



# The Sports Leisure TRAVELER

6,606 Active Members • 55,976 Members Since 1979

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## After this Issue, newsletters go online for most members

For many years, we have anticipated the time when such an overwhelming percentage of our members have the ability and knowledge to communicate with us online, we would be able to streamline our newsletters. We believe that time is now.

Ten years ago, 20% of our travelers didn't have an email account. Today, that percentage is down to less than 2%. We regularly watch many of you use your iPhones to check email, weather, directions and all sorts of things.

Starting with the next edition, newsletters will be delivered by email. We will send you a link to the publication online. We will still print a publication twice a year, after the **Spring Tour Preview** (which was held May 14<sup>th</sup>) and a full tour catalog after our annual **Tour Preview Day** (August 27<sup>th</sup> this year).

Distributing the newsletters by email will bring a number of benefits. First is

timeliness. Now, the printing and mailing process takes up to two weeks. With the computerized version of the newsletter, we will be able to add/update the schedule literally until the day we send it out. There will be considerable cost savings to us, with less printing and mailing. It will also be more earth-friendly, one of our company goals. Less wasted materials.

## Can you still get a printed edition of *The Traveler* newsletter?

For now, the answer is **YES, YOU CAN GET A PRINTED NEWSLETTER.** We will mail one at no charge to Travel Club Members who request one. **Call us with your request today!** We will send you a newsletter by regular mail. One note – we will mail a copy machine created newsletter to you 1-2 days before the regular newsletter is posted online. When you receive the mailed copy will be up to the Post Office.

## Will there be more frequent newsletter-style updates?

**Absolutely.** Because of the simplicity of creating/sending an update, we will be able to offer trips, especially entertainment-based day trips, we cannot offer now.

Despite the overwhelming number of members looking for this change, it's not a decision we make lightly. We mentioned above, we still have members without computer-communications. Many of these are long time travelers, and we really don't want to leave them behind. For now, we will accommodate them with a printed copy and send the rest of you an email link to the online edition at [www.sportsleisure.com](http://www.sportsleisure.com). The first online update will come in mid-July, offering you the chance to register for **Tour Preview Day on August 27<sup>th</sup>.**

*See the back page for Early Payment Discounts*

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Editor..... Mark Hoffmann  
Executive Editor..... Clayton Whitehead  
Writers & Photographers..... **SLV** Staff



Clayton presents \$6,195 for Ukrainian relief to Eugene from YOU. Read more about it on page 4...

# Just One Man's Opinion by Mark Hoffmann

## 43 years, 56,000 Members: What a Journey!

The numbers alone are pretty impressive. New memberships came to a virtual standstill during two years of pandemic, yet, we have still issued nearly 56,000 membership cards since 1979. To give you an idea, the 2020 population of El Dorado Hills was 47,000. So enough Travel Club Members to fill a medium-sized city.



From trips to Giants baseball games, to the popular-at-the-time casino day trips to Reno and Tahoe, the company was driven by the ideas of the travelers.

"Did you ever think of going to Hearst Castle?" "I've never been to Yosemite, ever think of going there?" "I've always wanted to ride **The Skunk Train** in Fort Bragg."

Those modest first ideas led to the concept of a tour company that went **everywhere**. By our third year, we had **Australia** and a cruise around **Tahiti** on the schedule. A chance comment from a traveler about the possibility of staying in a Marriott hotel led to us setting our quality sights a little higher. You told us what you liked, and we put your wishes into our product. Or should we say, your parents and older generation friends and neighbors told us what they wanted...

Fast forwarding to today, your input still drives the company. Those evaluations you complete play a big role. I get to see many of you in person on tours I escort throughout the year. Ditto for **Clayton**. (More on Clayton in a minute.) You tell me in person what worked and what didn't. Often times I see success (or failure) first hand. At Preview Day, you will slip me a piece of paper with a reference to a destination you want to visit, or you send an email.

All of that input is extremely valuable. Between your input and things like **Priority Lists**, we are able to offer you trips to places on your wish list. As a small company, we

need to get it right. Listening to you helps make that happen.

Our trips are a little longer, with a little more free time, a little more upscale, cost a little more than others, and give you a chance to travel with a local company. I think that's important, the local company thing.

There aren't many independent tour operators like ourselves. We don't employ "artificial intelligence" on our phones. We answer them (ok, after hours there is a recording). We talk to our travelers. Customer service still has not only a presence, but a value, at our company.

Perhaps that makes us "old school." Some will likely consider us a "dying breed." I have no issue with those labels. Travelers who follow will be used to websites and punching buttons on their phones and talking to people who aren't actually there. Those systems will probably work for them.

Perhaps the thing of most value after four plus decades of travel are the people. When you stop for just a second to remember some of the people who have been a part of this dream, it is totally amazing. Many, heck most of them, are gone now. But the stories and the memories they created will live on forever. Don't believe me... just wind me up someday and listen to the stories pour out.

That first **Tahiti** cruise, with **seven ladies** in tow, makes the all-time list. There have been journeys on **Route 66** and numerous trips to Broadway. There have been big surprises in small places, like the visit to **Plains, Georgia**, hometown of Jimmy Carter (really need to get that on the schedule again). The annual visit to Key West and all the characters there who make our trips so much fun definitely make the "all-time" list!

This Christmas, our mystery tour will return to one of my all-time favorite places (I'll tell you in January where it is), and I can't wait for our next big baseball tour next year to the Hall of Fame.

Indeed, our business has become much, much tougher, and a bit less *fun* during the pandemic, but perhaps **normal** will return someday soon. In the meantime, your patience and loyalty keep us going. More

than anything, after so many years, it's still all about the people. You make it all possible.

## ★★★★★★ A Promotion

At the Spring Preview Day in May, I announced something which was long overdue. For many years, **Clayton** has held the role of **Vice-President** here at **Sports Leisure**. For many years we had a General Manager, and of course an owner, so Clayton's spot was somewhere on that leadership ladder. Not really clearly defined, but always a hard-working part of the mix.

During COVID, our general manager left for greener pastures (to be a minister), and we didn't fill the role, in part due to a lack of trips and in part to save precious \$\$\$\$. Clayton didn't miss a beat. He doubled down and worked harder, basically doing two jobs much of the time.

It's time to recognize that effort. As of May 14<sup>th</sup>, Clayton will be known as **President of Sports Leisure Vacations**. It's a small way of acknowledging some really hard work over the past 18 months. As I hobble around and work on getting fixed up for the stretch run, I'm grateful to Clayton and the rest of the gang for picking up the slack. Like many, we have been doing more with less for a while now.

Thank you, and all those who preceded you, for your support. Spending your adult life making people happy, making their travel dreams come true, isn't a bad way travel down this road.

And so it goes...

**Mark Hoffmann, CTP**  
Owner/Founder (43 years ago)

Proud members of the



## The Fine Print

We don't like to read the fine print. Whether it's a large transaction or small, the acquisition of a new appliance or houseplant, signing up to provide volunteer service or join a new organization, and heaven forbid if you're buying a new car or house, we are inundated with pages upon pages of information – directions and descriptions; warnings and disclaimers. A friend gave me a small battery-operated light designed to come on when you enter the bathroom at night. It's motion-activated and provides a soft glow – just enough to help me do my business, but not enough to pull me from my sleepy state. I was surprised to find a four-page instruction manual. I actually read it, curious to learn how such a small device could command so much fine print. There was a whole section on avoiding potentially fatal electric shock. Electric shock!?!?!? It's a tiny light using one AA battery! But I will confess I thought about it when I went into the bathroom that evening.



At **Sports Leisure Vacations** we have a small, but important document containing the bulk of our fine print. It comes your way tucked in with every multi-day tour reservation in the form of the **Special Vacation Notes and Information** brochure.

In May we revised this document for the first time since 2019. I want to now bring a few important changes to your attention.

**Cancellations without penalty:** We have long prided ourselves on our policy that you could cancel a tour for any reason up to 60 days before the departure and receive a full refund including the price of Cancellation Protection (CP). We were able to sustain this rare-in-the-industry policy because most of our suppliers did not need a firm commitment on numbers until 30 or 45 days out. Well, that was then and this is now. Today nearly all our suppliers require us to confirm our numbers and pay in full at 60 days out. Clearly we need some time to react to your cancellation, especially if the tour planner is on the road. So we've rolled all of our deadlines forward by 10 days. You must now advise us of a cancellation (plus any other special requests including airline upgrades) 70 days prior to the departure. Inside 70 days the provisions of CP (or Travel Insurance on international vacations) apply.

**Door-to-door service changes:** Charges for home pick-up and return are calculated on a number of factors. Miles are certainly one of them, but also the time it takes to reach a location. As our city continues to grow and congestion increases, so does the time it takes to serve especially the outlying areas, resulting in a few changes to our service boundaries. Travelers in Galt and Auburn (95602)/Lake of the Pines are now OUTSIDE the service area. You may

still utilize the service, but it will come with a surcharge. (Those living in Auburn 95603 remain inside the service boundary with no additional fee.)

Those electing to provide your own transportation to the airport or meeting point will now receive a \$100/traveler reduction on the cost of the vacation.

**The pandemic and other sad realities of our times:** In these most peculiar of times I feel we must be very clear about what CP covers and what it doesn't. CP does not include coverage against any act of war, domestic terrorism, weather, pandemics or fear of same. Should a group become stranded due to any of these factors, each traveler must accept and pay the additional costs. Should a traveler fall ill during a tour (with COVID or any other ailment) and be separated from the group, additional costs for medical attention, recuperation and quarantine is the responsibility of the traveler. This would be viewed as Vacation Interruption, and yes, there's a section on that in the brochure. The limit of **Sports Leisure's** liability is getting the traveler (and their companion if applicable) back to their departure city. That said you will not be alone. Our road and office staff, along with our network of suppliers and friends, have your back. We are there to help you to the fullest extent of our ability, but we cannot suffer the additional expenses that accrue in such a situation.

That's it. Not my usual **Clayton Place**, but extremely important information nonetheless. The next time you make a reservation and that yellow brochure falls out of the envelope, how about doing me a favor. Will you give our fine print a read? It won't help you avoid electric shock, but I promise it will make you a more informed traveler. I thank you in advance for your time!

"Your Tour Guy,"

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clayton".

Clayton Whitehead, CTP  
President

## You have some coins or a collection you'd like to sell/get appraised...

In a previous life, Mark bought and sold coins. He's gone back to that as a hobby. He'd be happy to give you an honest appraisal, and if you wish, a purchase offer, that is fair. Call him at **916-361-2051** to make an appointment. If you have more than you can move, Mark can come to you.

Generally, all dimes, quarters and half dollars minted 1964 and before have a value. For half dollars from 1965-70 also are worth more than 50 cents. For pennies and nickels, generally coins before 1940 have value. All silver dollars minted 1935 or before are worth having appraised. Many of the items the mint has issued from 1936-present have value. Proof sets, mint sets, various commemorative coins, some are worth only a few dollars, but some much more. There is no charge for appraisals for Travel Club Members and their referrals.



## Topics of interest to TRAVEL CLUB MEMBERS

**Ed. Note:** The title of this column is borrowed from an old friend, **Bill Conlin**, who was the Sports Editor of the **Sacramento Union**, and also wrote for The Bee in a career spanning 60 years. Bill was someone who took the time to share advice in his own special way with a young man who thought he knew **everything**. Bill was pretty good at reminding me I didn't.

He later became a regular **Sports Leisure Traveler**, often in the companionship of Mae Belle Pendergast, who also wrote for The Union.

Once a month or so, Bill would pen a column with the above title. It was meant to be a way of gathering together miscellaneous items of interest which had crossed his desk and offering them up to his readers. He passed in 1997. He was, without a doubt, a finer man than Gunga Din. What I wouldn't give for one more day at the ballpark with Bill...

★★★★★★

### The Generosity of Sports Leisure Travelers

At our recent **Holiday Preview Day** at the KVIE Studios, we offered attendees the opportunity to donate to humanitarian efforts in **Ukraine**, through the efforts of a local Slovic church. It should be noted many of our car drivers are from Ukraine, and in fact for some, this is their church.

The church gathered medical and non-perishable food items and shipped them in containers overseas. The shipping costs were high and that created a need to raise money. (You may have seen the open letter in the last newsletter.) **On Preview Day alone, you contributed over \$6,000.** This doesn't count many individual donations. We proudly covered the cost of an entire shipping container of much needed supplies. Eugene Ivanilov, one of our drivers who appeared at the afternoon session, said *"We cannot thank you enough for your kindness and generosity. It means a lot to us and the people in our country."*

## COVID is Far From Over, But Here's a Solid Idea

As a society, we have decided to throw caution to the wind when it comes to the pandemic. Masks, hand washing, etc., is out of vogue. The current strain of COVID is very contagious. The good news is, most people who are vaccinated and boosted have only mild illness if they catch it.

The challenge comes if you catch it away from home, like when you are traveling. That requires protocols which separate you from the group, and keep you that way for the 5-7 days it generally takes for the virus to run its course. We have procedures to follow, but of course they require you to remain behind from the group, for the safety of others.

No one wants to deal with that situation. So what does a traveler do? Friend of **The Travel Guys**, USA Today and Forbes Magazine Travel Editor and noted consumer advocate **Chris Elliott** has a suggestion.

**Consider testing for COVID BEFORE you travel.** My doctor adds, especially if you notice one or more of the common symptoms (*really* runny nose, hacking cough, sore throat, super tired). Sure, it could just be a cold or the common flu, but if you had something or things from that list, wouldn't it make sense to test at home, **before you departed?** Better perhaps, to be stuck at home than stuck **away** from home. Plus, your fellow travelers would be very grateful for your sense of responsibility to others.

The government has made this easy. They are once again offering 8 home tests per address for **free**. Go to [www.covid.gov/tests](http://www.covid.gov/tests) and order yours. The day before your trip departs, you give yourself the home test.

Based on recent experience, we believe if travelers were pre-testing, we may have been able to avoid a couple of recent situations where the virus popped up during or after a trip. It's certainly an idea with some merit.

## Our Vaccination/Boosted Policy Remains in Place

In order to participate in any **Sports Leisure Vacations** trip or activity, you

must be both vaccinated **and** boosted (once). (The CDC strongly recommends if your last booster was more than 6 months ago, you consider a second shot.) Proof of vaccination is required at the first point of contact (airport, motorcoach, etc.). You can show your card, have it on your phone, whatever works for you will work for us. That way, **everyone** who travels with us knows we are all, together, making an effort to protect not only ourselves, but each other.

## Upgrades in the Sky, Special Needs – Please Request Well in Advance

**Upgrading your air ticket** – If you wish to add upgraded economy seats, or try to use your miles to purchase/upgrade a ticket, make sure you make that request **when you make your reservation or payment.** Airlines are very stingy with how many of those are available. If you wait until a few weeks before departure, you will likely be disappointed. Call the office and ask for **Michael**. Currently, he is in Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9am – 3:30pm.

If you **are bringing a walker or other assistive device in the car which picks you up**, we must know in advance. Wheelchair assistance at the airport can be requested on departure day.

## Fuel Surcharges

They are a reality. As you can experience by filling up at or just driving by a service station, gas and diesel prices have soared. It's one reason airfares have climbed and stayed high. Motorcoach companies are having to pass on the higher fuel prices through surcharges. Recently, they have reached as much as 10% of the total coach price, or about \$100-\$150 a day. This translates to about \$3-\$6 per passenger per day on tour.

Just a heads up, so you won't be surprised when you are asked for a little more before departure. These are legitimate, additional charges and when fuel prices come down, we promise the surcharges will come down with them.



# Daycations and Theatre Outings

## COMING EVENTS at the Gallo Center, Modesto

All dates include deluxe motorcoach transportation, lunch or dinner at the popular Canal Street Grille in Ripon, onboard refreshments and the services of a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director.

### Judy Collins

Friday, September 30 – 7:30 pm

She has long inspired audiences with sublime vocals, boldly vulnerable songwriting, personal life triumphs and a firm commitment to social activism. Revered singer-songwriter Judy Collins has a 55-album body of work and the love of generations of fans. **\$216**

### Engelbert Humperdinck

Sunday, November 6 – 5:00 pm

He's recorded everything from the most romantic ballads ("Please Release Me," "A Man without Love") to movie theme songs, disco and rock. Engelbert's unique voice and an endearing sense of humor continue to charm millions of fans around the globe. **\$216**

### Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons

Friday, November 18 – 7:30 pm

Frankie Valli – the original Jersey Boy himself – is a true American legend. His incredible career with the Four Seasons and as a soloist has spawned a Broadway musical and countless hit singles, unforgettable tunes like "Sherry," "Walk Like A Man," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Rag Doll," "December '63 (Oh What A Night)," "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You," and of course, "Grease." **\$256**

### Vienna Boys Choir – Christmas in Vienna

Tuesday, November 22 – 7:30 pm

*Christmas in Vienna* showcases these gifted young performers with voices of unforgettable beauty in an extraordinary program featuring Austrian folk songs,

classical masterpieces, popular songs and, of course, countless holiday favorites. **\$196**

### Johnny Mathis

Wednesday, December 21 – 7:30 pm

Join us as Johnny performs some of his greatest Christmas hits and personal favorites. It's just not Christmas without Johnny Mathis! This is one of the most in-demand holiday concerts at performing arts centers across the country. How lucky are we to have him so close this year! Don't miss your chance to see Johnny live and in person! **\$266**

★★★★★★

### Jim Henson Exhibition

Contemporary Jewish Museum,  
San Francisco

Friday, July 8

The Jim Henson Exhibition: Imagination Unlimited celebrates the legacy of Jim Henson (1936-1990), trailblazing puppeteer, animator, cartoonist, actor, inventor and filmmaker. Featuring more than 150 objects drawn from the beloved worlds of Sesame Street, Fraggle Rock, The Dark Crystal, Labyrinth and more, the exhibition highlights

Henson's ground-breaking work for film and television, and his indelible mark on popular culture. It also includes material from Henson's experimental film projects and his early work, presenting him as a restlessly creative performer and technical innovator. Lunch is included. **\$128**

### Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

Curran Theater, San Francisco

Wednesday, July 20, 1:00 pm.

Nineteen years after Harry, Hermione and Ron saved the wizarding world; they are back on a most extraordinary new adventure – Prepare to experience spectacular spells, a mind-blowing race through time, and an epic battle to stop mysterious forces. This one-of-a-kind theatrical presentation is a must-see and will fill you with visions of enchantment and magic and leave you with many "how'd they do that?" moments. Join muggles and wizards alike at Platform 9 & 3/4 to begin this new adventure.

This Wednesday matinee will include a box lunch on the way down to San Francisco, orchestra seating, and no host dinner stop in the North Beach area before returning to Sacramento. **\$295**



You know you are going to eat well on a **Sports Leisure** trip!

## Harry Potter Film Concert Series

Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco

Saturday, August 13, 2:00 pm

Experience the 4th film from one of the most beloved series in history, projected in HD on the big screen, while a full symphony orchestra performs the unforgettable score live to picture with "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire." Patrick Doyle's iconic score will be reproduced in spectacular fashion as we follow Harry, Hermione, and Ron through yet another exciting and dramatic adventure at The Triwizard Tournament.

This Saturday matinee will include a box lunch on the way down to San Francisco, orchestra seating and no host dinner stop in the North Beach area before returning to Sacramento. **\$205**

## OKLAHOMA!

Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco

Wednesday, August 31 – 1:00pm

This is *OKLAHOMA!* as you've never heard it or seen it before – reimagined for the 21st century, taking the Tony Award for Best Revival of a Musical In 2019. Direct from an acclaimed run on Broadway, *OKLAHOMA!* tells a story of a community banding together against an outsider, and the frontier life that shaped America. This production still showcases the timeless songs of Rodgers and Hammerstein. But this visionary new production allows the beloved musical – and our country – to be seen in a whole new light. Critics call it funny and sexy, provocative and probing, a classic rebirth! **\$185**

## Dear San Francisco – A High-flying Love Story

Club Fugazi, San Francisco

Saturday, Sept 3 – 2:00 pm

Coming to the theater that was home to Beach Blanket Babylon for over three decades, Club Fugazi hosts a modern circus show on the stage, created expressly to pay homage to "The City by The Bay". Join us to see this new spectacle which includes French-inspired (think Cirque du Soleil) gravity defying feats, acrobatics, juggling and prose. This package includes lunch prior to the show. **\$199**

## To Kill a Mockingbird

Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco

Wednesday, October 5 – 1:00pm

To Kill a Mockingbird is a play based on the 1960 novel of the same name by Harper Lee and adapted to the stage by Aaron Sorkin. The revival opened on Broadway in December of 2018, winning nine Tony Awards the next year. The story revolves around a black man accused of rape in a pre-civil rights era Alabama and the white lawyer who defends him. The iconic role of Atticus Fitch will be performed by Emmy Award winner Richard Thomas (yes, John Boy has grown up). **\$205**

## Moulin Rouge!

Orpheum Theatre, San Francisco

Wednesday, October 12 – 1:00pm

Enjoy a world of splendor and romance, of eye-popping excess, of glitz, grandeur and glory, a world where Bohemians and aristocrats rub elbows and revel in electrifying enchantment! Welcome to *Moulin Rouge!* The revolutionary film comes to life onstage, remixed in a spectacular new musical mash-up extravaganza. Directed by Tony Award winner Alex Timbers and winner of the 2021 award for Best Musical, *Moulin Rouge!* is a theatrical celebration of truth, beauty, freedom and above all, love. **\$212**

## Ain't Too Proud – The Life and Times of the Temptations

Golden Gate Theater, San Francisco

Wednesday, November 30 – 1:00 pm

*Ain't Too Proud* is the electrifying new musical that follows The Temptations' extraordinary journey from the streets of Detroit to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. With their signature dance moves and unmistakable harmonies, they rose to the top of the charts creating an amazing 42 Top Ten Hits with 14 reaching number one such as "My Girl," "Just My Imagination" and of course "Ain't Too Proud to Beg." **\$202**

## Thunder over Louisville...



Watch for details in our 2023 catalog about this exciting new attraction/tour.



**Sports Leisure** travelers taking in the sights on a recent San Francisco Daycation



# The Tour Calendar (Previously Announced)

Many have very limited space  
(see back page)

## Mamma Mia! (Here we go again)

Outdoors at Lake Tahoe

2 Days • August 4-5 (1 seat) or August 18-19

Could there be a more picturesque venue anywhere? Imagine watching a theatrical performance with Tahoe as the backdrop! Not just any show, but the sequel to the popular *Mamma Mia!* Accommodations at the Lake Tahoe Resort (formerly the Embassy Suites) in South Shore. Theater at night, free morning before returning home. Lunch and a live magic show are on tap before you return home. 3 meals, theater and magic show tickets included.

\$720 p.p./dbl.occ., \$825 single

## Cruising the St. Lawrence River aboard the Canadian Empress

Featuring two days of sailing through the spectacular Thousand Islands

9 Days • August 13-21, 2022

The *Canadian Empress* is a grand ship built in the classic steamboat style. Your journey will begin in Quebec City and end in Kingston, Ontario, traversing the scenic "Thousand Islands" along the way – an archipelago of 1870 islands stretching over fifty miles. Journey through six locks rising a combined 246 feet in water level, pass summer homes of the rich and famous, ford intricate river channels and explore hidden coves.

The cruise features daily attractions with included shore excursions, complimentary domestic beer and wine with meals and nightly entertainment. Spend 6 nights on the ship, with hotel stays for a night each at the start and finish. See the complete itinerary at [www.sportsleisure.com](http://www.sportsleisure.com)

Only one Ottawa Class cabin remains at press time!

\$7350 p.p./dbl.occ.

This vacation requires a valid passport!

## Rocky Mountaineer Fall Foliage Mystery Tour

7 Days • September 27 – October 3

We don't usually reveal the main part of a Mystery Tour. But this is an exception. **Scott** just returned from a Moab itinerary which included the train. He was raving about it.

The train travels between Denver/Moab, overnighing (hotel) in Glenwood Springs. Where else does the trip go? Talk to **Scott** for some clues. Really, anywhere in Utah would be awesome. This is **Scott's** favorite area, so no doubt he has some surprises waiting for you. **Please note:** If high attitudes bother you, this is NOT your trip.

\$4850 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5595 single

## Autumn in Ireland

12 Days • September 28 – October 9

The tour features 2-night stays in **Belfast, Derry, Galway, Killarney and Dublin**. The package includes 15 meals and airfare. Everything from kissing the Blarney Stone to a visit to the Waterford Crystal Factory is on the itinerary.

\$6750 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7275 single

This vacation requires a valid passport!

## Santa Barbara, The American Riviera

4 Days • October 17-20

Enjoy accommodations near the beach and a variety of sights. New non-stop service allows us to fly directly into Santa Barbara (noon departure on Day 1). Explore the city on tour, visit the historic mission, there's even a Land & Sea Tour, taking you into the water and past Stearns Wharf. Throw in a side trip to Danish Solvang one day and you have a great getaway. 7 meals and airfare included.

\$2075 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2430 single

## Spectacular Sedona

5 Days • November 13-17

You'll spend 4 nights at the **Hilton Sedona Resort**, your headquarters for adventure. Ride the Verde Canyon Railroad, tour the Copper Museum, enjoy a trolley tour of Sedona featuring the Chapel of the Holy Cross, spend some time in Tlaquepaque. 8

meals and airfare included.

\$2895 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3295 single

## Puttin' on The Ritz for Christmas

3 Days • December 4-6 or 11-13

Our annual getaway to The Ritz Carlton Hotel in Half Moon Bay. This short trip is so popular, **Scott** is doing TWO of them this year. But don't delay, over half the seats on each trip have already been spoken for. Your hotel is set on a rocky bluff, overlooking the Pacific. Visit Filoli Mansion, all decked out for the holidays, and have time to enjoy your surroundings. Spa services are available at an additional cost (Why not treat yourself?). A Champagne Sunday Brunch and two lunches are included.

\$1595 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1930 single

## U.S. Figure Skating Championships

5 Days • January 25-29 • San Jose

You'll have lower level overview seating for all the final and semi-final events, women's, men's pairs. Plus, you'll see the **Skating Spectacular** on Sunday, after the competition. More details on timing will come later. Depart and return by train (after your home pick-up). In San Jose, your accommodations are at the **Delta Hotel by Marriott** (formerly The Biltmore) in Santa Clara. The arena is a mile away. Breakfast each morning, Sunday Brunch, one dinner and two lunches are included in the package.

\$2265 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2515 single

## Look What We're Doing...



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sportsleisure](http://www.facebook.com/sportsleisure). We post pictures of recent trips and sometimes trips that are currently on the road... so you may see a fellow **Sports Leisure** traveler while they are actually on vacation. How awesome is that?

# New Vacations & Getaways

## Thanksgiving in New York

*It's the most wonderful time of the year for visiting the Big Apple!*

**A**

6 Days • November 20-25

★ Highlights ★

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Hotel on Times Square
- Tickets to two Broadway shows: *The Music Man* plus one of your choosing
- Radio City Music Hall Rockettes *Christmas Spectacular*
- Theatre talk with nationally-syndicated critic Peter Filichia
- Visit Liberty and Ellis Islands
- Experience Disney's *Behind the Magic*
- Tour the 911 Memorial Museum and take in the view at One World Observatory
- See the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
- 5 memorable meals featuring a spectacular Thanksgiving dinner cruise aboard the *Bateaux New York*
- Round trip airfare to/from New York's LaGuardia Airport
- Home pick-up and return
- 4850/5350 Gold Passport Points

1. As Thanksgiving ushers in the Christmas season, you'll be in the middle of it all as you check-in to New York's best address **located directly on Times Square.**

### 5 nights – Marriott Marquis (D)

2. Disney on Broadway's *Behind the Magic* tour is set in the historic New Amsterdam Theatre, original home of the Ziegfeld Follies, on famed 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. After this behind-the-scenes experience, head to Rockefeller Center for lunch and to see the sites there from the iconic Channel Gardens, Saks Fifth Avenue (and their stunning holiday window displays) and of course St. Patrick's Cathedral. An afternoon drive Uptown will encircle Central Park and include stops at Strawberry Fields and Lincoln Center. The evening is yours to explore. Monday is a great night to expand your theatrical horizons with an Off-Broadway show. **(L)**

3. Travel like a real New Yorker – by subway – Downtown for lunch featuring syndicated theatre critic Peter Filichia to learn what's hot and what's not on the Great White Way. The afternoon focuses on the

## 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 daytrip to the ballpark or a short regional trip (Monterey, CA Coast) might be examples. A moderate trip could include air transportation and navigating through airports.

**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 trips could be at high altitudes.**

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

**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 boat, carriage or train. If you need wheelchair assistance at the airport or other places, you should not consider a tour on this level.

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



past and present of the World Trade Center where you'll visit the 9/11 Memorial Museum and take in the breathtaking view from One World Observatory located high atop the 1776-foot-tall building dubbed "Freedom Tower." Tonight is your first taste of Broadway. Choose Your Own Show means exactly what it says. You pick the show and we get the tickets – a **Sports Leisure** exclusive. **(L)**

**4.** Join your Tour Director for a morning adventure to Liberty and Ellis Islands by subway and ferry. The afternoon is yours for personal exploration. How about a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art or shopping on famed Fifth Avenue? The family-style Italian dinner at Carmine's is a New York tradition, followed by the ticket everyone is dying to possess, the long-anticipated revival of *The Music Man*. **(D)**

**5.** It's the exciting Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade! Join the anxious throngs on the streets or watch on television in the comfort (and warmth!) of your room. The parade route is along 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue only one block from the hotel. In the afternoon, journey to Radio City Music Hall for the **Rockettes Christmas Spectacular**. A Thanksgiving dinner cruise follows aboard the elegant glass-roofed *Bateaux New York* featuring excellent food, live music and great sightseeing as the stars come out over the Big Apple. **(D)**

**6.** The short trip to LaGuardia Airport for your midday return flight brings Thanksgiving in New York to a close.

**\$4825 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5350 single**  
**\$150 Early Payment Discount**

## Take the Thanksgiving Train to Reno

*Ride the California Zephyr through the Sierra Nevada*

**2 Days • November 23-24**

Your journey over the mountains begins from one of our convenient pickups, then on to Roseville where you'll board Amtrak's *California Zephyr*. Experience a breathtaking ride through the High Sierra (with perhaps a bit of early season snow) as the train climbs

Proud members of the



in elevation, providing scenic vistas at every turn. Don't worry about your luggage – it will travel on board our motorcoach which will meet you in Reno!

Enjoy the view from your seat or the domed observation car. A box lunch is included for you to take along so you won't miss the scenery! Your accommodations are at the **Silver Legacy Casino/Resort**. Enjoy a free morning at leisure before an early Thanksgiving feast to celebrate the day, returning to Sacramento in the late afternoon.

The package includes one-way rail passage on Amtrak's *California Zephyr*, a boxed lunch, buffet Thanksgiving meal, hotel accommodations, \$8 hotel food bonus (subject to change), return transportation by motorcoach and the services of a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director. 550/600 Gold Passport Points

**\$520 p.p./dbl.occ., \$560 single**  
**\$15 Early Payment Discount**

## A German-style Christmas Market (and lights), A Frank Lloyd Wright home and Meet the The Monks at the Oregon Gardens

**3 Days • December 23-25**



The longest tour name in history! Our annual Christmas journey goes north to

Portland. Mt. Angel and Silverton are about an hour from the city. After lunch and a holiday-themed stop in Portland, travel south to Silverton, home to the **Oregon Gardens**. This is the last night of the **Silverton Christmas Market**, and we'll arrive in time for you to enjoy the walk through lights and goodies from the vendors on site. Your accommodations for two nights are at the **Oregon Garden Resort**.

On Christmas Eve, we'll visit the Mount Angel Abbey, founded by Swiss Monks in 1882. The monks also brew their own beer, and you'll have an opportunity to sample. We'll have our **two** gift exchanges. One where you bring something modest and we distribute. The second is where **we** provide the gifts, and you spend the evening trying to steal the one you want... Traditionally, if it's available, we provide transportation to Christmas Eve services.

On Christmas Day, well enjoy a holiday meal together and make our way back to Portland for our short return flight home. We do our best to get home by early evening. The package includes 5 meals and airfare. Gold Passport Points 1650/1850

**\$1620 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1830 single**  
**\$50 Early Payment Discount**

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





## 135<sup>th</sup> Tournament of Roses Parade: A California Tradition

M

*The most famous parade in the world*  
**3 Days • Dec. 31, 2022 – Jan. 2, 2023**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Tasty guided tour of the LA Farmer's Market
- Tram tour of Hollywood's Paramount Pictures Studio
- Pre-parade viewing float building
- Reserved parade seating, commemorative souvenir pin and program
- 6 meals: 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches, New Year's Eve dinner and toast
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Burbank
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- -2000/2150 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly to Burbank and head to the LA Farmer's Market. Founded in 1934 and situated near Hollywood, the market has grown into a collection of vendors ranging from high-end to comfort eats. Lunch features items from the market's top vendors with free time to shop. On a tram tour of Paramount Pictures Studios, the magic of Hollywood comes alive. **Hilton Hotel LAX – 2 nights (L)**

2. At the Float Construction Barns in Pasadena, it's all hands on deck! Flowers, greenery and seeds are attached right up until the final hours. The task seems near impossible, but just you wait! Lunch is included on the Santa Monica pier. Stroll along the pier, watch the many performers, or find a comfy spot to sit and watch the

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waves. At your hotel, the evening festivities are being readied! Enjoy a New Year's Eve Buffet and toast to the ball drop in NY's Times Square. **(FB,L,D)**

3. Arrive to the parade in time to get settled before an Air Force flyover sets the day into motion! Miraculously, the floats you saw the day before in parts and pieces are assembled. The imaginative, elaborate designs are simply astounding! Enjoy it all from your reserved seating. You'll receive an official Rose Parade seat cushion, program and souvenir pin. At the Tam O'Shanter, one of Walt Disney's favorite spots, fill up on prime rib and Yorkshire pudding before your early evening flight home. **(FB,D)**

**\$1995 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2120 single**  
**\$60 Early Payment Discount**

## Key West, Miami and The Everglades

A

**6 Days • January 21-26, 2023**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Tour Miami's Coral Gables, Miami Beach, Coconut Grove and South Beach's art deco district
- Take an airboat ride through Everglades Safari Park; meet an alligator or two
- Overnight Key Largo; dinner at a nationally renowned FL Keys seafood diner
- Meet the wildlife: visit a dolphin research



center, a turtle hospital and the butterfly conservatory

- 3 nights in Key West at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel** on Duval Street (**best location in town**)
- Cabaret Dinner Show at La Te Da; meet & greet with performer (another exclusive)
- Tour: Truman's Little White House, Hemingway Home, the island by trolley
- 12 meals: 1 continental breakfast, 4 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners,
- Door-to-door transportation, roundtrip air – to Miami, return from Key West
- 4250/4800 Gold Passport Points  
**\$4250 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4795 single**

## Giants/A's Games and a special overnighter

### Giants Home Games

**Wed., Aug. 3** – Los Angeles Dodgers – **\$158** (sec. 129)

**\*Thurs., Aug. 18** – Arizona Diamondbacks – **\$144** (sec. 129)

**\*Wed., Sept. 14** – Atlanta Braves – **\$151** (sec. 129)

\*These games include the ferry ride from Vallejo to the ballpark (one way)

### A's Home Games

**NEW – Sun., Aug. 7** – SF Giants – **\$169**

**Wed., Aug. 10** – Anaheim Angels (Shohei Ohtani) – **\$133**

### The Giants Honor Will Clark

L

**2 Days (Sat.-Sun.) • July 30-31**

The Chicago Cubs make their only appearance of the season in San Francisco and the Giants retire #22, long worn by fan favorite **Will Clark**, in a pre-game ceremony Saturday. Seats are in the lower lever, sections 134 (Sat.) & 129 (Sun.). The Saturday game is a 6pm start. Stay at The Courtyard Union Square in SF. The package includes breakfast and a snack lunch on the way home.

**\$575 p.p./dbl.occ., \$660 single**



**Priority Notification Lists:** Putting your name on the list does two things: It gives us an idea of how popular our idea might be, and it gives you a little jump on anyone not on the list. There is no obligation to register for the tour when you are notified. Scott has three of his trips for next year below, along with Mark's **Return to Route 66 and Michael has opened up Priority Lists for three 2023 cruises.**

## Ice Magic in the Canadian Rockies

*Featuring two nights at the Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise*

**6 Days • January, 2023**

The Canadian Rockies are one of the world's premiere destinations with unparalleled majestic mountain scenery. Stay two nights at the iconic Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise. Watch ice carvers work 34 hours to sculpt towering one-of-a-kind works of art from solid blocks of ice on the shores of Lake Louise. Take an old-fashioned horse drawn sleigh ride along the Lake Louise shore and travel through the forest with a dog sled team. Spend three nights in Banff during snow days with snow sculptures lined up downtown. And soar to new heights on a gondola to the top of Sulphur Mountain.

## Winter In Yellowstone

*Featuring the winter wonderland of Yellowstone without the crowds!*

**7 Days • February, 2023**

In the winter there are only two hotels open in Yellowstone: the Snow Lodge at Old Faithful and the Mammoth hotel; we will stay at both. The park roads are closed to cars so you must travel in snow coaches. During this tour see pristine scenery, geysers, hot springs and lots of animals, they are actually easier to see in the snow. Stay in Jackson Hole and take a horse pulled wagon ride through the Elk Refuge.

**See the back page for Early Payment Discounts**

## Alaska's Aurora Borealis

*Featuring small group travel with unique winter attractions*

**8 Days • March, 2023**

Dog sled at the homestead of the Iditarod Champion Dallas Seavey. Two nights at the Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge with mountain-view rooms, looking out at Denali and the Alaska Range. Ride the Alaska Railroad snow train. View dozens of ice sculptures at the World Ice Art Championships in Fairbanks. And of course Aurora viewing north of Fairbanks. There is no guarantee you will see the Northern Lights but if you stay 3 nights (we do) in Fairbanks there is a 90% chance you will.

## Traveling The Mother Road, Return to Route 66

Our first trip down the old highway was back in 1997. We made seven journeys since then, the last five years ago. In order to see most of the renowned attractions on the old highway, it takes 17-18 days. So we have split the trip into two halves, one in the spring and one in the fall. When you call to place your name on the list(s), please specify if you are interested in east, west, or both.

**Part I • 8-9 Days • May 2023 • Chicago to Oklahoma City**

Fly to Chicago, and begin your travels with breakfast at Lou Mitchell's, a landmark since 1923 (Route 66 was created in 1926). Then it's on to Joliet, Pontiac (the Route 66 mural town) and Lincoln (yep, named for the president). Hear the story of the Rabbit Ranch. On through St. Louis, home to Ted Drewes Frozen Custard. Leavin St. Louis, have lunch in Cuba and discover Uranus, the town name that drives many of the locals crazy.

Springfield, MO, is an overnight stop. Then Spencer (they walked away and left the town) and lunch in one of the coolest roadside spots you'll visit, The Rock Café in Stroud, OK. In Tulsa, you'll learn about how the idea of Route 66 got started, and learn the story of Black Wall Street, which burned

to the ground. There is more of the original Route in Oklahoma than any other state. Fly home from Oklahoma City.

**Part II • 8-9 Days • Oct. 2023 • Oklahoma City to Los Angeles**

Fly into Oklahoma City and head west. Lucille's Roadhouse is a landmark outside Weatherford, and just before you get to the Texas state line, you'll find the nearly empty town of Erick. It was the edge of the Dust Bowl in the 1930s. You can stand on the corner of **Roger Miller (King of the Road) and Sheb Wooley (the Purple People Eater) Streets** in town. Both were born right here.

In Texas, overnight in Amarillo, and dine at the Big Texan. If you can eat their 72 ounce T-bone in an hour, it's free! Tucumcari is a cool stop, and then it's Albuquerque. The Laguna Pueblo is on the way to Gallup.

In Arizona, you'll meet Angel Delgadillo, the 90+ year old "Father of The Mother Road". Don't miss the chance to be "standin' on a corner in Winslow, Arizona." Plus, the La Posada Hotel, in the old train station, is a highlight of your travels. Oatman is also a Route 66 town, burros and all!

Two days across California, with Amboy, Goffs and Barstow along the way. The Rose Parade travels part of the old highway and finally, you've arrived in Santa Monica.

## Cruises for 2023 – More info coming

- June – Scandinavia with Holland America
- Sept. – River Cruise – Amsterdam to Basel, Switzerland
- Sept. – American Steamboat – St. Louis to Minneapolis

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**TOUR PREVIEW DAY**  
**Saturday, August 27**  
**Details will be coming your way in the July**



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### EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT COUPON

Early Registration Payment Discounts listed here expire on **Friday, July 15, 2022**; or may be withdrawn when 50% of the available space has been reserved. To receive the discount you must pay in full with ten days of registration. If you accept this option the monies paid (less a \$20 administrative fee), including the cost of Cancellation Protection, are returned to you if you cancel more than 70 days prior to departure regardless of the reason for cancellation. Inside the time limits noted above restrictions on refunds apply. See the **Special Vacation Notes & Information** brochure for complete details.

Nov. – Thanksgiving in New York – **Save \$150**

Nov. – Thanksgiving Train to Reno – **Save \$15**

Dec. – Christmas at Oregon Gardens – **Save \$50**

Dec. – Rose Parade – **Save \$60**

### 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. 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.

### TOUR UPDATE...

Two lists of multi-day vacations which are sold out or have only a limited amount of space remaining (10 or fewer seats, number in parenthesis). Waiting Lists are available for sold out tours. Daycations are not included in these lists.

#### Sold-Out Tours

Quebec	San Juan Island Cruise
South Dakota	Christmas Mystery Tour
Niagara Falls	Pageant of the Masters
Maine Lobsters	Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound
Reno Balloon Festival	Cambria Christmas Markets/Lights
Michigan & Mackinac	Appalachian Mountain Christmas

#### Limited Space

Sedona (2)	Puttin' on the Ritz (3/6 – two trips)
Santa Barbara (7)	Mamma Mia! Aug. 4-5 (1), Aug. 18-19 (14)
US Figure Skating (11)	Rocky Mountaineer Fall Foliage Mystery (6)
Autumn in Ireland (7)	Cruising the St. Lawrence (2)
Will Clark Giants Overnighter (4)	

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