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Jet set, **go**

Is an around-the-world tour part of your bucket list? And it goes without saying, that if you are going to be a Phileas Fogg-esque traveller, you must do it in the ultimate style — in the comfort of a private jet.

Travel experts say despite the economic slowdown, the super rich aren't compromising on their love for round-the-world tours. So in 2014, luxe travel outfits have cashed in on this trend and are offering private jet trips with unique itineraries and, of course, luxury accommodation. Here's a selection of four top trips that will begin towards the end of this year or the start of next year. However, as seats are limited (and fast filling up!), you'd be smart to book one quickly.

COMPILED BY YASHODEEP SENGUPTA



What: Intrav Timeless Destinations — A journey around the world

When: September 8 – October 2, 2014 (25 days)

How much: Starting from \$99,950 (around Rs 61.52 lakh) per person on double occupancy

How many: 50 guests

Jet: Customised Boeing 757-200ER which is "world's only all-first-class private jet"

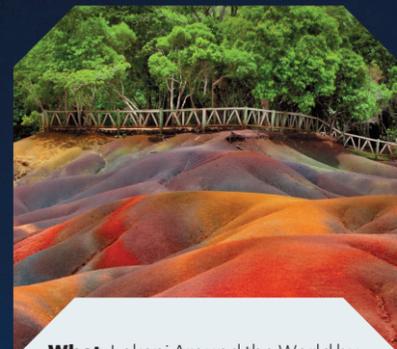
Destinations: Starts and ends in Fort Lauderdale, USA. From there it's off to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Easter Island, Chile; Bora Bora, French Polynesia; Sydney, Australia; Yangon and Bagan, Myanmar; Agra and Jaipur, India; Istanbul, Turkey; Marrakech, Morocco

Watch out for:

- ▶ An elephant polo match in Jaipur under a shower of fireworks
- ▶ Paragliding atop the picture perfect Pedra Bonita, Rio de Janeiro
- ▶ A 360° view of the scintillating harbour from atop the Sydney Harbour Bridge
- ▶ Snorkelling in the jade lagoon of Bora Bora
- ▶ A horse drawn carriage tour through the famed Majorelle gardens of Marrakech

Inclusions: Five-star accommodation, preferred seating in jet for early birds, complimentary iPad Minis for guests, meals as in itinerary, guided excursions, surface and jet transfers, insurance, 24x7 concierge service and more.

Contact: www.intravjet.com



What: Lakani Around the World by Private Jet 2014

When: October 6 – October 28, 2014 (23 days)

How much: Starting from \$96,900 (around Rs 59.65 lakh) per person on double occupancy

How many: 24 guests

Jet: All-business class Airbus Corporate Jet

Destinations: Starts in Washington, D.C, USA, and ends in Boston USA; Beijing and Tianjin, China; Singapore; Mauritius; Addis Ababa and Lalibela, Ethiopia; Doha, Qatar; Island of Crete, Greece; Seville and Jerez, Spain

Watch out for:

- ▶ The Seven Coloured Earths — a rare sand dune formation of different sand colours — in Mauritius
- ▶ Exclusive access to the priceless treasures housed in the Chonghua Palace, Beijing
- ▶ An excursion by 4WD jeeps over the massive sand dunes and dinner at a private Bedouin camp at Doha
- ▶ The ruins of Knossos Palace, the largest Bronze Age archaeological site on Crete
- ▶ Sherry-making and sherry-tasting at Jerez

Inclusions: Luxury accommodation in St Regis properties, small group guided tours, all meals, cultural interactions, personal concierge aboard private jet, exclusive 'worry-free' luggage service and more

Contact: www.lakani.com



What: Smithsonian Journeys Around the World by Private Jet

When: September 30 – October 22, 2014 (23 days)

How much: Starting from \$70,950 (Around Rs 43.67 lakh) per person on double occupancy

How many: 78 guests

Jet: Customised Boeing 757

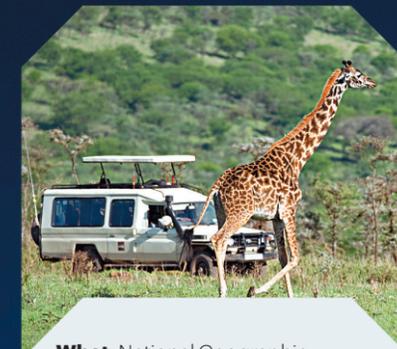
Destinations: Starts and ends in Florida, USA. From there it's off to Lima, Cusco and Machu Picchu, Peru; Easter Island; Apia, Samoa; The Great Barrier Reef, Australia; Angkor Wat, Cambodia; Agra and Jaipur, India; The Serengeti Plain, Tanzania; Luxor, The Pyramids and The Sphinx, Egypt; Fez, Morocco

Watch out for:

- ▶ UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Machu Picchu, Great Barrier Reef, Easter Islands and more
- ▶ The ruins of Ta Prohm at Angkor Thom, Cambodia
- ▶ Gala Rajasthani dinner and traditional entertainment at Taj Rambagh Palace, Jaipur
- ▶ A thrilling safari at the Serengeti National Park, Tanzania
- ▶ A choice of alternative destinations — The North Coast, Peru; The Daintree Rain Forest, Australia and more

Inclusions: Luxury accommodation, meals as in itinerary, guided excursions, all transfers, enrichment programmes including lectures, all taxes, insurance and more.

Contact: www.smithsonianjourneys.org



What: National Geographic Expeditions Around the World by Private Jet

When: January 22 – February 14, 2015 (24 days)

How much: Starting from \$72,950 (around Rs 44.93 lakh) per person on double occupancy

How many: 77 guests

Jet: VIP-configured Boeing 757

Destinations: Starts and ends at Washington, D.C, USA; Lima, Cusco and Machu Picchu, Peru; Easter Island, Chile; Apia, Samoa; The Great Barrier Reef, Australia; Angkor, Cambodia; Chengdu, Lhasa and Tibet, China; Agra, India; Tanzania; The Lost City of Petra, Jordan; Marrakech, Morocco

Watch out for:

- ▶ 12 UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Machu Picchu, Angkor Wat and the lost city of Petra
- ▶ A team of experts — anthropologists, photographers, naturalist and so on — who will share their insights with you during the trip
- ▶ Snorkelling among rainbow-colored corals at The Great Barrier Reef
- ▶ A cruise to floating villages on Tonle Sap lake at Angkor
- ▶ A descent into the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania to observe the permanent population of almost 25,000 animals

Inclusions: Deluxe accommodation, meals, taxes, transfers, lectures, insurance, excursions and more.

Contact: www.nationalgeographicexpeditions.com

