

TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY

Small Luxury Hotels adds yachting company to roster

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Kontiki Expeditions is now part of Small Luxury Hotels of the World. Image courtesy of Small Luxury Hotels

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Hotel group Small Luxury Hotels of the World is leaning into unique experiences through a new partnership with Kontiki Expeditions, the first water-based member of its portfolio.

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Kontiki Expeditions, a yacht touring company, offers sustainably-minded tours off the coast of Ecuador. The announcement comes as there is pent-up demand among affluents for one-of-a-kind travel experiences.

"SLH is a prestigious brand worldwide," said Carlos Nunez, CEO/founder of Kontiki Expeditions, in a statement. "We are honored to join this consortium as the first water-based member."

"We are confident that SLH will help us introduce our wonderful new small-yacht cruises to travelers looking for a boutique, personalized adventure," he said.

Sustainable yachting

Kontiki's first yacht expedition as part of SLH begins in May 2021.

The eight-day journey offers an intimate experience, with nine staterooms and a crew of 10. In addition to stops in small port cities, deserted beaches and ecological reserves, guests can enjoy whale watching, kayaking, paddle boarding and snorkeling.

[View this post on Instagram](#)

A post shared by KONTIKI (@kontikiexpeditions)

Instagram post from Kontiki

Kontiki also emphasizes its sustainability efforts, including offsetting carbon emissions, eliminating single-use plastic by 2022 and participating in social projects.

The all-inclusive experience starts at \$7,245 per person.

"We are thrilled to announce Kontiki Expeditions as the first yacht member to join the portfolio," said Kenan Simmons, vice president of the Americas at Small Luxury Hotels, in a statement. "The voyages are independently minded and offer a uniquely sustainable way to explore the sought-after destinations off the coast of Ecuador.

"The intimacy and individuality that Kontiki offers are exactly what travelers are yearning to experience," he said.

Other travel brands are also investing in yachting partnerships.

This spring, private aviation company Magellan Jets formed an alliance with yacht charter firm IYC to offer complementary services to their clients as the travel business comes under strain from global lockdowns over COVID-19 ([see story](#)).

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