

Adventure Travel Show: Sudan among exciting new destinations

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ADVENTURE™ TRAVEL SHOW

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adventureshow.com

A satisfied customer is the best advertisement. Ghanian-born Kwame, a retired civil servant, enjoyed his trip to the world's highest mountains in Pakistan so much that he spent his weekend on the KJTI stand promoting adventure travel in North Pakistan the junction of three of the world's highest peaks. What about the Taliban? "No Taliban", he replies with an engaging, mischievous smile. "The people are friendly and eager to welcome tourists."

The Telegraph Adventure Travel Show, held in London's Olympia exhibition centre on January 28th – 29th, is the UK's only travel event dedicated to the exciting world of adventure and off-the-beaten-track travel be it thundering across the Mongolian plains on horseback, flying above Kazakhstan's spectacular glaciers in a helicopter, cycling through the heart of Tokyo, white water rafting in Costa Rica, photographing

polar bears in the Arctic or travelling by bus from London to Sydney.

The majority of the exhibitors were from Africa promoting a variety of safaris and from the Indian sub-continent promoting Himalayan adventures in Nepal, Tibet, northern India and Bhutan which is coming out of its self-imposed isolation to welcome visitors.



Sudan Red Sea Resort

Chui river



Sudan, a country
of pyramids



Sudan made an appearance for the first time with the Sudan Red Sea Resort the country's first eco lodge located on the Port Sudan-Egypt highway. It is built on a coral plateau surrounded by mountains. The country's historic sites were promoted by the Italian Tourism Company which set up offices in Khartoum two years ago. It is the only incoming operator owned by Europeans and organises tours to

archaeological sites, the hidden Nubian villages, nomads' settlements, and spectacular desert landscapes.

Northern Sudan is one of Africa's most mysterious destination. The Nile river crosses the Sahara desert and along its valley there are very interesting archaeological sites of Egyptian and Meroitic civilization still unknown to most.

There are more pyramids in Sudan than in Egypt. The Nubian desert, the Eastern part of the Sahara and the Nile Cataracts, are only some of Sudan's natural wonders.

The magnificence of the archaeological ruins and the impressiveness of the pyramids illustrate the quality and importance of the Egyptian civilisation in the valley of the Nile.

The most important historical phase began when the Egyptian Pharaohs conquered the whole Nubian territory building temples. After a silent period, there was a new reign called Kushitic with Napata as its capital (near the actual Karima). The golden Nubian period began in 725 B.C. when the Nubian king Piankhi conquered Egypt and the Nile delta. That is when the building of temples and



Serbia's
Vojvodina
Plain

Samarkand



pyramids as mortuary monuments begun in Nubia while it was already abandoned for several centuries in Egypt. The Nubian pyramids have no burial room inside: the real tomb is dug below the pyramid itself and it is connected with the outside with an inclined tunnel. A votive and offering chapel is located in front of the pyramid but from there there is no access to the pyramid or the burial chamber. Meroe was the most important

centre in Sudan and probably in all the African continent for a few centuries.

It is not yet possible to visit South Sudan, the world's newest country, but Violetta Prichard of the Italian Tourism Company believes it will welcome tourists in six months to a year.

Serbia was another newcomer to Adventure Travel. The country is

Adventures on a sand dune





Unexplored world

Asia, among the world's most mysterious and fascinating regions, from a yurt, the traditional nomad house, especially imported and assembled for the show. The company has a new journey to Samarkand and the Aral Sea. Desert tracks take adventurers past marooned fishing boats and blighted landscapes to the dying waters of a once great sea.

The mountain life of the old Silk

Road is introduced in the Wild Mountains, Fabled towns tour of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Travellers spend ten days in the mountains of Kyrgyzstan staying in yurts and travel with the nomads of Son Kut and the shepherds of Tash Rabat.

There are also horse treks in one of the most pristine wildernesses left on earth, helicopter rides over some of the most spectacular

Veteran tour operator Geoff
Hann of Hinterland Travel

