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Fun, affordable & sustainable travel since 1989

## Intrepid launches gay and lesbian tours

Intrepid Travel, one of the world's leading adventure tour operators has announced a strategic partnership in which Intrepid Travel has secured a 20 per cent minority interest in gay-owned OUT Adventures.

The deal allows Intrepid Travel to take its small group adventure holidays to a dynamic market by partnering with a company that understands the needs of the gay and lesbian community.

Recent research from the United States shows that 58 per cent of gays and lesbians travelled internationally in 2007, taking an average of 3.5 trips each. An overwhelming majority of 98 per cent indicated that an operator or destination's gay-friendly reputation influenced their destination decision.

"We have long wanted to enter this market but knew that we needed to find the right partner before doing so. We are proud to be working with OUT Adventure's owners, Steven and Robert to offer the gay and lesbian community an exciting travel product tailored to their specific needs. We feel that their understanding of the gay and lesbian community, coupled with our experience in small group adventure tours will make this a successful partnership," said Darrell Wade, CEO and Co-Founder of Intrepid Travel.

OUT Adventures Executive Vice President and Co-Founder Robert Sharp adds, "There are many companies offering high-end and luxury travel to this market but few, if any, who offer affordable and grassroots travel. This is where OUT Adventures and Intrepid Travel step in to offer gay and lesbian travellers real life travel experiences to over 45 destinations around the world."

The trips will be closed to gay and lesbian travellers and their friends and family. Gay and gay-friendly leaders will run the trips that will focus on small groups (no more than 12), real life experiences, affordability and responsible travel.

Travellers can choose from Active, Comfort, Family and a premium level of travel, In Style that is new to Intrepid Travel and exclusive to gay and lesbian travellers.

Trips start from AUD \$1080 for the OUT Thailand Hike, Bike and Raft trip and will be available through Intrepid Travel, OUT Adventures and at travel agents worldwide.

To view the complete OUT product offering, visit [www.intrepidtravel.com/outadventures](http://www.intrepidtravel.com/outadventures).

For more information please contact Eliza Anderson on 9473 2692 or 0410 535 977.

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### **About Intrepid Travel Pty. Ltd.**

With over 19 years of experience, Intrepid Travel is one of the world's leading small group adventure tour operators. Intrepid takes around 80,000 travellers to over 90 countries worldwide, each and every year. Intrepid trips are designed to go off the beaten track, meet the locals and travel in an unconventional way, joining locals on their transport, in their markets and even in their homes. Intrepid employs close to a thousand employees in nearly 20 countries worldwide.

### **About OUT Adventures Inc.**

Toronto, Canada based OUT Adventures provides closed small group adventures to the LGBT community with over 45 worldwide destinations. OUT Adventures aims to be the authority for small group adventure travel to the LGBT market by offering a more affordable, culturally engaging and eco-friendly travel experience. OUT Adventures was founded by President Steven Larkin and Executive Vice President Robert Sharp in early 2008 and is a proud member of the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association. Visit [www.out-adventures.com](http://www.out-adventures.com) for more information and a complete product offering.

**Example itineraries**

**ACTIVE - OUT Turkey Active - 8 Days**

Discover the historical heart of Turkey. Flex those muscles cycling through lush landscape, hike forgotten trails and kayak over sunken Lycian and Byzantine relics.

PRICES (per person)

CAD \$920

USD \$920

EUR \$575

GBP \$455

NZD \$1230

AUD \$945

PLUS LOCAL PAYMENT YTL \$750

**FAMILY - OUT Spain Family - 15 days**

Journey from Madrid to Cordoba sampling tasty tapas and famous paintings. Discover Spain's Moorish heart with the entire family.

PRICES (per person)

CAD \$2460

USD \$2460

EUR \$1540

GBP \$1215

NZD \$3290

AUD \$2525

LOCAL PAYMENT EUR \$400

**COMFORT - OUT South African Experience - 14 days**

Experience Kruger National park, the beautiful kingdoms of Swaziland and Mozambique and indulge in Cape Town, Cape Point and even a local winery. \*\*Special Pride (19 February 2009) and New Years (17 December 2009) departures\*\*

PRICES (per person)

CAD \$3305

USD \$3305

EUR \$2175

GBP \$1720

NZD \$4575

AUD \$3805

LOCAL PAYMENT ZAR \$3900

**INSTYLE - OUT Ancient Kingdom of Thailand - 7 days**

Golden rays bask you in the 'Land of a Thousand Smiles' as you seamlessly go from ancient temples and palaces to the latest fashion shopping.

PRICES (per person)

CAD \$1345

USD \$1345

EUR \$885

GBP \$700

NZD \$1865

AUD \$1550

LOCAL PAYMENT THB \$4250