

*Last week's edition of Le Weekend had the highest readership figure ever thanks to all our members, Twitter followers and Facebook friends. See below to 'follow' or 'like' us as you see fit!*

*As another ash cloud threatens to possibly disrupt holidays, National Ferry Fortnight is a timely reminder about the ease of getting to France. Now that the exchange rate has recovered a little (£1 = 1.15 Euro at time of writing) its worth reminding ourselves that France has so much to offer. It's not just Paris and the Cote d'Azur!*

**23rd May edition:**

Telegraph/Sunday Telegraph  
Times/Sunday Times  
Independent/Independent on Sunday  
Daily Mail/Mail on Sunday  
Guardian/Observer  
Express/Sunday Express  
Daily Mirror/Sunday Mirror  
The Sun  
Sponsors Advert & ABTOF News

**The Daily Telegraph The Sunday Telegraph**

**THE TIMES THE SUNDAY TIMES**

**Daily Telegraph**

***10 reasons to get away in June***

If you're looking to get away for a break with something attached to it then look no further than the Aix-en-Provence festival. It technically starts on June 22 with an exhibition of short films and The London Symphony Orchestra are topping the bill. As it's actually in June you can book the travel now says Nick Trend. Return travel from London with [www.eurostar.com](http://www.eurostar.com) via Lille.

**CRUISE STYLE SUPPLEMENT**

***Master the art of fine dining***

If you're a lover of Art and fine food that a cruise that takes in ports in the Côte d'Azur has to be for you. Famous artists such as Picasso, Cezanne and Matisse all frequented the region spending time in Nice, Antibes, Cannes etc and paying for lunch by knocking up a quick painting. There are a plethora of restaurants and haunts to visit where you will find the finest foods such as the unusual frog carpaccio. A variety of exhibitions are open throughout the summer showing works of all the famous artists says **Lisa Gerard-Sharp**.

***Rendezvous with War and Peace***

**Pat Richardson** embarks on a cruise north from Paris taking in many sights from Chateau de Versailles, Monet's Garden, Rouen and the Normandy beaches. This really is a river cruise for history lovers be it Louis XIV, the hundred years war or WWII there is something covering it all. Omaha Beach, D-Day, Joan of Arc, Richard the Lionheart you really have it all on this trip with Viking River Cruises.

**ULTRATRAVEL MAGAZINE**

***The results in full...***

The ultratravel 100 awards had two hotels in Paris in the Best City Hotel category. The George V finished as runner-up with the Hotel de Crillon being the winner.

***Travelling life***

French Fashion Designer Roland Mouret reveals he goes back home to the Pyrenees for his holidays, that he likes to eat in a small café in Paris the Café des Musées on the rue Turenne and stays at the Hotel Therese.

**SUNDAY TELEGRAPH**

***Perfect Pitch***

**Jonathan Knight** is the editor of a new guide to French campsites picks out his favourites on the Atlantic Coast of France. They vary in size from 5 to 500 pitches and differing levels of facilities. See <http://bit.ly/perfectpitchtelegraph> for full details

**The Times**

***Travel Doctor***

**Julia Brookes** advises a reader who is travelling to Paris with family and looking for mid price accommodation. Julia suggests Novotel Les Halles or Hotel Langlois as both establishments have rooms that will sleep four. Both cost in the region of £170 a night per room

**Sunday Times**

***Go for it...***

The countdown column highlights that in three weeks you could be enjoying a watersports activity week on Corsica as Mark Warner has just halved the price to £445pp including flights, activities and half board.



***No coverage this week***



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**theguardian The Observer**

**The Guardian**

***No coverage this week***

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## The Independent

### *Float your way to Europe*

**Simon Calder** says why not forget all the hassles of flying this Summer and take the ferry as a foot passenger instead. At least there are no undignified security checks and if you can carry it, you can take it works well. The best bargains include rail travel too. However choices have become more limited since [www.seafrance.com](http://www.seafrance.com) decided to no longer offer the foot passenger service on the Dover-Calais route meaning [www.poferries.com](http://www.poferries.com) could charge a higher rate. Best value however goes to [www.ldlines.co.uk](http://www.ldlines.co.uk) for Newhaven to Dieppe with good rail links at either end. Of course if you want to travel to western Brittany then the best link is from Plymouth to Roscoff with [www.brittanyferries.com](http://www.brittanyferries.com) which again has easy access at either end.

### *My life in travel*

Actress **Fay Ripley** says her first holiday memory was of Port Grimaud where the accommodation was a little basic but in had an amazing beach. Her father had a boat moored there and they used to be able to go for picnics to beaches and coves unreachable by on foot.

## The Independent on Sunday

### *No coverage this week*



## Daily Mirror

### *News-the ferry best way to travel*

A reminder that National Ferry Fortnight is in its second week with a whole raft of offers on the associated website [www.discoverferries.co.uk](http://www.discoverferries.co.uk). Ferry companies in the promotion include [www.brittanyferries.com](http://www.brittanyferries.com), [www.condorferries.co.uk](http://www.condorferries.co.uk), [www.dfds.com](http://www.dfds.com), [www.LDlines.com](http://www.LDlines.com), [www.POferry.com](http://www.POferry.com), and [www.seafrance.com](http://www.seafrance.com)

### *Late deals-under £300*

BA.com are offering two nights B&B in a two star hotel in Nice for £249pp including return flights

## Sunday Mirror

### *Deals of the week*

Trip Advisor is highlighting return flights to Nice from £95



## DAILY MAIL

### *No Coverage this week*

## THE MAIL ON SUNDAY

### *Messing about on the Dordogne*

**Philippa Gregory** takes an activity holiday in the Dordogne where she canoes, cycles and eats plenty of wonderful food. You don't have to be experienced to enjoy the canoeing as it is easy to pick up when the river flows a little quicker not much effort is required either. Your map guides you along from one place to the next where you moor up and stay overnight. Fortunately your luggage has already been delivered for you and you get rest days to go off and explore by bike the likes of the ancient caves with their paintings and carvings and the troglodyte history. If you like foie gras and walnuts you'll find plenty in this area as they are part of the staple diet of food which is as rich as it is wonderful. Philippa took an eight night half board self drive break with [www.headwater.com](http://www.headwater.com).



## Daily Express

### *No coverage this week*

## Sunday Express

### *France's perfect encore*

**William Hartston** travels to the Dordogne for a music, food and wine appreciation holiday with [www.orpheusandbacchus.com](http://www.orpheusandbacchus.com). During the week long stay there were classical concerts every evening with a varied selection of talented musicians and outings during the day (wine tasting, canoeing etc..) which made it a holiday par excellence for classical music fans. William revelled in the chance to mix freely with the musicians (many of whom had won BBC young musician of the year ) as well as hearing them play. The concerts and accommodation all took place in a 17th century manor house and specially converted outbuildings. Dinner with wines and breakfasts were all included and a renowned chef was brought in from Germany to provide the high class catering

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### In this issue

- Last minute half term only £6pppn from Wake Up in France
- Cycling in the Loire costs less with Lagrange
- Matthews widens August offers
- Black diamonds aren't forever
- Cycling in Savoie
- Early offers for ski season 2011/12

### Last Minute Bargains for Half Term – less than £6 per person per night.

Les Mas de St Hilaire holiday residence, with its heated swimming pool and nearby sandy beach is our most popular destination. We have a small number of villas still available for May half term, which we are offering at very special prices. One week from 28th May in a two bedroom, 5-person villa at Les Mas de St Hilaire has been further reduced to only £203 (per villa). Further information from [www.WakeupinFrance.co.uk](http://www.WakeupinFrance.co.uk) or tel. 01484 680855.

### Explore the Chateaux of the Loire by Bike

The Loire Valley is a land of fairy tale castles and hamlets, easy to explore by bicycle or on foot. From Azay le Rideau, families can visit the nearby chateaux, villages and gardens on one of the themed cycling circuits and walking paths. Seven nights anytime between 30/07 and 20/08 in a two bedroom holiday house at Residence Les Jardins Renaissance, with tennis court, swimming pool and bike storage, is only £716 in total through Lagrange Holidays (020 7371 6111, [www.lagrange-holidays.co.uk](http://www.lagrange-holidays.co.uk)). Press contact: Rebecca Maffeis (020 7371 6111, [rmaffeis@lagrange-holidays.co.uk](mailto:rmaffeis@lagrange-holidays.co.uk)).

**Additional August availability released for the Awesome August Specials.** Great value holidays at £639 per week or £899 for 10 nights – holidays starting between 20th July and 10th August. Prices are per family for up to six people in a 2 bedroom mobile home. Swimming pools and waterslides, childrens activities & evening entertainment are included. This is great value for families on a budget. Ferries can be added for a supplement. Matthews Holidays ([www.matthewsfrance.co.uk](http://www.matthewsfrance.co.uk)) mobile homes to on 4\* campsites mostly by the sea. Press Contact: Iris Matthews - Tel: 01483 284044 or [iris@matthewsholidays.ltd.uk](mailto:iris@matthewsholidays.ltd.uk)

**Taste the unusual 'Black Diamond' Mushroom on a Cruise though Provence!** Take a cruise aboard European Waterways' luxury 12-passenger hotel barge 'Napoleon' and delight in unusual and exciting excursions through beautiful Provence. Passengers will have the chance to visit a Roman aqueduct, tour the home of Vincent Van Gogh, and visit olive oil and truffle farms where they will taste the unusual 'Black Diamond' – an extremely rare and exquisite black mushroom! Prices for an all inclusive 6 night cruise aboard 'Napoleon' start from £3,200pp in an air-conditioned, en suite cabin and from £31,500 for a full boat charter. The price includes gourmet meals, fine wines, an open bar, all excursions and local transfers. European Waterways are currently offering 25% off the charter price for selected departure dates in July and August.

**Cycling is one of the most popular sports in the world:** whether you are looking for steep mountain roads or gentle meanders along country lanes, the varied countryside of Savoie Mont Blanc has something for everyone. Savoie Mont Blanc has dedicated a press pack a selection of cycling accommodation, holiday packages, events... including the dates of the annual passage of the Tour de France, which this year celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Col du Galibier on the Tour (21-22 July). [www.savoie-mont-blanc.com](http://www.savoie-mont-blanc.com) - Press section

### EARLY BIRD SKI OFFERS

**Early season booking offer** - Fully catered holidays from only £249pp with free Transfers on all catered bookings for arrival on the 10/11th December in La Plagne and La Rosiere and up to 25% off all lift passes ! Come and celebrate the start of the season with Mountain Heaven Ltd at incredible prices, in fact it may be cheaper than staying at home! See [www.mountainheaven.co.uk](http://www.mountainheaven.co.uk) or call 0151 625 1921

**Christmas Skiing Offer** – up to 10 nights for the price of 7 nights in both our catered chalets and self-catered apartments – arrive between the 17 and 18th of December and you don't need to leave until the 26/27th December all at no extra cost! We have great snow secure locations all very close to the piste and lifts – and for the first 5 whole chalet catered bookings we will include a free transfer and of course on Christmas day we do all the work for you – a fully Christmas dinner ! see [www.mountainheaven.co.uk](http://www.mountainheaven.co.uk) or call 0151 625 1921



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