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CREATING MEMORABLE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES SINCE 1979

# Normal is just a word...



The dictionary has this for "normal": Normal (adjective) conforming to a standard, usual, typical or expected. Most travelers, I suspect, would be reasonably happy with "normal" in many aspects of travel. They want their plane flights and other logistics to be "normal;" to meet their pre-arrival expectations. No surprises when it comes to basics.

Travelers, on the other hand, really don't hope for "normal" in many ways. They want their trips to be "special." They want to see the one theatrical performance where something memorable happens. They want to experience the perfect sunset. They want to tour with the person who **experienced** the historical event they are recalling.

For the last two years, "normal" has been something which happens "accidentally." Many of the people who created your "normal" have moved on, and been replaced by people who barely know what "normal" is, let along what "special" might look like. They have been **taught** their jobs, but haven't **learned** how to think anywhere outside the box.

Our travels together at **Sports Leisure** are not intended to be "normal." But for the past couple of years, that has been our goal. Take people places with a minimum amount of hassle, places they have dreamed of seeing or returning to, and try to slip in "special" wherever we can. By and large, our customers have been ok with this arrangement, because they can see as we travel that things are not perfect.

Imagine getting at call at 7:15am saying "the bus you are waiting for is not coming. We don't have enough drivers today." That has already happened. Twice. The sign on the restaurant door, "We are sorry, but we have all worked 14 days in a row and we must close today." Yep, that happened, too. There have been lots of 24-48 hour cancellations of tour activities. Amazingly our travelers and my staff have taken most things in stride. They know everything isn't "normal" right now. As different strains of the COVID virus emerge, "normal" might continue to be elusive.

But there are signs things are improving. On my recent trips to the Pacific Northwest I was welcomed by old friends who were still in the same jobs! Amazing, but true! They were as happy to see our group as I was to see them, because "normal" has been hard for everyone as of late. A sign in the lobby of the **Elizabeth Street Suites**, our hotel in Newport said it all: "Everyone is short staffed right now... please be kind to those who showed up." It feels like folks are exhaling a bit. Younger travelers who tend to be more impatient with lines, shortstaffing delays and "why can't this be fixed right now" situations are relaxing as the summer rolls on.

## Thank you

One thing needs to be said here to our travelers. Thank you. You have shown an *amazing* level of patience and understanding on the road. When something hasn't gone perfectly, by and large, you have smiled and waited for the next activity. When something has been substituted, you've taken it with a grain of salt and soldiered on. That really means a lot to us. We work hard to give you the best travel experiences. When things aren't right, it hurts. Your satisfaction is what we work for.

## The Next Act

Now it's time for a new set of trips to be announced. Some dreams will come true; some "I've got to get back there someday" promises will be realized. A lot of Travel Club Members and their friends will spend quality time together in great places, doing things they enjoy. In many cases those friendships are a result of previous travels.

## Timing is Everything

On these pages you will find some old favorites and some exciting new adventures. Couple of things you should know. Because of the early timing of **Tour Preview Day** this year (late August), high air and hotel rates, and some destinations not being back to 100% yet, we have made a decision **not to try and announce our entire 2023 tour schedule now**. It is our feeling that hotels and airlines will come back to earth in the next few months, and realize that the pricing they got this year when demand was high is not the same pricing they will get as we return to "normal" (There's that word again!) We have held off on announcing some favorites, in hopes they will be more reasonably priced when the October/November or January newsletters go to press. Our **Tour Teasers** page contains some of those future destinations. If you don't see your favorite destination, I invite you to drop me a note at **markslt@aol.com** and let's see if we can get it on the schedule.

## **Final Thoughts**

My staff and I have been blessed for four decades with the most amazing customers any business could ever ask for. A hotel staffer I have known for many years said to me while I was with a group in Oregon recently, "You know, we always look forward to **Sports Leisure** groups coming to stay with us. You always have the nicest people traveling with you. The housekeepers love them (might be the tips) and they are always friendly. How do you do that?"

I smile and say thank you. Comments like that happen often. They are a tribute to you and to our efforts. You know, *Looks Like We Made It.* 



Mark Hoffmann, CTP, Owner/Founder

# What a year!

I will confess I had the advantage of reading Mark's message before writing my own. He said everything I had intended to say, above all my longing for a return to "normal." (I know what you're thinking – great minds think alike!)

A few days ago I had the sentimental task of sorting through "people pictures" for inclusion in these pages. That's when it occurred to me. Despite all the hardships and challenges, 2022 has actually been quite normal in many ways. I started the season with my annual trip to New Orleans in early March where I was





reunited with my brotherfrom-another-mother **Willie Gibson**. How great it was to see him behind the wheel after a two-year hiatus and enjoy a glass of his signature punch, the latter for medicinal purposes, of course!

Later that same month, on Tybee Island outside Savannah, **Toot** and **Mary Ann** led the "Colorful Carolina Coast" group in a poolside sing-along as they've done for decades! What could be more normal (or fun) than that?

My photos led my memories and me onward to Texas, Virginia, Chicago, St. Louis, then all the way across Canada by rail. Also included were reminders of personal expeditions to a family reunion in Georgia, a wedding in Minneapolis and time spent with dear friends in my beloved lowa where I quite nearly ate my weight in sweet corn. A little closer to home my pictures chronicle afternoons or evenings of live theatre in San Francisco and Sacramento. We even got our beloved **Music Circus** back this summer!

These photos bring back happy memories of good times spent with great friends. Sure, things are different and may always be. But at least I'm not going it alone. You aren't either. We are all members of one big travel family. There's still a lot of world left to see, so start packing and come along!



"Your Tour Guy,"

lazto

Clayton Whitehead, CTP President



# ACTIVITY METER

As part of our commitment to helping you select the right tour for your interests and physical abilities, check out the Activity Meter for each tour to get a feel for how it matches your interests, energy and fitness. It's important to note that more than one level may apply to a tour. For example, some will enjoy a visit to a national park by spending time in the visitor's center and taking a seat with a view. Others might prefer to hike on a nature trail. Same destination, same tour, two different levels of activity.

The letter abbreviations for each departure can be found in the Table of Contents listing for the tour. Where you see two letters, that indicates the ability to add activities or do optional things which increase the amount of physical activity (standing, walking, climbing stairs, etc.). The meter is a guideline. It is impossible to predict every situation on tour, since conditions may change before or during a trip which require itinerary adjustments.

Leisurely – A tour that can be enjoyed by all. A minimal amount of required walking on city streets or generally level surfaces, with few stairs. A theater day trip might be an example.

Moderate – A tour with some walking activities, and standing/strolling at attractions and museums and possibly some stair climbing. A daytrip to the ballpark or a short regional trip (Monterey, CA Coast) might be examples. A moderate trip could include air transportation and navigating through airports.

Active – A tour which includes longer walks (3-5 city blocks). Shorter walks could be on uneven surfaces. Days could be longer (including longer travel days with layovers). Some of the trips could be at high altitudes.

This would be the level for most of our longer distance domestic and Canadian tours, the minimum level for an overseas international tour. Tours which mention the ability to walk 3-5 city blocks **in a timely fashion** a couple of times a day fit into this category, as would most of our national park tours. You could find a flight of stairs without handrails. A tour with a seaplane or jeep ride, and the ability to climb into the plane/jeep, would be found in this category. Longer rail tours fit in this category.

**Energetic** – A tour with an accent on opportunities for walking and other physical activities. Many overseas tours would fit in this category. Long plane flights, perhaps standing or walking longer distances. You might have to climb into a boat, carriage or train. If you need wheelchair assistance at the airport or other places, you should not consider a tour on this level.

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

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The Langley Fire Department looks like a great place to find the perfect souvenir – **Ferries and Towns of Puget Sound** 



Ocean trash turned into art – Washed Ashore in Bandon



The Pearl Harbor Memorial, part of our spring Hawaii itinerary



2 Days • February 13-14

Your journey over the mountains begins from one of our convenient pickups and Amtrak's *California Zephyr* departs from Roseville. Experience a High Sierra winter wonderland as the train climbs through the mountains, providing magnificent and (hopefully snowy) vistas. Don't worry about your luggage – it will travel on board our motorcoach which will meet you in Reno! Enjoy relaxing views on the train from your seat or the domed observation car. A boxed lunch is included for you to take along so you won't miss the scenery. Your accommodations are at the **Silver Legacy Casino/Resort**. You'll awake to the sweetest day of the year – Valentine's Day! Enjoy a morning at leisure before returning home by motorcoach.

The package includes one-way rail passage on Amtrak's *California Zephyr*, a boxed lunch, hotel accommodations, casino bonuses (subject to change), and return transportation by motorcoach. Please note that due to weather and/or lengthy train delays, your journey over the mountains may be made by coach to Reno. 400/400 Gold Passport Points

\$365 p.p./dbl.occ., \$395 single 📕

# **Some tours in this catalog have pricing, but some do not.** What's up with that?



These are interesting times in the tourism industry. In 2022, because of pent up demand due to COVID, people couldn't wait to travel. That heavy demand, combined with a shortage of workers, caused airfares and hotel prices to soar, but is likely not a permanent situation. We expect some pricing to moderate.

As we put together this catalog, and explored prices for next year, what we found alarmed us in many cases. Some hotels and airlines seem to think these very high prices will continue through 2023. We do not. Because of this unusual situation, we have decided **not to include pricing on some 2023 tours.** 

How do I register for tours without a price? The same way you do for tours with prices, just call the office. There is one difference. You won't be asked for any payment until the price is available. At that time,

you will be asked for a deposit, have an opportunity to take advantage of an Early Payment Di\$count, or just cancel your trip without any penalty or payment. Let's say that again. If you sign up for a tour without pricing, when the pricing is announced, you can cancel without any penalty or payment.

This way, your space, your seat location on the coach, everything is held, without you having to pay anything at this time. Just give us a call to reserve your space.

## When will those prices be available?

Sometime in September – November. By waiting, we feel in many cases this will result in a lower price for you. We don't think prices can go much higher from where they are, so we believe a delay in pricing can't hurt us.

Why not just wait and register when the price is available? Excellent question. Two reasons. First, many of you know from experience that *Sports Leisure* trips sometimes fill very quickly. So getting a confirmed reservation insures you will get to go. Second, this gives us an idea of how much interest there is. If we only get 2-3 people signed up, it's time to take our time and attention elsewhere. Knowing a tour has enough people to operate allows us to look for ways to add little extras to the trip.

**Questions????** We invite your call. Currently, our office hours are **9am – 3:30pm**, Monday – Friday. Send an email question directly to the owner, Mark Hoffmann and he will answer it or get it to someone who can, **MarksIt@aol.com**.

served onboard a luxury yacht cruise on the bay. Next up is a trip to Balboa Park for the Sunday Concert at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Relax and listen to a wide variety of styles from classical music to popular tunes performed live on the famed Spreckels Organ. Your anticipation grows as the Hotel del Coronado comes into view! Enjoy all your beachfront hotel has to offer at your leisure this evening. **Hotel del Coronado (BR)** 

2. We welcome a local friend for a docentguided tour of Coronado Island. Nancy will keep you interested with fun and witty tales of the island's history and people. The rest of the day is yours. Want to go to the San Diego Zoo? Visit the Gas Light district? Or perhaps you just want to return to the hotel and explore more of this fabulous icon. We can help with booking your activity and share the stories tonight over dinner. **(D)** 

**3.** There's a walking tour of Balboa Park today. The park has a variety of cultural institutions scattered among its 1,200 lushly planted acres. After an included lunch we'll head to the airport for an evening flight home. **(L)** 

\$2055 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2625 single M



## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 2 nights at the luxurious Hotel del Coronado
- Concert at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion
- 3 meals: 1 brunch, 1 lunch, 1 dinner including Sunday Brunch cruise on the bay
- Roundtrip air to/from San Diego
- Guided tours of Coronado Island and Balboa Park
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2100/2650 Gold Passport Points

Since 1888 the Hotel Del Coronado has been an iconic beach resort in southern California, blending idyllic charm with golden-age allure making it the ultimate seaside escape. The hotel has undergone an extensive remodel and is ready to welcome you with open arms!

**1.** A quick flight takes you to San Diego to start your adventure. You'll be able to soak in the sun and sights as you enjoy brunch



# **Winter in Yellowstone National Park**

Featuring stays at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel 6 Days • February 11-16

Join our select group for a trip to the winter wonderland that is Yellowstone National Park. It's an adventure you'll never forget...

1. Fly to Bozeman, Montana, and travel to Yellowstone National Park's North Entrance for the night. **Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel** (D)

**2.** Begin your exploration of the incredible landscape of Yellowstone National Park. Winter is a special time to visit as deep snow in the high country pushes the wildlife down to lower elevations. Today you'll travel south to Old Faithful. Sit back and enjoy the spectacular scenery in comfort and warmth as you are move easily along in a custom snow coach chauffeured by an experienced guide. Along the way learn the park's history, walk through thermal basins, and view geysers and hot springs in all their glory. Your hotel is just steps away from its namesake. **Old Faithful Snow Lodge – 2 nights (B,L)** 

**3.** Enjoy a free day to walk the Old Faithful geyser basin, spend time in the Visitors Center and take in the glorious view. For a



## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- All nights spent inside Yellowstone Nat'l Park
- Tour the park by snow coach
- Spend a full day in the Old Faithful geyser basin
- Spy the animals in Lamar Valley
- 10 meals: 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Bozeman
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 4450/5400 Gold Passport Points

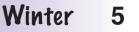
fun option (extra cost) rent snowshoes or cross-country skis. You're invited to join a guided walk or chart your own course. **(B)** 

4. Return to Mammoth in the park's north, stopping for walks and photos along the way on this day of breathtaking scenery. This is Mother Nature at her very best! Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel – 2 nights (B,L)

**5.** Today you'll explore the famed Lamar Valley on a wildlife tour. Elk, bison, coyote and fox are some of the animals you might see, but the big prize here is to spot a wolf pack. Keep your eyes open so you don't miss a thing! **(B,L)** 

6. Lunch is served in Bozeman before your afternoon flight back to Sacramento. This is one adventure you will not soon forget! (B,L)

\$4410 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5370 single A This tour is strictly limited to 20 participants!



# Alaska's Aurora Borealis

Small group travel, unique winter attractions and a light show you'll never forget!
8 Days • March 17-24

# AURORA POINTE

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- View the Aurora Borealis in the dark skies outside of Fairbanks
- Visit of the BP World Ice Art Championships
- Travel on the Alaska Railroad from Talkeetna to Denali
- Dogsled at Iditarod winner Dallas Seavey's homestead
- Star Lady Aurora presentation
- Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center
- 9 Meals: 2 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Anchorage/from Fairbanks
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 5500/6200 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly to Anchorage. Winter jackets and boots are provided over dinner for your use during the tour at no extra cost if you do not have your own. **Captain Cook Hotel – 2 nights (D)** 

2. This morning take a scenic drive down the Turnagain Arm from the ocean to the towering Chugach Mountains, one of the most scenic byways in America. Explore the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center, a 200-acre animal rescue and rehabilitation center, where you will meet moose, wood bison, musk ox, caribou and other creatures that call the Portage Glacier Valley home. (**B,L**)

**3.** Travel to the town of Talkeetna, a quaint "mountain climbing town" featured on several TV shows for good food and fun personalities. There you'll visit the

homestead of Iditarod Champion Dallas Seavey where you'll learn what it takes to train for the Last Great Race, the Iditarod. Tour the kennel and go on a wilderness sled ride pulled by champion Iditarod dogs! Tonight the Star Lady will make an Aurora presentation before you head outside for your first chance to view the Northern Lights! **Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge – 2 nights (B,L)** 

**4.** Wake up and look outside. With luck you'll view the majestic Alaska Range and Denali, North America's highest mountain! In the afternoon take a tour of the town and an optional (extra cost) flightseeing tour. (L)

**5.** Journey on the Alaskan Railroad for an amazing snow train adventure. Disembark near Denali National Park and continue by bus to Fairbanks. After hotel check-in travel to a remote location that will allow you to enjoy the Aurora away from the city lights. **Westmark Hotel– 3 nights (L)** 

**6.** This afternoon get ready to be amazed at the BP World Ice Art Championships as single and multiple blocks of ice are sculpted into exquisite masterpieces. The detail will astound you! Dinner is hosted before heading back to the Ice Park to see the finished sculptures illuminated. More aurora viewing is also on tap for tonight. **(D)** 

**7.** Visit the Alaska Pipeline up close and stop at the North Pole to shop for everything Christmas. Dinner is hosted at a historic

restaurant before heading out one more time to see the lights. It is said if you spend three nights in Fairbank you have a 90% chance of seeing the Aurora. **(D)** 

**8.** You will not soon forget the magic you experienced in the Great North. With your departure from Fairbanks it is time to take your photos and memories back home to share with our family and friends.

\$5495 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6120 single

Note: This tour is strictly limited to 20 participants. The aurora is weather and solar flare dependent – it takes clear skies and active solar activity combined to make for a great viewing experience. Temperatures between 0° and 25° F are typical throughout this tour.





6

# New Orleans... And All That Jazz

Rest well in downtown accommodations adjacent to the French Quarter **5 Days • March 12-16** 

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! Rest well in conveniently-located accommodations overlooking the famed French Quarter. Your welcome dinner is served at the Court of Two Sisters, hidden away under a blanket of blooming wisteria. Sheraton New Orleans – 4 nights (D)

**2.** Take a driving tour focusing on the city beyond downtown including the beautiful Garden District and one of the area's unique above-ground cemeteries. 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.** 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 visit the new Mississippi River Road Museum and see 'gators up close and personal on a Cajun Pride Swamp Tour. Lunch is served in the Dixie Café – how cool is that? **(FB,L)** 

**4.** A plate full of fresh, hot beignets start your morning at world famous Café du Monde. Next visit the National World War II Museum, a four-block complex covering literally every aspect of the War and the Greatest Generation it produced. Take a break from your exploration at lunch time and head to the Stage Door Canteen where your meal is served up with a nostalgic musical review. You'll also visit the museum's unique 4-D theatre for their acclaimed production "Beyond all Boundaries." **(CB,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! A short drive to the airport and your adventure comes to a close. **(FB)** 

\$2670 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2925 single 🔼

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 4 nights at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
- Scenic New Orleans driving and French Quarter carriage tours
- A day in Plantation Country: Houmas House and a swamp cruise
- Visit the National World War II Museum and Stage Door Canteen
- 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
- Roundtrip airfare to/from New Orleans
- 2700/2950 Gold Passport Points





# Hawaii – The Big Island & Oahu

Enjoy both or just the Big Island Big Island Only 7 Days • March 27 – April 1 Big Island and Oahu 10 Days • March 27 – April 4

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 5 nights at the King Kamehameha Hotel, a perfect "walk to lots of things" location on the water, in the heart of Kailua-Kona
- Visit Hawaiian Vanilla learn the fascinating details on how it's grown and enjoy a "very vanilla" luncheon
- Visit a macadamia nut processing plant and learn about Hawaii's "nut"
- Travel cross island to Hilo to learn more about orchids and how they are grown
- Sightseeing tour to Kealakekua Bay where Captain Cook met his fate
- On your cross-island trip, visit Hawaii Volcanoes Nat'l Park – learn about how the islands were born and how they continue to grow
- Evening luau on the grounds of the King Kamehameha Hotel
- On Oahu, trace the path of President Barrack Obama's high school years, perhaps even meet one of his teachers
- Kualoa Ranch Movie Sites Tour on Oahu Jurassic Park, Magnum, P.I., and a long list of others were filmed in the islands
- 15 meals: Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Visit Pearl Harbor (optional) and hear the story of the attack that changed WWII
- Customize your trip with these optional (extra charge) tours/activities: Flightseeing on the Big Island (see the volcano from the sky), the Atlantis Submarine to "meet" the sea life, Deluxe Snorkel and Dolphin Watch (you can stay out of the water if you wish), Big Island Ghost Tour. On Oahu: Evening sunset casual show cruise with dinner; Pearl Harbor Tour; Waikiki Hop-on/ Hop off Tour

Knowing most of those who travel with us have been to Hawaii previously, we offer lots of options on our island packages. On this trip you can enjoy two islands (the Big Island of Hawaii and Oahu) or just an extended stay on the Big Island.

1. Currently it takes two flights to get to the Big Island of Hawaii. We'll depart early morning and arrive mid-afternoon, after a short layover in Oahu. The King Kamehmeha is the only hotel our company has ever used on the island. It's now a Courtyard by Marriott. The hotel is right on the bay, and a short walk (2-3 blocks) into the village where shops and restaurants await. Relax and dine at your leisure at the hotel or in town this evening. **Courtyard King Kamahameha Hotel – 5 nights** 

2. Our first history lesson is this morning at Kealakekua Bay where Captain James Cook first landed in the islands in 1778. Lunch is included at the Hotel Manago, said to house the oldest restaurant in the islands. You'll hear the story, then enjoy a narrated swing through Kailua-Kona, to get acquainted with town. You can get off, shop/dine, and walk back to the hotel, or skip town and travel back to the hotel on the coach. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure with a luau this evening. It's a great package with King Kamehameha landing on shore, abundant food and beverages, and a great show, all on the grounds of your hotel! (FB,L,D)

**3.** A morning cruise takes us whale watching! The afternoon is open for

optional sightseeing, relaxing at the hotel, or hanging out in town. You will have the opportunity to learn more about and choose optional activities at the Pre-Tour Orientation Gathering. This evening discover the "dark" side of Kailua-Kona on a Ghost Tour. Please note this is a walking tour covering a little less than a mile. **(FB)** 

**4.** Today we are going to learn about how vanilla beans are grown. Did you know there are only a few places in the world that cultivate vanilla? One of them is right here in our Hawaiian islands. We'll travel to Hawaiian Vanilla. The company was once owned by a close friend of Mark's, Jim Reddekopp. Jim passed in 2020 and his family runs the farm now. You'll hear how vanilla beans are grown and the amazing story about how they are pollinated and produce that long, precious "bean." Our visit includes lunch with all things vanilla. It's an all day adventure, leaving about 10am and returning around 4pm **(FB,L)** 







**5.** Our last full day in Kona includes a coastal trip to learn about macadamia nuts, how they are grown, harvested and packaged for you to buy. Hamakua Macadamia Nut Company is one of our destinations. We'll enjoy lunch at an authentic Hawaiian eatery and check out Pu'ukohola Heiau National Historic Site. You'll have one last chance for off-thebeaten track souvenir shopping. **(FB,L)** 

6. This morning ride by coach across the island to Hilo, making a stop at Hawaiian Volcanoes National Park. Kilauea is still an active volcano, and here's your chance to learn more about eruptions. Arrive in Hilo mid-afternoon. Let's learn a little about those magnificent flowers found all over the islands. We'll visit a local nursery and learn about the process. Flowers everywhere! Tonight we'll enjoy dinner together before some of our friends fly home. Doubletree Grand Naniloa Hotel Hilo (FB,D)

**7.** A morning flight takes us back to Oahu. For some, their travels are over and they will

continue to Sacramento. The rest of us will catch a ride into Honolulu for three nights. Our home is the Marriott Waikiki, towards the east end of the beach. We'll transfer to our hotel and the evening is at leisure. Plenty of shops and restaurants right outside your door. **Marriott Waikiki – 3 nights (FB)** 

**8.** About 70% of Hawaii's population lives on Oahu. That means lots of traffic, but it also means lots of things to do. Pearl Harbor is often high on many lists, so we will offer that excursion today. We have made it optional because many people have been to Pearl Harbor previously, and might prefer to do something different. Our visit gives you a chance to go into the Visitors Center and explore the site. 80 years later this is still a site that causes people to reflect. Return to your hotel mid-afternoon. If you prefer, book a coach tour of Oahu today and skip Pearl Harbor. **(FB,D)** 

**9.** We'll take off on an excursion this morning around Honolulu. The two-hour



tour will include a look at part of the life of our 44th president, Barrack Obama. His family lived in and he went to school in Honolulu. The tour includes everything from Don Ho stories to the opportunity add a tour of Shangri La, Doris Duke's historic house in the afternoon. Or make an advance reservation and hike Diamond Head. **(FB)** 

**10.** Our two-island group heads for home this afternoon. Flight times are not confirmed as yet, but expect an afternoon departure, with an evening return to Sacramento. **(FB)** 



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

Spring



# **The Colorful Carolina Coast**

Meander the beautiful Southern Atlantic coastline from Norfolk to Jacksonville **10 Days • March 21-30** 



- 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
- Enjoy Georgia's first city, Savannah, and historic Jekyll Island
- 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
- 17 meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 4 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip air to Norfolk/from Jacksonville
- 4900/5600 Gold Passport Points

# **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. **Breakwater Inn (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 for a tour and lunch. 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. You're hotel is on the city's most famous and fashionable street. Meeting Street Inn – 2 nights (L)

**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! **(CB,D)** 

8. Next you're off to the shining city of Savannah. After lunch begin your exploration of the youngest colony's oldest city. Hilton Garden Inn Historic District – 2 nights (CB,L) **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" dinner served with libations on Tybee Island, Savannah's beach. **(FB,D)** 

**10.** Depart for Jekyll Island, hideaway of the rich and famous a century ago. Dine in the historic Millionaire's Village, then head to Jacksonville for your return flight to Sacramento. **(FB,L)** 







## **Springtime in Monterey** Visit Filoli House and Garden during the stunning spring bloom **3 Days • April 2-5**

**1.** Our fleet of sedans and SUVs bring you to the office where you continue as a group aboard our comfortable motorcoach bound for the coast. A lavish brunch is hosted enroute to Filoli House, recognized as one of the finest remaining country estates of the early 20th century. Your visit includes both the 36,000 square foot Georgian manor house and spectacular 16–acre English Renaissance garden. Arrive in Monterey at your quaint inn by late afternoon. **Victorian Inn – 2 nights (BR)** 

2. A short drive takes you to the charming community of Carmel by the Sea. During a 1-hour walking tour stroll through Carmel's lanes, courtyards and passageways, guaranteed to entice and intrigue. You will enter into a fairytale world past storybook cottages, hidden paths and gorgeous gardens while learning Carmel's extraordinary history. Then travel along the scenic 17 Mile Drive through Pebble Beach where lunch is included at the spectacular Inn at Spanish Bay. (B,L)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Filoli House and Garden
- Walking tour of Carmel by the Sea
- Pebble Beach and 17 Mile Drive
- Estuary catamaran cruise at Moss Landing
- 2 nights at the boutique Victorian Inn
- 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 brunch and 3 lunches including The Inn at Spanish Bay
- Door-to-door transportation to/from the *Sports* Leisure office
- 1900/2200 Gold Passport Points

**3.** Moss Landing is today's destination. View playful sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions and hundreds of bird species as you explore the Elkhorn Slough, one of California's most spectacular wetlands, aboard an open-air catamaran. Lunch is hosted at a popular seafood restaurant before visiting the Martinelli's store in Watsonville to sample their premium juices. **(B,L)** 

**4.** Lunch is included on the way back to Sacramento, arriving in the late afternoon. **(B,L)** 

\$1855 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2160 single 📕

Seattle

NΛ

# All Aboard the *Coast Starlight*

An Amtrak journey from Seattle to The City of Angels
4 Days • March 6-9



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Ride the *Coast Starlight* from Seattle to Los Angeles
- Visit Chihuly Garden and Glass and the Space
   Needle
- Guided tour of Union Station
- 9 meals: 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip air to Seattle/from Burbank
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2850/3000 Gold Passport Points

**1.** Start your trip in Seattle with visits to places that make this city famous: The Chihuly Garden and Glass exhibit and the Space Needle where you catch a bird's

eye view from the top of this icon. Lunch is served at a local eatery with a view. Your hotel in nearby Tacoma is also a museum featuring amazing works by Pacific Northwest artists. **Hotel Murano (L)** 

**2.** Board the *Coast Starlight* at King Street Station in Seattle. The scenery along the route is unsurpassed: Snow covered peaks of the Cascade Range and Mount Shasta, lush forests, fertile valleys and Pacific shoreline. "Nothing could be finer" than lunch and dinner served in the dining car. Be sure to catch the scenery in the observation car with its oversized windows and comfortable seats made for viewing. Your sleeping car attendant will provide turndown service before you settle in for the night. Onboard the *Coast Starlight* (B,L,D)

3. Your train continues south today 2 Night 2 with all three on board the meals served Coast Starlight onboard. Sacramento Pay attention as you travel CA through familiar California cities - they look **3** Los Angeles different from a train! In the evening you'll pass along the beautiful Pacific Coast arriving at Union Station in Los Angeles after nightfall. Hilton Checkers Hotel (FB,L,D)

**4.** After a guided tour of Union Station have lunch at Philippe The Original, originator of the French Dip. It's an LA tradition! Then it's off to the airport for an afternoon return to Sacramento. **(FB,L)** 

\$2810 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3000 single

Spring 11



# San Antonio: Deep in the Heart

An "unpack-once" tour featuring the best little city in Texas
5 Days • April 16-20



1. A Deep in the heart of the Lone Star State is a city that is part American, part Mexican and definitely all Texan, San Antonio. Your historic hotel is located beside the famed Riverwalk and features a complimentary Kickback each evening including adult beverages and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Drury Plaza Hotel – 4 nights

2. Joined by a local guide, take a driving tour of San Antonio and along the *El Camino Real* to San Jose, one of the historic Franciscan missions that first brought the Spanish into the area. Later in the day, visit the most famous of these missions, San Antonio de Valero, or what we know today as The Alamo. Next door, you'll see the IMAX film production that puts the famous battle into perspective. If you've wrestled



up an appetite, tonight's steak dinner is sure to please. You know what they say: Everything's bigger in Texas! **(FB,D)** 

**3.** The Drury Plaza is conveniently located right on the city's unique Riverwalk which you'll explore aboard a river taxi cruise on which a Mexican lunch fiesta will be served. Then you're off to the home of San Antonio's beloved shoes, SAS, where you'll visit the old-timey General Store (anyone for a 10-cent Coke and 5-cent bag of popcorn?) and tour the factory. Back in town, the Institute of Texan Cultures, a combination gallery and living history museum, tells the story of this great state's past, present and future. **(FB,L)** 

**4.** With luck, the blue bonnets will be in bloom as you head into the Texas Hill Country. There you'll visit the LBJ Ranch and tour the Texas White House. You'll also have an opportunity to explore the National Museum of the Pacific War, a world-class museum located in tiny Fredericksburg, the hometown of Five Star Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz. **(FB,L)** 

**5.** Time to say adios, but not before getting a bird's eye view of the city over lunch served high atop the Tower of the Americas and strapping in for the 4D film, "Skies Over Texas." **(FB,L)** 

\$2450 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2825 single 🔼

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- 4 nights in the historic Drury Plaza Hotel located along the Riverwalk
- City tour features The Alamo and Mission San Jose
- Institute of Texan Cultures, IMAX Theater, Tower of the Americas
- Daytrip into the Texas Hill Country
- National Museum of the Pacific War and LBJ Ranch
- 8 meals: Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip air to/from San Antonio
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2450/2850 Gold Passport Points



12 Spring



GOOD SPRINGS

# **Ghost Towns & Aliens in Old Nevada**

Featuring Goodsprings, Rhyolite, Gold Point, Goldfield, Tonopah, Manhattan, Belmont and the Extraterrestrial Highway **5 Days • May 1-5** 

Ghosts. Some believe in ghostly spirits and some do not. Still others might be somewhere in the middle. On this adventure you'll have the chance to decide for yourself! Explore not only the old buildings and legends they left behind, but make an attempt to talk to the "previous residents" themselves on an authentic Ghost Hunt!

1. Your flight arrives in Las Vegas early afternoon. Check into your hotel, then join us for a great pizza/pasta dinner at Grimaldi's. Later, visit the Neon Museum, where old Vegas signs live on. Then we are joined by our guide who will narrate the history of "The Strip" and point out some of Vegas' most haunted spots. **Gold Nugget Hotel – 2 Nights (D)** 

**2.** The morning brings a colorful look at Vegas history with a visit to The Mob

Museum. Take the afternoon off 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 and 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 them 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 no 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 2 Las Vegas the Jack Dempsey Room and listen to stories about the ghosts who roam the Mizpah Hotel – 2 nights.



## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Golden Nugget Downtown Las Vegas; 2 nights at the Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah
- Begin with the Goodsprings Ghost Hunt hear the heartbreaking story of Carol Lombard and Clark Gable, learn how to use an EMF (Electronic Magnetic Field) meter to detect the "presence" of ghosts
- 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
- Travel the Extraterrestrial Highway home of the secret Area 51, where countless UFO sightings have been recorded
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Las Vegas
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2200/2400 Gold Passport Points

**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 guides lives in town and is helping to restore the old courthouse. A fascinating look at a ghost town on a comeback. There's also a side trip to Manhattan. Back in Tonopah explore the "famous" Clown Motel. **(FB,L)** 

**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)** 

\$2190 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2395 single 🔼

Spring

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# **New Mexico: Land of Enchantment**

Featuring Spaceport America and Carlsbad Caverns 6 Days • April 19-24

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands National Monument
- Spaceport America
- Sandia Tramway and Old Town Albuquerque
- 11 Meals: 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to Albuquerque/from El Paso
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3250/3600 Gold Passport Points

1. Lunch is served following your flight to Albuquerque. Your hotel is well-located only steps away from the festive shops and eateries of Old Town. Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town – 2 nights (L)

2. Enjoy the breathtaking views from the famous Sandia Peak Tramway in the morning. The longest aerial tram in America, you'll reach a dizzying height of 10,378 feet above sea level. After lunch "get your kicks" on a guided city tour spotlighting sites of interest around town, including many located along storied Route 66. **(B,L)** 

**3.** Spaceport America offers visitors an insider's view of the world's first purposebuilt commercial spaceport. Gaze upon the iconic design of the Terminal Hangar Facility, see launch sites and gain an understanding of the inner workings of a complex specifically designed and built for space travel, commerce and exploration. Continue on to Las Cruces arriving in the late afternoon. **Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces (B,L)** 

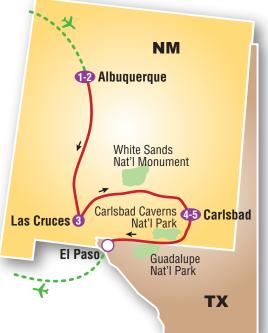
4. White Sands National Monument is one of the world's most awe-inspiring spectacles. Explore the breathtaking wavelike dunes of snow-white gypsum that stretch for 275 square miles. Beautiful, but harsh, you'll learn how animals have adapted to live in this hot desert climate. Lunch is hosted at a historic lodge set high in a Ponderosa Pine forest (think Lake Tahoe) before arriving in the town of Carlsbad. Hampton Inn – 2 nights (B,L)

**5.** Carlsbad Caverns is often called the 8th Wonder of the World. Descend (thankfully by elevator) 830 feet below ground and view the gigantic subterranean chambers and fantastic cave formations. Gather over dinner to recount your favorite memories of New Mexico: Land of Enchantment. **(B,D)** 

6. Travel to El Paso, Texas, for lunch hosted at a famous Mexican restaurant and your return flight to Sacramento. (B,L)

\$3205 p.p./occ., \$3585 single 🛄









## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 3 nights at the Running Y Ranch, near Klamath Lake/Klamath Falls
- Crater Lake National Park Take a guided tour around the lake and enjoy lunch at the Rim Village Café
- Ranger program at Lava Beds National Monument; guided talk at Tule Lake National Monument
- 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- 1800/2100 Gold Passport Points

The Cascade Mountain Range is full of volcanic activity, some fairly recent (Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Lassen). On this adventure visit Crater Lake National Park and Lava Beds National Monument, learning the natural history lessons they represent. Accommodations are a highlight, as you stay three nights in a beautiful low-key, high country resort, the Running Y Ranch. Japanese Internment Camps are an important reminder of World War II in our country. We must remember Japanese Americans suffered disproportionately during the war. You'll learn their story at Tule Lake National Monument.

 Our door-to-door service brings you to the *Sports Leisure* office for a 9am motorcoach departure. Travel I-5 north stopping for lunch in Redding. Arrive at the Running Y (just north of Klamath Falls, OR) about 4pm There is a restaurant on property for dining at your leisure. Running Y Ranch – 3 nights (L)

2. Crater Lake National Park is known for its namesake, the lake formed when the ancient volcano Mount Mazama collapsed. The rim drive takes us on a guided sightseeing adventure to hear and see the story of the mountain. Relax back at the resort this afternoon, or make a trip into Klamath Falls to browse the shops and/or visit the Klamath County Museum. (FB,L) **3.** Lava Beds National Monument is located just inside California, near the Oregon border. It lies on the northeastern corner of Medicine Lake Volcano. Our visit includes a stop at the Visitors Center and the opportunity to walk to one of the lava caves (optional). After lunch in Tulelake, your next stop is at the site of the Japanese Internment Camp.

The Tule Lake National Monument in California's Modoc and Siskiyou counties consists primarily of the site of the Tule Lake War Relocation Center, one of ten concentration camps constructed in 1942 by the United States government to incarcerate Japanese Americans forcibly removed from their homes on the West Coast. It's a difficult story to hear, but an important story. Dinner is served in Klamath Falls this evening at a local favorite. **(FB,L,D)** 

4. Our adventure comes to an end as we retrace our route back to Sacramento via I-5. There is a break for lunch. Arrive at *Sports Leisure* approximately 5:30pm (FB,L)

\$1780 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2095 single 🌌



# Catalina Island Dreaming 4 Days • May 14-17



**1.** Arrive in Southern California and start with a waterside champagne brunch complete with a view of the Queen Mary and Long Beach Harbor. Then we board the high speed ferry "26 miles across the sea." Relax and enjoy the nightly wine and cheese reception. **Pavillion Lodge – 3 nights (BR)** 

**2.** A scenic tour of the island gets you acclimated so you're set to explore the shops in town or simply kick your feet up and watch the waves. In the afternoon explore thew harbor and a glass-bottom boat tour. Stroll back to your hotel while enjoying the cool ocean breeze. **(B)** 

**3.** After breakfast we journey under-thesea and check out the critters that lie just beneath the water's surface on a unique semi-submersible vessel. Later a walk to the iconic Avalon Casino... but quarters aren't necessary. This one contains a grand ballroom and theater. You'll hear all about the past revelry on a guided tour. After a

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 3 nights at Pavilion Lodge right on the harbor
- High-speed ferry to Avalon
- Private guided tour of the Avalon Casino
- Glass-bottom boat, Island and Under-the-Sea tours
- Nightly wine and cheese reception at hotel
- 6 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Southern California
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2050/2400 Gold Passport Points

little wine and cheese enjoy dinner at the Avalon Grille **(B,D)** 

**4.** Following a leisurely morning it's all aboard the ferry to return to the mainland. Arrive into Long Beach and make your way next door to San Pedro. An upscale lunch at a marina-side restaurant is waiting for you. **(B,L)** 

\$2040 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2360 single A

# From the Red Rocks to the Rockies

The best of Moab and the new Rocky Mountaineer Train 6 Days • May 5-10

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 nights at the spectacular Red Cliffs Lodge
- Explore majestic Arches National Park
- Visit Dead Horse State Park (the most amazing view in the Southwest!)
- Thrilling jet boat ride on the Colorado River
- Flightseeing over Canyonlands National Park
- Ride the Rocky Mountaineer from Moab to Denver
- 12 meals: 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip to Moab/from Denver
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 5750/6300 Gold Passport Points

**1.** Fly to Moab and board your motorcoach for a scenic drive along the Colorado River to your amazing accommodations. Red Cliffs Lodge – 3 nights (D)

2. Tour Arches National Park with a local guide stopping for a walk at several famous arches and viewpoints. After lunch board a jet boat for a one-hour cruise down the

Colorado River. View arches and rock climbers scaling the sheer cliff at what they call Wall Street. (FB,L)

3. Soar above Canyonlands National Park on a one-hour flight over the Colorado River. Pass over the Island in the Sky and The Maze districts. Near The Needles, fly over the confluence of the Green and Colorado Rivers, absorbing breathtaking beauty. Watch the red rocks change color over the Colorado River during a sunset dinner. (FB,D)

4. Travel by coach to one of the best vistas in the west at Dead Horse Point State Park where you will be 1,500 feet above the Colorado River. After lunch board the new Rocky Mountaineer train for your two-day journey to Denver. The train travels only during the day so you will not miss any of the





extraordinary scenery. You will be traveling in style with upgraded SilverLeaf Plus service including access to the newly renovated lounge car. Enjoy an elevated dining experience with premium alcoholic beverages served at your seat before arriving at the resort town of Glenwood Springs. Hotel TBA (FB,L,D)

5. Take in the spectacular views of the rugged canyons and the Rocky Mountains on your second day of rail travel. You'll cross the Continental Divide and arrive in Denver at approximately 6pm. Hilton Garden Inn Denver Union Station (FB,L)

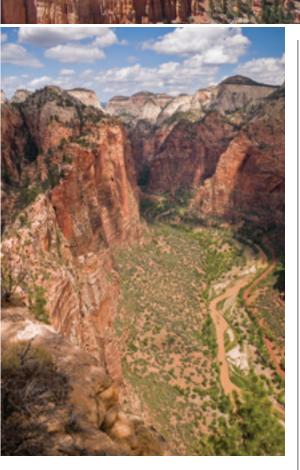
6. Take a guided city tour of Denver with a hosted lunch before your return flight to Sacramento. (FB,L)

\$5715 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6260 single



# **Utah, Life Elevated!**

Featuring Zion National Park and Lake Powell 7 Days • May 21-27



1. Fly to Las Vegas, where lunch is hosted, before traveling to the town of Springdale, Utah where you will spend the first two nights. Your hotel is well situated in the middle of town with incredible red rock views. Marriott Springhill Suites – 2 nights (L)

2. Travel into Zion Canyon on a private tram tour viewing the park's towering red rock monoliths as you make your way along the Virgin River that created this beautiful canyon. The afternoon is free for you to take a walk in the park, visit the shops in the town of Springdale, or relax back at the hotel in the outdoor pool or hot tub, both offering stunning views of the red rocks. (FB)

**3.** Arrive at Lake Powell, a spectacular scenic destination formed when the Glen Canyon Dam was built to hold back the

mighty Colorado River. Take a guided tour of the Dam before checking into your lakeside resort offering up dramatic views from every angle. Lake Powell Resort – 2 nights (FB,L)

**4.** Today's adventure is a rafting float trip (smooth water) on the Colorado River. Start your journey at the bottom of the Glen Canyon Dam. See dinosaur tracks, stop at Petroglyph Beach, float through the famous Horseshoe Bend, all while hearing stories of the ancestral Pebloans that lived here. The trip ends at Lee's Ferry and coach ride back to the resort. **(FB,L)** 

**5.** This morning travel by boat on a 2 ½-hour tour that encompasses both Navajo and Antelope Canyons. The tour includes an excursion through twisting Antelope Canyon and along the beautiful Navajo Tapestry-laden walls that rise dramatically from the water in Navajo Canyon. Travel to St. George where lunch is included surrounded by spectacular scenery: volcanic rocks, lush green vegetation and towering mountains. **The Advenire – 2 nights (FB,L)** 

**6.** Travel back in time for a unique experience at the Dinosaur Discovery Site, home to exceptionally well-preserved dinosaur tracks.

Tonight, a special treat as we see an outdoor performance tucked in a red rock canyon at Tuacahn Amphitheater. Past performances have included popular Broadway shows and first-rate performers. (FB,L)



## HIGHLIGHTS

Tram tour at Zion National Park

- Float trip on the Colorado River through Horseshoe Bend
- Canyon boat cruise on Lake Powell
- Performance at Tuacahn Amphitheater
- 11 meals: 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Las Vegas
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3900/4500 Gold Passport Points

7. Return to Las Vegas for your afternoon flight home. (FB)

\$3855 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4495 single 🔟 🔺

Spring



# Route 66, The Main Street of America – Part I

The repeat of a classic Sports Leisure adventure, a trip down "The Mother Road" Chicago to Oklahoma City – 10 Days • April 20-29



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

**1. Fly to Chicago:** Depart from Sacramento at 7am this morning, arriving in Chicago in early afternoon. Your first "roadie" experience is a stop for a meal at Del Rhea's Chicken Basket (1946). Overnight and get a picture of the beginning of the Mother Road downtown at the **Palmer House Hotel**, a Chicago landmark. **(L)** 

**2. Chicago to Springfield:** Our adventure begins in earnest with breakfast at a Chicago landmark: Lou Mitchell's funky breakfast counter, celebrating their 100th year! Outside of Chicago we get off the

interstate and follow the old road, joined by Route 66 author John Weiss.

Wind through Joliet (your first old highway museum) to the small community of Odell (where we photograph a beautifully restored old service station), on to Dwight for lunch. View the memorabilia in the Route 66 Museum and the "walldogs" murals in Pontiac. John has made restoring Route 66 sites his life's work. Today he will show us an old jail, a giant robot and other unique attractions. Lincoln Hotel by **Doubletree, Springfield – 2 nights (FB,L)** 

**3. Springfield/Lincoln:** Visit the criticallyacclaimed Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum, before a lunch break at the famous Cozy Dog, where it is said the corn dog was invented. An afternoon journey on Route 66 takes us to Lincoln, the only city named for the future president before he held office. Learn the story. Stop in Broadwell to salute a 66 legend, the late Ernie Edwards of the Pig Hip Restaurant. There was the night Ernie met Harlan Sanders... you would know him as Colonel Sanders. **(FB,L,D)** 

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- Classic/Roadie Accommodations The Palmer House in Chicago; the Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, IL (2 nights), St. Louis (2 nights), Rail Haven, Springfield (MO), Miami (pronounced my-AM-ah), OK; the historic Mayo Hotel in Tulsa, Oklahoma City
- Meet the people of Route 66 special guides, speakers and guests; lots of quirky attractions
- 23 meals, many of them in classic restaurants
   everything from roadside diners to fancy sit-downs in historic eateries
- Roundtrip airfare to Chicago/from OK City
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 4400/5050 Gold Passport Points

4. Springfield to St. Louis: Our rural travels roll on through southern Illinois. We stop to spruce up Our Lady of the Highways statue, another Route 66 landmark. Stop in at the Rabbit Ranch and get a postcard autographed by... a rabbit of course. Hear the story of Mother Jones, and get a picture of the Cannonball Jail and Million Dollar Courthouse in Carlinville. An afternoon stop in St. Louis gives you a chance to discover the Gateway Arch and get views of the old highway from above. Tonight it's dinner on "The Hill," the neighborhood where Yogi Berra grew up! Drury Hotel Maplewood – 2 nights (FB,L,D)

**5. St. Louis:** Take a break today in St. Louis. Across the Mississippi River at Cahokia Mounds learn about a civilization in the Missouri River Valley from long ago, then walk over the Mississippi on the Chain of Rocks Bridge, once the

Chicago

**Joliet** 

route





of old 66, back into Missouri. This afternoon, enjoy a special Route 66 treat, Ted Drewes Frozen Custard. **(B,L)** 

## 6. St. Louis to Springfield, MO: The

Meramec Caverns were opened to tourists in the 1930's, just about the time Route 66 made traveling to them easier. In the late 1860's Jesse James used them as a natural hideout. The smooth path allows nearly all to explore. Learn more about the local bank robber at the Jesse James Museum.

What follows is a marvelous stretch of *The Mother Road*, through Cuba (what beautiful murals) to Devil's Elbow into Ozark Country. Lunch is at one of our favorite roadside retreats, the Missouri Hick BBQ in Cuba. There's also a stop at "Uranus," a unique roadside stop that isn't popular with everyone in town. Finish the day in

Springfield, MO, where Route 66 was "born." We'll celebrate *The Main Street of America* tonight by staying in one of the original accommodations (updated, of course) and dining at Steak 'n Shake! **Best Western Rail Haven (B,L,D)** 

7. Springfield to Miami: On the way to Carthage is a most interesting spot, Red Oak. This collection of buildings is practically a town... isn't it? Who did this and why? The nearby town square in Carthage is a true jewel, sporting a majestic courthouse, an interesting Civil War Museum (one of the first battles was right in this area) and a wonderful old-time soda fountain that affords us time for lunch. After passing through Joplin, tiny Riverton is along the 13-mile stretch of Route 66 which cuts through the corner of Kansas, the shortest stretch of the highway in any single state. Scott Nelson's small store is a perfect place to stop to find that special Mother Road souvenir.

In Galena, meet "Tow-Tator," who bears an incredible likeness to a tow truck in the Disney movie Cars named "Tow-Mater." In fact this is the old truck that inspired the character! Tonight dine in the historic Coleman Theater, a 1929 landmark the town has successfully saved. **Hampton Inn (B,L,D)** 

**8. Miami to Tulsa:** Your first stop today is in Commerce, the hometown of Mickey

Mantle. We'll make a special presentation to the high school baseball team. There's a park with giant cement Totem Poles, and then you'll arrive in Claremore to visit the Will Rogers Memorial, a tribute to America's famous humorist. Lunch is special, with treats not afforded just any traveler as you'll see. There's even a picture stop at the legendary Blue Whale on the way to Tulsa. Stay the night at historic **Mayo Hotel**, built in 1925. **(B,L)** 

**9. Tulsa to Oklahoma City:** This was the home of Black Wall Street. Something terrible happened here in 1921, just before *The Mother Road* was born. A guided tour this morning will bring history to life. Leaving Tulsa, we come to Stroud and stop for lunch at the Rock Café. There's a great story here! Just up the road in Arcadia is the Round Barn. Built in 1898, the barn is being restored to its original grandeur. At "Pops" you can choose your own afternoon refreshment! Embassy Suites **(FB,L,D)** 

**10. Oklahoma City and Home:** Plan to depart for home on a flight about 3pm today. One more wonderful stretch of Route 66 first, however. Our expert Oklahoma guide takes us to The Stockyards, then tells the story of the Dust Bowl and how it changed the lives of those in its path and sent tens of thousands to the "promised land" in California. **(FB)** 

\$4390 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5050 single

# Route 66 – Part II

From Oklahoma City to Santa Monica Pier 8 Days • October 2023

The second half of your journey down *The Mother Road* is very different from the eastern side. The spaces are more wide open in the west. There vast are national parks to explore. Small towns are further apart and have a different personality.

You'll want your picture "Standin' on a Corner in Winslow, Arizona," (just like the lyric in the old Eagles song) and we'll head out to **Petrified Forest National Park**, one of the most fascinating places in the country. Of course, the highlight of your Winslow stay, and perhaps your entire journey, is two nights at **La Posada**, a restored Harvey House Hotel from the highway's glory days. The food in the dining room gets rave reviews.

See the old Cadillacs "rear ends up" in Texas and eat at the famous **Big Texan** in Amarillo. Meet legendary **Angel Delgadillo**, the retired barber in Seligman, Arizona, who is the man most responsible for the preservation of the old highway. He's 95 now and still going strong.

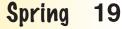
Finish at **Santa Monica Pier**, but not before a plethora of SoCal "attractions" make their way into your *Mother Road* memories. You'll have a chance to sleep in a Tee-Pee if you so desire and see where General Patton prepared his troops for WWII. Taco Bell and McDonald's both got their start on or near Route 66, and the story is told in San Bernardino.

Whether you choose only this half of the journey or combine it with the eastern side, you will discover the heartbeat of our country. It's a true slice of America you will never, ever forget.

Send an e-mail to **res@sportsleisure.com** or call the office to put your name on the **Priority Notification List.** 

(A detailed, priced itinerary will be available later this year)

Day 1	Fly to Oklahoma City, OK, light sightseeing in the PM
Day 2	Oklahoma City to Amarillo, TX – 259 miles
Day 3	Amarillo to Albuquerque, NM – 288 miles
Day 4	Albuquerque to Winslow, AZ (2 nights) – 266 miles
Day 5	Petrified Forest National Park from Winslow and return – 112 miles
Day 6	Winslow to Laughlin, NV – 238 miles
Day 7	Laughlin to San Bernardino, CA – 237 miles
Day 8	San Bernardino to Santa Monica, CA and fly home – 75 miles





## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Times Square, in the heart of the city
- 2 included nights of theater (One we select A Beautiful Noise, The Neil Diamond Musical, one of your choice – an exclusive SLV feature); a night at Carnegie Hall with the New York Symphony Pops Orchestra (if you do not want the Neil Diamond show, other options are available until October 1)
- 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.
- A Day in Downtown Manhattan stroll Wall Street & the Financial District, 9/11 Memorial/ Museum/Observation Deck (all 3 experiences included)
- Free day to visit Ellis and Liberty Islands; optional visit to Grand Central Station
- Roundtrip airfare to/from NYC
- 6 meals: 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 4500/5050 Gold Passport Points

 Welcome to The Big Apple! Get ready for a plentiful family-style dinner at Carmine's, an NYC institution. The lights of Times Square are mesmerizing and right outside your hotel. It's the premiere address at the center of it all, and you call it home! Marriott Marquis Times Square – 5 nights (D)

**2.** Do it the New York way, by subway and on foot. Take the subway to the Financial District. On Wall Street, pause at Federal Hall and say hi to Alexander Hamilton at Trinity Church. After lunch ascend One World Observatory with 360 degree views. Below, reflect at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum. Back at your hotel, kick your feet up for a bit then take your pick from the many restaurants in the area offering worldwide cuisine. **(L)** 

**3.** You decide how to spend your day! Join your Tour Director and sail to Ellis & Liberty Islands, visit Grand Central Station, do some shopping, take in a world-class museum or go sightseeing. We'll point you in the right direction. Come together for an early steakhouse dinner and share your adventures. Carnegie Hall will be abuzz for the New York Pops 38th Birthday Gala, and you have box seats! Past and present stars of Broadway relax and let it all hang out! It's truly a one-of-a kind New York evening. **(D)** 

**4.** Pull back the curtain of Broadway. At a rehearsal studio, ask actors, musicians and technicians about their training, path to the stage or insider gossip! Meet Peter Filichia, 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! Lunch is at an authentic New York Deli; try the pastrami! A Beautiful Noise, The Neil Diamond Musical, is a rousing finale to your New York Broadway experience. **(L)** 

**5.** In Central Park pay homage to John Lennon. At Strawberry Fields, a mosaic spells out "Imagine", timely still today. At a real working firehouse and precinct, Bronx FDNY and NYPD share the rigors of the job and their efforts to strengthen community relations and safety. True heroes! 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! Tonight, enjoy the Broadway show of your choosing. Your Tour Director will be available to direct/ escort you. **(L)** 

6. Start the day with dessert first! At Hershey Chocolate World tap into your inner child and create your own customized S'mores! Why you ask? It's New York and anything is possible here, so... why not? Lunch is at Broadway hotspot, Sardi's, with caricatures of celebrity patrons lining the walls. How many do you recognize? Having experienced all the best of the city, catch a nonstop flight home from Newark. (L)

\$4490 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5020 single





# **A Washington Week**

Our Capital City experience is expanded so you don't miss a thing. 7 Days • May 25-31

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 6 nights at the Hilton Hotel Arlington
- Tour Washington, DC by day and night
- Visit Arlington National Cemetery, the US Capitol, Ford's Theatre and Kennedy Center
- Explore the Smithsonian Institution and National Museums on the Mall
- See National Monuments including Lincoln, Jefferson, FDR, MLK, WWII, Vietnam, Korea and more
- Visit Mt. Vernon and the new National Museum of the US Army
- 10 meals: Daily breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Washington
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3400/3750 Gold Passport Points

**1.** Take a morning flight bound for Reagan National Airport. From this in-town location it's only a short drive to your hotel – a welcomed relief after a long day of travel! **Hilton Hotel Arlington – 6 nights** 

2. Embark on a comprehensive city tour with a local guide who will spin tales of Washington's dynamic past and present while orienting you to the Mall (important for when you have free time for Smithsonian and National Museums). You'll see countless National Monuments, impressive governmental buildings, and the expansive parks and public spaces that make Washington, DC the striking city it is. **(FB,L)** 

**3.** Begin your exploration of the Smithsonian Institution and National Museums with a full

day on the Mall. Your coach will operate "shuttle style" to facilitate easy movement and breaks. **(FB)** 

**4.** Visit the estate of George and Martha Washington, Mount Vernon, beautifully situated on a high bluff overlooking the Potomac. The gardens and museum are equally impressive. Nearby the National Museum of the United States Army opened in late 2020 in Ft. Belvoir, Virginia. This is the first comprehensive and truly national museum to capture, display and interpret over 245 years of Army history, brining to life the story of the US soldier in times of war and peace. **(FB,L)** 

**5.** Start Memorial Day with a visit to Ford's Theatre and the Petersen House to relive President Lincoln's final days. An adjoining interpretative center offers insight into this turbulent time in American history. Then take your place along Constitution Avenue for the National Memorial Day Parade **(FB,D)** 

6. A morning visit to Arlington National Cemetery includes a narrated tram tour with stops at the Tomb of the Unknowns for the Changing of the Guard ceremony and the home of General & Mrs. Robert E. Lee. No, that's not a mausoleum on the hill! Use the afternoon to continue your exploration of the Smithsonian Institution and National Museums on the Mall. Dinner at Filomena Ristorante in Georgetown is a *Sports Leisure* favorite and sure to please. Tonight "D.C. After Dark" features selected beautifully illuminated monuments and a visit to the Kennedy Center. **(FB,D)** 

**7.** A guided tour of the United States Capitol brings your vacation to a monumental end. **(FB)** 

## \$3365 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3740 single 트

\*Those making reservations more than six months prior to departure may elect to be submitted for a thorough security screening to visit The White House. This will require your full name, citizenship, birthday, city of residence and Social Security number which will be collected in November. Please be advised those making reservations after this date are less likely to receive clearance. Questions? Please call tour planner/escort Clayton Whitehead.



Spring

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# **Baseball's Fields of Dreams**

Featuring the Negro League Museum in KC, the Field of Dream in Iowa, the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown and more... 8 Days • May (TBA)



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Negro Leagues Museum in Kansas City
- The Field of Dreams Movie Site near Dyersville, Iowa
- Historic Galena, Illinois
- Cooperstown, home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame; stay at the elegant Otesaga Hotel – special Curator's Program at the Hall
- Yogi Berra Museum at Montclair State
   University in New Jersey
- Tour sites of Ebbets Field, the Polo Grounds, Yankee Stadium – visit the final resting place of Babe Ruth
- 12 meals: 3 expanded continental breakfasts, 3 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare (Sacramento Kansas City, Chicago – Albany, New York/Newark – Sacramento)
- Door-to-door airport service
- Gold Passport Points TBA

Join Mark & Tyler for the baseball trip of a lifetime. It makes stops in Kansas City, Dyersville (lowa) and Cooperstown (NY). You'll explore the Negro Leagues Museum in Kansas City, home of the legendary KC Monarchs, the "Yankees" of the Negro Leagues in the 1900's. Walk among the early-season corn stalks at the Field of Dreams outside of Dyersville and explore 150 years of baseball history at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. Along the way, we'll see a couple ballgames (pending the release of the 2023 schedule) and visit famous landmarks like the sites of the Polo Grounds and Ebbets Field in NYC and Brooklyn. Pay your respects at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in New Jersey, final resting place of George Herman "Babe" Ruth, Yogi Berra, Billy Martin, James Cagney and other legends.

**1.** A mid-morning flight connects us to our Kansas City bound aircraft and we arrive

in the late afternoon. Dinner is included tonight to kick off our travels. **BW Premier KC Sports Complex – 2 nights (D)** 

2. For many years baseball had a "double life." White players could play in the major leagues, but players of color were relegated to a "lesser" league. They couldn't stay in the same hotels, eat in the same restaurants, and in many cases were openly hated by the "real major leaguers." The quality of the competition was high, but acceptance by white society was not. Then came Jackie Robinson, and baseball, along with American society, would never be the same. The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum tells the story of the pre-Robinson days. If you are a baseball fan, it's a story you should hear. We'll visit the museum today, and attend a KC Royals game in the evening! This is a town known for its meat, so we'll sample some great barbeque at popular Arthur Bryant's near the museum. The National WWI Museum is an optional (admission included) afternoon stop. (B,L)

**3.** It's about 5 hours from Kansas City to Dyersville, Iowa, home of The Field of Dreams, either by air through Denver, Chicago or Minneapolis, or by coach. We've decided to stay on the ground and see the countryside, even traveling on a small classic piece of the original Lincoln Highway in Iowa, perhaps enjoying a meal in an old-fashioned diner. **Best Western Inn & Suites – Historic Galena, IL (B,L)** 

**4.** The Field of Dreams movie site is outside of Dyersville. It still looks pretty much like it did when the cameras were rolling. Visit and hear the story this morning. Back in Galena, grab lunch on your own and perhaps spend a little time in the shops before continuing on to Rosemont, outside Chicago, our home for the night. A tour or a game at historic Wrigley field is on our agenda for this afternoon/evening. **Hilton Garden Inn (B,D)** 

5. A late morning flight takes us non-stop to Albany or Syracuse, and from there it's only 90 minutes to the village of Cooperstown. Legend has it baseball was first played here. History says it's only a legend, but this picturesque spot certainly has the FEEL of being the home of baseball. We'll check into a special accommodation, the Hotel Otesaga, home of the Hall of Famers each year. Overlooking the lake by the same name, it's a ten minute walk from the village of Cooperstown. Your accommodations package includes breakfast and dinner in the elegant dining room. Hotel Otesaga – 2 nights (FB,D)

**6.** For a baseball fan, the ultimate dream is to walk the corridors of The National Baseball Hall of Fame to re-live personal and/or historical moments of our national pastime. When *Sports Leisure Vacations* visits, the museum curator brings out items not on display to the public and shares the story behind each piece, often related to the Giants and/or A's. Following the presentation you'll have time to explore



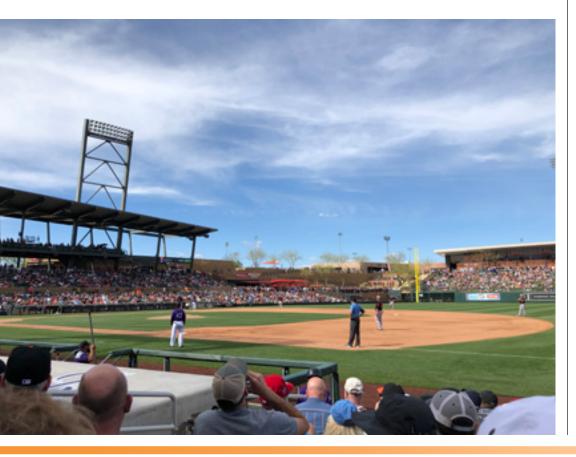
# **Spring Training**

# The Cactus League in Arizona with the Giants and A's, great dining, baseball speakers **5 Days • March 9-13**

For years you've thought about making the pilgrimage to Spring Training, the Cactus League. Your story is not new. Many of us put off the trip for years and years. But once you actually go to Spring Training, like many of us, you'll likely be hooked.

For a baseball fan, the spring games are special. Every team is undefeated. You

watch as the Giants, A's and other teams start to put together the players which will begin the season only a few weeks later. You'll perhaps wonder why it took you so long to get here. You'll partake in the Sunday Brunch at the Wrigley Mansion, enjoy the view and the grub at Rustler's Roost, and learn a little at our Baseball Roundtable.



Our baseball banquet features a guest speaker with stories to bring a smile to any fan. The parks are small, our seats generally in the shade (amazing how important that little detail is) and the atmosphere is casual and friendly. Our group will number 15-25. Spring games (particularly the shaded seats we covet) often sell out quickly.

Generally games are during the day, but increasingly teams are scheduling games under the lights. We won't know how many day/night games are on our itinerary until the schedule is finalized. Games between the Giants/A's are our first priority, Giants games are next, A's games when the Giants are off. (The number of Giants fans outnumber A's fans about 4 to 1 in our fan base at SLV.)

We have a convenient location between all eight parks, just north of the airport. No park is more than an hour from our headquarters. Enjoy a great breakfast every morning (except Sunday, when we go to brunch at the Wrigley Mansion) at the beautifully refurbished Marriott Hotel.

The package includes 6 meals, roundtrip air to/from Phoenix, 5 nights at the Marriott, game tickets in premium (and generally shaded) locations, the services of a Sports Leisure Tour Director and 2750/3100 Gold Passport Points for qualified travelers.

\$2740 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3095 single

# Field of Dreams – continued



the collection on your own. Also in town: Lots of baseball gift shops, the Fenimore Art Museum and The Farmer's Museum. If you would like to visit one or both during the day we would be happy to provide transportation. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Back at your hotel, the porch offers a number of large rocking chairs with a lake view, perfect for a relaxing afternoon. **(FB,D)** 

7. An extended morning drive brings us to The Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne, New York. It's the final resting place of baseball greats like Babe Ruth and Billy Martin, actor Jimmy Cagney and other celebrities. We'll pause and pay our respects. We'll bring the trip to an exciting conclusion with an overnight stay in Times Square! If you like, we'll help you add a Broadway show to your itinerary, as most of the theaters are within walking distance of the hotel. Marriott Marquis Times Square (FB)

**8.** A look at ballparks and ballpark sites is on the menu this morning. Starting with

Ebbets Field, where the Brooklyn Dodgers played from 1913-1957. Next is where the Polo Grounds once stood. Actually, there were four Polo Grounds, the first one actually built for polo. It was the home of the Giants until they left for San Francisco. Just across the Harlem River is Yankee Stadium. How about a tour with lunch nearby? We'll stop before the airport at Montclair State University, home to the Yogi Berra Museum. We once met the late Hall of Famer here. The museum is a monument to Yogi, his life and the Yankees. Our travels conclude at the Newark Airport, in time for our 7pm nonstop back to Sacramento.





# **Escape to Scandinavia**

See the very best of Norway aboard a 15-day Holland America Line cruise **17 Days • June 15 – July 1** 

DATE	PORT
June 18	At sea
June 19	Eidfjord; Cruising in Hardangerfjord
June 20	Alesund
June 21	Geiranger; Cruising in Geirangerfjord
June 22	Bergen
June 23	At sea
June 24	Amsterdam
June 25	At sea
June 26	Oslo; Cruising in Oslofjord
June 27	Kristiansand
June 28	Stavanger
June 29	Flam; Cruising in Sognefjord
June 30	At sea
July 1	Amsterdam for Disembarkation

Over the past number of years few destinations have garnered more interest and requests than Scandinavia, and specifically the spectacular fjords of Norway. Our cruise expert **Michael Downer** has researched for the very best season, ship and itinerary to make this travel dream come true. We believe he's scored a perfect 10 with this summer cruise aboard the **Holland America Line**.

Depart for Europe on an overnight flight, arriving in Amsterdam on June 16. There you'll have lunch and a guided tour to acquaint you with beauty and history of this city known for its canals, bridges and friendly people. **Hotel Carlton Square – Haarlem** 

The Rijksmuseum is heralded as one of the finest in the world, offering a treasury of national history and the stunning artworks by the Dutch masters. Enjoy a morning visit before boarding Holland America Line's newest ship, *ms Rotterdam*, departing from the Port of Amsterdam on June 17.

In the words of Goldilocks, she's not too big and not too small. She's just right. A midsized ship (just under 2700 passengers), the *ms Rotterdam* offers graceful nautical

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 15-day Norway cruise aboard the ms Rotterdam
- Overnight in Amsterdam with touring, the Rijksmuseum, lunch and breakfast
- See the famous fjords of Norway, the capital of Oslo and spectacular scenery at every turn
- Every meal included on the cruise
- Prices include all transfers and port taxes
- Roundtrip air to/from Amsterdam
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Fully escorted by *Sports Leisure* Tour Director Gold Passport Points based on cabin

lines, stylish public spaces, amazing food served in multiple venues, stunning shows and entertainment (everything from the Rolling Stone Rock Room to Lincoln Center Stage – how's that for variety?), all with an ambiance of timeless elegance paired with modern amenities where every detail shines.



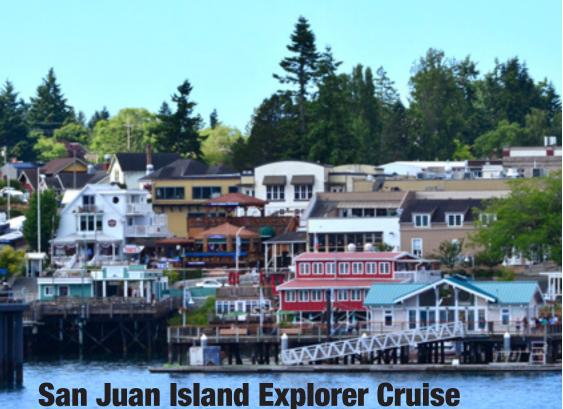
## Starting prices, with air, will be approximately \$5300 p.p./dbl.occ. inside, \$5800 outside (including air and an Amsterdam overnight); single occupancy available

This vacation requires a valid passport!









Featuring an excursion on the Mt Baker Scenic Byway 6 Days • August 12-17

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Travel the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway
- 3 days of cruising on a private yacht
- 2 nights in Friday Harbor
- Visit quaint La Conner and posh Roach Harbor
- 11 meals: 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- Door to door airport transportation
- 3750/4200 Gold Passport Points

**1.** Arrive in Seattle and drive north to Bellingham. Lunch is included before arriving at your hotel for the next two nights. Four Points by Sheraton Bellingham – 2 nights (L)

2. Drive the Mt. Baker Scenic Byway that winds through lush farmland, small communities and towering evergreens to the majestic snow capped peak of Mt. Baker. Walking trails and photo ops abound. (FB,L)

**3.** Board your private yacht with lunch served as you set sail through Puget Sound and begin your first day of exploration in the picturesque San Juan Islands, ending in Friday Harbor. Friday Harbor Suites – 2 nights (FB,L)

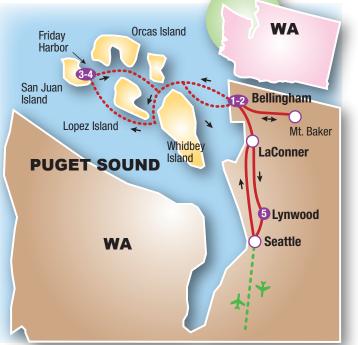
4. Each day our captain will determine the best route based on current wildlife reports. so be on the lookout. Perhaps you'll see a pod of resident orca whales en route to La Conner, a vibrant artist enclave. Stroll along

the waterfront boardwalk and down the main street lined with unique boutiques. Return to Friday Harbor where dinner awaits. (FB,D)

5. Tour San Juan Island by coach stopping at historical and scenic sites along the way. Get a glimpse of the post life at the exclusive Roche Harbor Resort. There is big money here! Whimsical and elaborate art installations are on display at the San Juan Sculpture Park, the largest in the Pacific Northwest. Enjoy some free time in town before boarding vour ship. A decadent cracked Dungeness crab feast (non-seafood options available) is served onboard while you set sail traversing narrow passages past uninhabited islands en route back to the mainland. Embassy Suites. Seattle North/Lynnwood (FB,L)

6. Sleep in, see some local sights, have, then head for your afternoon flight home. (FB,L)

\$3725 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4180 single MA

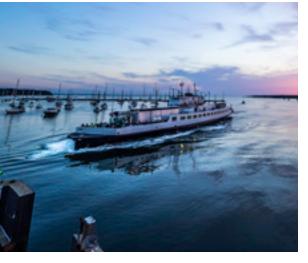




Summer

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8 Days • June 2-9



1. Arrive in Boston for dinner at a local landmark, the Union Oyster House. **Hyatt Four Points Boston – 2 nights (D)** 

2. With a local guide, walk through Harvard Yard to the famous Old North Church; Paul Revere's home to the site of the (in)famous Tea Party with lunch in Cambridge. Tour historic downtown by motorcoach and ride the iconic Swan Boats in service since 1877 in Boston Common. Dinner is included tonight. **(FB,D)** 

**3.** Board a high-speed ferry for a 90-minute cruise to Provincetown. After lunch we will visit Provence Town Museum and Pilgrim's Monument. Your waterfront hotel is down a charming country lane, walkable to the center of town. **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. In a special SUV climb the sand dunes for amazing views of the Atlantic Ocean! After lunch, spend the afternoon in

town or relax and enjoy the waterfront bay view at your hotel. **(B,L)** 

5. On the southeast end of the Cape pass through small New England villages arriving in Chatham. Take time for lunch and browsing. Continue to Hyannis and visit a museum focusing on JFK's life and the mystique of Camelot. Tonight it's time for a LOBSTA DINNER! **Cape Codder Resort** (**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 to town every hour. Dinner is included both nights. Nantucket Inn – 2 nights (FB,D)

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, do a little window shopping and return to the inn at your leisure. (FB,D)

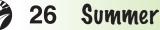
8. Depart Nantucket by ferry this morning. Choose between a visit to the JFK Presidential Library & Museum or the Edward Kennedy Institute for the US Senate. Your return flight is from Boston. **(B,L)** 

\$4550 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4995 single A

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 2 nights Boston, 2 nights Provincetown on the Cape, overnight Hyannis, 2 nights Nantucket
- 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
- Ride the famous Swan Boats on Boston Common
- See the JFK Presidential Library or the Edward Kennedy Institute for the US Senate
- 16 meals: Daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 6 dinners including a lobster feast
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Boston
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 4550/5000 Gold Passport Points





# **Ferries and Towns of Puget Sound**

Ride the ferry boats, walk/shop the streets of small towns, enjoy a room with a view, visit a national park **5 Days • July 16-20** 

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- 4 ferry rides on Puget Sound, including the longest routes, Seattle/Bremerton and Seattle/ Bainbridge Island
- Visit the villages of Poulsbo, Sequim, Port Gamble and Langley as you make your way around the Sound
- Guided tours: Poulsbo, learn about the town's Norwegian heritage; Olympic National Park
- 4 nights Clearwater Casino Resort in Suquamish – gaming for those who enjoy it, beautiful views for those who don't
- Visit the grave of Chief Seattle, the Suquamish Tribal Museum and the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial – local landmarks which tell the history of the region
- 10 meals: Sunday Brunch (plated), 4 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- 2650/2950 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 museum, the Chief's grave and hear his unique story.

Your lodging for **four nights** is at the beautiful **Clearwater Casino Resort**, overlooking the waters of Puget Sound.

Dinner is at your leisure from the several choices on property. Walk along the Sound and sit outside near the fire ring in the evening. It's really one of the most wonderful accommodations in our entire catalog. The tour days are of reasonable length, so you'll have time to enjoy this beautiful resort. (Note: The lodge building is completely separate from the casino – a 3 minute walk.) **(BR)** 

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!

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 time to visit the museum (where we will have dinner) and then see the town from a "ghost's point of view." (FB,D)

3. More ferry rides and a lighthouse today! Travel to the waterfront village of Port Townsend and hear of its bawdy history before boarding the ferry to Whidbey Island (we'll have a little time here on the return trip this afternoon). Arriving on Whidbey, travel to the south end of the island to discover the small village of Langley. You'll want to explore the shops, pick a spot for lunch and perhaps engage a local in conversation about their town. Then it's back to the ferry to retrace our steps to Port Townsend where the coach awaits to bring us



back to the resort. Dinner is in Poulsbo with a decidedly local twist as the Sons of Norway Hall hosts us for Norwegian-style dining and perhaps entertainment. **(FB,L)** 

**4.** Off to visit Olympia National Park this morning, featuring a stop at Hurricane Ridge and spectacular mountain views. Back down at sea level make two stops in quaint Sequim for lavender and lunch. Eat at a popular diner downtown and then visit Purple Haze Lavender. Take some home if you wish, or sample their other products. Ice cream laced with lavender is included! **(FB,L,D)** 

**5.** Today you will travel south to Bremerton for the longest scenic ferry trip across the Sound, but first an important stop. 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 told and it's an important one. We'll have lunch in Bremerton before we catch the ferry across the sound, then head to the airport and our late afternoon flight home. **(FB,L)** 

\$2610 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2930 single 🌌



Summer

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# California's Redwoods and the Oregon Coast – Berry Nice

*Featuring rides on Oregon's Rogue River and coastal sand dunes* **7 Days • June 24-30** 



## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- Depart from Sacramento by coach, return by air (independent train return also available)
- Drive through "The Avenue of the Giants" near Eureka
- Redwood National Park more of the majestic giant trees
- Overnight Garberville (Best Western Plus), Gold Beach (Jot's Resort), 2 nights Coos Bay (The Mill), 2 nights Newport (Elizabeth Oceanfront Suites)
- Scenic drive along the Oregon Coast
- Ride the Rogue River Mail Boat
- Flavorful local stops Misty Meadows Jams, Cranberry Sweets
- Washed Ashore Saving the ocean one piece of junk at a time
- Shore Acres State Park Awesome ocean views
- Ride the sand dunes in a giant dune buggy... or take a more adventurous ride in a smaller buggy
- Cocktail cruise on Newport Harbor
- A very berry experience learn how the marionberry was created, have a berry milkshake, perhaps even pick your own
- Door-to-door service
- 2700/3150 Gold Passport Points

1. This morning our cars deliver you to the *Sports Leisure* office for departure on our coach headed north. Travel through the Napa Valley, with a stop for lunch in Ukiah. Continue up Highway 101 into Redwood Country where you'll enjoy a delightful dining experience at the historic Benbow Inn, a Highway 101 landmark for nearly 100 years. **Best Western Plus Humboldt House (L,D)** 

**2.** Just north of Garberville is Humboldt Redwoods State Park, home of "The Avenue of the Giants." The 31-mile scenic highway has been called the finest forest drive in the world. A guide will join us to narrate our visit and we'll make stops along the way. Pause for lunch in Eureka, then more spectacular trees await us at Redwood National Park. You may remember it was Lady Bird Johnson who lobbied her husband to protect the trees, resulting in the creation of the national park in 1968. Stop at the Visitors Center to learn more about the redwoods. Why do they only grow in very limited areas? Why do they grow so tall? Cross the border into Oregon in late afternoon. Our final destination is the small coastal town of Gold Beach. **Jot's Resort (B,L)** 

**3**. Since 1895 mail has been delivered up the Rogue River by boat. Now there are roads to most communities, but back then the only way to get the mail was on the river. Today, you'll board one of those mail boats and head up river. Your scenic trip will be narrated and there's a stop for lunch at Cougar Lane Lodge before you return to Gold Beach. It's a 90-minute drive up the coast to Coos Bay. Our hotel also offers gaming. **The Mill – 2 nights (B,L)** 

4. Spend the day exploring some wonderful off-the-beaten-track attractions in and around Bandon, just to the south. Like to shop? Cranberry Sweets and Misty Meadows will offer you lots of Oregon-made treats. Jams, jellies, candy – there are all sorts of yummies to choose from. At Washed Ashore you'll hear the story of a small company that is trying to help clean up the ocean, one piece of trash at a time. What an inspiring story. Back in Coos Bay, a salmon bake has been arranged in your honor (alternate entrée available). (FB,D)

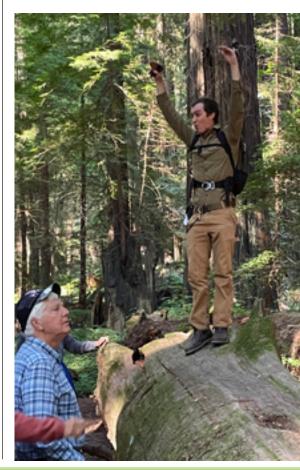
**5.** Learn about Coos Bay, its people and its industry, on a short tour. Shore Acres State Park is the highlight. There's a story here

and a great view. Please enjoy both. Near Florence (our lunch stop), hop in a giant dune buggy for a fun but fairly tame ride over the sand (a smaller, more adventurous ride is also offered if you wish). Florence is a quaint coastal village with lots of places for lunch and a great ice cream shop. Another hour up the coast is Newport, our home for the night, where all rooms enjoy a full ocean view. There's salmon chowder for those wishing a simple meal or a dinner shuttle to the harbor for those wanting more choices. **Elizabeth Oceanfront Suites – 2 nights (FB)** 

**6.** The Oregon Aquarium offers a great experience to "meet" some of the local marine wildlife, but we have a better idea. It's the "behind-the-scenes" tour, where you'll get up close and personal with the critters. There is time for lunch and browsing on the waterfront, then a free afternoon to enjoy the view and/or walk on the beach. A cocktail cruise on the bay is followed by dinner at Clearwater, the best Newport has to offer. **(B,D)** 

7. One more shot of ocean scenery as we head north past Otter Rock, then leave the coast to head inland. Our destination is the tiny hamlet of Scholls Ferry, home to Smith's Berry Barn. We'll sample some berries (maybe even the famed marionberry) and have milkshakes for dessert! Yum is the only word that fits... Our return flight departs in early evening. (B,L)

\$2660 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3145 single 📕





# **A Train, A Paddlewheeler, Two Mountains** and The Columbia River

Featuring the Hood River Railroad, the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler and three nights on the shores of the Columbia River 4 Davs • June 12-15

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Full-day guided excursion to Mt. St. Helens
- Ride a century-old short line railroad with snow-capped views of Mt. Hood
- Explore Hood River; visit Packer Orchards and Multnomah Falls
- 3 nights at the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn – rooms with a view of the river
- Dinner cruise on the Columbia River; lunch at the Columbia Gorge Hotel
- 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Portland
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2250/2550 Gold Passport Points

1. Depart Sacramento this morning on your one-hour hop to Portland. Our first stop is at Multnomah Falls, Oregon's tallest at over 600 feet! Then it's on to the historic Columbia Gorge Hotel for lunch. Time permitting you might wish to walk around the grounds after dining, as it's one of the most beautiful spots on the river. A brief tour will acquaint you with Hood River, full

of quaint shops and eateries. Your hotel is the finest in the area, with rooms sporting a view of the Columbia River. There is a restaurant on property. (L)

2. Breakfast at your leisure is included each morning. Join us for a guided trip up the mountain to the Timberline Lodge for great views and lunch. Along the way we'll stop at Packer Orchards so you can get some of the berry goodness produced right here in the valley. Return mid-afternoon and enjoy some free time at your hotel on the river. (FB,L)

3. Mt. Hood is part of The Cascade Mountains, a volcanic chain stretching from the Canadian border to Mt. Lassen in northern California. See the mountain today from your seat on board the Mt. Hood Railroad on an excursion through the Hood River Valley. Leaving the valley floor you will cross and ride along 3 miles of the lower main fork of the Hood River. You'll navigate a 3% grade that takes you

> on one of only five switchbacks remaining in the United States. All aboard the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler for a two-hour dinner cruise this evening. The Chef will delight you with a seasonal menu featuring local ingredients, while Captain Tom shares the history and folklore that makes the Gorge unique. (FB,D)

4. Today we cross the river into Washington on



our way to Mt. St. Helens. The mountain last erupted in 1980, and is the most likely of the Cascade Mountain to erupt again in our lifetimes. Our guide will tell the story of the mountain, what caused it to erupt and why it could happen again. Hear the legend of Harry Truman - not the president - but the man who lived (and died) on the mountain. Our flight back to Sacramento departs in the early evening. (FB,L)

\$2250 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2545 single 🧾



Summer 29



# **Niagara Falling for You!**

Every room overlooks the Falls
5 Days • May 22-26

1. Arrive in Buffalo, NY for dinner prior to crossing the border. At your hotel, throw back the curtains and relish that incredible view! The thundering falls below will be lighted to welcome you to your Niagara adventure. Get rested up because tomorrow is an exciting day featuring all the signature attractions. **Embassy Suites** Fallsview – 4 nights (D)

2. The Incline Railway delivers you down the hill to the Visitors Center. Descend beneath the bedrock and explore the tunnels of *Journey Behind the Falls*. The immense volume of water cresting the edge is awe-inspiring, and where the sun meets the water is the most brilliant shade of blue. Breathtaking! Board a cruise past the American and Bridal Veil Falls before sailing right to the base of Horseshoe Falls. Inevitable, you will get wet but that's the fun of it! Dry off and relax back at your hotel before dinner overlooking the falls. **(FB,D)**  **3.** The iconic Floral Clock with its various blooms and colorful foliage create intricate designs. Travel alongside the Niagara River to the upscale resort community of Niagara-on-the-Lake where a wide array of shops await! Maple cookies, maple syrup and maple tea are some signature local products you can find. Lunch on your own is in town before riding the Whirlpool Aero Cars. The river's natural bend creates powerful, swirling rapids below. You have the option for an included visit to the Niagara Butterfly Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Choose decadent cuisine or casual dining for dinner at the hotel restaurant or one of the many eateries only steps away. Create your own experience! (FB)

**4.** Massive cargo ships circumvent the treacherous rapids between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie in the Welland Canal. You may even see one in the locks. Sample



## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 4 nights Embassy Suites Fallsview premium views of Niagara Falls – daily breakfast
- Take a Journey Behind the Falls & sail to the base of Horseshoe Falls
- Enjoy a ride in the Whirlpool Aero Cars
- Stroll the boutiques of Niagara-on-the-Lake; visit the Niagara Botanical Gardens & Butterfly Conservatory
- Sample "ice wine," an uniquely Niagara Region product
- Visit the Welland Canal, a shipping lane connecting Lake Ontario & Lake Eerie
- 7 meals: 4 full breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Buffalo
- 3100/3450 Gold Passport Points

the most renowned product of the Niagara Region, ice wine, with lunch at a local winery. Harvested during the frozen winter months, it is hard work, but the results are worth the effort! Give it a taste and you'll see! It makes a wonderful gift for family, friends... or yourself! Tonight, do some last minute shopping, dine or kick your feet up and enjoy the stunning view from your room. (**FB,L**)

**5.** Returning stateside, stop at Niagara Falls State Park to walk along the top of the American and Bridal Veil Falls. Visit East Aurora, NY where America's Arts and Crafts movement began over a century ago. Fly home from Buffalo, NY. **(FB)** 

**\$3085 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3430 single** A This vacation requires a valid passport!

# **An Atlantic Canada Sampler**

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island 14 Days • July 4-17



1-2. It's a long day of travel to reach Halifax, but so worth it as you'll see! Explore Nova Scotia's Capital City on a guided tour including a visit to the historic Citadel keeping watch over the area now as it has for over 270 years! Cambridge Suites – 2 nights (CB,L)

**3.** Meander the colorful coastline of the Bay of Fundy to New Brunswick, including a visit to the Joggins Fossil Cliffs, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. An unforgettable culinary experience awaits as you enjoy a scrumptious lobster dinner served on a real lobster boat. **Crowne Plaza Moncton Downtown (CB,L,D)** 

**4.** Experience a true natural wonder at the Hopewell Rocks on the coast of the Bay of Fundy. Marvel at massive flower-pot shaped formations sculpted by the highest tides on the planet. Continue on to Canada's first incorporated city, Saint John, on the southern New Brunswick coast. There you'll see the Reversing Falls where twice daily the strong tides force the Saint John River to reverse its flow. **Hilton St. John – 2 nights (FB,L)** 

**5.** Enjoy the drive to picturesque St. Andrews By-the-Sea where the quaint charm of this coastal town is sure to captivate. After a whale watching cruise and lunch, the afternoon is yours to experience this seaside gem at your own pace. **(FB,L)** 

6. Ferry to Digby, the Scallop Capital of the World, where the fresh sea air and passionate Acadian culture form an enchanting destination in French Nova Scotia. Digby Pines Golf Resort & Spa (FB,D) 7. Travel the lush Annapolis Valley where the French Acadians of Grand Pre made their first settlement in the early 1600's. Learn about this UNESCO World Heritage Site as fact and fiction blend to reveal romance in the "Land of Evangeline." Cambridge Suites – 2 nights (FB)

8. Discover the picturesque village of Peggy's Cove where you will enjoy breakfast overlooking one of the most photographed lighthouses in the world. Travel the South Shore to the UNESCO World Heritage Town of Lunenburg, one of the best preserved colonial settlements in the New World. (CB)

9. Learn about the Mi'kmaq people at Millbrook Cultural & Heritage Centre before crossing Confederation Bridge, the world's longest continuous multi-span bridge, to Prince Edward Island. In her Capital City of Charlottetown a performance by local entertainers awaits. **Rodd Hotel Charlottetown – 2 nights (CB)** 

**10.** Visit the scenic North Shore of the island. Drive through PEI National Park and visit Anne of Green Gables Heritage Place, the alluring inspiration of Lucy Maud Montgomery's classic books. Experience true Maritime hospitality this evening at a traditional lobster supper. **(FB,D)** 

**11.** Ferry over the Northumberland Strait back to Nova Scotia bound for Cape Breton Island. Visit Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site in Baddeck to learn of the many accomplishments of this genius who made his home here before checking into your accommodations on the Bras d'Or Lake. **Inverary Resort – 2 nights (FB,D)** 

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- Nova Scotia: Halifax, Peggy's Cove, Annapolis Valley, Bras d'Or Lake, Cabot Trail, Fortress of Louisbourg
- New Brunswick: Bay of Fundy, St. John, Reversing Falls, St. Andrews by-the-Sea
- Prince Edward Island: Charlottetown, Anne of Green Gables
- 23 meals: Daily breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Halifax
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Gold Passport Points TBA

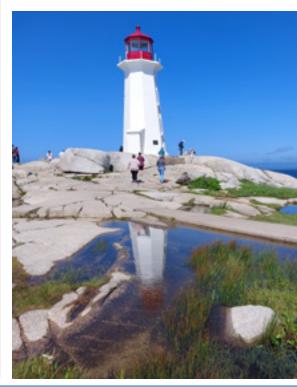
**12.** Experience one of the most stunningly picturesque drives in North America as you take the Cabot Trail around the rocky splendor of the northern shore, ascending to the incredible plateaus of Cape Breton Highlands National Park. Unforgettable vistas are yours to enjoy from both land and sea as a second whale watching excursion is also included. **(FB,L,D)** 

**13.** The Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site depicts the Canadian settlement of New France where it is always 1744. Roam the streets and chat with authentically costumed interpreters as you explore this little-known chapter of North American history. **Cambridge Suites (FB)** 

**14.** Return to the Pacific coast with awesome memories of your time on the Atlantic. **(CB)** 



This vacation requires a valid passport!



# **Riding the Rails through the Canadian Rockies**

 Featuring exclusive Dome Car service on the Rocky Mountaineer

 6 Days
 • July 24-29





## **HIGH**LIGHTS

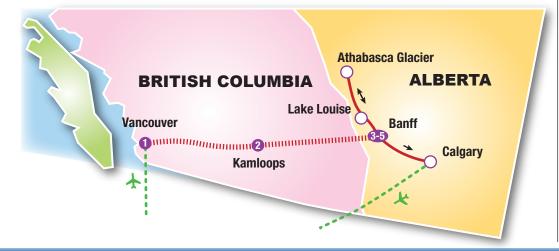
- 2 days aboard the Rocky Mountaineer in Gold Leaf Class
- Visit Banff National Park and Lake Louise
- Drive the Icefields Parkway
- Ride the Glacier Ice Explorer and Banff Gondola
- 9 meals: 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches
- Door-to-door airport service
- Gold Passport Points TBA

**1.** Fly to Vancouver, BC, and check into your fantastic boutique hotel located in a vibrant area of markets and shops on the water's edge. **Lonsdale Quay Hotel** 

**2.** All aboard the Rocky Mountaineer! You are in for a truly unforgettable experience.

Receive exceptional service within minutes of taking your seat in the Gold Leaf (First Class) Dome Car. Throughout the journey enjoy comfortable viewing seats, narration and the services of a dedicated car attendant. Hot gourmet meals are served in the adjacent dining car. You'll miss no scenery to the setting sun as the train stops for the night in Kamloops. **Hotel TBA (B,L)** 

**3.** During your journey through the Rockies you will travel through Hell's Gate on the Fraser River, Glacier and Yoho National Parks, and through the famous Spiral Tunnels near Field, BC. Arrive early in the evening at the Banff train station and check into your hotel. **Banff Ptarmigan Inn – 3 nights (B,L)** 



**4.** Rushing waterfalls, crystal-clear rivers and turquoise lakes await you on today's journey. Ride the Banff Gondola to the top of Sulphur Mountain for unsurpassed views of the town and surrounding mountains. En route to Lake Louise stop off at Moraine Lake. Located in the dramatic Valley of the Ten Peaks, the view is one of the finest in the Rockies. Lake Louise, considered the Jewel of the Canadian Rockies, is the most photographed site in Canada by visitors the world over. Today you'll see why! **(B,L)** 

**5.** Snow-capped mountains, icy glaciers and broad-reaching valleys create an ever-changing montage of mountain wilderness as you travel one of the most scenic highways in the world, the Icefields Parkway. Take the famed road to the Columbia Icefield where you'll drive onto the surface of the Athabasca Glacier aboard a specially-equipped Ice Explorer for an experience you'll never forget! **(B,L)** 

**6.** A drive across the plains of Alberta to Calgary brings your Canadian adventure to a close. **(B)** 



This vacation requires a valid passport!



# Victoria, Canada's Royal Garden City

The very best of Canada's Garden City 5 Days • June 20-24

## HIGHLIGHTS

- High Tea at the Empress Hotel
- Experience Victoria on a double-decker bus tour and seaplane flight
- Visit famed Butchart Gardens to enjoy the blooms and lunch
- Spend a day exploring and tasting your way through the Cowichan Valley
- 5 meals: 1 high tea, 4 lunches
- Roundtrip air to/from Victoria, British Columbia
- Door-to-door airport service
- Gold Passport Points TBA

1. Fly to Victoria by way of Seattle. Lunch is in Sidney, a lovely seaside town. Swing by Lolly Gobble, an English Sweets Shop full of old timey and unique candies. You'll get a little treat to take with you! Explore the main street shops before traveling to your hotel in nearby Victoria. Located a short walk from the Inner Harbour, all the best the city has to offer is at your doorstep! Chateau Victoria Hotel & Suites – 4 nights (L)

**2.** Learn about the history and booming future of British Columbia's Capital City while traveling aboard a classic double-decker bus. At famed Butchart Gardens, in bloom for over 100 years, lunch is served in the original family home. Take your time strolling through the magnificent blooms, but don't skip the amazing gift shop; hands down, it is one of the best in town! **(L)** 

**3.** Gain a better understanding of Canadian government during a docent-guided tour of the British Columbia Legislative Building.

Afternoon tea at The Empress Hotel is a must when in Victoria! In the stately Library Room you'll sip the very same tea blend the Queen of England herself enjoys, along with assorted finger sandwiches and sweets! In the afternoon a visit to the Royal B.C. Museum is included. Renowned for its First Nations exhibit and collection of totem poles, it's not to be missed. Afterwards, take off right from the Inner Harbour and soar high above the city with sweeping views of the Olympic Mountains during a seaplane flight-seeing tour. **(HT)** 

**4.** Slip out of the city and into the Cowichan Valley, full of quaint towns, artisan crafts and abundant produce. In charming Chemainus a guide will point out the city's many impressive murals before some free time to explore. The next stop is Duncan to learn about the Cowichan First Nations people. World-famous for their knitting,

see and feel the artistry while learning how patterns are transferred from baskets to sweaters. The vast collection of totem poles in town tell their story. Before returning to the city, stop at a cidery for a tour and tasting of all sorts of products and beverages made from apples. **(L)** 

**5.** Take the morning to make one final stroll along the waterfront, find that perfect last minute gift, or just relax in your hotel suite. Enjoy an included lunch before catching your late afternoon flight home. **(L)** 



This tour requires a valid passport!





# Crusing the Rhine River from Holland to Switzerland 10 Days • September 9-18

**1-2.** Depart for Europe aboard an overnight flight, arriving in Amsterdam the next morning. There you'll have lunch and a guided tour to acquaint you with beauty and history of this city known for its canals and bridges. **Hotel TBA (L)** 

**3.** The Rijksmuseum is heralded as one of the finest in the world, offering a treasury of national history and the stunning artworks of Dutch masters. Board your floating home in the afternoon and prepare for a welcome reception followed by the first of many fine meals. **Scenic Riverliner – 7 nights (FB,D)** 

**4.** Discover charming Volendam with its unusual raised homes and quaint wooden church, before heading to the equally charming village of Edam, famous for its namesake cheese. Return to the ship



for your first day of cruising through the windmill-studded Dutch countryside towards the Rhine River. **(FB,L,D)** 

**5.** Founded by the Romans, Cologne, contains one of Germany's oldest and most celebrated Gothic cathedrals. Your Freechoice activities include a scenic ride on the oldest cog railway in Germany to Drachenburg Castle, or a guided stroll through Cologne to get up close to the filigrees twin towers of the famous cathedral. **(FB,L,D)** 

**6.** Cruise to the 2000-year-old town of Koblenz, situated at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers. Today's Freechoice activities include a guided tour of Koblenz, or a trip to Cochem, a true medieval gem, including a visit to the fairytale castle of Reichsburg. **(FB,L,D)** 

7. Continue to the town of Mannheim, located where the Neckar River flows into the Rhine. Freechoice activities include a guided tour of the city and ruins of a Renaissance castle. Enjoy an evening of grandeur during a private concert at a stunning Baroque palace. (FB,L,D)

8. Baden Baden is known for its Roman baths. Freechoice activities include a guided tour of the town and baths, an active hike to the ruins of Hohenbaden Castle, or a visit to the Mercedes-Benz factory for a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into building these fine motorcars. (FB,L,D)

**9.** During your port of call in Strasbourg, the capital of the Alsace region in France, you have three Freechoice options: On a guided walking tour stroll through the Old Town

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 8-day cruise aboard a Scenic "Space-Ship" Riverliner
- Overnight in Amsterdam with local touring
- Holland: Rijksmuseum, Volendam, Edam
- Germany: Cologne, Koblenz, Mannheim, Baden Baden
- France: Strasbourg and the Alsace region
- Included "Freechoice" tour options at every port
- Gourmet meals and all beverages
   complimentary
- All shipboard gratuities included
- English-speaking staff and local guides
- Complimentary WiFi
- 22 meals: 8 breakfast, 7 lunches, 7 dinners
- Rountrip air to Amesterdam/Zurich
- Door-to-door airport service

with its half-timbered houses and distinctive Alsatian winstubs (wine rooms which are unique to the region). Alternatively journey to Mittelbergheim in the Alsace and sample some of the best wines the region has to offer, or learn how people lived and worked in the Black Forest centuries ago on a visit to the Vogtsbauernhof Open Air Museum. **(FB,L,D)** 

**10.** Your arrival in Basel, Switzerland, means it's time to bid *auf wiedersehen* to Europe and the Rhine. Disembark the ship after breakfast and transfer to the Zurich Airport for your flight home. **(FB)** 



This vacation requires a valid passport!



# A Pilgrimage to Plains, In Honor of President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter

Featuring a side trip to Alabama for a Salute to Civil Rights 7 Days • October 22-28

## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- An up close look at America's 39th president, featuring his presidential library in Atlanta and his hometown of Plains
- Visit FDR's Little White House
- Two nights at Calloway Gardens a year round resort with over 2,500 acres of flowers and foliage
- Two nights in Americus at the beautiful Windsor Hotel
- Step back in time to the Civil War days at Andersonville, a POW camp at the end of the war
- Spend a day in Plains, exploring President Carter's hometown
- Learn the story of the Tuskegee Airmen
- Rosa Parks Museum, National Memorial for Peace & Justice - Montgomery
- 14 meals, roundtrip air, services of an *SLV* Tour Director, home pick-up

Editor's Note: Several years ago, I led a group of travelers to Plains, Georgia. It had always been on my bucket list, because it was the hometown of a man I greatly admired, President Jimmy Carter. My reasons for going had nothing to do with politics, but rather a desire to learn more about President Carter and his family (remember Billy, who was a constant embarrassment?). The journey also features a short stay in Alabama, where you'll honor a great American with a visit to the museum by her name, Rosa Parks; and honor the Air men of Tuskegee. A bit off the main list for some travelers perhaps, but a true opportunity for an American history lesson many Californians might otherwise overlook.



2023 Dream Book

1. Fly to Atlanta, dinner at Mary Mac's, President Carter's favorite restaurant! Hyatt Regency downtown Atlanta (D)

2. Visit the Carter Presidential Library In Atlanta, then travel to Pine Mountain, GA, for **two nights** at the magnificent **Calloway Gardens Lodge.** Your morning and evening meals are included. (FB,D)

**3.** Tour Calloway Gardens (check out the Butterfly Center and Pumpkins at Calloway) and visit the Little White House, Roosevelt's personal presidential retreat. **(FB,D)** 

**4.** Travel To Americus, GA, en route, visit the infamous Andersonville Prison (a Civil War monument), **two nights at the Historic Windsor Hotel, a truly remarkable accommodation in a cozy little town. (FB,L,D)** 

**5. "Meet Jimmy Carter."** A visit to Plains (pop. 776), includes a guided tour, lunch and stops at some "presidential" landmarks around town; among them a unique peanut statue, brother Billy Carter's service station, and the National Historic Site at Plains High School. After you've spent a little time in town, it sorta feels like the place President Carter would have his roots. **(B,L)** 

6. From Americus, travel west Into Alabama. In Tuskegee, learn the fascinating story of the WWII military pilots and airmen. Their excellent combat record earned them praise and citations for protecting American bombers from enemy fighters. After lunch in an antebellum home, continue on to Montgomery, for a visit to the **Rosa Parks Museum.** Best known for her role in the Montgomery bus boycott, she was honored



by the United States Congress as "the first lady of civil rights." **Embassy Suites (B,L)** 

7. Learn about the history of Montgomery this morning with stops at Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. This is Alabama's capital city and some say the center of the civil rights movement. After an early light lunch at a local favorite, fly home via Dallas, arriving at 8pm. (FB,L)







# **Cruisin' Aboard the American Queen**

An Upper Mississippi cruise on the grandest paddlewheeler ever built! 9 Days • September 24 – October 2



## **HIGH**LIGHTS

- 7-night cruise aboard the American Queen
- Ports of Call: St Louis, Hannibal, Bettendorf/ Quad Cities, Dubuque, La Crosse, Red Wing
- All basic shore excursions included
- Showboat-style entertainment and dancing nightly; daily talks by Riverlorian
- Beer and wine included with onboard dinners; all-day bottled water, sodas, coffee and snacks are complimentary
- Overnight with attractions and meals in St. Louis
- 22 meals: 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 8 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to St. Louis/from Minneapolis
- Gold Passport Points based on cabin category

Though over a year away, this popular cruise on the Upper Mississippi from St. Louis to the Twin Cities is so popular you have to book your cabin early to get one at all! The American Queen - the grandest of all riverboats ever to ply the waters of our nation's mighty rivers - "gets it" as evidenced by all the inclusions. Non-alcoholic beverages and snacks are available and complimentary all day long. Beer and wine is included with dinner. and two dining choices are offered: one casual, the other fancy. Regardless of the dining option you select, you'll enjoy classic Southern cooking along with heart-healthy selections.

Onboard, an all–American staff assures no language barriers. Portside, a dedicated fleet of *Steamcoaches* follows the *Queen* so your complimentary shore excursions are handled by a familiar crew. Upgraded, small–group excursions are available at most ports for an enhanced experience. (Optional, additional cost.) Your onboard Riverlorian will have all the details during daily talks. Need to check–in with home? Internet access is available and free.

When the stars rise, it's time for the onboard entertainers to shine. You can count on Showboat–style spectacles nightly, followed by dancing. By day and by night, the dress code is "casual elegance." Wear what you like when you like. No formalwear is required.

1. Fly to St. Louis where your adventure begins. You can be sure REAL St. Louis barbecue is on the menu for dinner. Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark (D)

2. After breakfast, take in a few of the popular attractions the city has to offer such as the Gateway Arch and the original Budweiser Brewery. Embarkation is in the late afternoon. Don't forget to check *The Steamboatin' Times* daily for the list of activities. **(FB,D)** 

**3–8.** Every port along the way is rich in history and beauty, and complimentary sightseeing tours introduce you to each and include selected attractions. Meanwhile daily activities onboard are available to fill your days without ever touching land. **(Daily FB,L,D)** 

**9.** A morning disembarkation welcomes you to Red Wing, Minnesota, located just downriver from Minneapolis and St. Paul. Our schedule may allow time for an attraction or two in the Twin Cities before our return flight. **(FB)** 

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

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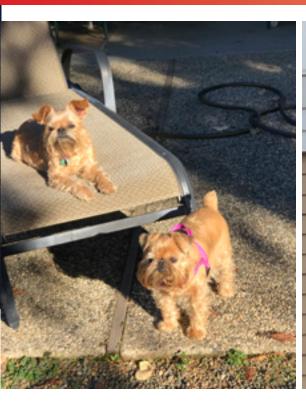
2-3 Nights 2-8 on board the American Queen



36 Autumn 2023



# **TOUR TEASERS...**



### New York Goes to The Dogs – Let's Try Again! 5-6 Days • January 2023

Here is your chance to see selection of the doggy candidates who will vie for the Best in Show winner at the 147th Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show or skip the dogs (NEVER!) and just see more Broadway shows! (We took a shot at this trip last year, but COVID wiped it off the board. Shame, because we had a sold out group of 25 ready to go.)

## The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show

has been around for 146 years! You can see parts of the championships while enjoying a host of New York attractions, and of course that includes Broadway theater. May, our pup-crazed office staffer is already barking up a storm to be a co-host. Stay in Times Square at one of NYC's finest hotels.

The Dog Show dates for 2023 is yet to be announced so we are going to place names on the Priority Notification List to judge your interest. As soon as the dates are announced we will give everyone on the list the first opportunity to register.

The package included the Group Judging for the Best in Show winner, two Broadway tickets (most theaters are within walking distance of the hotel) with shows TBA (Maybe the new *Neil Diamond Musical or Music Man*). Four nights at the Marriott Marquis Times Square Hotel, airfare, admissions and selected meals like dinner at the divine Carmine's are all included. Call our office today and place your name on the list!

## **Catalina Island Take Two** 4 Days • September/October 2023

I'd go back to Catalina Island for that! This is Catalina revisited, if you have travelled with us to Catalina in the past, this trip is for you; it's new and completely different from our classic Catalina Island offering.

KEEP CLAM

KEEP CLAM AND FERRY ON

On this trip we will stay at newly renovated Hotel Atwater situated in heart of Avalon. Originally opened in 1920, the Hotel Atwater was the first hotel built under the direction of William Wrigley Jr. after he purchased the Catalina Island Company more than a century ago.

Activities on this vacation getaway are all new and do not duplicate our other trips. How about a tour of an original island owner's mansion and estate property? Enjoy a movie night at the Casino and several other unique offerings including a private ghost tour, time at the Descanso Beach Club & Spa or even an inland adventure aboard a customized Hummer Sport Utility Vehicle.

## Fall Foliage 2023 – Vermont and The Hudson River Valley

Late September/Early October 2023 From a visit to Ben & Jerry's (a Vermont original) to a cruise on the Hudson River, what a great way to enjoy the fall colors in New England. It's about small towns and the people who live in them. And the famous fall colors. Arrive/depart from Burlington/Albany, and discover the history and culinary culture of upstate New York and Vermont.





# **MYSTERY TOURS**

Pricing on these trips will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation, in order to secure your space.



## **Run For The Thunder, A Mystery Tour** 6 Days • April 12-17

Why do travelers enjoy Mystery Tours? Many people wouldn't even consider putting up a pile of money without knowing where they are going or what they are doing. It's one thing to do that with a hotel on "Priceline," but entirely different hen you are committing thousands of dollars. Yet Mystery Tours are among our most popular products.

They are fun to put together. Sometimes, a mystery tour is right there in front of you. Other times, you'll be at a convention, talking with a destination or a hotel or attraction, and suddenly, you realize, this might make a great Mystery Tour.

Of course, expectations are high for Mystery Tours. "Here's my money, now take me someplace fun and interesting." No pressure there.





So here is a Mystery Tour that takes advantage of a suggestion a staff member made to Mark, about a BIG event that takes place in \_\_\_\_\_\_. is really close to \_\_\_\_\_\_, where something REALLY special happens every year about this time. So we'll spend some time in both destinations, watching them prepare for one big event, while we participate in another.

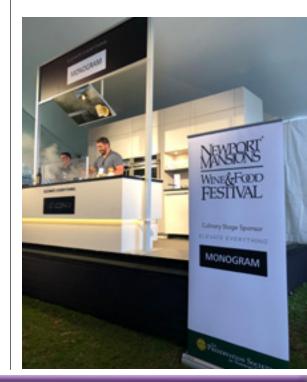
One day, your itinerary will literally explode in color. Sound like fun? Maybe the BIG event and the REALLY special are related? Naw, maybe not.

Sometimes, it's important to step up to the plate and fight like there's no tomorrow. Or just run like crazy. Do you like animals? Why not take a day and learn about some of them. Maybe we could visit a castle? Did I mention these destinations are known for their food? Love to have you join us.

## **Fall Colors of the West – A Mystery Tour** 7 Days • Late September 2023

What happens when you lace together some old history with some spectacular fall colors in the western half of the country? Well, um... we don't really know the answer, because we've never done a trip like this one.

A Mystery Tour where even the tour operator doesn't know where he/she is going? Well, not quite. One of our staff has come up with a pretty cool itinerary, and if you don't get waylaid by a movie star or stepped on by a dinosaur, a good time will be had by all! (Clues?) Ever played Rock, Paper, Scissors? Ever been there? (Rock, paper scissors, of course...) What would you see? Probably should have a guide. Hey, don't spend your whole day out dancing in the sun, you could get burned. And put that chair down. Don't go lifting the furniture! Love to stay and talk, but I really have a train to catch. Or maybe it's just a museum to visit where **there are trains**. Or maybe it's both. So confusing.



# 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!

# What does travel in the time of COVID-19 look like to you?

On August 13, 2020 we adopted a set of *Health and Safety Protocols* including an *Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability Agreement* which must be accepted and signed by every traveler before every trip. They are mailed with the Final Tour Notes shortly before each departure. In this everchanging climate the protocols have been updated many times and will continue to be as science and circumstance dictate. You can review these documents in their current versions at any time on our website. Like you we greatly anticipate the day when they will no longer be necessary!

## Can I find you on the web? You bet! At www.sportsleisure.com

you'll find all our recent publications, plus information on upcoming tours, events and more. While there consider joining our online notification service, By *Invitation Only*, and we'll inform you of time-dated opportunities that present themselves between regular newsletter cycles.

## 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 elect to join the **Sports Leisure** Travel Club. Only through club membership will you receive the annual catalog, our bimonthly newsletter *The Traveler* and invitations to our special events. Additionally, only members can participate in Travel Club Gold and Day Tripper rebates, our bonus rewards programs. A complimentary membership is extended to new and potential travelers upon request. After that, it's only \$10 per person, per year.





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

Outside 70 days before departure (sometimes longer on international vacations) all tour payments are refunded less a \$20 per person administrative fee upon cancellation, including CP. Within 70 days before departure refund provisions vary based on the tour and the reason for cancellation. Please refer to our *Special Vacation Notes and Information* brochure for details.

# 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. As you can certainly understand it is quite difficult for your Tour Director to accommodate those who wait until they are actually traveling 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 other special requests?

You are invited to make special requests of the airline and 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 specific airline seating, an upgrade or the need for wheelchair assistance at airports; and at hotels a king bed or handicapaccessible room. 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 non-smoking room for everyone in the group and a room with two beds for those traveling double occupancy unless you tell us otherwise.

# I live in Nevada. What does your company offer me?

We welcome our Nevada travelers with open arms! Most of you live in residential communities in Reno and Sparks. Our fly-away tours are priced to include air and door-to-door service for those living in the Sacramento, Reno/Sparks, and Carson City areas. Those living a distance from the airports in Sacramento or Reno should consult with our office to determine the options best for you, some of which may add to the advertised tour price. Motorcoach tours depart only from the Sacramento area.

# 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, limousine 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, Auburn (95603) and Shingle Springs on the east, Woodland to the north. Service is available for an additional charge for travelers living in Galt, Stockton, Yuba City/Marysville, Grass Valley, Winters, Vacaville, Fairfield, Placerville, Lake of the Pines/Auburn (95602) and Colfax. Nevada door-to-door service is provided by Bell Limousine to anyone living in the Reno/Sparks metropolitan area and south to Carson City.

A \$100 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 overnighters 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?

If you haven't been on a bus since school days you'll find modern motorcoaches to be a vastly different experience. 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. Onboard amenities usually include plush seating, audio and video systems, wifi, electrical outlets, climate control and a restroom. Additionally, your Tour Director is never far away with a bottle of water and other refreshments. Of course, our exclusive galley-equipped coach is used on many Daycations and overnighters in our region, as well as selected longdistance trips unless it is unavailable due to maintenance or highway size restrictions.

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

By the vote of our membership 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.

# 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. Complete passport information is additionally required in advance for international travel. Up-todate security information can be found on the internet at www.tsa.gov, including details on how you can qualify for TSA Pre-Check. Our staff stays current on the latest regulations in order to provide you timely and accurate assistance.

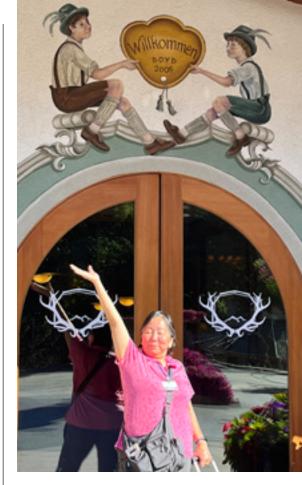
## Have passport rules changed?

Passports are required for all travel outside the U.S. including Canada and Mexico. If you are of foreign citizenship, we highly recommend you check with your country's embassy and follow its instructions to make certain your travel will be legal and seamless. U.S. citizens in need of a passport can pick up an application at any post office or find it online. Please allow a minimum of three months for processing. 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. You have this **Sports** 





*Leisure* promise: You will never pay to check your first bag on any flight on a U.S. airline. Should you wish to bring a second checked bag, please be prepared to pay your Tour Director at check-in. Second bag charges are not limited to airline fees and may include other handlers such as hotel bellmen. The Tour Planner can advise you of additional charges by calling the office in advance of your departure. You might also find the airline's website helpful.

Each checked bag has a strict weight limit of 40 or 50 pounds (depending on the trip). Bags weighing more will incur additional fees 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 visit 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. Local airport transportation can be provided for an additional \$50 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?

In order to get full value from a travel experience, it is important to be in good mental and physical health. 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 identified with an activity level. Check out the Activity Meter for each tour to get a feel for how it matches your interests, energy and fitness levels.

## What if I become ill and cannot travel? Do you offer cancellation protection or travel insurance?

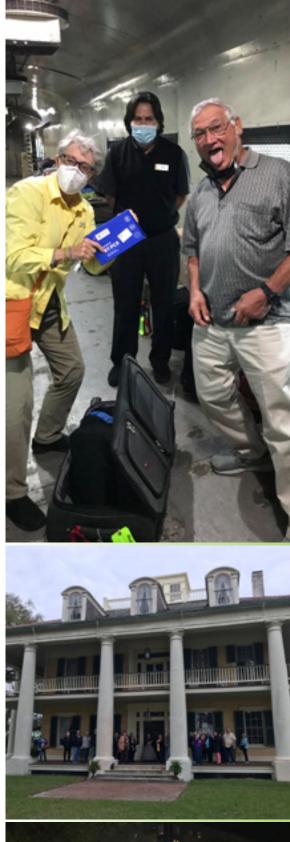
One or both are available on every departure. Either must be purchased at the time you make your initial tour payment. We strongly recommend you consider this optional protection. Please refer to the *Special Vacation Notes and Information* brochure for details. This coverage may not be available to 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.

## 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. Unhappy travelers are kindly asked to find another tour company.

And that's the *Sports Leisure* Difference...







9812 Old Winery Place, Suite 1 Sacramento, CA 95827

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## EARLY REGISTRATION/PAYMENT DI\$COUNT\$

Early Registration Payment Discounts listed here expire on **Friday, September 30, 2022**; or may be withdrawn when 50% of the available space has been reserved. To receive the discount you must pay in full with ten days of registration. If you accept this option the monies paid (less a \$20 administrative fee), including the cost of Cancellation Protection, are returned to you if you cancel more than 70 days prior to departure regardless of the reason for cancellation. Inside the time limits noted above restrictions on refunds apply. See the Special Vacation Notes & Information brochure for complete details.

Jan. - Be Dazzled at The Del in San Diego - \$ave \$60 Feb. - Winter in Yellowstone - \$ave \$150 March – Alaska Aurora Borealis – **\$ave \$175** March - New Orleans - \$ave \$80 March - Colorful Carolina Coast - \$ave \$150 March - Coast Starlight - \$ave \$75 March – Spring Training – \$ave \$100 April - Monterey - \$ave \$50 April – San Antonio – **\$ave \$75** April - New Mexico - \$ave \$100 April - Route 66 East - \$ave \$150 April – New York City – \$ave \$150 May – Red Rocks to Rockies – **\$ave \$175** May – Nevada Ghost Towns – \$ave \$75 May - Catalina Island - \$ave \$75 May - Utah - \$ave \$125 May - Niagara Falls - \$ave \$100 May - Washington, DC - \$ave \$100 June – Scandinavian Cruise – \$ave \$200 June – Redwoods & Oregon Coast – \$ave \$100 June - Cape Cod - \$ave \$150 June – A Train, A Paddle Wheeler, Columbia River – **\$ave \$75** June – Crater Lake & Lava Beds – \$ave \$75 July – Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound – \$ave \$75 August – San Juan Explorer – \$ave \$125

Visit us online at: www.sportsleisure.com

## The Sports Leisure Dream Team

Donnie Anderson Scott Angeletti Donna Carey Michael Downer Maureen Gagliardi Tyler Geralds Mariea Hammersley Patricia Hansen Mark Hoffmann RoseMarie Holt Serina Jordan Jim Pelley Sara Turner Bob Veliky Clayton Whitehead May Wong

# Sacramento's Travel Radio Show is heard every Sunday from 3-4pm

COVID Updates: What are Radio Show

- COVID Updates: What are the latest mask/vaccine/ travel rules?
- Tips to make you a smarter traveler
- Updates for Sports Leisure
   Travelers

## Every Sunday 3-4pm KFBK, 1530AM, 93.1FM

Podcasts and show updates at www.travelguysradio.com



Hosted by: Tom Romano and Mark Hoffmann