

These tours suit those who spare no expense



By [Cindy Decker](#)

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Today's column falls into the category of "If money were no object."

Unusual, inventive — and insanely costly — travel itineraries cross my desk with surprising regularity.

Although they are meant for people with much deeper pockets, I still love to pore over the details.

Join me in daydreaming about a few extravagant journeys (priced per couple).

For the shopper

Bespoke-Your-Life Tour, Hurlingham Travel, \$248,000

The 18-day trek through six countries of Europe is all about exploring the best the world has to offer in handcrafted goods. (Never mind that you can buy a nice four-bedroom house in central Ohio for the cost of this trip.)



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A \$248,000 tour of Europe includes made-to-order shoes by designer Christian Louboutin.

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Bespoke is just a fancy way of saying *custom-made*, and tourgoers will return home bearing, among other things:

- a newly designed coat of arms
- a dollhouse replica of the travelers' home
- a custom gown by Givenchy
- made-to-order shoes from Christian Louboutin
- watches
- suits, shirts and cufflinks
- a stained-glass window
- custom-designed bicycles

Travelers will be pampered with five-star accommodations, chauffeured luxury cars and first-class train travel.

This might go without saying, but trip organizers will gladly customize the tour if you want to cough up the quarter-million.

Think about it.

For the sailor

Amalfi Coast by Luxury Yacht, Kensington Tours, \$70,000

Travelers will explore Italy primarily by sea during the nine-day tour, which includes private charter flights to both Naples and Pompeii.

Cruisers will swim in the blue water of secluded coves and visit islands and towns along the way.

(The price is \$14,424 a person if six people travel instead of two.)

For the adventurer

Ultimate New Zealand + Hawaii, Frontiers International Travel, \$83,000

The journey encompasses 44 days of active adventure: white-water rafting, fly-fishing, hiking and sailing.

Guests will fly by helicopter to remote locations and explore caves lined with glowworms.

Sure, the trip features wine-tastings and comfy digs, too.

There is no need to sacrifice comfort for thrills.

For the animal lover

Guided Tour of Congo, Tanzania, Extraordinary Journeys, \$26,000

Led by a private guide, travelers will explore Congo's Virunga National Park, home to a large concentration of the world's remaining mountain gorillas.

After four full days in the 3,000-square-mile park, visitors will cross to the Serengeti, in search of Africa's "Big 5": elephant, leopard, lion, rhino and cape buffalo.

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