

ISSUE NO. 01 • JULY 2020

GO SOLO

SISTERS TRAVEL MAGAZINE



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Home to the most beautiful and mysterious sites in the world. .

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*We haven't been
everywhere, but
it is on our list.*

BY ANONYMOUS



10 SOLO FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

Solo travel..... This simple phrase often produces a level of anxiety that can be hard to manage. So many sisters feel that they lack the level of boldness required to land in a new city or country and have the time of their lives by themselves. We've all heard about epic group trips to Phuket. We've seen gorgeous shots of lovers in front of the Louvre in Paris. We've admired the jaw-dropping photos of sister-friends perched atop Table Mountain in Cape Town. But what if you're ready to be brave and tackle these cities on your own?

If you're a sister who has finally decided to take that trip for one, you may be wondering about the best cities to tackle solo and what local adventures you can enjoy once you arrive. Well, we've got you covered! After careful research (sigh...jet-setting is such a difficult job) we've compiled a list of the top 10 destinations that are perfect for sisters who have chosen to stop waiting on others and travel solo.



ROME, ITALY

Use the hop on hop off bus to get around to each of the major sites. Take an afternoon break at the Spanish steps to people watch and enjoy some gelato. Cross off an item on your bucket list by visiting one of the 7 World Wonders, the Roman Colosseum. Or make a wish and toss in a coin into the Trevi fountain. Other must do's while in Rome are visiting Vatican City, and admiring the beauty of the Sistine Chapel.





BALI, INDONESIA

From the rice fields in Ubud to the beaches in Seminyak Bali has so much so much offer. Hire a driver for about \$35 USD and explore for the day. Popular sites include the Bali swing, Bali rice fields, monkey forest, surfing, beach day or take in a Yoga or Meditation class.





NEW YORK, NEW YORK

A great and inexpensive way to see the city is definitely the hop on hop off tour bus. You can purchase a ticket that is valid for 24 or 48 hrs. It will take you to famous landmarks like the Empire State Building, 911 Memorial and Museum, Madame Tussauds, Statue of Liberty, Times Square. You can get on and off as many times as you would like to explore the city!





ARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

Hire a tour guide and get ready to explore the historic city of Cartagena. Take a tour of the Cartagena, relax at Playa beach, visit Palenque fort of runaway slaves about an hour outside of Cartagena, take a boat ride to Rosaro island, or escape Cartagena for the day and discover the healing powers of the mud baths at Totumo Volcano!





CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

There is just something about the vibe in Cape Town that cannot be found in too many other places. Check out touristy sites like Table mountain, see the penguins at Boulders beach, relax on the beach in Camps Bay, or take in a winery tour. For a bit of history be sure to visit Robben Island; purchase you ticket in advance they sell out quickly.





AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

There is something for everyone in Amsterdam! We highly suggest visiting Keukenhof gardens, it's full of beautiful tulips and windmills. It's so beautiful that it looks fake. Also check out popular sights like the Anne Frank house, Van Gogh museum, and red light district. Take a Heineken factory tour, rent a bike, and take a photo in front of the famous IAmsterdam sign.



LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

Skip the standard tours, grab a city guide, and all day bus pass and jump on one of the double-decker buses. You can hop on and off as you please and explore all of London's treasures, including Buckingham Palace, London Eye, Trafalgar Square, London Bridge, Westminster Abbey, and many more.





PHUKET, THAILAND

Enjoy a tour excursion to Phang Nga Bay, visit an animal sanctuary, relax on the beach as you enjoy a massage, or take a ferry in Phuket to Phi Phi. The journey to Phi Phi will take you about 45 minutes via speedboat. Your dollar goes a long way in Phuket so pamper yourself. For food, be sure to try morning glory, you will not be disappointed.





OKYO, JAPAN

Eat, Eat, Eat! The Japanese are serious with about food. Tokyo is the city with the most Michelin starred restaurants in the world! But no worries there are a lot of food options for all budgets, just enter in a typical izakaya and salivate over the hundred dishes the menu has to offer. Also, it is the perfect place to be spiritual with all the shrines spread in the city.





REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

What's not to love about the beautiful landscape of Iceland? For the solo sister, a trip to Reykjavik is a must. From the healing waters of the Blue Lagoon, the Golden Circle tour route, or catching the Northern Lights there, is always something to do or see. Be sure to support the black-owned coffee shop Café Haiti in Reykjavik.



DESTINATION SPOT LIGHT: THE AMAZON

Researchers found that once they start collapsing, the world's largest ecosystems, such as the Amazon, are likely to be gone much faster than previously thought. Source: CNN

"At Sisters Traveling Solo, we realized the urgency in visiting a place like the Amazon. So, we decided to host a trip to the Amazon in 2020. The trip will be limited, given our private boat size." Cole Banks If you are ready to visit the largest rain forest on **EARTH**, join us by visiting www.sisterstravelingsolo.com.





Cole, let's start with your story. We'd love to hear how you got started and how the journey has been so far.

The idea of Sisters Traveling Solo (STS) came when I read an online post discouraging black women from traveling solo. As a woman of color who frequently travels around the world solo, I knew she was not alone. My passion for traveling solo and wanting to help other sisters led to the creation of STS. Our STS Facebook community of over 70,000 women from all over the world is a positive space.

Our Facebook group has gone from just an online community into a business. We learned that people still want to travel solo with other people, so we started to offer group trips back in 2017.

Faith has played a major part in my business and life.

In August 2018, I left my corporate job at Coca-Cola to pursue my business full time. So now, my passion for travel is my full-time business.

Has luck played a meaningful role in your life and business?

I don't believe in luck; I believe in faith. Faith has played a major part in my business and life. It took faith to leave my corporate job in August to pursue my travel business full time.

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And it took faith to step outside of my comfort zone to grow this business into what I envision it to be.

We're always bombarded by how great it is to pursue your passion, etc – but we've spoken with enough people to know that it's not always easy. Overall, would you say things have been easy for you?

With any new venture, there have been challenges. The major struggle I think for any entrepreneur is learning how to turn your idea/passion into a profitable business. Another hurdle is not having someone with you step by step as you are navigating the steps that you need to take to set up the business.

Things like ensuring that your customer agreements are in order that you have the right team in place, and or trying to determine how to scale correctly are also some of my struggles.

TRAVEL SOLO WITH SISTERS



Your **ONLY** job is to pack
your bags!

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