



Choosing Steppes



STEPPES TRAVEL





CHOOSING STEPPEES.

You're reading this because you're contemplating booking a holiday with Steppes Travel, a company recognised by Conde Nast Traveller as one of the leading specialist tour operators in the world (2023).

We hope you like what you've seen and heard so far; but to help you with decision making we thought we'd share with you why our clients choose to travel with us time and time again, and why nine out of ten Steppes Travellers would recommend us to their family and friends...



Our Insatiable Love of Travel

For over 30 years we've put everything into making sure our knowledge, expertise and passion combine to create extraordinary travel experiences for our clients, wherever in the world they want to go.

We're perfectly placed to deliver holidays tailored exactly to your requirements, bolstered by our experience, understanding and respect for local customs and the 'ins and outs' of the world's destinations.

Our Unrivalled Expertise

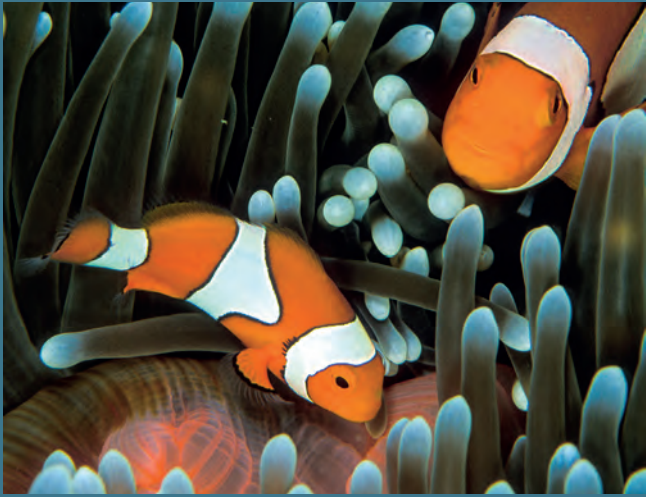
Our people are our brilliance. Our globally recognised team of Travel Experts live and breathe their destinations, continuously exploring, learning and refining their knowledges to provide clients with insight and expertise born from real experiences.

Speaking to them provides an immediate and intimate connection with destination and accommodation that brochures cannot match; curating and suggesting travel experiences that will ignite your passions and turn new and long held dreams into reality.





*“Use a guide,
not a guidebook”*
that’s our mantra.



Our Constant Curiosity. Our Professional Pride

We're constantly seeking out those "little things" that will make your trip a holiday like no other. The "most interesting", the "up and coming", the "new". It's not just about the place, it's about style; reliability; nuance; texture and taste. We want to excite and enthrall. To surprise and delight.

Why? We have a reputation to defend. A reputation built over time. We care about your holiday; your experience. Your experience with us will become part of our history. We want to ensure it's a great one.

The Access to Excellence

We always work to provide you with the best in-destination guides available; guides that can make your holiday come alive, that can deliver knowledge and insight; that can help you beat the queues, save you time, see behind the scenes, break down barriers, take the best photographs and, most importantly, create the memories you seek.





There and Back Again: A Team You Can Trust

We're with you every step of the way. Steppes Travellers explore every corner of our planet and, in an often-changing world, getting you there and bringing you home is always foremost in our thinking.

Should you want to change your itinerary before you go, or should something unexpected happen whilst you're away, we're on hand 24/7 to support you, allowing you to enjoy an assurance that standard holiday bookings cannot bring.

Our Stubborn Independence

We stand alone; one of the last truly independent tour operators. The itineraries we create and the experiences we deliver are curated by us for you and not by a corporate agenda. We look at what's out there: the good, the bad and the ugly, and we make decisions based on what we know and what you want.

We won't be bribed or bought and always seek to carve our own path, fearlessly protecting that position and making our stand. We think you'd prefer it that way.







Combining Real Value With Utmost Care

We're smart with how you spend. Our team works in the knowledge that whilst you're looking for something extraordinary from your holiday, you're also wanting to get best value along the way.

Your Travel Expert will always seek to find the best hotels to match your budget, search for the best prices on flights, give you a nudge about exclusive offers and add in little benefits, like protection from exchange rate fluctuations.

And let's be honest: We want you to become one of our regular travellers. We want you to say good things about us and to recommend us whenever you can. Rest assured we'll be doing everything we can to make sure that you do.

Our Fight For Travel

Travel is increasingly under pressure. Its impact on climate change, the problem of over tourism and the disparity of wealth dominate the headlines. We believe in travel as a force for good; in travel that helps protect and conserve; that creates opportunity; that supports and celebrates diversity in culture, in flora and in fauna. That gives more than takes; that brings people forward and makes memories for all; that builds community and fellowship; travel that's an investment in emotional wealth.

This is our kind of travel. This is the travel we fight for; and when you travel with Steppes you travel in the knowledge that you're supporting that fight and that we're doing all we can to ensure that the impact of your holiday is a positive one.



A large colony of penguins, likely Adelies, is gathered on a snowy, icy cliff. One penguin is captured mid-jump, diving into the dark blue water below. The scene is set against a backdrop of a cloudy sky and a rocky shore.

DISCOVERING EXTRAORDINARY

Steppes was created to make exploring the world's little-known and 'off-the-beaten-track' experiences easier and more accessible. We exist to make a big world smaller: turning holiday makers into explorers, tourists into travellers and the ordinary into the exceptional.

Your itinerary is designed to cast aside the everyday, to conjure unique and captivating moments that few will ever experience. To give you a holiday like no other; to leave you wanting more.



STEPPE IN NUMBERS

We send our clients to over

100

destinations worldwide.

It's easier to say where we don't sell.

Over

70%

of our clients choose to book with us
again and again. We're proud of that.

Over

400

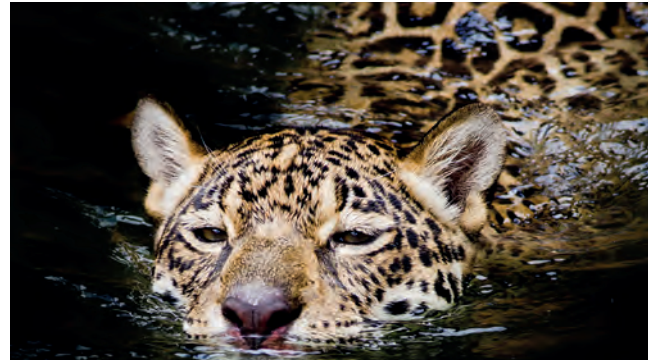
years spent in travel .
We're keen travellers.

DON'T JUST TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

Italy

“Having been delighted customers for more than 20 years, it meant a great deal to us to plan our first post-pandemic travels with the Steppes team. As always – fantastic advice and support from the whole team, and a total pleasure planning our trip with you. We needed a bit of time to feel ready to go ahead and book, and really appreciated the patience and genuine understanding of Kate and Amy while we got there.”

★★★★★



India

“The logistics of our recent trip to India were exceptional – everyone was extremely helpful, attentive and courteous. Our guides and drivers were clearly a cut above many of the other jeeps we saw, who appeared to be merely going through the motions. Ours were constantly striving to find leopards and get good views – and they succeeded on many occasions. Himanshu even invited us to his home for a cooking lesson! Thanks for your professionalism and diligence in putting this trip together – it made all the difference.”

★★★★★

Kenya

“It was amazing that, within our short week, we had two quite different experiences. Plenty of game in the Mara and in Samburu, we had opportunities to learn more about the culture from our excellent Samburu guide (at 33, a “junior elder”), who was mentoring a young warrior, and in a beading session with three of the local women, the ladies were surprised to learn that my husband had only one wife!”

★★★★★



Vietnam

“As first time travellers to this region we needed to feel confident that the consultant had a thorough insight and could match our requirements to a customised itinerary. Clare Higginson was excellent throughout. Very knowledgeable, listened to what was important for us and crafted a holiday which matched what we wanted.”



Antarctica

“We were blown away by Sue’s in-depth knowledge of everything from endemic species to the history of Shackleton and his men. No question we had went unanswered, and no little detail was missed.”



Uzbekistan

“A very informed and patient dialogue led us to the itinerary that best suited us – tremendous value that we will heartily recommend to friends and colleagues! Our guides were brilliant – friendly, flexible and well-informed. We came back with 3,000 photos between us, and a rucksack full of local crafts!”



Chile

“I like to deal with companies who have integrity and are more than just the cost. That includes using local independents where possible, even if the cost is slightly higher – Steppes would be my choice for any future holiday. When our trip was looking a little more expensive than we wanted, Paul was good at understanding where we were happy to spend our money.”



THE WORLD AWAITS...

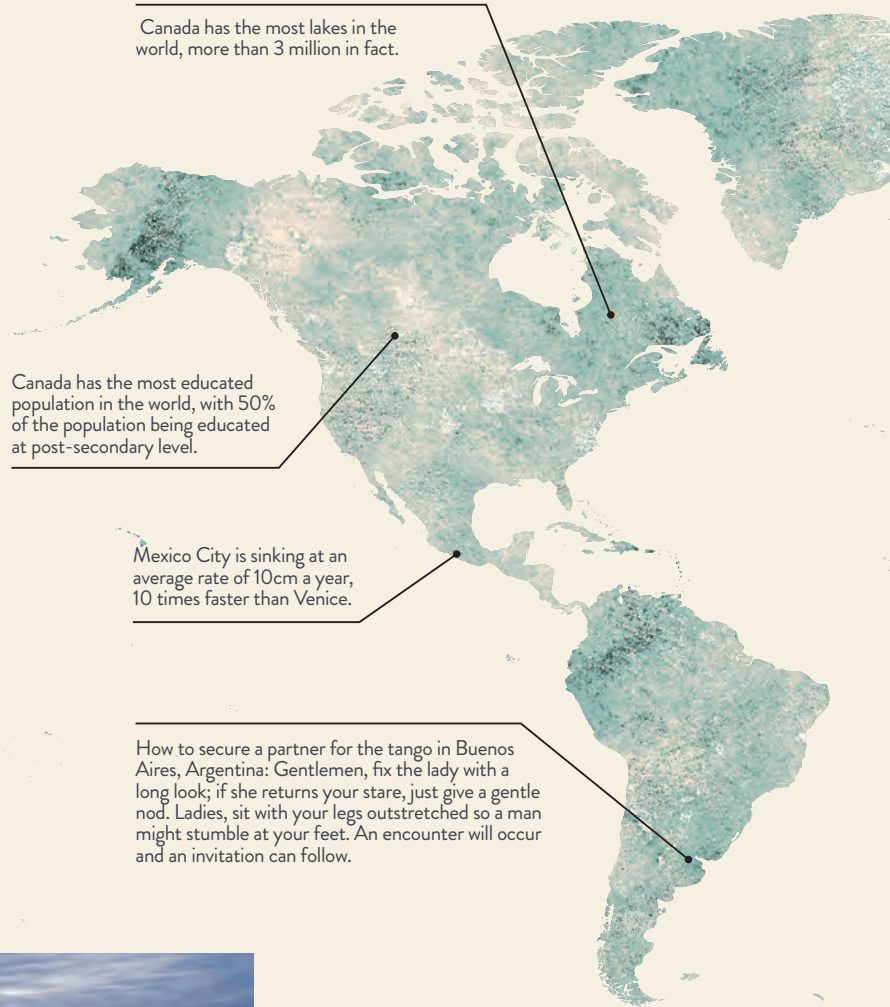


The health benefits of travel are almost immediate. After only a day or two, 89% of people experience significant drops in stress.

Couples who travel together have reported increased feelings of intimacy. Time for a second honeymoon?



Canada has the most lakes in the world, more than 3 million in fact.



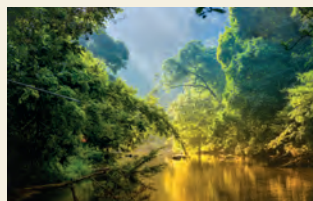
Canada has the most educated population in the world, with 50% of the population being educated at post-secondary level.

Mexico City is sinking at an average rate of 10cm a year, 10 times faster than Venice.

How to secure a partner for the tango in Buenos Aires, Argentina: Gentlemen, fix the lady with a long look; if she returns your stare, just give a gentle nod. Ladies, sit with your legs outstretched so a man might stumble at your feet. An encounter will occur and an invitation can follow.



All the money that is tossed into Rome's Trevi Fountain is collected each night and donated to multiple charities.



The Republic of Congo has its very own Loch Ness Monster, known as the "Mokelembembe", which is said to inhabit the Congo River.



Sudan is home to more pyramids than Egypt, but they are smaller and more angular in their design.



Russia produces the most oxygen in the world.



Mongolia is the least densely populated place in the world. There are four people per square mile.



Although it spans five different time zones all of China operates on Beijing time.

The world's deepest underwater mailbox lies 10m deep below the surface of Susami Bay, Japan.

Mt Everest, Nepal – the highest point on earth – is continuing to grow at an estimated 4mm a year.

Papua New Guinea has the largest number of languages spoken.

India is the most diverse country in the world. In almost every category – culturally, economically, climatically, racially, linguistically, ethnically, and religiously India is either the most diverse country in the world, or the runner-up.

The wildebeest migration in East Africa is so vast that it is equivalent to the populations of Newcastle and Liverpool trading places on a yearly basis.

The DRC is home to three of the four gorilla subspecies – the most in Africa.



Taumatawhakatangi-hangakoauauotamatea-turipukapikimaunga-horonukupokaiwhenua-uakitanatahu is a hill in Taumata, New Zealand and the longest place name on Earth.

READY TO TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPPEES?

You've started your journey by speaking to one of our Travel Experts. You've got the ball rolling. So, what's next?

It couldn't be easier. Your Travel Expert will start creating an itinerary tailored to you and start putting your plans into action. Once you've confirmed with them that the holiday they've put together is one you've been dreaming of, you'll receive a booking form to complete and a 30% deposit* to pay.

You can make changes to your itinerary at any point, whether that be an additional night somewhere or a new experience that crops up. Your Travel Expert will be more than happy to help. Twelve weeks before you travel, you'll be asked to pay the remaining balance for your holiday.

You'll be granted access to our exclusive Steppes Travel app two weeks before your departure. It'll give you all the information you're going to need for your trip, even when you're offline. You'll find a copy of your final itinerary, our handy 'Know before you go' document and any flight tickets you may have. Your dedicated Travel Expert will give you a friendly call a couple of days before you leave to run through any last minute questions you may have and to make sure your itinerary is exactly as expected.

While you're away, you can rest assured knowing that you'll have access to our team 24/7. With our emergency hotline, we're here to alleviate your concerns and solve any problems that may arise on your journey.

On your return, your Travel Expert will call you to find out how your trip went and will send you a Post Travel Questionnaire for some much-appreciated feedback.

*30% deposit is payable on bookings at least 12 weeks out. If your departure is less than 12 weeks away, full payment is required when booking.



SteppesTravel

Share your journey with us

#mysteppes



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