

TRAVEL

with SALLY McLEAN

Kraking prizes on offer in holiday Oscars draw

FANTASTIC prizes await those who hit the UK holiday Oscars jackpot – including a trip to Krakow. The vote for the 2016 British Travel Awards is open until September 30. Holiday parks, hotels, staycation destinations, cruise lines, attractions and much more are included. Your votes will decide who gets the glory at the awards bash in London in November. Everyone who votes is entered into a draw for an Aladdin's cave of more than 50 travel prizes, worth more than £35,000. Among those is a five-day trip for two to historic Krakow in Poland

There are 82 award categories and you can vote in as many as you want. You can also take part in a survey that looks at holiday plans for next year. It's voluntary but if you do take part, you'll get a bonus entry in the draw. Keep reading Record Travel on Saturdays for the latest prize news – and look out for draw doubler ads in the paper, which could get you up to FOUR goes in the prize ballot. Full prize T&Cs at britishtravellawards.com and on social media it's @Brit TravAwrds and #voteBTA16

BEAUTY Krakow's square with Newmarket Holidays, worth up to £1200. The prize includes flights, transfers, B&B accommodation in a central four-star hotel and a guided tour of the sights. **HOW IT WORKS** Register, then vote online at britishtravellawards.com.



Vantastic staycation



» ELAINE JOHNSTON
ejohnston@dailyrecord.co.uk

YOU always read how good campsites are for families and from colleagues who've had a great time at a caravan holiday.

Some have even invested in one as a holiday home. Staycations have never been so popular and are a great way to enjoy all the good things Scotland has to offer. For our trip – the usual questions, how far is it? Will it be freezing at night? And then the biggie – what about the midges? An hour-and-a-half's drive from Glasgow and we were on the winding road to Loch Tummel, just outside Pitlochry. Tummel Valley Holiday Park is nestled right at the heart of Highland Perthshire. It may

Trip to holiday park in Highland Perthshire proves you don't need to go abroad to have a great time.. it is a real treat for all the family

be a fairly remote setting but that makes it the perfect place to enjoy a relaxing family holiday. Our home for the weekend was a stunning three-bedroom static. We loved the luxury of it all and knew it would be a comfy set-up after a day of whatever the Scottish weather threw at us. Even better, it came complete with full central heating. Freezing at night? No chance. The park's facilities and entertainment were excellent – and having visited other mainstream parks, we enjoyed the good value and surprisingly high standard of fresh and tasty food. There was a playpark in full view of the bar area so kids, like our daughter Charlotte, six, can have fun while parents can keep an eye

on them. Ideal. The entertainment starts early evening with a full range of activities for all the family, from disco dancing to bingo. The staff impressed us. They had great local knowledge and a genuine love of the site. They gave us some great tips and places to see, which we could never manage ourselves in such a short time. The pool is good but small and you have to be quick to pre-book your time slot at reception. It's a first come, first served basis so be prepared to queue outside, especially during busy periods. Tummel Valley is a great place for kids too and there are plenty of off-site options and exploring to do. With the majestic ridge of the Schiehallion on view, and winding paths along the river and loch, it

really is a walking, fishing and cycling paradise. Serious cyclists will enjoy quiet roads with plenty of tough climbs. The road towards Pitlochry on the Queen's pass is used for the now well-established Etape Caledonia – one of Britain's top cycling events. Queen's View is a must see. Aptly named (so you would think), there is a good story as to how it actually got its name when Queen Victoria visited back in 1866. There is a souvenir shop and excellent cafe and the fact the view itself is only 200 yards away via a man-made path means it is easily accessible for the young and old. You can sense the history of the place and the mind wanders back to a time when royals would have looked from the same vantage point

STUNNING The breathtaking view over Loch Tummel

Late deals

■ Flying from Glasgow to Dubai on various dates in September, five nights at the four-star Ocean View, bed and breakfast from £765 per person.
■ Flying from Edinburgh to Tenerife on various dates in September, nine nights at the four-star Isla Bonita, all inclusive from £619 per person.
■ Flying from Glasgow to Portugal on October 8, 10 nights at the four-star Vila Gale Nautico, all inclusive from £649 per person.
■ For more information and deals, visit www.holidayandflightcentre.com or call 01698 425 444.

Facts

■ Elaine and her family travelled courtesy of Freedom to Go. If you are new to caravanning and static holiday homes, www.freedomtogo.co.uk has hints and tips to help you get started and plan your next family adventure.
■ Short breaks are available at Tummel Valley Holiday Park from £129.
■ www.parkdeanholidays.co.uk or call 0344 335 3348 to book

Late deals

■ Flying from Glasgow and Edinburgh to Santa Ponsa on various dates in August and September, seven nights at the three-star Playa Santa Ponsa, all inclusive from £597 per person.
■ Flying from Glasgow to Fuerteventura on various dates in November and December, seven nights at the three-star Playa Park, all inclusive from £397 per person.
■ Flying from Glasgow to Venice on various dates in October and November, four nights at the three-star Villa Dori, room only from £357 per person.
■ For these and other offers call 0141 222 2223 or go to www.barrheadtravel.co.uk

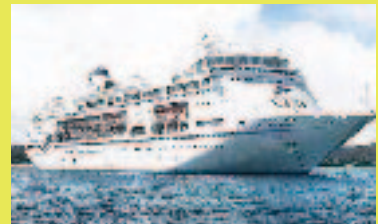
Late cruise deals

■ Flying from Glasgow on September 28 and boarding the MS Koningsdam in Rome then sailing to Karakolon, Athens, Mykonos, Santorini, Kusadasi, Rhodes, Crete and back to Rome, 14 nights from £989pp for an interior room, balcony room from £1159pp.
■ Flying from Edinburgh on October 9 and boarding the Celebrity Constellation in Venice then sailing to Dubrovnik, Kotor, Montenegro, Rome, Salerno, Catania, Sicily, Rhodes and Athens, 12 nights from £1179pp for an interior room and from £1429pp for a balcony room.
■ Flying from Edinburgh on October 11 then boarding the Norwegian Star in Barcelona and sailing to Malta, Sicily, Athens, Santorini, Crete, Katakolon, Naples and Rome, from £989 for an interior room, £1139 for an oceanview and £1459 for balcony room.
■ For these and other deals, contact Scotland's Cruise Centre on 0800 197 8049 or visit www.scotlandscruisecentre.co.uk

News

Say hello and wave goodbye

SINCE their arrival to the cruise scene in 2009, Cruise & Maritime have grown from strength to strength, establishing themselves as one of the UK's favourites. With sailings from more local ports nationwide – on smaller ships with a higher staff ratio, meaning better levels of service – it is not hard to see why. Next year marks the start of a bitter-sweet season for Cruise & Maritime as they bid farewell to the popular Astoria in spring and celebrate the maiden season for Columbus in the summer. Astoria is a gem of the Cruise & Maritime fleet and has earned its place as one of the best-loved ships in the cruise industry. Having changed hands – and names – over time, the Astoria has a long-standing history and 2017 will see it set sail for pastures new. Don't miss your chance to relive memories or experience this wonderful ship for the last time. Plus, sail from London Tilbury in March or April next year and make the most of our special Buy One Get One Free offer plus up to £1000 onboard spending money per cabin, a complimentary cabin upgrade and 50



SAIL AWAY Astoria, top, set for final year and introducing Columbus, above

per cent off car parking at the port. As we say goodbye to one ship, we welcome another with the arrival of Columbus. Setting sail on her maiden voyage next summer, Columbus will be a welcome addition to the fleet. Featuring more balcony cabins, junior suites, single traveller accommodation, exciting new entertainment packages and the widest choice of dining options, the Columbus won't take long to become a favourite for loyal and new customers alike. Why not book your place in history and book to cruise onboard Columbus next year?

For more information or to book, call Barrhead Travel's Cruise Specialists today on 0141 242 1337.

