

**VILLAS OF DISTINCTION® NOW OFFERS EXCLUSIVE, CUSTOMIZABLE LUXURY PACKAGES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH EXCURSIONIST™**

*One-of-a-kind packages help villa rental customers complete their luxurious dream vacation*

Port Washington, New York (April 9, 2013) – Being able to customize a luxury dream villa vacation based on travel preferences to places you could not arrange on your own is now possible when booking a villa vacation with Villas of Distinction®.

Villas of Distinction®, the world's premier villa rental company has teamed up with Excursionist™, an innovative luxury experiential travel website, offering a dynamic selection of unique experiences worldwide, to offer its Villa rental customers exclusive packages that can be customized to complement almost every villa vacation.

“We are thrilled to be able to provide our customers tailor-made travel experiences that they won't find anywhere else, said Steve Lassman, vice president and general manager, Villas of Distinction. “We are always looking for new, innovative product offerings that enrich the already luxurious villa travel experience and we have found that through our partnership with Excursionist.”

The [Excursionist Customizable Villas Packages](#) that launched on the [Villas of Distinction](#) website at the end of March allows customers to choose from an array of exclusive, customizable villa packages in luxurious destinations including [St. Martin](#), U.S. Virgin Islands ([St. Croix](#), [St. John](#), [St. Thomas](#)), British Virgin Islands ([Tortola](#), [Virgin Gorda](#)), [Maui](#), [Tuscany](#) and [Amalfi Coast](#). Being added soon are destinations including France, Jamaica and Turks & Caicos.

“In the past, travelers had to choose between booking an experiential trip with a tour company or staying at a villa, independent of each other,” said Norman Aynbinder, managing director for Excursionist. “This exciting new partnership provides a truly differentiated service to travelers allowing them to combine the privacy and comfort of their own villa with the experiential component of taking unique, customized excursions that they couldn't book on their own — experiences that were never offered in the past.”

For the traveler seeking adventure — imagine parasailing in a secluded cove, wreck diving amid sharks or galloping on a private beach. For the traveler who enjoys being pampered — a massage overlooking an amazing vista, private drivers at your beck and call, personal shopper and meals prepared by a gourmet chef.

These are just a few of the many packages that can complement a villa vacation and are customizable to fit any traveler's desires. These unique, unusual and tailor-made experiences can only be found as part of a villa rental through Villas of Distinction. Excursionist packages are also available through the Villas of Distinction sister company, [Island Hideaways](#).

**About Villas of Distinction®**

Villas of Distinction® is a premier luxury villa provider with an extensive portfolio of thousands of privately-owned villas in more than 50 luxurious destinations. For nearly 25 years, Villas of Distinction and its team of expert concierges have been helping travelers find their perfect vacation home without a membership fee. The company takes pride in offering customized vacations to meet every imaginable need, with most villas featuring private pools, butlers, maids and chefs. As part of World Travel Holdings, Villas of Distinction was recently named “Best Tour Operator of the Year” by Atout France, the France Tourism Development Agency, and received a Gold Magellan Award from *Travel Weekly* for its unique website, [www.VillasofDistinction.com](http://www.VillasofDistinction.com).

**About Island Hideaways**

Since 1986, Island Hideaways has been a leading provider of luxury villas throughout the Caribbean. Each home rental is unique. In fact, travelers actually have the option of reserving their own private island! Recently acclaimed by Condé Nast Traveler and Forbes.com for excellence, Island Hideaways has built its reputation on the service it offers and the expertise of its reservation consultants. Customizing villa vacations based on individual needs and personal preferences of its customers underscores Island Hideaways number-one priority – customer satisfaction. [www.IslandHideaways.com](http://www.IslandHideaways.com)

**About Excursionist**

Excursionist is a new concept in experiential, online travel founded in 2010 by veterans of the luxury travel industry. Excursionist designs unique travel experiences, which are organized around customers' passions, curated by world-renowned experts and led by fascinating local personalities. Many of the experiences are bookable directly online and travelers can assemble existing experiences to build their own customized trips. Examples include digging for dinosaurs with a top paleontologist, going to Greenland with a polar explorer and having a private dinner at Angkor Wat. Excursionist partners with members-only organizations such as Founderscard, Executive Jet Management and Caprice Holdings private clubs to provide unique travel benefits to their members. [www.excursionist.com](http://www.excursionist.com)

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