

Director

TEAM BUILDING



12 away days of Christmas

Want to make your company's festive party special this year? Here are a dozen inspiring alternatives to the traditional celebration...

Four years ago, gloomy headlines predicted the death of the work Christmas party with four in 10 businesses planning to scrap the traditional end-of-year festivities. As the economy improves, there's a desire among those on the shopfloor to celebrate once more.

But a Christmas party doesn't need to be about boozy blunders, dodgy dancing or a microwaved stuffed turkey roll upstairs at the local pub. Instead of holding strained conversation over the lunch table an increasing number of directors are seeing the benefit of incentivising workers with an interesting hybrid of the corporate awayday and Christmas 'do'.

From app-based adventure games and cookery school collaborations to Bond-style 'bomb disposal' and co-operative cocktail-making, Director investigates 12 novel ways you can send your team home for Christmas with renewed energy, vigour and the motivation to make 2015 the most successful year yet...

Cookery School at Little Portland Street

If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen – but that's not an option for the 20 fellows of the African Leadership Institute. Stood in the kitchen of the Cookery School at Little Portland Street, the group, who have allowed Director to shadow them for the day, are split into four teams and each given a box of ingredients with the task of cooking a three-course authentic African meal in an hour. What the participants don't realise is that each box isn't equal in quantity, and they are being tested on how well they react to this.

This year the school has launched corporate Festive Feast parties, running from the end of November until mid-January. During a cook-off-style event, guests create and dine on delicious dishes together, encouraging team spirit in a fun environment. There are three dinner party options, for groups of eight to 50 people.

www.cookeryschool.co.uk