

40 REASONS TO RAISE YOUR EYEBROWS!

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1. According to ship design experts, Tillberg Design, within 10 years there will be new cruise ships capable of accommodating up to 7,000 passengers.
2. The number of Europeans taking a cruise has increased by 40% in the last 3 years.
3. Carnival Cruise Line has predicted that the European cruise market will be as large as that of the US by 2015.
4. According to Expedia, Brits are the worst behaved travellers in the world.
5. There are now 132 Mediterranean ports of call that are frequented by cruise ships.
6. The four venues short listed for the 2016 Olympic Games are Chicago, Rio de Janeiro, Madrid and Tokyo.
7. London Gatwick, with 35 million passengers a year has the world's busiest runway.
8. The world's largest air passenger bridge is at London Gatwick's north terminal and spans the aircraft taxi-way.
9. Bermuda has the highest density of golf courses of any country in the world.
10. Four of the world's highest five mountain peaks may be seen from the Jaljate Himal in Nepal.
11. There are over 100,000 lakes in Sweden's Lake District.
12. The world's longest continuous railway line is between Moscow and Vladivostok and stretches almost 6,000 miles.
13. St Stephen's Green in Dublin is Europe's largest garden square.
14. Death Valley in California is America's lowest point, at 282 ft below sea level. The lowest point on earth is at the Dead Sea and is 1,305 ft below sea level.
15. Fiji is made up of over 300 islands and one of them, 2,200 acre Wakaya with its 32 beaches, is owned by Canadian, David Gilmour.
16. Palau in Micronesia is made up of 343 islands and the surrounding waters are home to 1,500 species of fish.
17. With over 300 wineries, California provides almost 10% of the world's wines.
18. Of the 191 peaks in the Rocky Mountain National Park, one third are more than 10,000 ft above sea level.
19. Florida's Everglades National Park spreads over 1.5million acres.

20. Savannah's Historic District accommodates 21 one-acre squares and just over 1,000 restored colonial homes within its 2½ square miles.
21. There are over 100 partially submerged mountain peaks lying in the Strait of Georgia, between Vancouver Island and mainland British Columbia.
22. Whistler, BC has the greatest vertical drop of any ski resort in North America and has 7,000 acres of skiable terrain, 2,000 more than anywhere else in the Americas.
23. The Bay of Fundy, in New Brunswick, is home to the world's highest tides – they rise to 48 feet in six hours, 22 times greater than the average rise.
24. There are over 36,000 works of art in Toronto's Art Gallery of Ontario.
25. There are 6 million exhibits at the Royal Ontario Museum.
26. Although Andros is the largest island in the Bahamas, it is uninhabited.
27. The wing of a Boeing 747 aircraft has enough surface to park 55 Mini motor cars.
28. The arch over London's new Wembley Stadium is large enough for a double decker bus to pass through.
29. The shortest scheduled flight in the world operates from Westray to Papa Westray in Scotland and takes two minutes.
30. The shortest scheduled international flight in the world takes 20 minutes and operates the four miles between Kinshasa and Brazzaville.
31. The Louvre in Paris was initially constructed in the Middle Ages as a fortress. It was rebuilt as a royal palace in the 1500s and became a museum in 1793.
32. The Palace of the Winds (Hawa Mahal), in Jaipur, India was built for the women of the court to look out on the street below, hence its 900 tiny niches.
33. The Egyptian Antiquities Museum in Cairo has 107 exhibition halls.
34. The Colosseum in Rome was built to hold up to 50,000 people and was opened in AD80 by Emperor Titus.
35. There are 52 bedrooms, 78 bathrooms and 92 offices in Buckingham Palace.
36. The Mall of America in Minneapolis is the world's largest undercover shopping centre and houses 520 shops.
37. Europe accounts for over 50% of the world's global travel departures.
38. Finland has over 81,000 islands and over 187,000 lakes.
39. Switzerland is the only country with a square flag.
40. Libya is the only country with a single coloured flag.