

## Moon vacations possible by 2024

2nd October, 2014



A website that provides price comparisons for flights, hotels and car hire across the globe has made some bold predictions for what travel will look like in a decade from now. Perhaps the most mouthwatering destination for 2024 holidaymakers will be a trip to the Moon or a stay in space. The site Skyscanner.com has just released a report of what holidays in the not-too-distant future might look like. The report is titled 'The Future of Travel 2024' and outlines a whole series of previously unimaginable vacation choices for the thrill-seeking traveller and those who just want to get there quicker. The report is a result of the collaboration between travel experts and international technology experts.

Holidays in space are perhaps the most spectacular of Skyscanner's predictions. Its report says: "Orbital space travel will be the next hot ticket, and commercial companies are lining up to make it a more affordable proposition." Indeed, Virgin Galactic and SpaceX are already accepting bookings. The cost of a seat on the Virgin craft (round trip, of course) is \$250,000. Skyscanner also predicts an explosion in the number of underwater hotel rooms, which it says will become a mainstream travel option. Other things to look forward to include a supersonic aircraft that will fly London-Sydney in two hours and the emergence of "danger-zone" tourism. We can also expect futuristic advances in shopping and dining.

Sources: *Skyscanner.com* / *Fox News* / *The Guardian*

## Writing

What is "danger-zone" tourism? What are the advantages and disadvantages of it?

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

*website / price comparisons / predictions / travel / vacation choices / collaboration / spectacular / space travel / hotel rooms / supersonic aircraft / danger zone / dining*

## True / False

- A hotel chain made predictions about travelling in the future. T / F
- The article said there will be water on the Moon in 2024. T / F
- The travel report should please people who want excitement. T / F
- The report was written by travel and technology experts. T / F
- The report says tickets for space travel will be heated. T / F
- A seat on a Virgin Galactic space flight is \$250,000. T / F
- The report says underwater hotel rooms will be common in the future. T / F
- The report says there will be little change to how we shop or dine. T / F

## Synonym Match

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. provides      | a. inexpensive     |
| 2. hire          | b. forecasts       |
| 3. predictions   | c. normal          |
| 4. unimaginable  | d. joint effort    |
| 5. collaboration | e. eye-catching    |
| 6. spectacular   | f. makes available |
| 7. affordable    | g. arrival         |
| 8. explosion     | h. unheard of      |
| 9. mainstream    | i. increase        |
| 10. emergence    | j. rental          |

## Discussion – Student A

- What would you take on a holiday to the Moon?
- How will holidays change over the next century?
- What is the attraction of staying in an underwater hotel?
- In what ways is tourism beneficial?
- In what ways is tourism harmful to local cultures?
- What is "danger-zone" tourism?
- Which dangerous country would you like to visit?
- What questions would you like to ask Skyscanner's CEO?

# Breaking News English - The Mini Lesson

## Phrase Match

- A website that provides price
- car
- in the not-too-
- the thrill-
- the collaboration
- lining
- make it a more affordable
- become a mainstream
- the emergence of "danger-zone"
- futuristic advances
- tourism
- seeking traveller
- between travel experts
- travel option
- proposition
- comparisons for flights
- in shopping and dining
- distant future
- up
- hire

## Discussion – Student B

- How do you usually travel?
- How have holidays changed over the past century?
- How does a vacation to the Moon sound to you?
- What's the most mouthwatering destination for you?
- What's the best place you've travelled to, and why?
- Do you prefer a holiday with thrills or a holiday with time to relax?
- Why do we like to travel so much?
- What are the worst things about travelling?

## Spelling

- price ioosrcsapnm for flights
- bold stcnpriodie
- the most mouthwatering dttnineaso for 2024
- just ersdaeel a report
- previously lmiiianaguneb vacation choices
- the oncaaooirlltb between travel experts
- the most tpusalecrac
- omimelcacr companies
- a more fdeblfraao proposition
- an eonisloxp in the number
- a etamimsrna travel option
- tstcufriiu advances in shopping

### Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. j	3. b	4. h	5. d
6. e	7. a	8. i	9. c	10. g

## Role Play

### Role A – The Moon

You think the Moon is the best place to stay. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): an Antarctica resort, Buckingham Palace or a hotel on the summit of Mt Everest.

### Role B – Antarctica resort

You think an Antarctica resort is the best place to stay. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): the Moon, Buckingham Palace or a hotel on the summit of Mt Everest.

### Role C – Buckingham Palace

You think Buckingham Palace is the best place to stay. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): an Antarctica resort, the Moon or a hotel on the summit of Mt Everest.

### Role D – Mt Everest summit hotel

You think a hotel on the summit of Mt Everest is the best place to stay. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): an Antarctica resort, Buckingham Palace or the Moon.

## Speaking – Destinations

Rank these with your partner. Put the best destinations at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Antarctica resort
- Buckingham Palace
- Sahara desert
- the Moon
- heart of the Amazon
- hotels in space
- Great Barrier Reef resort
- Mt Everest summit hotel

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.