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*The Leader for Independent Travel*



***For immediate release***

## **Avanti Destinations Appoints Gina Bang Chief Sales and Marketing Officer**

Portland, OR, January 29, 2024 – Wholesale custom tour operator Avanti Destinations has appointed Gina Bang Chief Sales and Marketing Officer, reporting to CEO Paul Barry. Sales previously reported to John Hanratty, who remains Senior VP Industry Relations.

Bang has been with Avanti for 21 years, most recently serving as Director of Marketing. Starting as a customer service representative, Bang’s other positions have included: manager of inside sales; product manager for Central and Northern Europe; and senior manager of inside sales and marketing, where she was responsible for maintaining and developing relationships with consortia, as well as tourist boards and other industry partners on joint marketing efforts.

“Gina is one of our longest-tenured employees and thoroughly knows this company, its people, its partners, and products,” said Paul Barry. “She has done a wonderful job in every position that she has held and is the right person to head up our rapidly expanding sales team, as well as marketing.”

“My first priority is growing the sales team – we will be making new hire announcements soon,” said Bang. “I’m committed to building long-term relationships, delivering exceptional service, and making it easy for our valued travel advisors to create and sell custom FIT travel”.

For additional information on booking unique experiences and custom-built, complex and multi-destination FIT travel and custom group travel 365 days a year to Europe, Asia, the South Pacific, North Africa, the Middle East, and Central and South America, log onto the travel agent portal <https://book.avantidestinations.com> or call 1-800-422-5053 to speak with an expert travel specialist.

**Since 1981**, Avanti Destinations has been selling **independent travel** products and custom-crafted vacations in 57 countries in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the South Pacific, and Central and South America exclusively through travel advisors. The Portland, Oregon-based wholesale tour operator offers a wide range of FIT components **to travel advisors only**, including air, rail, rental cars, hotels, sightseeing/attractions, transfers and hard-to-find experiential travel options. Avanti specializes in hand-picked, locally-owned hotels in both large and small cities and in **connecting all the pieces of complex, multi-destination itineraries**. The company also creates complete packages for custom groups of 15-100 passengers. For more information: <https://book.avantidestinations.com>.

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**Photo captions:** *Avanti Destinations has named Gina Bang Chief Sales and Marketing Officer. Electronic photo of Gina Bang, Avanti's Chief Sales and Marketing Officer available at [https://1drv.ms/i/s!AjdZmJ2b7j-YqrR\\_qLV0kQx0dQBngQ?e=BqRWfe](https://1drv.ms/i/s!AjdZmJ2b7j-YqrR_qLV0kQx0dQBngQ?e=BqRWfe)*