

IS LOCKHEED TRUMP-PROOF? • THE \$4.5 BILLION CABINET

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Forbes



30 UNDER 30

600 INNOVATORS IN 20 INDUSTRIES
REVOLUTIONIZING THE WORLD

JASON DERULO

POP PRINCE
CASHES IN

HALSEY

BIGGEST SONG
OF 2016

MICHAEL PHELPS

BUILDING A
GOLDEN BRAND

JAMES PROUD

SLEEPING HIS WAY
TO \$250 MILLION

A photograph of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France, set against a clear sky. The tower is the central focus, with the Parisian skyline visible in the background.

TOP TRAVEL AGENTS REVEAL WHAT'S HOT IN LUXURY TRAVEL FOR 2017

WHY USE A TRAVEL AGENT?

Agents also travel extensively to inspect hotels, see what's new and what now needs some loving care before they will send their clients, and they attend trade shows like ILTM to network with hotel and supplier executives, including hotel general managers. Alison Gilmore, ILTM's director told Forbes.com, "Even in these days of the internet, smartphones and all the advantages of instant 'virtual' connection, the face-to-face meeting has never been so important. In fact, because we rely on connections from behind a screen so much, when we come together to network we almost rediscover how much more effective the personal touch is for building business and business opportunities." It's these personal contacts that help get service issues fixed quickly and also get you special treatment even though it's your first time staying at that hotel.

With that in mind, we talked to some of the more than 1,500 travel agents here in the south of France to ask them what they see as the hot spots for 2017.

**MICHAEL HOLTZ,
SMARTFLYER, NEW
YORK**

***"ALMANAC BARCELONA,
COMING IN 2017, WILL
BE HOT. IT WILL BE
STYLISH, CHIC WITH A
BIG SUITE ELEMENT.
THEY EVEN ALLOW
GUESTS TO CREATE
THEIR OWN PERFUME. I
WILL ALSO BE HEADING
TO MONGOLIA."***

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