



DEALS

Let rip down Route 66

Don your leathers and take a 15-day trip down Route 66 from €2,427pp. Price includes accommodation and bike rental but not flights. American Holidays, tel: 01-673 3804

Mountain to climb

Tackle Mount Kilimanjaro with gohop.ie. Tours from Ireland, including flights, accommodation, meals and fees, from €2,390pps, tel: 01-241 2389

Galway goes Continental

Do your Christmas shopping in Galway this year at the Continental Market on Eyre Square. Stay in the Meyrick Hotel for two nights, with dinner one evening, from €125pps. Tel: 091-564041, hotelmeyrick.ie

Christmas at the Red Sea

Spend Christmas between the Red Sea and Sinai in the new Club Med resort. Departing Dublin December 20th, all-inclusive is from €2,099 (adult) and €1,179 (child). Tel: 01-288 6828, clubmedsunway.ie

Music in the Canaries

The Canary Islands Music Festival in Gran Canaria runs for four weeks from January 13th (festivalcanarias.com). A week in the Gloria Palace Amadores all-inclusive costs €885pps. Tel: 01-514 0314, thomascook.ie

Party nights

Christmas party nights in the Newpark Hotel Kilkenny on Fridays and Saturdays in December from €79pps, including accommodation, reception and dinner. Tel: 056-776 0515

TAKE 3

HOTELS SURROUNDED BY WATER

EMMA CULLINAN



Cayo Espanto, Belize

Cayo Espanto Resort, San Pedro, Belize, aprivateisland.com
There are seven villas on this four-acre island in the Caribbean Sea, an eight-minute boat ride from the mainland. It is quite possible that you will never see your neighbours as the sea-side villas are secluded in a mangrove forest. So desert-island bliss is yours for the taking. Villas from €1,263 a night.



Hotel Palafitte, Switzerland

Route des Gouttes d'Or 2, Neuchâtel, palafitte.ch
Palafitte is the only five-star hotel in Europe built on water. Twenty-four of the 40 pavilions that make up the hotel are right in the lake, letting you lap up the water and views of surrounding Alps. Jacuzzis and private terrace are some of the delicious delights. From €343 per pavilion per night.



Royal Davui Island Resort, Fiji

mrandmrsmith.com
Smack in a blue lagoon this lush tropical reef-ringed island is home to 16 villas. Each opens onto a private plunge pool and from there it is just a hop and skip across a white sandy beach and a jump into the South Pacific. There are plenty of activities available and snorkelling equipment, kayaks and paddle boards are free. From €853 (offer of five nights for price of four).