

UTTERLY UNIQUE

*AIR curates
six exceptional
experiences
from the finest
purveyors of
tailored travel*

1.

Go wild in East Africa

With incredible landscapes and iconic wildlife, an African safari is on most travellers’ to-do lists. Capturing the beauty and majesty on celluloid – or digital these days – is a skill in itself, with many returning with a wobbly and out-of-focus memento. Not so when you team up with legendary filmmaker and Academy Award nominee, Alan Root, who will not only be your personal wildlife guide through Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, but will also shoot and produce a bespoke documentary of your journey.

The British-born filmmaker grew up in Kenya and has worked in every corner of the continent. Travelling exclusively by helicopter, you will spot the famous Big 5 and track endangered mountain gorillas, while Alan regales you with epic true tales of showing American zoologist Dian Fossey her first gorilla. As David Attenborough once declared: “Alan Root sets the standard.” Who are we to argue? brownandhudson.com



2.

Tee off in Scotland

The Old Course at St Andrews, Scotland is the most iconic golf course in the world. Who better then to guide you across the perils of the 600-year-old links course than three-times Open Championship winner Sir Nick Faldo?

St Andrews was the scene of one of Faldo’s most memorable victories. In 1990 he shot 18-under par – a feat only surpassed by Tiger Woods a decade later – to win his second major of the year. The Travel Attaché can organise a round with Faldo, or with most of the world’s top golfers, at St Andrews or pretty much anywhere else across the globe. So no more excuses next time you tee off. thetravelattache.com



3.

Bullfight in Spain

Corrida de toros (bullfighting) is regarded by many as a sacred art form; a long-held tradition that has left a lasting impression on Spanish literature, art, music and dance. To understand the intricacies and passion of this Spanish spectacle, join renowned matador Raul Gracia Herrera, ‘El Tato’, at Fuenterry ranch in Andalucía in southern Spain, known for rearing exceptional bulls.

Tato will take you behind-the-scenes to meet world-famous matadors, breeders and bulls, exploring on foot or on horseback. You’ll train with an expert and watch mounted bullfighters, masterful matadors and young apprentices test their skills. But will you have the nerve to step into the ring? joyaexperience.com



4.

Get arty in Amsterdam

With private views and access to exclusive collections, an expert-led art tour is an enriching experience. And with the reopening of the Rijksmuseum and Van Gogh Museum last year, Amsterdam is just ripe for exploring. Accompanied by preeminent portrait painter, Urban Larsson, you'll have the inside track into Amsterdam's Golden Age – the 17th century when Dutch art, science and military power was at its peak – through visits to museums and private houses in this elegant canal city.

Larsson is a traditional oil painter and, as well as portraits, he creates beautiful still life paintings, landscapes and nudes. Originally from Stockholm, he has studied in Florence at the only atelier in Europe where Traditional Realism is taught. You'll visit his studio and discuss the techniques that have taken him all over the world to capture the likeness of prime ministers and presidents. Inspiring stuff. [cazloyd.com](#)



5.

Go drifting in Sweden

If hurtling across a frozen lake in a powerful Porsche 911 – sideways – sounds like your idea of adventure, then extreme ice driving in far north Sweden is for you. Lake Kall, in the shadow of Mount Åre, is renowned in rally circles as one of the best places in the world to hone your driving skills (and is where many top teams put their vehicles through their paces).

With an ex-World Rally Championship instructor at your side, you'll learn how to master a specially modified, 300-brake horsepower 911 rally car with fully studded tyres on a series of meticulously prepared lake circuits lined with snow banks. Once you are au fait with the pendulum-rhythm of drifting, you'll soon be able to slip out of grip and move into a graceful slide - all at breakneck speed, of course. Intense and exhilarating, get set for the ride of your life. [quintessentiallytravel.com](#)

6.

Back to nature in New Zealand

New Zealand is a geological wonderland, with volcanoes, glaciers, and geysers galore. Those with a keen interest in science can start on the bubbling geothermal fields of the North Island, discovering the secrets of the Waimangu region with leading volcanologist Bryan Hughes. Then take a helicopter to the top of Mount Tarawera volcano where you can walk along the lip of this geological giant that last erupted in 1866.

Flying south over the Cook Strait, you'll soon see the South Island is completely different to the North. Here, the tectonic plates have collided to create the majestic Southern Alps, with snow-capped peaks and glacial valleys. To help unravel this natural diversity, take a trek on the mighty Franz Josef glacier with a renowned glaciologist to learn how climate change is affecting New Zealand's pristine environment. Just don't mention hobbits. [brownandhudson.com](#)

