

Taking off

► GET TO THE GREEK

Glories of Greece, a seven-day all inclusive tour of the ancient country, covers all the greatest hits: the Acropolis above Athens, featuring the remains of the Parthenon and Porch of the Caryatids, *right*; the Temple of Apollo at Delphi; Olympia, birthplace of the Olympic Games; and the monasteries of Meteora. You can even meet a local chef for an introduction to Greek cooking. It departs on June 13 and costs €1,679 pp. insightvacations.com



◀ SPAIN WITHOUT PAIN

Majorca Direct is a new website specialising in hand-picked, direct-booking rentals in the Balearic island. Its aim is to cater for tourists who want to live like a local, connecting holidaymakers directly with the owners/agents of beach villas, countryside fincas, seaside apartments and townhouses in Majorca's historic centre. There are no booking fees and about 2,000 properties to choose from. majorcadirect.com





▲ STAY HUNGARY

Get away this Paddy's day with a mini-trip to beautiful Budapest. Fly out on March 17 and instead of drinking green beer, you could be relaxing in the Széchenyi baths, *above*. You can stay at the four-star Hotel Mediterran for three nights on a room-only basis for €269 per person, including return flights from Dublin. clickandgo.com

▼ FULL CYCLE

After exploring the design, getting your hygge on and eating foraged food, cycling is a must-do activity in Copenhagen: the Danish capital has 350km of well-marked cycle paths along the coast and into the countryside. Freedom Treks' four-night Copenhagen & Beyond tour includes trips to Køge, the harbour city of Elsinore, and Roskilde, with its Unesco-listed cathedral. It costs from €560pp and includes B&B accommodation, maps and route information. Return flights, transfers, and bike and helmet hire are extra. freedomtreks.co.uk



◀ HOME RUNS

The Wild Atlantic Way, *left*, and other tourism initiatives promoting the ool sod may be attracting as many visitors at home as much as they are abroad. A survey shows that Ireland is among the top 10 destinations for Irish home-exchangers (those who swap houses for another's, for free, for a week at a time). A domestic swap came sixth in popularity, after France, Italy, America, Spain and the UK. homeexchange.com; wildatlanticway.com

DO THE MATHS: YOUNG TRAVELLERS

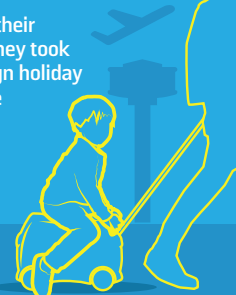
11

Average age at which parents went on a foreign holiday for the first time

3

Average age of their children when they took them on a foreign holiday for the first time

Source:
sunshine.co.uk



A WAY MADE FOR TWO

Would you hike to the end of the world for the one you love? Buy a CaminoWays gift voucher for your Valentine — conveniently offering to join them — and receive a free spa treatment for two. The company, which organises tours of the many Camino de Santiago routes across Spain, Portugal and France, is offering the deal on several trips including the Finisterre Way, along the Atlantic Coast, the Portuguese Way from the other direction, and the Northern Way, which takes in a trip to the Guggenheim museum, *above*, in Bilbao. caminoways.com



