

● **FLIGHT** searches to the US fell by half in the run-up to Donald Trump's election as President.

Travel search company Cheapflights.co.uk revealed the slump as polls closed in one of the most fractious elections in US history.

MD Andrew Shelton said: "Brits are voting with their clicks. Although it remains one of our

most popular destinations, travel searches for US flights have fallen by nearly half."

The figures fuel fears of a travel recession in the US after a World Travel Market poll showed 60 per cent of industry professionals thought Hillary Clinton would be better for global business. Just seven per cent backed Trump.



● **THE** Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort won the Best Luxury Family Hotel – South-east Asia at the World Luxury Hotel Awards 2016.

The acclaimed beachfront resort in Laguna Phuket in Thailand has won a string of awards since opening in 2013. The property, with a large freeform pool, spiralling water slide, and Thai

design lobby is a quick 25 minutes from Phuket airport. To celebrate, the Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort is offering free meals at Locavore, Metzo's and Edgewater restaurants for children 12 years or younger when dining with parents when the holiday is booked via Outrigger.com for trips until October 30 next year. See outrigger.com/Phuket

hot spot IT'S 21°C IN LANZAROTE — a week at the 4★ Los Zocos Club Resort in Costa Tegise is from £435pp with First Choice. The price is based on all-inclusive with flights from Glasgow on December 1. See firstchoice.co.uk or call 0871 200 7799.

hot spot IT'S 21°C IN FUERTVENTURA — seven nights at the 4★ Geranios Suites & Spa in Caleta de Fuste is from £442pp. The price is based on B&B with flights leaving Glasgow on December 7. See olympicholidays.com or call 0208 492 6868.

Planet Heather



Scotland's most read travel supplement

7 PAGES OF HOLDS WITH SCOTTISH SUN TRAVEL EDITOR HEATHER LOWRIE

EXPLORE SCENIC BEAUTY OF TAYMOUTH

IT was easy to forget where I was.

The picture-postcard blue waters that stretched out into the horizon, decorated by sailing boats and surrounded by lush greenery are more likely to be found in some exotic destination that takes a flight and probably a small fortune to get to.

Intoxicating views are everywhere — and I am right here in Scotland.

My husband Paul and I had chosen to escape from everyday life with a weekend family break — the chance to reconnect as well as claw back a few days to recharge the batteries.

Kenmore in Perthshire was our destination, with Mains of Taymouth Country Estate as our home from home.

And what a place. The Estate, which is bordered by the Tay Forest Park and overlooks the River Tay, is pretty spectacular, offering a wide selection of 4★ and 5★ rental properties.

'Every inch is well thought out'

We opted for the luxurious Mains Park Court, a seriously impressive cottage with five en-suite bedrooms, a gigantic gourmet kitchen that looks like it's straight out of an interiors magazine, an open-plan extensive lounge and dining area furnished with sumptuous leather sofas and a 42-inch flat-screen TV.

There is a separate lounge with a log burning stove, Wii games console and another TV — and there is even a pool table.

Outside in the private gardens awaits a Finnish sauna chalet, hot tub and BBQ. Every inch of this place was well thought out and fully equipped for modern living. It really is stunning.

It would be all too easy to enjoy these new comforts but there is so much to do and explore in the conservation village Kenmore which lies on the banks of Loch Tay.

After a morning soaking up the atmosphere of Kenmore and nearby Aberfeldy, which offers a wide range of local eateries, we ventured to Highland Safaris, an award-winning 5★ visitor attraction.

With our two toddlers

SUPERB . . . Mains of Taymouth boasts stunning views and luxurious rentals



Oliver and Daniel in tow, we couldn't experience the acclaimed Land Rover Mountain or Highland Safari. Instead we spent our time in the Red Deer Centre, where we came face to face with the majestic creature, the UK's largest native land mammal, and learned all about Scotland's native deer population.

The kids even got to feed the deer from the enclosure. Then it was off to meet Ossian, the barn owl.

Lunch at Highland Safaris was an impressive affair with freshly prepared, healthy dishes made with locally sourced ingredients.

GO: MAINS OF TAYMOUTH

SEVEN nights in a two-bedroom villa is from £782. There is a minimum of three nights at the Mains Park Court with prices from £1,470 (sleeps nine). Quote suntaymouth.com when booking for complimentary golf (weather dependent). For more info see taymouth.co.uk

And as the children went off to play in the sandpit and bouncy castle, I decided to try my luck in the Gold and Gem Panning Centre hunting down the 'fools' gold and semi-precious stones.

It is, without a doubt, one of the best visitor attractions

we've come across and we ended up spending almost an entire afternoon there.

Back in Mains of Taymouth Country Estate there's lots to do including a nine-hole golf course, riding stables, children's playpark, Courtyard Bar and Restaurant, delicatessen and gift shop. But with the weather on our side for once, we opted for a dip in the hot tub — well worth the experience come rain or shine.

The following day we explored the Scottish Crannog Centre, located on the banks of Loch Tay. This fascinating interactive centre shows what Iron Age life

was like with a reconstructed prehistoric loch-dwelling.

It's also a living museum on the water and overlooks the remains of four ancient crannog settlements preserved in the loch — a definite must. And for adults, the Dewar's Distillery is also worth a visit, even for non-whisky drinkers like myself. Book ahead for a tour and tasting experience.

With so much to see and do, it wasn't long before our time was up and our short break over. With batteries recharged, we're already planning our return visit.

SARAH HOWDEN



JUST CHILLING . . .
Sarah and son relax in hot tub

GRAND CENTRAL: Seven nights' B&B at the 5★ LUX Grand Gaube in Mauritius is from £1,179pp leaving Glasgow on selected dates from June 1-July 8 next year. See flightcentre.co.uk or call 0800 188 4593 and quote reference: 3635859.

. . . TO THE MANOR BORN: Take the family to Drayton Manor for their Magical Christmas light shows, firework display, carols and even snow. Take a stroll to see the reindeer in the 15-acre zoo, enjoy the thrills and spills of The Polar Express and even see Father Christmas. Cost from £107 for a family of four per night at the 3★ Holiday Inn Express Birmingham Oldbury including entrance tickets on November 20. See superbreak.com or call 0800 042 0288.

. . . VILLAGE PEOPLE: A week half-board at the 4★ Kefalos Beach Village in Paphos, Cyprus, is from £359pp, leaving Glasgow on November 23. See stewarttravel.co.uk or call 0800 091 2757.

. . . FUN IN FUNCHAL: Seven nights' room-only at the 3★ Hotel Doris Florasol in Funchal, Madeira, is from £319pp, leaving Glasgow on November 21. See jet2holidays.com or call 0800 408 5594.

. . . SEE THE LIGHT: A week at Lighthouse Cottage (615), in Trevanian, near Watergate Bay in Cornwall, is from £349, arriving November 19 or 26. It sleeps five and is five minutes from the beach. See cornicott.com/cottages/lighthouse-cottage-trevanian-newquay-499.html

. . . WE SHALL OVER-COMBER: Save 25 per cent on seven nights at Mauricia Beachcomber Resort & Spa in Mauritius including dinner B&B from £1,408pp, plus flights from London between December 1-26. See beachcombertours.uk or call 01483 445 685.

. . . START SPREADING THE NEWS: Three nights' room-only at the 4★ Riu Plaza New York Times Square, New York, is from £569pp leaving Glasgow on selected dates in March if booked by November 17. See myamericaholiday.co.uk or call 020 3504 8528.

. . . A WINTER'S TALE: Novotel has a Warm Up Your Winter offer with 25 per cent off rooms at their 33 UK hotels from December 5-April 17 if booked by March 7. See Novotel.com

. . . REGENTE'S PARK: A week full-board at the 3★ Hotel Regente in Benidorm is from £229pp leaving Glasgow on December 6. See thomson.co.uk or call 0871 230 2555.