are a special favorite, where guests are guided by one of the Babylonstoren gardeners.

Even without joining one of the official tours, the farm and garden provide ample opportunity to experience authentic farm life in the Boland. Seasonal exhibitions in the garden's Puff Adder walkway, for example, celebrate indigenous clivias in spring, while in winter the story of unique rock formations and their colloquial names is told in this space.

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For a true taste of the local food and braai culture, Babylonstoren hosts a Carnivore Evening two nights a week in the Old Bakery Restaurant. Join the table for a celebration of the beloved South African *braai*. Skilled braai masters grill every cut to perfection while guests enjoy live accordion music, fine red wine, and even a bit of dancing!



Carnivore Evening is filled with excellent farm-raised food, music, and dancing.

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[The Twelve Apostles Hotel and Spa, Cape Town, South Africa](#) - A Purposeful Journey Through Cape Town's Culture and Nature

At the Twelve Apostles Hotel, guests may embark on experiences that connect them deeply with Cape Town's rich heritage and breathtaking natural surroundings, all while treading lightly on the environment. The *Bo-Kaap Walking Tour & Malay Cooking Class* offers a cultural immersion like no other. Wander the vibrant streets of Bo-Kaap, visit its historical sites, including South Africa's oldest mosque, and learn about the unique traditions of the local community. After the tour, guests step into a local kitchen to prepare and savor a traditional Malay meal, from spicy samosas to fragrant chicken curry, roti, and koesisters.

For nature lovers, the *Hiking Experience* offers direct access to the iconic Table Mountain National Park. Hikers follow marked trails from the indigenous gardens up the slopes, where a luxury picnic prepared by Twelve Apostles chefs awaits. Alternatively, travelers may join the hotel's resident guide Angus for a fynbos foraging walk, returning to craft a bespoke gin with their harvest.



Elevate your clients' stay with *The Art of the Flight*, a helicopter journey along the stunning Atlantic Seaboard. They will land on the hotel's private helipad and indulge in a curated experience, from a celebratory lunch to a rejuvenating massage at the award-winning spa.

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[Meadowood Napa Valley, California](#) - Fall into Wellness

Meadowood Napa Valley's "In Good Health" series unfolds in 2024. Crafted to rejuvenate your client's mind, body, and soul while offering a harmonious blend of luxury and well-being, these weekend intensives have a distinctive theme and focus, ensuring a diverse and enriching experience. From mindfulness to invigorating fitness classes, the curated series caters to a spectrum of wellness seekers.



November 3 & 4, 2024 | In Good Health: Ground and Center

It is time to slow things down and refocus on the upcoming holiday season. Specialized breathwork, Sound Bath, Reiki, Pilates, and yoga instructors will provide a weekend with the heart at the center and peace of mind at the forefront of intention.

December 14 & 15, 2024 | In Good Health: December Dance

Your client will be inspired to move their body and dance their way through the festive season with heightened energy and spirit with instructors specializing in Barre, Salsa, Hula Hoop, Cardio Dance, and more. This program also features a dynamic combination of high-energy, choreographed aerobic classes.

Continue your clients' immersive journeys throughout the natural surroundings on the estate in the Forbes Travel Guide Five Star-rated Meadowood Spa; The Wine Center, where a range of classes have been designed to provide a personalized immersion into the culture, history, and nuances of wines from the Napa Valley and around the world; the central, daily restaurant Forum; the expansive and contemporary Fitness Center; five manicured, hard-surface tennis courts; and three separate pools - Cabana Pool, Fitness Pool, Family Activity Pool.

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A private historic walking or driving tour of Savannah.

[Beyond Times Square, East Coast, United States](#) - Inspired, Enlightened Travel in Charleston & Savannah

Immersive travel is so much more than just visiting new destinations - it's about going deep into local cultures and their histories in a transformative manner. In the historic cities of Charleston and Savannah, travelers can embark on experiences that not only educate but also leave a lasting positive impact.

Start with a farm-to-table experience that connects diners directly with the lush landscapes of the South. In Charleston, savor a meal where every ingredient is sourced from local farms, showcasing the region's agricultural heritage and supporting local growers. This connection between the land and one's plate is a delicious education in sustainability and the local economy.

For a hands-on culinary adventure, your clients may dive into a Lowcountry cooking class. They'll learn how to prepare traditional dishes like shrimp and grits under the guidance of a celebrated local chef - a doorway into the heart of Southern culture and hospitality.

Perhaps the most impactful are the tours that delve into the rich yet complex history of slavery in these towns. By visiting historical sites and learning from expert guides, travelers come to understand the forces that shaped the modern landscapes of Charleston and Savannah.

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[Park Hotel Kenmare, County Kerry, Ireland](#) - Enjoy Irish Experiences Featuring the Beauty of Kenmore, Kerry & Cork

The beautiful scenery of Kerry really does take your breath away. Park Hotel Kenmore works diligently to safeguard those natural assets on its doorstep, such as the Wild Atlantic Way and the majestic McGillicuddy Reeks, for future generations. Showing their natural environment and local community love and kindness is second nature to the staff. From the heart, they have a genuine desire to create a positive impact by minimizing their carbon footprint, preserving natural assets, and supporting local producers, their team, friends, and neighbors.

The Story of the Sheep

Guests just love Kerry sheep. As they tour our winding roads, they always remark on the colorful marks on their back dotting the landscape. Head Porter John Palmer is also a sheep farmer. Every spare moment he has is spent on his farm looking after his beloved animals. In 2025, John will invite Park Hotel Kenmare guests exclusively to his farm to experience farm life and join in activities such as shearing a sheep and the pleasure of walking through the fields of an Irish homestead. In spring, guests will join in the fun of the lambs as they take their first steps, and each season brings a different story and memory to bring home. Enjoy a picnic lunch in the Palmer Kitchen, meet the family, and experience farm life.

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A Picnic in an Ancient Irish Oakwood Rainforest - Dromgarraiff

We all love a secret; a local's insider tip and the Beara Peninsula is certainly one of those. Its intricate coast and sharp-featured mountains are a geologist's paradise of exposed and contorted rock strata, making for dramatic scenery at every turn of the road.

Dromgarraiff Rainforest is a 30-minute drive from Kenmare through the Caha pass and into Glengarraiff. The rainforest showcases the splendor of the relationship between land and sea in this unique part of Europe. After a short walk into the rainforest, guests are totally immersed in nature and understand how the hotel is striving to preserve and nurture one of the last remaining temperate rainforests in Ireland, where trees, insects, and birds are in perfect harmony with nature and ourselves.

The property of 96 acres of woodland and meadows has many thousands of trees and around 2 kilometers of coastal shoreline on Glengarraiff Harbour. The lush beauty of the Dromgarraiff Rainforest exists because of the benign effect of the Gulf Stream and the mild climate that allows sub-tropical tree ferns, scarlet fuchsia, magical moss, and tender lichen to flourish side by side with the ancient oaks and gigantic conifers, trees that were planted over a century ago.

The hotel is delighted to share the rainforest with guests, to allow everyone to experience this gorgeous, healing, and grounding place of preservation and growth. Following their guided walk, guests return to a delicious picnic featuring local producers and enjoy a wonderful relaxing afternoon.

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Combine vines and wine with immersive tours, tastings, and wine pairings. Photo credit - Nyetimber Vineyards

[Dream Escape, United Kingdom and Ireland](#) - Sipping into Luxury

Indulge in the ultimate wine and dine experiences at England's most celebrated luxury vineyards. From Devon's Lympstone Manor to Three Choirs Vineyard in the Cotswolds, Dream Escape showcases the best of the country's award-winning wines and sumptuous accommodations.

England is now home to some wines of outstanding quality, and as a result, the English wine industry is thriving. English vineyards are scattered around the most scenic areas of the country and make for glorious day trips from London or short stays in the countryside. Itineraries with a wine focus are a dream to create as the trip designers look to combine authentic visits, often with a personal touch from the owner, luxury, and unique accommodation in a countryside setting. Combine vines and wine with immersive tours, tastings, and wine pairings. Discover ancient lands, historic venues, and national parks while taking a break, reconnecting with nature, and soaking up the peaceful views.

Read more here: [Sipping into Luxury](#)

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[The Hari, London, England](#) - Sophisticated Style with a Sustainable Mentality

Guests of The Hari leave the hotel knowing they have left a positive impact, something which the hotel has been able to achieve through a range of climate-conscious initiatives. During a stay at the Belgravia residence, guests can expect to be met with sustainability from the moment they enter their rooms, with carbon-neutral wooden key-cards. The journey of sustainability continues with ethically sourced in-room amenities, eco-friendly mini-bar snacks, and a luxurious turndown gift from Fairtrade-certified chocolatier, Chocolate and Love. In addition to all of the wonderful inclusions the guests experience while staying here, The Hari also wholeheartedly supports The Kensington & Chelsea Foundation and The Born Free Foundation.



Outside of the hotel, guests can enjoy an immersive experience like no other with the hotel's partnered florist, Atelier Emmanuel. With the aim of prioritizing the environment by using seasonal and regional flowers where possible, the team at Atelier Emmanuel offers bespoke workshops at their nearby studio. Guests can create beautiful floral arrangements and seasonal wreaths, giving them the blissful opportunity to reconnect with nature while still remaining within the confines of the busy metropolis.

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[100 Princes Street, Edinburgh, Scotland](#) - Crafting a Legacy of Scottish Heritage

At 100 Princes Street, guests may have an enriching experience that helps preserve Scotland's rich cultural heritage. Through carefully curated experiences, they can actively support traditional crafts that have been passed down through generations.

Immerse your clients in centuries of Scottish tradition with the *Araminta Campbell Experience*. This exclusive opportunity takes them behind the scenes of a renowned textile studio, where they can witness the intricate process of weaving scarves, throws, and bespoke tartans. They'll engage with skilled artisans as they demonstrate their time-honored techniques, keeping this vital craft alive.

Guests may create a true piece of Scottish heritage with the *Custom Kilt Experience*. Led by master kiltmakers, they'll design their own kilt, choosing everything from the tartan to the pleat pattern. Handmade using locally sourced materials, the kilt becomes a timeless memento of their connection to Scotland.

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Juniper berries have been used to flavor gin for centuries.

Photo credit - Flickr

The *Design Your Own Scottish Gin* experience at Kingsbarns Distillery offers a personal insight into the artistry behind this beloved spirit. From a tour of the distillery to crafting a custom gin, it's a celebration of local expertise, with a tasty souvenir to take home afterward!

Each experience at 100 Princes Street celebrates Scotland's past while ensuring its cultural legacy endures for future generations.



Victoria Street, Edinburgh, the inspiration for Diagon Alley. Photo credit - Flickr

Beyond these, 100 Princes Street also offers other remarkable experiences, from fishing on Upper North Wark to creating a bespoke scent or taking a magical *Harry Potter Insider Tour* — ensuring that your clients' visit supports Scotland's heritage in unforgettable ways.

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Entertainment and dining with a local shepherd.

[Curated Greece](#) - Discover Transformative Travel in Greece

Traveling to Greece with Curated Greece offers an immersive and transformative experience, connecting travelers deeply with the country's culture, nature, and people. Their mission is to create unforgettable journeys that awaken the senses, nourish the soul, and positively impact both local communities and travelers.

In Crete, adventurers can hike through the majestic Samaria Gorge, a pilgrimage that invites reflection and renewal amid breathtaking landscapes. Travelers can immerse themselves in the island's rich cultural tapestry by spending an afternoon with a local shepherd, dining in his hilltop hut with sweeping sea views and magical sunsets, accompanied by live traditional music.

Athens offers a profound exploration of philosophy, mythology, and history, brought to life by expert guides. One can take a philosophical walk to trace Ancient Greek mythology in modern Athens. This journey extends to Delphi, the mythical navel and spiritual center of the ancient world, where travelers can delve deeper into Greece's rich heritage through guided tours and workshops.

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In Santorini, wellness and luxury converge with sunrise yoga overlooking the caldera, followed by cutting-edge spa treatments designed to rejuvenate both body and mind, creating a holistic journey toward wellness and longevity.

The Peloponnese offers a sensory journey through the wine trails of Nemea, paired with the historical charm of Nafplio and stunning views from the Palamidi Fortress. For spiritual exploration, Meteora's ancient monasteries and breathtaking hiking trails provide a unique setting for reflection and growth.

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Visit a local school by Cape Weligama on a Shramadana campaign.

[Resplendent Ceylon, Sri Lanka](#) - Making a Positive Impact on Sri Lankan Culture & Community

Resplendent Ceylon believes in fostering meaningful connections between guests and the local community. Their Community Welfare activities provide unique opportunities for guests to give back and support the vibrant communities surrounding their resorts. Guests can donate essential items like personal protection equipment, amenities, linen, food rations, and hygiene products to help those in need. They may also assist in community health initiatives or participate in cleaning campaigns (Shramadana) that aim to beautify and preserve local schools and temples.

Guests staying at Wild Coast Tented Lodge can support the Midwife Centre in Vilamulla and Yodakandiya, just 30 to 40 minutes away, by donating personal protection equipment for health workers, providing items for expectant mothers, or sponsoring a gift pack for new mothers at Rs. 8500 per pack. At Cape Weligama, guests can contribute to the Sambodhiya Community Center by donating essential items for differently abled individuals or participating in a visit to offer direct support. Additionally, guests at Cape Weligama and Kayaam House can join Shramadana campaigns at local schools such as Jinaraja and Kundalumulla Primary School or assist in maintaining local temples.

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[Dwarika's Hotel Kathmandu and Dwarika's Resort, Dhulikhel, Nepal](#) - Step into the Past with a Vision for the Future

At The Dwarika's Group of Hotels and Resorts, travel becomes a profound journey - a chance to be part of something much bigger, something timeless and larger than life. Here, the very essence of experiential and transformative travel is not just an idea; it's a living, breathing reality. Every step your clients take on these grounds carries them deeper into a legacy of culture, sustainability, and purpose.

At The Dwarika's Hotel in Kathmandu, guests become custodians of Nepal's rich heritage. The hotel itself is a vibrant, enduring monument to the artistry and wisdom of centuries past. Hand-carved wooden masterpieces, once threatened by time and neglect, now breathe new life, inviting guests to touch and feel the history that shaped this land. Through intimate encounters with local artisans and traditional rituals, guests become part of the preservation story.

The Dwarika's Resort in Dhulikhel is a retreat with a self-sustaining ecosystem, mindful healing journeys, and farm-to-table feasts grown in the hotel's own organic gardens. As guests meditate at sunrise or immerse themselves in ancient wellness rituals, they connect not only with themselves but with the world around them in ways that are enduring and profound.

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[Ventours International, India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet](#) - The Dwarika's Foundation and the "Our Dream Village Foundation"

Following the catastrophic earthquake that struck Nepal in 2015, the district of Sindhupalchowk faced the most severe impact, enduring extensive devastation. Numerous families were rendered homeless, grappling with the harsh realities of displacement and struggling to rebuild their lives. In response to this crisis, Sangita Shrestha Einhaus took a step to provide aid and relief to the affected individuals. Recognizing the urgency of their situation, she initiated a mission to address their most fundamental needs - food and shelter. Hundreds were relocated to Kathmandu, where temporary tents were swiftly built, offering security and a glimmer of hope. This response to a dire need was the catalyst for the inception of "Our Dream Village Foundation." It emerged as a beacon of hope, symbolizing the resilience of the human spirit and the power of collective effort.

Project Hope stands as the inaugural step of Our Dream Village Foundation, a testament to resilience and embodiment of community. Built on a former soccer pitch, the project appears unassuming with its array of square, green tents, and modest tin-roofed outhouses. However, upon entering, one is enveloped by the warmth and kindness of the people. The project represents a promise that together, we can rebuild, recover, and transcend the shackles of the past. Our Dream Village Foundation envisions a future where unity, equality, and sustainability prevail, eradicating long-standing societal disparities. It is envisioned of a world where compassionate hearts and a shared vision can reshape the destiny of those in need.

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RENEW in Thimphu

RENEW (Respect, Educate, Nurture, and Empower Women) is dedicated to the empowerment of vulnerable girls and women, initiated and headed by the Queen Mother. Meet with its Director Dr. Meenakshi, who takes guests around.

Promoting Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) focuses on addressing domestic violence (DV) and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) through preventive measures, including awareness campaigns and advocacy.

Collaborating with government agencies, civil society, and private stakeholders, RENEW leverages innovative ICT solutions to reduce incidents of DV and SGBV. By strengthening community-based support systems, RENEW aims to enhance services and reach underserved rural communities, fostering a violence-free society in Bhutan.



A transformative experience through a visit to Bangla Sahib Gurudwara.

At the Bangla Sahib Gurudwara in Delhi, one has the opportunity to encounter a deeply transformative experience. The Gurudwara stands as a symbol of spiritual equality, where caste and class dissolve, and all are treated with dignity. The heart of this experience is “Langar,” a communal meal served to thousands daily, regardless of background or status. Everyone sits together on the floor, sharing a simple yet nourishing meal, emphasizing humility and unity. This unique practice fosters an understanding of Sikhism’s core values of equality, service, and compassion. The visit offers a deeply humbling and introspective experience, reminding us of our shared humanity beyond societal divisions.

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A view from the water of Conwy Castle, a short drive from Bodysgallen Hall & Spa. Photo credit - Wikimedia Commons

[Bodysgallen Hall & Spa, Llandudno, North Wales](#) - Discernment in the Details

Welcome to Bodysgallen Hall and Spa in North Wales, situated in a land of outstanding natural beauty and steeped in history. Discover the heathered moors of Snowdonia National Park, the meandering green valleys, and a coastline that is both rugged and dented with sheltered sandy coves. Add UNESCO-listed World Heritage Sites, such as the 13th-century medieval castles at Conwy, Caernarfon, Beaumaris, and Harlech built by Edward 1 of England. Guests gain a sense of place by immersing themselves in the fascinating history of this country, with its own culture and language, yet less than an hour's drive from Manchester International Airport.

When staying at 17th-century Bodysgallen Hall & Spa, guests are experiencing some of this history. Set in over 220 acres of award-winning gardens and wooded parkland, its elevated position captures magnificent views across Conwy Castle with a backdrop of the Snowdonia mountain range. Bodysgallen's heritage has origins dating back to the 13th century when the central tower was built to watch for invaders as protection during the construction of Conwy Castle in 1283. The Hall was built in the early 17th century by the Mostyn family, who were great landowners in the area and were the creators of Llandudno, the Victorian seaside town just 2 miles away. The restoration and décor of the hotel give an authentic experience of quintessential country house living - oak-paneled drawing rooms, fine paintings and collectibles, open fireplaces, stone-mullioned windows, an elegant dining room overlooking the gardens, and individually designed and decorated bedrooms and suites. This is a step back in time with all the warmth of Welsh hospitality and a dedicated staff to attend to every detail.

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A magnificent view of Waddesdon Manor, a short distance from Hartwell House & Spa.

[Hartwell House & Spa, Buckinghamshire, England](#) - Reflection, Discovery & Purpose in the English Countryside

Hartwell House offers a unique opportunity to experience travel that goes beyond the ordinary - a journey where history, nature, and purpose blend seamlessly. Steeped in centuries of heritage, Hartwell House was once the home to King Louis XVIII during his exile from 1809 to 1814. As your clients walk the same steps he did, they'll feel the weight of history come alive with a meaningful connection with the past.

Beyond the house's interiors, guests can explore 90 acres of gardens and parkland, inspired by the visionary work of Capability Brown. Lose oneself in the tranquility of the landscape, perfect for a short stroll in the afternoon. Just a short distance away, immerse in the grandeur of Waddesdon Manor, the Rothschild Treasure House, and marvel at its rich collections and architecture.

For those who wish to deepen their connection to the English countryside, a visit to nearby Stowe House & Gardens offers an unforgettable experience. Explore the extensive landscaped gardens designed by Capability Brown himself and let the beauty of his vision leave a lasting impression.

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[The Milestone Hotel & Residences](#) - Journey Into Nature with The Milestone Hotel & Residences

Imagine your nature-minded clients discovering London's hidden natural wonders, away from the bustling streets. They'll have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a world where sustainability and luxury intertwine. The Milestone Hotel's experiences invite them to reconnect with nature in the heart of the city.

The *Foraging in the City* experience takes guests on a captivating journey through the urban landscape, where they'll learn to slow down and explore nature's hidden treasures. Led by expert foragers from Forage London and Beyond, this unique adventure encourages a deeper understanding of the land, teaching guests how to harvest wild ingredients sustainably. A wild food tasting really brings the experience to life!



For those seeking tranquility, the *Connect with Nature in the City* experience offers a serene escape to the WWT London Wetland Centre. Here, guests will picnic amongst birdsong and natural beauty, finding peace away from London's fast pace.

Perfect for those passionate about sustainability, these experiences not only allow one to connect with nature but also foster an appreciation for the natural world, leaving them inspired to travel with purpose.

REBECCA RECOMMENDS

Inspirational destinations & properties of excellence



York City walls with York Minster at the center rear of this image.

[Middlethorpe Hall & Spa, North Yorkshire, England](#) - A Warm Welcome Just Outside the City of York

Arrive at the impressive entrance to Middlethorpe Hall, built in 1699 during the reign of William III, and experience the essence of quintessential country house living. Highly polished floors lead to elegant interconnecting rooms offering a variety of very comfortable seating to relax in or take in the views across manicured lawns to the ha-ha and meadows beyond. High decorative ceilings, large sash windows, period furnishings, portraits, and antique clocks, were brought to life and adorned with beautiful fresh flower arrangements and carefully nurtured orchids. Your discerning clients will feel like they're in a well-kept home rather than a modern hotel.

The Library, Drawing Room, and paneled Dining Rooms are found on the ground floor, with a beautifully ornate oak staircase leading to the first floor and the bedrooms. Ascending the stairs, you gain a feeling of history as you pass the portrait of Lady Mary Wortley Montague. Montague was a remarkable woman of the 18th century, a notable diarist, and poet, who lived at Middlethorpe Hall with her family, before accompanying her husband to Istanbul, where he had the position of British Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire. It was there that she experienced the engrafting procedure for smallpox vaccination, which she later introduced to English society.

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Outside, adjacent to the lawns, a series of walled gardens is found, echoing the seasonal highlights in blossoms, flowers, fruits, and berries. Much of the seasonal fruit and vegetables grown in the garden are harvested and incorporated into the restaurant menus. These gardens provided inspiration for Fanny Rollo Wilkinson, who spent her youth at Middlethorpe before applying to the Crystal Palace School of Landscape Gardening to pursue her career to become the first British female landscape gardener.



Middlethorpe Hall, a true country manor house.

This oasis of calm is just 2 miles from York Minster at the center of the historic City of York. There is much to discover by walking the medieval city walls and taking in its long history stretching back to the Vikings and Romans. At the end of one's stay at Middlethorpe Hall, memories will have been made and experiences enriched giving one a sense of purpose.