

**lonely planet**  
TRAVELLER

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The shallow turquoise waters of the Sea of Cortez off La Paz bring stand-up paddleboarders to the Baja California peninsula



**Cast off  
on  
azure  
waters**

EXPLORING THE COAST OF MEXICO



The atolls of the Maldives are top scuba locations, so why limit yourself to the same patch of coral each day? The Floating Resort sails around the archipelago to a new dive spot each day and prices start from a reasonable – for this part of the world, at least – £1,545 per week all-inclusive (scubaspa.com).



# Je t'aime

**THE CHAMPION HAS BEEN CHOSEN:** the 2,700-strong community of Kaysersberg saw off competitors to become France's favourite village in the TV contest *Le Village Préféré des Français*. Winning ingredients in its appeal include half-timbered houses clustered along the River Weiss, a ruined castle perched above, and hillsides bedecked with vines that translate into fine rieslings and gewürztraminers. If past winners of the programme are anything to go by, this Alsatian village will get a lot of visitor love. See it the slow way on a gastronomic walking tour with UTracks, taking in three other winsome villages (from £530; utracks.com).

## BEAT THE BURDEN

**Luggage:** something you lug. For travellers with a few hours to kill in a city, an alternative to the station left-luggage office is long overdue. New startup CityStasher takes the crowdsourcing approach, finding a variety of shops and willing hotels to take your bag, some open 24 hours. Use its maps to find the best spots in more than 20 UK cities (from £4 for under three hours; citystasher.com).

