

SE Personal Finance
HD **How to vacation like the super rich; 5 jaunts that cost more than most people earn all year**
BY Catey Hill, MarketWatch
CR MarketWatch; catey.hill@dowjones.com; Catey Hill covers personal finance and travel for MarketWatch in New York. Follow her on Twitter @CateyHill.
WC 1,255 words
PD 27 January 2014
ET 00:31
SN MarketWatch
SC MRKWC
LA English
CY Copyright 2014 MarketWatch, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

LP

If you've got six figures to spare, you can now cruise the mighty Amazon, sip champagne in Monaco, meet the locals in Papua New Guinea and look for cheetahs in Kenya — without ever having to deal with airport security.

TD

The 1% now spend an average of \$14,548 on their vacations per year, according to a survey by research **firm** The Harrison **Group** and American Express Publishing, and an increasing number of them are spending even more: opting for so-called private-jet vacations — trips that take travelers to multiple locales via private jet. "In 2008, these trips almost went away entirely, but now they're making a comeback in a big way," says Mollie Fitzgerald, co-owner of luxury travel **company** Frontiers International Travel. Or as Scott Leviton, the director of guest relations at TCS Expeditions, which offers private-jet trips, puts it, "during the financial crash, business was reduced significantly." There was real fear it wasn't ever going to come back, he says. But now? "It's back," he says.

Indeed, TCS Expeditions' total number of passengers grew from 476 in 2010 to 1,110 in 2013, and it expects even more in 2014 and 2015. Luxury tour operator Abercrombie & Kent reintroduced its private-jet journeys in 2013 (after a four-year hiatus), with around-the-world and Africa-focused itineraries; the **company** says both trips **sold** out in a few weeks. Private-jet travel **company** Lakani World Tours says it has already **sold** out of its around-the-world and two Africa trips for this year and that its Europe trip is already halfway **sold**, less than a week after it began accepting bookings. "The market is growing," says Linda Wischmeyer, president of private-jet travel **firm** Intrav.

As you'd expect, these trips are pricey. TCS Expeditions' roughly three-week around-the-world trip starts at \$69,950 per person, and Lakani's starts at \$96,900; others start at over \$100,000. But travel agents say some of their clients think they're worth every penny. Jason Couvillion, a co-owner of luxury-travel **firm** Bruvion Travel, says that some of his clients think "there isn't a better way to see the world," and Gregorio Palomino, CEO of Cre8ad8 (Create-a-date) Event & Travel Management, which produces events, says that his clients love how these trips remove all the hassle of the airport so they can focus on the destinations.

Still, these trips aren't for everyone. "At the end of the day, you're on a **group** trip with people you don't know," says Fitzgerald; some people, she says, "will want to rent out the entire plane for privacy." And Edgar Estrada, the co-founder of luxury-travel **firm** Element Lifestyle, says that, while for the most part his clients like these trips, some clients wish they'd had more time to spend in certain destinations. And there's a risk you won't like the people you're traveling with.

Despite these potential downsides, these trips are increasingly popular with the 1%. For the fortunate few, the only remaining question is, Where do you want to go?

Here are five posh private-jet trips to consider, or just dream about:

If you want to...see remote parts of the world

On Abercrombie & Kent's trip around the world, a maximum of 50 guests join A&K founder Geoffrey Kent on a customized [Boeing 757-200ER](#) to see some of the "least visited places on earth." Travelers will take a river cruise along the Amazon with a private chef, see the iconic moai statues on Easter **Island**, meet the Huli Wigmen in the rain forests of Papua New Guinea, and see Komodo dragons in Bali, lemurs in Madagascar and cheetahs in Kenya. They'll also visit the Unesco World Heritage **site** of Galle Fort in Sri Lanka, relax on the sugar-sand beaches of Samoa and take a chartered helicopter ride to exclusive Monaco.

Price: \$105,000 per person, double occupancy, 26 days

(Image: Indonesia; Komodo **Island**; Aerial view of beach)

If you want to...experience the South Pacific

[TCS Expeditions bills its "Oceania" trip](#) as "seven of the most beautiful places on the planet in 22 days." Travelers will start and end their vacation in Hawaii, and spend the roughly three weeks traipsing through the South Pacific. They'll take a catamaran journey to the heart-shaped Moorea **island** in French Polynesia, watch farmers shear sheep in Taupo, New Zealand, visit an art museum in Hobart, Tasmania, watch the sea lions on Kangaroo **Island** (dubbed "Australia's Galapagos"), visit an orangutan rehab center in Borneo, and snorkel on Port Vila in Vanuatu. The trip allows a maximum of 78 guests.

Price: \$69,950 per person, double occupancy, 22 days

(Image: Southern Ocean Lodge, Kangaroo **Island**, Australia)

If you want to...explore Africa

[Lakani's small private-jet tour](#) — limited to just 14 travelers — winds its way through Africa. The trip, which begins in Johannesburg, whisks travelers to the Sabi Sand Private Game Reserve, where guests will track lions, leopards and other game, then to Victoria Falls in Zambia (the world's largest waterfall) and the spice plantations on the Zanzibar archipelago. It continues to the 2,000-foot-deep Ngorongoro Crater and Serengeti National **Park** in Tanzania and the ancient deserts of Namibia and concludes in the vibrant city of Cape Town.

Price: \$64,900 per person, double occupancy, 16 days

(Image: Victoria Falls)

If you want to...mix urban and ancient

On [Intrav's "Global Treasures With Legendary Hotels"](#) private-jet tour, guests "explore 10 legendary destinations," the **company** says. In Peru, they'll explore the Old Colonial District of Lima, Cuzco and Machu Picchu. In Brazil, they'll hit Rio de Janeiro and Iguassu Falls, a collection of 275 waterfalls. In Africa, they'll visit Cape Town, track wildlife in Botswana, and see Victoria Falls in Zambia. In Italy, they'll take in the coastal views in Taormina and wander the canals of Venice, and from there they'll **board** the Venice Simplon Orient Express train to London.

Price: \$109,950 per person, double occupancy, 24 days

(Image: Interior of Intrav plane)

If you want to...take in a variety of cultures

[Lakani's "Around-the-World" trip](#) looks much different than A&K's as it's half the size — a maximum of 24 people — and highlights **China**, Singapore and Spain, among other areas. Travelers depart from Seattle and fly to Beijing, where, in addition to seeing sites like The Great Wall and Tiananmen Square, they'll get a private boat ride on Kunming Lake and attend the Beijing Opera; that will be followed by a trip to Singapore. Next up is some R&R on the **island** of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean, followed by a tour of Ethiopia, including the tiny historic town of Lalibela with its 200-plus churches, and a visit to oil-rich Qatar. Travelers will then go to Crete, followed by Seville and Jerez, in Spain.

Price: \$96,900 per person, double occupancy, 22 days

(Image: Plaza de Espana, Seville)

RF 5 jaunts that cost more than most people earn all year. | 103

NS c3141 : Sales Promotions | gpersf : Personal Finance | nadc : Advice | c31 : Marketing | c314 : Pricing |
ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva
Filters | nfcpin : FC&E Industry News Filter

RE victor : Victoria (Australia) | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania | austr : Australia

IPD Personal Finance

PUB Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

AN Document MRKWC00020140121ea1I000xd