



The Auction of the Wild and Weird Begins May 8th

Bid on a dozen of the world's most unusual experiences from Viator.com along with airline tickets, frequent flier miles, and hotel stays.

Shorewood, WI (April 27, 2015) – The 11th Kids First Auction Sponsored by FlyerTalk.com will begin May 8. New for 2015 is the “Auction of the Wild and Weird” that will offer a selection of the world’s most unique and unusual travel experiences from Viator.com. In addition, the auction will feature a treasure chest of items from airberlin, Avis Car Rental, Budget Car Rental, Delta SkyMiles, Etihad Airways, Southwest Airlines, Spirit Airlines, Tune Hotels, and other travel companies.

The new addition is a selection of 12 items from tours and activities provider, Viator. The folks at Viator have reviewed their collection of more than 1,500 destinations and will offer the following as 2-person travel experiences:

- **La Paz, Bolivia:** Take a mountain bike tour traversing the world’s most dangerous road, hugging the mountainside and riding mostly downhill for 40 miles.
- **Las Vegas:** Enjoy one hour in a heavy equipment playground for adults. Dig trenches, build mounds and move 1-ton tires in a bulldozer, excavator or both.
- **Orlando:** Have lunch with an astronaut during a day trip to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and experience a simulated Space Shuttle launch.
- **New Zealand:** Travel by helicopter and explore the Franz Josef Glacier with a guide on this 4-hour hike, and take a relaxing soak afterwards in a natural hot pool.
- **Sydney:** Climb to the top of Sydney Harbour Bridge with a guide on this 3.5 hour tour.
- **New York:** Travel round-trip by private flight from New York City and explore Niagara Falls on this one-day exclusive experience from Viator.

Returning for 2015, the Kids First Fund’s eBay auction page will offer an array of airline tickets, hotel stays, and car rental vouchers. Specific items include tickets on Southwest Airlines, 2-night Tune Hotels vouchers at 7 locations in London, Edinburgh, and Newcastle, and certificates for car rentals from Avis and Budget. Individual hotel locations will also participate such as the Distrikt Hotel in New York City, The Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto, and the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno. The Auction of the Wild and Weird will also occur at the Kids First Fund’s eBay auction page.

Bidders may also visit a special auction page at the FlyerTalk.com website that features a “company authorized” auction of nearly 1.3 million frequent flier program miles. This will include 30,000-mile certificates from Delta SkyMiles, certificates ranging from 50,000 to 100,000 miles from airberlin’s topbonus program, 50,000 to 100,000 mile certificates from the Etihad Guest frequent flier program, and an extravaganza of 300,000 miles from Spirit Airlines.

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The Kids First Auction will offer three 10-day online auctions. The bidding will begin at KidsFirstAuction.com and provide two bidding options: FlyerTalk and eBay. The auctions will begin on May 8, May 15 and May 22. Check out both auctions by visiting the homepage for the event at **KidsFirstAuction.com**.

“We are delighted to contribute to the 2015 Kids First Auction with a selection of unusual and unique travel experiences that we hope will drive great interest for the auction and lots of high bids,” said Ken Frohling, Vice President of Business Development for Viator. “We commend the Kids First Fund for all of their efforts on behalf of at-risk children around the world, and are grateful for the opportunity to support the organization in this way, along with many of our colleagues in the travel community.”

“It’s a wonderful opportunity for us to support an event that so thoroughly engages the frequent flier community by using miles and points to help kids,” said Brent Conner, Vice President & General Manager, Travel & Leisure for Internet Brands (the owner of FlyerTalk). “It’s a double pleasure to have our airline friends contribute to this worthy endeavor.”

About the Kids First Fund: The Kids First Fund is a US-based charity that helps abused children in resource-poor areas of the world, by developing programs that provide professional education to identify and treat abused children. The fund has been responsible for creating a family shelter in Latvia that cares for abused women and their children. Every penny donated during this auction and to the Fund will be spent on projects to benefit children. No funds are deducted for salaries or administrative expense.

About FlyerTalk.com: FlyerTalk features discussions and chat boards that covers the most up-to-date traveler information. The FlyerTalk forums are open for business 24 hours, 7 days a week. Even better, all travelers -- from vacation travelers to mileage junkies -- are welcome in the community. Just choose a forum and you can get to the business at hand: conversing about programs, how to make the most of your miles and points, general travel, airports, destination and dining information.

About Viator: Viator, a TripAdvisor company, is the leading global tours and activities provider for travelers, delivering online and mobile access to thousands of trip activities including tours, attractions, shore excursions and private guides, in more than 1,500 destinations. In-house travel experts work with trusted local operators to ensure the quality and value of every experience, all backed by Viator’s 24/7 customer service and low-price guarantee.

List of all donors for the 2015 Kids First Auction: Atlantis Casino Resort Spa (Reno), Avis Budget Group, Best Western Austrian Chalet (British Columbia), Chicago Marriott Suites O'Hare, Choice Hotels International, Comfort Hotel Toronto, Delta SkyMiles, Distrikt Hotel (NYC), Embassy Suites (Phoenix), Etihad Guest, Fairmont Royal York Hotel (Toronto), Holiday Inn Cambridge (Ontario), Holiday Inn Toronto Downtown Centre, Icelandair, Niagara Parks Commission, Rocketmiles, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom (California), Southwest Airlines, Spirit Airlines, Staybridge Suites London Ontario, topbonus, Tune Hotels, Viana Hotel and Spa (Westbury, NY), Viator, Virginia Beach Resort Hotel, and the W Hotel Minneapolis.

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