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JAN./FEB. | VOL. 39 | NO. 5 **2018**

## On these pages...

New trips, long (pgs. 10-12) and short (pgs. 6-7), a few laughs (pg. 8) and of course, lots of feedback from you and a re-introduction of our **Activity Chart** (pg. 13). It's a manta you have heard from us before, but our offerings continue to fill up quickly. We strongly urge you to reserve your space early.

A reminder that our unique **Cancellation Protection** program allows you to cancel domestic trips (at least 60 days before departure) and international trips (at least 90 days before departure) without penalty. You even receive your Cancellation Protection payment **back** on domestic trips (international tours have some restrictions).

New trips... how about a getaway to **Chicago** which includes tickets to **Hamilton** and **The Cher Show**, the pre-Broadway engagement about the life of Cherilyn Sarkisian La Piere Bono Allman? That sounds like fun in June!

If you like off-the-beaten-path adventures, we have announced the western half of our **Route 66** journey (Oklahoma City to Santa Monica), which is slated for late October and we are returning to **Catalina Island** with an itinerary featuring new attractions in the fall. The Giants Baseball schedule is inside, along with dates for **The Color Purple** in San Francisco.

Our **Spring Preview Day**, which features fall and holiday trips, is scheduled for **Saturday, April 7**, at the KVIE Studios. Reservations will be accepted beginning **March 1**. Our annual **Tour Preview Day**, where our annual catalog is rolled out, is **Saturday, September 15**, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Reservations will be accepted beginning **August 1**.



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★★★★★★★★★★

Editor .....	Mark Hoffmann
Executive Editor .....	Kevin Murphy
Staff Writers .....	P. Hansen, R. Goodge, S. Angeletti & C. Whitehead, D. Anderson
Contributing Photographer.....	C. Galloway



**Meanwhile, at the US Figure Skating Championships in San Jose...** Our gang decided to cheer on their favorites with signs the last night. Chris got the poster board and sharpies and they went to work.

Between sessions one day, the group met the new U.S. Jr. Champion, Camden Pulkinen (middle, bottom), from Arizona. Camden talked about the ins and outs of competitive figure skating. Keep an eye on him.

# Just One Man's Opinion by Mark Hoffmann

Jean came to California in 1960 from Colorado by train, bringing two small children, one an infant, with her. She had \$75 in her pocket. She and the children stayed at a 16<sup>th</sup> Street Travel Lodge which cost \$6.95 a night. Do the math. There wasn't a great margin for error.

She came to California because a friend locally told her the state of California was hiring stenographers/secretaries, and with her whiz-bang typing skills, she could surely get a job. Jean took the kids and left her Korean War veteran husband behind. After trying to find a landing spot in the Midwest (Iowa was her home), or at her parents home in Colorado, she got on the *California Zephyr* with her children, in search of a better life. Jean was my Mom.

I remember arriving at the Western Pacific Train Depot on 19<sup>th</sup> St. in the evening. (While most of the trains coming and going into our city left from the old train station at 4<sup>th</sup> and I Sts., for a decade in the 50's and 60's, the *California Zephyr* stopped at the Western Pacific Depot.) Don't remember anything else except the station, which today is an Old Spaghetti Factory Restaurant. I've always loved eating there. Imagine that.

Mom said she came back to Sacramento because of the memories she had of our town when she was a little girl. Seems her uncle's family lived in Corning. She and her brother and parents lived in Hayward. The weekend trip to Corning in the 40's meant leaving on Saturday morning, stopping for lunch in Sacramento, and arriving in Corning for supper (we were Midwesterners, so we had "supper" as often as we had "dinner"). The next day the trip was repeated in reverse. Because they didn't have the money to eat in a restaurant, they packed a picnic lunch, and stopped in town at 16<sup>th</sup> and C Sts., at the city park. The park used to have a small wading pool in the corner. Mom and her brother would splash and play in that pool during the lunch break. It was the pleasant memories of those lunch stops and the wading pool which was the deciding factor in coming to Sacramento, Mom revealed to me years later.



**JEAN HAYES**

Her graduation picture from Sacramento State University at age 46  
Born 1934 – Passed 1917

Pretty brave move, coming to California with two kids, little money and no job. But she made it. We made it. We made it over and over again. Raising children, two to start with and then brother David came along, on a secretary's salary, was a constant struggle. We were always a little short it seemed, especially at the end of the month.

I remember one story vividly, like it was yesterday. It was late in the month. The payment for the Boy Scout campout, in the amount of \$5, was past due. Mom came home from work with a big run in her panty hose. Of course, she only had the one pair. We had exactly \$6 in the house. It had to be the campout or new panty hose. There was never any question where the money would go. I remember watching my mother walk out the door the next morning to catch the bus. I distinctively remember seeing the long run in the back of her hose. I knew it would be embarrassing for her for the next two days, until payday. I remember a tear coming to my eye then, just as it is now.

Mom always put her kids first. She didn't always have a lot of money to give us, but we were a team and we made it together. We had no car, so all of our groceries were brought from Raley's and Pantry Markets,

about a mile away, by bicycle. My bicycle.

Some years Christmas was a little lean. But Mom always found a way. One year, my bike was stolen a couple of weeks before the holidays. Now we had lost our only transportation and I was heartbroken. Magically, three days before Christmas, a deputy sheriff came to our door and presented a used bike. Mom had made it happen once again.

When **Sports Leisure Vacations** got started, Mom was there to help. On the days when I was on the bus, I took the reservations book to her house. We installed a phone line (no cell phones in the 80's), and Mom took the bookings. When we had 6-7 buses out on the same day, she baked bundt cakes to serve on board. When we came up missing a tour director on short notice, she took a group to Great America on a day trip. I could always count on her.

In recent years, she was slowed by a heart attack and then a stroke. She couldn't use or read the computer, which was a huge handicap for a lady who loved keeping up with the world. It had become a habit of mine, once every few weeks after my radio show ended at 4pm on Sunday, to stop by Panera on the way to mom's house. We would sit and have dinner and talk about some aspect of our lives together, digging up memories of things that happened back in the days. I didn't know as they played out that I would cherish those times together more than anything else. I also didn't know they were about to come to an end.

On Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, she passed quietly in her home. The coroner said she likely fell asleep in her chair and her heart just stopped working. Being at home was so important to her. She hated hospitals and didn't want to go to an assisted living facility. All those years she had to rent a home and by God, she wanted to end her time in her own house. And she did. For that I am very grateful.

Mom will be buried in Corning, in a plot with her parents. She loved her roses as much as anything, so I'm thinking I would

*Continued on page 5*



## Happy New Year!

I am fascinated by the recent trend of sending a sample of your saliva away to learn your ethnic past. Pay a bit more and some tests are so specific as to provide actual branches on your family tree. A friend's parents recently did this. To their surprise her very Italian mother learned she was one third Celtic! Growing up on the East Coast, nearly everyone I knew claimed some "Scotch/Irish" blood. It's not surprising. Scots and Irish came to the New World in great numbers both before and after American Independence. I wonder how many of my readers are of Celtic heritage? I bet I've got a few cousins out there!

Whether the knowledge of your family's past is based on detailed genealogies or simply oral history and tradition, ancestral heritage has always been a chief motivator for travel. Walking in the footsteps of your kin is a powerful thing. It's hard to describe until you do it. Then something just hits you, and you know... you KNOW a tiny piece of



Georjan Gee and Clayton are all smiles after the 2016 Tattoo. Won't you don your tartan and join in the fun this year?

you has been there before. Those of Celtic heritage often attest to getting the same feeling when they hear the drone of the bagpipe, and I wholeheartedly agree. I've never experienced anything quite as moving or beautiful as the sound of a hundred bagpipes playing "Scotland Forever." It is simply indescribable... drone and all.

There's an interesting tradition dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> Century that involves Scotsmen, a keg of ale and not a few bagpipes. How could this recipe turn out anything but great, right? Seems the Scotsmen could get a bit rogue after an evening of drinking. When the proprietor was ready to call it a night, he'd shout the Dutch phrase *doe den tap toe* – turn off the tap! At this point the revelers would move into the streets, the pipes would come out and the party would rock on! In their drunken state I suppose speaking in Dutch was an impossibility. (Heck, speaking in Dutch is difficult when sober!) So it was that *tap toe* became "tattoo" and the music played on until the dawn.

This tradition is still alive and well in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century thanks to the efforts of three great cities: Norfolk, Virginia, Halifax, Nova Scotia and Scotland's capital city of Edinburgh – the latter being the granddaddy of them all. So what exactly is a modern-day Tattoo? Military bands and folk dance troupes from all over the world come together for a night of pageantry, music and dance. Though bagpipes are not required, many bands have a pipe corps, proving Scotland's reach around the globe. The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is especially grand as it is performed on the grounds of the historic castle that has loomed over the city since the 12<sup>th</sup> Century. Perhaps you've seen the annual performance on KVIE or YouTube. Here's your chance to witness the spectacle live and in person!

Our August 9-20 **Scottish Tales and the Beatles Trail** includes everything a person could want from a visit to Scotland whether a returning visitor or a frequent guest, including a 3-night stay in Edinburgh to witness the Tattoo and associated events, such as our exclusive "Jacobite Experience"

dinner party, in all their spectacle and grandeur. We'll tour Edinburgh Castle, the Palace of Holyroodhouse and the royal yacht *Britannia*. Next we move north towards the Highlands with visits to Loch Lomond, Inverary, Inverness and the magical Isle of Skye. Rest assured we'll see castles and have opportunities to visit distilleries, purveyors of the finest scotch whiskey in the world.

Crossing back into England, discover the world of Peter Rabbit, Jemima Puddle-Duck, Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle and Tom Kitten – the imaginary family of Beatrix Potter, all breathed into being in the English Lake District. We'll visit her home known as Hill Top before finding ourselves in the hometown of another interesting quartet of characters named John, Paul, George and Ringo. Indeed, The Beatles were born and raised in Liverpool where you'll visit the largest museum in the world totally dedicated to the lives and music of *The Fab Four*.

A complete itinerary and map was printed on page 47 of our 2018 catalogue (or can be found on our website), however we went to press before the price was certain. The cost of the 12-day adventure is \$7570 p.p./dbl.occ., \$9155 single. I know for some "the pipes, the pipes are calling you" to Scotland and England this summer. Space remains for just 14 more travelers. Don't miss this opportunity to see the very best of the British Isles. We may even close down a tap or two!

A stylized, handwritten signature of Clayton Whitehead in black ink.

**Clayton Whitehead, CTP**  
**Vice President**

## Does Your Group or Organization need a Speaker?

Let Mark or Clayton share humorous travel stories and tips for avoiding hassles on the road. Door prizes and complimentary Travel Club Memberships are provided.

**Call the office to reserve your date today!**

# The Customers Always Write

**Dear Mark,**

Thank you so much for your thoughtful donation of toys, clothes, and other gifts for our 2017 Families are Us Holiday Store! Your gift will create a meaningful holiday experience for families working toward a stable life and home. We can already envision the smile on the faces of the youth who will receive your gifts! Our Holiday Store couldn't happen without your partnership. It means the work to us. Sincerely,

*Laura Heintz, Chief Executive Officer,  
Stanford Youth Solutions*

**Ed. Note:** The folks who help foster kids in our community were the recipients of our staff Christmas Party shopping. We used some of the profits (profits you help create) to make Christmas a little better for kids who could use a hand.

**Dear Mark,**

As I have traveled with **Sports Leisure** for the past twenty years, I wanted to touch bases with you to express my appreciation for organizing an outstanding company that offers travels for the mid-older generation. I lost my husband seventeen years ago and through my friend, Betty Horsky, I discovered **Sports Leisure** and the two of us have enjoyed many of your trips together.

Your company has an outstanding reputation due to top quality service without the individual travelers having to be responsible for travel planning. The tour directors are excellent and well informed.

I no longer am able to take extensive trips due to my age of 93 years but I am most grateful to you for the day trips you offer. I will continue to make the trips to San Francisco or other more local sites for mainly the plays and musicals. These provide me personally the opportunity to keep in touch with the outside work and for social functions.

Thanks again Mark for all that you have made possible for me and continue to do so through the many options to choose from. Fondly,

*Lillian McHenry (Lil)*

**Ed. Note:** What a joy to have a letter like the one above come across your desk. Thank you Lil for your words. You have always been a hoot to travel with, a real asset to the trips we made together. The great thing about our trip offerings is that there is something for everyone. 93. Wow, keep on truckin' my friend!

**Mark, Clayton and all the wonderful Staff at Sports Leisure,**

I miss traveling with you. I have so many wonderful memories of all the trips I took with you through the years. Now it is time for my kids to start traveling with your wonderful group. I am living in an assisted care facility in Carmichael, close to my son. I have a lovely corner apartment. The meals are delicious. I love having company, so come visit me sometime. My very best to all of you.

*Flora Carrilo*

**Ed. Note:** Thank you Flora, for your

"retirement" letter. Like Lil above, you were a part of so many **Sports Leisure** trips. Thank you for sending along a note and sharing a little about your new place.

**Dear Clayton,**

Ed and I want to thank you for a memorable trip to New York for Thanksgiving. This was our first extended trip with **Sports Leisure** and I'm certain it won't be our last. We compliment you on your attention to every detail. You made it look easy; getting 32 people to all the events, when we know it took lots of planning. Thank you for making our return to New York so memorable.

*Ed & Rita Schroeder*

**Hi Clayton,**

Thanks so much for the excellent job you did on the "group travel videos" of the trip to Italy in October. We really enjoyed viewing at Christmas with the family. Great trip and you are an outstanding tour leader.

*Maggie & Elaine*

**Dear Michael,**

I am writing to let you know that my husband Walt passed away. He had been having a hard time for awhile. We had such good memories of all our trips with you all. He talked of them all repeatedly. I would like to get your mailings again. Thanks for the memories,

*Joan Larson*

**Ed. Note:** Your spot on the mailing list is intact Joan. Hopefully, you are reading this from the newsletter delivered to your home. Sorry to hear about Walt. We look forward to seeing you on the road.

If you have a comment, suggestion or tour idea, we invite you to drop us a line. Due to space limitations, not all letters can be printed (others may be edited). Mail to:

## **SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS**

Attn: Mark/Clayton  
9812 Old Winery Place, Suite 1  
Sacramento, CA 95827

**Or e-mail Mark or Clayton at:**

marks1t@aol.com  
clayton.whitehead@sportsleisure.com

## The Travel Guys *Radio Show*

*Making you a  
smarter traveler...*

**Every Sunday 3-4pm**

**KFBK, 1530, 93.1FM**



**Tom Romano and Mark Hoffmann**

# Baseball & Casino Trips

## Cirque du Soleil's Crystal

SAP Arena, San Jose

2 Days • March 29-30

*Crystal* is not just an ice show...it is the very first experience on ice from Cirque du Soleil. Watch world-class ice skaters and acrobats claim their new frozen playground with speed and fluidity as they challenge the laws of gravity with never-before-seen acrobatics. This is a new kind of performance as Cirque du Soleil meets the ice to defy all expectations. Please note: stairs are required to access your seat.

Travel to San Jose and check into the Embassy Suites in Milpitas. Enjoy an early dinner at Original Joe's Restaurant prior to the 7:30pm show at San Jose's SAP Arena. Enjoy a full, cooked-to-order breakfast at your hotel prior to returning to Sacramento.

The tour includes deluxe transportation, accommodations, 2 meals, (1FB,1D), a ticket to the performance and a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director. 500/600 Gold Passport Points

**\$495 p.p./dbl. occ., \$580 single**

**Add door-to door service for \$80 p.p.**

### Just One Man's Opinion – Con't from page 2

like to create a public rose garden somewhere in the area, with her name on it, so her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will have someplace to visit to remember her. I will take my share of the proceeds from the sale of Mom's home and create a college/continuing education fund for her three great grandchildren, my great niece and nephews, as another way to continue her legacy.

I have always been grateful that I grew up without having everything I wanted/needed all the time. It helps you appreciate things. The first time in a restaurant in my 20's when a waiter asked me how I wanted my steak cooked, I thought to myself, done I guess. You see, to us, steak was that piece of round steak you got the butcher to run through the tenderizer so it wouldn't be as tough as shoe leather. Then Mom dipped it in flour and fried it in the skillet and you ate it with potatoes and gravy. I thought that **was** steak. New York? Sirloin? Medium Rare? Didn't know there was such a thing. You never know what you're missing if you don't know what you're missing.

I'm going to miss Mom. I'll miss the Sunday afternoon dinners. I'll miss her teaching me things. Like how to make meat loaf or pork chops with mushroom gravy. Goodness Mom could cook, especially comfort food. I'll miss us talking about baseball. I don't think she liked baseball that much, I think it was just one of those things moms do. I'll miss her reminding me that no matter how little we had, we always had enough to share with others. Most of the things I do with integrity in business or in life have her fingerprints all over them.

Rest in peace Mom. Of all the moms in the world, you were the best.

And so it goes...

*Mark Hoodman*

## 2018 Ballpark Express

For over 38 years, the BEST way to get to the ballpark in San Francisco has been with **Sports Leisure Vacations**. Our original **Ballpark Express**, allows you to travel to games in comfort without the challenges of traffic, tolls, gas, and parking! Refreshments are served on board the motorcoach on your way to and from the game. You'll enjoy Field Reserved seating (First Deck) for games at AT&T Park. At this time, we have no games scheduled to see the Oakland A's in Oakland. This may change depending on demand.

### San Francisco Giants

Sun., Apr. 8	Giants vs. Dodgers	1:05pm	\$165
Wed., May 16	Giants vs. Reds	12:45pm	\$145*
Wed., June 6	Giants vs. D-Backs	12:45pm	\$145*
Sun., July 8	Giants vs. Cardinals	1:05pm	\$153
Wed., July 11	Giants vs. Cubs	12:45pm	\$174
Sun., July 15	Giants vs. Athletics	1:05pm	\$153
Tues., Aug. 7	Giants vs. Astros	12:45pm	\$153
Wed., Sept. 12	Giants vs. Braves	12:45pm	\$145*
Sun., Sept. 30	Giants vs. Dodgers	12:05pm	\$153

*\*Includes one-way transportation on the SF Bay Ferry from Vallejo to AT&T Park. Ferry schedule/availability subject to change.*

## Cache Creek Casino Express

### Saturday March 17

Since we had to say goodbye to our Champagne Express to Lake Tahoe trips, we thought you might be ready for a new casino adventure! Your 4-hour stay at Cache Creek Casino includes a \$10 Slot Play credit and \$5 food credit. You must be a member of Cache Club Rewards Program to receive the bonus. You will have an opportunity to sign up at the Cache Club service desk the day of the trip. Find a four-leaf clover and come join us for a fun St. Patrick's Day! **\$49**

### A Message for our Casino Patrons

We were recently contacted by Harvey's at Tahoe and informed the casino will no longer be providing cash bonuses for motorcoach groups. It's truly the end of an era, as casino trips were the heart of this company in its earliest days. This has been a trend over the past several years. In fact, **Sports Leisure** was one of only three remaining companies to which Harvey's provided this benefit based on our many years of loyalty. Without a bonus program, we have decided to stop offering gaming trips to South Lake Tahoe. We will continue to offer non-gaming daytrips to Lake Tahoe and may decide to offer passengers the option of choosing an activity or a visit to a casino.





# Day Trips & Theatre Outings

## It's a Symphonic Surfin' Safari

At the Luther Burbank Center

Sunday, February 18

The legendary Beach Boys tribute band, *Papa Doo Run*, join the Santa Rosa Symphony for an afternoon of fun classic rock from the 60's and 70's. Hear all your favorites including "Surfin' Safari," "Help Me Rhonda," "Fun, Fun, Fun," and, of course, "Wipe Out." Lunch is included at Dempsey's prior to the 3pm performance and a light dinner snack will be served on the way home. **\$179**

## A Magical Luncheon

Thursday, February 22

First presented as a mystery daytrip last summer with three departures, this "Magical Luncheon" received rave reviews! Host Gerry Griffin welcomes you to his house of fun and illusion for the afternoon. A very tasty pre-set menu is served with tableside magic and humor. Then sit back and enjoy the show that is filled with laughter and illusion. You will come away mystified. **\$159**

## ABBA Mania

Gallo Center, Modesto

Friday, February 23

Seven performers and musicians bring to life the very best of the legendary Swedish group. Get your bell bottoms out for two hours of hits ranging from "Dancing Queen" to "Waterloo" to "Fernando." Dinner is included at the Canal Street Grille prior to the 8pm show. **\$162**

## Rhapsody & Rhythm: The Gershwin Concert Experience

Gallo Center, Modesto

Sunday, February 25

This is the official, Gershwin-family authorized multi-media concert event celebrating the music and the legacy of brothers George and Ira. Three incredible singers/musicians will remind you of why the Gershwin brothers will forever be one of the most respected and beloved songwriting

teams. The performance begins at 4pm with dinner to follow at the Canal Street Grille. Limited space! **\$149**

## Mamma Mia!

At the East Sonora Theatre

Saturday, March 3

Sierra Repertory Theatre opens its 2018 season with this smash musical. The hilarious story tells of a teen's search for her birth father on a Greek island paradise. The story will have you laughing and ABBA's hit songs will make you want to dance in the theater aisles! Lunch is included at the City Hotel in Columbia prior to the 2pm matinee. **\$149**

## Behind the Scenes at the NEW Golden 1 Center

Tuesday, March 6

Second departure! Enjoy a 90-minute VIP walking tour of our new, exciting, and impressive Golden 1 Center in downtown Sacramento. The private walking tour includes the art and architecture of the multi-level interior, highlights local food venues that promote farm-to-fork dining, and provides a history of Sacramento, and of course, our own Kings! Following the tour, relax and enjoy an included lunch at nearby Il Fornaio Restaurant. **\$131**

## The Ten Tenors

Gallo Center, Modesto

Sunday, March 11

Hear the power of *Ten* as the guys soar through rock and pop anthems with their unmistakable style and sound. They will woo you with some of the most romantic love songs and arias of all time with classics from Puccini, Rossini, David Bowie, Queen and Leonard Cohen. Dinner is included after the 4pm performance at the Canal Street Grille. Limited space! **\$171**



[www.facebook.com/sportsleisure](http://www.facebook.com/sportsleisure)

## Casanova and Bouquets to Art

Legion of Honor and de Young Museums of San Francisco

Thursday, March 15

Born in 1725 in Venice, Giacomo Casanova was a man of many talents including essayist, playwright, librettist, gambler, traveler, spy, and compelling character. The exhibit *Casanova: The Seduction of Europe*, charts his exploits and life through paintings, sculptures, and costumes as evoked by the art of his contemporaries including Boucher, Canaletto, and Fragonard. An audio guide is included for your enjoyment of this unique and special exhibit. In the afternoon, travel to the de Young Museum in Golden Gate Park for *Bouquets to Art 2018*. This popular annual event features galleries of fresh floral arrangements inspired by paintings and works of the permanent collection. Floral artists draw their inspiration from the museum works in imaginative and intricate creations. Lunch is on your own at either of the museum cafes. **\$116**

## Take the Train with Brunch

Sunday, March 18

Travel to Berkeley on board *SuperCoach III* with mimosas served at your seat. A Champagne Sunday Brunch buffet is served at Hs Lordship's Restaurant on the bay at the Berkeley Marina, featuring fresh seafood, cooked-to-order omelets and carved meats in addition to other hot entrees. Return to Sacramento aboard Amtrak's *Capitol Corridor*. Leave Sacramento around 8:30am and be back around 3pm. A short day out but very scenic and tasty! **\$173**

## A Day at the Races

Golden Gate Fields, Berkeley

Thursday, March 22

Our always popular Day at the Races includes a sumptuous buffet lunch and seating in the enclosed Turf Club at Golden Gate Fields by beautiful San Francisco Bay in Berkeley. Enjoy the races with betting windows nearby and television monitors throughout the dining room. **\$121**

## Easter at Ironstone Vineyards

Sunday, April 1

Return to the Sierra Foothills with our festive daytrip to enjoy an Easter brunch buffet at the beautiful Ironstone Winery, just outside Murphys, overlooking its green vineyards and orchards. Stroll through the blooming gardens, visit the history museum and, of course, sample some of the winery's award-winning wines and maybe bring home a few bottles! You may even catch the area's children in a spirited Easter egg hunt on the lawns of the estate. Spring is the perfect time to enjoy the drive through the foothills and quaint gold rush towns. **\$145**

## San Francisco Flower & Garden Show

*Cow Palace in San Francisco*

Thursday, April 15

Welcome Spring with a visit to the annual San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. After 10 years, the show is going back to the historic Cow Palace in San Francisco with the theme "Return to Paradise." Enjoy a day strolling through garden landscapes, sitting in on seminars and demonstrations by master gardeners, and a vast marketplace of unique items to inspire your own gardening adventures and outdoor pleasures. Lunch is on your own with a variety of onsite food booths available. **\$101**

## Million Dollar Quartet

*Fallon House Theater, Columbia*

Saturday, April 14

Based on an actual event, this show recounts a night in 1956 when Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Johnny Cash participated in a star-studded jam session. If you love the music these songwriting legends produced, you can bet you'll be singing along! Lunch is included at the City Hotel prior to the 2pm matinee. **\$149**

## San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival

Sunday, April 15

The Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival will be celebrating its 51<sup>st</sup> year in 2018! It is one of California's most prominent celebrations of Asian traditions and the

biggest on the West Coast. The festival will be held in Japantown on Post Street between Laguna and Fillmore Streets. There will be food booths, cultural performances, martial arts demonstrations, live bands and more! You will have ample time to enjoy the festival and lunch on your own. **\$85**

## A Day Out in San Francisco

Sunday, April 15

Enjoy a ride to The City for a day of shopping, lunch or just looking around! The coach will drop at you at Pier 39/Fishermens Wharf and Union Square. **\$80**

## Return to Copia

*The CIA at Copia in Napa*

Tuesday, April 17

After several years of closure, this beautiful facility in downtown Napa has reopened to the delight of all who love food and dining. Enjoy a full day of culinary pleasures as we begin with a tour followed by a cooking demonstration with tastings. Considered the premier cooking school in the USA, Copia is part of the prestigious Culinary Institute of America (C.I.A.). Following the tour and class, enjoy an included lunch in the dining room which features seasonally inspired dishes. There will be time after lunch to browse the gift shop of cookbooks, cookware, foods, and wines, along with Napa's famous Oxbow Market adjacent to Copia before returning home. Truly a special day for anyone who enjoys cooking, eating, good food, and a fun day close to home. **\$177**

## South Pacific

*Nevada Theatre, Nevada City*

Sunday, April 22

Our friends at Community Asian Theatre of the Sierra (CATS) bring us one of Rogers and Hammerstein's most beloved musicals. Set in an island paradise during World War II, two parallel love stories are threatened by the dangers of prejudice and war. Nellie, a spunky nurse from Arkansas, falls in love with a mature French planter, Emile. Meanwhile, the strapping Lt. Joe Cable denies himself the fulfillment of a future with an innocent Tonkinese girl with whom he's fallen in love. Lunch is included at Tofanelli's

Restaurant in nearby Grass Valley prior to the 2pm matinee. **\$134**

## Wayne Thiebaud in Davis

*Manetti Shrem Museum of Art*

Wednesday, April 25

Another nearby tour is a visit the new and architecturally stunning Manetti Shrem Museum at UC Davis for Wayne Thiebaud: 1958-1968. With more than 60 paintings, the exhibition is the first to explore this formative early period and emergence of Thiebaud as a mature artist with a singular style. Before our scheduled afternoon tour, enjoy included lunch at The Pheasant Club on our way to Davis. **\$110**

## The Color Purple

*Orpheum Theater, SF*

Saturday, May 5 or Wednesday, May 9

Based on the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *The Color Purple* brings to the stage all the exhilaration and spirit of this prize winning story. This 2016 Tony Award winner for best Musical Revival tells the story of Celie and takes place mostly in rural Georgia. The story focuses on the life of African-American women in the southern United States in the 1930s, addressing numerous issues that affected their lives. Despite obstacles, Celie and her family still are able to find love and friendships all expressed through the spiritually rousing jazz, blues, gospel or ragtime music. Wednesday trips include a snack-sized box lunch, orchestra seating for the 2pm matinee, and dinner on your own at Pier 39 after the show. The Saturday trip includes lunch on your own in Union Square before the 2pm matinee. **Wed. – \$159, Sat. – \$185**

## Beach Blanket Babylon

Sunday, May 6

There's nothing quite *Beach Blanket Babylon*. San Francisco's longest-running staged comedy show pokes fun at everyone – politicians, celebrities and other folks in the public eye. The songs are hilarious, the dancing wonderful, and the hats are really, really big! Reserved seats are upstairs (no elevator) in this historic theatre in the center balcony. Enjoy an included lunch at Trattoria Pinocchio. **\$181**



## Making a Baby at the Smith House

(There is not one dirty word in it, and it is funny! This is a reprint from a few years ago, by request.)

The Smiths were unable to conceive children and decided to use a surrogate father to start their family. On the day the proxy father was to arrive, Mr. Smith kissed his wife goodbye and said, "Well, I'm off now. The man should be here soon."

Half an hour later, just by chance, a door-to-door baby photographer happened to ring the doorbell, hoping to make a sale. "Good morning, Ma'am," he said, "I've come to..."

"Oh, no need to explain," Mrs. Smith cut in, embarrassed, "I've been expecting you."

"Have you really?" said the photographer. "Well, that's good. Did you know babies are my specialty?"

"Well that's what my husband and I had hoped. Please come in and have a seat."

After a moment she asked, blushing, "Well, where do we start?"

"Leave everything to me. I usually try two in the bathtub, one on the couch, and perhaps a couple on the bed. And sometimes the living room floor is fun. You can really spread out there."

"Bathtub, living room floor? No wonder it didn't work out for Harry and me!"

"Well, Ma'am, none of us can guarantee a good one every time. But if we try several different positions and I shoot from six or seven angles, I'm sure you'll be pleased with the results."

"My, that's a lot," gasped Mrs. Smith!

"Ma'am, in my line of work a man has to take his time. I'd love to be in and out in five minutes, but I'm sure you'd be disappointed with that."

"Don't I know it," said Mrs. Smith quietly.

The photographer opened his briefcase and pulled out a portfolio of his baby pictures. "This was done on the top of a bus," he said.

"Oh, my God!" Mrs. Smith exclaimed, grasping at her throat.

"And these twins turned out exceptionally well – when you consider their mother was so difficult to work with."

"She was difficult?" asked Mrs. Smith. "Yes, I'm afraid so. I finally had to take her to the park to get the job done right. People were crowding around four and five deep to get a good look."

"Four and five deep?" said Mrs. Smith, her eyes wide with amazement.

"Yes," the photographer replied. "And for

more than three hours, too. The mother was constantly squealing and yelling – I could hardly concentrate, and when darkness approached I had to rush my shots. Finally, when the squirrels began nibbling on my equipment, I just had to pack it all in."

Mrs. Smith leaned forward. "Do you mean they actually chewed on your, uh... equipment?"

"It's true, Ma'am, yes.. Well, if you're ready, I'll set-up my tripod and we can get to work right away."

"Tripod?"

"Oh yes, Ma'am. I need to use a tripod to rest my Canon on. It's much too big to be held in the hand for long."

Mrs. Smith fainted.

## Friends We've Lost...

Here we honor those members of our travel family who have passed recently. If you know someone who should be remembered here, please contact the office.

**Kurt Rauh**

**Walt Larson**

**Bea Mattson**

**Al Rice**

**Jean Hayes**

**Mary Danforth-Braden**

**Monica Foxworth**

Our time together is short on this planet. Times like our adventures together traveling are often among our best and brightest memories. Thanks to those listed here, who brought us laughter and joy, along life's road. May all your travels be on the wings of angels.

*Godspeed*

## Recognize Me? Last Call for the Lost and Found

As you can see by the picture, many of our travelers' belongings have made their way to the **Sports Leisure**

office. We have a cane, a great Giants hat, glasses, umbrellas, bags, seriously, we could have a garage sale. Except that all of this stuff... um, valued treasures, belong to someone in our travel family. If you have left something on the coach in the last couple of months, or even the last couple of years, we might have it. Maybe you recognize

something in the picture? Anything that isn't claimed in the next 30 days will be donated to charity or discarded. Then the Lost and Found Drawer will start over...



## OFFICE HOURS:

9:00am – 4:30pm MON. thru FRI.

Closed weekends & major holidays

CLOSED TUES. 12:00pm – 1:15pm



## When is a Doggie Bag Appropriate?

While traveling on an extended **Sports Leisure** tour, often times (because of our smaller groups), we are eating off the menu, giving travelers a wide variety of dining choices. Other times we have a plated meal, served to us at the table. A third common option is a buffet, where the bounty is plentiful.

Some travelers have asked, "When is it appropriate to ask for a box for your leftovers?" A recent situation at the Thanksgiving dinner buffet at the National Hotel in Jackson, where one of our travelers was seen filling a plastic bag with roast beef from the buffet, suggests we should address the issue here. If you have questions, consult your Tour Director.

**Eating off the Menu** – This is an option extended by few tour companies to their travelers. Why? People tend to order 20-30% more when they know they aren't getting out their credit card at the end of the meal. Other tour operators marvel at our ability to allow "order off the menu." It works because most **Sports Leisure** Travelers don't go hog wild. You are fair. Some order the steak and some order the salad. Thankfully, our travelers don't have a "stick it to the tour company" attitude. That's the biggest reason we can give you so much freedom when traveling.

When you are ordering off the menu, it is **not** appropriate to order something to-go. We are paying only for your meal, not your late night snack, or tomorrow's breakfast. Unless it's leftover from your main entrée, to-go is **not** appropriate.

**Plated Meals with limited choices or set menus** – In this case, it is **always** ok to ask your server for a to-go container for any part of your meal.

**Buffets** – This one is also easy. It is **never** appropriate behavior to take to-go food from a buffet. Buffets are "on site consumption" only. If you want something from a buffet to-go, ask your server if you can purchase the item. They might be happy to wrap something up for you, especially if you have offered to pay for it.

## 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.

**L 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.

**M Moderate** – A tour with some walking activities, and standing/strolling at attractions and museums and possibly some stair climbing. A day trip 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.

**A 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 trip 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.

**E 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 zodiac boat if you are with Ramona. 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.**

# New Vacations & Getaways

## The Dynamic Duo: Cher and Hamilton in Chicago

*Two amazing shows, luxurious accommodations, sightseeing and amazing meals on this quick visit to The Windy City*

**4 Days • June 27-30**

We can only hold theatre tickets through the end of January. This is not a sit-around-and-think-about-it thing. Book today! Strictly limited to 34 travelers!

1. Fly to Chicago and arrive at the very epitome of class and refinement – the historic Palmer House Hotel. From this great address the entire city is at your fingertips. Tonight, begin a journey through some of Chicago's great culinary treasures at your welcome dinner. **Palmer House Hilton – 3 nights (D)**

2. A guided tour starts the day to acquaint you with the history and architecture of this great city, including a bird's eye view from atop one of her magnificent skyscrapers and lunch. In the evening, the CIBC Theatre – directly across the street from the hotel – plays host to a performance of the Broadway mega-hit **Hamilton**. The show – winner of a remarkable 11 Tony Awards – presents a modern version of our country's founding and early days through the eyes of Alexander Hamilton (Front Mezzanine seating). **(FB,L)**

3. Chicago is famous for her museums, and today you can select to spend a few hours (or the whole day) at your favorite! The Field Museum of Natural History, the Shedd Aquarium and the Art Institute of Chicago are all nearby... as is wonderful shopping and eats along State Street. Tonight you'll witness the pre-Broadway preview of a musical based on the life of none other than Cherilyn Sarkisian La Piere Bono Allman... or as her friends simply call her, Cher! The historic Oriental Theater plays host to **The Cher Show**, presenting a look into the life of this superstar from childhood through the present day. Of course her many chart-topping hits will be there to help tell the story. **(FB,D)**

4. Can it be over already? Well not before a short walk up the street to the famed

Marshall Field's Department store for lunch in The Walnut Room. You'll want to sample Mrs. Herring's Chicken Pot Pie, the specialty of the house. Delicious! An afternoon flight returns you home. **(FB,L)**

This tour includes door-to-door airport service, roundtrip air, motorcoach transportation, accommodations, 7 meals (3 FB,2L,2D), local touring, tickets to 2 shows and attractions as listed, and the services of a **Sports Leisure Vacations** Tour Director. 2600/2850 Gold Passport Points

**\$2560 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2820 single**

**Save \$75 until February 6**

## Catalina Island Getaway

**4 Days • September 30 – October 3**

Catalina Island isn't a destination; it's a state of mind. And early fall is the perfect time to visit, with mild temperatures and after the summer crowds are gone. Our annual escape to the island "26 miles across the sea" features **three nights** at the **Pavilion Lodge**, in the heart of Avalon, right on the harbor and within walking distance of countless shops and restaurants. Begin with a short flight to Southern California. Enjoy a tour and spectacular Sunday Brunch aboard the *Queen Mary*, moored in Long Beach Harbor. Travel aboard the high-speed *Catalina Express* ferry to the island. At your hotel, enjoy a wine reception each night and a continental breakfast each morning.

The itinerary includes several NEW adventures on the island as well as plenty of free time to enjoy additional activities or time to relax on your own. Included in the package is the new *Twilight in the Casino* tour which showcases the ballroom, big band dancing and wine & cheese on the balcony! We'll also experience the new *Evening Avalon Scenic* tour aboard a new state-of-the-art electric bus. Finally, catch a glimpse of the underwater world surrounding the island on board a semi-submersible vehicle. A final night dinner is just steps from your hotel. A mid-morning return to the mainland by ferry allows you time for lunch in Long Beach at Parker's Lighthouse prior to your late afternoon flight home.

The tour includes door-to-door service, roundtrip airfare, deluxe motorcoach transportation, accommodations and three tours on Catalina Island, 6 meals (3B,1BR,1L,1D), and the services of a **Sports Leisure Vacations** Tour Director. 1750/2100 Gold Passport Points

**\$1745 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2080 single**

**Save \$60 until February 6**

## Sedona & Grand Canyon National Park

*Featuring a visit to Bearizona Wildlife Park*

**5 days • October 21-25**

- 2 nights at the Hilton Sedona Resort
- Lunch at the Enchantment Resort
- Trolley tour to the Chapel of The Holy Cross
- Lunch at the historic El Tovar Hotel
- Guided tour along the rim of the Grand Canyon
- 9 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 4 lunches
- Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**
- 2200/2550 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly direct on Southwest Airlines to Phoenix. Enjoy a lavish brunch at the Wrigley Mansion before arriving at the Red Rocks of Sedona and your beautiful accommodations. **Hilton Sedona Resort at Bell Rock – 2 nights (BR)**

2. Start the day off with a private, fully narrated trolley tour of Sedona where you will learn about the history, geology, flora and fauna of the area. The tour takes you through the Mexican-style village of Tlaquepaque, nestled beneath the shade of the sycamores on the banks of beautiful Oak Creek. Pause at the famous Chapel of the Holy Cross and gaze through floor-to-ceiling windows at dramatically towering red sandstone cliffs while enjoying lunch at the Enchantment Resort. The afternoon is at your leisure; browse the shops of Uptown or Tlaquepaque. **(FB,L)**

3. Head north through scenic Oak Creek Canyon to Williams and one of Northern Arizona's newest attractions; Bearizona is a 150-acre drive-through wildlife park that promises to give you a close encounter of

the wild kind with big horn sheep, buffalo and, of course, bears all roaming free. This afternoon arrive in the town of Tusayan, just outside Grand Canyon National Park, where you will see one of the best IMAX movies, *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*. **Best Western Squire Inn – 2 nights (FB,L)**

**4.** This morning enter one of the world's greatest natural wonders, Grand Canyon National Park, and take a private guided tour along the rim to Hermits Rest. Capture the colors of the canyon during photo stops along the way. Enjoy lunch at the historic El Tovar Hotel with a free afternoon to explore on your own. Visit the Bright Angel History Room, which tells the story of Fred Harvey and his Harvey Girls, shop at the historic Hopi House, or spend your time walking "The Trail of Time," an interpretive geological timeline along the rim with breathtaking vistas. **(FB,L)**

**5.** We have one more must see attraction before exiting the park's east entrance. The Desert View Watchtower, constructed in 1932, is a replica of a prehistoric 70-foot Indian tower and commands a magnificent view of the Grand Canyon and the Painted Desert. During your visit view the interior walls of the tower, which feature murals by Hopi artist Fred Kabotie. Travel back to Phoenix this afternoon for your flight home. **(FB,L)**

**\$2190 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2520 single**  
**Save \$60 until February 6**

## Route 66 West – Oklahoma City to Santa Monica

*The second half of our "Main Street of America" Tour*

**10 Days • October 23 – November 1**

The western side of The Mother Road (a favorite Route 66 moniker) is more about wide open spaces and the people and places between them. It's a journey to and through places you wouldn't normally visit, absolutely one of life's great USA travel adventures. Fly to Oklahoma City, fly home from Burbank. Take 10 days to cover 1,350 miles, an average of 135 miles a day.

**1. Sacramento to Oklahoma City** – Arrive late afternoon. Our favorite Italian restaurant in Oklahoma City is just a block from our

hotel and its our dinner spot! **Embassy Suites – 2 nights (D)**

**2. Oklahoma City** – Take a day to discover Oklahoma City, and travel a short distance on Route 66 west of town, to relive a little dust bowl days history. The famous Stockyards date back to the beginning of the old highway. The state capitol is worth a picture stop. **The Cowboy Hall of Fame** is also included. **(FB,L)**

**3. OKC to Amarillo** – Small town museums about the highway are numerous along the route. We have selected a few we believe best represent the spirit of The Mother Road. The one in Elk City has replica buildings from the highway's heyday. We'll stop in Erick, just east of the Texas border. This tiny hamlet is the hometown of **Roger Miller** (remember *King of the Road?*). Browse his small museum. Dine tonight in a legendary highway eatery, **The Big Texan**, where they specialize in steaks (but offer other selections). **Hampton Inn (FB,L,D)**

**4. Amarillo to Albuquerque** – Just outside town is the famous **Cadillac Ranch**.

The perfect highway landmark, a bunch of old caddies with their rear ends sticking out of the ground. See the ghost town that straddles the Texas – New Mexico border, discover the murals of Tucumcari (lunch) and check out a classic old gift shop. The day's travels end in Albuquerque. **Marriott – 2 nights (B,L)**

**5. Santa Fe** – A brief side trip to Santa Fe, which was on the original route, gives you time to shop in front of the Palace of the Governors and enjoy lunch at your leisure. Back in Albuquerque, the itinerary features Old Town, the Turquoise

Museum and a cruise down Central Avenue at dusk, which includes dinner in an old style diner and malts or milk shakes! **(FB,D)**

**6. Albuquerque to Gallup** – Today, you leave the old road to visit **Acoma Pueblo**, a step back in time. Known as Sky City, it was inhabited as early as 1150. Tonight, stay at the **El Rancho Hotel**, a true Route 66 landmark. The home of many a movie star while taping old westerns in the area in the 30's and 40's (their names are on the doors of your rooms – John Wayne, Burt Lancaster, Doris Day, dozens more), it is on the National Register of Historic Places. **(FB,L)**

**7. Gallup to Winslow, AZ – Petrified Forest National Park** straddles the old road, and we will stop to explore the park and learn the story of the logs turned to stone. In Holbrook, make a picture stop at the first of two Wigwam Hotels. Our accommodations in Winslow (made famous by The Eagles song, "Standing on a corner in Winslow, Arizona...") are at **La Posada**. Once an old Harvey House Hotel which serves the railroad, today it



*Ramona was out on Route 66 in Shamrock, Texas recently. She fell in love with a roadside attraction, The Yarn Tree. You will see it on our journey.*





is a beautifully-restored accommodation/restaurant/museum. Tonight, you will dine in the Turquoise Room, **one of Arizona's most renowned restaurants.** (FB,L,D)

**8. Winslow to Kingman** – Tour La Posada after breakfast and take a minute to get your picture taken “standin’ on a corner.” In Seligman, you will meet a Route 66 institution, 91 year old **Angel Delgadillo**, known as the man who saved Route 66. Meet Angel, hear his story, visit the world's most interesting drive-in lunch counter. The longest continuous stretch of The Mother Road is up for the afternoon. **Springhill Suites by Marriott** (FB,L,D)

**9. Kingman to Ontario** – The original route through the mountains is not accessible to a motorcoach (and really not even to an auto), so we leave the highway and take a more modern route in Oatman. Carol Lombard and Clark Gable spent their honeymoon night here, and the old miners left behind burros whose decedents still roam the town. Some people think Oatman is the most unique spot in these United States. Outside of Barstow is **John's Bottle Ranch**, another spectacular example of funky roadside attractions that make traveling Route 66 so much fun. Tonight, your final dinner in a classic highway landmark restaurant. **Doubletree Hotel** (B,L,D)

**10. Ontario to Santa Monica to Sacramento** – The final leg to the coast takes you through Pasadena and down Santa Monica Blvd. in Hollywood. We dine on the pier and mark the end of our travels with a picture at the **Will Rogers Highway Monument**. (Another popular name for Route 66.) An early evening flight takes us home to Sacramento. (FB,L)

**The trip includes** airfare to OKC/from Burbank to Sacramento (fares from other cities are available), door-to-door service in Sacramento and where available, 23 meals as listed (7FB,2B,8L,6D), the services of a **Sports Leisure Tour Director** (perhaps even two), all admissions and gratuities when dining/entering as a group (including your airport chauffeur). Gratuities for your All West Driver and Tour Director are not included. 3900/4450 Gold Passport Points

**\$3885 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4410 single.**

**Save \$125 until February 6**

## BASEBALL ADVENTURES

Two great baseball adventures are on tap for the regular season this year. The advance reservation list has filled our 8 and 11 Day ballpark tours. We still have space on our 5 Day Pittsburgh-Cooperstown-Fenway Park trip, and on our Super Overnighter to Seattle in July.

### It's All About The Ballparks

**5 Days • May 11-15**

**1.** Fly to Pittsburgh in late morning/early afternoon. Stay overnight at the Marriott at airport; tonight **Giants vs. Pirates.** (FB)

**2.** We go to the airport this morning and continue on with two short flights, ending in Albany. Travel an hour to Cooperstown, where you stay 2 nights at the **Otesaga Hotel** on the lake. This is a highlight of the trip, the hotel where the Hall of Famers stay each year. (FB,D)

**3.** Visit the Baseball Hall of Fame and explore the village of Cooperstown. We have arranged a special artifacts presentation (awesome) at the Hall, and then we will visit the Cooperstown Bat Company. Later in the afternoon, you might enjoy the Cooper or the Farmers Museums (optional, small additional charge, transportation provided). (FB,D)

**4.** Travel by coach to Boston, see the **A's vs. Red Sox** at Fenway tonight, overnight Boston Park Plaza Hotel. En route, we travel through The Berkshires, stopping for lunch at the picturesque Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge. (FB,L)

**5.** Tour Fenway Park in the morning, then board a flight to Sacramento in early afternoon. (FB)

Includes 7 meals, airfares, services of a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director, lower level tickets. 2500/3000 Gold Passport Points

**\$2490 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2960 single**

**Save \$75 until February 6**

### The Giants Emerald City Overnighter

**2 Days • July 24-25**

We considered making this a 2-night stay, but with hotel rooms running \$400 and up in Seattle, we ultimately decided to turn it into a very full overnight trip.

**1.** Fly to Seattle, departing at 7:05am. Board the ferry to Bainbridge Island. It's a spectacular 35 minute ride across Puget Sound. There's time for lunch and browsing in the Norwegian village of Poulsbo, before the return ferry trip. Stay overnight in the **brand new Embassy Suites**, walking distance from the park. We will have you checked in by 4pm, allowing for a little down time. There is a hosted cocktail hour tonight, beginning at 5:30pm. **Giants vs. Mariners** tonight at 7:10pm. (L)

**2.** Visit Pike Place Market this morning about 9am, before it gets crowded; then go to the top of Seattle in the Space Needle, a leftover souvenir from the World's Fair in 1962. Return to your hotel to freshen up and check out before the game. Luggage and carry-on bags will be stored at the hotel. **Giants vs. Mariners** this afternoon at 1:10pm. Our return flight to Sacramento departs at 7:45pm (we would have to depart the park no later than 5:15pm. (FB)

The package includes 2 full breakfasts, roundtrip air and door-to-door service. 1200/1400 Gold Passport Points

**\$1175 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1370 single**

**Save \$35 until February 6**

### We appraise and/or buy old coins

Just about everyone has a jar of old coins sitting around. Turn those coin collections, big and small, into cash. Mark was a coin dealer in his previous life and is interested in expanding his collection. Call for an appointment to have your coins appraised and/or purchased. Call **916-361-2051** and ask for **Bob** or **Mark**. If you have a large collection and can't bring it to our office, Mark is willing to come to you. This offer is also extended to friends and family of **Sports Leisure** customers!



# Teasers & Teaser Updates

Below find brief descriptions of tours we are considering for later this year and beyond. If you are interested in these destinations, please contact our office and ask to be placed on the **Priority Notification List**. If we decide to offer these tours, you'll will be one of the first contacted!

## Sound of Music Sing-A-Long at The Hollywood Bowl

3 Days • Fall 2018

Join **Chris**, the nuns, goat herders, and baronesses and sing along with Maria while waving your Edelweiss! Bark at Rolf! Snuggle up with Gretel and join in choruses of "My Favorite Things," with other jubilant fans who love the Oscar-winning movie as much as you do! Two nights in Los Angeles/Hollywood and local touring.

## Mansions, Islands & A Fair

8 Days • Fall 2018

"The Big E" is one of the largest expositions in the country; a state fair of all the northeastern states. Explore the sights, sounds, and yummy food during an extended visit. Tour the majestic mansions of Newport, discover Block Island, Mystic Seaport, Mark Twain Home, and the Dr. Seuss Museum.

## Mountain Majesties

7 Days • Fall 2018

The beauty of the Appalachian Mountains surrounds you at two iconic resorts! Stay, tour, shop, wine and dine inside the gates of the Biltmore Estate. Next stop, White Sulphur Springs, WV. History, tradition and elegance abound at the Greenbrier Inn. Relaxation with a touch of class all for you!

## Toe Tappin' Tennessee

7 Days • Fall 2018

Walk through the gates of Graceland in Memphis! Say "Hi" to Dolly(wood) in Pigeon Forge! Banjos, moonshine and Bluegrass will get your toes tappin'. Stars are born in Nashville's Honky Tonk Row! Visit Studio B, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and attend the Grand Ole Opry in Music City, USA!

Visit us on the web at:  
[www.sportsleisure.com](http://www.sportsleisure.com)

## Fixin' Up Texas!

7 Days • Fall 2018

Who doesn't know Chip and Joanna Gaines and their wonderful HGTV show, *Fixer Upper*? **Kevin** just returned from a trip to Waco and saw not only Magnolia, the couple's beautiful store, but enjoyed a tour of several of sites popular with the show. Spend 2 nights in Dallas, 2 nights in Waco and finish with 2 nights in Austin.

## Mardi Gras in New Orleans

5 Days • March 2-6, 2019

In 2019 the party of the year will be in early March (known for mild weather), not February (often cool and rainy). Our host, the Sheraton Hotel, is on Canal Street, the main parade route. The hotel offers bleacher seating for each parade at an additional cost. Know this trip will be about Mardi Gras, NOT New Orleans. Due to all the reverie, general touring will be quite difficult.

## Canada Coast to Coast by Rail

9 Days • Spring 2019

Fly to Halifax and stay for two nights. Take an overnight train to Montreal and stay over one night. A day train delivers you to Toronto for dinner atop the CN Tower before boarding one of the world's great trains, *The Canadian*, bound for Vancouver. Fly home from Vancouver.

## Searching for Your Family in Salt Lake City

4 Days • Spring 2019

Ever wanted to climb your family tree? Salt Lake City is home to the greatest genealogical center in the world, the Family Search Library. Guides and professional genealogists can help you with your research and the best part, it's free! Experience two days of access plus local, optional touring.

## The Alps of Switzerland and Northern Italy

10 Days • Summer 2019

Begin in Lucerne where a visit to Mt. Pilatus offers a lake cruise, gondola, cable car and a ride on the world's steepest cog railway. Onward to Interlaken and visits to Trummelbach Falls, Kleine Scheidegg and "The Top of the World" on snowy Jungfrauoch. Northern Italy is a place of

art, history and legend. Cruise Lake Como, explore Verona and walk the ancient streets of Padua. Your last full day is spent in Venice. Flights into Zurich and out of Venice.

## TEASER UPDATES

Here's an update on several of the tours we have "teased" over the past few months to gauge your interest.

**Colorful Carolina Coast:** A healthy list with an announcement expected in the next newsletter or two. Tentative dates are March 19-28, 2019.

**Cruising on the Canadian Empress:** Afraid there's not enough people to pursue.

**Hollywood & TV Land:** We have an extensive list but are unable to get recording schedules for television shows more than a few months in advance which hampers our ability to advertise this tour. We will call the list if the studios in Hollywood can give us enough notice for a Fall 2018 tour.

**South America & Machu Picchu:** Low numbers but we haven't given up yet! Expect **Jim Pelley** from our staff to talk about his visit at **Spring Preview Day** in April.

**Mexico's Copper Canyon:** Low numbers but still on the watch list. Perhaps in Fall 2019?

**Oregon Theatre Roadtrip:** Not enough to pursue at this time.

**Polar Bears & Belugas:** Polar ice is melting and the popularity (and plight) of polar bears in the Arctic is causing the costs to rise and limiting access. Complicating matters is the train tracks to Churchill which were washed out last May with no effort to repair them. This trip remains on the watch list.

**Presidential California:** Visits to the Reagan and Nixon Libraries. Not enough interest at this time but remaining on the watch list.

**Scandinavia/Cruising the Fjords of Norway:** Traveling in Scandinavia is an expensive proposition. We're seeking out other options and will notify everyone on the list once we have a tour in place!





# The Tour Calendar *(Previously Announced)*



Explore the natural beauty of the desert by jeep

## Desert Beauty: Anza-Borrego and Joshua Tree National Park

**A**

*Springtime wildflowers, majestic beauty*

**5 Days • March 19-23**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Anza-Borrego State Park, Joshua Tree Nat'l Park and the gardens of Sunnyland provide spectacular desert beauty
- Experience the desert first-hand with a jeep ride, tram ride and guided tour
- Stay 3 nights at the Agua Caliente Resort
- Roundtrip air to San Diego/from Ontario
- 5 meals: 1 full breakfast, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2150/2400 Gold Passport Points

You'll stay in a beautiful palace in the desert while you explore the flora and fauna of the region. This was one of the highest rated tours of 2017. The desert is a place of silence, light and space with beauty in its arid landscape, and wildflowers tucked into its crevices. Experience the beauty and grandeur for yourself in this springtime expedition. Tour Director: **Ramona Goodge**

**\$2105 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2380 single**

## On the Central Coast

**L**

*Featuring oceanfront accommodations*

**4 Days • April 10-13**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Stay oceanfront at Avila Lighthouse Suites
- Visit Morro Bay and Arroyo Grande
- Shop San Luis Obispo's Thursday Night Farmers Market

- 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches
- Door-to-door service
- 1500/1750 Gold Passport Points
- Visit "Doc Burnstein's Ice Cream Lab" on one of your day excursions (that sounds like fun); enjoy a scenic coastal drive, perhaps catch a glimpse of the Peregrine Falcons which nest in the area

• Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**

**\$1460 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1750 single**

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

**M A**

*The repeat of a classic Sports Leisure adventure – our 9<sup>th</sup> journey down the classic highway*

**Chicago to Oklahoma City**

**11 Days • April 13-23**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Overnights in Chicago, Pontiac (IL), Springfield (IL), Springfield (MO), Tulsa, Oklahoma City, 2 nights in St. Louis and Miami (pronounced Mi-am-ah), (OK)
- Meet the people of Route 66 – special guides, speakers and guests; lots of quirky attractions
- Including airfare and door-to-door airport service if departing from Sacramento
- The services of **Sports Leisure** Tour Directors (**Chris & Mark**) and 26 meals
- 3550/4050 Gold Passport Points

Chris and Mark completed a scouting trip down the eastern side of the old highway in early November. Chris will tell you Mark was like a kid in a candy store as we met up with old friend along the historic highway, friends

he had made on previous visits with **Sports Leisure** Travelers. Folks in the middle of the country tend to be pretty welcoming to travelers, and that's what you will find on this part of the journey. Small towns and the people who live in them are a strong feature. A full tour description can be found on pages 32-33 of the catalog. A journey down **Route 66** is like cutting yourself a slice of All-American Pie. You'll discover stops 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-beaten-track," you've found your trip! Three seats remain in our group of 30.

**\$3545 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4035 single**

## Beautiful Bodega Bay, Tiburon and The Coast

**M**

*Featuring the Sonoma and Marin Coastlines*

**3 Days • April 29 – May 1**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Enjoy the hospitality of Bodega Bay Lodge & Spa, overlooking Dorian Beach
- Browse the eclectic shops of Tiburon
- Dine at the Occidental Union Hotel
- Korbel Champagne Cellars and Gardens
- Enjoy Tiburon's Shoreline Park and visit the Railroad & Ferry Depot Museum
- 4 meals: 2 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 1 lunch
- Door-to-door service
- 1100/1300 Gold Passport Points

There is something special about the Sonoma Coast: beaches that stretch for miles, remnants of rocks forming striking sea stacks, and ah... the sound of the ocean. As you walk along Bodega Head, listen for the barking of the sea lions; and as you relax in your room, the sound of the fog horn. Your room: in a beautiful lodge on a bluff next to the ocean. This leisurely visit to the coast allows you time to sit back and enjoy springtime on the coast. Tour Director:

**Ramona Goodge**

**\$1075 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1255 single**





## NYC – Behind Broadway and The Bronx

A

*Two nights of Broadway theatre and a pops concert at Carnegie Hall*

**6 Days • April 29 – May 4**

Our Carnegie Hall NY Symphony Pops Concert will honor Alan Menken, the Oscar/Tony Award-winning composer (*Beauty and the Beast*, *Sister Act*, *The Little Mermaid*, among others). We will have dress circle seats for a great evening at Carnegie. Plus, you have tickets for the newest Disney Broadway sensation, *Frozen*.

### ★ Highlights ★

- 5 nights at the **Marriott Marquis Times Square**, New York's best location
- 3 nights of entertainment – 2 Broadway shows (Disney's *Frozen* and one **you** choose if you wish (we strongly recommend *Come From Away* if you don't have a choice in mind); plus a Carnegie Hall concert featuring the New York Symphony Pops Orchestra
- A Day Downtown – High Line Park, Wall Street, Federal Hall, the 9/11 Memorial/Museum/Observation Deck (all 3 experiences included)
- A Day in The Bronx – stop in at a police and a fire station and meet the first responders, lunch in The Bronx with a variety of stops in "Little Italy"
- Behind Broadway – visit a rehearsal hall and learn how a show comes together, meet a Broadway performer, dine with a theater reviewer (**Peter Filichia**) – fun and educational
- Tour United Nations headquarters
- Free day to visit Ellis and Liberty Islands, museums, shops, etc.
- Roundtrip air to/from NYC
- 7 meals: 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transfers
- 4000/4550 Gold Passport Points

We will take you behind-the-scenes on Broadway and show you how it all works. Another day finds you in Little Italy, the real Little Italy, not some Manhattan substitute. For the first time, a short tour of High Line Park is featured, along with the opportunity for an optional in-depth tour on Ellis Island.

**\$3995 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4530 single**

## Off on Another Mission

L M

*A continuation of our 2017 tour visits six more California Missions*

**3 Days • May 8-11**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 2 nights at The Dream Inn Santa Cruz
- Dinner waterside at The Crow's Nest
- Visit secluded and peaceful Mission San Antonio de Padua with a casual lunch
- 6 meals: 2 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- Tour Director: **Chris Galloway**
- 1200/1400 Gold Passport Points
- 3 seats available at press time

**\$1185 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1365 single**

## Japan: Land of the Rising Sun

E

*The best of the traditional and modern*

**12 Days • May 12-23**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Enjoy a full and comprehensive, yet relaxed itinerary
- Dine on local fare with access to familiar tastes as well
- Stay in thoughtfully chosen and well-positioned hotels
- Roundtrip airfare to Osaka/from Tokyo
- 21 meals: daily breakfast, 4 lunches, 7 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Services of an English-speaking local guide and **Sports Leisure** Tour Director **Chris Galloway**

- 7850/8600 Gold Passport Points

An incredible opportunity to visit this pearl of the East. View the full itinerary that includes Osaka, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Takayama, and Tokyo at [www.sportsleisure.com](http://www.sportsleisure.com). The tour had been sold out but we now have **two seats available** in our group of 30 travelers.

**\$7850 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8575 single**

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## Springtime in Yosemite

A

*Featuring the best of Mother Nature: waterfalls and spring flowers*

**3 Days • May 15-17**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 2 nights at the new Rush Creek Lodge
- Visit Yosemite Falls, the Ansel Adams Gallery, and the Yosemite Museum
- Guided tour highlighting the history and points of interest throughout the valley
- Walk through the Big Trees of the restored Mariposa Grove
- 2 meals: 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- 1450/1750 Gold Passport Points

**Rush Creek Lodge**, located just one mile from the Big Oak Flat entrance to Yosemite National Park on Highway 120, is the newest mountain resort in the Sierra in over 25 years. It features a contemporary, rustic sensibility inspired by the breathtaking nature surrounding its 20-acre wooded hillside setting. While not inside the park, its location provides serenity away from the crowds. If you have stayed in the park



*Scenic wonder abounds in Yosemite National Park*



over the past few years you are aware its motel rooms have become a little tired. We are confident you are going to love these improved, upscale accommodations.

Springtime is the optimum season to view Yosemite's magnificent waterfalls and get a peek at its display of spring flowers. During our time in the park, visit the area around the newly restored Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoia trees. On your full day in the park, the morning will consist of a fully narrated Valley Floor Tour to discover the history, geology and people of Yosemite. The afternoon is your time to explore as you wish. Tour Director: **Ramona Goodge**

**\$1430 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1735 single**  
**Save \$25 until February 6**

## Memorial Day in Washington, D.C.

*Our nation's capital is yours to explore*

**6 Days • May 24-29**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 5 nights at the Hilton Hotel Arlington
- Tour Washington, D.C. by day and night
- Visit Arlington National Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, the U.S. Capitol, Ford's Theatre and The 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
- Roundtrip airfare
- 9 meals: daily breakfast, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2800/3100 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Clayton Whitehead**,  
**2 seats remain at press time**  
**\$2780 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3060 single**

## Skamania Lodge and The Columbia River Gorge

*Celebrate Sports Leisure's 39th birthday*

**4 Days • May 29 – June 1**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 3 nights at Skamania Lodge, just off the Columbia River Gorge at the foot of the Cascades, lots of onsite activities, or just relax and enjoy the view
- See towering Multnomah Falls and other waterfalls in the gorge

- Visit the Maryhill Museum of Art and the Stonehenge Memorial
- Private tasting at Maryhill Winery
- Guided Art Tour at the lodge (they have quite a collection on the walls)
- Optional zipline (additional charge) and guided nature walk
- Roundtrip air to/from Portland
- 8 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners (Including a special anniversary dinner celebration)
- Door-to-door airport service
- 1700/1900 Gold Passport Points

Just an hour's drive from Portland, situated in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, is a majestic lodge. Skamania, which opened in 1993 just seven years after Congress created the national scenic area, is a four-story Cascadian-style lodge. Some of the timbers used in the construction are over 100 years old. The rooms are beautiful, the views breathtaking and the setting serene. Come with us and discover this magical place in springtime, at the beginning of the season, when the gorge is fresh and renewed.

Side trips include a world-class art museum (along with a unique "duplicate landmark"), local wine tasting, unique local stops and a chance to just enjoy the lodge. 7 seats remain at press time. Tour Directors:

**Clayton & Mark**

**\$1685 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1895 single**

## The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe

*Featuring luxurious accommodations in a mountain setting*

**2 Days • June 3-4**

(Important note for "fence-sitters: We must return unsold rooms to the hotel in late January. Please consider registering now to avoid being disappointed.)

An overnight getaway featuring luxurious accommodations. Have you ever stayed in a Ritz Carlton Hotel? As **Scott Angeletti** (your Tour Director) can tell you, because he annually takes a group to the Ritz in Half Moon Bay and has been to Tahoe with a previous group, there is nothing like staying at The Ritz.

1. Travel Highway 80 through the Sierra, pausing in Truckee for a hosted brunch and

free time to browse the shops, before arriving at your mountain retreat. To experience the luxury of a Ritz-Carlton is unlike any other accommodation. The AAA Five Diamond service and attention to detail is phenomenal. Enjoy an optional private art and architecture tour where you will learn about the unique design elements and highlights of the more distinctive works of art throughout the resort. Your accommodations also include in-room fireplaces and floor-to-ceiling windows. **Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe (BR)**

**2.** Today travel along the Lake Tahoe shore on a guided tour with "Mr. Tahoe!" You will have so much fun learning about the lake hearing stories on the way to the west shore where lunch is hosted at Sunnyside before returning to Sacramento. **(L)**

**\$585 p.p./dbl.occ., \$698 single**

*Add door-to-door service for \$80 p.p.*

## Bloomin' Victoria

*The very best of Canada's Garden City*

**5 Days • June 15-19**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Enjoy 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, B.C.
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2300/2550 Gold Passport Points,
- Tour Director: **Chris Galloway**
- **2 seats available at press time**  
**\$2285 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2540 single**  
*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## Oregon's Coast, Carousels and Covered Bridges

*Walk in the steps of Lewis & Clark, enjoy the coast, dine on a covered bridge*

**6 Days • June 24-29**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 2 nights Astoria (rooms overlook the Columbia River), 2 nights Newport (all rooms with a FULL view of the Pacific), overnight Eugene
- Lewis & Clark history, including stops at



Cape Disappointment and Fort Clatsop, their two “mid-journey” coastal homes

- Long Beach, WA – America’s longest beach and kite capital, hosted lunch at the Cranberry Research Foundation
- Ride carousels in Seaside and Albany, learn how the horses are made
- Tour the Tillamook Cheese Factory, visit Yaquina Head Lighthouse
- Marine Discovery Cruise on Newport Bay, one of the best educational cruises in the country
- Admission to The Oregon Aquarium
- Roundtrip air to/from Portland
- 12 meals, featuring fine dining at Clearwater, overlooking Newport Harbor; and lunch on a covered bridge
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2250/2550 Gold Passport Points
- 7 seats available at press time
- Tour Directors: **Mark & Chris**

**\$2215 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2520 single**

## Crater Lake and the Umpqua National Scenic Byway

*Featuring natural scenic wonder in Oregon*

**6 Days • July 3-8**

Note: A great “outdoors” tour for those who prefer not to fly.

### ★ Highlights ★

- Visit Crater Lake National Park, one of the country’s most unique and beautiful natural landmarks, with lunch at Crater Lake Lodge
- Up close animal encounters at Wildlife Safari
- Hellgate Jet Boat tour on the wild and scenic Rogue River
- Stay in the charming town of Ashland
- Optional (add’l cost) performance at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- 11 meals: 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- 2000/2250 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**

An all-coach tour which includes a national park and the wild and scenic Rogue River. It’s southern Oregon at its best.

**\$1880 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2230 single**  
**Save \$40 until February 6**

## Ferries and Towns of Puget Sound

*Ride ferries, explore unique small towns, enjoy a room with a view*

**4 Days • July 8-11**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 4 ferry rides on Puget Sound, including the longest route, Seattle to Bremerton
- Visit the villages of Poulsbo, Port Townsend, Sequim, Port Gamble, Mukilteo and Langley as you make your way around the sound
- Guided tours: Poulsbo, learn about the town’s Norwegian heritage; Port Townsend, once a bawdy port
- 3 nights Clearwater Casino Resort in Suquamish – gaming for those who enjoy it, beautiful views for those who don’t – the hotel and casino are separated
- Visit the Mukilteo Lighthouse Park
- Roundtrip air to/from Seattle
- 7 meals, including Sunday Brunch in Seattle
- Door-to-door airport service
- 1900/2100 Gold Passport Points
- 4 seats available at press time

Rated one of the top trips of 2017, and that was before we added an extra night at our beautiful waterfront hotel and spread out a busy itinerary over an extra day. Come explore the waters of Puget Sound. Tour Director: **Mark Hoffmann**

**\$1885 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2080 single**



*Iceland's natural beauty is in demand – see it now!*

## Iceland, Land of Fire and Ice

*A full exploration of the volcanic island*

**10 Days • July 14-23**

Note: We urge caution when choosing a travel company/tour operator to host your Iceland visit. It is our experience many people are buying packages which promise one thing and deliver another. Iceland has become an expensive destination. **Sports Leisure’s** package, listed here, has been vetted and the services are provided by a reputable local Iceland operator.

### ★ Highlights ★

- See mountains, beaches, fjords, volcanoes, hot springs, geysers and bountiful wildlife
- Visit historic sites, tiny villages and meet the real people of Iceland
- Visit and take in the waters at famous Blue Lagoon
- Fly to the Westman Islands for a tour by land and sea
- Cruise between icebergs at Jökulsárlón
- Walk behind the Seljalandsfoss Waterfall
- Roundtrip air to/from Reykjavik
- 16 meals: 9 full breakfasts and 7 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 7650/8800 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti, who has previously escorted Iceland groups**

In just a short time, Iceland has become an incredibly popular (and expensive



as a result) destination. Honestly, more people want to visit than the country can accommodate, being a small island nation. One way to control the crowds is to raise prices. That is what has happened in Iceland.

**\$7630 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8795 single**

**Save \$100 until February 6**

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## Planes and Trains of the Pacific Northwest

*Discover rail and aviation history and industry in Oregon & Washington*

**4 Days • August 3-6**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Ride the Oregon Pacific Railroad along the Willamette River and the Snoqualmie Valley Railroad near Seattle
- Travel from Vancouver to Tacoma on board Amtrak's *Cascade*
- Visit the Pearson Air Museum and Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, home of Howard Hughes' *Spruce Goose*
- History is brought to life at the Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum
- Watch wide body jets assembled before your eyes at Boeing's Future of Flight
- Roundtrip airfare to Portland/from Seattle
- 5 meals: 2 brunches, 2 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2000/2200 Gold Passport Points

All aboard train fans on this trip around the Pacific Northwest at the height of the summer travel (translates...good weather) season. 3 train rides, plus a host of rail and aviation history.

**\$1955 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2175 single**

**Save \$25 until February 6**

## A Port, A President and The Pageant of the Masters

*Art comes to life at one of the world's most unique festivals*

**3 Days • August 5-7 or August 19-21**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 2 nights Newport Beach Marriott
- Tickets to the Pageant of the Masters (center seating, excellent location), as art comes to life with human tableaux on stage, a truly unique cultural arts event that is difficult to describe properly (see our video on the trip at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)).

com, enter "**Sports Leisure Vacations**" in the search bar)

- Pre-show dinner at Tivoli Garden, time to explore the Festival of the Arts show, featuring hundreds of original works, all for sale by the artist
- Exclusive Pageant "talk-back" the morning after the show, a behind-the-scenes look at the Pageant
- Cruise the Newport coast on a Hornblower Yacht Brunch Cruise
- Visit the Nixon Presidential Library
- 3 meals and roundtrip air included
- 1550/1750 Gold Passport Points

**Please note:** the Newport Beach Marriott is not on or near the beach. You will likely have a view of the distant beach from your room, but the hotel is not on or near the water. Having said that, it is a beautiful place to stay and it has been our exclusive Pageant hotel for over a decade.

These trips are filling up quickly and will be our only two departures for 2018. Please reserve your space soon.

**\$1525 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1730 single**

## The Sound of Music in Leavenworth

*Take the Train to Washington's Little Bavaria*

**4 Days • August 6-9**

One of our most popular getaways is back! It has a little bit of everything: live theatre, stunning outdoor views, a train through beautiful country, and the old world charm of Bavaria without a long plane ride!

1. Fly to Seattle and enjoy lunch on the waterfront. Check out famous Pike Place Market, then in the late afternoon, board



*Explore Washington's Little Bavaria*

Amtrak's *Empire Builder*. At the heart of the state you'll find Leavenworth, Washington's own *Little Bavaria*. **Bavarian Lodge – 3 nights (L)**

2. Nearby Cashmere is the home of Liberty Orchards, makers of "Applets and Cottlets," the fruit and nut confections. Enjoy complimentary samples, time for shopping and tour the factory. Learn the history of the region on a docent-guided tour of the Cashmere Pioneer Village and Museum. Back in Leavenworth, enjoy lunch at your leisure and an optional walking tour of historic downtown. Dinner is included prior to tonight's performance of the popular musical *The Sound of Music*. **(FB,D)**

3. Discover Rocky Reach Dam and the Columbia River Museum on a tour today. After an included lunch visit Ohme Gardens, situated on top of a large bluff overlooking the Columbia River. This evening, *My Fair Lady* is performed under the stars at Hatchery Park. **(FB,L)**

4.. Conclude your visit to the *Evergreen State* with a stop at the Boeing Museum of Flight. A return flight from Seattle returns you home in the early evening. **(FB,L)**

The tour includes door-to-door airport service, roundtrip air, motorcoach service, passage aboard Amtrak's *Empire Builder*, accommodations, all attractions and shows listed, 7 meals (3FB,3L,1D), and the services of a **Sports Leisure Vacations** Tour Director (Chris Galloway), 1950/2200 Gold Passport Points.

**\$1925 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2190 single**

**Save \$25 until February 6**

## Scottish Tales and the Beatles Trail

*The best of Scotland, the English Lakes and the Fab Four's Liverpool*

**12 Days • August 9-20**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 3 nights Edinburgh, Scotland's Capital
- 2 nights each Inverness, Lake District National Park, Manchester
- Overnight on the shores of Loch Lomond
- Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Palace of Holyrood House, Edinburgh Castle, Royal Yacht *Britannia*
- Dalwhinnie Distillery, Urquhart Castle, Isle of Skye, Inveraray Castle

- Gretna Green, Beatrix Potter's Hill Top, The Beatles Story
- Manchester's Cathedral and Chetham's Library
- Roundtrip air to Edinburgh/from Manchester
- 20 meals: daily breakfast and dinner
- Door-to-door airport service
- 7600/9200 Gold Passport Points

**1-2.** Fly to Edinburgh and begin your exploration of Scotland's principal city, a largely unsung treasure among European capitals, but a treasure nonetheless!

### The Principal Edinburgh – 3 nights (D)

**3.** Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse anchor opposite ends of The Royal Mile, and you'll visit both! Return to the castle in the evening for the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, the most fabulous of all Scottish musical spectacles featuring performers from all over the world and literally hundreds of bagpipes. Our exclusive "Jacobite Experience" includes a pre-show dinner with libations. **(FB,D)**

**4.** Explore the Royal Yacht *Britannia* which served the Royal Family over 44 years of distinguished service. In the evening, Prestonfield House plays host to the Taste of Scotland Show featuring a mix of traditional music, dance and dishes. **(FB,D)**

**5.** The route north into the Highlands takes you to Dalwhinnie Distillery for a tour and wee dram, then to Urquhart Castle. Among the largest built, the 16<sup>th</sup>-century castle exists in ruins on Loch Ness. **Kingsmills Hotel Inverness – 2 nights (FB,D)**

**6.** Rich in history and natural beauty, spend the day exploring the Isle of Skye, the home of Clans MacDonald and MacLeod. Skye played a big role in the Jacobite Rebellion and Scotland's dramatic, though failed attempt to regain its independence from England. **(FB,D)**

**7.** Inveraray has been home to the Duke and Duchess of Argyll since the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. The present castle dates to the mid-18<sup>th</sup> Century and is famous for its collections of armor, decorative arts and French tapestries. Will you take the high or low road to Loch Lomond? Either way, a wonderful night awaits. **Cameron House Hotel (FB,D)**

**8.** The border town of Gretna Green was famous for secret marriages of underage

English youth. There you'll say goodbye to Scotland (and perhaps tie the knot?) as Lake District National Park welcomes you to England. **Macdonald Leeming House – 2 nights (FB,D)**

**9.** Today you'll explore the Lake District by land and water, and visit Hill Top, the home of Beatrix Potter. England's beloved author and artist breathed life into Peter Rabbit, Tom Kitten and Jemima Puddleduck at this lovely cottage estate. **(FB,D)**

**10.** Travel to Manchester via Liverpool, hometown of the "Fab Four." The Beatles Story offers up the world's largest collection of memorabilia focused on the lives, times, culture and music of The Beatles. **Crowne Plaza Manchester – 2 nights (FB,D)**

**11.** It's Sunday. Perhaps you'd like to attend services at Manchester Cathedral. In the afternoon a walking tour includes a stop at Chetham's Library, the oldest in the English-speaking world. **(FB,D)**

**12.** Return to America on a morning flight with happy memories of a grand visit to the United Kingdom. **(FB)**

**\$7570 p.p./dbl.occ., \$9155 single**

**Save \$150 until February 6**

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## Newfoundland, Where the Sun Meets the Sea

*Featuring breathtaking natural beauty*

**11 Days • August 10-20**

**★ Highlights ★**

- Visit L'Anse Aux Meadows National Historic Site
- Explore Gros Morne National Park
- Stay 2-nights in the oceanfront capital of St. John's, NL
- Experience scenic boat tours
- 21 meals: 10 breakfasts, 1 box lunch, 9 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Deer Lake/from St. John's, NL
- Door-to-door airport service
- Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**
- 6400/6900 Gold Passport Points

**1.** Fly Delta Airlines to Toronto via Salt Lake City. **Hilton Garden Inn Toronto Airport**

**2.** Fly this morning to Deer Lake, Newfoundland. Travel along the Northern Peninsula to your accommodations in Hawkes Bay. **Torrent River Inn (FB,D)**

**3.** L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site is the first cultural discovery in the world to receive recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Hear of the Vikings who walked here over a thousand years ago before continuing on to your accommodations in St. Anthony for the night. Tonight is an evening of food and fun at the Great Viking Feast at Leifsbudir. **Haven Inn (FB,D)**

**4.** A morning whale watching tour (weather permitting) with a local biologist and wildlife expert will give you the opportunity to see whales, dolphins, sea birds and sea caves. At the Grenfell Interpretive Centre & House Museum, learn about the famous medical missionary, Sir Wilfred Grenfell, before traveling to Cow Head in Gros Morne National Park for a two-night stay. **Shallow Bay Motel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

**5.** Discover why Gros Morne National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is truly one of the highlights of your trip with a scenic boat tour on Bonne Bay. Be on the look-out for the bald eagles that frequent the deep waters of the fjord. Also visit the Tablelands; this mountain of flat-topped rock of a kind usually found only deep in the earth's mantle is an awe-inspiring sight. **(FB,BL,D)**

**6.** Travel through Central Newfoundland on to Gander where you will spend the night. This afternoon visit the North Atlantic Aviation Museum, which hosts a variety of artifacts and displays chronicling Gander's role in development of transatlantic aviation. Learn about its unique role in hosting our "Come From Away" during America's 9/11 tragedy (the story was made into a smash Broadway musical). **Sinbad's Hotel & Suites (FB,D)**

**7.** A scenic drive along the rocky coast of Notre Dame Bay leads to the beautiful outport of Twillingate where you will visit Long Point Lighthouse and the Prime Berth Fishery & Heritage Centre. Keep your eyes open for wildlife as you drive through Terra Nova National Park and on to Clarendville, your home for the next two nights. **St. Jude's Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

**8.** Today you will experience two quaint, historic towns. First, visit Bonavista, where John Cabot first arrived in North America in 1497. Learn about the hard life of the light keepers at Cape Bonavista Lighthouse

Provincial Historic Site before continuing on to charming Trinity. Stroll the lanes and explore the many historic buildings preserved from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. **(FB,D)**

**9.** Continue on to the intriguing old seaport of St. John's, your home for the next two nights. North America's oldest city, and Newfoundland's capital, boasts a stunning location in the granite cliffs and slopes of the Avalon Peninsula. Enjoy a city tour featuring the Victorian architecture of the downtown area, the busy modern waterfront, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Confederation Building, and the panoramic view from Signal Hill. **Delta St. John's – 2 nights (FB,D)**

**10.** This morning, visit Bay Bulls for one of the highlights of your trip, a boat tour in the Witless Bay Ecological Reserve to search for puffins and other seabirds. Next is a visit to the most easterly point in North America, Cape Spear National Historic Site. The afternoon is yours to explore St. John's at your leisure. **(FB,D)**

**11.** Transfer to the St. John's International Airport for your return flight home with many fond memories of Newfoundland. **(FB)**

**\$6390 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6885 single**

**Save \$125 until February 6**

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## Great Cities of Canada

*Ottawa, Quebec City and Montreal are yours to discover*

**7 Days • August 10-16**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 2 nights Ottawa, Canada's Capital City
- Ottawa tour with the Changing of the Guard on Parliament Hill
- 3 nights Québec City
- Québec City tour, Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré and Montmorency Falls
- Overnight Montréal to see Notre-Dame and the Biodome
- Roundtrip air to Ottawa/from Montréal
- 12 meals: 6 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3150/3500 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Chris Galloway**

**\$3135 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3460 single**

**Save \$40 until February 6**

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## O Magazine Presents the Alaskan Explorer Cruise



*Life-changing seminars and workshops*

**8 Days • August 10-18**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Pre-cruise overnight stay in Tacoma at the Hotel Murano
- Visit the LeMay Auto Museum or Museum of Glass
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- All meals included aboard ship, add'l lunch in Seattle
- Door-to-door airport service
- Gold Passport Points based on cabin location/price

To celebrate Oprah's Year of Adventure, Holland America Line and *O, The Oprah Magazine* have partnered on an exciting initiative to pair the life-changing wonder of travel with the soulful, inspiring content found in every issue of the magazine. This cruise is specifically themed to invite guests to open their minds, change their perspectives and uncover their potential.

The cruise will feature special appearances by contributors from *O, The Oprah Magazine* as well as thought leaders from The SuperSoul 100. A list of guest speakers and hosts will be announced closer to departure. In addition, you will experience the transformative power of travel, enriched and enhanced by activities such as morning meditation, healthy eating guidance and travel-friendly fashion advice.

Our cruise/tour package will include a pre-night stay in Tacoma at the Hotel Murano, host of museum-quality works of glass art. A choice of a visit to either LeMay – American's Car Museum or the popular Museum of Glass are included along with lunch on arrival day in Seattle. More information can be found on page 43 of the catalog.

**Inside cabins start at:**

**\$2280 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3475 single**

**Outside cabins start at:**

**\$2670 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4220 single**

**Save \$50 until February 6**

*This vacation requires a valid passport!*

**Visit us on the web at:  
www.sportsleisure.com**

## The Magnificent Mendocino Coast



*Featuring Noyo Harbor, Ft. Bragg and the historic Skunk Train*

**4 Days • August 14-17**

★ **Highlights** ★

The itinerary in brief: Begin with a visit to the home and museum of early California artist, Grace Hudson, followed by an overnight stay in Ukiah. The next morning travel across the coastal range. The Mendocino Botanical Gardens, one of the finest on the West Coast, offers beautiful display gardens, and its trail to the ocean bluffs is spectacular. At Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, the docents are prepared to share stories of the keepers and the surrounding community. In Fort Bragg, the old mill site is being restored into Noyo Headlands Park with the Noyo Marine Center offering visitors educational talks and walks. After a couple of years of challenges, the historic *Skunk Train* now offers an abbreviated journey along Pudding Creek Estuary. Step back in time as you travel over some of the first tracks laid down by the California Western Railroad in 1885.

Our lodging for **two nights** will be overlooking Noyo Harbor at the familiar **Harbor Lite Lodge**. This tour includes door-to-door service, accommodations, transportation by coach, all attractions as listed above, 9 meals (3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners), Tour Director: **Ramona Goodge**, 1450/1700 Gold Passport Points

**\$1440 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1670 single**

**Save \$20 until February 6**

## The International Selkirk Loop

*Featuring a breathtaking drive through the Selkirk Mountains*

**7 Days • August 20-26**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Multiple-night stays in waterview rooms: 2 nights in Bonners Ferry, ID and 3 nights in Nelson, BC
- Visit restored *SS Moyie* and step back to the era of the sternwheelers
- Learn about the culture of the Doukhobors at Castlegar
- Enjoy a night of contemporary luxury at the Davenport Towers, and a decadent





Sunday Brunch at the Davenport Hotel

- Roundtrip air to/from Spokane
- 11 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 5 lunches
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3300/3750 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Ramona Goodge**

Many of you have heard from others about Ramona's "Selkirk" trip. Many can't remember the name, except that it goes into Canada somewhere around Idaho. That's a pretty accurate description. What you should also know is this trip visits places other tour companies haven't even discovered yet. Ramona has a host of "fans" in the little rural towns that insures you will have an "authentic" travel experience. Isn't that one of the reasons we all travel?

The Selkirk Loop is a 280-mile international scenic drive encircling the Selkirk Mountains of eastern Washington, northern Idaho and southeastern British Columbia. The entire loop follows alongside a river or lakeshore, with vast views of the valleys and mountains one minute, intimate water scenes or dense forest the next. The Selkirk Mountain Range, with peaks towering over 11,500 feet, are just one of the many ranges comprising the Rocky Mountains.

**\$3270 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3745 single**

**Save \$40 until February 6**

*This vacation requires a valid passport!*

## Olympia, the Sound and The Mountain



*Experience the greatness of a small city, Puget Sound and Mt. Rainier*

**4 Days • August 31 – September 3**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 3-night stay overlooking Budd Bay
  - Lunch in the grand Paradise Inn Dining Room at Mt. Rainier National Park
  - Cruise aboard the historic steamboat, *Virginia V*
  - Enjoy Olympia's Harbor Days
  - Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
  - 8 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
  - Door-to-door airport service
  - 2100/2350 Gold Passport Points
  - Tour Director: **Ramona Goodge**
  - 7 spaces remain at press time
- Tucked alongside Budd Bay on Puget

Sound, Washington's capital city is a sparkling gem in the Evergreen State. With a rich history, vibrant culture and a beautiful setting, Olympia is a great place to visit...

The highlight of our stay will be Harbor Days, a festival celebrating the vintage tugboats of the Sound. Take a tour of these mighty little tugs, watch them race in the bay, and learn a little history along the way. Interspersed with the festival activities, experience the best of the region... in true **Sports Leisure** fashion "tour the farms, taste the bounty, and meet the locals."

**\$2065 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2320 single**

## Zion and Bryce National Parks



*Featuring landscapes from another world*

**5 Days • September 16-20**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Tram tour at Zion National Park, ride beneath the towering monoliths
  - Rim tour of Bryce Canyon National Park, among the spires and towers of the eroding cliffs – orange, red, yellow, an amazing rainbow of color
  - Performance at Tuacahn Amphitheatre
  - Roundtrip airfare to/from Las Vegas
  - 8 included meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches
  - Door-to-door airport service
  - 2100/2350 Gold Passport Points
  - Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**
- Visit two of Utah's spectacular National Parks on this scenic getaway. Even the

travel between the two parks is beautiful. Enjoy first-rate theater near St. George and best of all, it's only a short one-plane ride away. Discover two of Utah's most popular parks after the summer crowds are gone.

**\$2060 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2345 single**

**Save \$25 until February 6**

## Rails Around Colorado



*Three scenic train rides during fall foliage*

**7 Days • September 22-28**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Three scenic trains: Royal Gorge, Cumbres & Toltec, Durango & Silverton (note this trip is offered at the height of the fall color season in the Rockies)
  - Royal Gorge Bridge and Park
  - Great Sand Dunes National Park
  - Explore the San Juan Mountains by Jeep
  - Fly above Telluride on a gondola ride
  - 11 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 full breakfasts, 5 lunches
  - Roundtrip airfare to Denver/from Durango
  - Door-to-door airport service
  - 3600/4000 Gold Passport Points
  - Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**
- Join Scott as he takes you in a circle around the state of Colorado, pausing to ride the scenic trains which dot the landscape. Of particular interest is the Cumbres and Toltec, considered by many to be the most scenic rail ride in the country. Unless you give that title to the Durango-Silverton (also featured). If you're a train buff, this is your trip.

**\$3590 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3995 single**



*Your home amongst the red cliffs of Zion National Park*



## Moab, Gateway to Arches National Park

*3 nights at the spectacular Red Cliffs  
Lodge on the banks of the Colorado River*

**5 Days • October 1-5**

Our May departure sold out within days of the catalog's release, the second year in a row that has occurred. To allow more people to experience these amazing parks, we have added a second departure. Like our May visit, this trip is planned for the "shoulder season," when the parks should be less crowded and the weather still good, which makes for a better park experience.

### ★ Highlights ★

- Explore majestic Arches National Park
- Visit Dead Horse State Park (the most amazing view in the Southwest!)
- Thrill to a jet boat tour on the Colorado River
- Experience flightseeing over Canyonlands National Park
- Discover Gateway Canyons
- Roundtrip air to/from Grand Junction, CO
- 9 meals: 4 full breakfasts, 5 lunches
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2600/2900 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**

**\$2575 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2895 single**  
**Save \$50 until February 6**

## Wildlife Viewing in British Columbia

*Featuring Knights Inlet Lodge and Grizzly Bears*

**6 Days • October 4-9**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 3 nights at the Knight Inlet remote floating wilderness lodge in a comfortable room with private washroom and shower
- 2 full days of guided wildlife viewing, including watching Grizzly Bears from nearby viewing platforms
- Evening interpretive programs
- Marine wildlife viewing excursions as weather allows
- Seaplane to/from Campbell River
- Roundtrip air to/from Vancouver
- 12 meals: 1 breakfast, 4 full breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 6150/7150 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Ramona Goodge**

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One of our best tour experiences. Enjoy an awesome visit to the true wilderness with all the comforts you need. (Except perhaps the Internet for a few days.) It provides a glimpse into the life of some of our continent's most iconic animals... Grizzly Bears and Bald Eagles, and it's just an absolutely fantastic good time! Glendale Cove in Knight Inlet is home to one of the largest concentrations of Grizzly Bears in British Columbia. During the fall salmon run, bears are observed from viewing platforms filling up on fresh salmon. Bring your cameras and binoculars! We are the only tour operator with premier fall viewing season access!

The Knight Inlet Lodge is a **remote floating lodge in the wilderness**, accessible only by seaplane or boat; and many activities include climbing into marine vessels or walking on uneven surfaces. For these reasons, **you must be in stable physical condition, with good mobility. We do not** recommend this tour for travelers with moderate to serious mobility issues. **Space is limited, with only 4 rooms available for single occupancy.**

**\$6150 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7120 single**  
**Save \$50 until February 6**

*This vacation requires a valid passport!*

## Oktoberfest, Canadian Thanksgiving and Niagara Falls

*Festive celebrations of Canada*

**6 Days • October 5-10**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Dine high above Toronto at CN Tower
- Join the fun at a German Festhalle to celebrate Oktoberfest
- Enjoy a Thanksgiving feast featuring local farm fresh ingredients
- Sample ice wine during a winery tour
- Take a cruise to the base of Niagara Falls
- Roundtrip airfare to Toronto/from Buffalo
- 12 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2900/3250 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: **Chris Galloway**

The Canadians celebrate Thanksgiving a bit earlier than we do here in the states, on Columbus Day weekend in October. This trip combines a small town holiday parade

with "north-of-the-border" fun and a visit to spectacular Niagara Falls (where you will enjoy a room with a view).

**\$2880 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3230 single**  
*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## New England Fall Foliage Spectacular

*Leaf peeping in Vermont, New Hampshire, Portland and Boston*

**8 Days • October 6-13**

The fall colors of New England are one of the United States most legendary "attractions" around the world. People come from far and wide to be Leaf Peepers. You are invited to join our excursion featuring the spectacular resort at Basin Harbor, truly a cut above as an accommodation; and a wide range of local attractions.

### ★ Highlights ★

- 2 nights at the Basin Harbor Resort and in Portland, Maine
  - 1 night each: Manchester, Quechee and Loon Mountain
  - Canterbury Shakers, Saint Gaudens, Rock of Ages, the Shelburne Museum
  - Mount Washington Cog Railway and the *Café Lafayette Dinner Train*
  - Loon Mountain Aerial Tram and Norlands Living History Center
  - Roundtrip airfare to Manchester/from Boston
  - 14 meals: 7 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 5 dinners including a real Maine "lobstah suppah"
  - Door-to-door airport transportation
  - 3900/4500 Gold Passport Points
  - Tour Director: **Clayton Whitehead**
- \$3890 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4480 single**  
**Save \$60 until February 6**

## New Mexico, Land of Enchantment

*Carlsbad Caverns National Park and the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta*

**7 Days • October 9-15**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Private lounge access to the Albuquerque Int'l Balloon Fiesta: Balloon Glow, Special Shapes and Mass Ascensions
- Go deep into Carlsbad Caverns Nat'l Park on a guided visit, visit the

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- underground world that will amaze you
- Explore the unique landscape of White Sands National Monument
  - Roundtrip air to Albuquerque/from El Paso
  - 13 meals: 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 2 dinners
  - Door-to-door airport service
  - 3000/3400 Gold Passport Points
  - Tour Director: **Scott Angeletti**

By request, we bring back our week-long tour of the state of New Mexico. From Carlsbad and the magnificent mountains in the south (visit the tiny hamlet of Sacramento, New Mexico... in the Sacramento Mountains, of course); to the balloons floating through the sky in the north, this is a great adventure.

**\$2955 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3385 single**  
**Save \$40 until February 6**

## Leafin' on a Jet Plane

*A Mystery Tour that's all about fall colors*

**6 Days • October 14-19**

Find out why every mystery tour **Sports Leisure** offers is a sellout. We've found an area that traditionally has great fall colors (although with the changing climate leaf-changing times each year are becoming very difficult to predict). There are lots of great places to catch the changing of the colors each year. New England? Too common and too easy to guess. Upper Michigan? Great guess, but we go to Mackinac Island most every year. No mystery there!

Here are some clues to help you: Let's all pray for world peace, then it's "down the hatch!" It's kinda chilly in here, maybe it's a SIGN. Whole Foods is selling their ice cream. Pretty hot in this tavern and everything is brown, maybe gangsters hung out here? Hey, stop horsing around, because we can't track that sort of behavior. OK, by now, you all know where we are going... or maybe not.

The hotel pattern for this trip is 4 nights and one night, two hotels, BOTH Embassy Suites. We will include airfare and 12 meals. Tour Directors: **Chris & Mark**. 2650/3000 Gold Passport Points

**\$2635 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2965 single**  
**Save \$50 until February 6**

## Death Valley and Nevada Ghost Towns

*Two nights in Death Valley, be a part of an authentic ghost hunt*

**6 Days • November 7-12, 2018**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 2 nights Furnace Creek Ranch Death Valley
- 2 nights in the haunted Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah
- Overnight Golden Nugget Las Vegas
- Be a part of the Goodsprings Ghost Hunt – Walk the ghost town and sit in the Pioneer Saloon, "speak" to the ghosts that inhabit the old mining town
- Visit Belmont – A "semi-abandoned" ghost town to explore near Tonopah
- Ghost stories at the Mizpah; visits to the ghost towns of Goldfield, Gold Point, and Rhyolite, all with ghosts of their own
- Travel the Extraterrestrial Highway and stop at Little Ale-ee-Inn for refreshments
- Full day of Death Valley touring, featuring the Amargosa Opera House, Zabrinski Point, Badwater Salt Flats and the Devil's Golf Course
- Roundtrip air to/from Las Vegas
- Door-to-door airport service
- 14 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners
- 2400/2650 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Directors: **Ramona & Mark** (How's THAT for an interesting combination?)  
**\$2355 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2645 single**  
**Save \$40 until February 6**

## Christmas Markets on the Mighty Mississippi

*Cruise aboard the grandest paddlewheeler ever, the American Queen*

**9 Days • December 9-17, 2018**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 7-night Christmas-themed cruise aboard the *American Queen*
- Ports of Call: Greenville, Vicksburg, Natchez, St. Francisville, Baton Rouge and Nottoway Plantation
- All basic shore excursions included
- Showboat-style entertainment and dancing nightly; daily talks by a *Riverlorian*
- Overnight with attractions and meals in Memphis

- Airfare to Memphis/from New Orleans
- 22 meals: 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 8 dinners
- Beer and wine included with onboard dinners; all-day complimentary bottled water, sodas, coffee and snacks
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Gold Passport Points based on cabin category

• Cruise Director: **Clayton Whitehead**

Already nearly 50 Sports Leisure Travelers have registered to cruise with us NEXT YEAR. At this time, the single cabins are all spoken for. There are some double cabins (which can be occupied by one person at single prices) remaining.

### Inside:

**\$3245 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4395 single**

### Outside:

**\$4930 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7305 single**

**Recommended onboard gratuity is \$17.50 p.p./day**

## Things to Know Before You Go:

**Airfare:** On all trips where air travel is indicated, airfares are included in the listed prices.

**Home Pick-up:** Our exclusive home pick-up is included on all trips listed here of three days or longer. **Coastal Breeze Limousine** and its partners provide transportation to/from the airport, Sacramento's Amtrak station or the **Sports Leisure Vacations** office.

**Meals:** Please refer to the day-by-day itinerary for a break down of the included breakfasts, brunches, lunches and dinners.

**\*Early Registration/Payment Discounts:** Trips with this note after the price indicate there is a discount available for Early Registration and Payment. Please refer to the back page of the newsletter for more details on Early Registration/Payment Discounts.

**The Fine Print:** Our **Special Tour & Vacation Notes** brochure contains the answers to many often-asked questions. A copy is sent with your reservations.

**Sports Leisure online:** You are invited to visit our website at [www.sportsleisure.com](http://www.sportsleisure.com) for more information on any tour listed here, or call our office and we will be happy to send you a detailed itinerary.





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## EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT COUPON

Early Registration Payment Discounts listed here expire on **Tuesday, February 6, 2018**; or may be withdrawn when 50% of the available space has been reserved. To receive the discount, you must pay in full within ten days of registration. If you accept this option, the monies paid, including the cost of Cancellation Protection, are returned to you in full if you cancel more than 60 days prior to departure for US and Canadian tours or 75 days prior for International tours, regardless of the reason for cancellation. Within the time limits noted above, restrictions on refunds apply. See the **Special Vacation Notes & Information** brochure for complete details.

**May** – Springtime in Yosemite – **Save \$25**

**May** – It's All About the Ballparks (5 Day) – **Save \$75**

**Jun.** – Dynamic Duo: *Cher & Hamilton* in Chicago – **Save \$75**

**Jul.** – The Giants Emerald City Overnighter – **Save \$35**

**Jul.** – Crater Lake & the Umpqua Scenic Byway – **Save \$40**

**Jul.** – Iceland, Land of Fire & Ice – **Save \$100**

**Aug.** – Planes & Trains of the Pacific Northwest – **Save \$25**

**Aug.** – Scottish Tales and the Beatles Trail – **Save \$150**

**Aug.** – Newfoundland, Where Sun Meets Sea – **Save \$125**

**Aug.** – Sounds of Music in Leavenworth – **Save \$25**

**Aug.** – Great Cities of Canada – **Save \$40**

**Aug.** – The International Selkirk Loop – **Save \$40**

**Aug.** – Magnificent Mendocino Coast – **Save \$20**

**Aug.** – *O Magazine's* Alaskan Explorer Cruise – **Save \$50**

**Sept.** – Zion and Bryce Canyon Nat'l Parks – **Save \$25**

**Sept.** – Catalina Island Getaway – **Save \$60**

**Oct.** – Moab, Gateway to Arches National Park – **Save \$50**

**Oct.** – New England Fall Foliage Sampler – **Save \$60**

**Oct.** – Leafin' on a Jet Plane – **Save \$50**

**Oct.** – New Mexico, Land of Enchantment – **Save \$40**

**Oct.** – Wildlife Viewing in British Columbia – **Save \$50**

**Oct.** – Sedona & Grand Canyon – **Save \$60**

**Route 66** – Route 66 West, OKC to Santa Monica – **Save \$125**

**Nov.** – Death Valley & Nevada Ghost Towns – **Save \$40**

## VALUABLE COUPON

### Save \$10–\$40 per person on Cancellation Protection

Valid only when used with the adjacent coupon on the tours listed. Your savings depend on the double-occupancy price of the tour. **Save \$10** on tours priced from **\$451–\$800**, **Save \$20** on tours priced from **\$801–\$2250**, **Save \$30** on tours priced from **\$2251–\$3500**, **Save \$40** on tours priced at \$3501 or more. The regular cost of this protection is **\$15–\$295**, depending on the tour price. To receive the above discounts, you must pay in full within ten days of registration and purchase the protection at the time you pay for your tour. Within 60/75 days of departure (see adjoining coupon), coverage is limited to verified medical emergencies. Please refer to the **Special Vacation Notes & Information** brochure for details, or call our office.

## TOUR UPDATE...

A brief list of tours which are sold out, or have only a limited amount of space (10 or fewer seats, number in parenthesis).

### Sold-Out Tours (waiting lists available)

Alaska's Aurora Borealis  
Eagles, Owls & Agriculture  
Winter at the Ahwahnee  
Take the Snow Train to Reno (Both)  
Oregon Chocolate Festival  
Odds and Ends Mystery Tour  
Philadelphia Freedom  
National Treasures of the West

It's All About the Water Mystery  
Spring Training in Arizona  
Boston to Bar Harbor  
Passage to South America  
San Antonio  
Moab (May Departure)  
Stories of Santa Fe & Taos  
Pure Michigan

### Limited Space (10 or fewer seats)

Route 66 – Part I (Chicago to OKC) (5)  
NYC: Behind Broadway & The Bronx (9)  
Japan, Land of the Rising Sun (4)  
Memorial Day in Washington DC (1)  
Skamania Lodge & The Columbia River (7)  
Oregon's Coast, Carousels & Bridges (6)  
Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound (3)  
Olympia, the Sound & The Mountain (7)  
Oktoberfest & Canadian Thanksgiving (10)

On The Central Coast (9)  
Beautiful Bodega Bay (6)  
Off on Another Mission (3)  
Bloomin' Victoria (2)  
Iceland (2)  
Great Cities of Canada (6)  
Rails Around Colorado (9)  
Laguna Pageant Masters – Aug. 5-7 (10)