

TRAVEL TOGETHER

2027 DREAM BOOK

YOU'RE NEVER ALONE ON A SPORTS LEISURE VACATION



Sports Leisure Vacations LLC

CREATING MEMORABLE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES SINCE 1979

Just One Man's Opinion



In life, there are markers. When the days get shorter, you know winter is once again on the way. When it takes 5 more minutes to get to work in the morning, it's because the kids are back in school. A little taller and a grade ahead. In some places, when the leaves change color, it means fall is just around the corner. (In Sacramento, the leaves don't change color until November, so that analogy doesn't work here.)

So it is with our annual **Tour Preview Day**. For us, it's a marker. It means another catalog has been produced, hundreds of you have gathered to learn about what we have created, the phones go crazy and the cycle has started again. While it's really exciting to see what sells the day after Preview Day, it takes an "all hand on deck" effort just getting the catalog to the printer and preparing to hand it across the table to hundreds of you, before it's posted on line and mailed the day after the big event.

When I stood on the arm of Crazy Horse with a group of our travelers in early September, taking in the 360 degree view, it all sort of came together. For Clayton and I, and many of those who make up the **Sports Leisure team**, this isn't just a job. It's a calling. A mission. An incredible opportunity life has given us to see and do things most will never have the chance to experience. To work daily with nice people who are sharing life's journey with us. It's hard work for sure, but how many people get to stand on the arm of Crazy Horse and survey the world?

Somewhere in the travel industry, someone **HAS** to be rolling in dough. Prices have exploded since COVID. Airline executives brag that airfares forced high by oil prices don't have to come down because people are willing to pay more. (Airfares are up 30% this year alone.) They expand first class cabins and take away your personal space, only to turn around and sell it back to you! Hotels continue to cut services (like housekeeping) and raise prices. In an economy driven by supply and demand, demand is supporting higher prices. But it's killer on the traveler.

What does all of this tell you? Perhaps that seeing the world is not only popular, but vitally important to many. Seeing, learning and experiencing other parts of the planet....even if it's only a short distance from home, is enriching. So we build it and you come. We learn and share together, increasing the **human value** in our lives. You and I cannot do anything about the costs, except to look for ways to stretch our dollar. (That's our job when you choose **Sports Leisure**.)

The way we travel, of course, has a lot to do with the cost. Our choices are largely a result of the input of the travelers of yesterday and today, who share their opinions and evaluations with us. Our level of service and attention to detail is not unique. But it isn't copied by many. It's something that sets us apart from our competitors. Service doesn't come cheap, and it's one reason our trips cost more than some of our competitors.

On these pages, you'll find some great packages. Because we have a large number of repeat travelers, there has been a real effort to introduce new destinations and rework old ones. You'll go back and relive your memories, you tell us, especially if there are new things to see and do.

There are more international destinations and even more are in the works (check out the teaser pages). We have tried not to ignore our "closer to home" travelers, still offering a variety of motorcoach and short fly-aways. Mariea and May continue to come up with a great array of theater and sightseeing day trips.

As we work our way through **Year 48** of our history, the focus is still on providing a quality product to an wonderful group of loyal followers.

Thank you seems like such a small thing to say. Speaking again from that view on Crazy Horse's arm, it's all hard to believe. Dreams do come true, nearly every day at a little office just off the historic Lincoln Highway in Rancho Cordova. Appreciate all of you and the support you extend to us, the recommendations you share with friends, the kind comments you write. See you on the road or the radio (every Saturday at 11 am on 1140 AM).

Mark

**Mark Hoffmann, CTP,
Owner/Founder**



Never Alone

This year's Dream Book title is short, sweet and to the point. *Travel Together*. Sounds like a great idea to me, and since you're reading this you must agree! The byline carries a stronger punch. You're never alone on a *Sports Leisure* vacation. Never alone. That brings a song to mind . . .

***When you walk through a storm
Hold your head up high
And don't be afraid of the dark.
At the end of a storm
There's a golden sky
And the sweet silver song of a lark.
Walk on through the wind.
Walk on through the rain.
Though your dreams be tossed and blown.
Walk on, walk on,
With hope in your heart.
And you'll never walk alone.
You'll never walk alone!***

Those words were penned by the incomparable Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II for their 1945 musical *Carousel*. It is perhaps the ultimate Broadway anthem providing comfort and hope during times of deep grief and struggle, in this case giving solace to Julie after the death of her husband, Billy Bigelow. I never heard this song that I don't cry.

It's been more than 80 years since that was written, but Broadway still embraces the topic of loss and being alone. The modern day (and equally incomparable) duo of Benj Pasek and Justin Paul wrote *Dear Evan Hansen* in 2015. It opened on Broadway a year later and won the Tony Award for Best Musical in 2017. It is perhaps the most profound and painful piece of theatre I've ever seen. The story is rather complicated, but it all boils down to Evan, an invisible high school student who simply wants to be seen. Heard. Loved. One of his many songs that turned on the tear wells in full force asked these questions:

***Have you ever felt like nobody was there?
Have you ever felt forgotten in the middle of nowhere?
Have you ever felt like you could disappear?
Like you could fall, and no one would hear?
Well, let that lonely feeling wash away.
Maybe there's a reason to believe you'll be okay.
'Cause when you don't feel strong enough to stand
You can reach, reach out your hand.
And oh, someone will come runnin'
And I know they'll take you home.
Even when the dark comes crashing through,
When you need a friend to carry you,
And when you're broken on the ground,
You will be found!
So let the sun come streamin' in
'Cause you'll reach up and you'll rise again.
Lift your head and look around.
You will be found!***



Later, in the bridge, the phrase "you are not alone" is repeated and repeated and repeated until Evan finally hears it and realizes it is true. He's not alone.

If you live long enough, you will experience loss and you'll be alone a little. Maybe a lot. Isn't it wonderful that we have an outlet for changing our disposition every so often? In the pages of this book, just like so many catalogues and newsletters before it, 47 years' worth to be exact, we have a world filled with incredible people, places and experiences calling for you. And best of all, whether you're going to Placerville or Paris; whether you're heading out for a few hours, a few days or a few weeks, you are not alone. If you're unsure of the way, you are not alone. If you're feeling lonely and sad, you are not alone. If you want to kick up your heels and have a night out on the town, you are not alone. If you want to visit a foreign land, you are not alone. If you want to sample an exotic culture, you are not alone. If you want to go see a Broadway show (and perhaps have a good cry at the same time), you are not alone!

Thank you for trusting us with your dreams!

**Clayton Whitehead, CTP
President**



THE TABLE OF CONTENTS



A couple of our Route 66 travelers went a bit "off road"

MARCH

2	The Oregon Chocolate Festival Getaway.....	6
4	New Orleans...And All That Jazz	7
3	The Colorful Carolina Coast	8
2	Cruise The Panama Canal with Holland America on The Zaandam	20

APRIL

4	Costa Rica "Pura Vida".....	9
3	San Diego Sips, Bites & Spring Blossoms	10
3	Tulip Time in the Skagit Valley.....	11
3	New York City – The Macy's Flower Show & Remembering Dolly	12
3	Kentucky – Bluegrass, Bourbon & Booms	13
2	Springtime In Monterey	14

MAY

3	On the Central Coast.....	10
3	Redwoods & The Ranch.....	14-15
3	Sacred Lands of the Southwest – Monument Valley and Canyon de Chelly	15
4	Dutch Treat!.....	16
4	Bonnie Scotland in the Spring.....	17
3	Newport, Rhode Island - The Lap of Luxury	18-19
2	Costa Mesa Arts Lovers Getaway	21

JUNE

3	The Alaskan Explorer Cruise with Holland America....	40
2	Yosemite Valley is Calling!	19
3	British Columbia by Rail, Land, and Sea.....	22-23
4	An Arctic Summer in Lapland	24-25
3	Rivers, Rails & Volcanoes.....	25
3	I Love Lucy and Niagara Falls.....	26
3	Boston to the Shores of Old Cape Cod.....	27

JULY

2	Historic Fort Bragg & the California Redwoods	23
3	Ferries and Towns of Puget Sound	28
2	The Laguna Pageant of the Masters	31

AUGUST

3	San Juan Explorer	29
3	The Laguna Pageant of the Masters	31

SEPTEMBER

4	Splendid Portugal and Madeira, Pearl of the Atlantic	30-31
3	Michigan & Mackinac.....	32
3	Seattle, Tacoma & Mount Rainier National Park.....	33
3	Rails Around Colorado	34
3	The Best of the Dakotas – From Rough Rider to Rushmore.....	35
3	New England Fall Foliage Spectacular	36-37

OCTOBER

3	Catalina Island, Your Coastal Escape.....	37
3	Normandy, Paris and the Seine River	38
3	Ghost Towns & Aliens in Old Nevada	39

ODDS AND ENDS

Activity Meter.....	3
Baseball Update.....	4
Cruises	28, 38, 40
Tour Teasers.....	41-42
The Sports Leisure Difference.....	43-45



Tyler's Tech Tips

Toss an Apple AirTag – or similar tracking device – into your suitcase before you travel.

Why Use One?

AirTags let you see the approximate location of your luggage from your phone. If your bag gets delayed, misplaced or sent to the wrong airport, you'll have a much better idea of where it actually is.

When Should You Use It?

Anytime you're **checking a bag**, especially when flying, taking a cruise or traveling on a trip with multiple destinations.

How Do You Use It?

Pair the AirTag with your iPhone using the **Find My** app. Give it a name like "My Suitcase" and place it somewhere secure inside your luggage.

Tyler's Tip:

Put the tracker **inside your suitcase**, not on the outside where it could get knocked off. It's a small investment that can provide some big peace of mind while traveling.

If you have a few unique coins or an entire collection...

Half a century ago before Mark got into the travel business, he was a coin dealer at local flea markets (Auction City on Folsom, Denio's in Roseville). Fast forward most of a lifetime and he's back at it again. Collecting, even buying and selling a bit. This is where you might come in.

Perhaps you (or even a friend or relative) have inherited a coin collection, or perhaps you collected yourself. Either way, you'd like to find out what your coins are worth and maybe even find a buyer. But who do you turn to? An unknown pawn shop or coin dealer? **Why not give Mark a call?** (Or email him at Markslt@aol.com.) He is happy to give your coins a free appraisal, without any obligation. If you have a big collection and cannot come to him at the office, he can come to your home.

As a bit of a guideline for loose coins that might have a premium value: Pennies before 1940 are worth anything from a few cents to many dollars. **For nickels**, you are looking for coins dated **before 1946**. **Dimes and quarters need to be 1964 and older**. **Half dollars, 1970 and older**. **All original silver dollars, 1935 and before, have a premium value**. Eisenhower, Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea dollars are worth their face value, so spend them! Proof and mint sets, issued by a mint, range in value from a few dollars to significant premiums. If you can't figure it out, let Mark have a look and he'll figure it out for you!



ACTIVITY METER



As part of our commitment to help you select the perfect vacation, refer to the Activity Meter rating to better understand how it matches your fitness level, abilities, interests, and energy. It's important to note that more than one rating may apply to a tour. For example, some travelers will enjoy a visit to a national park by spending time in the visitors center and taking a seat with a view, while others prefer to walk a nature trail. Same destination and tour, but two different levels of activity.

The ratings can be found in the Table of Contents and on the itinerary page for each tour. Two numbers indicate the ability to do optional things which limit or increase the amount of physical activity required. This meter is only a guideline. With specific questions or requirements, call and speak to the tour planner.

Each level requires your ability to board and disembark a motorcoach without assistance.

1 Leisurely – A tour that can be enjoyed by all requiring a minimal amount of walking on city streets and generally level surfaces. There could be a few stairs. A theater daytrip is an example.

2 Moderate – A tour with some walking activities, standing/strolling at attractions and museums, and some stair climbing. A daytrip to the ballpark or a museum exhibition, and short regional trips are examples. A moderate trip could include air or rail transportation and navigating through airports/stations.

3 Active – A tour which includes longer walks and/or walks on uneven surfaces. Days could be longer including air travel days with layovers. Some of your time could be spent at destinations with high altitudes. This is the level for most of our long-distance domestic and Canadian tours, vacations featuring national parks, and the minimum level for an overseas international trip.

You should be able to walk 3-6 city blocks in a timely fashion a few times per day. You could find a flight of stairs without handrails, uneven nature trails and the like. Tours with a seaplane or jeep ride, and the ability to climb into the plane/jeep, along with longer rail journeys fall into this category.

4 Energetic – A tour with an emphasis on walking and other physical activities. Most overseas tours fit in this category, as well as many metropolitan domestic tours (New York and Washington, DC, especially). Expect long plane flights and walking longer distances at connections and/or customs. You might have to climb into a boat, carriage or train. You should not consider a tour on this level if you need wheelchair assistance at the airport or other places.

5 Challenging – Tours like these are designed with daily physical activities like hiking and other vigorous pursuits. They can be great travel experiences, but are not typical of most **Sports Leisure Vacations** trips.





We started as *Sports Travel* taking fans to Giants and A's baseball games in 1978. Whether we will be going to games in 2027 is up in the air....

Fenway Park in Boston

The contract between the players and the owners expires December 1st. The greedy owners want a salary cap. The greedy players say absolutely not. There is enough of our money for both sides to divide up. But it's entirely possible they will act like spoiled brats and we will have some sort of work stoppage.

Traditionally, we have gone to Spring Training in Arizona, 10-12 regular season games and every few years, a longer baseball trip. 2027 would be the year for that longer trip. Below is a preliminary list of our day trips to San Francisco. Watch your November and/or January newsletters for an update, or check the baseball tab at www.sportsleisure.com.

Tentative Baseball Day Trip Schedule for 2027

Sun., Apr. 11 – St. Louis Cardinals
 Thurs., May 27 – San Diego Padres
 Wed., June 2 – Washington Nationals
 Wed., June 16 – Los Angeles Dodgers
 Sun., June 27 – Chicago Cubs
 Thurs., July 22 – Colorado Rockies
 Sun., Aug. 8 – Los Angeles Dodgers
 Thurs., Aug. 26 – Boston Red Sox
 Wed., Sept. 1 – Cleveland Guardians
 Wed., Sept. 15 – Arizona Diamondbacks

This schedule is subject to change, as game times have not been confirmed yet. Prices will vary from game to game, and will be

announced once the labor situation between the players/owners is settled. **We are not accepting reservations at this time.**

Daycations to the theater, to see sights, special exhibitions and more!

Since the beginning when we took gamblers over the state line to Reno and Tahoe casinos, daytrips have been a staple here in *Sports Leisureland*. Today, we have casinos in our state, so daytrips are often focused on theatrical or entertainer-based presentations in San Francisco, Modesto and the Sierra Foothills. Or perhaps we visit

an art exhibition, a historic site, a poinsettia farm or take a nostalgic train ride, often with lunch or dinner included. **Mariea Hammersley** of our staff makes most of the magic happen, along with **May Wong**, the Queen of San Francisco Theatre.

Daytrips are not listed in the catalogue, but have separate hand out pages at Preview Day. If you were unable to attend they will be e-mailed to you. You can also check out daytrip listing by going to www.sportsleisure.com and clicking on the Vacations tab, and then Day Trips.



All About Airline Seating (and Upgrades)

It's an increasingly popular subject. As a tour operator who books 25-30 seats at a time, we play by different rules than a traveler making a single reservation online. In recent months, the number of travelers opting to upgrade their seats has increased dramatically. We are happy to assist you with these upgrades, and here we'll attempt to give you an idea of how the system works.

First Class – The easiest, most comfortable and expensive option. If you are requesting an upgrade to First Class, that can generally be handled immediately.

There are two ways to make that happen:

1. We can give you a credit for air and baggage charges (you won't pay baggage fees in First Class), tell you the flights we are on, and you can purchase your own ticket. As long as you are on the flights the group is on, your door-to-door transportation to/from the airport is protected.

2. We can purchase the First Class ticket for you, crediting you for the included air and bags, and charging you the difference.

Economy Class – Seating has been divided into three sections on most aircraft:

1. **Regular (or basic) Economy** is in the very back of the plane, generally without seating assignments (the airline assigns them at random).

2. **Preferred Seats** are in the middle part of the plane with assigned seats.

3. **Extra Legroom Seats (Economy+, Comfort+ or Choice+)** are generally in the front of the exit rows. These seats offer a few extra inches of legroom and are closer to the front door.

If you are requesting an upgrade in **Economy Class**, we will confirm your request when the group is ticketed to let

you know the cost and availability of your requested upgrade. **We cannot access these seats until the group is ticketed**, usually 45 days prior to departure.

The pricing on upgraded Economy Class seats sometimes changes day-to-day. We cannot quote you a price until we can access the seats, about 45 days prior to departure. When the seats become available to us, staff honors the earliest request first, back to the most recent.

If you have decided to upgrade in **Economy**, we will need to know if you want **Preferred or Extra Legroom Seating; Window, Aisle or Middle**. The extra legroom seats are the most expensive, often \$100-\$300 each way on domestic flights. Prices are different on every flight.

Aisle Seats and Aisle Seats ACROSS from each other are the toughest requests to fulfill and also the most expensive.

You've Decided to Upgrade, Now What?

Go to www.sportsleisure.com. In the middle of the homepage you will find an **Air Upgrade Request** button. Click it, fill out the form and submit it to us. Have your Trip Invoice handy as your Booking ID number will be required. If you aren't comfortable with doing it on the computer, or have questions, call us at the office (9 am – 3:30 pm, M-F) and we will be happy to assist.

REALLY Important to Know: Our company is **not commissioned or compensated in**

any way by the airlines for selling upgraded tickets. We do this as a service to you.

The cost of Economy Class airfare is covered by Cancellation Protection (CP) regardless of where on the aircraft you end up sitting in Economy Class. The additional cost of CP for Economy Class upgrades is provided courtesy of *Sports Leisure Vacations*.

If you choose to upgrade to a premium cabin such as **First Class**, you must

purchase additional protection to insure the additional ticket cost. We suggest you consider the airline's ticket insurance. Note that if you must cancel a Premium Cabin reservation without ticket insurance, you are subject to the airline's rules. You might receive a voucher or other type of refund, or even a credit card with an expiration date. **Before you request an upgrade, make sure you have read this section and understand it.** Questions? Please ask.

Obama's Chicago Update

We literally have hundreds of names on the Priority Notification List to attend one of the **Obama's Chicago** trips we hope to offer in 2027. Based on the groundswell of interest, we originally planned to do a variety of trips in different seasons, each with a unique theme to satisfy the tastes and interests of every traveler. As reported in earlier publications, overwhelmed by their success, they curtailed group ticketing almost immediately upon opening. Each day we look at their website, and each day we get the same message: *Due to a high volume of requests, we currently are not accepting Group Tours. Please check back soon for future updates.* Rest assured we will stay on this and keep you updated the moment we get clearance to move this idea into operations.

Self-Guided Group Tours Temporarily Paused

Due to a high volume of requests, we currently are not accepting Self-Guided Group Tours. Please check back soon for future updates.



Visit



What's On



Programs



Stories



Support us



Donate

Group Visits

Self-Guided Group Tours are currently unavailable due to unprecedented demand and a high volume of requests. We encourage you to check back soon for updates.

The Obama Presidential Center invites groups of all types—from local community groups and senior tours to student delegations and family reunions—to experience campus together! Your group will embark on a self-guided experience, taking a relaxed walk through the Museum at your own pace, including visits to the Oval Office and the Sky Room.

For the most accurate availability and guaranteed admission, tickets must be reserved exclusively through Obama.org.

**Self-Guided Tours dates and tickets subject to availability

Hours and Address

Monday | 1-8 p.m. CT
Tuesday - Sunday | 10 a.m.-5 p.m. CT
6001 S. Stony Island Ave.
Chicago, IL, USA, 60637

Get Directions →

Events and Programs

Take a look at the performances, activities, and special events happening across the campus.

Explore Our Events →

2027 Dream Book

Spring 5 



The Oregon Chocolate Festival Getaway

You're invited to the Sweetest Weekend Ever!

3 Days • March 5-7

HIGHLIGHTS

- Specially curated Chocolate Makers Dinner with wine pairings
- Chocolate Brunch
- Entrance to the Chocolate Vendors Showcase
- Dinner and show at the Oregon Cabaret Theater
- 6 meals: 1 breakfast, 1 brunch, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Travel by deluxe motorcoach – this is a no-fly trip!
- Door-to-door service
- 1650/1850 Gold Passport Points

Treat yourself to a decadent getaway designed for pure chocolate bliss at the 23rd Annual Oregon Chocolate Festival in Ashland. The finest chocolate artisans from the West Coast come together for a delightfully delicious celebration of all things chocolate! Come join us as we once again head on up the road for what promises to be your Sweetest Weekend Ever!

1. Our door-to-door transportation service brings you to the *Sports Leisure Vacations* office where you will board our comfortable motorcoach and begin your sweet journey north. There will be a lunch stop in Redding before arriving in Ashland where you will check-in to your hotel, centrally located in the heart of downtown. You'll have time to freshen up or explore the town

before dinner. The kick-off event for the festival is the elegant Chocolate Makers Dinner. Each year a chef creates special dishes for this three-course dinner which includes wine pairings from local wineries. If super-fancy wining and dining is not your thing, you can opt out of this dinner – just let us know when you make your reservation. **Ashland Springs Hotel – 2 nights (L,D)**

2. A Chocolate Brunch is yours to enjoy this morning at the Ashland Hills Hotel, home of the Chocolate Vendors Showcase. You'll have early access to the showcase after brunch. We will have shuttle service available between the hotels giving you the opportunity to have lunch and shop downtown if you wish. Tonight, we're off to the Oregon Cabaret Theater for dinner and a performance (to be announced). **(BR,D)**

3. Just a short ride from Ashland is Medford, home of Harry and David Country Village. While Harry and David is known for their mail order fruit service, this store is stocked with a variety of goods including snacks, fresh fruit, jellies and jams, and an extensive wine selection. As we head home, we'll make a scenic stop at the Sundial Bridge in Redding and have lunch at a local restaurant. **(B,L)**

\$1645 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1835 single 2

MENU	
SWEETS	
French Toast Casserole Brioche, Demerara Brulee, Chocolate Chantilly Cream	
Mini Panne Au Chocolat	
FRESH & LIGHT	
Fresh Fruit Display with Fruit and Berries	
Roquette Salad Arugula, Hazelnut, Caisins, Chevre, Beets, Tangerines, Marion Berry Cocoa Vinaigrette	
SAVORY	
Coffee & Cocoa Crusted Bacon	
Chocolate Stout Braised Sausage	
Biscuits & Gravy Dutch Cocoa Dusted Buttermilk Biscuits, Choice of Sausage or Mushroom Gravy	
Amigas Scrambled Eggs, Homemade Tortilla Chips, Queso Fresco, Mole Poblano Sauce	



6

Spring

SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS



New Orleans...And All That Jazz

Immerse yourself in the sights, sounds and flavors that make this destination so wonderfully wicked!

5 Days • March 10-14

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
- Scenic New Orleans driving and French Quarter carriage tours
- Visit Mardi Gras World and the National World War II Museum
- A day in Plantation Country: Houmas House and a swamp cruise
- Learn the secrets of great Cajun chefs at the NOLA School of Cooking
- 8 meals include daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to/from New Orleans
- 4050/4550 Gold Passport Points

Now we know what you are thinking. Great tour, but they do it every year. I'll sign up someday. So here's the inside scoop: New Orleans will not be offered in 2028. Why wait? Escape Sacramento's dreary rainy season with a colorful springtime trip to New Orleans for great food, plentiful drinks, toe-tapping music, fun-loving friends...and all that jazz!

1. Welcome to New Orleans, a city renowned for its ability to make a party out of every situation. It has been said, "If the hurricane's too weak, just add rum." That pretty much sums it up! Upon arrival revel in the merriment offered at Mardi Gras World, the creation and storage facility for most of the city's elaborate costumes, tableaux and parade floats. Your welcome dinner is

served at the Court of Two Sisters, hidden away under a blanket of blooming wisteria. Finally, rest well in conveniently-located accommodations overlooking the famed French Quarter. **Sheraton New Orleans – 4 nights (D)**

2. Take a narrated driving tour focusing on the city beyond downtown including the beautiful Garden District, St. Louis #3 (one of the area's unique above-ground cemeteries) and the amazing Besthoff Sculpture Garden in City Park. In the evening learn the secrets of great Cajun and Creole chefs with dinner at the New Orleans School of Cooking, followed by a horse-drawn carriage ride through the French Quarter. Is it haunted? You'll have to come see for yourself...if you dare! **(FB,D)**



3. A plate full of fresh, hot beignets starts your morning at world famous Café du Monde. Next visit the National World War II Museum, a five-block complex covering literally every aspect of the War and the Greatest Generation it produced. Take a break from your exploration at lunchtime and head to the Stage Door Canteen where your meal is served up with a nostalgic musical review featuring a live Andrews Sisters-inspired performance by *The Victory Belles*. You'll also visit the museum's unique 4-D theatre for their acclaimed production "Beyond all Boundaries." **(CB,L)**

4. An hour's drive outside the city places you in the heart of Plantation Country with visits to the breathtaking Houmas House, the grandest of the Mississippi River sugar estates, built in 1840. You'll also explore the Mississippi River Road Museum and have lunch at the estate. Next see 'gators up close and personal on a Cajun Pride Swamp Tour – how cool is that? **(FB,L)**

5. The morning opens with a true New Orleans tradition: Breakfast at Brennan's. Save room for the Bananas Foster, a dish invented here. Only in NOLA can you get dessert with breakfast! With a short drive to the airport your adventure comes to a close. **(FB)**

\$4035 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4525 single

4





The Colorful Carolina Coast

Meander the beautiful Southern Atlantic coastline from Norfolk to Savannah

10 Days • March 30 – April 8

1. Travel east to Norfolk, Virginia, your gateway to the Colorful Carolina Coast. **DoubleTree Hotel Norfolk Airport**
2. Drive along one of America's most unique and scenic geological features, the Outer Banks. Your stops include the birthplace of flight, Kitty Hawk National Monument, and the great Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Tonight break bread with the church ladies of St. John United Methodist. **(FB,L,D)**
3. Two ferries through Pamlico Sound highlight this day of travel which includes lunch served on tiny Ocracoke Island, once the pirate Blackbeard's secret hideaway. Rest well in historic New Bern, Carolina's Royal Capital City and birthplace of Pepsi Cola. **DoubleTree Hotel (CB,L)**
- 4-5. Say hello to Wilmington, North Carolina's principal port, with a visit to the battleship *USS North Carolina*. Myrtle Beach awaits where your home is an oceanfront condominium with a million-dollar view. A lazy day on the beach, dinner and a live musical revue at one of the Strand's popular theatres are on tap for the second day. **Beach Cove Resort – 2 nights (FB,L,D)**
6. Brookgreen Gardens, the nation's largest outdoor sculpture display, is your host for a beautiful morning. Continue south to Charleston for a harbor cruise to Fort Sumter National Monument where the first shots of the Civil War were fired in 1861. Your hotel is on the city's most famous and fashionable street. **Meeting Street Inn – 2 nights (L)**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit North Carolina's Outer Banks, Kitty Hawk, New Bern and the USS North Carolina
- See South Carolina's Myrtle Beach, Brookgreen Gardens, Charleston and Ft. Sumter
- Savor Georgia's first city, Savannah, where libations flow as freely as tall tales
- 2-night stays oceanfront on Myrtle Beach and in the Historic Districts of Charleston and Savannah
- Overnights in Norfolk, the Outer Banks and New Bern
- 18 meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip air to Norfolk/from Savannah
- 6400/7350 Gold Passport Points

7. Begin the day with a city tour by horse and carriage. Following you'll have free time to join your Tour Director for a stroll to the Battery, take in a museum, shop the City Market or repose in your historic accommodations. Rest assured dinner will include a cup of the city's famed She Crab Soup! **(CB,D)**
8. The Charleston Tea Garden is the only commercial tea farm in North America. We'll stop by to tour the operation and have lunch. Next you're off to the shining city of Savannah, the youngest colony's oldest city. Here you'll visit the new American Prohibition Museum, followed by "Sip, Scavenge & Supper," a progressive drink and dinner romp through the historic district. **Hilton Garden Inn Historic District – 2 nights (CB,L,D)**

9. A morning trolley tour passes sites related to Savannah's rich past and present. You'll even hop out at a few. Later in the afternoon, feast to your heart's content at a traditional "Low Country Boil" served with libations on Tybee Island, Savannah's beach. **(FB,D)**
10. Savannah's literary story reached new heights when *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* hit the market in 1994. Today you'll explore the truths and legends behind the non-fiction best-seller and movie, including a tour of the Mercer-Williams Mansion. We'll wrap up our time with a deep-dive into Savannah's world-renowned arts school, SCAD, including lunch in the student-run tearoom. Your return flight departs Savannah International in the late afternoon. **(FB,L)**

\$6370 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7350 single 3





Costa Rica “Pura Vida”

This popular Central American gem is yours to discover, leaving not a stone unturned!

12 Days • April 19-30

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 Volcanoes – Poas & Arenal
- 2 National Parks – Tortuguero & Manuel Antonio
- 3 Boats – Tortuguero, Las Damas Island & Sunset Snorkling
- 23 meals - Daily Breakfast, 6 lunches, 6 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from San José
- Door-to-door airport service
- 7350/8850 Gold Passport Points



1. Depart Sacramento, arriving at Costa Rica's capital San José. Overnight at the elegant **Hotel Delta by Marriott San José Aurola - 2 nights**

2. Travel to the breathtaking Poás Volcano. Later, discover the fascinating journey from bean to cup with a visit to Hacienda Doka, a National Heritage Site. **(B,L,D)**

3. Journey to the remote Tortuguero region. Settle into your hotel located near Tortuguero National Park. Enjoy a guided nature walk, surrounded by tropical rainforest and wildlife. **Aninga Hotel & Spa - 2 nights (B,L,D)**

4. Tortuguero National Park protects the largest green sea turtle nesting beach in the Western Hemisphere and features an intricate network of canals, rivers and lagoons. Accessible only by boat, this remarkable ecosystem offers a rare glimpse into Costa Rica's colorful Caribbean culture, where small villages maintain traditional ways of life. **(B,L,D)**

5. Visit the Dähler family pineapple plantation. Continue to La Fortuna, where you can relax in natural hot spring pools and enjoy spectacular views of the iconic Arenal Volcano from your private patio. **Arenal Springs Resort - 2 nights (B,L,D)**

6. Experience the rainforest from a new perspective. Walk among the treetops on hanging bridges. Then board the Sky Tram for a gentle ascent through the mountains, offering panoramic views of the forest canopy and Arenal Volcano. The remainder of the afternoon is yours to enjoy the resort's exceptional amenities. **(B,L)**

7. Travel to the Pacific Coast and Manuel Antonio. Your resort is ideally located just steps from the entrance to Manuel Antonio National Park and the beach. Enjoy tropical gardens, swimming pools, ocean views and unforgettable sunsets. **Hotel San Bada – 2 nights (B,D)**

8. Discover Costa Rica's beautiful Manuel Antonio National Park, home to sloths, monkeys, iguanas, and colorful birds. Board the Ocean King Catamaran for an all-inclusive cruise featuring drinks, a light meal and chose to swim or snorkel at picturesque Biesanz Beach. **(B,D)**

9. Cruise through the tranquil mangroves on the Damas Island Boat Tour. This peaceful eco-adventure offers exceptional

opportunities for wildlife viewing and photography. Continue to the luxurious **Hotel Los Sueños Marriott - 2 nights (B,L)**

10. Complete your visit with a day of leisure. One of the most stunning hotels in Playa Herradura, Los Suenos Marriott is a beachfront haven in a breathtaking natural landscape. Refresh in the sparkling adults-only resort pool. Savor delectable fare at the distinctive restaurants and soothe your senses at the therapeutic spa. **(B)**

11. Bid farewell to the coast and travel back to San José. Check into the beautiful **Marriott Hacienda Belén**, where modern comfort blends seamlessly with the charm and elegance of a traditional Costa Rican hacienda. **(B)**

12. Transfer to the airport for your flight home, filled with the vibrant spirit of “Pura Vida”! **(B)**

\$7325 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8840 single **4**
This tour requires a valid passport





San Diego Sips, Bites & Spring Blossoms

A springtime respite in California's favorite oceanside city

4 Days • April 11-14

1. Arrive in beautiful San Diego and step right into vacation mode with a champagne brunch cruise on the bay, where sparkling waters and skyline views set the tone for your getaway. Next you'll visit the legendary USS Midway, a floating naval and aviation museum filled with history and heroism. Your hotel home is a relaxing retreat perfectly located for our adventures ahead. **Legacy Hotel Resort & Spa – 3 nights (BR)**

2. Today's theme is "Pies & Panoramas," a delicious tasting tour celebrating San Diego's iconic flavors and the famous neighbors who helped shape the city's culinary scene. Sample specialty dishes, enjoy local stories and savor the tastes that make San Diego shine. This evening, get ready for laughter and friendly competition as we join a live game show experience, a perfect blend of fun, food and unforgettable moments. **B,L,D)**



HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 nights at the Legacy Hotel Resort & Spa
- Visit the USS Midway and the Butterfly Experience
- Carlsbad Flower Fields' springtime explosion of color
- Soap making, olive oil and wine tastings
- Unique live game show experience
- "Pies and Panoramas" foodie tour of iconic San Diego flavors
- 8 meals: 1 champagne brunch cruise on the Bay, 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from San Diego
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2900/3200 Gold Passport Points

3. Journey to Temecula for a day rich in craft and flavor. Discover the 600 year art of soap making, enjoy a fragrant olive oil tasting and then indulge in a unique winery experience at Wilson Creek Winery. Taste a variety of vintages with your winemaker host, including their famously delightful Almond Champagne, a sparkling treat you won't find just anywhere. **(B,L)**

4. Begin your day in the breathtaking Carlsbad Flower Fields, 55 acres of vibrant ranunculus in full bloom. Step into the magical Butterfly Experience for an up-close encounter with these delicate beauties, then continue to Old Town San Diego for lunch and a little time for personal exploration of the historic sites and appealing shops. Return to Sacramento in the late afternoon with hearts full, spirits lifted and memories made. **(B,L)**

\$2865 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3190 single

3



On the Central Coast

Enjoy the view from oceanfront accommodations in Avila Beach

5 Days • May 2-6

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights at the ocean view Avila Lighthouse Suites
- Tour and lunch at the Point San Luis Lighthouse
- Morro Bay luncheon cruise
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- All motorcoach transportation
- Door-to-door service
- 2800/3150 Gold Passport Points

1. Gather at the Sports Leisure office and meet your fellow travelers before settling into a comfortable ride bound for the sparkling shores of Avila Beach. Enjoy a wonderful champagne brunch in the Bay Area before passing through the fertile Salinas Valley – nicknamed the "Salad



Bowl of the World” – where endless fields and crops stretch toward the horizon. By afternoon, arrive at your oceanfront suite, just steps from the sand and the rhythmic waves of the majestic Pacific. **Avila Lighthouse Suites – 4 nights (BR)**

2. Morro Bay welcomes you with its iconic centerpiece – Morro Rock, the final and most dramatic of nine ancient volcanic peaks that begin in San Luis Obispo. Rising 576 feet above the harbor’s entrance, this striking landmark is a natural wonder. Your visit includes a delightful lunch cruise aboard the *Chablis*, a distinctive 50-foot, two-story riverboat that glides gracefully

through the calm waters of Morro Bay Harbor. Step inside its elegantly appointed interior with panoramic windows, or head up to the rooftop deck for sweeping views of the bay, the rock and the surrounding coastline. **(B,L)**

3. Step back in time with a private tour of the historic Point San Luis Lighthouse Park. Stroll the grounds, explore the beautifully preserved lighthouse and take in sweeping views of the rugged coastline. Lunch is included, making this a day of both rich history and coastal charm. The afternoon is free to enjoy your hotel, the beach and town. **(B,L)**

4. Take a scenic drive through the rolling vineyards of the Edna Valley. Pause for some browsing time in the charming town of Arroyo Grande. Tonight gather for a special dinner oceanside, as you watch the sun set over the Pacific Ocean! **(B,L,D)**

5. Bid farewell to the ocean as you journey inland. Stop for a final hosted lunch before visiting the famous Casa de Fruta, where you can browse fresh produce and treats to take home. Arrive back in the early evening with memories of the Central Coast’s beauty, flavors and stories. **(B,L)**

\$2715 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3145 single **3**

Tulip Time in the Skagit Valley

Journey to Washington State as we celebrate the annual Skagit Valley Tulip Festival

3 Days • April 8-10

HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore some of Seattle’s most stunning gardens – Kubota & Chihuly Garden and Glass
- Visit Tulip Town and RoozenGaarde during the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival
- Ferry to Whidbey Island for an exclusive chocolate farm experience
- 4 meals: 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2000/2250 Gold Passport Points

1. Upon arrival in Seattle we’ll visit the historic and tranquil Kubota Gardens. These stunning gardens are a 20-acre hidden gem featuring peaceful streams, koi ponds and beautifully manicured Japanese maples. Following lunch, we will visit the world-famous Chihuly Garden and Glass.

This museum showcases glass works of internationally renowned artist Dale Chihuly’s breathtaking, vibrant blown-glass sculptures woven directly into a lush garden setting. From there, we will drive to our beautiful waterfront home, the Hotel Indigo. You will have some time to freshen up and unpack before we gather for a welcome dinner served at a fantastic local restaurant. **Hotel Indigo Seattle/Everett Waterfront – 2 nights (L,D)**

2. This day is all about the flowers – make sure your phones and cameras are charged up for those photos you won’t want to miss! The Skagit Valley Tulip Festival is in full swing and you’re invited to be their guest. Our first farm visit will take us to Tulip Town where row upon row of magnificent tulips show off their radiant colors. Take the trolley ride through the fields, then head to

the gift shop to browse their offerings. The RoozenGaarde is run by a third-generation Dutch family and grows over 95% of the tulips in the Skagit Valley. Walk among the flowers and don’t forget to stop at their iconic windmill for a photo op. **(L)**

3. Saturday is our final day, and it is packed with island charm. In the morning we’ll board the Washington State Ferry for a scenic twenty-minute crossing to Whidbey Island. We will land in the artistic seaside town of Langley for a visit to a local chocolate farm for an exclusive talk and some sweet souvenir shopping. We will catch the afternoon ferry back to Mukilteo and after lunch head to Seattle Tacoma International Airport for our return flight back to Sacramento by evening. **(L)**

\$1985 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2220 single **3**





New York City - The Macy's Flower Show & Remembering Dolly

Springtime is the right time to visit the Big Apple!

6 Days • April 24-29

Spend a night at Carnegie Hall

HIGHLIGHTS

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Times Square, in the heart of the city
- 2 included nights of theater/entertainment: Dolly: A True Original Musical, following the life of the late Country Music Legend; plus a night at Carnegie Hall with the New York Symphony Pops Orchestra (as they honor a star in the music/entertainment industry)
- A Day Behind Broadway – meet Broadway actors/musicians/technicians to learn the inner workings; talk hits and misses with Peter Filicia, a theater reviewer
- A Day in The Bronx – taste the real "Little Italy," meet the FDNY and NYPD with stops at a working fire station and police precinct
- The Macy's Flower Show – the entire store decorated in spring blooms
- Lunch at famous Tavern on the Green in Central Park
- Admission to The Museum of Broadway
- 7 meals: 5 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from NYC
- Door-to-door airport service
- 4950/5650 Gold Passport Points

If you've always longed to wake up in the city that never sleeps, allow us to use our

many years of expertise to make your Big Apple dreams come true. From the flowers at Macy's to the pageantry that is Carnegie Hall, and a special tribute to Dolly Parton, this is one of our best New York City itineraries ever!

1. Welcome to The Big Apple! Get ready for a plentiful family-style dinner at Carmine's, a Theater District institution and a block from your hotel. The lights of Times Square are mesmerizing and a half block detour on the way home from dinner will put you right in the middle of one of the world's most famous addresses. The Marriott is the center of it all, and it is your home for your entire stay. **Marriott Marquis Times Square – 5 nights (D)**

2. At 10 am, we'll walk you to The Museum of Broadway. The stories, the stars and the shows, it's all right here in the first permanent museum dedicated to the history and experience of Broadway Theater and how it has shaped Midtown Manhattan. After lunch together, we'll head to the St. James Theatre for the afternoon matinee of *Dolly: A True Original Musical*. With her recent passing, these tickets are in even greater demand. **(L)**

3. Pull back the curtain of Broadway. At a rehearsal studio, actors, musicians and technicians will share their Broadway journey. Meet Peter Filicia, a theater critic, with deep roots and a long history in the Broadway world. An endless source of information and full of entertaining stories, he's a show unto himself! Gather for an early dinner at Bobby Van's Steakhouse. Carnegie Hall will be abuzz for the New York Pops 44th Birthday Gala, and you have box seats! The orchestra will honor a past Broadway or music industry legend. Always a memorable night! **(L,D)**

4. Museums, subway rides and a historic tavern highlight the day. Start with the Museum of The City of New York. Located in the northeast corner of Central Park, it is home to over 1.5 million items. From Courier & Ives prints to a unique toy collection, everything Big Apple is here. We'll enjoy lunch together at Tavern on the Green, a longtime favorite of The City's upper crust (today we are part of that group). After lunch you have a choice:

The Museum of Natural History is one of the world's largest and most famous science and cultural museums. It holds over 34 million artifacts, everything from a 94-foot-long blue whale to the massive Hayden Planetarium.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art is the fourth-largest museum in the world and the largest art museum in the Americas. You can explore 5,000 years of art history from around the globe.

Tuesday and Wednesday nights are open and the theaters near your hotel are buzzing. We will have a meeting at our office on Saturday, January 17th to discuss the tour and these optional theater evenings. You can secure tickets on your own or we are happy to help you after the January meeting. **(L)**

5. It's off to The Bronx this morning, one of New York's most famous (or infamous) neighborhoods. We'll meet the locals with lunch and visits to pasta and pastry shops. Eat your way along Arthur Avenue, The Real Little Italy. Meet shop owners producing the foods you enjoyed at lunch. Grab some to take home, our treat! Oh, and the fresh cannoli? *Mangia, mangia!* **(L)**

6. We don't have to be at the airport until 1 pm today, so there is time for one more New York experience...what will it be? We have a bit of a surprise in store for you, call it a Mystery Stop! Depart NYC at 3:30 pm, arriving in Sacramento, via Denver, at 8:45 pm PT. **(L)**

\$4940 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5635 single

3





Kentucky – Bluegrass, Bourbon & Booms

Featuring *Thunder Over Louisville*, America's greatest fireworks extravaganza!

6 Days • April 13-18

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 nights Lexington - Claiborne Farm, Mary Todd Lincoln House, Keeneland Race Course, Kentucky Horse Park
- Kentucky Bourbon Trail
- 2 nights Louisville - Evan Williams Bourbon Experience, Churchill Downs, Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory, Frazier History Museum
- Thunder Over Louisville Air Show & Fireworks Spectacular
- High Tea at the Conrad-Caldwell House
- 11 meals: Daily breakfast, 1 high tea, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Louisville
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 4450/5100 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly to Louisville, then it's about a 75-mile drive to the heart of Kentucky Bluegrass Country. Here we'll explore the traditions that have made Lexington synonymous with Thoroughbred racing. **The Campbell House – 3 nights (D)**

2. A visit to legendary Claiborne Farm takes us behind the scenes of one of America's most celebrated horse farms, followed by a guided tour of Lexington and a visit to the Mary Todd Lincoln House. **(FB,L)**

3. The day begins at beautiful Keeneland Race Course, where we'll watch the morning workouts and tour one of the most prestigious racing venues in the country. Later, the Kentucky Horse Park brings the commonwealth's equestrian heritage to life through its horses, exhibits and attractions. **(FB,D)**

4. It's time to follow another great Kentucky tradition – the Bourbon Trail. We'll visit a local distillery before making our way toward Louisville and the Evan Williams Bourbon Experience, our first stop. After lunch at stylish Proof on Main, we continue to one of the most famous sporting venues in America: Churchill Downs, home of the Kentucky Derby. We'll tour the grounds and visit the Kentucky Derby Museum before checking into our historic hotel home. **Brown Hotel – 2 nights (FB,L)**

5. A guided Louisville tour introduces us to this colorful river city before we enjoy an elegant high tea and light lunch at the Conrad-Caldwell House. Then comes the event that inspired the "Booms" in our tour title, Thunder Over Louisville. One of the signature celebrations of the Kentucky Derby Festival, Thunder Over Louisville combines an exciting air show with a

spectacular nighttime fireworks display along the Ohio River. We'll enjoy dinner before taking in the grand finale, when the Louisville skyline lights up with one of the largest annual fireworks shows in the country. **(FB,HT,D)**

6. Before heading home, we'll cap off our Kentucky adventure with visits to two Louisville favorites, the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory and the Frazier History Museum. **(FB)**

Bonus! After the trip is over participants are invited to a Derby Party held at a local eatery to watch the race after a nice dinner. We may even have a prize for the person(s) that are lucky enough to make the winning pick! Save the date – May 1.

\$4450 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5095 single 3

Thunder Over Louisville Fireworks





Springtime In Monterey

Featuring a boat tour of the Elkhorn Slough
4 Days • April 4-7

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour Filoli House & Garden
- Moss Landing Estuary catamaran cruise of the Elkhorn Slough
- Take a spin on the famous 17-Mile Drive
- Docent-guided tour of Mission San Juan Bautista
- 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 3 lunches
- All motorcoach transportation
- Door-to-door service
- 2250/2500 Gold Passport Points

1. Begin your journey with a delightful champagne brunch in the Bay Area before enjoying a guided tour of Filoli House, one of the nation's finest surviving country estates from the early 20th century. Explore the magnificent 36,000-square-foot Georgian mansion and stroll through its breathtaking 16-acre English Renaissance gardens, renowned for their seasonal beauty. Later this afternoon, continue to Monterey and settle into the charming **Victorian Inn – 3 nights (BR)**

2. This morning, experience the world-renowned 17-Mile Drive, winding along the spectacular Pacific coastline through Pacific Grove and Pebble Beach. Enjoy a stop at the iconic Lodge at Pebble Beach and its Visitor Center, where you'll have time to admire the stunning ocean vistas. This afternoon, choose between an optional wine tasting excursion in scenic Carmel Valley or free time to explore historic Cannery Row with its unique shops, waterfront restaurants and attractions. **(B,L)**

3. Today's adventure takes you to picturesque Moss Landing, home to one of California's richest coastal ecosystems. Board an open-air catamaran for a narrated cruise through the pristine waters of Elkhorn Slough, where you'll encounter playful sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions and an incredible variety of native birdlife. Following your cruise, enjoy a hosted lunch at one of the area's renowned seafood restaurants. This evening, you may choose to visit Monterey's lively Fisherman's Wharf for dinner on your own. **(B,L)**

4. Enjoy a fascinating docent-led tour of historic Mission San Juan Bautista, one of California's best-preserved Spanish missions. Following a hosted lunch, relax as we journey back to Sacramento, arriving at approximately 5:00 pm. **(B,L)**

\$2220 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2490 single **2**



Redwoods & The Ranch

Featuring Kings Canyon National Park and Project Survival's Cat Haven
4 Days • May 12-15

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 Nights at all-inclusive Wonder Valley Ranch
- Ranch activities including a hayride, campfire, magic show and even a dog show
- See the giant Sequoia trees in Kings Canyon with an expert guide
- Experience Project Survival's Cat Haven, dedicated to the preservation of wild cats
- Explore Forestiere Underground Gardens in Fresno
- Lunch and tour of the Hilmar Cheese Factory; authentic Basque lunch in Fresno
- 10 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners (plus 3 hosted cocktail hours!)
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation – a no-fly trip!
- Door to door service to/from the Sports Leisure office
- 2000/2250 Gold Passport Points

1. Your driver brings you to the Sports Leisure office where you'll board our deluxe motorcoach bound for Wonder Valley Ranch, your gateway to fun, nature and relaxation. Our first stop is the Hilmar Cheese Factory for lunch and guided tour. Then we continue toward Fresno, turning into the Sierra foothills. Your resort style accommodations, once a retreat

for Hollywood stars in the 1950s, include complimentary Wi Fi and in room coffee service. This afternoon, enjoy optional horseback riding, archery or simply relax by the lake and soak in the peaceful surroundings. The springtime beauty of Wonder Valley Ranch awaits. **Wonder Valley Ranch – 3 nights (L,D)**

2. With a knowledgeable step on guide, explore the sights and sounds of Kings Canyon National Park. Enjoy a guided walk through the Grant Grove, home to towering Giant Sequoias, followed by lunch at scenic Hume Lake. There will be plenty of photo stops, plus time to browse visitor centers and gift shops. We return to the ranch in time for cocktail hour, dinner and a campfire under the stars. **(FB,L,D)**



3. Today we visit Project Survival's Cat Haven, an innovative park dedicated to the preservation of wild cats. This walking tour and private "Cat Chat" presentation brings you up close to these magnificent animals while learning about conservation efforts both locally and worldwide. We return to the ranch for lunch, followed by a free afternoon to enjoy the many activities Wonder Valley offers. Our final evening includes a farewell

cocktail hour, dinner, festive ranch activities and stargazing. **(FB,L,D)**

4. Enjoy one last morning activity at the ranch before we begin our journey home. Our first stop is the Forestiere Underground Gardens, a fascinating network of hand built subterranean rooms, courtyards and passageways created over 40 years by Sicilian immigrant Baldassare Forestiere.

An authentic Basque lunch at the historic Santa Fe Basque Restaurant is on tap before returning to the Sports Leisure office in the late afternoon. **(FB, L)**

NOTE: This tour includes several walking components on gravel roads, uneven surfaces and high elevations which will not safely accommodate walkers.

\$1985 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2245 single **3**

Sacred Lands of the Southwest – Monument Valley and Canyon de Chelly

Featuring two nights lakeside at the Lake Powell Resort

7 Days • May 17-23



HIGHLIGHTS

- Off-road adventure deep into Canyon de Chelly
- Guided 4x4 tour of Monument Valley with Navajo guides
- Explore the magnificent Antelope Canyon with a Navajo guide
- 2-nights lakeside at Lake Powell Resort
- Private tour of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary
- Two spectacular performances at Tuacahn Amphitheatre
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 6 lunches
- Roundtrip airfare to Durango/from Las Vegas
- Convenient door-to-door service
- 5100/5700 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly to Durango, Colorado, and begin your journey through the dramatic landscapes of the Southwest. Travel through the heart of Navajo Country to Chinle, Arizona, the gateway to magnificent Canyon de Chelly National Monument. Settle in for the evening at the **Thunderbird Lodge. (L)**

2. Discover the remarkable history and scenery of Canyon de Chelly, where Native American history spans centuries, from ancient Ancestral Puebloan communities to the Navajo families who continue to live and farm within the canyon today. Board 4x4 vehicles for an unforgettable journey deep into the canyon. Travel along the canyon floor, surrounded by towering red cliffs, ancient ruins, rock shelters

and dramatic sandstone formations. This afternoon, return to the motorcoach for a scenic tour along the canyon rim, including a stop at spectacular Spider Rock, one of the Southwest's most iconic landmarks. Continue to Kayenta for your overnight stay at the **Hampton Inn. (B,L)**

3. Enter the legendary landscape of Monument Valley, perhaps the most recognizable symbol of the American West. Made famous through countless Western films, its towering buttes, mesas and vast desert vistas have become synonymous with the Southwest. Explore Monument Valley in 4x4 vehicles accompanied by experienced Navajo guides. Venture beyond the main roads and into the backcountry, discovering secluded landscapes and formations that many visitors never see. Along the way, visit locations made famous in films such as *Stagecoach*, *The Searchers*, and *How the West Was Won*. The day ends at spectacular Lake Powell. **Lake Powell Resort – 2 nights (B,L)**

4. Experience one of the Southwest's most extraordinary natural wonders: Antelope Canyon. A Navajo guide will lead you into this breathtaking slot canyon, where centuries of wind and water have sculpted the sandstone into flowing curves, graceful walls and brilliant patterns of light and

shadow. As you walk through the canyon, the towering red and orange walls seem almost impossibly beautiful – nature's own masterpiece. Return to Lake Powell for another relaxing evening along its spectacular shoreline. **(B,L)**

5. Travel into southern Utah for a private tour of Best Friends Animal Sanctuary, one of the country's most remarkable animal rescue organizations. Continue to St. George, where a hosted lunch awaits amid the spectacular scenery of Utah's red-rock country. This evening, experience the magic of Tuacahn Amphitheatre, a world-class outdoor theater dramatically set against towering red-rock cliffs. Enjoy an unforgettable performance beneath the desert sky, where Broadway-caliber entertainment and the natural beauty of the canyon come together to create a truly special evening. **Black Desert Resort – 2 nights (FB,L)**

6. Enjoy a leisurely morning exploring the sights of St. George and the surrounding area. Gather for another hosted lunch before preparing for an evening you'll remember for years to come. As the sun sets over the red-rock cliffs, return to Tuacahn Amphitheatre for your second spectacular performance. With music, drama, towering canyon walls and a starlit desert sky as your backdrop, it's the perfect finale to your Southwest adventure. **(L)**

7. Depart for Las Vegas and your afternoon flight home, taking with you unforgettable memories of ancient canyon dwellings, legendary Western landscapes, magnificent slot canyons and the breathtaking red-rock country of the Southwest.

NOTE: This tour is not considered strenuous, however, we are unable to accommodate walkers. There is no storage available for walkers on the 4x4 tours. In addition, the Antelope Canyon experience requires walking through sand, climbing stairs and walking back through the desert. Guests should be comfortable walking on uneven, sandy terrain and navigating stairs without assistance.

\$5060 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5670 single **3**





Dutch Treat!

Experience the best of Holland and Belgium in the spring
11 Days • May 15-25

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights Amsterdam – Rijksmuseum, walking and canalboat tours, Hortus Botanicus
- Visit Zaanse Schans, Waterland, Marken, Monnickendam, Giethoorn, Gouda & Delft
- Explore Paleis Het Loo, the former royal residence of the Dutch Royal Family
- 4 nights Ghent – city tour including St. Baafs Cathedral
- Visit Bruges & Antwerp
- Thirsty? You'll love Domein Leeflank and Zot Blonde
- Hungry? Sample pastries, cheese, chocolates and visit the home of stroopwafel
- 19 meals: Daily breakfast, 4 lunches, 6 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Amsterdam
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 8800/9900 Gold Passport Points

1-2. Welkom in Nederland! A trans-Atlantic, overnight flight brings you to Holland's principal city, Amsterdam, where you will meet your driver and local guide. Let's save the big city for later and start instead in the charming 1850s Dutch living history village of Zaanse Schans. Visit a windmill, the bakery museum, the tin foundry and view a range of traditional Dutch crafts such as cheese and clog making. Enjoy a typical Dutch pancake lunch for your first taste of the region. **Park Centraal Amsterdam – 4 nights (L,D)**

3. Begin your day with a guided tour of the renowned Rijksmuseum led by an expert guide. The museum houses some of the world's most celebrated masterpieces, including "The Night Watch" and "The Jewish Bride," as well as works by Johannes Vermeer, Frans Hals and

Jacob van Ruisdael. Enjoy a relaxing lunch cruise through Amsterdam's picturesque canals where every view is photo-worthy, followed by a walking tour through the historic city center. See landmarks such as Dam Square, the impressive Royal Palace Amsterdam, the Nieuwe Kerk, the tranquil Begijnhof and the colorful Bloemenmarkt. You will also visit Hortus Botanicus, one of the world's oldest botanical gardens. **(FB,L)**

4. Travel into the scenic Waterland region, known for its green meadows, waterways and charming villages including visits to Broek in Waterland, Marken and Monnickendam. Conclude your day with a cooking class where together with professional chefs, you will prepare your own tasteful dinner. **(FB,D)**

5. Today you'll visit Giethoorn, the water village of the Netherlands. The best way to view the farms and houses is by whisper boat which will be ready for you upon arrival. After a delightful lunch, continue to Apeldoorn, home to the magnificent Paleis Het Loo, the former residence of the Dutch Royal Family, where you will uncover over 300 years of royal history. Discover the stories of the House of Orange and experience one of the Netherlands' most treasured cultural, architectural and botanical landmarks. **(FB,L)**

6. Depart Amsterdam and travel south towards Belgium with numerous adventures along the way. Stop in Gouda and visit their famed Cheese Market as well as the home of the famous Dutch stroopwafel. Continue to Delft, renowned for its Delft Blue pottery. Visit Royal Delft, also known as De Porceleyne Fles, where you will discover the

history and craftsmanship behind this iconic Dutch porcelain on a factory tour. Travel onwards to Ghent, one of Belgium's most charming cities. **Pillows Grand Boutique Hotel – 4 nights (FB,D)**

7. Discover the highlights of Ghent during a guided sightseeing tour as you explore landmarks such as the Belfry of Ghent, Saint Michael's Bridge and the historic quays of Graslei and Korenlei. Your tour also includes a visit to the St. Baafs Cathedral, home to the world-famous "Adoration of the Mystic Lamb." After leisure time in Ghent you will head to Domein Leeflank, a family-owned vineyard nestled in the Flemish countryside. **(FB,D)**

8. Today you will visit the picturesque city of Bruges, often referred to as "Venice of the North." With its cobbled streets, romantic canals and beautifully preserved medieval architecture, Bruges is one of Europe's most captivating historic cities. Upon arrival, meet your local guide and enjoy a guided walking tour through the city center, during which you will see highlights such as the Basilica of the Holy Blood, the iconic Belfry of Bruges, the picturesque Minnewater (Lake of Love) and the tranquil Beguinage of Bruges. Following the city tour, enjoy a guided visit to De Halve Maan Brewery, home of the popular Zot Blond. **(FB,L)**

9. Indulge in the sweet side of Ghent during a delightful chocolate-themed discovery tour. Begin with a canal cruise through the city's picturesque waterways. Your guide will introduce you to Ghent's rich history and vibrant culture while visiting several artisan chocolatiers. Soon you'll discover why Belgian chocolate is celebrated around the world. **(FB,D)**

10. Today you return to the Netherlands, spending the morning the vibrant city of Antwerp. Renowned for its historic port, magnificent architecture and reputation as one of Europe's leading centers for fashion and diamonds, Antwerp offers a fascinating blend of tradition and modern elegance. Enjoy a guided visit to DIVA, a museum of diamonds, gold and silver, where you will discover the fascinating world of jewelry creation through the exhibition "A Brilliant Story" and a visit to the DIVA Atelier. A farewell dinner at your hotel offers a chance to reflect on the highlights of your vacation in the Netherlands and Belgium. **Radisson Blu Amsterdam Airport (FB,D)**

11. Following breakfast, transfer to Amsterdam Schiphol International Airport (AMS) for your flight back home. **(FB)**

\$8775 p.p/dbl.occ., \$9865 single **4**
This vacation requires a valid passport





Bonnie Scotland in the Spring

Attend the Highland Games at Gordon Castle complete with VIP seating
11 Days • May 10-20, 2027

1-2. Your transatlantic, overnight flight arrives in Edinburgh about 8:30 a.m. Joined by our Scottish guide, we'll have an easy start to the day with a panoramic city tour, then a walk along the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle dating to 1103 AD. Inside you'll have an opportunity to view the Scottish Crown Jewels. **Malmaison Leith Hotel – 2 nights (D)**

3. Do a deep dive into British and Scottish royal history today starting with a tour of the *Royal Yacht Britannia*, which served Queen Elizabeth II from 1954 to 1997. Next, you'll visit the Palace of Holyroodhouse. The Baroque residence has been home to numerous Royals over the centuries, including Mary Queen of Scots. We'll change it up in the afternoon with a tasting at Johnnie Walker Distillery, Scotland's most iconic whisky brand. **(FB)**

4. Away to the windy cliffs of St. Andrews, known as THE undisputed home of golf. Joined by a local guide, we'll walk part of the hallowed Old Course, then visit St. Andrews Castle and Cathedral. The Castle was built as a bishop's residence over 450 years ago. The Cathedral was Scotland's largest and most magnificent medieval church, playing an important role in the Protestant Reformation's struggle for hearts and minds. Even in ruins, the structure continues to impress and inspire. **Malmaison Aberdeen Hotel – 3 nights (FB,D)**

5. Balmoral Castle has been favored by the House of Windsor for over a century. We'll tour the house and gardens, which should be stunning in May. In the afternoon we'll visit Aberdeenshire Highland Cattle, a beef cattle farm which raises one of Scotland's most popular breeds, the Highlander, affectionately known as the "Hairy Coo." **(FB,D)**

6. Today we visit a family farm and meet their herd of over 1000 sheep and the dogs trained to shepherd them. We'll have a demonstration of these highly intelligent animals at work and enjoy a few of their party tricks as well. Nearby we'll tour Haddo House, the home of Clan Gordon. It is Scotland's grandest Palladian-style country mansion, c. 1732. Afterwards we'll wet our whistle with a visit to the City of Aberdeen Distillery and learn about the country's second most popular spirit – gin. **(FB,D)**

7. At The Highland Games at Gordon Castle you are invited to immerse yourself in traditional Scottish entertainment and country sports. Here you'll enjoy VIP seating inside each arena and access to the hospitality tent where tea and refreshments are served throughout the day. Our journey ends in Inverness, gateway to the Scottish Highlands. **Inverness Palace Hotel – 2 nights (FB,L,D)**

8. Have a taste of the storied Scottish Highlands on a day of exploration including

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Cities: Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Aberdeen, Inverness, Fort William, Glasgow
- The Castles and Palaces: Edinburgh, St. Andrews, Balmoral, Gordon, Dunrobin, Urquhart, Holyroodhouse
- The Lochs: Ness, Lomond, Linnhe
- The Distilleries: Scotch, Gin – who needs more?
- The Farms: "Hairy coos," sheep and sheepdogs
- 19 meals: Daily Full Breakfast, 2 lunches, 8 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Edinburgh
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 9650/10,950 Gold Passport Points

stops at the Falls of Shin and the dramatic Dunrobin Castle, largest in the Highlands with 189 rooms filled with priceless works of art, antiques and artifacts to savor. Unique due to its French Chateau-inspired architecture, Dunrobin has been the home of the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland since the 1300s. **(FB,L,D)**

9. One of Scotland's most iconic experiences is to take a peaceful cruise on Loch Ness to the ancient ruins of Urquhart Castle. Keep your eyes peeled for a Nessie spotting. This just might be the day that the shy girl shows herself! **Muthu Fort William Hotel (FB,D)**

10. Today we explore the Trossachs Region, including a drive along the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond. The Trossachs pack rugged mountains, shimmering lochs and dense native woodlands into a small, accessible area – perfect for a day's exploration. We end in Glasgow, the country's most populous city. Here we'll spend our final night. **Malmaison Glasgow Hotel (FB,D)**

11. We return to Edinburgh for our early afternoon flight to the United States filled with memories of an incredible springtime journey through Bonnie Scotland. **(FB)**

\$9650 p.p./dbl.occ., \$10,950 single **4**
This tour requires a valid passport





Newport, Rhode Island - The Lap of Luxury

Big discoveries are yours to make in our smallest state

6 Days • May 20-25

The Newport Harbor Hotel & Marina - your home for 5 nights

HIGHLIGHTS

- 5 nights in Newport – unpack once!
- Visit coastal summer “cottages” The Elms and The Breakers
- Schooner cruise in Newport Harbor
- Explore Block Island by ferry
- Visit the International Tennis Hall of Fame, Sailing Museum and National Sailing Hall of Fame
- 10 meals: 5 breakfast, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Providence
- Door-to-door Airport Transportation
- 4600/5100 Gold Passport Points

1. Arrive in Newport in the early evening and transfer to your waterside hotel. After check-in, seize the opportunity to explore your surroundings before enjoying a hosted dinner that welcomes you to “The Ocean State.” **Newport Harbor Hotel & Marina – 5 nights (D)**

2. After a restful sleep, it’s time for a hearty breakfast before joining our local guide for a day of sightseeing in and around the city of Newport. Take a deep dive into Gilded Age history as you hear stories of the exquisite mansions built here (which the rich and famous had the nerve to call summer cottages), before experiencing the wide world of sports at The International Tennis Hall of Fame. **(FB,L)**

3. It’s “surf and turf” exploration day! Visit The Sailing Museum, which includes the National Sailing Hall of Fame, then take a cruise about Newport Harbor aboard

a vintage sailing schooner. Once you are back on the turf, travel to the nearby community of New Bedford, Massachusetts, (neighboring states are close when you’re in Rhode Island!) where you’ll have some time to explore what was once the whaling capital of the world. There you will visit the Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum, a National Historic Landmark. The stately 1834 Greek Revival mansion was renowned as a destination for freedom seekers and a rallying point for Abolitionists. **(FB,D)**

4. Who’s ready for adventure on Block Island? Arrive by ferry, then travel by coach to Mohegan Bluffs, home to the historic Southeast Lighthouse. Lunch is served at The National Hotel, a landmark since its construction in 1888, located in the heart of the village on Block Island. After lunch there will be time to explore and shop before boarding the ferry back to mainland. **(FB,L)**

Tour The Breakers, one of numerous elegant mansions in Newport



5. It's already your penultimate day in Rhode Island. There are plenty more places to explore, starting with the Touro Synagogue, a National Historic Site, with over 250 years of history of Newport's colonial Jewish community. Here you'll explore the origins of religious freedom, and the separation of church and state in America. Dating to the early 18th century, Casey Farm is a living history homestead that was owned and operated by the same family through eight generations for over 250 years. Nearby Watch Hill is a charming coastal resort offering fanciful Victorian-era architecture, lighthouses and is where your farewell dinner is served. **(FB,D)**

6. Before you leave this incredible state there is still more of the legacy and opulence of the Gilded Age to experience, and we have saved the best for last. The Elms was built for Philadelphia coal baron Edward Berwind in 1899 at a cost of \$1.5 million. (At this time in history the average American man made 22-cents per hour or about \$500 per year.) It's something else, but just you wait! The Breakers is regarded as Newport's grandest summer cottage. Designed by Richard Morris Hunt for Cornelius Vanderbilt II, construction began in 1893. It was completed two years later at a cost of some \$12 million including furniture and art. Today's value? An incredible \$600 million – give or take a hundred million. Oh yes, we definitely saved



the best for last! An early evening flight wraps up your week of big discoveries in our smallest state. **(FB)**

\$4560 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5100 single **3**



Yosemite Valley is Calling!

Featuring accommodations inside the park at the Yosemite Valley Lodge
4 Days • June 8-11

1. Travel to one of our country's truly spectacular natural gems – Yosemite National Park – renowned for its sheer granite cliffs including Half Dome and El Capitan, Yosemite has inspired photographers and nature lovers for generations, including the legendary Ansel Adams. Enjoy three nights in the heart of the park at the Yosemite Valley Lodge, where every room features a balcony or patio.
Yosemite Valley Lodge – 3 nights (L)

2. Today, explore the breathtaking beauty of Yosemite Valley, with plenty of opportunities to capture awe-inspiring photographs. Here every view is a “Kodak Moment”! See some of the park's most iconic landmarks, including El Capitan, Bridalveil Fall, Half Dome, Yosemite Falls and Tunnel View, one of the most spectacular viewpoints in the park. **(FB)**

3. Journey high above Yosemite Valley to spectacular Glacier Point, located approximately 3,200 feet above the valley floor. From this magnificent vantage point, enjoy panoramic views of Yosemite Falls, Half Dome, Nevada Fall, Vernal Fall and the majestic High Sierra stretching into the distance. **(FB)**

4. Enjoy a relaxing morning with some free time to explore Yosemite Valley at your own pace. Perhaps take the short, scenic walk to Yosemite Falls or simply enjoy the magnificent surroundings. Later, board the motorcoach for the journey home, arriving in Sacramento at approximately 5:00 pm.
(FB,L)

\$2460 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2795 single **2**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Three nights at the Yosemite Valley Lodge
- Guided tours of the Yosemite Valley and Glacier Point
- See Half Dome, El Capitan and Yosemite Falls
- 4 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 2 lunches
- All motorcoach transportation
- Door-to-door service
- 2500/2800 Gold Passport Points



Cruise The Panama Canal with Holland America on The Zaandam

A 15-day dream cruise including ports of call in Columbia, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Mexico

16 Days • March 13-28



DAY 1	Depart Fort Lauderdale	4 pm
DAY 2-3	At Sea	
DAY 4	Cartagena, Columbia	7 am – 2 pm
DAY 5	Enter Panama Canal/Cristobal	6 am
DAY 5	Cruising Panama Canal	
DAY 6	Exit Panama Canal/Balboa	6 pm
DAY 7	Quepos, Costa Rica	8 am – 5 pm
DAY 8	At Sea	
DAY 9	Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala	6 am – 4 pm
DAY 10	Huatulco, Mexico	11 am – 6 pm
DAY 11	At Sea	
DAY 12	Puerto Vallarta, Mexico	8 am – 2 pm
DAY 13	Cabo San Lucas (tender only)	7 am – 2 pm
DAY 14	At Sea	
DAY 15	Arrive San Diego	7 am



Pre-Cruise Itinerary – March 13-14

Fly to Miami, arriving approximately 5 pm. Dinner at a Brazilian Steakhouse is included as is an overnight at the *Hilton Garden Inn* Dolphin Mall. A city tour of Miami, highlighting the historic architecture and beautiful Miami Beach is included the following morning, with free time for lunch, before making your way 40 miles north to Fort Lauderdale in time for embarkation.

Cruise Itinerary – March 14-28

This 2-week itinerary offers you three amazing destinations in one trip. You have Central/South America (Columbia, Costa Rica and Guatemala), the Panama Canal transit and Mexico's West Coast (Huatulco, Puerto Vallarta and Cabo San Lucas).

Once onboard, all meals are included (with some upgrade options to specialty restaurants at additional cost). There are lots of free shipboard activities, as well as add-ons both on and off the ship. You can literally build your own itinerary with spa activities, nightly musical performances, optional shore excursions or just exploring the ports of call at your leisure. The package includes the cruise, all port fees and taxes, roundtrip air (Sacramento/Miami and San Diego/Sacramento), pre-cruise overnight stay and Miami tour.

You are sailing with Holland America, one of the best in the business. A *Sports Leisure Tour Director* is with you from start to finish. Information on optional activities and excursions will be shared with you after registration and you may sign up for them prior to departure. A Pre-Cruise Orientation meeting will be offered 3-4 weeks before you depart to answer all your questions and help you prepare for your cruise.

Inside Cabins start at:
\$4960 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6890 single

Outside Cabins start at:
\$5370 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7820 single

Outside Cabins start at:
\$6920 p.p./dbl.occ., \$10,820 single **2**

This tour requires a valid passport





Costa Mesa Arts Lovers Getaway

Featuring The Great Gatsby at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
3 Days • May 21-23

HIGHLIGHTS

- Pacific Symphony and The Great Gatsby at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
- Behind-the-scenes tours of Christ Cathedral and the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
- Take in the collection at the Laguna Art Museum
- Lunch at Sports Leisure favorite Las Brisas in Laguna Beach
- 4 meals: 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Orange County
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2550/2850 Gold Passport Points

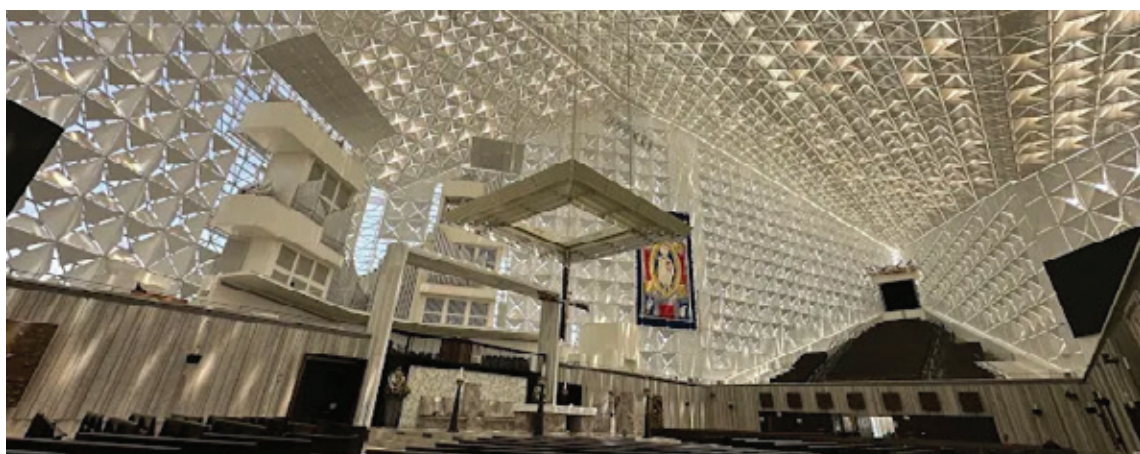
We've received a number of suggestions to see a musical or take in a concert at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa. How about both? If you toured the Segerstrom on our Laguna Pageant of the Masters trip, you have to agree it is a truly magnificent theater and concert hall. To this end, we've put together this trip to Orange County for all the arts lovers among us!

1. After a short flight to Orange County, head to the Segerstrom Center for the Arts for an exclusive tour of their world-class venue. A group luncheon will be followed by check-in at our hotel conveniently located immediately next door to the arts complex. We will complete our first day with prime seats for a Pacific Symphony concert inside the acoustically-perfect Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. Under the baton of Alexander Shelley, the celestial-themed concert is entitled "John Williams and The Planets," and features Williams' "Suite for Orchestra" from *Star Wars* and *The Planets* by Gustav Holst. As a special treat, saxophone star Jess Gillam is the featured soloist in the symphony's rendition of Williams' "Escapades." **Westin Costa Mesa South Center – 2 nights (L,D)**

2. Our first stop this morning will be a tour of the Crystal Cathedral, now known as Christ Cathedral. Originally envisioned by televangelist Robert Schuller with its spectacular glass sanctuary, it was acquired by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange in 2012. This afternoon we head back to the Segerstrom Center for the Arts for the matinee performance of *The Great Gatsby*. Based on F. Scott Fitzgerald's 1925 novel, this adaptation for the Broadway stage is big, bold and flashy – just like Jay Gatsby. Relive the adventures of this larger-than-life, enigmatic millionaire in his obsessive quest to reunite with his former love, Daisy Buchanan. Is it a grand love story or tragedy? That will no doubt be the topic of conversation at dinner, an Italian feast served at Maggiano's Little Italy at South Coast Plaza. **(D)**

3. A scenic drive down the coastline to Laguna Beach and we find ourselves at the Laguna Art Museum for a guided tour. Las Brisas is a short walk away and is a *Sports Leisure* favorite for lunch before we return to John Wayne Orange County Airport for our quick trip back to Sacramento. **(L)**

\$2515 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2810 single **2**



British Columbia by Rail, Land, and Sea

Natural beauty and history abound from the mountains to the Pacific

8 Days • June 7-14



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore British Columbia's amazing terrain from the mountains to the sea
- Relive the excitement of the 1854 Caribou Gold Rush
- A full day aboard the scenic VIA Rail Skeena
- Cruise the Inside Passage aboard the MV Northern Expedition
- Explore Vancouver Island from top to bottom
- 14 meals: 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Vancouver
- Door-to-door airport service
- 6650/7350 Gold Passport Points

3. The gold strike on Williams Creek triggered a multi-billion-dollar industrial revolution that literally built a province. Today, we visit the historic town of Barkerville which stands as a living testament to British Columbia's golden beginnings. We'll spend the morning and early afternoon exploring its unique streetscape with more than 125 heritage buildings, period displays, museums, restaurants and shops. Later we'll continue north along the Gold Rush Trail to Prince George. Home of the largest concentration of lumber mills support the pulp and paper industry, is the industrial heart of the province. **(FB,D)**

4. All Aboard VIA Rail's Skeena for a full day of train travel enroute to Prince Rupert! Head northwest through vast areas of forests and small logging and mining towns, before coming alongside the mighty Skeena River on its path to the Pacific. Along the way you'll see the ruins of hundreds of salmon canneries that dominate the shoreline, active until only a few decades ago. **Prestige Hotel – 2 nights (FB,L,D)**

5. Tour the coastal community of Prince Rupert, an important city for the exportation of coal, grain and other commodities to Asia. It is also the home port for the Canadian salmon and cod fishing fleets. We'll visit the North Pacific Cannery, a National Historic Site, one of the last fish canneries still standing on the West Coast. This afternoon we'll share the rich indigenous cultural history of the Ts'msyen people who have lived in this area for over 14,000 years. Their Northern Museum offers amazing collections of carvings, jewelry, ceremonial regalia, paintings and historical documents. **(FB,D)**

6. An early morning departure aboard the new cruise ferry MV Northern Expedition starts an amazing journey down the world-famous Inside Passage. Keep your camera ready for you may see killer whales, seals, eagles and even a bear or elk on the nearby shore. Explore the ship and enjoy the live nature and cultural presentations, restaurants and lounge areas and a wide



8-DAY BRITISH COLUMBIA SCENIC JOURNEY

- DAY 1 – ARRIVE IN VANCOUVER**
Transfer to Harrison Hot Springs Resort Hotel (about an hour east of Vancouver)
- DAY 2 – VANCOUVER TO QUESNEL**
Follow Highway 1 along the Fraser River then head north to Quesnel.
- DAY 3 – PRINCE GEORGE**
Short trip eastwards to the Gold Rush town of Barkerville, later in the day travel to Prince George.
- DAY 4 – VIA RAIL TO PRINCE RUPERT**
VIA Rail from Prince George to Prince Rupert.
- DAY 5 – PRINCE RUPERT**
Sightseeing in Prince Rupert.
- DAY 6 – INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE**
Inside Passage cruise to Port Hardy on northern tip of Vancouver Island.
- DAY 7 – VANCOUVER ISLAND & RETURN TO VANCOUVER**
Travel down Vancouver Island to Nanaimo, then take the BC Ferry from Nanaimo to the Mainland and overnight in Vancouver.
- DAY 8 – DEPARTURE**
Leave for home.

1. Depart on a morning flight to Portland, then on to British Columbia and the beautiful port city of Vancouver. From here head east through the lush farmlands of the Fraser River Valley. The Coastal Mountains rise before you as we journey to the shores of Harrison Lake. Our hotel is renowned for its five natural hot springs and baths. Explore them, and all your beautiful surrounds, before and after tonight's welcome dinner. **Harrison Hot Springs Resort (D)**

2. An amazing journey is in store as we follow the route of the 1854 gold rush when thousands of sourdoughs risked their lives to find their way through the treacherous canyons of the Fraser River Valley to the Caribou region. See Hells Gate rapids and stop at the iconic town of Boston Bar as the canyon gives way to the vast Caribou Plateau. Our journey along the historic Caribou Wagon Road comes to an end in the bustling community of Quesnel. **Sandman Inn (FB)**





range of viewing areas. Our spectacular day of cruising comes to an end late in the evening when we dock in Port Hardy at the northern end of Vancouver Island. **(FB,L)**

7. We will leave the dense rainforest of Northern Vancouver Island and start our 290-mile journey to the near desert-like climate of Victoria on the southern tip of the island. We'll stop for a break in Campbell River, renowned as the Salmon Fishing Capital of Canada. Our island adventure continues as we travel south through the pastoral farmlands of the Comox Valley and the beachside resorts along the east coast of the island. Reaching the bustling city of Nanaimo, we'll board a gleaming white BC Government Ferry for the leisurely 2-hour cruise across the Salish Sea to the mainland. **Coast Tsawwassen Inn Vancouver (FB,D)**

8. On a guided tour of Vancouver you'll see Chinatown, Gastown, Canada Place and drive through the 1000+ acre Stanley Park. Our return flight departs Vancouver in the early afternoon. **(FB)**

\$6610 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7330 single **3**



Historic Fort Bragg & the California Redwoods

Join us for this classic California escape to the north coast

4 Days • July 11-14

Walk high among the redwoods in Eureka

1. Escape to California's spectacular North Coast where towering redwoods, rugged ocean scenery and charming coastal communities create the perfect summer getaway. Our journey begins as we travel north into magnificent redwood country, stopping for lunch in Willits enroute. Along the way, our favorite local guide, "Mr. Tree," joins us for an entertaining and informative look at these ancient giants before we continue to Eureka for our first night. **Red Lion Hotel (L)**

2. The next morning brings a visit to the Sequoia Park Zoo and Redwood Sky Walk, where suspended walkways offer a unique perspective high among the trees. From there, we'll take to the water for a relaxing

Humboldt Bay cruise, followed by lunch along the waterfront at ever-popular Jack's Seafood before continuing south to beautiful Fort Bragg. **(B,L,D)**

3. Today we explore the colorful Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens, then climb aboard Fort Bragg's famous Skunk Train for a nostalgic ride through the coastal redwoods. There will also be time to enjoy lunch and shopping in Fort Bragg before visiting the Noyo Marine Science Center and Crow's Nest. We'll finish the day with dinner at scenic Noyo River Grill. **(B,D)**

4. Before beginning our journey home, we'll make one final coastal stop at MacKerricher State Park, known for its rugged shoreline and beautiful Pacific views. Then it's

back through the valley with lunch served near Clear Lake before arriving home in Sacramento. **(B,L)**

\$2095 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2495 single **2**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided redwoods tour with "Mr. Tree"
- Sequoia Park Zoo & Redwood Sky Walk
- Humboldt Bay Cruise
- Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens
- Historic Skunk Train
- Noyo Marine Science Center & Crow's Nest
- MacKerricher State Park
- 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- All motorcoach transportation – no fly!
- Door-to-door service
- 2100/2500 Gold Passport Points





An Arctic Summer in Lapland

Visit the seldom-explored northern extremes of Norway and Finland
13 Days • June 27 - July 9

Limited catalogue space prohibits the full itinerary being presented here. But you can find all the exciting details online at www.sportsleisure.com – keyword: LAPLAND.

1-2. Your trans-Atlantic overnight flight arrives at Oslo Gardermoen Airport on the afternoon of Day 2 where we'll meet our local guide and enjoy a first taste of Nordic cuisine at our welcome dinner. **Clarion Hotel The Hub – 2 nights (D)**

3. Welcome to Norway's elegant capital city, Oslo. We'll begin at Vigeland Sculpture Park where more than 200 sculptures by Gustav Vigeland occupy the beautifully landscaped grounds. We'll see the Royal Palace, official residence of Norway's new monarch, before making our way to the 13th Century medieval Akershus Fortress. We'll then visit the Fram Museum, devoted to the extraordinary Norwegian tradition of polar exploration. **(FB,D)**



4-5. A short morning flight takes us to Tromsø, known as the "Gateway to the Arctic." There you'll have plenty of time to discover the city at your own pace during the season of the Midnight Sun, when the sun remains above the horizon around the clock. We'll ride the Fjellheisen Cable Car to the mountain overlooking the city, visit the Arctic Cathedral and Polaria, Tromsø's Arctic experience center and the world's northernmost aquarium. **Clarion Hotel The Edge – 2 nights (2FB,2D)**

6. Today we travel from Norway to Finland and Lake Kilpisjärvi where a boat and a 3-km hike takes us to the Three-Country Cairn. There you'll have the unusual experience of standing in three countries at once – Finland, Norway and Sweden. This is the northernmost international trip point in the world. **Lapland Hotel Hetta (FB,D)**

7. Your summer visit provides the opportunity to take a walk with a team of huskies. Meet the animals, see them in their everyday environment and learn about their training and lives. Rest assured the huskies will provide enthusiastic company along the trail! Afterward we'll continue south toward Rovaniemi, the unofficial capital of Finnish Lapland and a natural base for exploring the region's forests, rivers and fells. **Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna Rovaniemi – 2 nights (FB,D)**

8. Today begins with a visit to Santa Claus Village. Located directly on the Arctic Circle, the village is open year-round, and yes – Santa is here in July, too! No visit is complete without making the official Arctic Circle crossing and receiving your certificate commemorating the occasion. At

HIGHLIGHTS

- **The Capital:** Oslo, Norway's extraordinary principal city
- **Three-Country Border:** Stand in Finland, Sweden and Norway at the same time
- **The Great Outdoors:** Fells, forests, fjords, lakes and Arctic wilderness
- **The Sámi:** Explore the culture, history and traditional way of life of Europe's native people
- **The Gold & Gems:** Search for your own amethyst and try your hand at gold panning
- **The Midnight Sun:** A late-night hike into the bright Arctic landscape
- **The Museums:** Fram, Polaria, Arktikum, Siida and the Nobel Peace Center
- **The Snowhotel:** A winter wonderland that operates even when it's summer outside
- **The Seafood:** Experience one of northern Norway's great delicacies – king crab
- **The Meals:** 24 meals: Daily breakfast and dinner, plus 2 lunches
- **The Hosts:** Enjoy the services of a Nordic guide and SLV Tour Director throughout
- **The Air:** All airfare included to/from Oslo; to Tromsø; from Kirkenes; Door-to-door service

Arktikum, Rovaniemi's acclaimed museum and science center, exhibitions explore the people, history and natural environment of Lapland. At 10:00 p.m., we'll head out for our Midnight Sun Picnic. A relatively easy walk of 20–30 minutes takes us above the treeline to a mountain viewpoint. Here, rather than darkness descending over the landscape, we'll be surrounded by the extraordinary golden light of an Arctic summer night. **(FB,L,D)**

9. Our first adventure today takes us to the Lampivaara Amethyst Mine where the precious stones were formed roughly two billion years ago. Try your hand at finding a piece of Lapland's purple gemstone to take home as a personal "lucky stone." We'll continue north toward Tankavaara, Finland's most entertaining reminder of the country's gold-rush history, where we'll have our own opportunity to swirl gravel and water in the pan in hopes of discovering a tiny flash of Finnish gold. Our final destination is Saariselkä which offers something truly special: Instead of a conventional hotel room, we'll stay in an Aurora Cabin with its glass-roofed design offering a direct visual connection to the surrounding Arctic landscape. **Northern Lights Village Saariselkä – Aurora Cabin (FB,D)**

10. Today we continue north toward Inari, the cultural heartland of Finland's Sámi population. Our destination is Siida and the Sámi Museum and Nature Centre, which explores the relationship between the Sámi people and the northern environment, demonstrating how culture, livelihood and landscape have evolved together. We'll



then cross the Finnish-Norwegian frontier once more, continuing toward Kirkenes, Norway's northeastern most town and a place that feels remarkably remote even by Arctic standards. Kirkenes has a fascinating history shaped by fishing, mining, border politics and life in the far north. This evening we'll visit Snowhotel Kirkenes, an extraordinary attraction constructed from snow and ice with elaborately carved ice rooms and an ever-changing collection of snow and ice art. **Scandic Hotel Kirkenes (FB,D)**

11-12. Kirkenes is famous for the enormous red king crab that thrives in the cold waters of the Barents Sea, and today we'll have the

opportunity to see this impressive creature up close and participate in the catch on a King Crab Safari. The safari heads onto the fjord by boat where we haul the crab pots aboard. Back on shore, the catch becomes lunch – freshly prepared king crab served in traditional northern Norwegian style. Your lunch features a generous portion of the catch. Then we transfer to Kirkenes Airport for our flight back to Oslo. The next morning begins aboard Brim Explorer for a cruise on the Oslo Fjord, followed by the Nobel Peace Center where the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony takes place each December. Exhibitions explore Alfred Nobel, the history of the Peace Prize and the people

who have received it, as well as broader issues of peace, human rights and global cooperation. Our final evening in Norway concludes with a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. **Clarion Hotel The Hub – 2 nights (2FB,L,2D)**

13. After breakfast, we'll transfer to Oslo Gardermoen Airport for our long flight home. **(FB)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. **4**

This vacation requires a valid passport

Rivers, Rails & Volcanoes

Come experience the very best of the Pacific Northwest

5 Days • June 20-24



and the terrain forever changed by the 1980 eruption. Following lunch at McMenamins Kalama Harbor Lodge, we continue along the Columbia River to beautiful Hood River, our home for the remainder of the tour. **Best Western Plus Hood River Inn (B,L)**

4. Today we climb towards Oregon's highest peak, Mount Hood, for a visit to historic Timberline Lodge. Perched high on the mountain, Timberline offers spectacular alpine scenery and is one of Oregon's great architectural landmarks. Back in the fertile Hood River Valley, we'll stop at Packer Orchards before boarding a classic sternwheeler for a dinner cruise on the Columbia River. **(FB,D)**

5. Our final day brings another favorite mode of transportation as we board the Mount Hood Railroad for a scenic journey through the Hood River Valley. Before returning to Portland, we'll stop at magnificent Multnomah Falls, one of the most photographed and recognizable sights in the Pacific Northwest. **(FB)**

\$3590 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4075 single **3**

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Portland Spirit* Lunch Cruise
- 2 nights Astoria – Trolley Tour, Maritime Museum, Ft. Clatsop
- Mount St. Helens & Coldwater Ridge
- 2 nights Hood River – Mt. Hood & Historic Timberline Lodge
- Columbia River Sternwheeler Dinner Cruise
- Mount Hood Railroad & Multnomah Falls
- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Portland
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3600/4100 Gold Passport Points



The Astoria Column celebrates the journey of Lewis & Clark

From the mighty Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean, and from the slopes of Mount St. Helens to majestic Mount Hood, this scenic journey into the Pacific Northwest brings together some of Oregon and Washington's most

memorable landscapes. Add in river cruises, historic rail travel, colorful Astoria, waterfalls, orchards and fascinating Northwest history, and you have five days packed with extraordinary scenery and variety.

1. Our adventure begins in Portland, where we'll board the *Portland Spirit* for a relaxing lunch cruise before following the Columbia River west to the historic hamlet of Astoria. Sitting where the great river meets the Pacific, Astoria is one of the Northwest's most interesting and picturesque communities. **Best Western Columbia River Hotel – 2 nights (L)**

2. During our stay we'll visit the Astoria Column, explore the renowned Columbia River Maritime Museum, and enjoy a nostalgic ride aboard the Astoria Riverfront Trolley. We'll also retrace the footsteps of Lewis and Clark at Fort Clatsop and have a little fun discovering some of the movie history that has made Astoria famous on the big screen. **(B,D)**

3. From the coast, our travels turn toward one of the most dramatic chapters in Northwest history, Mount St. Helens. We'll journey into the volcanic landscape and visit the Coldwater Ridge area where clear weather can bring outstanding views of the mountain





I Love Lucy and Niagara Falls

Visit Upstate New York and the famed falls that are probably on your bucket list

6 Days • June 6-11

1. Following a cross-country flight, arrive in Buffalo in time for dinner and a good night's sleep in impressive historic accommodations designed by H.H. Richardson in 1880 – the Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane. (No relationship to our current travelers is assumed or implied!). **Richardson Hotel (D)**

2. With our entertaining local guide explore this important “rust belt” city that’s presently on an impressive comeback. So many firsts and onlys are part of the Buffalo story. Site of an inauguration (T. Roosevelt), an assassination (McKinley) and home to two commanders-in-chief (Fillmore and Cleveland), Buffalo is filled with presidential history. It’s also the starting point of the storied Erie Canal that transformed trade and settlement in a young United States, and to this day is a principal port on the St. Lawrence Seaway. Then there’s this hot little wing that really put them on the map! From Buffalo travel over the river and through the woods to Celeron, a tiny hamlet on Chautauqua Lake, and take in a stunning New York sunset on the water. **Harbor Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

3. Nearby Jamestown is the home of Lucille Ball. There you’ll visit the Lucy & Desi Museum and take the “LucyTown Tour” featuring prominent sites from her early years as well as her final resting place. The ultimate tribute to the Mistress of Comedy was the selection of Jamestown as the site of the National Comedy Center, an interactive museum and “laughter laboratory” devoted to all things funny. Where is dinner served? At the Tropicana, of course! **(FB,D)**

4. Take the scenic route back to Buffalo along Lake Erie including a visit to the historic Dunkirk Lighthouse. Next check out the Herschell Carousel Factory and Museum in North Tonawanda which is sure to keep you spinning. After crossing the border and checking into the hotel, throw back the curtains and relish the incredible view! **Hilton Hotel Niagara Falls – 2 nights (FB,L)**

5. Travel alongside the Niagara River to the historic community of Niagara-on-the-Lake where a wide array of shoppes await! All things maple – cookies, syrup and tea – are signature local products you will find, not to mention the ice wine! Nearby the iconic Floral Clock with its colorful blooms create intricate designs that are a beauty to behold. Now here’s the moment you’ve been waiting for: Take the Hornblower cruise past the American and Bridal Veil Falls straight to the base of Horseshoe Falls. Inevitably you will get wet, but that’s half the fun! Dry off and relax back at your hotel before dinner overlooking the falls. **(FB,D)**

6. Returning stateside, stop at Niagara Falls State Park to walk along the top of the American and Bridal Veil Falls. Same falls, but an amazingly different view. Fly home from Buffalo. **(FB,L)**

\$4470 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5085 single 3

This tour requires a valid passport



HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Hilton Niagara Falls – premium views of the falls from every room
- Cruise to the base of Horseshoe Falls and visit picturesque Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Explore the birthplace of Lucille Ball – see her museums, homes and gravesite
- Relish the laughs at the National Comedy Center
- Shuffle off to Buffalo on a guided city tour
- Climb a historic lighthouse and take a spin on a carousel
- 11 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Buffalo
- 4500/5100 Gold Passport Points



Check out what's going on at the Lucy and Desi Museum



VITAMEATAVEGAMIN
FOR HEALTH





Boston to the Shores of Old Cape Cod

Visit Boston, Martha's Vineyard, Provincetown and Nantucket
8 Days • June 3-10

1. Arrive in Boston in the early evening. After check-in, take the opportunity to explore your hotel, the centerpiece of Boston's Battery Wharf renaissance, before dinner **Battery Wharf Hotel – 2 nights (D)**

2. Discover Boston's history with a local guide, starting in the North End including Paul Revere's home, Old North Church, Beacon Hill to Quincy Market. After a leisurely lunch at the marketplace, continue to JFK Presidential Library and the Boston Tea Party Museum. Dinner is included tonight at the popular Dovetail Restaurant. **(FB,D)**

3. Have a morning visit to the *USS Constitution* and Museum before boarding the high-speed ferry for a 90-minute afternoon cruise to Provincetown. Enjoy a one-hour dunes tour before checking in at your waterfront hotel. Dinner is included at the Provincetown Inn. **Surfside Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

4. Tour by trolley to discover the rich history and unique flair of this "end of the road" community. Before lunch enjoy the variety of shops and galleries that make Provincetown so unique. Lunch is included at Mayflower Café followed by a walk to MacMillan Wharf to join a naturalist on a whale watching expedition. These waters are generally ripe with the gentle mammals as they feed and frolic in the blue Atlantic. **(B,L)**

5. On the southeast end of the Cape pass through small New England villages arriving in Hyannis. Take time for lunch and browsing before visiting a museum focusing on JFK's life and the mystique of Camelot. Tonight it's time for a LOBSTA DINNER! **Hyannis Harbor Hotel (B,D)**

6. Arrive on Martha's Vineyard by ferry for a narrated van tour, then continue to Nantucket on the inter-island ferry where you'll stay two-nights at the island's finest accommodations. A complimentary shuttle service is available from the hotel into the village every hour for your free-time pleasure. Dinner is included both nights. **Nantucket Inn – 2 nights (FB,D)**



HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights Boston, Provincetown on the Cape and Nantucket; 1 night Hyannis
- 4 ferry rides Boston-Provincetown and Hyannis-Martha's Vineyard-Nantucket-Hyannis
- Guided tours of Boston, Provincetown, Cape Cod National Seashore, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard
- Whale watching cruise with onboard naturalist
- Tour the JFK Presidential Library
- Visit Boston Navy Shipyard – *USS Constitution* and Museum
- 15 meals: Daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 6 dinners including a lobster feast
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Boston
- Door-to-door Airport Transportation
- 6350/7150 Gold Passport Points

7. One of the nation's oldest communities, Nantucket has a fascinating story to tell. Explore the island and learn of the history and importance of whaling, once the island's main industry. After the tour you are free in town for lunch. Visit the Whaling Museum and do a little window shopping. Just be sure to return to the inn in time for dinner! **(B,D)**

8. Depart Nantucket by morning ferry to Hyannis, then board the coach for a leisurely ride back to Boston Logan Airport for your return flight to the West Coast. **(B,L)**

\$6310 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7150 single 3





Ferries and Towns of Puget Sound

One of our longest running and most popular tours - 4 nights with a view of peaceful Puget Sound, ride the ferryboats, visit small towns around the sound and Olympic National Park
5 Days • July 18-22

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 ferry rides on Puget Sound, including Seattle/Bainbridge Island
- Visit the villages of Poulsbo, Sequim, Port Townsend and Port Gamble as you make your way around the Sound
- Guided tours: Poulsbo, learn about the town's Norwegian heritage; Olympic National Park
- 4-nights at the Clearwater Casino Resort in Suquamish – gaming for those who enjoy it (in a separate building), beautiful views for everyone
- Visit the grave of Chief Seattle and the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial – local landmarks which help tell the story of the Sound
- 9 meals: Sunday brunch (plated), 4 full breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- Door-to-door Airport Transportation
- 3100/3500 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly non-stop to Seattle. Enjoy brunch at Anthony's (with a view) near the airport. The afternoon ferry ride to Bainbridge Island is the second longest (35 minutes) and one of the most scenic on the sound. Suquamish is the home of the late Chief Seattle, the Native American who convinced his people to accept the coming of white settlers. Visit the Chief's grave site and hear the incredible story of a man wise beyond his time. Your lodging for the entire tour is at the beautiful Clearwater Resort overlooking the waters of Puget Sound. For a welcome dinner this evening, we've arranged a lovely private light buffet on the patio. Walk along the sound, sit outside near the fire ring in the evening, sample the onsite

dining choices – it's really one of the most wonderful accommodations in our entire catalogue, and you'll have ample time to enjoy this beautiful resort. (Note: The hotel is *completely separate* from the casino which is a 3-minute walk away.) **Clearwater Casino Resort – 4 nights (BR,D)**

2. Just down the road from our waterfront home is Poulsbo. Founded by Scandinavian immigrants in the 1880's, today it's a popular tourist destination. We've arranged a short guided walking tour, along with a visit to Sluy's, the town's legendary bakery, where you can pick out a FREE treat after lunch! There's also time to explore the quaint shops at your leisure. Port Gamble is another colorful little spot in the Pacific Northwest. The old mill town has been restored and is a National Historical Landmark. Our visit includes a casual outdoor dinner and a tour of the local museum, said to be haunted. We'll get the details from a "ghost's point of view..." **(FB,D)**

3. More ferry rides today! Cross from Port Townsend as a passenger, without your motorcoach, then return across the sound. The view can be spectacular. In Port Townsend, learn about this bawdy outpost from days gone by. Ladies of the evening and all sort of carry-on! Grab lunch in one of the waterfront restaurants and enjoy the shops. Dinner tonight is at a wonderful spot in the woods. Molly Ward Gardens is the name of the restaurant and it opens especially for us. New last year, we found it to be a delightful (and slightly secret) spot! **(FB,D)**

4. Off to visit Olympia National Park, featuring a stop at Hurricane Ridge and spectacular mountain vistas. Back down at sea level, we'll make a stop in quaint Sequim for lunch. Lavendar is grown in the area and several of the shops in the village have lavender products for sale. Take some home. Ever eat ice cream laced with lavender? It's yummy! **(FB,L)**

5. We have an important stop in Bainbridge before returning to Seattle. There is a small memorial here honoring some of the first Japanese-Americans to be taken away to internment camps from Bainbridge Island. Their story is poignant. It's slightly different from the internment camp sites around the country as this is an exclusion memorial. We'll catch the ferry across the sound, then head to the airport for our afternoon flight home. **(FB)**

\$3085 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3490 single 3





San Juan Explorer

Featuring three days cruising the San Juan Island aboard the Salish Express

5 Days • August 1-5

The San Juan Islands are a maritime paradise where emerald islands rise from deep blue waters, charming harbor towns welcome visitors and wildlife thrives in abundance. This five-day escape blends scenic cruising, charming coastal towns and authentic Northwest flavors, with three unforgettable days aboard the *Salish Express*.

1. Fly into Seattle Washington, where a hearty lunch welcomes you to the Pacific Northwest before settling into your hotel.
Silver Cloud Hotel - Mukilteo Waterfront (L)

2. Step aboard your private vessel and sit down to a decadent cracked Dungeness crab luncheon (non-seafood options available). Soon we are cruising the sparkling waters of the Salish Sea, the body of water that includes the San Juan Islands and all of Puget Sound. Your captain will choose the day's route based on wildlife sightings – keep your camera ready for seals, porpoises, bald eagles and perhaps even orca whales. The day concludes at Friday Harbor, a picturesque port town on San Juan Island. **Friday Harbor Suites – 2 nights (FB,L)**

3. Once again, our route is guided by the latest wildlife reports, so each day on the water offers something new. Keep watch for marine life as we cruise to La Conner, a colorful waterfront community filled with art galleries, boutique shops, cafés and a charming boardwalk. Stroll at your leisure before returning to Friday Harbor for a hosted dinner. **(FB,D)**

4. This morning, a motorcoach tour takes you around San Juan Island, stopping at historic sites, scenic overlooks and the exclusive Roche Harbor Resort, where luxury meets coastal charm. Back on board the boat, enjoy a hosted lunch as we navigate narrow passages and drift past uninhabited islands before returning to the mainland. **Silver Cloud Hotel - Mukilteo Waterfront (FB,L)**

5. Enjoy lunch before your return flight home, carrying memories of island sunsets, charming harbors and days well spent on the open water. **(FB)**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay 2 nights on Friday Harbor
- Cruise the Salish Sea for 3 days aboard a private vessel
- Visit the quaint towns of Mukilteo and La Conner
- Guided tour of San Juan Island
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- Door-to-door Airport Transportation
- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- 3300/3750 Gold Passport Points

\$3270 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3735 single **3**





Splendid Portugal and Madeira, Pearl of the Atlantic

September 2027

Join Scott on an extraordinary journey through Portugal and the spectacular "Island of Eternal Spring," Madeira. Scott was traveling in Portugal with a Sports Leisure group even as this catalog went to press and will be fine-tuning this exciting NEW itinerary in the weeks ahead. Call today to place your name on our Priority Notification List. We will notify you when the final itinerary and airfare details become available late in 2026.

Experience the very best of Portugal, from the historic streets of Porto to the elegant capital of Lisbon. Discover colorful cities, world-class wine country, medieval hill towns, magnificent palaces and charming coastal villages. Along the way, savor authentic Portuguese cuisine, local wines and the fascinating history and culture that make Portugal one of Europe's most captivating destinations. Then, fly to the breathtaking island of Madeira for an unforgettable finale.

Madeira Island

Then fly to Madeira, where dramatic volcanic mountains rise from the Atlantic, charming villages cling to steep hillsides, and lush gardens flourish year-round. Based in beautiful Funchal, experience a carefully designed journey showcasing Madeira's spectacular scenery, traditional culture, delicious cuisine and world-famous Madeira wine. Savor the flavors of the island on a food and wine tour of Funchal, discovering local specialties, traditional dishes and Madeira's celebrated wines while exploring the charming capital. Experience Madeira's breathtaking western and northern coastlines on a private full-day tour through Câmara de Lobos, Cabo Girão, São Vicente and Porto Moniz. Along



Porto

Begin in Porto, where a guided sightseeing tour introduces you to the city's UNESCO-listed historic center. Venture into the spectacular Douro Valley, one of Portugal's most scenic regions and the birthplace of Port wine. Cruise along the Douro River, surrounded by terraced vineyards, rolling hills and picturesque villages. Continue to the colorful coastal city of Aveiro, known as the "Venice of Portugal." Enjoy a relaxing ride aboard a traditional Moliceiro boat through the city's charming canals before continuing to Lisbon.

Lisbon

Discover the highlights of Lisbon on a guided city tour, including the historic neighborhood of Belém. Journey to romantic Sintra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site nestled among lush hills and magnificent estates. Visit the extraordinary Pena Palace, one of Portugal's most iconic landmarks. Travel into the beautiful Alentejo region to Évora, a UNESCO World Heritage city surrounded by medieval walls. Explore its fascinating historic center, including the Roman Temple, charming squares and picturesque narrow streets.



the way, enjoy dramatic cliffs, lush valleys, charming villages and spectacular ocean views. Embark on a private full-day Jeep adventure through eastern and northern Madeira. Travel to the magnificent mountain peaks of Pico do Arieiro, the forests of Ribeiro Frio, Pico das Pedras, the traditional village of Santana, Porto da Cruz and the rugged beauty of Ponta de São Lourenço. Complete your Madeira experience with a journey to Curral das Freiras—the Valley of the Nuns, one of the island's most dramatic mountain settings. Surrounded by

towering peaks, this secluded valley offers a fascinating glimpse into Madeira's history, traditions and extraordinary natural beauty.

This is just a sample of the journey being developed for September 2027. The final itinerary will be even more exciting!

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3

This tour requires a valid passport



FESTIVAL of ARTS • PAGEANT of the MASTERS

The Laguna Pageant of the Masters

Watch art magically come to life

3 Days • July 11-13 or August 15-17

HIGHLIGHTS

- Brunch cruise on Newport Beach Harbor
- Tour of the Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum
- Docent-guided tour of the Festival of the Arts
- Reserved loge seating for the Pageant of the Masters
- Exclusive behind-the-scenes talk with a Pageant insider
- 5 Meals: 1 brunch, 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Southern California
- Door-to-door airport transportation

The Pageant of the Masters is considered one of the most distinctive art presentations in the world. It is a unique theatrical performance where actors pose as living pictures, complete with narration and accompaniment by a live orchestra, together presenting the story behind each featured artist and their work. Hundreds of volunteers work tirelessly every summer to bring together the intricate sets, lighting and costumes which are the hallmark of the Pageant show. The performance is but a part of the Festival of Arts of Laguna Beach which also includes a juried show and sale

by celebrated artists from across the region and world. Difficult to describe, but amazing to behold, the Pageant is California's MUST SEE EVENT of the summer!

1. A short flight takes us to Southern California where we will head directly to Newport Beach and board a City Cruises yacht for a three-hour brunch cruise. Afterwards you'll visit the popular Sawdust Festival, an iconic, non-juried arts and crafts festival held annually near the Pageant of the Masters grounds. After checking into the hotel your evening is free. It's just a short ride to the upscale South Coast Plaza where a variety of restaurants and shopping opportunities await. The hotel offers a variety of options for dinner as well. **Hilton Orange County Costa Mesa – 2 nights (BR)**

2. This morning we will tour the Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum in Yorba Linda. There you can relive the legacy and indeed the missteps of our 37th Commander in Chief. Back at the hotel, lunch is on your own with some time to rest before heading to the Festival grounds. There we will get up close with the artists and their works during a docent-led tour of

the Festival of the Arts. This will be followed by dinner served al fresco on the Festival grounds. The highlight of the evening comes later in the outdoor amphitheater. Our reserved loge seats are perfectly located so you will not miss a thing as the 2027 Pageant of the Masters takes the stage. **(FB, D)**

3. Return to the Festival of Arts facility this morning to meet a representative from the Pageant and learn more about their almost all-volunteer production. We know that after seeing the show you'll have questions, and you're encouraged to ask them here. Lunch is included at Las Brisas before our late afternoon flight back to Sacramento. **(FB, L)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3



Michigan & Mackinac

All-new itinerary includes three nights at the glorious Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island
7 Days • September 2-8

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 nights at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island
- 2 nights on the sparkling shore of Lake Michigan in Traverse City
- Overnight stays in Dearborn and Midland
- Visit The Henry Ford Museum or Greenfield Village
- Explore Mackinac Island from top to bottom by horse and carriage
- Wings over Mackinac Butterfly House and Colonial Fort Mackinac
- See Sleeping Bear Dunes, Dow Gardens and The Music House
- 5 meals: Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Detroit/from Traverse City
- Door-to-door airport transportation

1. Your first dinner and a good night's sleep await you in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn, your gateway to Michigan, the Great Lakes State. **Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Dearborn (D)**

2. The legacy of one of America's greatest industrialists is alive at the museum complex that bears his name. At The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation you can see a treasure trove of artifacts showcasing our country's mechanized age from past to present – automobiles and so much more! Or you might choose to spend your day at Greenfield Village, an assemblage of historical buildings from around the globe saved from demise, moved here and restored. Depart for Midland in the late afternoon. **H Hotel (FB,L)**

3. Midland, the home of the Dow Chemical Company, is where you'll find Dow Gardens. Founded in 1899, this 110-acre botanical wonderland features a canopy

walk, vibrant annuals and perennials gardens, water features, a conservatory and The Pines, the historic home of Dow's founder. Following our morning visit, we head due north to Mackinac City where we board the ferry for the 20-minute ride across Lake Huron to Mackinac Island. Prepare to fall in love at first sight with its Victorian-era buildings, quaint shoppes and "no motor vehicles allowed" policy. Your historic hotel built in 1887 truly lives up to its name!

Grand Hotel - 3 nights (FB,D)

4-5. With two full days on the island, there's much to do and see, but also plenty of down time for rest, relaxation and personal exploration. Discover Mackinac Island on a horse-drawn wagon tour, including a stop at the Wings of Mackinac, a butterfly house. Your second day begins with a visit to Colonial Fort Mackinac, an authentic Revolutionary War-era fort that saw action in the War of 1812 . . . which happened in 1814! Perhaps you'll wish to discover locations used in the filming of "Somewhere in Time," one of the greatest love stories ever filmed. How about an afternoon bike ride around the island (it's *only* 8 miles) before dinner and dancing back at the Grand? **(2FB,2D)**

6. Returning to the mainland, your journey continues south to Petoskey following one of the most scenic byways in America along the shore of Lake Michigan. Continue on to the lovely lakeside community of Traverse City where your historic hotel is the cornerstone of downtown. **Park Place Hotel - 2 nights (FB,D)**

7. Explore the Traverse City area with a local guide with a spotlight on Sleeping Bear Dunes National Seashore, named

Find lots of Americana at the Henry Ford Museum

The Most Beautiful Place in the US by ABC's "Good Morning America" viewers. The nearby village of Glen Arbor, dubbed The Cherry Republic, is ground zero here in the Cherry Capital of the World. Then you'll set sail aboard the schooner *Manitou* for a 2-hour cruise on Lake Michigan. The evening is left at your leisure to explore the downtown district and its vibrant collection of restaurants and shops. **(FB,L)**

8. At the Music House you'll see and hear an incredible collection of self-playing mechanical instruments, antique phonographs and jukeboxes, and the centerpiece of the museum, Amaryllis – a huge Belgian pipe organ. After lunch, begin your return to the West Coast on a mid-afternoon flight from Cherry Capital Airport. **(FB,L)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3



Enjoying an afternoon beverage at the Grand Hotel





Seattle, Tacoma & Mount Rainier National Park

Close to home, yet a world away – here's your perfect Washington State getaway!

5 Days • September 9-13

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tacoma Museum of Glass – walk the Chihuly Bridge
- Northwest Trek Wildlife Park – tour by electric tram
- Lunch and sights in Mount Rainier National Park
- 2 nights Tacoma at the Hotel Murano
- Pike Place Market and Seattle Aquarium
- The Space Needle and/or Chihuly Gardens
- Lunch at Ivar's Salmon House
- Emerald City Tour – history, including a "adult" look at the underground city
- Assembly line tour at Boeing Future of Flight
- Discovery Park
- 9 meals: 4 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare; door-to-door pick-up service
- 3300/3800 Gold Passport Points

1. Arrive in Seattle after a morning flight from Sacramento. First stop is for an early lunch at Anthony's on the waterfront in Des Moines, near the airport. The dazzling Museum of Glass in Tacoma is our afternoon attraction. Your visit includes the opportunity to create your own personal souvenir and learn about the art of glass blowing. Your accommodations are among the city's finest. **Hotel Murano – 2 nights (L,D)**

2. A day of adventure awaits. First stop, Northwest Trek Wildlife Park. This 72-acre facility is home to black and grizzly bears, grey wolves, bald eagles, cougars, bobcats and more. Ride through the park on an electric tram, giving you the opportunity to experience the "residents" up close. Continuing east, enter Mt. Rainier National

Park. The mountain is part of the Cascades chain, a volcanic set of peaks that is still active (think Mt. St. Helens). Our guide will get you off the coach and show you some of the park's flora and fauna. Enjoy lunch at the Paradise Lodge before heading back to Tacoma. **(FB,L)**

3. Drive north this morning to Seattle. Famous Pike Place Market is a great place to find fresh fruits and other treats. There is also a good representation of local crafts. Across the street is the original Starbucks Coffee Store. While we are downtown, you'll want to walk through Dale Chihuly Gardens. If you wish, you can also visit the Space Needle next door. After lunch at Ivar's Salmon House, the Seattle Aquarium is up next - so big it's housed in two separate buildings. The aquarium offers walk-through exhibits and shows to help you learn about the residents. We'll have a suggested itinerary for you to help you make the most of your time. **The Cedarbrook Lodge - 2 nights (FB,L)**

4. A narrated tour of The Emerald City awaits this morning. Founded in 1852, the oldest part of the city is Pioneer Square. Learn about the early settlers and the native Americans who inhabited this land long before the white man came. (The city is named for Chief Seattle.) A great fire nearly destroyed the city in 1889, causing the "new" buildings to be mostly brick and stone. The tallest building west of the Mississippi was built here in 1914 and named for a guy who made typewriters. Did you know there is another city *underground*? You'll get to explore that a

bit today. We have also included a harbor cruise, so you can enjoy a different view of the city. **(FB,D)**

5. Enjoy the views on a short, guided walk in Discovery Park this morning. At Boeing's Future of Flight facility, you'll get to see the assembly line and watch planes being built. Then it's off to the airport for your return flight home, arriving 5-6 pm. **(FB)**

\$3295 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3760 single

3





Rails Around Colorado

Take three spectacular train rides through the Rocky Mountains
7 Days • September 25 – October 1

HIGHLIGHTS

- Three scenic trains: Royal Gorge, Cumbres & Toltec, Durango & Silverton
- Experience Royal Gorge Bridge, Gondola and Park
- Fly high above Telluride on a gondola ride
- 11 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 full breakfasts, 5 lunches
- Roundtrip airfare to Denver/from Durango
- Door-to-door airport service

1. Fly to Denver, where your Colorado adventure begins. Enjoy a hosted lunch as we travel through the scenic Rocky Mountain landscape to Cañon City. Settle in at the **Holiday Inn Express – 2 nights (L)**

2. All aboard for a spectacular journey through the Royal Gorge where the railroad has followed the winding Arkansas River since 1879. Travel deep between towering 1,000-foot granite cliffs aboard the Royal Gorge Route Railroad. Your First-Class experience features enclosed, glass-domed cars providing outstanding panoramic views of the canyon. Later, visit Royal Gorge Bridge and Park, home to one of the world's highest suspension bridges. Walk across the bridge and enjoy a breathtaking aerial gondola ride that glides 2,200 feet across the gorge and 1,200 feet above the Arkansas River! **(B)**

3. Travel to the charming mountain town of Salida, where a historic walking tour introduces you to its colorful past and character-filled downtown. Enjoy a hosted lunch followed by free time to explore the shops, galleries and local sights before continuing to Alamosa. **Hampton Inn (B,L)**

4. Today brings one of Colorado's most memorable rail adventures – the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad. Crossing back and forth between Colorado and New Mexico, this historic narrow-gauge railway winds through spectacular Rocky Mountain scenery, passing through tunnels, across deep gorges and over Cumbres Pass. Due to the configuration and capacity of the train, our group will travel in three cars. Train seating will be assigned according to the order in which guests registered. The train journey concludes in Chama, New Mexico, where our motorcoach will meet us for the scenic drive to Durango. **(B,L)**

5. Climb aboard the legendary Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad for an unforgettable journey along the Animas River. Towering canyon walls, rushing mountain waters and spectacular fall foliage make this one of Colorado's most scenic rail experiences. Arrive in Silverton, a former silver-mining town and National Historic Landmark District. Enjoy free time to explore its historic streets before continuing by motorcoach to Telluride nestled dramatically in a box canyon surrounded by towering 14,000-foot peaks. Discover Telluride's Victorian architecture, colorful storefronts, boutiques, art galleries and historic buildings. **The Hotel Telluride – 2 nights (FB,L)**

6. Begin the day with a historic walking tour of Telluride, followed by a hosted lunch and free time to explore this beautiful mountain town. For a truly spectacular experience, take the free scenic gondola from Telluride high into the mountains. The approximately 13-minute ride climbs nearly 1,800 vertical feet to Station St. Sophia at



10,540 feet, offering breathtaking scenery and panoramic views of the surrounding peaks. **(FB,L)**

7. Take in the final views of Colorado's magnificent fall landscape as you depart Telluride bound for Durango and your return flight home, carrying memories of three extraordinary rail journeys through the Rocky Mountains. **(FB)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3





The Best of The Dakotas - From Rough Rider to Rushmore

Be among the first to visit the new Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

7 Days • September 1-7

Photo provided by Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library

1. Arrive in Bismarck and begin with a guided visit to Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, exploring Custer's reconstructed home and the historic On A Slant Mandan Earth Lodges. Enjoy dinner at Fluffy Fields Winery, featuring distinctive Dakota cold climate wines. Continue west for a scenic stop at Painted Canyon Overlook, then on to Medora. **Rough Riders Hotel – 3 nights (D)**

2. Visit the breathtaking South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, where our knowledgeable guide brings the Badlands to life with stories of wildlife, geology and Roosevelt's time as a rancher. Watch for bison, wild horses and sweeping vistas that capture the rugged spirit of the West. Return to Medora for a city tour and a visit to the Cowboy Hall of Fame Museum, a fun tribute to the region's ranching heritage. This evening delivers Medora's signature experiences: Savor the famous Pitchfork Steak Fondue, grilled cowboy style over open flames, then go behind the curtain with a special backstage tour of the *Medora Musical*. Cap off the night with VIP seating at the performance giving you premium views, lively music and the joyful energy that makes this beloved Badlands tradition unforgettable. **(B,D)**

3. Begin your morning by having breakfast with Theodore Roosevelt, a lively immersive experience that brings the Rough Rider's larger than life personality right into the room. Enjoy stories, humor and the spirited energy that made Roosevelt such a beloved figure in Medora's history. Spend the rest of the day at the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, a stunning blend of architecture, landscape and storytelling. Join a guided tour of the grounds to learn how sustainability, conservation and Roosevelt's legacy shaped this remarkable project. Then explore at your own pace. Walk the scenic viewpoints, step into interactive exhibits and discover quiet reflection spaces designed to

honor Roosevelt's love of nature and the Badlands. It's an inspiring, meaningful day that celebrates the man who helped define America's conservation spirit. **(B)**

4. Travel to South Dakota, taking in the dramatic beauty of Spearfish Canyon. Continue to Spearfish for a visit to the Termesphere Gallery, showcasing rotating 3 D spherical paintings. Spend the afternoon discovering more of South Dakota's heritage and landscapes. This evening we enjoy dinner and a special Native American presentation. **Club House Hotel & Suites – 3 nights (B,L,D)**

5. Travel into Custer State Park for the legendary Buffalo Jeep Safari, where open air jeeps bring you up close and personal with the park's famous bison herds and roaming wildlife. Enjoy lunch at Sylvan Lake, one of the most photographed places in the Black Hills. Its dramatic granite formations and peaceful waters have made it a favorite filming location, most famously appearing in "National Treasure: Book of Secrets." This afternoon, experience the Crazy Horse Memorial VIP Top of the Mountain Tour, offering an extraordinary up close perspective of the carving and its powerful story. **(B,L,D)**

6. Begin in Keystone, then board the historic 1880 Train for a nostalgic ride to Hill City. Continue to Mount Rushmore National Memorial to view the iconic granite faces

and museum exhibits. This evening, enjoy a festive farewell celebration at Fort Hays, featuring dinner, a western show and the "Dances with Wolves" film sets. **(B,D)**

7. Savor a peaceful Black Hills morning before beginning your mid morning departure from the Dakotas. As you travel home, carry with you the landscapes, history and heartfelt moments that made this journey so special. **(B)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 nights at the Rough Riders Hotel in Medora
- Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Cowboy Hall of Fame Medora Musical – VIP seating, Behind-the-Scenes tour and Pitchfork Steak Fondue
- Breakfast with Theodore Roosevelt
- Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library
- Spearfish Canyon and the Termesphere Gallery
- 3 nights at the Clubhouse Hotel & Suites in Rapid City
- Custer State Park Buffalo Jeep Safari
- Crazy Horse Memorial VIP Top of the Mountain Tour
- 1880 train ride from Keystone to Hill City
- Mount Rushmore National Memorial
- Fort Hays Dinner Show
- 13 meals: 6 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Bismarck/from Rapid City
- Door-to-door airport transportation





New England Fall Foliage Spectacular

Our annual sampler features Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont

9 Days • September 28 – October 6

1. The spectacular begins with a flight to Boston. How far we'll travel today will be based upon the air schedule. **Hotel TBA**

2. Your thirst for New England will be immediately quenched with a visit to Salem, Massachusetts – home of the famous Witch Trials. Between 1692 and '93, over 200 local citizens were accused of witchcraft, with 19 being hanged for their supposed crimes. (A 20th was pressed to death beneath heavy stones.) Beyond these stories, you'll find a beautifully preserved pre-Colonial community with amazing architecture and plenty of less gruesome tales to tell. From here we scoot across NH and into Perkins Cove, Maine, where Barnacle Billy's Lobster Cruise awaits. Here you'll learn all about Maine's famous crustacean right before having one served up hot and fresh at dinner! **Portland Regency Hotel – 2 nights (B,D)**

3. Drive through Portland's scenic and historic neighborhoods with a local guide with stops including the iconic Portland Head Light. We leave the coast and head inland for our next experience, Norlands Living History Center, a rural homestead that tells the story 19th Century life and farming, and of the prominent Washburn brothers who were born and raised there – seven siblings, two of which went on to become Governors, two US Representatives, one US Senator, a US Secretary of State, two US Foreign Ministers (France and Paraguay), a naval officer and the founder of General Mills. And for lunch? Mother Washburn's famous chicken pot pie! Old Fort Westin was built in 1754 and stands today as our country's oldest wooden garrison, constructed in the time of

the French & Indian War. Finally on this long day of discovery, you're invited to shop until you drop in Freeport, home of the brand new flagship store of popular Maine outfitter LL Bean. **(FB,D)**

4. Heading into the White Mountains of New Hampshire, we visit Castle in the Clouds, the early-20th Century home of footwear magnate Tom and Olive Plank. Here in their 6300 acre playground, they built a stunning Arts and Crafts mansion featuring state-of-the-art amenities, custom-built furnishings and marvelous works of art. After lunch, you're invited to "listen to the loons" at Golden Pond of movie fame. The real name is Squam Lake and yes, you will see loons on our cruise. Tonight if you dare, join a local naturalist as we head out in search of moose. Nocturnal by nature, nighttime is the right time to go moosin' around! **The Mountain Club on Loon – 2 nights (FB,L,D)**

5. The Kancamagus Highway is one of our nation's most scenic and celebrated byways, featuring nature at its finest, punctuated by a covered bridge or two along the way. At Mt. Washington, take a ride on the steepest railroad in North America as it makes its way to the 6288 foot summit just as adventure-seekers have done for almost 150 years. Today you have a train doubleheader as dinner is served on the elegant Café Lafayette Dinner Train. **(FB,D)**

6. Before saying goodbye to Loon Mountain, take the panoramic gondola to the top for spectacular views of the countryside below. Onward to Vermont where we start at the Granite Museum for a deep dive into the significance of this

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit four New England states
- MA: Salem witches
- ME: Portland, Norlands, lobster cruise, Old Fort Western, Freeport – home of LL Bean
- NH: Castle in the Clouds, Squam Lake "Golden Pond" cruise, moosin' tour, Mt. Washington Cog Rail, Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum
- VT: Shelburne Museum and Farm, Granite Museum, Lake Champlain cruise, Ben & Jerry's
- 16 meals: 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 6 dinners including the Café Lafayette Dinner Train
- Roundtrip air to/from Boston
- Door-to-door service

important commodity harvested locally and exported around the world. Located on the shore of Lake Champlain, Basin Harbor features a historic lodge, golf course and air strip surrounded by 74 individual cabins offering quaint, but elegant accommodations immersed in nature and peaceful tranquility. Dinner is served in the lodge tonight. Don't forget your flashlight!

Basin Harbor Club – 2 nights (FB,D)

7. Cruise the calm waters of Lake Champlain on a narrated voyage before visiting the Shelburne Museum. Known as New England's Smithsonian, "the Shel" offers an unparalleled collection of American art and exhibits, all displayed in one of 39 repurposed and restored historical homes and buildings. In the afternoon you can remain at the Shel, or visit nearby Shelburne Farm or a spectacular Christmas shop if you need some retail therapy. Dinner at a local sugarhouse ends the day where every course includes maple! **(FB,D)**



8. Today we have dessert both before and after lunch! In the morning we visit Ben & Jerry's flagship ice cream manufacturing plant for a taste of their creamy yumminess. In the afternoon we visit Morse Farm just outside Burlington, a real "sugar shack," for their signature dish: Sugar on Snow, best enjoyed with dill pickles! Next visit the Vermont Institute of Natural Science, a renowned nature center where you can see raptors, owls and other native birds up

close and personal. Our farewell dinner is served at our historic country inn. **Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm (FB,D)**

9. After breakfast, we pack up and return to Boston, but not before a visit to the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum. Founded in 1991, the museum began as a small collection dedicated to preserving and sharing Native American history, culture and traditions. Over the decades, it has

grown into a respected cultural destination in Warner, New Hampshire, featuring extensive collections of artifacts, art, and educational exhibits that represent Indigenous peoples from across North America. **(FB,L)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3



Catalina Island, Your Coastal Escape

Pacific majesty, Art Deco charm and unforgettable experiences await “26 miles across the sea”

4 Days • October 3-6

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 Nights waterfront at the Pavillion Lodge
- Catalina Express high-speed ferry to and from the island
- Guided Avalon and inner-island Ranch Tours
- Avalon Casino art and ballroom tour
- Semi Submersible Undersea Adventure
- 5 meals: Daily continental breakfast, champagne brunch aboard the Queen Mary, farewell dinner at Avalon Grill
- Roundtrip airfare to/from SoCal
- Door-to-door airport transportation

1. Arrive in Southern California and step aboard the historic Queen Mary for a delightful champagne brunch served in the Grand Salon. Savor classic favorites while surrounded by vintage ocean liner elegance. After brunch, board the high speed ferry for the 26 mile crossing to

Catalina Island, arriving in time for an island tour that gets you acquainted with Avalon's history, scenery and charming neighborhoods. Check out the nightly wine and cheese reception at our hotel before turning in. **Pavilion Lodge – 3 nights (BR)**

2. After breakfast, travel inland on a scenic journey through Catalina's rugged interior on the Ranch Tour. Experience sweeping vistas, rich island history and the chance to spot the famous Catalina bison roaming the hills. Return to Avalon with free time to browse the shops or relax by the water. For those feeling a bit adventurous, optional activities are available this afternoon including snorkeling in Catalina's crystal clear coves or try the Zip Line Eco Tour, an exhilarating glide high above Descanso Canyon with sweeping ocean views. **(CB)**

3. Visit Catalina's landmark Avalon Casino, a stunning Art Deco masterpiece. Step inside the grand ballroom and theater while hearing stories of movie stars, musicians and dancers who once lit up the island's nightlife – maybe even take a spin on the dance floor yourself! In the afternoon, climb aboard a semi submersible vessel for an up close look at the lush kelp forest and vibrant marine life living just beneath the surface. No need to worry! You won't get wet as you glide past schools of colorful fish who are as surprised to see us as we are to see them. Tonight, we will gather for a scrumptious farewell dinner at the Avalon Grill. **(CB,D)**

4. Enjoy a leisurely morning before boarding the ferry back to the mainland. Upon arrival in Long Beach, make your way next door to Shoreline Village for a scatter lunch and a bit of shopping. Continue to the airport for your flight home, carrying wonderful memories of island breezes, ocean views and Catalina charm. **(CB)**

NOTE: To make the most of Catalina's scenic and maritime experiences, guests will need to navigate uneven ground, walk longer distances to reach our hotel and key attractions, and board ferries at the docks with care.

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. 3





Normandy, Paris and the Seine River

Are you looking for a 7-night cruise aboard the Amadeus Diamond?

Oui! Oui!

9 Days • October 12-20

1-2. Fly from Sacramento to Paris, where you will board the luxurious *Amadeus Diamond* on the afternoon of Day 2. Settle into your home-away-from-home with a welcome drink and dinner. You'll eat well in the onboard restaurant which features a skilled team of chefs who provide highly curated daily menus strong on French flavors with a decidedly international flair. All meals are included on this voyage, highlighted by a daily selection of complementary wines and beers at every lunch and dinner. **Amadeus Diamond – 7 nights (D)**

3. Following a morning of cruising, arrive at the port of Conflans after lunch. From here you'll visit the village of Auvers-sur-Oise, an inspiration to many of the famous impressionist masters including Cezanne, Pissarro, Daubigny, and the master of them all, Vincent van Gogh. See Auberge Ravoux where van Gogh lived, as well as his final resting place here in the place that inspired nearly 80 of his works. **(FB,L,D)**

4. A morning walking tour will acquaint you with Rouen, nicknamed as "Museum Town." Dating to the Roman era, here you'll find layer upon layer of history including the magnificent cathedral that inspired numerous works by Claude Monet, as well as the modern Church of Joan of Arc which employs breathtaking 16th Century stained glass windows in its contemporary design. The afternoon is free for personal exploration. **(FB,L,D)**

5. Interested in more impressionistic art? Consider the optional (additional cost) morning tour to Honfleur. This afternoon begins a 2-day deep dive into World War II

heritage. Le Harve sits where the Seine River meets the English Channel. The harbor played an active role in WWII as you'll learn from our guides. A tour along the coastline to Etretat and back will give you the opportunity to explore attractive seaside villages and view the famous Normandy coast with its steep chalk cliffs, famous for their wartime significance and also as a subject for great artists through the ages. **(FB,L,D)**

6. Visit Pointe du Hoc, site of a daring and perilous D-Day assault where U.S. Army Rangers scaled 100-foot cliffs to neutralize a strategic German artillery battery that threatened Allied landing troops. Stop at Omaha Beach, the most famous of the five code named beaches, and let your mind try to visualize this place in the summer of 1944 – the valor and extreme sacrifice. Visit Colleville Sur Mer, an American Cemetery where over 9,000 troops are laid to rest. Finally, visit the World War II Museum to learn more about the landings, battles and liberation of this region. **(FB,L,D)**

7. By morning you might explore the port stop of Les Andelys, once the home of Richard the Lionheart, take an optional excursion into Giverny to visit Monet's home and garden, or simply kick back and relax in the restful surroundings and amenities available aboard the *Diamond*. Yesterday was a long one, both physically and emotionally. Today is your day for rest and reflection. **(FB,L,D)**

8. We arrive back in Paris overnight. Today is all about exploring The City of Light. A guided morning tour will introduce you to the sites and sounds that make the city

HIGHLIGHTS

- Unpack once! Every night spent aboard the Amadeus Diamond
- Ports of Call: Conflans, Rouen, Le Havre, Caudebec-en-Caux and les Andelys
- 5 Shore Excursions and Paris city tour included – 3 optional excursions available (additional cost)
- All meals included with complimentary wine and beer at lunches and dinners
- All shipboard tips, port fees and taxes included
- English-speaking shipboard staff, American Cruise Director and a SLV Tour Director to serve you
- Door-to-door airport transportation*
- No Gold Passport Points

so singular from the Eiffel Tower to the Champs Elysées to the reborn Notre Dame Cathedral. Head out in the afternoon for personal exploration or sign up for the optional excursion – a guided walk through Montmartre, the city's wild and wonderful Bohemian district. Dinner will no doubt be a happy/sad affair. We're going to miss this! **(FB,L,D)**

9. After breakfast we return to Charles de Gaulle Airport and our journey home begins. **(FB)**

Upper Deck Cabins start at:
\$7380 p.p./dbl.occ., \$9980 single

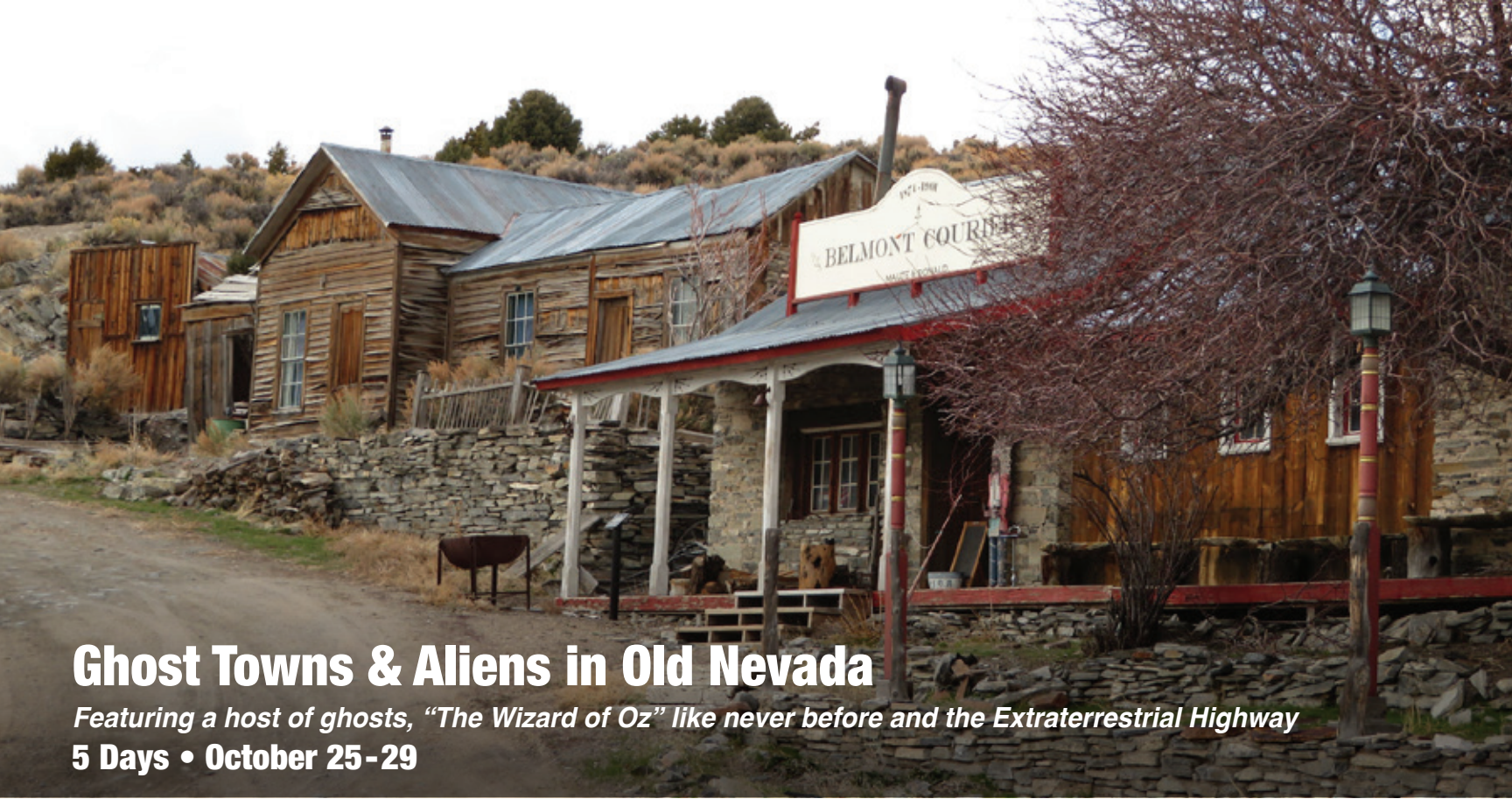
Middle Deck Cabins start at:
\$6660 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8860 single

Lower Deck Cabins start at:
\$5885 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7655 single **3**

**This vacation is priced WITHOUT AIRFARE – estimated at \$1500 p.p. for economy class.*

This vacation requires a valid passport.





Ghost Towns & Aliens in Old Nevada

Featuring a host of ghosts, “The Wizard of Oz” like never before and the Extraterrestrial Highway
5 Days • October 25-29

Photos by Ken Lund via Flickr

Ghosts. Wizards. Aliens. On this adventure, we leave behind the normal and head to... well... Explore not only the old buildings, communities and legends they left behind, but make an attempt to talk to the “previous residents” themselves on an authentic Ghost Hunt! Starting with a grand performance of “The Wizard of Oz” in Las Vegas, this is a truly unique adventure!

1. Your flight arrives in Las Vegas in the late morning. After lunch at a buffet on The Strip, we head to The Sphere for a performance of “The Wizard of Oz.” An enhanced version with flying monkeys and all sorts of sensory experiences. Later, visit the Neon Museum (optional, this is a long day), where old Vegas signs live on. **Golden Nugget – 2 nights (L)**

2. The morning brings a colorful look at Vegas history with a visit to The Mob Museum. Take the afternoon off (shuttle to The Strip available at no charge) before heading to Goodsprings this evening for an authentic Ghost Hunt. After a couple of minutes of instruction, chances are good you’ll be talking to the spirit world. The Pioneer Saloon is the place where Clark Gable waited for word on his wife, Carole Lombard. Alas, Gable burned holes in the bar with his cigar as his love died in the mountains in a plane crash. We’ll enjoy a casual meal at the old saloon and explore town after dark, ghost meters in hand. **(FB,D)**

3. Rhyolite, Gold Point and Goldfield are on the itinerary today, as you journey

north from Las Vegas to central Nevada. From a house made of glass to a former McDonald’s franchise operator turned ghost town owner, you’ll see the sights and meet the characters that make these places legendary. Goldfield is just south of Tonopah and has a colorful history. Learn about the world championship title fight, which took an astounding 42 rounds, held there in 1906. Yes, Goldfield was a boom town like none other around the turn of the last century. Today, it’s a sleepy, dusty town in the middle of nowhere. Arrive in Tonopah in late afternoon. Tonight, dine in the Jack Dempsey Room and listen to stories about the ghosts who roam the **Mizpah Hotel - 2 nights (FB,L,D)**

4. Established in 1865 following a silver strike, Belmont is one of Nevada’s most spectacular ghost towns. Level streets, a few residents in town to keep things in order, it’s a great place to explore. Our guide lives in town and is helping to restore the old courthouse. A fascinating look at a chose town on a comeback. There’s also a possible side trip to Manhattan. Back in Tonopah, explore the “famous” Clown Motel. **(FB,L,D)**

5. The drive back to Las Vegas is on the Extraterrestrial Highway. This area was “off limits” to the public for many years. Heck, the government didn’t even want to admit its existence. Travel through the tiny town of Rachel and perhaps meet some of the residents. You’ve gone from ghosts to outer space in just 24 hours! Our return flight from Las Vegas departs in the early evening. **(FB,L)**



Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. **3**

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Golden Nugget Downtown Las Vegas, 2 nights at the Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah
- Witness “The Wizard of Oz,” complete with sound and light effects – this ain’t your grandma’s version of the timeless classic
- 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
- Visit genuine ghost towns, 6 in all, from Las Vegas to Tonopah
- Visit the legendary “Clown Motel” and see the courthouse under restoration in ghostly Belmont
- Say hello to ghosts and their stories in Goldfield, Gold Pointe, Rhyolite and Belmont
- Travel the Extraterrestrial Highway – home of the secret Area 51 – where countless UFO sightings have been recorded
- 11 meals: Daily full breakfast, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Las Vegas, home pick-up included





The Alaskan Explorer Cruise with Holland America

Spend a week in America's Last Frontier
8 Days • May 29 – June 5

We have chosen an early season departure aboard the *Eurodam* because in our experience, the tourism people in Alaska tend to “wear out” as the summer goes along. The early season visitor comes to town when local residents are still smiling. Holland America is one of the finest cruise lines on the oceans, and they especially shine in Alaskan waters.

1. Fly to Seattle, ship departs at 3 pm, Cruising Puget Sound – On Puget Sound you'll see everything from ice-capped mountains to remote islands dotted with gigantic Douglas firs to Mount Rainier, hulking behind Seattle's sleek skyscrapers as if to remind coffee-fueled urbanites that nature is boss.

You, too, will soon be reminded that nature is boss as you cruise through the San Juan Islands from Seattle. The San Juans are a wildlife-rich archipelago and popular vacation spot amongst locals. From the comfort of your cruise, watch for soaring eagles, harbor seals and both humpback and orca whales.

2. At Sea – On board duty-free shopping, the spa and salon, or just sightseeing from the deck or your window, there is plenty to see and do on days without a port call.

3. Cruising Stephens Passage – Stephens Passage is like the best shortcut in the world, a straight line through Southeast Alaska in a landscape that comes with very few straight lines. It's not only people and ships that use the passage: Concentrated in and around its waters is a “greatest

hits” list of Alaskan wildlife, most notably humpback whales, the whoosh of their breath loud enough to be heard almost a kilometer away. In tiny bays, guillemots and gulls gather. When they take off at the ship's wake, the noise sounds like applause.

Juneau – Arrives 12:30 pm, Departs 10:00 pm – Visit the most remote, beautiful capital city in the United States. Surrounded by water, forest and mountain sights, visitors seeking things to do in Juneau indoors and outdoors can hike a glacier, eat fresh-caught fish on a seaside patio and tour the grand capitol building all in one day. The sleepy, misty city of around 32,000 – mostly fishermen and small-business owners – has a frontier town vibe while welcoming more than a million visitors each summer.

4. Glacier Bay – Arrives 6:00 am, Departs 3:00 pm – On your cruise to Glacier Bay, close your eyes and take in the sounds – the creaks and groans of “living” ice, the shrill cries of gulls and soaring eagles, the splash of a breaching humpback whale. With the serene majesty of snow-flecked and forested mountains defining its shores, Glacier Bay National Park offers some of the most dramatic scenery in the world. **Icy Strait Point – Arrives 5:30 pm, Departs 10:00 pm** – Icy Strait Point is a popular destination on Alaska cruises and is only open when a ship is in port. This historical town is filled with history and culture.

5. Sitka – Arrives 8:00 am, Departs 4:00 pm – A storied past mixed with jaw-dropping scenery sets Sitka, Alaska apart from other ports. Located on Baranof Island surrounded by the Sitka Sound's icy blue

water, it not only boasts lush scenery and captivating wildlife, Sitka offers a unique glimpse into Alaskan history. Russia controlled Alaska from the mid-1700s until the United States purchased it in 1867, and Sitka was settled as the capital of Russian America with the name New Archangel.

6. Ketchikan – Arrives 6:30 am, Departs 1:00 pm – Ketchikan is one of the best spots along the Inside Passage to explore the rich cultural sights of Native Alaskan nations like the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian. You can experience intricately carved totem poles at the Totem Heritage Center and Totem Bight State Park, while the attractions of Saxman Village just outside of Ketchikan offers the chance to see Tlingit culture in action, with working carvers and a dance show in the clan house. Don't forget to leave time to explore the sights in the town itself, including historic Creek Street, a boardwalk built over Ketchikan Creek.

7. Victoria, British Columbia – Arrives 8:00 pm, Departs 11:59 pm – Because this is a night call, activities here will be limited.

8. Seattle – Arrives 7:00 am – As the cruise comes to a close your Tour Director will assist you in getting your bags and transferring to the airport for the return flight home.

The package includes the cruise, all port fees and taxes, roundtrip air (to/from Seattle), door-to-door service, a *Sports Leisure* Tour Director on board to assist you on your journey (think airports, getting on and off the ship, etc.).

Inside Cabins start at:
\$2790 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3845 single

Outside Cabins start at:
\$3160 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4585 single

Veranda Cabins start at
\$4060 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6385 single **3**

This vacation requires a valid passport



TOUR TEASERS...

At *Sports Leisure Vacations* we have always listened to our Travel Club members. If you see a "Bucket List" destination on these pages, please send an e-mail to res@sportsleisure.com asking to be placed on the **Priority Notification List**. In doing so you are literally casting a vote for that tour idea. If interest is sufficient and we move forward in planning the trip, you will be among the first notified to register. Placing your name on the list does not obligate you in any way, nor does it mean a reservation will automatically be made. Thank you in advance for your show of interest and support!



Glamour, Gardens and the Hollywood Bowl

September 16-19, 2027

Celebrate the best of Los Angeles with two unforgettable highlights – an inspiring visit to the groundbreaking new George Lucas Museum of Narrative Art and an opportunity to enjoy an evening at the legendary Hollywood Bowl. Explore Hollywood's most iconic sights, including Grauman's Chinese Theatre, the Walk of Fame, glamorous Beverly Hills and world famous Rodeo Drive. Dive into a multi neighborhood food tour showcasing LA's vibrant culinary diversity. Your getaway also includes time to wander Pasadena's celebrated gardens and experience its rich arts and cultural scene, all while enjoying a comfortable three night stay at the Pasadena Hilton. Details will be available when the Hollywood Bowl releases their 2027 summer schedule.

Appalachian Mountain Christmas

December 12-19, 2027

Our popular wintertime itinerary returns with a few new twists. Begin with two nights spent on Biltmore Estate, which of course includes an opportunity to visit the grand mansion all dressed up in her holiday best. Next, head to Pigeon Forge and the Dollywood Resort. We've expanded our visit to two nights to allow for more time at Dollywood as well as an opportunity to visit other seasonal offerings in the area. Finally, on to Nashville for three nights featuring the Amy Grant and Vince Gill Christmas Concert at the venerable Ryman Auditorium, the Grand Ole Opry Christmas Show and festive holiday attractions in Music City USA.

Christmas Markets in Germany and Austria

Early December 2027 or 2028

Celebrate the season in style! Join us for a magical Advent adventure through Austria and Bavaria, where Christmas markets glow with twinkling lights, steaming mugs of mulled wine, handcrafted treasures and joyful holiday music. Wander the festive streets of Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Alpine villages, each bursting with charm and seasonal cheer. We'll wrap up the journey in Munich with a special visit to Nuremberg's legendary Christkindlesmarkt, one of Europe's oldest and most beloved holiday traditions. With delicious regional cuisine, rich culture and breathtaking winter scenery, this trip is pure Christmas joy from start to finish.



China's Ancient Echoes

Winter or Spring 2028

Some trips have one bucket-list moment. This one loses count! Begin amid Beijing's imperial grandeur – the Forbidden City, then the Great Wall itself – before a high-speed train whisks you to Xi'an, where 8,000 Terracotta Warriors await your inspection. In Chengdu, meet the giant panda (and perhaps its rust-colored cousin, the red panda) and enjoy Sichuan Opera – more variety show than opera, with laughs that need no translation. Finally, Yunnan Province, "South of the Clouds," where the ancient Tea Horse Trail meets the Silk Road, 25 ethnic cultures still flourish, and nearly half of China's plants and animals make their home. Stroll storied Lijiang and Dali – and come hungry! The hand-pulled noodles and wild mushrooms are legendary.



Whales, Wine & Wonders in Baja Mexico

March 6-13, 2028

Sports Leisure travelers are calling Whales, Wine & Wonders the experience of a lifetime. From touching playful Gray Whales and exploring Baja's painted caves to savoring sunset views and enjoying top tier winery events, guests return home inspired by the warmth of the Mexican people, the region's natural beauty and unforgettable moments...including petting a baby whale they'll remember forever.

Testimonials from past travelers:

"The trip exceeded expectations from seeing whales to painted caves to learning about varieties of cactus and so much more. Seeing the whales up close - close enough to touch them - also the experience of being in Mexico and the Mexican people."

"I loved the nature of the people and natural beauty of Mexico. Petting the baby whale was something that I will never forget!"

"Our Whales, Wine and Wonders trip was absolutely amazing! The attention to detail and the events that we attended were top notch. From petting the whales, the gorgeous sunsets and our winery tour and dinner, we came away with a great appreciation and understanding of the culture and beauty of the Baja California region."

Jewels of Romantic Europe

Spring 2028

Discover the beauty of Bavaria, Tyrol and Austria on a delightful journey through Europe's scenic heart. Enjoy lively Munich, step into the fairy tale world of Neuschwanstein Castle, take in stunning Alpine views and wander the charming streets of Salzburg, Mozart's birthplace. Along the way savor traditional cuisine, rich culture and warm regional hospitality. This itinerary blends iconic sights with memorable experiences from the soaring Zugspitze and sparkling Swarovski Crystal World to a peaceful Lake Chiemsee cruise and the historic Berchtesgaden Salt Mine. Every day brings fresh scenery, fascinating history and the timeless charm of Romantic Europe.

The Emerald Isle Really Is Calling

Summer or Fall 2028

We teased this tour in the 2026 Dream Book and interest was strong, but London happened that year and Scotland is in these pages for 2027. So our trip to Ireland has been necessarily pushed back another year. In the history of *Sports Leisure Vacations*, Ireland is the European country we've visited the most often. Indeed, the Emerald Isle holds a special place in the hearts of many. Maybe it's the land of your kith and kin. Maybe it's because you



have an insatiable appetite for corned beef and cabbage, or could it be a thirst for Guinness? (Remember their motto, "Guinness is good for you!" They couldn't say it if it wasn't true, right?) Or maybe it's just because Ireland is so much fun! Rest assured you'll have Team Gary and Clayton at the front of the coach, probably arguing about which side of the road is the RIGHT side.

A Culinary Journey through Sicily and Malta

Fall 2028

Located just off the toe of the Italian Peninsula, Sicily is the crossroads of empires and culinary capital of the Mediterranean. Our food-forward itinerary will afford plenty of chances to sample the bountiful goodness of Sicilian gastronomy, balanced with a deep dive into the culture

and history of this unique island. Explore the capital city of Palermo dominated by its 12th century Norman cathedral. Visit the hilltop town of Erice, accessible only by cable car. In the Valley of the Temples you'll discover eight magnificent Greek temples dating to 510 BC. In Syracuse Greek and Roman history is layered one upon the other. Standing at 11,000 feet high, Mt. Etna, the epicenter of Sicily's pistachio industry, is also Europe's most active volcano. (Hopefully she won't blow during our visit!) Located a short 150-mile flight to the south, Malta is a small island nation with a big history and a bigger heart. We'll visit their 16th century capital city of Valetta, medieval Mdina, the picturesque fishing village of Marsaxlokk and the dramatic temple complex of Hagar Qim. At 3600 years old, it predates the pyramids of Egypt!



The Sports Leisure Difference...

Answers to these frequently asked questions will tell you more about our company and help you enjoy your vacation to the fullest

Can I find you on the web?

At www.sportsleisure.com you'll find all our recent publications, plus information on upcoming tours, company information and more. New: Pay online. Work in progress: Online reservations.

I hear you refer to customers as "members." Do I have to join a club to travel with you?

Absolutely not, though most travelers do belong to the *Sports Leisure Travel Club*. Only through membership will you receive the annual catalog, newsletters and invitations to special events. Members are invited to take part in our bonus rewards programs, Travel Club Gold and Day Trippers. A complimentary membership is extended to new and potential travelers upon request. After that, it's only \$10 per person, per year. Lifetime memberships are also available for \$20 per person.

What if I become ill and cannot travel? Do you offer Cancellation Protection or Travel Insurance?

One or both are available on every departure. Either must be purchased at the time you make your initial tour payment. We strongly recommend you consider this optional protection. Please refer to the *Special Vacation Notes and Information* brochure for details. This coverage may not be available to those who have cancelled more than two tours in a 12-month period or who make their reservation less than one month prior to the departure date.

Are there any fees for cancellation after I make a payment?

Domestic Tours (including Canada and Mexico): If **Cancellation Protection** was purchased, 50% of the amount you paid is kept as a cancellation fee. Outside 70 days before departure, all tour payments are refunded in their entirety. Inside 70 days before departure refund provisions vary based on the tour and the reason for cancellation.

International Tours:

The premium for **Travel Insurance**, offered on most international trips, is 100% non-refundable after purchase. Outside 100 days before departure, all payments for International Tours are fully refundable. Inside 100 days before departure, refund provisions vary based the tour and the reason for cancellation.

I have dietary restrictions. Is this going to be a problem?

If you have mild dietary restrictions (vegetarian, lactose and/or gluten intolerant), it is important for you to advise us at the time of registration. Often, we can accommodate these types of requests. As you can certainly understand it is quite difficult for your Tour Director to accommodate those who wait until they are on the road to share their special needs.

If you have severe or multiple dietary restrictions you may find this type of travel is not for you.



Can I make special requests for hotels?

You are invited to make special requests of the hotel(s) serving your vacation at the point of reservation. The more notice we have the better our ability to accommodate you. Requests might include a king bed, handicap-accessible room, or a room with a view (often times this request comes with an extra cost). Handicap-accessible rooms are limited. We ask you to make this request only if your condition demands it. There could be another traveler who needs the room more than you.

Please note we automatically request a room with two beds for those traveling double occupancy unless you tell us otherwise. Couples requesting a king bed should make that request at time of reservation.





What About Airline Seating and Upgrades:

All our fly-away tours include economy-class airfare generally located at the rear of the airplane. It is impossible to select specific seating (window or aisle) in this class. Upon request, we can discuss upgrades that might include the forward cabin or moving closer to the front of the economy cabin into extra legroom or "preferred" seating.

Once your tour reservation is complete, you can make special seating requests online at www.sportsleisure.com. Look for the **Air Upgrade Request** link on the home page. Your booking ID number is required. It can be found on your Trip Invoice. Groups are usually ticketed 45-70 days prior to departure date. Your upgrade requests must be made prior to ticketing.

Can you explain "door-to-door service"?

Quite simply this means we will pick you up and return you to your home on all vacations of three days or longer. This service may involve a sedan, SUV or other chauffeured vehicle.

Provided by Baylight Transportation Services in the Sacramento metropolitan area, door-to-door service is included within these boundaries: Davis on the west; Elk Grove on the south; Lincoln, Auburn (95603) and Shingle Springs on the east; and Woodland to the north. Service is available for an additional charge for travelers living in Galt, Lodi, Stockton, Yuba City/Marysville, Grass Valley/Nevada City, Winters, Vacaville, Fairfield, Placerville, Lake of the Pines/Auburn (95602) and Colfax.

A \$110 per person credit is available for travelers to whom this service isn't available or for those who wish to opt out and meet us at the point of departure (usually the airport, train station or office). Another option for those who live in outlying areas is to overnight at a hotel located near the departure point. On *Daycations* and overnights motorcoaches depart from convenient neighborhood pick-up points in the greater Sacramento area. Door-to-door service is available for a fee on day and overnight trips. Call the office for details.

What can I expect from the motorcoaches you charter?

Whether locally or at fly-away destinations, we seek only the best equipment and drivers available with three things in mind: Your pleasure, your comfort and above all your safety.

You have assigned seating on your tours. What's that about?

We do not rotate motorcoach seats as many companies do. You are free to select the seating of your choice at the point of reservation. Single travelers are sometimes required to take available single seats to leave remaining pairs for those traveling with a friend or spouse. It's important to note many of our extended tours have a limited number of participants on large coaches, allowing you to spread out in the rear of the coach if desired.

What about airport security restrictions? They seem to change all the time.

The Transportation Security Administration requires that you provide us your date of birth and full name as it appears on your government-issued photo identification for all vacations involving air travel. Real ID is required to clear security in all US airports. Failure to have REAL ID will result in delays and extra fees. Complete passport information is additionally required in advance for international travel.

Up-to-date security information can be found at www.tsa.gov, including details on how you can qualify for TSA Pre-Check through the issuance of a Known Traveler Number (KTN).

Have passport rules changed?

Passports are required for all travel outside the U.S. including Canada and Mexico. US citizens in need of a passport can pick up an application at any post office or find it online. **Your passport must be valid for at least six months past the scheduled ending date of your international tour.**





Do I need to worry about airline baggage charges?

As each airline has different policies regarding luggage and associated charges, you may expect rules and restrictions (number of bags allowed, weight, etc.) to vary from trip to trip. The price of your first bag (round trip) is included in the tour price (at time of the tour's first publication).

Each checked bag has a strict weight limit of 40 pounds. Bags weighing more could incur additional fees and/or be rejected. This policy applies throughout the tour. Many "wheelie" bags and oversized carry-ons that fit in airline overhead bins cannot be accommodated within the cabin of the motorcoach. In such cases you will be asked to check them coachside with your Tour Director. They will be tagged and available coachside at each overnight stop.

Are my payments protected when I pay for my vacation in advance?

Your deposits and final payments are held in escrow until the tour returns in full accordance with the State of California Seller of Travel Law (#2011549-40).

Can a friend from another city sign up for a Sports Leisure vacation, or join me for a meal or activity at one of our destinations?

Yes! We can arrange travel for friends or relatives to meet our groups from any city in the world. (We currently have over 1,000 Travel Club members who live outside the Sacramento area.) If you have someone who would like to travel with you, have them call us toll free at 1-800-951-5556. With advance notice, we are also happy to welcome your friends or relatives who may live along the tour route and wish to join us for a meal or attraction.

Can I extend my vacation to visit friends or relatives?

The answer is almost always yes, particularly if you register and make your request at least 70 days prior to departure.

Many travelers take advantage of this opportunity to visit friends or relatives, or explore a destination in greater detail on their own. There could be additional charges for flight deviations, but generally they are small. If you are returning on a date different from the group's return, airport transportation can be provided for an additional \$100 per household. **Please note unique air schedules are not covered by Cancellation Protection on domestic trips.**

I have some trouble walking long distances. Will I be able to participate and enjoy the trip?

Walking and some step-climbing are necessary to participate in the normal activities on our vacations. While we can do almost everything for you on a Sports Leisure vacation, **the Tour Director cannot provide sustained attention to individual clients.** Please be advised that we visit many cultural sites on tour, not all of which meet A.D.A. requirements due to their

historic status and/or physical layout. Let us assure you that people with mobility restrictions are welcome on our vacations. Many of our travelers are over 70, 80 or even 90, something we keep in mind when planning our itineraries. The Tour Planner for each departure knows the itinerary well and would be happy to consult with you personally should you have questions regarding the amount of walking, elevations, etc., on a particular trip. **Additionally, each trip is marked with an Activity Meter rating to identify the level of energy and fitness needed to enjoy the vacation fully.**

How does your company deal with "chronic complainers?"

One or two can ruin a trip for all. Sports Leisure Vacations reserves the right not to accept or retain anyone whose lack of personal hygiene or poor general behavior, in the opinion of the Tour Director, impedes the operation of the tour and/or affects the rights of other travelers. A refund of unused tour services is the limit of our liability if a person is required to leave the tour for the reasons stated above. Said passenger(s) will be responsible for any additional costs to return to the city of origin.

We want to learn, discover and have fun together. Our groups are often complimented on their positive attitude by tourism professionals and others who encounter us on the road. Life is too short for making yourself and those around you miserable due to small challenges that are bound to occur. Travel is by nature an inexact science.

And that's the Sports Leisure Difference...



Only the finest "accommodations" on a Sports Leisure tour





9812 Old Winery Place, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95827

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Sacramento, CA
PERMIT NO. 517

EARLY REGISTRATION/PAYMENT DISCOUNTS

In order to be eligible for the listed discounts, you must pay in full within ten days of registration. Savings are per person. Early Payment Discounts may be withdrawn after 50% of the available space has been reserved and the discounts listed here **expire Friday, October 30, 2026**. Tours without pricing will have their **E.P.D.** announced when the prices become available.

- Feb. – Oregon Chocolate Festival - **Save \$50**
- Mar. – New Orleans - **Save \$125**
- Mar. – Colorful Carolina Coast - **Save \$200**
- Mar. – HAL Panama Canal Cruise - **Save \$200**
- Apr. – San Diego - **Save \$80**
- Apr. – Tulip Time in the Skagit Valley - **Save \$60**
- Apr. – New York City – Macy's Flower Show, Remembering Dolly - **Save \$150**
- Apr. – Kentucky - **Save \$125**
- Apr. – Springtime in Monterey - **Save \$65**
- May – On The Central Coast - **Save \$80**
- May – Redwoods & The Ranch - **Save \$60**
- May – Sacred Lands – Monument Valley, Lake Powell - **Save \$150**
- May – Scotland – E.P.D. Previously Expired
- May – Holland & Belgium - **Save \$250**
- May – Newport, R.I. - **Save \$150**
- May – HAL Alaska Cruise - **Save \$125**
- June – Boston & Cape Cod - **Save \$200**
- June – Yosemite Valley - **Save \$75**
- June – Costa Mesa Arts Getaway - **Save \$75**
- June – Astoria, Columbia River, Mt. St. Helens - **Save \$100**
- June – British Columbia - **Save \$200**
- June – Lucy & Niagara Falls - **Save \$125**
- July – Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound - **Save \$100**
- July – Fort Bragg & The California Redwoods - **Save \$60**
- July – San Juan Explorer - **Save \$100**
- Sept. – Seattle, Tacoma & Mt. Rainier - **Save \$100**
- Oct. 2027 – Paris/Seine River Cruise - **Save \$200**

The Sports Leisure Dream Team

Donnie Anderson	Mark Hoffmann
Scott Angeletti	RoseMarie Holt
Donna Carey	Mike Irish
Michael Downer	Laurin Johnson
Elaina Fernandez	Serina Jordan
Maureen Gagliardi	Sara Turner
Tyler Geraldts	Bob Veliky
Mariea Hammersley	Clayton Whitehead
Patricia Hansen	May Wong

Sacramento's Travel Radio Show has a new home!

The Travel Guys Radio Show

- Weekly travel news from across the country and around the world
- Tips to make you a smarter traveler
- Updates for Sports Leisure Travelers

Every Saturday
KHTK – 11:40am

Podcasts and show updates at
www.travelguysradio.com



Hosted by: Tom Romano and Mark Hoffmann

Visit us online at: www.sportsleisure.com