Top 50 Adventures

Look no further for the most life-affirming and adrenaline-pumping vacation experiences.
Top 50 Adventures

If your bucket list is already miles long, get ready to extend it even more. We’ve compiled unbelievable once-in-a-lifetime experiences in the most gorgeous must-see locations on earth, with a plethora of itineraries, packages and explorations to suit all. Whether you want to fly into near-space, climb Mount Everest or travel to the edge of the world, your next adventure starts here.

By Samantha Colley
DARWIN CRUISE
GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS, ECUADOR

To protect the Galápagos Islands’ marine environment from overfishing and invasive-species introduction, Angermeyer Cruises and Andreatis Tours have partnered to create the Galápagos Conservation Fund, which benefits the charity WAWA. For every passenger booked, Angermeyer will donate $100 to the fund; once a year all the proceeds from a one-week charter will be donated (an additional sum of at least $97,800), and for all bookings made via WAWA, 2.5 percent will go directly to the organization’s programs in the Galápagos. Try a trip on Angermeyer’s 108’ luxury motor yacht — recently renamed Hildis’s Passion. The largest charter vessel in the Galápagos, it features a panoramic sky lounge, ample room for 12 passengers, and four incredibly spacious decks, including a secluded sun deck with a saucal. Activities on Hildis’s Passion’s 10 to 15-day cruises include daily hikes, dolphin and whale watching, snorkeling, swimming with porpoises and kayaking. From $19,700 for one-week full charter. Contact Corine Knoppers, event planning and major gifts, corine@wildaid.org, +1 415 834 3714, wildaid.org

PADDLEBOARD IN BIOlUMINESCENT PLANKTON
TOBAGO, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

At one of Tobago’s most popular beaches, Pigeon Point, lies a mangrove-lined lagoon where a magical phenomenon can be seen come nighttime — the ocean lights up with tiny neon flecks. A type of marine plant growth emits this bluish light, usually when their surroundings are disturbed, to create this magical underwater light display. The plankton can be seen in a few spots around the world (Australia, San Diego, Malia, Vietnam) but in Tobago, you can glide through the eerie glow on a paddleboard. The movement in the water makes the plankton light up — truly a once-in-a-lifetime sight. After a hard session on the water, we can’t think of a better place to rest your weary limbs than aboard a super yacht such as M/V Gigi, an elegant 54’ Westport able to accommodate 12 guests across six cabins. More importantly, though, she comes in tandem with the support vessel Axi so you can continue your adventures with a three-man Triton submarine, fishing boats and an Icon amphibious aircraft.

Stand-up paddleboard rental and lessons, from $60 per person. Gigi and Axi $300,000 for one-week charter. Contact Daphne d’Orley, senior charter broker, daphne@d’orleyachts.com, +1 954 463 1400, oceanindependence.com

ANGLING ADVENTURES
NORTHERN RIVERS, RUSSIA

Russia’s Atlantic Salmon Reserve encompasses some of the very best salmon rivers in the world, among them the Kharanka, Eastern Liza, Rynda and Zelenaya. Hundreds of big silver salmon are found there — over the last two seasons, almost 20 percent were over 20lb, and even some monstrous 40-pounders were caught. The largely unexplored rivers on the northern coast of the Kola Peninsula are an angler’s dream come true. Fly to Murmansk, where a helicopter takes you to your luxury fishing lodge in the wilderness. A Eurocopter helicopter will transport you each day, so within minutes of departing the lodge your guide will be showing you the best places to cast your line for the biggest salmon you’ve ever caught.

From $19,900 for one-person for one week. Contact Roderic Hall, manager, roderic.hall@farinastyle.com, +44 207 484 1004, farinawstravel.com

DEEP-SEA EXPLORATION
GREEK ISLES, ADRIATIC COAST, WEST INDIES

If you’re after a cruise but with a more intimate, small-ship experience, Crystal Cruises’ unique yacht size and shallow draft means its fleet is able to moor in secluded harbors, coves and islands. The all-suite, butler-serviced accommodations ensure guests are wrapped in luxury while exploring the beaten-path destinations. The seven-day exploration travels through the Greek Isles, Adriatic Coast and West Indies, and if you’re more of a deep-sea explorer than an island-hopper, the yacht has its very own state-of-the-art submarine, which is able to dive to depths of up to 5000 ft.

Owner’s Suite from $16,000 per person. Book online at crystalcruises.com