

TAKING OFF

West coast retreat or Wild West hike, the choice is yours



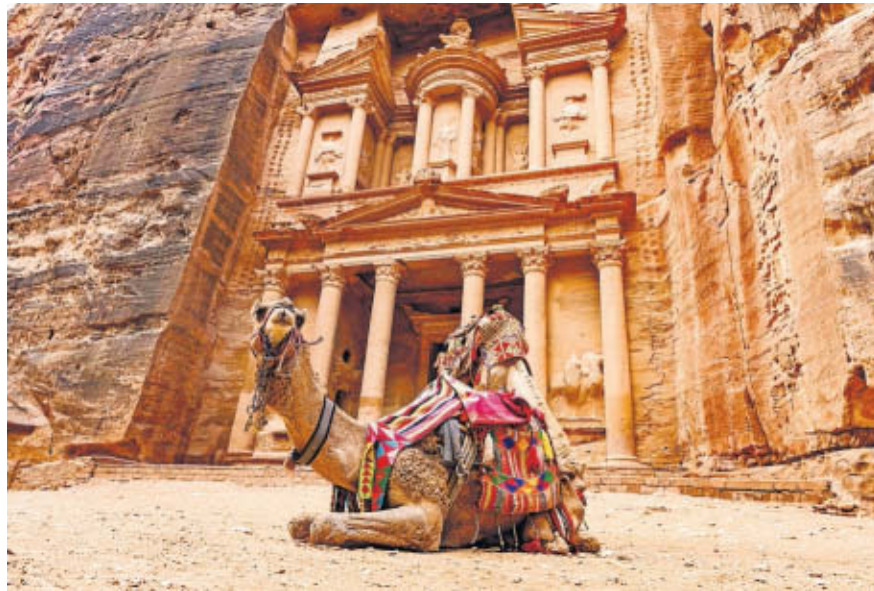
RUSTIC ROMANCE

Limehouse Cottage, a beautiful vernacular bolt hole near Glenbeigh, west Kerry, has been added to the Unique Homestays portfolio of high-end holiday rentals. It has mountain, valley and lake views, and combines a top-quality finish with a rustic luxury aesthetic inside. Sleeping just two people, this is a hyper-romantic getaway for a couple, costing from €1,417 a week or from €1,061 for a shorter break. At the time of going to press there is still some availability this year, including Christmas week, but you'll have to be quick. limehousecottage.uniquehomestays.com



ECO-EXCELLENCE

A new Dublin hotel is the first in Ireland to comply with the World Green Building Council's definition of net zero carbon without having to purchase carbon offsets. Wren Urban Nest on St Andrew's Lane stocks its rooms with local products but no single-use plastics, and has stepped away from fossil fuels. The chefs engage in responsible sourcing and embrace wonky veg. Sustainability measures aside, there are Respa mattresses, remote-controlled blackout blinds, flatscreen TVs with Chromecast, a pillow menu and rainhead showers. From €99 room only and €118.95 B&B. wrenhotel.ie



DESERT DELIGHTS

On TD Active Holidays' nine-night trip to Jordan you'll wander through ruins in Jerash and Ajloun, see the mosaics of Madaba, take selfies in the sandstone city of Petra and discover the atmospheric capital, Amman. Beyond the towns there is hiking in the Mujib and Dana nature reserves, a boat trip to snorkel among the colourful coral of the Red Sea, a float in the Dead Sea and an SUV tour with overnight stay in the Wadi Rum desert. It departs on March 21, September 13 and October 3, 2022. Prices start at €2,369pp, including return flights, transfers, half-board and all guided trips. tdactiveholidays.com

GREAT ADVENTURES

Eighteen-to-30 holidays aren't what they used to be. The tour operator G Adventures takes youthful travellers a step further, with adventure and ecology rather than boozy beach bars. As the US is set to reopen to visitors from next month, G Adventures has relaunched its trip-of-a-lifetime American holidays, including the eight-day Joshua Tree and the Southwest Parks, which includes hikes in four national parks, a swoop into the Grand Canyon, a road trip along Route 66, and camping at Lake Powell. Accommodation is a mix of glamping (upgraded canvas tents), motels and camping. From €1,499pp. gadventures.com



NEIGH BOTHER

Who's taking the horse to France? Irish Ferries' popular route from Dublin to Cherbourg — the preferred choice for families holidaying in campsites and gîtes in France and travelling with their own car — is now booking for summer 2022. The ship in operation is again the relatively pristine WB Yeats, which has a good range of dining options and cabin types, and the company promises that the enhanced Covid safety and cleaning measures will remain in place for next summer. Family crossings with cars can be booked now, and the low deposit offer of €200 remains. irishferries.com

