



TECH TIPS

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10 Geeky Summer Destinations (Tan Not Included)

Tired of the same old beach vacation (I know I'm not, but that's just me!). Check out the top 10 summer destinations that speak to your inner geek (you know he/she is in there)!

Just a few of them:

1. **Las Vegas, USA—STAR TREK CONVENTION**—Trekkies unite annually to take over the city of lights in a BIG way. This year, the convention runs Aug 9-12, 2012. Don't forget your spock ears!
2. **Toronto, Canada—FAN EXPO**—From Aug 23-26, 2012, Toronto will host one of the largest geek exhibitions of the year. It brings together the best (and I use that term loosely) of anime, comic books, sci fi, horror manga, and video games.



3. **Matmata, Tunisia—HOTEL SIDI DRISS**—Made famous in Star Wars,

geeks will recognize this hotel as Luke's house on Tatooine. If that wasn't enough fame for you, the top this Matmata is also in the Call of Duty video game.

4. **Matamata, New Zealand—HOBBITON** -

Explore the Shire, visit Bilbo Baggins and Frodo's home, and see the scenes from the Lord of the Rings.



For more summer geek-stinations, check out: lilingo.com
Photos courtesy of flickr cc

9-Year Old Has Victory Meal

9-year old Martha Payne of western Scotland started a blog to document the unappealing, non-nutritious lunches she was being served in her public school. She started her blog, [Never Seconds](#), in early May, and it went viral within days. She currently has over 6 million pageviews. Payne, whose mother is a doctor and father is a farmer, was written up in [Time](#), the [Telegraph](#), the [Daily Mail](#), and got [support](#) from TV chef-lebrity Jamie Oliver.

Martha Payne was excited enough about feeding children, and influenced enough people that within two weeks, her own school was allowing kids to have unlimited salads, fruit and bread. She also got children around the world involved, and received pictures of school lunches from Germany, Japan, Finland, Illinois, Spain, Washington State, and Atlanta.

She could have used her fame for evil, however instead decided to re-direct the attention she was receiving, and asked her followers to donate to a charity called [Mary's Meals](#) that funds school food in Africa. She even kick-started the donations by sending in money that she had made from a magazine that reprinted some of her pictures. Initially Martha hoped to raise the equivalent of approximately over \$11, 200. Currently, Martha and her followers have helped Mary's Meals to raise the equivalent of over \$146,720.00 Canadian.

However, Argyll and Bute Council, which her school is in, did not agree that change was a good thing, and [banned](#) Payne's photography. With much outrage, and an outpouring of support via emails, phone calls, and bad press in general, Argyll and Bute Council have now [lifted the ban](#).

Martha's blog is up & running again, raising awareness of poor quality of school lunches, and awareness and money for Mary's Meals.

To check out Martha Payne's blog, [Never Seconds](#), click [HERE](#).

To check out Mary's Meals, click [HERE](#).

June 2012 Trivia Question: YOU MISSED OUT!

The coffee was hot, and the donuts were fresh...BUT WE DID NOT RECEIVE A CORRECT ANSWER FOR THE JUNE 2012 TRIVIA QUESTION!

Technology By Design staff had to make the sacrifice, and eat the winnings...THEY WERE DELICIOUS!

If you knew the answer, and didn't email it to answer@tbyd.ca - YOU MISSED OUT!

Help save the monthly trivia (and ThyD staff's waistlines!) by emailing your answer to the July 2012 Trivia Question to answer@tbyd.ca!

Your entry gets you a chance to win coffee & donuts...delivered! PLUS, Your company will be featured In next month's issue of TechTips, on our blog, and our Facebook page!

Your feature will reach over 1900 potential customers!!





Google Saves the World, 9500 Times a Day

Google has unveiled that its security team finds approximately 9,500 new malicious websites EVERY DAY.

Niels Provos (of Google's security team) states "These are either innocent websites that have been compromised by malware authors, or others that are built specifically for malware distribution or phishing. While we flag many sites daily, we strive for high quality and have only a handful of false positives."

Google is doing their part to protect the innocent via its various warning systems, and sends out thousands of notifications on a daily basis, to webmasters and ISPs, to try to combat the onslaught.

Which brings to mind...what are you using to protect your computer?

Check out Niels Provos' post regarding the discovered attack sites: [HERE](#).

DO YOU HAVE A BURNING COMPUTER QUESTION ??

Email the Technology By Design Resident Geek!
We'll even translate it from Geek-lish to English,
so the answer actually helps!

Email your question to: geek@tbyd.ca

Check our blog for the answer:
tbyd.ca/blog

Facebook Lifting Kid-Ban?

Facebook currently has a ban on kids under the age of 13, in an effort to protect the young. However, due to, well...money, The Wall Street Journal [reports](#) Facebook is currently testing ways to connect a child's Fb account to their parents', giving mommy & daddy ultimate control (yea, right) over their friends list, apps, and other features.

Facebook is looking to slap mommy & daddy with the bill to charged games and other fun stuff (which "all the other kids are allowed to", I'm sure). Other than the gleam of money, enforcement of the 'No-Under'13' rule is extremely difficult, especially when parents are wanting their children to have access to online content, apps, and services.

I'm sure this search for profitability has nothing to do with their now-infamous initial public offering (IPO).

JULY TRIVIA QUESTION:

Who would use a mashie niblick?

Email your answer to: answer@tbyd.ca
for your chance to win coffee & donuts delivered to your door!

PLUS, Your company will be featured in next month's issue of [TechTips](#), on our [blog](#), and our [Facebook](#) page!

Your feature will reach over 1900 other people!

Are You Texting, Or Are You Just Happy To See Me...?

No more of those awkward questions...these jeans have everything out in the open. DELTA415 Wearcom Jeans from Alphyn Industries have your back!

Show your allegiance (and your addiction) to your iPhone with these jeans. They look like the regular, every-day \$90 jeans then, faster than you can say "Holy iPhone Batman!", the front right pocket reveals a transparent iPhone pouch with a protective denim flap that can be zipped shut. And for your listening pleasure...a button hole for your earbuds to slip through.

The jeans are pretty standard otherwise—made of deep indigo-coloured "premium coated" denim, straight leg cut, and the pockets are lined with organic army-green cotton cloth.

AND, unlike Microsoft, the jeans are functional for those that are not 'iPhone or nothing'. The transparent iPhone pouch fits any phone that measures up to 3" x 5".

The jeans are not cheap, going for \$160 U.S. each. But just think of the time you'll save from taking your phone in & out of your pocket, or all those embarrassing texts that they'll save you from while texting inside your pocket!

If the price tag didn't scare you off, you can purchase these beauties [HERE](#).

And for those embarrassingly wrong texts from autocorrect, visit [HERE](#).

WHY THE BLOG?

AKA: DON'T WE HEAR FROM YOU ENOUGH?

In our geek-search to fix all things computer, we have found that our clients often have many of the same questions or concerns. We often don't have room in our monthly newsletter, or the newsletter simply doesn't come out often enough to address these frequent questions or concerns.

Check out the blog: tbyd.ca/blog