



Sports Leisure Vacations

Your “In-Between” Newsletter Update

Volume 47, No. 5 * March 2026

Important updates on tour availability, a few new offerings and Daycations, and the opportunity to register for our **Spring/Holiday Preview Day**.

Greetings Sports Leisure Travelers and Friends:

Our next full newsletter will be mailed in mid-April following **Spring/Holiday Preview Day**. Of course, after Preview Day many tours fill up quickly. We encourage you to join us on April 4th, either for the full presentation or you're welcome to do a “drive-by” and pick up new trip information.

Printed new tour information will also be available at the office on Monday, April 6, or you can wait for our next newsletter about two weeks after the event. New tours should be on the website by April 8.

Spring/Holiday Preview Day

Saturday, April 4th at the KVIE Studios
2030 West El Camino Ave., 95833, just off I-5

Two 90-minute sessions start at 9:30 and 11:30 am.

No admission charge, but reservations are required.
Limit of 200 for each show. Call the office (9am – 3:30pm, M-F) or
request reservations online at: res@sportsleisure.com.
(Include the # of seats you need and which time you prefer. We
will confirm your reservation by email the next business day.)

See page 2 for complimentary shuttle information and our
annual donation request.

Donations Encouraged!

We will be collecting (dry) pet food and baby diapers for Loaves & Fishes, and encourage you to bring a donation to the event. This was VERY well received last year and REALLY fills an important need in our community. Imagine being homeless and without food for your animal, who is likely one of the most important things in your life. Or not having diapers for your child whilst living on the street or in marginal housing. Small things for us, perhaps, but HUGE for the recipients. Therefore ask for donations in lieu of an admission charge to attend Preview Day. Donations are optional.

Complimentary Shuttle Schedule

Reserve a seat on our Preview Day shuttle by calling the office (9am – 3:30pm, M-F) at (916) 361-2051. The shuttle will be hosted. Seats are unassigned.

Session 1 pick-ups and return:

- 8 a.m.** Palladio Shopping Center, Folsom (pick-up on west side of garage on Palladio Parkway)
- 8:25** *Sports Leisure Vacations* office – 9812 Old Winery Place, 95827
- 8:50** Arden/Expo – our standard pick-up across from the mall
- 9:10** Arrive KVIE
- 9:30** Session 1 begins – driver departs for Session 2 pick-ups
- 11** Return Session 1 riders to their cars

Session 2 pick-ups and return:

- 9:55** WinCo Store on Fairway Drive, Rocklin
- 10:15** Citrus Heights – our standard pick-up on Brimstone at Lichen
- 10:40** Arden/Expo – our standard pick-up across from the mall
- 11** Arrive KVIE – return Session 1 riders to their cars
- 11:30** Session 2 begins
- 1 p.m.** Return Session 2 riders to their cars

DAYCATIONS & THEATRE OUTINGS

Easter Brunch at the Grand Island Mansion

Walnut Grove

Sunday, April 5

Come join us for a beautiful Easter Brunch at the Delta's historic Grand Island Mansion, a spectacular Italian Renaissance-style villa. The mansion is one of the largest private estates in Northern California and embodies the finest features of classical architecture and European craftsmanship. Nestled in Walnut Grove along the Delta, the Grand Island Mansion is the perfect place for a memorable Easter brunch. **\$230**

Rashomon

Community Asian Theater of the Sierra, Nevada City

Sunday, April 26 – 2:00 pm

Join us for our annual trip to CATS theater. CATS enters its 32nd year, its April/May 2026 show at the Nevada Theatre is *Rashomon*, by Michael Kanin and Fay Kanin and directed by Sonny Alforque. *Rashomon* was an Akira Kurosawa film in 1950 and has been hailed as one of his finest. The samurai... the wife... or the bandit? Uncover the truth behind the lies. *Rashomon* is based on stories by Ryunosuke Akutagawa and explores the notions of truth and justice. Sonny Alforque will make his directorial debut for CATS. Prior to the show we will have lunch at Cirino's, and we always aim to give you some time to explore Main Street in Grass Valley before the show. **\$180**

Exploring Sonoma

Thursday, April 30

Come along for a Docent-guided tour of the Sonoma Mission, Chapel and Barracks. Enjoy lunch at Murphy's Irish pub, only a short walk from the Barracks. We will have time to explore the shops and Sonoma Square before returning home. Sonoma is known for its relaxed wine country vibe and significant contributions to the California story, offering a blend of historical sites, culinary excellence and stunning natural beauty. **\$160**

The Three Musketeers

Fallon House Theater, Columbia

Saturday, May 9 – 2:00 pm

Norman Allen's exhilarating adaptation of *The Three Musketeers* returns home! Bursting with romance, rebellion, and razor-sharp wit, this bold retelling of Alexandre Dumas' beloved tale is packed with high-stakes swordplay, heart, and heroism. Join D'Artagnan and the legendary Musketeers Athos, Porthos, and Aramis as they battle betrayal and fight for honor in a production where loyalty is tested, identities are mistaken, and every moment crackles with theatrical flair. We will enjoy lunch prior to the show. **\$168**

Mrs. Doubtfire – The Musical

Gallo Center, Modesto

Thursday, May 21 – 7:00 pm

Experience the heartwarming and hilarious journey of America's favorite nanny, Mrs. Doubtfire. As one of the most anticipated theatrical productions of the year, *Mrs. Doubtfire - The Musical* showcases a talented cast and a captivating score that brings the story to life in a fresh and exciting way. Audiences can expect to be entertained by memorable songs and stunning choreography that pay homage to the original film while adding a new layer of theatrical brilliance. Dinner is included before the show. **\$252**

Safari West

Santa Rosa

Tuesday, June 2

Nestled in the Sonoma foothills between Calistoga and Santa Rosa lies a unique preserve for animals from around the world. Your time at Safari West begins with a special educational presentation where you'll learn about some of the residents. After the presentation you will have a 45-minute open-air tram ride through the compounds with one of the guides. Your tour concludes with a 45-minute guided walk through the aviaries and small animal compounds. We conclude with a BBQ lunch complete with all the fixings, as well as sometime for the gift shop. This trip is always a *Sports Leisure* favorite. **\$191**

The Ospreys of Napa River and Mare Island

Saturday, June 6

Barbara, your host on the *Dolphin*, welcomes you aboard for a three-hour cruise on the Napa River and along the eastern side of Mare Island on this day where you will find yourself fully immersed in the wonders of nature. The plan is to cruise upriver for a bit, looking at the scenery and wildlife (bring your binoculars), then head back down river to the southern end of the island. Mare Island has become an important nesting habitat for Osprey, fish-eating raptors, and in June we might even see some hatchlings in their nests. A box lunch will be provided during the cruise for you to enjoy as the beauty of nature passes slowly by. **\$216**

Previously Announced Tours with Space Available

Seats available in (#)

Apr. 13 – Springtime in North San Diego (6)

Apr. 14 – Route 66 East (9)

Apr. 17 – Costa Rica (2)

Apr. 23 – Stars, Stripes & Carnegie Hall (7)

May 26 – Zion & Bryce Canyon National Parks (2)

May 30 – Legends and Lakes Mystery Tour (3)

June 5 – Boston & Cape Cod (5)

June 25 – Baltic Odyssey (3)

July 7 – Canadian Rockies & Calgary Stampede (8)

July 12 – Fort Bragg/Mendocino (3)
July 20 – Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound (1)
July 26 – Pageant of the Masters (5)
Aug. 16 – Pageant of the Masters (2)
Aug. 20 – Mainely Maine (5)
Aug. 31 – South Dakota (5)
Oct. 7 – Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta (6)
Oct. 9 – Canadian Thanksgiving/Niagara Falls (2)
Oct. 11 – Mexico’s Copper Canyon (18)
Oct. 14 – Route 66 West (4)
Oct. 26 – Nevada Ghost Towns (6)
Nov. 9 – Japan (13) **New Tour!**

Sold Out Multi-Day Tours

Call to add your name to the waitlist!

Apr. 12 – Pathways of Patriots
Apr. 28 – Columbia/Snake River Cruise
May 3 & May 11 – On the Central Coast
May 5 – Route 66 East
May 17 – London
May 17 – Wonder Valley Ranch
July 23 – Iceland, Land of Fire & Ice
July 26 & August 16 – Pageant of the Masters
Aug. 2 – San Juan Explorer
Aug. 31 – Portugal
Oct. 3 – Lake Placid & Cooperstown

Tours with Space Available in Departure Date Order

Find full itineraries for all vacations at www.sportsleisure.com or by calling the office!

Springtime in North San Diego

Featuring the Carlsbad Flower Fields in bloom

5 Days * April 13-17

An extended stay on the coast during flower season. And not too far from home!

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights at the Mission Pacific Beach Resort - Oceanside
- 55 acres of blooms and butterflies at the Carlsbad Flower Fields
- San Diego Safari Park with private tour
- Temecula Wine Country Tour with tasting and lunch among the vineyards
- Visit” Mission San Luis Rey

- Two hour whale/dolphin watching cruise
- 7 meals, airfare, door-to-door service
- 3300/3850 Gold Passport Points

\$3270 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3815 single

Route 66, The Main Street of America, Part I

Chicago to Oklahoma City

10 Days * April 14-23

The ultimate road trip. A journey down **Route 66** is like cutting yourself a slice of All-American Pie. You'll discover people and places you didn't know existed – like the murals that line the walls of Pontiac, IL and Cuba, MO; Ted Drewes Frozen Custard in St. Louis and the magnificent Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield, IL. Meet Route 66 authors and experts, roadies and characters. If you love “off-the-beaten-track,” you've found your trip, a wonderful combination of history, Americana and more road food than you can imagine.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Overnight Chicago; 2 nights Springfield, IL; 2 nights St. Louis; overnights in Springfield, MO; Miami, OK; Tulsa, OK; Oklahoma City, OK.
- Meet the people and hear the stories of a century of Route 66 – special guides, speakers and guests; lots of quirky attractions from days gone by
- Including: Home pick-up, airfare and 24 meals, many of them in classic restaurants - everything from roadside diners to fancy sit-downs in historic venues
- 4950/5850 Gold Passport Points

\$4925 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5820 single

Costa Rica “Pura Vida”

10 Days • April 17-26

Escape to paradise with a dream vacation to Costa Rica! From lush rainforests teeming with wildlife to pristine beaches. Visiting Arenal Volcano National Park, The Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve, home to rare and unusual wildlife and over 450 species of birds including the world's largest population of quetzal birds. And Manuel Antonio National Park where you can observe capuchin and squirrel monkeys and sloths.

Other attractions include; Toucan Rescue Ranch, coffee and chocolate tour and Damas Island boat trip. Includes 19 meals; 8 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 6 dinners, door to door airport transportation, R/T airfare, a local Costa Rican tour guide and *Sports Leisure* tour director Scott Angeletti. This tour requires a valid passport.

\$6,245 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7,615 single, TWO spaces available

This tour requires a valid passport

Stars, Stripes & Carnegie Hall – Philadelphia & New York

Brotherly Love and America's first Capital City

7 Days * April 23-29

In celebration of our Semiquincentennial we're going to the heart of American history on this unforgettable East Coast adventure. From the cobblestone streets of Philadelphia to the never-sleeping excitement of New York City, each day offers a new chapter in the story of the United States, woven with Revolutionary tales and patriotic flavors.

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 nights in the heart of each city – Philadelphia and New York
- **Philadelphia:** Independence Hall, Liberty Bell, National Constitution Center, American Revolution Museum, Christ Church, Betsy Ross Home
- **New York:** Fraunces Tavern, Liberty Hall, Trinity and St. Paul's Churches, Brooklyn's Revolutionary sites, Behind-the-scenes on Broadway, True Heros and Little Italy in the Bronx
- 2 performances: *Hamilton* and the NY Pops Orchestra live in Carnegie Hall
- 11 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Philadelphia/from New York LaGuardia
- Door-to-door Airport Transportation
- 5000/5800 Gold Passport Points

1. Touch down in Philadelphia around 5 pm and settle into your hotel home, nestled in the historic district. Offering easy access to nearby landmarks and a wide array of dining options, take time to wander the storied streets, soaking in the Colonial architecture and the city's vibrant energy. Join your fellow travelers for dinner offering up the rich flavors found only in the City of Brotherly Love. **Hilton Garden Inn Center City – 3 nights (D)**

2. With a local guide leading the way, experience Revolutionary revelations in your deep dive into Philadelphia's rich legacy, especially poignant during our country's 250th anniversary. Visit the National Constitution Center, Independence Hall and stand before the iconic Liberty Bell to name but a few of the singular, all-American sites you'll see today. **(FB,L)**

3. Begin with a visit to the American Revolution Museum, then to Christ Church and Burial Ground, final resting place of Benjamin Franklin and other revolutionary figures. Take a break at the bustling Reading Terminal Market where local flavors and artisanal treats await your selection for lunch. Afterwards learn about our first flag at the Betsy Ross Home. **(FB,L)**

4. Depart Philadelphia and head north (less than 100 miles) to the Big Apple. Your arrival begins with a hosted brunch at Fraunces Tavern – once a meeting place for George Washington and his officers. Savor the ambiance and cuisine in this storied Downtown landmark. Did you know New York City was our nation's first Capital City? When George had a hard day at the office, it was here – on Wall Street no less! We'll begin our exploration of the Big Apple's often-forgotten Colonial past right after brunch. Then we head Uptown to Times Square and our hotel home. **New York Marriott Marquis – 3 nights (FB,BR)**

5. Today we visit the site where the inauguration of our first president was held; then pop in on the Trinity and St. Paul's Churchyards to honor the early Americans who rest there. Touring will continue to a Brooklyn site where history declared: *The Declaration of Independence was signed in ink at Philadelphia and signed in blood at Brooklyn*. Have lunch in Brooklyn's trendy DUMBO before returning to Midtown where you can grab a quick rest before dinner and the Carnegie Hall Birthday Gala featuring the New York Pops Orchestra! **(L,D)**

6. Today is for Broadway. OK, so that's not Colonial-era, but how can we come here and not pay homage to musical theatre, THE all-American art form? Visit a rehearsal studio where actors, musicians and technicians will share their stories of training, pathways to the stage and maybe even some behind-the-curtain secrets. Before returning to the hotel we will visit the Museum of Broadway for a comprehensive look at the history of The Great White Way. This year *Hamilton* marks its 10th year on stage. We just can't resist this epic tale of Founding Father "A-dot-Ham"! If you've already seen the show tell us at the point of reservation and we will help find another performance more to your liking. **(D)**

7. On our way to LaGuardia, we'll stop and spend a few hours with our favorite *True Heroes* at a firehouse in the Bronx. Enjoy lunch in the *real* Little Italy. Meet the shop owners who produced the foods you enjoyed at lunch. If you like grab some to take home – our treat! **(L)**
\$4980 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5760 single

Zion & Bryce Canyon National Parks

Among our most popular trips every year

6 Days * May 26-31

There is only one room available on this tour. Roundtrip air to/from Las Vegas and **TWO** live performances at the Tuacahn Amphitheater. It can be single or double occupancy. For more information call the office.

\$3570 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4335 single

Legends & Lakes Mystery Tour

This adventure into the Great Unknown is gold medal worthy to be sure!

7 Days * May 30 – June 5

It's a mystery tour, so what can we include in these pages to tantalize your curiosity without saying too much? How about a few clues:

You can expect crystal blue waters here, just like Lake Tahoe. But it's not Lake Tahoe. Definitely NOT Lake Tahoe, because you can't get here in a motorcoach. It's way too far for that. A flying house would be faster, but we're not going to Kansas. We will definitely take a plane to get there! In other words, airfare is included . . . but maybe only one-way.

The lakes will have many legends attached to them. In one town we'll visit there is an enormous edifice built by a man from Maine who changed the city and the world forever.

You could say he pioneered the industry. It's a place famous for flowers, but probably not the kind of flowers you are thinking of. And guess what? We're not going to Maine.

Royalty lived here. A famous aviator lived here. But don't even think about the *Spirit of St. Louis* because we're NOT going to Missouri . . . nor that state across the river. But there IS a river here and it's kind of big, except that it isn't. Maybe we should have put "river" in the title, but we didn't because we like alliteration. (We're not going to Amelia Earhart's hometown, either, because as already stated, WE'RE NOT GOING TO KANSAS!) Really, how many times must we say that!

We'll eat well! There are 13 meals: daily breakfast, 2 lunches and 5 dinners, plus lots of fun stuff to see and do, and the services of a fabulous *Sports Leisure* Tour Director who's an expert at keeping you guessing. What have you got to lose? Sign up already!

\$5605 p.p., dbl.occ., \$6385 single

5650/6400 Gold Passport Points

Boston to the Shores of Old Cape Cod

Visit Boston, Martha's Vineyard, Provincetown and Nantucket

8 Days * June 5-12

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights each Boston, Provincetown, Nantucket; overnight Hyannis
- Ride the ferry to Provincetown and the famous Swan Boats on Boston Common
- Guided tours of Boston, Provincetown, Cape Cod National Seashore, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard
- Whale Watching Cruise with a naturalist
- Tour the JFK Presidential Library, visit the *USS Constitution* and Museum
- 14 meals, including a lobster feast, round trip air to/from Boston, home pick-up
- 5300/6150 Gold Passport Points

One of our most popular annual tours, you have a chance to see Boston and explore the region. The two-night stays mean less moving around and more time to enjoy the legendary Cape.

\$5275 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6140 single

The Oregon Coast to the Redwoods

Featuring rides on Oregon's Rogue River and coastal sand dunes

7 Days * June 15-21

Fly to Portland, then make your way back down the most Spectacular coast in the country, stopping for adventure along the way. From the beautiful coastal redwoods to the scenic Roger River to the dunes and sparkling ocean beaches, it's a great adventure, at a leisurely pace, featuring two 2-night hotel stays.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Evergreen Aviation Museum – See the Howard Hughes’ original *Spruce Goose*
- Behind-the-scenes visit to the Oregon Aquarium
- Educational Cruise on Newport Harbor
- 2 nights Newport at the Hallmark Hotel - every room with an ocean view; 2 nights at The Edgewater Resort in Coos Bay; overnight Gold River and Eureka
- Ride the Sand Dunes in a giant Dune buggy...or take a more adventurous ride in a smaller buggy
- Stroll the gardens and enjoy the ocean views at Shore Acres State Park
- Ride a Rogue River Mailboat
- Redwoods National Park Visitors Center
- Guided drive on the “Avenue of the Giants” in California’s Humboldt State Park
- 14 meals – 3 breakfasts, 3 full breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners
- Fly to Portland and drive home with door-to-door service
- 3950/4500 Gold Passport Points

\$3925 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4495 single

A Baltic Odessey

Visit the “Amber Coast” countries: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

12 Days * June 25 – July 6

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Estonia** – Tallin, Pärnu on the Baltic Sea, Lahemaa National Park, cider house tour/tasting
- **Latvia** – Riga, Rundale Palace, Sigulda New Palace, Gauja National Park, organ concert in Domas Cathedral, magical Black Balsam, sea buckthorn and deer farms
- **Lithuania** – Vilnius, Klaipėda, Hill of Crosses, amber and smoked fish on the Curonian Spit, Trakai Castle, Museum of Occupations and Freedom Fights, Old World bakery dinner with music/dancing
- 28 meals: Nearly EVERY meal is included
- Roundtrip airfare to Tallinn/from Vilnius
- Door-to-door Airport Transportation
- Services of a Baltic guide and *Sports Leisure* Tour Director throughout
- 7300/7850 Gold Passport Points

Don’t miss your chance to explore the never-before-offered Baltic States of northern Europe, a fairytale land of turreted castles, walled cities with cobbled streets, sandy beaches sprinkled with amber, world-class wine and culinary delicacies (which you may or may not find to include smoked fish).

\$7270 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7850 single

This tour requires a valid passport

The Calgary Stampede & The Canadian Rockies

Experience the “Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth” and the majestic Rocky Mountains

7 Days * July 7-13

Four nights in Banff in the breathtaking Rocky Mountains and 2 nights in Calgary for the Stampede festivities highlight this package. Less hotel changing and more sightseeing!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Reserved seating for the Calgary Stampede Grandstand Show, plus the Chuckwagon Races and Rodeo
- Lake Louise, the most photographed lake in the world
- Yoho National Park and the dramatic Natural Bridge
- Ride the Sulphur Mountain Gondola and enjoy panoramic views of the Rockies
- Lunch at Chateau Lake Louise
- Lake Minnewanka Cruise aboard the *Alberta Explorer*
- Icefields Parkway and Athabasca Glacier Tour
- 11 meals – 6 full breakfasts, 1 lunch and 4 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Calgary; Door-to-door service
- 7000/8550 Gold Passport Points

\$6995 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8550 single

This tour requires a valid passport

Historic Fort Bragg & Mendocino, Training by the Ocean

Ride the old Skunk Train, enjoy North Coast Hospitality in a cool little town on the coast

4 Days * July 12-15

HIGHLIGHTS

- Three nights at the Harbor Lite Lodge, overlooking Noyo Harbor
- Ride the Skunk Train to nearby Pudding Creek, view the Redwoods
- Visit the Mendocino Botanical Garden on a guided walk (or explore on your own), walking/coach tour of the murals of Historic Downtown Fort Bragg
- Mendocino drive-through, with stops at the Ford House Visitors Center, Mendocino Jams and the arch
- A morning in Ft. Bragg – visit the Marine Science Center, a chocolate store and a sea glass museum
- 8 meals – 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners – your chance to sample some local seafood if you wish
- Door-to-door service, 2050/2350 Gold Passport Points

Ft. Bragg has reinvented itself, in a funky sort of way. We enjoyed our visits the past two summers, expanding our stay by a day last year and adding a formal visit to Mendocino for this year's trip.

There is so much history in the area, and because of its remote location not everyone makes it up this way. The train still runs a short route into the redwoods. Come with us on a fun vacation to the coast! It's the perfect, affordable way to enjoy California's remarkable coastline. It's also a great place to escape the Sacramento heat for a few days in the middle of the summer.

\$2020 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2310 single

Mainely Maine – Lobsters and Lighthouses

Pristine coastline, lush woodlands, rugged mountains, animals in the wild – this is nature at its best!

7 Days • August 20-26

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights in Portland's Old Port and Bar Harbor
- Overnights in Bethel and Bath
- Guided tours of Portland, Kennebunkport and Acadia National Park
- Take a scenic boat trip to learn about the lobster industry plus an aquaculture/wildlife cruise
- Join a moose-viewing expedition in the western mountains
- Attend a performance of the "Great Maine Lumberjack Show"
- Abbe and Maine Maritime Museums, Maine Cabin Masters Headquarters
- 13 meals: breakfast daily, 2 lunches, 5 dinners including TWO lobsterbakes!
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Portland, ME, door-to-door airport service
- 5250/6150 Gold Passport Points

\$5220 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6135 single

South Dakota, Home of American Legends

Featuring Mt. Rushmore & Crazy Horse Memorials

6 Days • August 31–September 5

HIGHLIGHTS

- Native American performance and private luncheon
- Mount Rushmore, Devils Tower National Monument, Mammoth Hot Springs
- Unique Crazy Horse Monument experience — ride by jeep to the top of the mountain, a VERY exclusive adventure
- Gold Factory Tour, Deadwood Brothel Museum, Sundance Crook Museum
- Custer State Park Buffalo Jeep Safari and Chuckwagon Cookout
- Boot Hill/Deadwood tour; Tatanka, Story of the Bison; Spearfish Canyon
- 10 Meals: 5 Breakfast • 3 Lunches • 2 Dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Rapid City; Door-to-door service
- 4000/4400 Gold Passport Points

\$3960 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4355 single

The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

Featuring upgraded seating in the Chasers Lounge and Gondola Club

5 Days • October 7-11

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 balloon events: Balloon Glow, Special Shapes and Mass Ascension
- Upgraded, reserved seating in the Chasers Lounge & Gondola Club
- Ride the Sandia Peak Aerial Tram
- Rio Grande Arts and Crafts Festival
- 9 Meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners
- Roundtrip air to/from Albuquerque; Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3950/4500 Gold Passport Points

\$3940 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4495 single

Oktoberfest, Canadian Thanksgiving and Niagara Falls

Festive celebrations and natural beauty, Canada-style

7 Days * October 9-15

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights in Kitchener, Canada's Oktoberfest Capital
- 2 nights in Niagara Falls – all-suite accommodations with a view
- Experience Canadian Thanksgiving complete with all the trimmings
- Take a ride on the South Simcoe Railway
- Niagara River cruise to the falls
- Drive to Niagara Parkway to Niagara-on-the-Lake
- FLYOVER and Ice Wine tasting
- 13 meals – Daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Buffalo
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 5400/6100 Gold Passport Points

Ontario's Waterloo region welcomes you with fierce Canadian nationalism making it the ideal spot to celebrate Thanksgiving. Home to a large German-immigrant population, it's also the perfect place to be at Oktoberfest. We're talking beer, sausages and polkas 'til the cows come home! Then we shift gears as we head towards one of the most iconic sites in North America, majestic Niagara Falls. Shared by our two countries, it's a bucket list destination for many and rightfully so. The Falls are quite simply breathtaking!

\$5360 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6070 single

This tour requires a valid passport

***Sports Leisure Vacations is a proud member of the
National Tour Association***

Mexico's Copper Canyon

From Ancient Ruins to Ocean Views — One Journey, Endless Wonders

11 Days * October 11-21

HIGHLIGHTS

- Aerial Tram of Copper Canyon – Glide across the Barrancas del Cobre, descending nearly 4,500 ft for jaw-dropping views
- UNESCO World Heritage Site Paquimé – Explore the maze-like adobe ruins, ceremonial mounds, and ancient structures of this Mogollon culture city
- Posada Barrancas – Stay perched on the rim of the Copper Canyon with panoramic vistas from your room
- Walking Tour of Álamos – Stroll cobblestone streets in this colonial National Monument, rich with history and charm
- Rail Journey on “Chihuahua al Pacífico” (El Chepe) – One of the world’s most scenic train rides, winding through tunnels, bridges, and mountain passes
- Marine Excursion on the Sea of Cortez – Cruise the “Aquarium of the World”
- Pearl Farm in Guaymas – Learn the delicate art of cultivating Sea of Cortez pearls
- Sightseeing in Hermosillo, Álamos, El Fuerte, Copper Canyon, and Casa Grandes – Each destination offers its own blend of culture, history, and scenery
- Folkloric & Educational Programs – Engage with local traditions through music, dance, and artisan demonstrations
- Bilingual Tour Guide – Expert narration and assistance throughout your journey
- 25 Meals – 10 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 8 dinners, all featuring regional flavors
- Roundtrip Airfare to/from Phoenix; Door-to-door service
- 5000/5800 Gold Passport Points

\$4960 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5755 single

This tour requires a valid passport

Route 66, The Main Street of America – Part II

Oklahoma City to Santa Monica

9 Days * October 14-22

The second half of your journey down **The Mother Road** is very different from the Chicago/Oklahoma City half. The spaces are more wide open in the west. There are national parks and the small towns have a different personality. Travel through Santa Fe (short stop); hear about the WWII Navajo Code-Talkers in Gallup; Roger Miller and Sheb Wooley’s hometown of Erick, OK; Oatman, where jackasses roam the streets; Amboy, CA – the most middle-of-nowhere spot on the entire route. All the way to Santa Monica Pier.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay in Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Albuquerque (2 nights), La Posada in Winslow (2 nights), Laughlin, San Bernardino
- Air to Oklahoma City, return from Burbank
- 19 meals – 8 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 3 dinners – many meals in “roadie” spots along the old route
- Door-to-door service – pick-up from your home
- 4650/5150 Gold Passport Points

\$4625 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5115 single

Ghost Towns & Aliens in Old Nevada

Featuring Goodsprings, Rhyolite, Gold Point, Goldfield, Tonopah, Manhattan, Belmont and the Extraterrestrial Highway

5 Days * October 26-30

Ghosts. Some believe in ghostly spirits and some do not. Others might be somewhere in the middle. On this adventure, you'll have the chance to decide for yourself! Explore not only the old buildings and legends they left behind, but make an attempt to talk to the “previous residents” themselves on an authentic Ghost Hunt! **It's only a few days before Halloween, the perfect time to visit ghost towns and their inhabitants....or is it?**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fly round trip to/from Las Vegas, home pick-up included
- Two nights at the Golden Nugget downtown, two nights at the historic (and haunted) Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah
- Begin with the Goodsprings Ghost Hunt – hear the heartbreaking story of Carol Lombard and Clark Gable, learn how to use an EMF (Electronic Magnetic Field) meter to detect the “presence” of ghosts
- Las Vegas attractions include a chance to see **THE WIZARD OF OZ** on a giant screen inside the Sphere, and only in Las Vegas - the Mob and the Neon Museums (two very different places)
- Visit genuine ghost towns, 6 of them, from Las Vegas to Tonopah
- Visit the legendary “Clown Motel” and see the courthouse under restoration in ghostly Belmont
- Travel the Extraterrestrial Highway – home of the secret Area 51, where countless UFO sightings have been recorded
- 2350/2550 Gold Passport Points

\$2390 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2600 single

New Tour!

Japan: History, Culture & Autumn Splendor

Featuring Osaka, Kyoto, Hiroshima and Fukuoka

11 Days • November 9–19

HIGHLIGHTS

- Roundtrip airfare to/from Osaka on Hawaiian Airlines
- 3 days in Osaka, including visit to Osaka Castle
- Tour of Gion (Geisha) District in Kyoto
- Visit to Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome & the Peace Memorial Park
- Walking Tour in Fukuoka
- 2 Shinkansen (bullet train) rides
- 15 meals: 7 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Osaka/from Fukuoka or Osaka
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 11,380/13,050 Gold Passport Points

Our last journey to Japan in May 2025 was nothing short of unforgettable. We rolled up our sleeves for hands-on cultural experiences from crafting delicate washi paper and watching a master swordsmith at work to learning the art of sushi making, and savored (almost always!) the incredible flavors of authentic Japanese cuisine. And we walked. Boy did we ever WALK! It reminded us why Japan is consistently ranked among the world's top travel destinations. Few places can match its blend of deep cultural heritage, breathtaking natural beauty and unmatched hospitality. This fall, we invite you to join us once again as we return to the Land of the Rising Sun. This itinerary features more time to explore Osaka's vibrant neighborhoods, Kyoto's timeless elegance, Hiroshima's moving history and Fukuoka's celebrated food scene. Expect castles, geisha, local delicacies and moments that stay with you long after you return home.

1-2. Your adventure begins as we depart Sacramento on Hawaiian Airlines, connecting through Honolulu before continuing on to Osaka. We'll arrive in the evening, where our warm and knowledgeable partners at Kanazawa Tours will greet us. After a welcome dinner, we'll settle into our Osaka hotel. **Hotel Royal Classic Osaka – 3 nights (D)**

3. This morning we explore Osaka Castle, its white walls and gold accents inviting you into centuries of samurai history. Then we rise above the city at Tsutenkaku Tower, where sweeping views reveal the energy and scale of Osaka. Tonight, enjoy a lively sumo-themed show paired with a bento dinner. **(FB,D)**

4. We begin with a walking tour through Namba and Dotonbori, two of Osaka's most iconic districts – bright, bustling, and full of character. After lunch, we'll dive into a cultural experience such as calligraphy, a tea ceremony, or a sword demonstration. The evening is yours to explore. **(FB,L)**

5. Travel by motorcoach to Kyoto. Our first stop is the shimmering Kinkaku-ji (Golden Pavilion), once the lavish retreat of a 14th-century shogun. After settling in, we'll explore Gion after dark – Kyoto's legendary geisha district – followed by a special geisha dinner experience. **Rinn Gion Shirakawa Kyoto – 2 nights (FB,D)**

6. Spend the day on a docent-guided tour of Kyoto, the former imperial capital and the cultural soul of Japan. This afternoon and evening enjoy free time for shopping, wandering or simply soaking in Kyoto's electric atmosphere. **(L)**

7. This morning we visit Kiyomizu-dera, one of Kyoto's most beloved temples, before boarding the Shinkansen (bullet train) to Hiroshima. Tonight, **Hotel Granvia Hiroshima – 1 night (D)**

8. Start the day at the Atomic Bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Park, a powerful and reflective part of Japan's modern history. After free time in the afternoon, we cross Hiroshima Bay to Miyajima, where we'll check into our island hotel and enjoy dinner together. **Itsukushima Iroha Hiroshma – 1 night (FB,D)**

9. Enjoy a relaxed morning before we travel by boat back to Hiroshima and board the Shinkansen once more, this time bound for Fukuoka's Hakata Station. **Miyako Hotel Hakata Fukuoka – 2 nights (FB)**

10. A guided walking tour introduces you to Fukuoka, Kyushu's largest city and a rising star in Japan's culinary world. The afternoon is free for you to seek out fresh seafood, local markets or seaside strolls. Tonight, we gather for a farewell dinner to celebrate our journey and the memories we've made. **(FB,D)**

11. After breakfast we begin our journey home. We plan to fly from Fukuoka to Osaka or Tokyo, then onward to Honolulu and Sacramento. If flights from Fukuoka are unavailable, we'll travel by land to Osaka and depart from there. **(FB)**

\$11,580 p.p./dbl.occ.; \$13,050 single

Early Payment Discount: \$save \$350 p.p. with full payments made by March 13

This tour requires a valid passport