

THE TIMES

Travel tips: Sailing with the children



Kids set sail

Take the family on a special children's sailing week around the Aegean and Mediterranean. You'll pay half-price for children up to the age of 16, and they'll have plenty of activities and games geared towards them. The trips, from March to May and in the first half of June and October (including Easter holidays and May half-term), are on yachts that sleep 6 to 16 people, with captain, chef and crew. It costs from £720 an adult for a week, including most meals and drinks, and from £360 a child. Book on scicsailing.eu.

The great Finnish bake off

Calling all *Bake Off* fans — you can combine baking with an activity holiday in Finland this September. Over eight days, learn how to bake dark rye bread, cardamom buns, traditional cakes and Finnish pasties, then cycle and walk off those calories in the beautiful Finnish Lakeland — and don't forget the Finnish saunas each night. The tour, which leaves on September 3, costs from £1,275pp, including flights, transfers, accommodation, most meals and cycle hire (regent-holidays.co.uk).

New hotel in Puglia

The Italian baroque town of Lecce is a stunning part of Puglia, so it's good to hear that a swish new boutique hotel is opening near by on March 24. Masseria Trapania has only nine suites, with private courtyards and outdoor bathtubs, and is set in 60 hectares of olive groves — but is only ten minutes from Lecce. It's the same distance from the Adriatic coast and has partnered with several of the region's stylish beach clubs. It costs from £284 a room each night (www.trapania.com).

A Wicked Mother's Day

Don't just take your mum for lunch on Mother's Day — take her for a two-night trip to London, with tickets to *Wicked*, the musical, included. Arrive at the Ibis Styles London Excel on March 4 and the weekend away, on a B&B basis, will cost from £117pp (superbreak.com).

