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VIRTUOSO® TRAVEL ADVISORS REVEAL THEIR TOP DESTINATIONS AND BEST INSIDER TIPS FOR SEAMLESS SUMMER VACATIONS

NEW YORK (June 14, 2017) – A new survey by international luxury travel agency network [Virtuoso®](#) unveiled this summer's must-visit recommendations from professional travel advisors as well as insider tips on how to successfully manage trips during the busy season.

Respondents to the newest Virtuoso Flash Survey revealed their favorite worldwide destinations for the summer of 2017. The love for Europe endures and it factors prominently on the list due to interest in cultural trips. This summer is the ideal time to venture to the continent due to the low euro, and experience:

- A river cruise down the Danube where tucked-away villages and historic highlights converge in countries such as Hungary, Austria and Germany
- Portugal, a less crowded and more affordable option than other Western European destinations
- Iceland, an emerging destination popular for its adventure and family travel opportunities
- Peru's Andean Explorer, the new luxury train
- Ottawa, Canada's capital, to celebrate the country's 150th birthday
- The Galapagos Islands, especially for trips with kids

For those planning on staying closer to home, Virtuoso's expert advisors also shared their picks for best U.S. destinations this summer:

- National parks, especially in the West: Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Zion and Bryce Canyon. Reservations may be difficult this close in, so contact a [travel advisor](#) to plan now.
- Ski destinations such as Park City, Utah or Aspen, which feature great deals on accommodations during the off-season
- A beach vacation: Hawaii is ideal year-round
- Northern Michigan for its scenic parks and lakes, as well as resort communities such as Mackinac Island
- The Bluegrass region of Kentucky, to take in its famed horses, scenic drives and heritage sites
- Maine, with its beaches, recreational opportunities and quaint towns

As well, Virtuoso advisors also revealed their best secrets for traveling successfully during the busy summer season:

- Plan ahead to secure the best airfares and avoid squeezing in a last-minute trip during August before school starts, as this is the busiest time. In fact, it is not too early to start thinking about summer 2018 travel.
- Stay in the least expensive room in the [best hotel](#), and enjoy the enhanced service, amenities and overall experience at a better price point
- Allow a minimum of two hours between connecting flights. The extra layover time may help you make your plane if summer storms wreak havoc on airline schedules.
- Seek off-the-beaten-path destinations for better value and fewer crowds

- Arrive at the airport a minimum of an hour before boarding, not an hour before departure. This is a newer rule and should be heeded during the busy summer season.
- Splurge on a hotel that is closer to the sights and activities you have planned. It will save you precious time and travel costs.
- Book economy seats, but use miles to upgrade to business class
- Arrive at your hotel at check-in time (3:00 pm). You will have more options available then to change your room than later in the day after more guests have arrived.

For more information on Virtuoso, including connecting with a professional travel advisor, please visit www.virtuoso.com.

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About Virtuoso

Virtuoso® is the leading international travel agency network specializing in luxury and experiential travel. This by-invitation-only organization comprises over 800 travel agency partners with more than 15,200 elite travel advisors in over 45 countries throughout North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Middle East. Drawing upon its preferred relationships with 1,700 of the world's best hotels and resorts, cruise lines, airlines, tour companies and premier destinations, the network provides its upscale clientele with exclusive amenities, rare experiences and privileged access. More than (U.S.) \$21.2 billion in annual travel sales makes Virtuoso a powerhouse in the luxury travel industry. For more information, visit www.virtuoso.com.

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