

Dear Colleague,

As you savor every minute of the last weeks of summer, I'm enjoying a few days of skiing on the snowy slopes of Argentine Patagonia.

With the spring-summer season in the southern hemisphere drawing closer, the cool companies and places in our portfolio are ready to host your clients and make their trips unforgettable.

Some of them — like **Enchanted Expeditions** with its **Enchanted Galapagos Lodge** and **Grand Hotels Lux** with its **Grand Hotel Punta del Este** in **Uruguay** — have used the pandemic lockdown to inject new investments into the properties and undertake full renovations.

Others — like **Colombian Journeys** and **Chile Concept** — have been training and adding new staff. And **Las Torres Reserve** has been doing incredible conservation work, improving the existing hiking trails within **Torres del Paine National Park**.

Our friends at **La Coralina Island House** in **Panama** still have space for their **Yoga Retreats** in December. So if you have any yogis among your clientele, send them through! On the other hand, if your clients are surfers or adventure travelers, make a note that the **ISA World Master Surfing Championship** is taking place in **Bocas del Toro** from January 27 to February 5 next year. La Coralina is a great option for those kinds of travelers!

Meanwhile, don't wait till the very last minute to make **Festive Season** bookings. Our clients still have great offers for anyone who wants a December or early January getaway to a warm, tropical place.

Hopefully, you're inspired by the Central and South America travel ideas in this month's newsletter. Enjoy the read and find the perfect getaway below!

Best regards,

Ana, on behalf of The Emerging Destinations team (Jane + Jessie + Jenna + Ana)





# News at a Glance

# **Chile Concept**

- As of August 1st, Easter Island reopened to tourism! Easter Island lifted its
  entry restriction after two years of being closed. Within the requirements to visit
  the island you should have an accommodation booking and a PCR test at least 24
  hrs prior to your boarding. You can learn the full entry requirements and protocols
  here.
- Chile to ease all entry restrictions! As of September 1st, visitors to Chile will
  no longer need to validate and/or homologate their vaccinations nor fill in any
  sworn declaration (known as "Travel Affidavit"). The mobility pass is no longer
  required and your proof of vaccination will be all what you need to move within
  Chile. Tourists non fully vaccinated will still need to present a negative PCR test.
- Contact us as we can tailor the perfect itinerary to discover the best of Chile.

# **Colombian Journeys**

• Time Magazine, in its list of Best Places of the World to Visit in 2022, included the city of Bogotá, Capital of Colombia, for its sustainability efforts and enhancement of its culinary offerings during the pandemic. The city added 52 miles of bike paths for a total of 442 miles making it one of the best cities in Latin America for bicycle riding. On the other hand, in the culinary news is the restaurant LEO, whose creator Leonor Espinosa was catalogued as the best female chef in the World 2022 by the World's 50 Best Restaurants. Read the full article here.

- The Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Tourism along with Procolombia and Fontur (National Tourism Fund) created a new web portal with narrative material that describes the 6 touristic regions in Colombia. You can access the complete reading material here.
- **Did you know...?** Colombia is the first country in the Western Hemisphere in making 30% of its ocean territory a protected area by banning fishing and oil exploration.
- Casa Las Nubes. This month we included in our portfolio of "Luxury Houses for Rent" a new private lodge where modern spaces come together with traditional details of coffee farms. The house is located just 5 minutes away by car from Salento, in the Coffee Region and it is surrounded by natural areas, offering amazing views from the Cocora Valley. It has a capacity of 8 people in four rooms, private living room, closet, and bathroom in each room. It offers a cooking service, bilingual host, jacuzzi, Wi-Fi, terraces, tour of the gardens and fruit tasting. You can access to a photo gallery <a href="here">here</a>. For more details, please <a href="mailto:contact us">contact us</a>.

## **Enchanted Expeditions**

- The chocolate and gastronomy of Ecuador were acclaimed in the United Kingdom.
  Niels Olsen, Minister of Tourism of Ecuador were in the UK to promote Ecuador's
  amazing cuisine at the National Geographic Travellers Food Festival in London last
  July 16th & 17th which had 5,700 food lovers in attendance! Ecuadorian Chef &
  Chocolate expert Nathalie Areco Brachetti presented masterclasses at the festival.
  Also while in the UK, the team visited the Embassy of Ecuador for a special event
  with a presentation and gastronomic experience for tour operators & media guests.
  More info here.
- Did you know...? That Ecuador is one of the top countries in the world for diversity of birds - 1,680+ bird species - which makes it an ideal destination for birdwatching!
- The Enchanted Galapagos Lodge (located in the highlands of Santa Cruz Island) will be closed from **September 1st to mid of October, 2022** reason why we are not taking bookings during that time frame.
- UNESCO World Heritage Status Could Soon Be Given to the Sounds of Ecuador's Cloud Forest! Activists are pushing for the first-ever UNESCO status for acoustics to be awarded to the calls of 400 bird species and rare frogs in the Mashpi cloud forest. Read Condé Nast Traveler's full articile here.

## **Grand Hotels Lux**

- Andrea Maetow has been named as the new Director of Sales & Marketing of Grand Hotels Lux. With more than 30 years of experience in the hotel industry, Andrea has previously worked with reknowned international hotel brands like Sheraton and Intercontinental. On her new role, Andrea will lead the sales & marketing team of the four hotels in Argentina & Uruguay. You can contact her here.
- Latest news from **Punta del Este...the whales are back!** Southern right whales generally visit Uruguay between June and October. Right now they're swimming up

- to the warmer waters of Brazil from icy Argentina to breed. The first sightings happened this year on the 5th of July in La Barra area. There have been six sightings of **humpback whales** too this year. Learn more about **whale-watching** and how to locate those beauties in real time **here**.
- New Reservations' email address for our hotels in the Iguazu Falls! You can now send your booking requests and/or check availability for Iguazu Grand Resort and Panoramic Grand Hotel at reserveigr@grand-hotels-lux.com.
- Stay longer at Grand Hotels Lux! Get one night free staying a minimum of 4 nights at any of our four hotels in three destinations: Buenos Aires and Iguazu Falls, in Argentina and Punta del Este, in Uruguay. Enjoy the city, beach or jungle for your next holidays and take advantage of this promotion. For information and reservations, please contact <a href="mailto:reservebue@grand-hotels-lux.com">reservebue@grand-hotels-lux.com</a> and don't forget to request our spacious suites.
- Enjoy up to 40% discount on a second room for children under 12 years old in any of our four hotels in three destinations: Buenos Aires and Iguazu Falls, in Argentina and Punta del Este, in Uruguay. There are plenty of activities to enjoy and discover in depth each destination such as jungle tours, horseback riding, bike tours and more. For information and reservations, please contact <a href="mailto:reservebue@grand-hotels-lux.com">reservebue@grand-hotels-lux.com</a> and don't forget to check availability for our connecting rooms!

### La Coralina Island House

- Missed our last webinar "Boundless Heart Session from La Coralina Island House"? Don't worry! You can watch it here.
- We are proudly founding members of <u>Coral Nation</u>, a non-profit organization committed to preserving marine ecosystems through the engagement of local communities, scientific research and protecting biodiversity. We are regenerating damaged coral reefs by establishing ocean and land-based coral nurseries. Check this video...click <u>here</u>.
- Last call! Yoga Retreat Package December 2022! Join Therese Skovgaard Poulsen from Veda Wellness Retreats (Bali) on this energizing yoga retreat. You will enjoy a wide variety of yoga and meditation classes suitable for all practitioner levels. She will be offering 2 Yoga Retreats in December: from 1st to 4th and from 7th to 10th. Each group will be really very intimate and personalized...only 10 attendees per retreat. Get more info like schedule, prices, etc here. Make sure to secure a spot either for you or for your yogi clients!
- Traveling to Panama? Or maybe you are interested in experiencing first hand the newest luxury resort in Bocas del Toro? Contact us for discounted travel agent rates with La Coralina Island House.

#### **Las Torres Reserve**

Special offer to the trade! Are you attending ATTA's AdventureNEXT Patagonia scheduled September 12nd to 14th, 2002? For those of you interested in explore deeper the Torres del Paine National Park, Hotel Las Torres Patagonia is offering an amazing pre or post event offer: 4 days/3 nights complimmentary stay (All Inclusive Package). Please contact us in case you would like to apply and take advantage of this incredible fam opportunity.

- Hotel Las Torres Patagonia is offering 5x4 and 4x3 special offers in All Inclusive Programs for stays between the opening date (September 8th) and October 15th. More info here.
- Juan Lopez has been named as the new Commercial Manager of Las Torres
  Reserve. With 20 years of professional experience, Juan previously worked as
  Market Manager for North America and Asia-Pacific at the Tourism Promotion
  Corporation of Chile Turismo Chile. Before arriving at Las Torres Reserve, he held
  the position of National Deputy Director of the School of Tourism at Duoc UC. A
  Business Engineer by profession, he completed his studies at the Amsterdam
  Business School, and later graduated with a Master's degree in Tourism from
  Monash University in Australia. Juan takes on the challenge of leading the marketing
  and sales teams, as well as implementing the commercial strategy at Las Torres
  Reserve. You can contact him here.

## It's Almost Summer in South America



With the South American spring and summer looming just over the horizon, it's time to start planning your Patagonia adventure. Las Torres

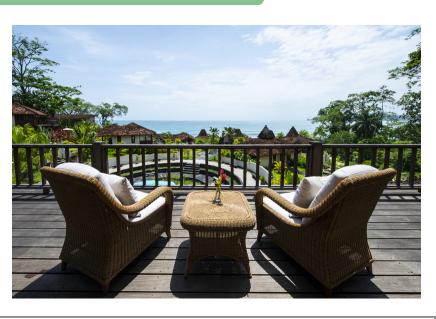
Reserve offers several ways to explore one of the world's great natural wonders, from trekking programs to leisure and relaxation.. Read more here.

### Rooms with a (Caribbean) View

The chic Panamanian island resort offers six different ways to see a Caribbean sunrise from the comfort of your bed or balcony.

**La Coralina Island House** features eight villas and 23 rooms designed around the concept that living close to nature is the greatest luxury.

Continue reading **here**.





The coast and valley region north of Santiago, La Serena is renowned for its blend of forest, desert and beaches . . . and some of the world's clearest night skies. *Read more here*.

## The World's Top Female Chef is Colombian

Leonor Espinosa of Leo Restaurant in Bogota was recently named the best female chef in the world...Leo ranks 46th among the best restaurants in the world and number 14th in Latin America. *More here*.



#### Ecuador's Art and Craft Trails



Ecuador's wide variety of landscapes, its pre-Colombian cultural heritage and, most importantly, its assortment of people from different ethnic groups, make the country a fascinating treasure to be explored. Discover it, by following the trails of human beings' first artistic creations and contemporary expression of art and crafts.

Continue reading <u>here</u>.

Choose from four fabulous **Grand Hotels Lux** in Argentina and Uruguay: the Recoleta Grand, Iguazu Grand, Panoramic Grand, The Grand Hotel Punta del Este.









































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