

Discover the unique atmosphere & traditions of the

# Cologne Christmas Markets

Travel by Coach *the easy way!*

Join the experts for a unique pre-Christmas experience full of unusual gifts and seasonal cheer, at one of Europe's oldest and biggest Christmas Markets!

**3 days from just £159**

**Outstanding value...**

- **Included** visits to **Cologne & Bruges**
- Two nights' **4-star hotel** with continental breakfast
- **Free** local departures
- Upgrade to **SILVER SERVICE** luxury coach with extra legroom

Or choose from 28 tours including...

- Brussels
- Rhine Valley
- Salzburg
- Lake Como
- Valkenburg
- Prague
- Paris

4-day break from only £209

Call for your FREE brochure **0844 504 6359**

www.legerxmasmarkets.co.uk

To Advertise in the Display Travel Section please contact Andrew Totman on 0207 098 2734 or Andrew.Totman@express.co.uk

# THE BEST OF UK HOTELS

2 nights from only £85pp DBB

## CHILDREN STAY AND EAT FREE!!

Children up to 15 must share a room with 2 adults. Family rooms subject to availability.

Location	Brook Hotel	2 NTS	3 NTS	4 NTS
<b>ENGLAND</b>				
Beverley	3* Beverley Arms Hotel	£85	£120	£165
Bracknell Nr Legoland	4* Waterloo Hotel	£85	£120	£165
Chester	4* Crabwall Manor Hotel & Spa (L)	£125	£160	£175
Chester	4* Mollington Banastre Hotel & Spa (L)	£125	£160	£175
Colchester	3* Red Lion Hotel	£85	£120	£155
Huddersfield	3* George Hotel	£85	£120	£155
London / Kingston Upon Thames	4* Kingston Lodge Hotel	£85	£120	£185
Leeds	3* Merrion Hotel	£85	£120	£155
Matlock Bath - Peak District	3* New Bath Hotel (L)	£95	£130	£155
Oakham	3* Whippet-in Hotel	£115	£150	£175
Sandbach Nr Alton Towers	3* Chimney House Hotel	£85	£120	£155
Sevenoaks	3* Royal Oak Hotel	£95	£130	£175
Dunmow nr Stansted Airport	3* Whitehall Hotel	£85	£120	£155
Sutton Coldfield Nr Drayton Manor	3* Marston Farm Hotel	£85	£120	£165
Swindon	3* Madison Hotel	£85	£120	£165
Tewkesbury	4* Tewkesbury Park Hotel, Golf & Country Club (L)	£115	£150	£165
Warwick	3* Horniley Court Hotel	£85	£120	£155
Worcester	3* Bank House Hotel & Golf Club (L)	£95	£130	£155
<b>SCOTLAND</b>				
Edinburgh / North Queensferry	3* Queensferry Hotel	£95	£130	£185

Rates valid for stays between 28th June & 31 August 2010, per person per stay, based on two people sharing a twin or double room, include Dinner (from our daily specials menu), Bed and Full Traditional Breakfast, and are for new bookings only. (L) Leisure facilities.

2 NTS & 3 NTS weekend breaks – arrive Friday, 4 NTS Mid-week breaks – arrive Monday.



www.classicbritain.com

– over 200 UK hotels bookable online

No upfront payment. No cancellation fees (+48hrs)

Tel: 0845 1306 241 (7 days)

# It's one fine Philly

With its colonial history, open spaces and street art, the old capital is far from an average American city, says **ANDY MOSSACK**

**S**OME SEE it as New York without the attitude or traffic, while others revere it as the true birthplace of America. Philly, as it is affectionately known, was the new nation's capital at the start of the Revolutionary War in 1775 and then for a decade until 1790, when it was replaced by Washington DC. There is no denying Philadelphia has an illustrious past and anyone who has ever tasted a Philly cheesesteak will be left in no doubt as to where heaven really is.

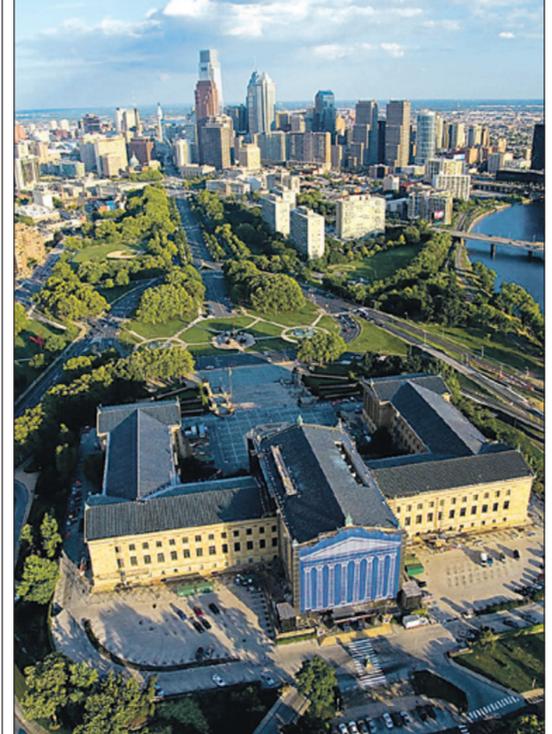
Take a stroll through the parks and wide boulevards, gape at some of the 3,000 giant street murals of images from Sinatra to local landscapes and you'll realise there is a lot to this city. Add in tax-free shopping and you begin to see why Philly, an hour from New York, can more than hold its own with the Big Apple.

**THE BEST ADDRESS**

Elegant and historic Rittenhouse Square at the heart of downtown is a perfect base. The square, surrounded by fashionable restaurants and hotels, is within walking distance of the city's numerous museums, including the **Rosenbach Museum and Library**, home of rare books and manuscripts, among them James Joyce's *Ulysses*.

The urban park, the square's centrepiece, is a great place to escape the summer heat. The city was built with walking in mind (although there is a bus, tram and subway system) and laid out using tree names for roads running east to west and numbers for those that run from north to south.

Picture: BOB KRIST



**PACKING A PUNCH:** The Museum of Art with its famous 'Rocky' steps

**THE CULTURE**

Don't miss the old State House bell, inscribed with the words from Leviticus: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land, to all the inhabitants thereof."

Adopted by anti-slavery protesters in the 1830s and by many other groups since, it became known as the Liberty Bell and was rung on important occasions including the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Pennsylvania State House, now Independence Hall. Badly cracked, the bell is housed in the **Liberty Bell Center** on Market Street, opposite Independence Hall.

You won't be able to miss Philly's 3,000 giant murals on many of the city's buildings. There are regular Trolley tours of some of the best urban artwork ([www.muralarts.org](http://www.muralarts.org)) and two-hour walking tours from \$17pp.

Philly is big on museums, many of them on Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Walk through a giant heart in the **Franklin Institute Science Museum**, climb inside a tyrannosaurus rex skull and dig for fossils in the **Academy of Natural Sciences** or marvel at the largest collection of Rodin sculptures outside Paris at **The Rodin Museum**.

**BEST FOR FOOD**

The Philly cheesesteak is an Amoroso roll filled with chopped beef, onions and Provolone cheese. Try one of the best at the huge indoor **Reading Terminal Market** at the corner of 12th and Arch Streets where you can also buy fresh Amish cheeses, falafel, sushi and Peking Duck.

Stephen Starr dominates the Philly restaurant scene with 13 eateries. My favourite is **Butcher and Singer** (732 4444/[www.butcherandsinger.com](http://www.butcherandsinger.com)) on Walnut Street, a homage to the Twenties with low lights and dark woods. Try the 12oz chargrilled steaks, seafood platters and perfect Manhattans.

**Square 1682** (563 5008/[www.square1682.com](http://www.square1682.com)) on South 17th Street offers dishes such as Serrano ham with saffron, San Marzano tomatoes, Manchego cheese and sourdough bread for \$8.

**DON'T MISS**

Recreate the scene from the movie *Rocky* when boxer Rocky Balboa, AKA Sylvester Stallone, runs up the steps of the **Museum of Art**. During filming of the third instalment, Stallone donated a bronze statue, now at the bottom of the museum steps. **Philadelphia in the Movies Tour** (dialling from the UK: 001 215 625 7980/[www.moviesintour.com](http://www.moviesintour.com)), \$35pp, will take you to more than 50 sites featured in blockbusters such as *Philadelphia*, *Age of Innocence* and *Witness*.

Buy a ticket for the hop-on, hop-off **Big Bus Company Tour** (923 5008/[www.bigbustours.com/eng/philadelphia](http://www.bigbustours.com/eng/philadelphia)). It is good value at

**THE HOTEL**

Indulge in five-star luxury and be eco-friendly at the **Palomar**, Philly's first green hotel (563 5006/[www.hotelpalomar-philadelphia.com](http://www.hotelpalomar-philadelphia.com)).

## BRITISH ISLES: Lundy

**ANNA MELVILLE-JAMES** escapes modern living and discovers the quiet beauty on this Bristol Channel gem

**W**HO NEEDS progress? Sometimes you just want a world where things stand still and on Lundy Island, 11 miles off the north Devon coast in the Bristol Channel, nothing much has changed in decades.

It's a timeless quality that makes this granite outcrop, with a population of just 27, plus Lundy ponies, puffins and rare pygmy shrews, the perfect retreat from the modern mainland.

Don't judge the island by its size (it's just three miles long and half a mile wide). Lundy's colourful history is etched with tales of Vikings, pirates, Knights Templar and Civil War, as well as various private owners of the island who have all left their eccentric mark. One example is the world's oldest private postal service.

Lundy, now owned by the National Trust, is managed by The Landmark Trust, which rents out the 23 holiday lets there. Other than this natural ration of visitors, the car-free island is left largely to its own quiet beauty and The Famous Five vibe of innocent freedoms. It's a place where you can still have adventures and picnics without seeing another soul. Bliss.

**SUITS YOU**

Lundy has a west shore of inlets, caves and rock stacks battered by Atlantic seas and a milder, sheltered east coast of trees, rhododendrons and the rare, inedible Lundy cabbage. The Lundy warden runs guided walks around the island, as well as snorkelling safaris (June-September, priced £5) to show off the rich ecosystem.

Lundy's waters became England's first Marine Conservation zone in January and with Gulf Stream currents, the island is a top UK diving spot offering such warm-water species as sea fans and cup corals, and numerous shipwrecks including the intact MV Robert.

On land there are no big glossy attractions. Instead you create your own fun. Hunt for Neolithic burial chambers, visit lighthouses, scramble down a rope ladder to Quarry Beach or look out for the remains of a crashed Second World War Luftwaffe bomber that juts out from a savage Lundy cliff fissure.

The island's oldest building is a 13th-century castle and there is also a small Victorian church built by the sugar baron William Hudson Heaven, who bought Lundy in 1834.

One unusual pursuit is to go "letterboxing". This traditional all-weather adventure involves finding 27 postboxes hidden on the island. Each one has a logbook to record your visit and a unique stamp that you can take an impression of to prove you were there.

**LAZING AND GRAZING**

The island's 23 Landmark Trust (01628 825925/[www.landmarktrust.org.uk](http://www.landmarktrust.org.uk)) rental properties range in size and character. These include Millcombe House, from £192 per night (sleeps 12) and Castle Keep East, £66 per night (sleeps two). Both prices are based on a minimum two-night stay. Book ahead: Lundy's popularity means accommodation is snapped up

**RETAIL THERAPY**

With tax-free shopping on all clothes and shoes, Philly is a shoppers' delight, offering more than 2,000 shops and boutiques including Macy's giant flagship store near City Hall. Head to Rittenhouse Row and Walnut Street for designer boutiques such as Burberry, Armani and Juicy Couture. UK visitors qualify for "Phil Your Bags" discount vouchers, available at [www.philadelphiausa.travel](http://www.philadelphiausa.travel)

phillyourbags, which can be exchanged for discounts at many stores and restaurants.

The East Coast's shopping mecca, **The King of Prussia Mall**, is 30 minutes from the city, offering 400 shops including big names such as Hermes, Bloomingdale and Michael Kors.

## GUERNSEY

**GREAT 3 STAR DES CANAL ISLANDS** from only **£159**

only for new bookings made 26 Jun-2 Jul

**La Trelade Hotel** \*\*\*

Elegant \*\*\* Up-market Hotel in the Forest area. Indoor pool and Health Suite. Great service. Great food. All rooms are with TV and tea/coffee. B+B included.

**Halfboard only £15 per night extra**

**TAKE YOUR CAR FREE on FAST FERRY** from Weymouth

by SEA 2nts 3nts 4nts 7nts  
 26 Jun-7 Jul £159 £199 £239 £359  
 8 Jul-20 Jul £179 £219 £259 £379  
 21 Jul-20 Sep £199 £239 £279 £399  
 1 Oct-16 Dec £169 £199 £229 £299  
 (Friday/Saturday on Ferry – £25 per person extra)

**Greenacres Hotel** \*\*\*

Lovely \*\*\* Country House Hotel in the St Martin's area. Sparkling outdoor pool. Great service. Great food. All rooms are with TV and tea/coffee. B+B included.

**Halfboard only £15 per night extra**

**TAKE YOUR CAR FREE on FAST FERRY** from Weymouth

**7 night summertime specials only £399**

**FREE UPGRADE TO FLIGHTS** from Gatwick, Bristol, East Midlands, Stansted (Add £30 - Manchester, Southampton Add £60 - Birmingham, Exeter) PAY IN FULL WHEN BOOKING and get **FREE CAR HIRE**

**BOOKING HOTLINE: 0871 871 0071**

All prices per person based on 2 sharing. Booking fee £12 per person. ATOL/TOPP FEE £2.50 per person.

# Devon's timeless offshore retreat

Picture: LANDMARK TRUST



**FLOWER POWER:** Lundy has a rich ecosystem

## ★ Star break: WARSAW ★

**THE FASHION** police have been out in force in Warsaw with Trinny Woodall and Susannah Constantine (pictured below), of *What Not To Wear*, filming there last week. The pair were picking on the Poles at the Galeria Mokotow, one of the capital's best shopping centres.

The city has many museums, galleries and theatres, while music-lovers can indulge at Opera Narodowa, the national opera.

A highlight of any visit remains the medieval Old Town. Stroll along the romantic cobbled streets to the cathedral of St John's and Market Square, where you'll find restaurants, bars, market stalls and street entertainers.

**GETTING THERE:** British Airways (0844 493 0758/[www.ba.com/citybreaks](http://www.ba.com/citybreaks)) offers four nights at the Mammaison Hotel Le Regina from £438pp (two sharing), B&B. Price includes return flights from Heathrow.

Polish National Tourist Office: 0870 067 5010/[www.poland.travel/en-gb](http://www.poland.travel/en-gb)

months in advance. There are also 40 camping spaces for harder souls but booking through Lundy Shore Office (01271 863636) is necessary. From £9pp, per night.

Lundy has one well-stocked shop for self-catering. Eating out means going to the island's only pub-cum-restaurant, the Marisco Tavern. Order a pint of Lundy Experience ale and tuck into an English fry-up. Then while away a lazy afternoon with the pub's pile of board games.

**GETTING THERE:** Lundy Shore Office (01271 863636/[www.lundyisland.co.uk](http://www.lundyisland.co.uk)). The island's own ship, the *MS Oldenburg*, sails from Bideford and Ilfracombe between April and October from £56 return.

SCARBOROUGH	NORTH YORK MOORS	SCARBOROUGH
<b>THE ROYAL HOTEL</b> DB&B ★★★ Town Centre, was £416.00 Pool, Sauna & Gym now <b>£58.00</b>	<b>HACKNESS GRANGE</b> DB&B ★★★ Country House, was £426.00 Pool, Tennis & Golf now <b>£61.00</b>	<b>WREA HEAD HOTEL</b> DB&B ★★★ Country House, was £426.00 Very Highly Rated now <b>£64.00</b>
inc. Continental Breakfast & Dinner		

**UPGRADE TO FULL ENGLISH BREAKFAST FOR ONLY £5 PER PERSON PER NIGHT**

Quote 'Sunday Express' Terms & Conditions Apply

**0844 544 1832** [www.englishrosehotels.co.uk/go/express](http://www.englishrosehotels.co.uk/go/express)

## Four & Five Star Nile River Cruises

7 nights from just **£399pp**

Includes **10 FREE** excursions!

Join us on a journey of discovery as we visit some of Egypt's finest ancient monuments that can be found along the banks of the river Nile, including those at Edfu, Kom Ombo, Aswan and The Valley of the Kings and The Valley of the Queens at Luxor.

Dep Date	Four Star		Five Star		Dep Date	Four Star		Five Star	
	Flourette	Da Vinci	Flourette	Da Vinci		Flourette	Da Vinci	Flourette	Da Vinci
5 Jul 10	Sold Out	399	22 Nov 10	589	Sold Out				
12 Jul 10	399	449	29 Nov 10	589	639				
19 Jul 10	419	469	13 Dec 10	639	689				
26 Jul 10	519	569	20 Dec 10	839	889				
2, 9 Aug 10	469	519	27 Dec 10	789	839				
16 Aug 10	539	589	3, 10 Jan 11	639	689				
23 Aug 10	Sold Out	669	17, 24 Jan 11	639	689				
30 Aug 10	489	539	31 Jan, 7 Feb 11	689	739				
6, 13 Sep 10	639	689	14 Feb 11	739	789				
20, 27 Sep 10	639	689	21, 28 Feb 11	719	769				
4, 18 Oct 10	669	719	7 Mar 11	719	769				
11 Oct, 1 Nov 10	639	689	14, 21 Mar 11	689	739				
25 Oct 10	689	739	28 Mar, 4 Apr 11	669	719				
8 Nov 10	Sold Out	689	11, 25 Apr 11	789	839				
15 Nov 10	639	689	18 Apr 11	859	909				

Prices include return flights between Gatwick and Luxor, seven night 4 or 5 STAR cruise, **FULL BOARD**, 10 excursions, and all transfers, taxes and fuel surcharge.

Prices are in £'s per person, based on two adults sharing a twin Lower Deck cabin. All offers are subject to availability and apply to new bookings only. UK: 15pp gratuities, Egypt visa charges and holiday insurance not included.

Fly from Manchester for just an extra **£35pp**

Egypt hotel extensions from just **£169pp**

Telephone **0844 875 6030** and quote promotional code: **NDEX07**

Or book online at [www.africansafariclub.com/NDEX07](http://www.africansafariclub.com/NDEX07)

