

June 29, 2015



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TRAVEL

Globetrotter, June 28

BY JEANNE COOPER : JUNE 25, 2015

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Photo By Nikki Beach Club

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TropOut's debut "experience" for gay travelers and friends in Thailand April 3-9, 2016, will have access to Nikki Beach Club as well as special parties and cultural excursions near the resort of Angsana Laguna Phuket.



Gay travel

Thailand: In step with the Tourism Authority's new "Go Thai, Be Free" campaign for LGBTQ visitors, the Angsana Laguna Phuket resort will host TropOut's debut trip for 1,100 gay travelers and friends, April 3-9, 2016. The six-night package (from \$1,295) includes lodging, parties with DJs, beach-club access and optional cultural tours. Book by June 30 for \$200 resort credit. www.tropout.com, www.gothaibefree.com.

Attraction

New York City: Tall ships, ahoy! Hornblower Cruises, whose modern vessels offer sightseeing year-round, sails back in time July 5-12 with tours (\$15) of El Galeón (pictured), a replica of a 16th century Spanish ship. Its visit overlaps with that of an 18th century frigate replica, L'Hermione, now retracing Marquis de Lafayette's route to America. www.hornblowernewyork.com/el-galeon or www.hermione2015.com/voyage2015.

New tour

Chad: Encounter Tubu nomads watering their camels in dramatic gorges, salt-makers selling their wares by the Ounianga lakes and Gorane shepherds leading their flocks into the Sahara Desert on Mountain Travel Sobek's Ancient Caravans of Chad, departing Nov. 3. The 18-day tour (from \$6,175) is the first by a U.S. operator in the country. www.mtsobek.com.

Music festival

Slovenia: Piran Musical Evenings, the country's oldest chamber music festival, takes place at 9 p.m. Fridays in July at St. Francis Church, in the heart of Piran, a medieval city on the scenic Istrian peninsula. During the day, be sure to tour nearby St. George's Cathedral, famed for its organ and bell tower. www.slovenia.info.

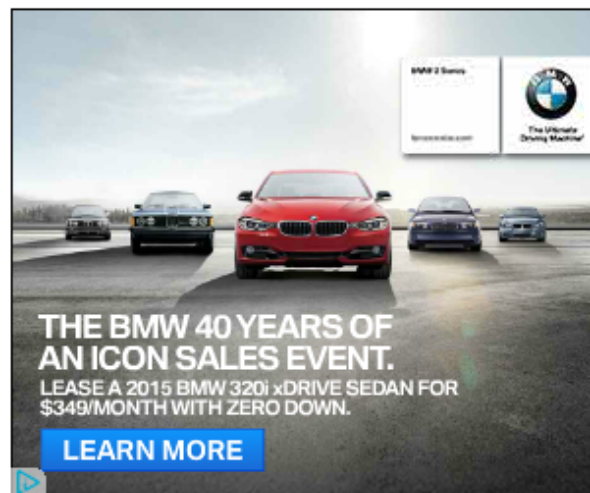
Mountain biking

Mexico: Ancient foot trails and dirt tracks in Oaxaca's 70,000-acre Sierra Norte provide room for mountain bikers to roam; H+I Adventures can provide routes and a week's home stay in one of eight Zapotec villages. The Oct. 26 departure (from \$2,550) includes Day of the Dead festivities. www.mountainbikeworldwide.com.

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