

15 of the best NEW SOLO TOURS

Solo travellers have a wealth of new tours to choose from this year and next. **Joanna Booth** picks out some of the most exciting trips to sell

Going solo is booming. Research by hotel group Accor suggests a quarter of Brits plan to travel solo this year, and while some will be happy to head off completely unaccompanied, many prefer the security and ease of a group tour.

Take inspiration from these new itineraries for 2025 and 2026, with dedicated solo departures along with regular tours that are popular with solo travellers.

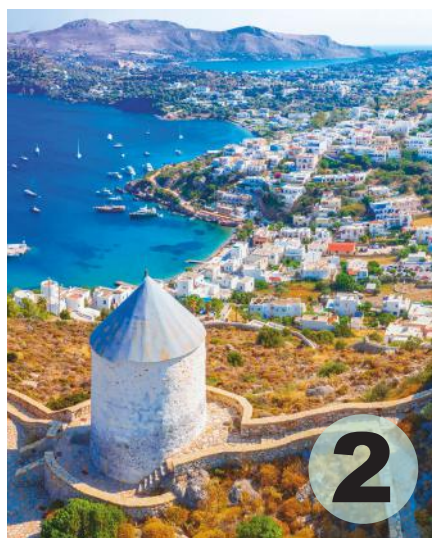


1 Wild adventures in Costa Rica

There'll be many magical, memorable moments to share with fellow guests on this specifically-for-solos tour from Riviera Travel – spotting sloths and toucans in Tortuguero National Park, crossing cloud forest canopy walkways with views of Arenal Volcano and taking tours of coffee and cocoa plantations. Costa Rica manages to be both spectacularly wild and reassuringly well organised, so it's a great choice for newcomers to adventure travel, particularly as this itinerary comes with a three-day beach stay at the end.

Book it: The 13-day Costa Rica for Solo Travellers starts from £6,299 including sole-occupancy accommodation, flights, transfers, guiding, experiences and some meals.

rivieratravel.co.uk



2 Great-value Greek islands

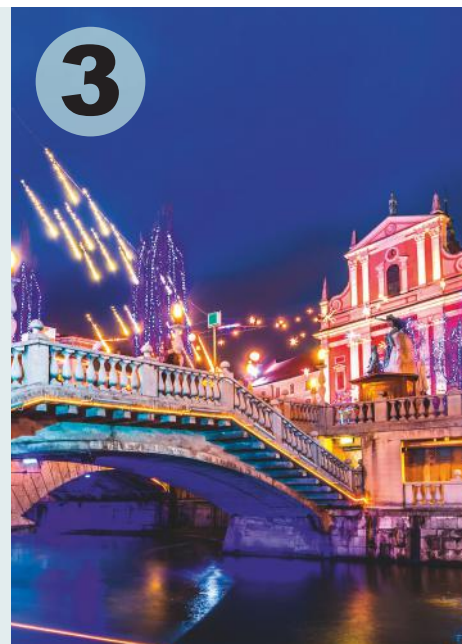
No rushing is required on this two-week itinerary visiting Rhodes and Leros, with plenty of leisure days. Hotels are booked on an all-inclusive basis, so clients can join fellow guests for dinner with no awkwardness over the bill. Most excursions are included as well – to Rhodes Town and the island's quiet rural villages, and to discover both the historic sights and local produce of Leros. Optional trips to Lindos and Symi can be added.

Book it: Just Go Holidays' 14-night Jewels of the Greek Islands – Going Solo starts from £1,899 including flights, transfers, all-inclusive sole-occupancy accommodation, ferry crossings, excursions and guiding. justgoholidays.com

3 Christmas in Slovenia

Going away alone over the festive period can be challenging, but not if clients join one of Newmarket Holidays' Exclusively for Solos trips, where everyone is in the same boat. And few corners of Europe are more picturesque in the snow than Slovenia. Staying in the alpine beauty of Kranjska Gora, day trips will visit pint-sized capital Ljubljana and fairytale Bled for their festive markets. Christmas Day is suitably celebratory too, thanks to a festive lunch.

Book it: Newmarket Holidays' six-day Christmas in the Slovenian Alps starts from £2,080 including flights, sole-occupancy accommodation, many meals, excursions and guiding. newmarketholidays.co.uk





On the ground in Greenland

The majority of Greenland trips are cruises, where single supplements can be punchy. But this Intrepid Travel tour is land-based and hiking-focused, and though this isn't a dedicated departure, it's proving popular with solos. Long, midnight-sun-lit days are spent exploring the epic wilderness around Nuuk and Ilulissat, even heading over to little-visited Disko Island to hike on Lyngmark Glacier, with accommodation in a remote, mountain-top cabin. Clients can pay £755 extra for their own room or share a twin room with another solo traveller.

Book it: The 10-day Greenland Expedition starts from £5,070 including room-share accommodation, guiding, many activities and meals, plus flights and transport within Greenland. International flights excluded. intrepidtravel.com



Solo safari in South Africa

Half of G Adventures' clients travel solo and its 'Solo-ish' trips feature complimentary transfers for stress-free arrivals, communal dinners and activities to help connect with other guests, reduced single supplements and 'me days' that allow space from the group. They're also guided by female trip leaders. This itinerary includes a safari in Kruger – pricey to do alone – plus time to enjoy Cape Town, hiking on Table Mountain, kayaking at Boulders Beach and a cooking class in Bo-Kaap.

Book it: The 10-day Solo-ish South Africa costs £1,987 for a June 19 departure including room-share accommodation, guiding, many activities and meals, plus flights within South Africa. International flights excluded. gadventures.com



Women power in Peru

Women-only tours such as this Insight Vacations Peru itinerary attract a lot of solo travellers. This version visits Machu Picchu by rail, rather than a trek. It's still action-packed, with a cultural tour in Lima, a visit to Quechua weavers in the Sacred Valley and a private tour of Cusco's planetarium. Clients can catch their breath on two days at leisure.

Book it: The 10-day Peru with Machu Picchu starts from £5,778, including sole-occupancy accommodation, guiding, many activities and meals, plus flights and transport within Peru. insightvacations.com

Monet mini break

A short break lets clients dip their toes into holidaying solo, and this trip to northern France with Shearings doesn't require a huge commitment of time or money. Rooms for sole use come as standard, so guests will have space as well as plenty of activities, including visits to Versailles, Monet's Garden in Giverny and Rouen, where there's time at leisure to explore the medieval quarter and cathedral.

Book it: The four-day Rouen and Monet's Garden for Solo Travellers starts from £599, including coach travel, sole-occupancy accommodation with breakfast and activities. shearings.com



Historical sights of the US

No fear of being the only solo here – Just You only caters to those travelling alone, and this itinerary lets clients check off a host of East Coast historical highlights. Explore Washington DC, visit Thomas Jefferson's magnificent home Monticello, discover living history at Colonial Williamsburg and see the sights of the nation's first capital, Philadelphia. Much is programmed, but there are free afternoons. Three-night extensions to New York are available.

Book it: The nine-day America's Historic Trail starts from £4,349 including flights, sole-occupancy accommodation, guiding and many excursions and meals. justyou.co.uk



PICTURES: Shutterstock/Zbigniew Wyzomski, SL-Photography; Tim Chan; Capital Region USA

Reach new heights in the Lake District

Keen hikers can summit no fewer than 13 of the highest 'Wainwrights' – the Lake District fells (hills) that gained their name after being included in Alfred Wainwright's landmark guide – in one weekend on this trip with Ramble Worldwide. Staying in a country house on the shores of Buttermere and with no single supplement to worry about, long days of walking – up to 12 miles a day – are followed by complimentary tea and cake, home-cooked meals and perhaps a pint with fellow hikers.

Book it: The Wainwright Bagging Weekend Adventure starts from £499 for three nights' including full-board, sole-occupancy accommodation and guided walks.
rambleworldwide.co.uk



ANDANTE TRAVELS

Small, expert-led group tours to discover Ancient Civilisations from across the world – offering the very best archaeological and historical experiences in Worldwide locations. From Egyptian culture, the magnificent Roman Empire, the mysteries of Easter island, these holidays give you a glimpse through a window into the past...

- Guided Lecturers on every tour who make sure guests get the most out of every visit
- Meticulously planned itineraries by our expert team
- We keep it small with a maximum group size of 18
- We have 40 years of offering immersive experiences
- 60% repeat booking rate!

For more information about Andante Travels contact
Claire Dutton - Trade Sales Manager:
clairedutton@specialistjourneys.com

andantetravels.co.uk





Albania's coastal trails

Three-quarters of guests on Explore's original walking itinerary in Albania were travelling solo last year, so those booking this year's hiking holiday in Europe's flavour-of-the-moment destination will no doubt have a similar ratio. It focuses on the beautiful Adriatic coast, with walks between quiet beaches, among alpine meadows and forests, and through charming villages. Hotels are comfortable, and a supplement of £350 secures a sole-occupancy room. **Book it:** The eight-day Walking Albania's Coastal Trails starts from £1,175 including room-share accommodation with breakfast, guided hikes and transport within Albania. International flights not included. explore.co.uk

See every side of Sardinia

This history-rich, solos-only trip with Jules Verne will suit clients who like a classic escorted tour with plenty of guided sightseeing – they'll visit the Roman city of Tharros, medieval Alghero and Cagliari, and some fascinating prehistoric tombs and megaliths. In more relaxed moments, there's wine tasting and the beaches of Costa Smeralda and the Maddalena islands. **Book it:** The eight-night Sea and Sardinia for Solo Travellers starts from £2,575 including flights, sole-occupancy accommodation, guided sightseeing and many meals. vjv.com



PICTURES: Unsplash/Jürgen Scheeff; Explore/Gent Mali

Small groups, big benefits

For over 45 years, we have loved creating unforgettable travel experiences for your clients, in small groups and accompanied by knowledgeable local guides.

Why book with Jules Verne...

- 150+ tours and cruises across 75 countries
- Small Groups - average group size 10-16
- Expert locals guides
- Regional flying options available
- Flight Inclusive prices
- No Single Supplements available on selected departures and dates
- Tours start from £995pp for 7 nights including flights

Spring Sale now on!

Save up to £1,650pp

Book before 11 April 2025

Visit vjv.com/offers for more details



vjv.com
020 3993 6042

Jules Verne
Pioneering small group journeys since 1978



SOLO TOURS

Tailored trip to Vietnam

Vietnam is a magnet for solo travellers and Exoticca's new itinerary gives them the security and seamless organisation of a group tour, but with plenty of scope to customise the trip to suit their needs. Clients can choose between 'charm' (budget), superior or luxury level hotels, and can top up the included excursions by adding optional activities or explore at their own leisure. The comprehensive route takes in Ho Chi Minh, Hue, Hoi An, Hanoi, Halong Bay (with a night on board a traditional junk boat) and Sapa.

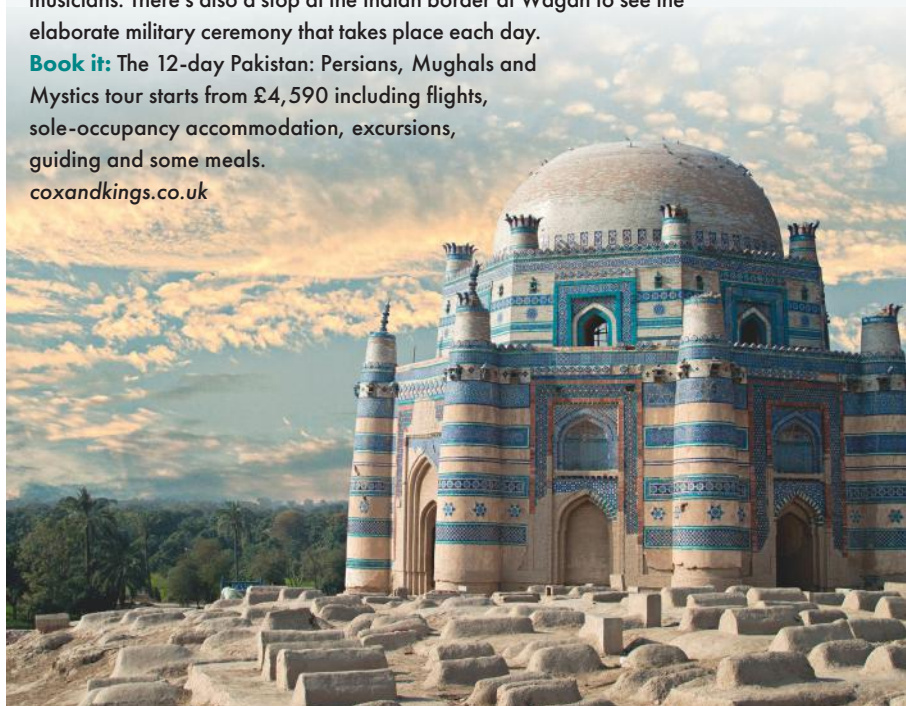
Book it: The 14-day tour, From Ho Chi Minh to Sapa, Vietnam's Wonder, starts from £2,359 including all flights, transfers, sole-occupancy accommodation, activities as well as some meals.
exoticca.com



Pakistan with an expert

Many of Cox & Kings' expert-led tours are popular with solos, but this Pakistan option is a particular hit and now has a revamped itinerary that includes Islamabad and Taxila. Guided by a lecturer specialising in the history of the Islamic world, this tour explores the legacy of the Mughal dynasty stretching back to the 16th century, visiting forts, tombs, mosques and museums, enlivened by interactions with local artisans and musicians. There's also a stop at the Indian border at Wagah to see the elaborate military ceremony that takes place each day.

Book it: The 12-day Pakistan: Persians, Mughals and Mystics tour starts from £4,590 including flights, sole-occupancy accommodation, excursions, guiding and some meals.
coxandkings.co.uk



PICTURES: Shutterstock/THY Italia, Dong Nhat Huy



Italy with extras

Italy is one of Trafalgar's bestsellers with solos. This new itinerary visits big-hitting destinations – Rome, Venice, Florence, Sorrento, Capri and Pompeii – but it goes beyond the surface-level sights. Travellers can enjoy in-depth, interactive excursions that range from watching glassblowers in Venice and leatherworkers in Florence to dining with a local family in a Tuscan vineyard. Much is included but there is free time too, which can be filled with optional excursions or put aside for independent exploration.

Book it: The 10-day Real Italy starts from £2,685 including sole-occupancy accommodation, many guided excursions and some meals.
trafalgar.com



Jordan in depth

Exodus Adventure Travels' classic week-long tour in Jordan is among its top sellers with solos, so this itinerary is likely to also prove a hit. It ticks off a host of Unesco-listed sites – not only headliners Petra and Wadi Rum, but also the frescoes of Qasr Amra and the trading town of As-Salt. Travellers can soak in the Dead Sea, explore Crusader castles and spot birdlife in a wetland reserve. It's action-packed but not particularly physical, so would suit culture seekers as well as those in search of adventure.

Book it: The 12-day Jordan: Culture & Nature In Depth starts from £2,629 including sole-occupancy accommodation, guided activities and some meals.
exodus.co.uk