

Romantic ROAD TRIPS

WE TAKE A LOOK AT FLY-DRIVE HONEYMOONS AND THE DESTINATIONS THAT SHOULD BE ON YOUR BUCKET LIST

Fly-drive honeymoons are the hot new trend and it's easy to see why. Offering freedom and adventure, overseas road trips let you put your own spin on your getaway with a once-in-a-lifetime itinerary that's completely bespoke.

With this style of holidaying, nowhere is off-limits and you can experience as much as you'd like in your chosen destination. Whether you want mountain scenery, a coastal break or time in a new city, a fly-drive honeymoon will tick all the right boxes. And better still, these trips also offer plenty of privacy and a chance to get off the beaten track – something which is welcome if the pandemic has you worried about being in crowds.

You'll find many diverse countries across the globe that are fantastic for a getaway behind the wheel.

From great American adventures to expeditions in the Australian outback, there's something to suit every travel pace and style. And, as your honeymoon can be custom-designed, you can be as spontaneous or as organised as you'd like.

When it comes to your budget, there's more reason to love a fly-drive honeymoon, too. It may not be as easy as heading to an all-inclusive, but you can still control where you stay along the way and what you want to spend each night. You can opt for a pre-planned package or create your route yourself, with options to sleep in boutique hotels and luxury lodgings, as well as motels and camping spots if you want your savings to stretch further.

Optimal for those who have two or more weeks to explore, these are the destinations we particularly love for a truly one-of-a-kind honeymoon.

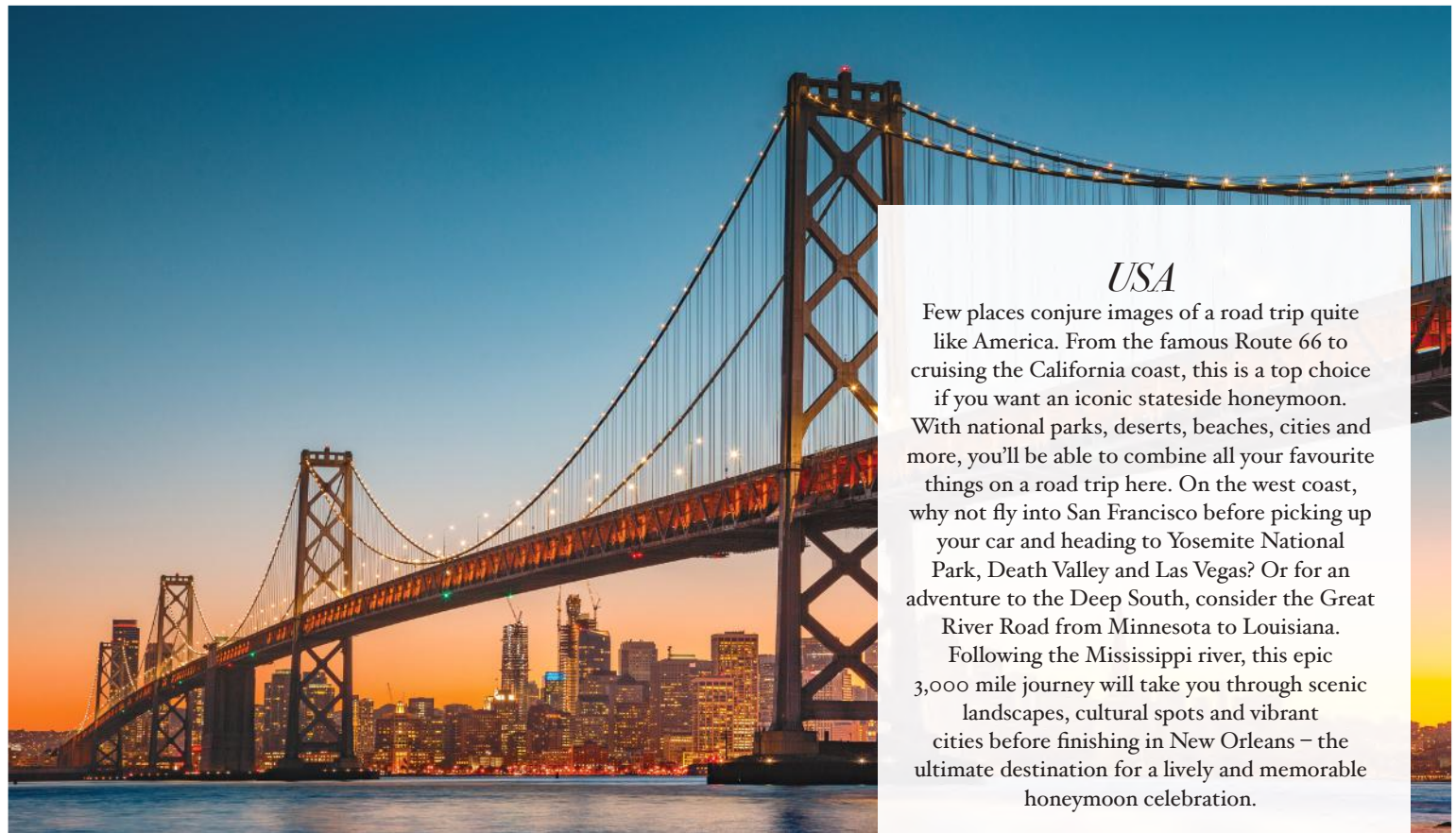
South Africa

With its striking landscapes, sparkling coastline and abundance of wildlife, South Africa has become a go-to destination for a luxury honeymoon. As a diverse and sprawling country, it's a great place to explore by car and its network of roads gives you freedom to plan your trip exactly as you'd like. The Garden Route is the best-known drive here – taking in 300km of breathtaking scenery along the southern coast. We suggest starting your trip in Cape Town to make the most of this beautiful city first. And if you have extra time? Consider a day trip to Cape Point via Chapman's Peak Drive – this winding route is famous for its dramatic mountain and sea views. Ending in Simon's Town, you'll also get the chance to hang out with a colony of penguins on the popular Boulders Beach.



Canada

Often ranked as one of the most picturesque countries in the world, Canada is a honeymoon destination that has it all. With its wild expanse of beautiful landscapes, this massive country is ideal for a road trip. The west coast is usually a first choice for honeymooners as it's here you'll find the alpine ski village of Whistler and the cosmopolitan city of Vancouver. If you're after forests, mountains and lakes, consider a road trip from Vancouver to Calgary taking in the pristine wilderness of the Icefields Parkway and Banff National Park. Or for an east coast adventure instead? Start your adventure in Toronto with a road trip to the world famous Niagara Falls and Canada's capital city, Ottawa.



USA

Few places conjure images of a road trip quite like America. From the famous Route 66 to cruising the California coast, this is a top choice if you want an iconic stateside honeymoon. With national parks, deserts, beaches, cities and more, you'll be able to combine all your favourite things on a road trip here. On the west coast, why not fly into San Francisco before picking up your car and heading to Yosemite National Park, Death Valley and Las Vegas? Or for an adventure to the Deep South, consider the Great River Road from Minnesota to Louisiana. Following the Mississippi river, this epic 3,000 mile journey will take you through scenic landscapes, cultural spots and vibrant cities before finishing in New Orleans – the ultimate destination for a lively and memorable honeymoon celebration.



New Zealand

Home to lakes, mountains and Hobbiton, New Zealand is a picture-perfect setting for an unforgettable honeymoon. Hiring a car or campervan is the best way to travel here and there are plenty of routes to choose from – all with breathtaking views at every turn. If you have more than two weeks, it's well worth visiting both islands – flying into Auckland and out from Christchurch. But if you're short on time, a focus on the South Island will deliver the jaw-dropping scenery that New Zealand is famous for. From Christchurch, get your wheels and consider a loop that takes in Queenstown, Mt Cook and Milford Sound. Here, you'll find glaciers, fjords and peaceful alpine hideaways. Adrenaline junkies will also have plenty to enjoy on this trip, with activities including sky diving, bungee jumping and heli-hiking.



Australia

If you're lucky enough to have several weeks off, a once-in-a-lifetime trip Down Under could be perfect for you. Not just for those on their gap year, in Australia you'll find an incredibly vast landscape with plenty of options to enjoy a romantic escape. Artsy Melbourne is a great starting point for couples who want a cultural city break before driving the famous Great Ocean Road. But if you're after a more tropical experience, a trip from the Gold Coast to Cairns boasts lush rainforests, white sand beaches and a chance to visit the Great Barrier Reef. Along the way, be sure to stop at Airlie Beach where you'll find the gateway to the beautiful Whitsunday Islands – a paradise location with some of the best beaches in the world.

