7,321 Active Members • 52,674 Members Since 1979

MARCH/APRIL | VOL. 40 | NO. 5 2019

Celebrating 40 Years of Touring Casually, with Friends

On Saturday, June 8th, we invite you to join us for lunch at one of our longtime favorite eateries and travel partners, **Peking Restaurant**, just down the street from our offices, at 9529 Folsom Blvd. We will offer a variety of dishes on a Chinese-American buffet. The price of \$17 p.p. includes your non-alcoholic beverage, tax and gratuity.

Reservations are limited and must be **made in advance.** Payment is required at time of reservations.

After lunch (11:30 or 1:30), there will be a short program highlighting the history and the people of *Sports Leisure Vacations* (originally known as *Sports Travel*, then *Sports Leisure Travel*, before our current name came into being in 1996). At our **Tour Preview Day** in September, and in our annual catalog, we will offer a further look back at our 40 year history.

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Spring Preview Day Brings New Tours to the Calendar

On Saturday, March 30th, one of the earliest Spring Preview Days in *Sports Leisure Vacation's* history was held at the KVIE Studios, off West El Camino Avenue in North Sacramento. Over 300 attended two sessions. In addition to receiving information on over a dozen new tours, attendees were treated to a variety of culinary treats from



popular **Sports Leisure** destinations like Hawaii, Leavenworth, New Orleans and even Hilmar Cheese, just down the road!

A couple of the tours sold out immediately following the event (The Christmas Mystery Tour, Christmas in Leavenworth 2019 and New Orleans 2020). Information on the rest of the new tours can be found on these pages. We always recommend you make your reservations early if possible.

Travel Club Members brought donations of socks and underwear for others in our community. As always, our members responded and created a pretty good stack of clothing to help out others. Thank you for your donations, your attendance and your patronage of our new offerings!

Our staff is gearing up for the annual catalog rollout and big **2020 Tour Preview Day** will take place on Saturday, **September 14**th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. *Reservations for the event will open on August 1*st.



While the tour planners are out in the front talking about new trips, the office staff works behind the scenes organizing the many donations for pickup by Loaves and Fishes. Clayton is pictured above showcasing the pralines he brought from New Orleans for all the **SLV** travelers at the event.

Just One Man's Opinion by Mark Hoffmann

Two important days are coming up on the calendar. They celebrate the lives, accomplishments and contributions to our lives: Teachers Day (Tuesday, May 7) and Mother's Day (Sunday, May 12). As a kid

growing up with one parent (mom), teachers had a disproportionate impact on my life. It's appropriate to take a few lines here to say thanks. To put it plainly, without mom and some



great teachers, there would be no **Sports Leisure Vacations**, and certainly no 40th anniversary.

Teachers...

...are pretty awesome people. They shape lives. I suspect their job has gotten a lot harder over the years. I mean, every kid is sitting in class with a camera in their pocket. Just that one aspect alone is an indicator of how different things are. Schools are funded differently than they were in my youth. Parents (and the teachers themselves in many cases) have to creatively fill funding gaps which never used to exist. It's a different world. But yet, teachers still teach.

I remember teachers like **Mr. Gracia,** my wood shop teacher in 8th grade. I wasn't very good at wood shop, and one day, after a botched fire extinguisher demonstration, where he sought to show even the smallest kid in the class (me) could handle the big extinguisher, had gone badly, he proclaimed he was going to become a garbage man. "Because Hoffmann, he said (I remember him saying this like it was yesterday), after I am done with this year of having you in my class, I'm going to retire and become a garbage man. I'll need a simple job after this.

Or **Mr. Lindsay,** my junior high math teacher, at Arcade Junior High, who taught us things which would help us in Algebra the next year, even though we had little interest in his words at the time.

Mrs. Irwin, one of my high school English

teachers, allowed us to set up a ping pong table in the back of her room and gather there before and after class to play. It gave the not-athletes, not-cool, sorta-don't-belong-to-any-group kids a place to hangout and stay out of trouble. Mostly. **Bob Bacon** threw English lessons out the window regularly and replaced them with stories of his travels in a VW bus, and dissections of the lyrics of Simon and Garfunkel songs. Thank you Mr. Bacon, for breaking the rules and teaching us things the other kids never got to hear.

All these years later, those things are more a part of my life than sentence structure (as the English teachers who regularly read this can probably tell).

There are so many more. Mrs. Cassell (Geometry), who played Cat Stevens records during quiet times in class; Targe Lindsay, the principal who introduced me to

the business of flea markets; **Mrs. Smith,** who in one year of "business class" taught me a lifetime's worth of lessons... **Mrs. Flyr,** who had little Mark for **two years** in 3^{rd} and 4^{th} grade, I'm certain that alone qualified her for heaven. There are many more, but we are out of space.

Teachers. I owe much of what I've accomplished in life to them. I raise a toast to those who choose to teach and the lives they have impacted.

A Little Background, and a Thank You

After our **Spring Preview Day** (see story on the front page), the entire staff retired to the **Old Spaghetti Factory** location at 19th and J Streets for dinner. Two of our longtime travelers, **William** & **Penn Yee**, have moved to Oakland. They were kind enough to send

a check to the office, thanking us for their travels over the years and asking me to do something nice for the staff. Special thanks to William and Penn for their generosity. You helped to revive an old tradition (dinner after Preview Day) for a very tired bunch.

This is the second Mother's Day without mom. Mom passed in December of 2017. I think of her most often in the spring, because that's when the roses come out. She loved roses. They made her smile. She



The first roses of spring are in the shadow of a special memorial for this Mother's Day

worked for the State of California for most of her career, and since at this time most state offices were located within a few blocks of the Capitol. There has always been a rose garden in Capitol Park, and today, it's bigger than it was then. Mom said she used to walk through the garden at lunch some days, just to inhale the fragrance of the roses.

So it seemed fitting, especially since her grave is with her parents in Corning, to remember her in the garden where she used to walk, among the roses she loved so much. It is the perfect spot for her spirit to live on.

And so it goes...

Mark Hosman

Mark Hoffmann, CTP, President

Guest Column by Chris Galloway

As I began to write this article I thought about the role travel has played in my life. To be able to travel is truly a luxury, and I was always very aware of this growing up. We were a family of modest means, but we knew how to have fun! The week of July 4th was when our family piled into the minivan with my dad behind the wheel and mom pointing the way. We visited as far north as Maine, down south through the Florida Keys and every state east of the Mississippi. Back at school swapping vacation stories with other kids only emphasized to me how fortunate we were to be able to see and do so much. While they spent their vacations hanging around town putting quarters into arcade games, my brother and I were strolling through New Orleans' French Quarter to jazz music, reliving American history on the battlefields of Gettysburg or walking through the Smithsonian Institutes' immense collections on exhibit in Washington, D.C.

With a strong sense of wanderlust instilled in me, it was no surprise to anyone when I left our small town at a young age. Emboldened by the knowledge and confidence that comes from having seen the "other". I set out to find my own path and place in the world. A chance meeting introduced me to the Tourism Industry and I was hooked. This has found me living and working in various places and shaped the person I am. It's been almost two decades since and I have been to all 50 states multiple times, each of Canada's provinces, Japan, China, Southeast Asia, most of Western Europe, Central America and dabbled in South America. Each locale has its own lessons to offer. I feel it's important to not only see a place but also embrace it, taste it, dance to its unique rhythm, appreciate the differences while recognizing our inherent similarities. Travel broadens narrow viewpoints; you simply can't help but be changed.

Turning 40 is a milestone to be celebrated! It's a time to revisit memories and think about the decisions that lead you to where you are today. If you've lived your life well, by this point people should be throwing around words like admirable, trustworthy and respectable to describe you. It's so kind of you folks to think that of me that way, but did you know Sports Leisure is also turning 40 this year? You read that correctly! Our humble little tour company was started by a guy from a small Midwestern town with a big vision. Congratulations, Mark! You've surely made a lot of folks' dreams come true, and I bet they even have some good things to say about you too!

So here's to many more years of exploration and good times! See you on the road soon!



It's always fun to try on different cultures for size. Wink, wink.



The Customers Always Write

Preamble: Our Snow Train trips in February and March were both plagued by long Amtrak delays, one weather (snow on the tracks) related, and one mechanical. Here are three different letters from participants on the trips. The February trip never left the Roseville train station. The March trip, after a delay, traveled by bus to Reno. The January trip was not impacted.

Dear Mark:

RE: Snow Train February 27-28, 2019

My wife and I were booked on the Snow Train this last week. I had been looking forward to this trip for years. I retired a few years ago and last year tried to book this trip, but I was too late. This year, I booked it a few months ago, so with much anticipation, I was quite happy to see all of the snow.

Needless to say, there was too much snow. My wife Sandi and I fully expected **Sports Leisure** to cancel the trip. As we were waiting to get on the train at Roseville though, it became a bit clear that Amtrak may not be able to fulfill their end of the agreements. While we got a bit wet waiting for the train to pull completely into the station, we had a great time relaxing in our section of the train. The seats were so comfortable that we both took a nap only to wake up and see that we had not moved an inch.

So by the time **Jim** (Pelley) told us that he would be taking us back to our car, we were not surprised. Even though we didn't get to see the snow or relax up in Reno, we actually had a nice time. This was our first experience with **SLV** (I guess I can't say we took a trip?). Your driver Derek was kind and helpful as well as Jim, the Tour Director. The people were fun and everyone had a good attitude. Hopefully we will be able to try this again next year.

The full refund just made the whole thing even better. Being a retired business owner, I appreciate this more than most. Thanks again.

Les and Sandi Fong

Ed. Note: I don't ever remember getting a "first-time traveler" letter from someone

who's train never left the station. Thank you Les (and Sandi). Just think how much fun it will be next year when the train actually moves. Maybe.

Hello.

RE: Snow Train February 27-28, 2019

My wife and I and our son were scheduled as passengers on the Snow Train. After boarding the train, we sat idle for approximately three hours awaiting a clearance for the train to progress toward the Summit. Finally, due to the terrible snow and weather conditions along I-80, and the railroad over the Donner Summit, Sports Leisure made the very wise decision to cancel the trip.

In just a few days, much to our surprise we received checks from Sports Leisure for the full amount of our original payments for the trip. There were NO deductions.

In taking this action, Sports Leisure exercised one of the most powerful marketing tools ever devised. You probably created a whole busload of passengers who ended up telling all their friends about how great they were treated by Sports Leisure unpredictable circumstances. certainly won't hesitate to tell our friends and recommend Sports Leisure as a source for their travel arrangements. We intend to return for another trip when the opportunity arises. Happy Traveling,

Harold, Patricia and James Wolfe

Ed. Note: Thank you for your comments and your understanding. It was a frustrating day. Life is an attitude. Thank you for bringing a positive one, even in the face of what (didn't) happen.

Dear Sports Leisure,

RE: Snow Train to Reno – March

My friend and I signed up for this trip. It was a big disappointment to us. I know you have no control over Amtrak, however, since this is not your first experience with them being late, I would have hoped you had planned better. Our biggest disappointment was not riding the train. We clearly would not have wanted to wait until 3:30pm or whatever time they arrived in Roseville, but I think there could have been some ways to improve the trip.

First, we could have spent more time in Truckee. We were stopped for 45 minutes. Given we missed the train and experiencing the snow tunnels, etc., what was the hurry to get to Reno since there was basically nothing to do there. In Reno we found a very limited number of restaurants that were open due to the days we were there. Second, there were no shows due to the days we were there. All there was to do there was gamble. We could have spent more time in Truckee shopping and site seeing and even having a decent meal. Truckee does have some very good restaurants. I think you should let people know in advance about Amtrak's poor record with timeliness and what you would do as an alternative.

Further, I think it would be appropriate to put some very appropriate pressure on Amtrak. In Europe people depend on the train to get to work as well as go on vacation. Clearly weather was not the reason Amtrak

While you all and Donnie (Anderson) tried to make "lemonade from lemons," I think this could have been handled better. I should say I did appreciate your thoughtfulness in getting a reimbursement to us so quickly. Sincerely Yours,

Marcia Rogers

Ed. Note: It seems a bit unfair to put the blame on SLV for a train which operated 6 hours late, but so be it. You stated there were "some ways" to improve the trip, but the only suggestion you made was to spend more time in Truckee.

The trip was overnighting in Reno on a Monday. Reno has never had shows on Monday nights (based on 40 years of experience). It's a dark night for much of the entertainment industry, including Broadway shows in New York City. If you had asked/ inquired about shows when you registered. we could have shared our knowledge.

As for "putting appropriate pressure on Amtrak," that's just a goofy statement.

Amtrak is frequently late. It is not a

recent development. In your case, it was mechanical, and Amtrak refunded the tickets. We committed to refunding our passengers even before we got that word from Amtrak.

I have spoken to several people on the trip about your "restaurants closed" statement and we are mystified. Monday is a slower night, but between Silver Legacy, Circus Circus and the Eldorado Hotel/Casinos (all connected) they show 13 food venues on Monday nights, with two closed.

With a little homework, most of these things wouldn't have been issues. I'm sorry your train trip didn't work out the way you/ we hoped.

Dear Sports Leisure Staff,

Thank you for the Valentine's Day Card! I love that it is signed by every one of you! I feel so special! I will treasure it forever. Why did you send me a Valentine's card? I can't wait to see you @ Preview Day on March 30th. I love reading the "Traveler." Keep up all your great work! I appreciate it! Greatfully, Sherry Richardson

Ed. Note: Clayton hand addresses and sends Valentine's to all of our Active Gold Members each February (Gold Members who traveled at least 8 days with us in 2018). It's a time-consuming job to address all the envelopes and each staff member individually signs them. Clayton will read and appreciate your thank you.

Dear Mark,

My name is Becky Carruthers and I am a Gold Club member. I have really enjoyed my years traveling with you all. I'm wondering if going on a day trip to Winchester Mystery House in San Jose and/or Computer History Museum in Mountain View have been considered? I would be very interested in a day trip to these two institutions. Just a thought! Sincerely,

Becky

Proud members of the



Mark.

I was sorting some of my books to donate and when I saw this one I thought of you. If you already have this book, please pass it on to someone who loves Baseball. I really enjoy traveling with your company. Thanks for so many great trips.

Margaret Williams

Hi Mark & Clayton,

Enclosed is an article from the SF Chronicle. Fascinating place and beautifully done. It is big enough to send a bus load. The usual access is up 17 steps but, there is a back entrance with no climbing. I did ask Wolf about a possible afternoon "English Tea" and he was not interested. The book store is a neat place for bookworms. They did get rid of lots of books to make room for their version of "Baker Street West" but there are enough books left for us book lovers. This may not be enough for a day trip but an after lunch stop with "Ten" before heading back to Sacramento.

Fllen

Hi May,

I'm so glad you read my mind for Fri/Sat Mar 15-16 San Jose Cirque du Soleil. You made arrangements for the group to eat at my favorite restaurant Maggiano's!!! I love that place and was sad when they had to leave Sacramento.

Anyway, the whole trip was fantastic and I loved dinner and Cirque du Soleil, both my favorite things to do!!! Even the seats were on the spot. The only issue I had was I have a vertical challenge and that is if a tall person sits in front of me, I have to see the performance from side to side of them. I for one enjoyed the weekend.

Georjan Gee

Dear Sports Leisure,

First, thank you for offering more close-tohome overnight trips. Just got back from the Taste of Healdsburg trip and wanted to give you some feedback. Very much enjoyed the lunch at Viansa Winery, the visit to Journeyman Meat Company and the tasting and demo at Taste of Tea on day 2. The dinner at Coppola Winery was the highlight of the trip! Lots of entertainment and fun, and great food for the family-style dinner. Also Hotel Trio was fabulous--comfortable. clean and nice amenities.

A suggestion for future overnight trips: Because we did a lot of boarding and unboarding of the bus for several other stops to eat, it didn't feel as relaxing as it could have been. And it was too much eating. Perhaps some un-scheduled time in Healdsburg Town Square to browse shops and just sit and people-watch, if we wished, would have been nice. Finally, **Donnie** was the best. She always does a great job of directing our tour. Kudos to both Donnie and Monica, our All West driver... Overall, a very enjoyable trip!

Thanks!

Mary Helen Ivers

Thank You for the Ideas You Share

Many of you take the time to share your ideas on future destinations through emails, letters, articles, books you drop off at the office, all sorts of methods are used to advise us of something which might be worthy of our scrutiny. Those ideas and your communications are of great value to us and we thank you for sharing.

In the last couple of months, we have received a LOT of contributions. When I went to make a list to thank travelers individually here. I realized there were far too many to list. So please accept my thanks for always being on the lookout for something unique and special. Over 40 years, dozens, if not hundreds, of ideas for tours have come directly from you. Keep up the good work. And thanks again.

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:

markslt@aol.com clayton.whitehead@sportsleisure.com

The Human Side Learn, Laugh, Reflect

With age comes 'Wizdom' The Wizards' 50-and-older dance squad is thrilling crowds.

From the Washington Post, reminding you Democracy Dies in Darkness

Vivian Lewis was captain of her high school's cheerleading squad in 1966, but she stopped cheering when she went to college and got married. Three daughters, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren later, she's back to performing – but now she's doing screammaking, sweat-dripping, hip-shaking hip-hop – in front of thousands of people.

Lewis, 71, is part of *Wizdom*, the Washington Wizards' new dance troupe – with members who are all 50 and older – that was created to whip up fans at Capital One Arena.

"The first performance that they did, you would have thought that we won the game," said Derric Whitfield, *Wizdom's* director. "They get a really intense crowd response – people standing up out of their seats, standing ovation."

Wizdom's 20 members, ages 50 to 76, sport red and blue jumpsuits and white sneakers as they bring a new choreographed routine for seven of the season's 40 home games. They dance mostly during timeouts, while the Wizards' regular dance troupe, the Wizards Dancers, perform at halftime and other breaks during the game.

Lewis, the former high school cheerleading captain, decided to audition in September at the urging of her granddaughter, Megan, who said Lewis is always the first one on the

dance floor at family events and is famous for dragging out others to cut it up with her.

In addition to the camaraderie – not to mention a big stage and a shot of self-esteem – experts say what these older dancers are doing is also great for keeping their brains sharp. Studies show physical exercise, learning new routines, and meeting other participants is one of the best ways to fight an aging mind and body.

A Marine's Story

(You might need the tissues.)

A nurse took the tired, anxious serviceman to the bedside. "Your son is here," she said to the old man. She had to repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes opened. Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed Marine standing outside the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand. The Marine wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement.

The nurse brought a chair so that the young Marine could sit beside the bed. All through the night the young Marine sat there in the dimly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand and offering him words of love and strength. Occasionally the nurse suggested that the Marine move away and rest for a while. He refused. Whenever the nurse came into the ward, the Marine was oblivious of her and of the night noises of the hospital – the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans

of other patients. Now and then she heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

Along toward dawn the old man died. The Marine released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the nurse. While she did what she had to do, he waited. Finally, she returned. She started to offer words of sympathy but the

Marine interrupted her.

"Who was that man," he asked?

The nurse was startled, "He was your father." she answered.

"No he wasn't," the Marine replied. "I never saw him before in my life."

"Then why didn't you say something when I took you to him?"

"I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When I realized he was too sick to tell whether or not I was his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed." I came here last night to find a Mr. William Grey. His son was killed in Iraq. I was sent to inform him. What was this gentleman's name?"

With tears in her eyes the nurse answered, "Mr. William Grey."

The next time someone needs you... stay. Just be there.

Friends We've Lost

Here we remember members of our travel family who have passed. Al traveled with us for many, many years, with his companions and his friend Art Smith. The top five on the list are all longtime *Sports Leisure* Travelers. The bottom four are industry friends. Pete was president of the National Tour Association and one of Mark's mentors for many years. Jeanne McGurn, known as the Lobster Lady because of the hat she wore at trade shows, was a real character. All our friends, now traveling in a different world. We will miss you all. Amen.

Doris Chadwick
Al Rice
Dorothy Gorman
Mel Tye

Lila Talent Jean Bell Pete Anderson Marlene Jones

Jeanne McGurn, The Lobster Lady

Godspeed

If you know of someone who was a traveler with us and should be mentioned here, call or drop a note to **Donnie@sportsleisure.com**.



Wizdom proves cheerleaders never lose their groove

The Barber Pole, or Once Over Lightly

United Moves Eastbound Flight Banks Back an Hour

In the GOOD NEWS department, United Airlines has moved most eastbound flights to Denver and Chicago back to depart an hour or so later in the morning. It's great news for us, since that 5:20-5:30am to Denver on United is our most utilized fight. We won't get to the east coast guite as early, but you will get to sleep in a bit later at home on departure morning.

Want your Favorite Seat on the Plane? Here's How...

If your flight is on Delta or American:

Delta sells Comfort Class, American calls it Main Cabin Extra. They are seats at the front of the coach section which offer 3-4 inches of extra legroom. Generally it costs about \$125-150 per person to fly two segments across the country in the extra legroom section. Of course, you can purchase a seat in First Class. They aren't as expensive as they used to be, generally about 2-3x the coach fare.

If your flight is on United:

They call their extra legroom section **Economy Plus.** United also offers another option, *Premium Coach Seating.* They are seats in the front middle of the plane, which do not offer extra legroom. They aren't quite as expensive. Advantage: You can lock in the aisle or window seat you want. If you aren't tall, the extra legroom might not matter. United also offers first class on many flights.

If your flight is on Southwest:

Southwest has no assigned seating, but you can move up within the boarding system to board earlier if you are willing to pay for the privilege. When you get to the airport, in many cases there will be a sign on the counter at the gate, offering "upgrades" to your number. They run \$20-50, depending on the length of the flight. Purchasing one of those upgrades will allow you to board among the first 15 travelers. Southwest does not offer First Class.

If your flight is on Alaska:

Premium economy seating is coming soon to Alaska flights. Of course, our Alaska flights are generally shorter, so space isn't as big of an issue.

How to Snare a Premium Seat:

Let your reservationist know when you are booking that you would like premium seating. If you know exactly what you want from the choices here, jump in. If you aren't sure, make your request and when the group is ticketed two months prior to the trip, Michael will contact you and go over the different options. If you want a First Class seat, we should be able to quote the price and secure it once you have paid for your tour in full. Note that additional cancellation penalties, not covered by your Cancellation Protection, may be involved with Premium Seating Charges on aircraft. Feel free to ask questions.

Assistance Should be for Those Who Need it, Not for Those Who are Gaming the System

Airlines and airports are very in touch with the needs of passengers with disabilities. Wheelchair services are available to get you to the gate, folks with a disability are encouraged to board early and likewise, wheelchair service is available at your destination, to take you to baggage claim.

The number of wheelchair "runners" is usually linked to the size of the airport. In smaller, regional airport, there may be only 2-3 runners for the entire facility, and they may have other duties as well. In the New York area, airline employees often remark about the "Miracle Flights," where people are wheeled on to the plane, but then, upon arrival, find they are cured and can walk joyfully off the plane on their own.

This seems to be particularly common on Southwest flights and it's spreading to the west coast. Why? Because Southwest has open seating. So boarding with the disabled allows you to get the seat you want. Need a wheelchair? No problem. Of course, there will be one waiting for you at your destination, and if you just walk off the plane, you may have prevented someone else in the airport from getting assistance they truly needed and couldn't get, because someone requested a wheelchair who didn't really need one.

Likewise, because the service is limited, we ask your understanding when there is a delay in getting a wheelchair. The delay is often a result of us overwhelming the system.

Many Sports Leisure Travelers have an ailment or two. Some need assistance in airports, particularly single travelers. Please be aware of a few things.

Wheelchair runners are in limited supply. Please only request a wheelchair if you truly

Know that the wheelchair runner, his company and the airline you are flying on are not responsible for getting you to your gate on time. You should know your gate, your boarding/departure time and your boarding pass. You should be prepared to advocate for yourself.

If we see you cheating, we will call you on it. If you had no problem getting around the entire tour, but suddenly are boarding early, we can see exactly what you are doing. It isn't fair to the others in our group on Southwest flights, and the Tour Director will mention it to the office. On the other hand, if you aggravate a nagging injury on a trip and need help on the way home, there's no problem with getting the assistance you need. What we are looking for is to be fair to the others on our flight(s) and in the airport in general.

REMEMBER MEAL **CHOICES**

When you receive your itinerary/final tour notes for a trip, check to see if a meal choice is needed and take a minute to make your selection by emailing res@sportsleisure.com or returning your choice with your payment. If we do not hear from you 7 days prior to your departure, a selection will randomly be made for you. Thank you!



7

Baseball Trips

A's - Giants Day Trips

Here is the list of day trips for the 2019 season. Because of requests by A's fans, we have added a couple of trips to the Oakland Coliseum. If there is enough interest, more A's games could be added to the schedule. Note that information on the Giants – Yankees Overnighter, which includes two games, is listed separately. Giants trips marked with an (*) include round trip travel by ferry from Vallejo to San Francisco. Others are round trip to the ballpark in SF. All trips include refreshments on board in both directions. Please note: We do not allow "carry-on" liquor on our trips. Limited quantities on complimentary beer/wine are offered upon departing the park/ferry dock on the return trip. Because we purchase tickets for games before the season starts, cancellation charges are different for baseball games. If you cancel within 60 days of the game date and:

- 1. Your seat cannot be filled, and
- 2. You didn't take cancellation protection (or it doesn't apply), or
- 3. You cannot find someone to take your spot on the trip;

There will be a \$35 charge for A's games and a \$75 charge for Giants games within 60 days of game date. No refunds within 14 days of departure.

San Francisco Giants

*Wed., May 15	vs. Toronto Blue Jays	12:45pm	\$144
Sun., June 9	vs. Los Angeles Dodgers	1:05pm	\$181
Sun., June 16	vs. Milwaukee Brewers	1:05pm	\$156
*Wed., June 26	vs. Colorado Rockies	12:45pm	\$168
Sun., July 7	vs. St. Louis Cardinals	1:05pm	\$156
Sun., July 21	vs. New York Mets	1:05pm	\$156
Wed., July 24	vs. Chicago Cubs	12:45pm	\$181
Wed., Aug. 7	vs. Washington Nationals	12:45pm	\$156
Wed., Aug. 14	vs. Oakland A's	12:45pm	\$156
Sun., Sept. 29	vs. Los Angeles Dodgers	12:05pm	\$181

Tickets for Giants games are located in section 128, on the lower level, rows 31-35, on the third base side, three sections past third base.

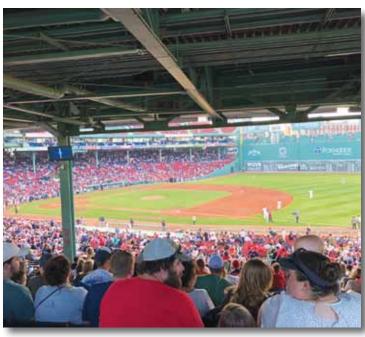
Oakland Athletics

Wed., May 29 vs. Anaheim Angels 12:37pm **\$101**

Tickets for A's games are located In sections 209 (Red Sox – 2nd level just past first base) and 222 (Angels – second level, between home plate and third base).

Seen on a t-shirt at Spring Training in Arizona:

Baseball is like church... many attend, few understand!



Our ballparks trips visit different stadiums each year. Last year, this was the view one night at Fenway Park in Boston.



The Oakland A's mascot Thumper "talks" with some of our spring training fans

Day Trips & Theatre Outings

Day Out in Ione

A "small town" close-to-home-tours

Wednesday, May 29

Visit the city of lone and it's most famous landmark, The Preston Castle. Once a school of industry for wayward boys; today this sandstone citadel stands as a reminder of a different era. Construction began in 1890, building one of the most significant Romanesque examples Revival architecture in the Mother Lode. Tour the Castle, have lunch at a local eatery and stop at Davis Ranch in Sloughhouse before returning to Sacramento. Please note that the tour includes narrow stairs so is not recommended for those with mobility concerns. \$139

RAIN

A Beatles Tribute

Tuesday, June 4

The Gallo Center is excited to present RAIN, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of album Abbey Road. RAIN will bring all the great songs of that epic recording to life... plus more early Beatles favorites. This performance takes you back in time with the legendary foursome delivering a theatrical event that is almost as good as seeing the Beatles live! An early dinner is included at Canal Street Grille prior to the 7:30pm performance. \$198

Bouquets to Art

Celebrate June in Bloom with the 35th exhibit at the\ de Young Museum

Thursday, June 6

For one week each year, this popular event takes over the de Young Museum with bouquets of fresh floral arrangements filling the galleries. Inspired by paintings and works of the permanent collection, floral designers from San Francisco and beyond create their own masterpieces that highlight and breathe life into the collection. Proceeds from the event benefit future exhibits, education programs, and museum conservation. The day is yours to enjoy and explore at your own pace with lunch on your own at the museum café. \$103

Wakamatsu Farms

Celebrates 150 years of Japanese history in California

Saturday, June 8

This historic landmark farm in Placerville is the original site of the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Farm Colony established June 8, 1869. It's also the site of the first Japanese colony in the US. In celebration of this significant anniversary milestone a festival featuring Japanese food, art, music, performances, demonstrations and more will be held on the Farm. Docents and speakers will share their knowledge and experience honoring the past, present and future of Wakamatsu Farm and surrounding El Dorado County. Lunch will be on your own at the Festival. We will stop in downtown Placerville before heading back to Sacramento. We will be visiting a working farm with unpaved roads and uneven ground. This trip is not recommended for those with mobility concerns. \$116

Treasure Island and The Exposition

Tuesday, June 11

The Golden Gate International Exposition at Treasure Island (1939-1940) was a celebration of the newly built Golden Gate and San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridges. Created for the World's Fair they are now recognized world-wide and continue to make the Bay Area a favorite destination for travelers. With Craig Smith as guide, tour and learn its history, transition from a Worlds Fair to historic Naval Base, current inhabitants, future plans, and the magnificent views from the "Island in the Bay." A three-course lunch is included at the U.S. Job Corp Culinary Training Center. Now located on Treasure Island, it provides an opportunity for young and interested students to pursue a career in culinary arts under the guidance of professional chefs. \$123

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

Andy Warhol - From A to B and Back Again

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Tuesday, July 9

Organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, this retrospective of iconic American artist Andy Warhol stretches across three floors of San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Instantly recognizable, his inventive and nontraditional art making techniques became a commentary on society and social issues that continue to resonant today. A private docent tour is included for the exhibit followed by time to enjoy and explore additional galleries at your own pace and interests. Lunch is on your own in one of the Museum cafes. \$133

Get on Board

Getting around San Francisco II

Thursday, July 11

With our local guide Craig Smith, "get on board" for a day of getting around San Francisco via transportation synonymous with the city. We'll begin the adventure with a ride on the California line cable car followed by a visit to the Cable Car Museum. We'll take a travel break for included lunch at Pompei's Restaurant and then board one of the vintage streetcars on the F Line to the Muni Museum. Then listen for the "now boarding" for the Vallejo Ferry. Sail across the Bay where our own motorcoach waits to return us to Sacramento. Be advised this is an active walking, up, down, off, and on coach, ferry, cable car, and trolley. Wear sturdy and comfortable shoes! (Limited to 30 people.) \$164

Bats Over Yolo

Join Ramona for an evening with the bats! Tuesday, July 16

Bats are critical to our environment, and while they often get a bad reputation which they don't deserve (think rabies or vampires)... they really can be quite cute and fascinating. Corky Quirk from the Northern California Bats Organization, in conjunction with the CA Dept. of Fish

& Wildlife, presents an exciting and informative lecture about bats, with live bats on hand for observation. Following the talk, travel out to the Yolo Causeway to view and hear the evening ascension of the bats. It is an amazing sight! (Please note: no meal included, and there will be walking over uneven ground.) \$108

Floating Homes and The Spinnaker in Sausalito

2 Bay Area Favorites

Thursday, July 25

Enjoy a summer day in Sausalito with a tour of the floating homes colony followed by lunch at popular Spinnaker Restaurant overlooking San Francisco Bay. Recognized as one of largest communities of "house boats" in the world, no two are the same. Designed to suit the individual homeowner, each has its own unique style, plan, and interior design. With resident owners as our guides, the private tour provides opportunity to question how, why, and what it is like to live floating on the water. Following the morning tour, savor an included two-course luncheon at The Spinnaker Restaurant with its scenic location and stunning views of San Francisco, bridges, and Bay. After lunch enjoy some free time to browse, shop, or relax in the charm of this picturesque village.

Be advised that touring the houseboats involves uneven terrain, docks, ramps, steep stairs, and narrow walkways. Wear comfortable and appropriate shoes. \$178

Harry Potter

In concert with the SF Symphony

Sunday, August 11

The Harry Potter Film Concert Series returns to Davies Symphony Hall with Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban in concert. The Film Concert series allows audiences around the world to experience each full film from one of the most beloved series in history, projected in High Definition onto the big screen, with a live symphony

OFFICE HOURS:

9:00am - 4:30pm MON. thru FRI. Closed weekends & major holidays CLOSED TUES, 12:00pm - 1:15pm

orchestra performing music from the film live to picture. Come with Sports Leisure and enjoy an afternoon with Harry Potter, other excited Muggle fans and the San Francisco Symphony at the beautiful Davies Symphony Hall. This trip includes a boxed snack lunch served onboard the coach on the way to San Francisco, 1pm concert with First Tier seating, (Elevator accessible) and dinner on vour own at Pier 39 after the concert. \$167

The Play That Goes Wrong

At the Golden Gate Theatre Saturday, August 17 or Sunday, August 18



Broadways' funniest smash hit is creating laughter all across the nation. The action begins before the curtain has even been raised, as the audience is present while the Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society prepare to stage their new production - the 1920s murder mystery 'Murder at Haversham Manor'. However the set is not yet complete and there is no time to finish it off... the show must go on! With a murder (and a moving corpse) established from the beginning, the murder mystery gets into full flow. However, the props start to disappear, actors go missing and the set begins to collapse around, and often on, the cast. Mayhem ensues, the acting gets worse, and the set becomes increasingly dangerous, but the company struggle on regardless. The question is whether any of the cast and crew will remain standing, or conscious, by the final curtain. Both trips will include lunch on your own at Fisherman's Wharf, orchestra seating for the 2pm matinee with return to Sacramento following the show. \$168

Anastasia, A Musical

At the Golden Gate Theatre

Wednesday, September 4 or Saturday, September 7

Since the twilight of the Russian Empire to modern times, the question of whether or not any member(s) of Tsar Nicholas II family managed to escape alive has never really been answered. Rumors and speculations swirl then and now that one daughter, the Grand Duchess Anastasia Nikolaevna Romanov escaped to Paris and lived out her life in secret in Europe. This musical, with opulent settings, dazzling costumes and soaring scores is based on the 1997 movie. Anastasia, where she did escape Russia and spent her life trying to remember her past and family; and then prove to the world she was the genuine Grand Duchess. Come join Sports Leisure Vacations and perhaps decide for yourself whether to believe in the rumors or science.

Our Wednesday trip includes a lite box lunch served on the coach, orchestra seating at the 2pm matinee, and dinner on your own at Pier 39 following the show. Return to Sacramento after dinner. Our Saturday trip will include lunch on your own at Fisherman's Wharf, orchestra seating for the 2pm matinee with the return to Sacramento following the show. Wednesday \$180 or Saturday \$199

Holiday Sweets and Goodies

Featuring local holiday shopping

Tuesday, November 26

A **Sports Leisure** favorite, this trip finds you once again traveling down into the heart of the Valley for a visit to the source of our holiday goodies. In Modesto, participate in an olive oil tasting at Sciabica's, producers of cold pressed oils since 1936. A buffet

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. Find out what your treasures are worth! 916-361-2051 and ask for Bob or Mark.



lunch is included at the Hilmar Cheese Co-Op; a farmer owned and operated business. The shopping at Hilmar is fabulous. The final stop of the day finds you in greenhouses filled with blooming poinsettias. There will be time for picking up sweets and goodies all along the way throughout the day. \$137

Thanksgiving at the **National Hotel in Jackson**

Thursday, November 28

This will be our 4th year going to Jackson for an early Thanksgiving dinner at the National Hotel. Chef Chuck will have all the traditional Thanksgiving provisions. The buffet menu includes carved turkey and roast beef, poached salmon and all the traditional trimmings and so much more! This year, prior to the Thanksgiving feast, we will be entertained by the folks at Baker Street West. ("It will be elementary, my dear Watson!") The coach will return to Sacramento between 4 and 5pm - hey, you can still make dinner at your in-laws! Why dine alone or be exhausted from all that cooking and entertaining?? Come to Jackson with us. \$153

The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical

East Sonora Theatre

Saturday, November 30th

It's holiday time down in Armadillo Acres (North Florida's premier mobile-living community), and everyone's filled with warmth and beer. When a freak bout of amnesia strikes the trailer park Scrooge, neighborly love is put to the test. Join us for an afternoon of fun and laughter. Lunch is included prior to the matinee performance at the City Hotel in Columbia. \$152

Look What We're Doing...



Find us on Facebook at 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?



Acres of colorful poinsettias and impatiens delight your senses

Come Celebrate with Us!

40th Anniversary Luncheon

Saturday, June 8

Sports Leisure Vacations is celebrating 40 years of travel this year. You are invited to join Mark, Clayton and the staff for a no-host buffet lunch at the Peking Restaurant: 9529 Folsom Blvd, Sacramento

Reservations are required as seating is limited. \$17 per person

Does Your Group Need a Program Speaker?

Clayton Whitehead and Mark Hoffmann of Sports Leisure Vacations are available to present a 20-60 minute program for your community group. Both are experienced speakers. We can even provide a door prize if appropriate. Potential topics include:

- All About Sports Leisure Vacations How is a tour produced, start to finish? From just an idea, to a memorable vacation, how does it happen? What has made this small local company successful among much larger companies? How have SLV's innovative services made the company a leader in the tour industry?
- Tips to Make You a Smarter Traveler Patterned after a popular segment of *The* Travel Guys Radio Show, this program gives you great ideas on how to avoid the pitfalls and capitalize on the opportunities offered in the world of travel. From time shares to oversold airlines, Mark or Clayton will make your group (and your friends) smarter travelers.
- Selling Your Coin Collection Almost everyone has a random box or bag of old coins. Some have entire collections they created themselves or were created and left to them by a loved one. Should you sell your collection to a coin dealer, a private collector, a gold and silver dealer, at a coin show? What's a fair price? How would you know if the offer you received is a fair one? Contact Mark at markslt@aol.com.

To arrange a talk for your group, because our speakers both travel extensively, contact us as far in advance as possible. Call May at the Sports Leisure office, M-TH, 9am-3pm. She will get your date on our calendar.

New Vacations & Getaways

Canada Coast to Coast

Our signature rail adventure from the Atlanta to the Pacific returns this summer!

11 Days • August 16-26

★ Highlights ★

- Travel aboard VIA Rail almost 6000 miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific
- 2 nights in Halifax; overnights in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver
- Tour Halifax and scenic Peggy's Cove
- See Montreal's Old Town and stunning Notre Dame Cathedral
- Dine high above Toronto at the CN Tower
- Visit Vancouver's Granville Island and Stanley Park
- 22 meals: 8 full breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Halifax/from Vancouver
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 7400/8100 Gold Passport Points
- 1. Fly to Halifax on Delta Airlines. Four time zones and nearly 4000 miles away, you'll be more than ready for your peaceful, historic accommodations upon arrival. Best of all, the hotel adjoins the train station! Westin

Nova Scotian - 2 nights

- 2. Sleep late (you'll need it after yesterday's long day of travel), then tour Nova Scotia's Capital City in the afternoon starting with lunch. In the evening enjoy a walk along the waterfront, home to museums, shops and restaurants specializing in fresh North Atlantic seafood. Lobster anyone? (FB,L)
- 3. Tour peaceful Peggy's Cove before boarding VIA's Ocean midday as your rail adventure begins. You'll spend one night and have three meals onboard. Ocean (FB,L,D)
- 4. Arrive Montreal mid-morning and embark on a city tour to include the stunning Notre Dame Basilica and lunch. Once again, your hotel conveniently adjoins the station.

Fairmont Queen Elizabeth (FB,L)

5. It only takes about five hours to train from Montreal to Toronto where you'll spend your next night including dinner served high above the city at the stunning CN Tower. Does your hotel adjoin the station? You bet!

Fairmont Royal York (FB,D)

- 6-9. The Canadian departs Toronto around 9:00am. You'll spend four full days and nights riding the rails across the billowing plains and dramatic mountain ranges of central and western Canada. Twelve meals are included, along with exemplary sightseeing from any of the domed observation cars. From the billowing plains to the majesty of the Rocky Mountains, the scenery is simply amazing. The Canadian (3FB,4L,4D)
- 10. The train is scheduled to arrive in Vancouver at 8am... which it seldom does. So we've built in an extra day to provide necessary flexibility. On a city tour explore this great West Coast city including visits to Stanley Park and Granville Island. Your hotel adjoins the airport. Are you beginning to see a theme here? Fairmont Vancouver Airport (FB,D)
- 11. Air Canada now operates one nonstop per day between Vancouver and Sacramento, and you'll be on it departing around 10am.

\$7380 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8085 single \$ave \$250 until May 14

This vacation requires a valid passport!

Old Man River

A leisurely ramble along the Great River Road from St. Paul to St. Louis

8 Days · October 11-18

★ Highlights ★

- · Visit and sleep in five states!
- 2 nights in Dubuque and Mark Twain's Hannibal

- · Overnights in Egan, La Crosse and Rock
- · Tour Minnesota's Mill City and Watkins Company Museums
- See Iowa's Effigy Mounds, Pike's Peak and Field of Dreams
- · Visit Illinois' John Deere Pavilion and
- · Explore Missouri's Hannibal and Gateway Arch Complex
- 16 meals Daily breakfast, 7 lunches (including a luncheon cruise aboard the Celebration Belle), 2 dinners
- Door-to-door service
- Roundtrip airfare to Minneapolis/St. Paul/ from St. Louis
- 3100/3400 Gold Passport Points \$3090 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3395 single \$ave \$75 until May 14

Magnificent Mammoth in Autumn

Featuring Tioga Pass and Bodie State Historical Park

4 Days • October 14-17

- 1. Travel across one of the most breathtaking roads in California. With aweinspiring scenery and dramatic views of the Sierra Nevada, the Tioga Pass Road through Yosemite is a spectacular drive. Arrive Mammoth Lakes late afternoon and check in to the Lodge. Mammoth Mountain Inn - 3 nights (L)
- 2.-3. Explore the Eastern Sierra these next two days, learning more about the



A visit to Mammoth includes a walk at Mono Lake

geology and people who call this area home. Activities include a visit to Mono Lake and a drive around the June Lake Loop taking in the beautiful colors of autumn. A visit to Bodie State Park, a historic gold mining town preserved in "arrested decay" is a fantastic drive and interesting day. From Mammoth Mountain to the Village and lakes, you experience the beauty that is fall in the sierra. Please note that all activities are subject to weather and road conditions; and, October is a transitional month with businesses preparing for winter activities. (2FB,2L,D)

4. Continue north on Hwy. 395 along the base of the Sierra Nevada stopping in the Carson Valley for a Basque lunch at JT's. Continue on Hwy. 50, enjoying the views of Lake Tahoe and the autumn color along the American River. Return to Sacramento in the late afternoon. (FB,L)

Please note that this trip travels over roads above 9000' and that the hotel is located at 9000'. Many sleeping rooms are accessible only by stairs. This trip is not recommended for those with heart or respiratory conditions.

This mountain vacation includes doorto-door service, roundtrip motorcoach transportation, accommodations, 8 meals (3FB,4L,1D), all tours and attractions listed, and the services of a Sports Leisure Vacations Tour Director. 1300/1450 Gold **Passport Points**

> \$1295 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1435 single \$ave \$40 until May 14

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

Featuring the 50th anniversary of the Moon Walk at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville

7 Days • October 20-26



Ed. Note: Y'all know I don't take many trips to the south. But I've long admired a man who seemed to be less politician than he was a humanitarian. He still teaches Sunday School on occasion. Before I leave this earth, I want to go to where he grew up, and learn about what made him such an amazing person. This journey includes a new Civil Rights Monument, the 50th



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

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

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

Moderate – A tour with some walking activities, and standing/strolling at attractions and museums and possibly some stair climbing. A 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; and some high altitudes.

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.

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.

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.

anniversary of the Moon Walk and more. It will only be offered once and is limited to 25 travelers. I hope you will consider joining me. - Mark

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

2. Visit the Carter Presidential Library in

Atlanta, then travel to Pine Mountain, GA, 2 nights at the magnificent Calloway Gardens Lodge. (FB,D)

- 3. Tour Calloway Gardens and visit Roosevelt's Little White House In Warm Springs. (FB,D)
- 4. Travel to Americus, GA, en route, visit the infamous Andersonville National Historic



Site (a Civil War monument), 2 nights at the Historic Windsor Hotel, a truly remarkable accommodation in a cozy little town. (FB,L,D)

- 5. "President Jimmy Carter." A visit to Plains (pop. 776), includes a guided tour, lunch and stops at some "presidential" landmarks around town; among them a unique peanut statue, brother Billy Carter's service station and the Jimmy Carter Nat'l Historic Site at Plains High School. (B,L)
- 6. Travel to Huntsville, stopping along the way at the new Freedom Riders Nat'l Monument in Anniston. This is a fascinating page in the Civil Rights story. Marriott Huntsville (B,L)
- 7. They are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Moon Walk this year at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Take a step back in time. Where were you when Neil Armstrong said, "... one small step for man..."? Fly home, arriving at 9pm. (FB)

The package includes 13 meals, roundtrip air, and services of an Sports Leisure Tour Director (Mark), door-to-door home pick-up. 2900/3250 Gold Passport Points

> \$2890 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3245 single \$ave \$100 until May 14

Spectacular Sedona

Featuring 4 nights "Uptown" at the Orchards Inn

5 Days • November 3-7

★ Highlights ★

A

A

- Visit the historical mining town of Jerome
- Guided tour of the Copper Museum
- Museum of Northern Arizona
- · Lunch at the Enchantment Resort
- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Tour Director: Scott Angeletti
- 2500/2950 Gold Passport Points \$2495 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2930 single

Thanksgiving in New York

Take a bite of the Big Apple at the most wonderful time of the year!

6 Days • November 24-29

★ Highlights ★

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Hotel on **Times Square**
- Tickets to two Broadway shows: Moulin Rouge and one of your choosing



Join in the celebration as balloons and elaborate floats awe the crowds along 5th Ave.

- 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 9/11 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 feast at Delmonico's
- Roundtrip airfare to/from New York's LaGuardia Airport
- Door-to-door service
- 4100/4650 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 42nd 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 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, the long-anticipated stage adaptation of Moulin Rouge starring Broadway royalty Karen Olivo and Aaron Tveit. (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 "Choose Your Own Show" which means exactly what it says. You pick the show and we get the tickets - a **Sports Leisure** exclusive. **(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 6th Avenue only one block from the hotel. An early-afternoon feast is served at world-famous Delmonico's. In the

evening journey to Radio City Music Hall for the Rockettes Christmas Spectacular. (D)

6. The short trip to LaGuardia Airport for your early afternoon flight brings Thanksgiving in New York to a close.

> \$4090 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4605 single \$ave \$100 until May 14

An Apple Farm Christmas

Featuring Hearst Castle and Sensorio

4 Days • December 4-7



1. Begin with a drive down through the western side of the Central Valley, arriving at Harris Ranch Inn for lunch. Their collection of Christmas decorations is sure

some last minute holiday shopping.

to set the spirit soaring with delight. In the company store you will find almonds, apricots and other fine goodies fresh from the neighboring orchards. Continue to the coast, arriving in San Luis Obispo late afternoon. For those of you wanting some additional evening merriment, we will head out to the Great American Melodrama's Holiday Extravaganza. The show is a fun old-fashioned vaudeville revue filled with holiday music and zany characters. (You may OPT OUT of the melodrama at time of registration and receive \$20 credit.) Apple Farm Inn – 3 nights (L)

- 2. Morro Bay is a quaint coastal village with plenty of shopping, great clam chowder and waterfront views. We'll start with a visit to the "rock" to see if we can spot some harbor seals playing in the bay. Lunch will be on your own; with time to browse the shops. This evening, travel to Paso Robles for a fabulous VIP experience at Sensorio. Dine "al fresco" as the sun sets over the Santa Lucia Mountains, highlighting artist Bruce Munro's largest artwork - 58,800 stemmed spheres gently illuminating the landscape. (FB,D)
- 3. First up, stop in at the little hamlet of Harmony. Once home to a dairy creamery, this little village is continually re-inventing itself with artisan shops. As time and weather allows, we will visit the Elephant Seal Rookery in San Simeon. December is the month the females arrive to give birth to their 70 pound pups!



At Hearst Castle, they know how to "deck the halls"

Then, step back in time as you tour the Grand Rooms of Hearst Castle after dark. View Mr. Hearst's celebrated art collection in the warm glow of the holiday lights with docents dressed in period costume. This home is definitely an enchanted castle in December. Please note that the evening tour is 75 minutes in length, includes 190 steps both up and down, and 2/3 mile walk with some standing. (You may OPT OUT of castle tour at time of registration and receive \$40 credit). (FB,L)

4. On our return to Sacramento, we make a brief stop in Salinas at the Steinbeck Center. This quintessential American author truly has the story of local boy "done good." It just isn't right to go to the Central Coast from Sacramento without stopping at Casa de Fruita... a familiar and folksy market, home to the "flippin' cup". Arrive Sacramento, early evening. (FB, L)

This holiday vacation includes doorto-door service, roundtrip motorcoach transportation, accommodations, 7 meals (3FB,3L,1D), all tours and attractions listed. and the services of a Sports Leisure Vacations Tour Director. 1500/1700 Gold **Passport Points**

\$1485 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1695 single \$ave \$35 until May 14

Puttin' on the Ritz for Christmas



Featuring Sunday brunch at the Hayes Mansion and a Christmas visit to Filoli

3 Days • December 8-10

- 1. Our door-to-door service picks you up from your home and delivers you to the Sports Leisure Vacation office where you will board the motorcoach for San Jose. Enjoy the lavish award-winning Champagne Sunday Brunch at the popular Dolce Hayes Mansion and a special Christmas visit to the Filoli Mansion before heading to the coast and the charming town of Half Moon Bay. Check into the Ritz Carlton Resort at Half Moon Bay, which resembles a grand European country estate set on a rocky bluff overlooking the Pacific Ocean. (BR)
- 2. Enjoy a free morning at the resort; amenities include a coastal trail, beach, gas fire pits overlooking the ocean, a fitness center, indoor pool, hot tub and sauna. Spa

services are available for additional costs. Lunch will be hosted at a popular restaurant on Main Street in Half Moon Bay followed by free time in town. **(L)**

3. Enjoy a free morning at the resort and lunch before heading back home. **(L)**

This package includes door-to-door service, deluxe motorcoach transportation, all attractions listed above, and 3 meals (1BR, 2L). 1400/1700 Gold Passport Points \$1395 p.p/dbl.occ., \$1675 single \$ave \$40 until May 14

A Dazzling Desert Christmas in Phoenix

4 Days • December 23-26

ember 23-26 ★ *Highlights* ★

- 3 nights in a fully renovated Marriott hotel
- Amazing desert views on a scenic cruise & valley tour
- Hosted White Elephant Gift Exchange with "Santa and Eggnog the Elf"
- 2 evenings of incredible drive-thru lights displays
- 7 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Phoenix
- 1800/2000 Gold Passport Points

With blue skies, sunshine and warm weather, all those snowbirds are definitely onto something. You're invited to join our traveling family and leave the stress of holiday planning, cooking and gift-wrapping behind. Come with us to the Valley of the Sun for a dazzling desert Christmas!

Stay in a beautiful newly renovated Marriott hotel, perfectly situated for exploring the many communities of Greater Phoenix. Spend an evening cruising through historic Glendale's 16 blocks of glittering lights, forge your way through picturesque desert landscape into the Superstition Mountains to enjoy a narrated scenic cruise on Canyon Lake, and with a local guide observe snowbirds in their natural habitats as we visit some of the area's opulent resorts to see over-the-top holiday decorations. Your hosts, Santa (Mark) and Eggnog the Elf (Chris in green tights) host/ referee a laughter-filled White Elephant Gift Exchange where WE provide the gifts and you steal them from each other. Add in some wonderful meals in lovely settings and you've got all the trappings of a very Merry Christmas indeed!

\$1790 p.p./dbl occ., \$1995 single \$ave \$100 until May 14

131st Tournament of Roses Parade: A California New Year Tradition!

3 Days • December 30 – January 1, 2020

* Highlights *

- Tasty guided tour of the LA Farmer's Market
- Tram tour of Hollywood's iconic Paramount Pictures Studios
- Lunch on Santa Monica Pier
- · Pre-parade viewing of the floats
- New Year's Eve dinner buffet and toast
- Reserved seating, commemorative souvenir pin and program
- 6 meals: 2 full breakfasts, 3 lunches,
 1 dinner
- Door-to-door transportation
- 1750/1900 Gold Passport Points

In beautiful sunny Pasadena, ring in the New Year in true California style! The brilliant colors of elaborately decorated floats, the pageantry of majestic equestrian teams coupled with the chest-thumping rhythm of the marching bands will get your new year started on the right note!

1. Fly to Southern California and head to the LA Farmer's Market. This ain't your average market! Founded in 1934 and situated near Hollywood, the market has

grown and morphed into a collection of vendors ranging from high end to comfort eats. On a guided tour, enjoy an included lunch as you taste your way through history with free time to shop! On a tram tour of Paramount Pictures, the longest operating studio producing cinematic hits for over 100 years, the magic of Hollywood comes alive! Afterwards, check into your accommodations for the next two nights.

Hilton LAX – 2 nights (L)

- 2. This morning, it's all hands on deck at the Float Construction Barns in Pasadena. Flowers, greenery and seeds are frantically attached in the final hours. The task seems near impossible, but just you wait! Get a little sun this afternoon with a stroll along the Santa Monica Pier after lunch. Back at the hotel, the 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.** Your heart will swell with American pride as an Air Force flyover sets the day into motion! The floats you saw the day before in various parts and pieces are miraculously assembled. The imaginative designs are simply astounding! Enjoy it all from your reserved seating. You'll receive an official Rose Parade seat cushion, program and souvenir pin. Before your early evening flight home, fill up on prime rib and Yorkshire pudding at the Tam O' Shanter, one of Walt Disney's favorite spots. **(FB,D)**

\$1730 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1895 single \$ave \$50 until May 14



Discover the magic with pre-parade viewing of the floats - Now who has the glue?

Ice Magic Festival in the **Canadian Rockies**

Featuring three nights at the Chateau Lake Louise and Banff National Park

6 Days • January 15-20, 2020

Louise – 3 nights (L)



1. Fly to Calgary via Seattle, arriving early afternoon. Lunch is hosted before traveling into the Rockies and Canada's first national park Banff. In 1883, three railway workers discovered a natural hot spring, and from there the park was born. Nowadays, Banff is one of the world's premiere destinations with unparalleled majestic mountain scenery. In Banff National Park you feel truly immersed in nature. Your accommodations are at the iconic Fairmont Chateau Lake

2-3. Over the next two days experience Lake Louise at its winter finest during the Ice Magic Festival. Watch in amazement as internationally renowned professional ice carvers have 34 hours to work sculpting towering one-of-a-kind works of art from imposing blocks of solid ice on the shores of Lake Louise. With each ice block weighing a daunting 300lbs, this exceptional art form involves grueling physical labor in a delicate balancing act with precision artistry. Other attractions include an old-fashioned horse drawn sleigh ride along the Lake Louise shore (Dashing through the snow, anyone?) Travel through the forest with a dog sled team, an incredible ride one you will not forget any time soon. (2FB)

4. Depart Lake Louise for the town of Banff. Today you have a guided tour around town. Sit back and relax in a 4-passenger, glass enclosed gondola. Marvel at the unsurpassed view of Banff, the Bow Valley and a 360-degree view of six scenic mountain ranges. You will feel like you're on top of the world, when you are standing on the spacious main level observation deck. Check into your hotel located in the middle of town in the late afternoon. Banff Park Lodge - 2 nights (FB)

5. During our last day in this winter wonderland you will have a free day to visit local museums, shop or perhaps take a dip in the hot springs. We will gather tonight for a hosted dinner at a favorite eatery. (FB,D)

6. After breakfast travel back to Calgary for your flight home. (FB)

Note: You must be prepared for cold weather. Average daytime high is 22 degrees

> Place your name on the **Priority Notification List now.**

Key West, Miami and The Everglades

7 Days • January 25-31, 2020



★ Highlights ★

- Tour Miami's Coral Gables, 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
- Meet the wildlife: visit a dolphin research center and a sea turtle rehab center
- 4 nights in Key West in the **heart of town** on Duval Street, spectacular location
- Lunch on private Sunset Key, a Sports Leisure exclusive
- Cabaret Dinner Show at LaTeDa: meet and greet with performer (another exclusive)
- Tour: Truman's Little White House. Hemingway's Home, the island by trolley with Louie - a true entertainer
- 14 meals: 2 breakfasts, 4 full breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners
- Door-to-door transportation
- Roundtrip air to Ft. Lauderdale, return from Key West
- 4200/4900 Gold Passport Points
- 1. Arrive Ft. Lauderdale in time for dinner at a Brazilian Steakhouse. Gauchos arrive tableside with various cuts of juicy grilled meats on long metal spits. Tell them how you like it, they carve and you eat! Delicious! From presentation to service, everything about the meal is an experience. Holiday

Inn Express – Plantation (D)

2. Tour Miami, a truly international city heavily influenced by Caribbean and South American culture. With a local guide gain access to the exclusive Coral Gables Coconut Grove neighborhoods. Cruise down Ocean Drive in South Beach, America's largest historic Art Deco District. After lunch on your own, it's off to the Everglades. Board an airboat to learn about the residents and the unique ecology. Keep vour hands inside the ride at all times, folks. this is not Disneyland. Yes, those alligators are real! Overnight in Key Largo, where Mother Nature can put on a spectacular show at sunset. Fine (sea)food is served up at a funky island hotspot. Hampton Inn -Key Largo (B,D)

3. Wake up in the Upper Keys and begin traveling south along the Overseas Highway, a ribbon of road reaching over 100 miles into the ocean. You've never seen so many shades of blue as the sun plays on the water to your left and right! A dolphin stop at a research center is new this year. Learn about their mission and watch as scientists work with local dolphins in an effort to promote conservation.

While not as smart, sea turtles have the cuteness factor in spades! These guys and gals are patients at a turtle hospital in Marathon. Hear what you can do to care for them and their fragile ecosystem on a tour of the grounds. After a dockside lunch, arrive at the end of the road, Key West! Check into your perfectly situated hotel on Duval Street, the heart of town. Crowne Plaza La Concha

- 4 nights (B,L,D)

- 4. The roosters roaming around town serve as your alarm clock. They are some of the many quirky, fun residents you'll meet today! A trolley tour of the island gives you the history and sordid stories of the Conch Republic's residents, past and present. Visit the Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory, arguably one of the best in the country. Check your shoulder for any hitchhikers on your way out! Lunch is at famous Sloppy Joe's Bar, home to the namesake sandwich. Grab a drink and listen to live music or take the afternoon to shop in Mallory Square. Tonight we come together for a lovely dinner at LaTeDa, followed by a lively female-impersonation performance. Afterwards stay and meet the performer. Ask all the questions you've always wanted to ask, just be prepared for an honest answer! You'll definitely have something to discuss at your next social gathering. (FB,L,D)
- 5. At the Little White House, see a different side of Harry S. Truman. Charmed by the island, he returned numerous times with Bess to unwind and conduct official



business under the palm trees. The oldest tourist attraction in the country, the Key West Aquarium, has undergone an extensive renovation and while small, has plenty to see and do. Brave the touch tank and handle live critters or watch the action as the larger critters are fed.

Your feeding time is next! Take a short ferry ride to private Sunset Key for lunch in a beautiful (upscale) setting. This afternoon and evening, explore all Duval Street has to offer right outside your front door. (FB,L)

- 6. At the Hemingway Home hear about the author who was as known for his work as his antics. How many toes does that cat have? Six? You counted correctly! These famous kitties spend the day lounging and posing for tourists. It's time for lunch! Get ready to taste the best of Key West! Board a trolley and spin around town stopping for all the island's classics: Key Lime Pie (TWICE!), Cuban Sandwiches, Conch Fritters and Conch Chowder. Board a schooner and sail along the southern coast of the island while sipping a cold beer, wine or tropical fruit juice. Our captain will teach us about the vessel and share local history and ecology before loading a cannon and firing on enemy vessels (a docked cruise ship). It's great fun! Tonight, join your Tour Director for a Key West tradition, the Sunset Celebration. Each night, the island turns out to grab a cocktail, toast the sunset and watch one of the many street buskers perform daredevil acts. (FB,L)
- 7. Enjoy a leisurely morning before heading to the airport to catch your flight off the island. Arrive in Sacramento in the early evening. (FB) Same price as 2018!

\$4195 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4885 single \$ave \$100 until May 14

Winter in Yellowstone

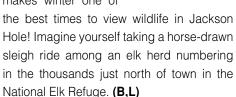
Featuring a stay at the Old Faithful Snow Lodge in Yellowstone Nat'l Park A E

7 Days • February 20-26, 2020

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

1. Fly from Sacramento to Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Settle into your hotel located in downtown Jackson. Hotel TBA - 2 nights (L)

2. In the National Elk Refuge and Grand Teton National Park embark on a private safari tour in search of the area's abundant wintering wildlife. Your local guides will search out mule deer, elk, moose, big horn sheep and bison that migrate into the valley in search of food. This gathering of animals makes winter one of



3. Travel north through Idaho to the town of West Yellowstone, Montana. Lunch is hosted before a visit to The Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center. The Center is home for grizzly bears from as far away as Alaska. Each bear and its story are unique, but they all have something in common; they came to reside here after becoming nuisance bears or orphaned cubs of a nuisance bear.

Holiday Inn West Yellowstone (B,L)

4. Today we travel into the incredible landscape of Yellowstone National Park. Sit back and enjoy the spectacular scenery in comfort as you move easily across the snow in a custom snow coach chauffeured by an experienced guide. Along the way learn about the park's history, view thermal features such as the Fountain Paint Pots. Arrive at Old Faithful for a hosted lunch at the Snow Lodge before exploring the upper Geyser Basin, and enjoy an evening in the park. Your accommodations for the evening are just steps away from the famous geyser.

Old Faithful Snow Lodge – 2 nights (B,L)

- 5. Snow coach today to the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone, where you'll have the chance to see spectacular Yellowstone Falls, chronicled by artists such as Thomas Moran and Ansel Adams. Stop along the way and take pictures - lots of pictures! (B,L)
- 6. Head north and overnight in Bozeman Montana. Hotel TBA (B)
 - 7. Fly home today. A memorable trip you



Yellowstone is a sparkling winter wonderland

will not soon forget! (B,L)

This tour is limited to 21 people and includes roundtrip airfare, deluxe transportation, accommodations. attractions and meals listed in the itinerary and the services of a Sports Leisure Vacations Tour Director.

Note: You must be prepared for cold weather 0-30 degrees.

> Place your name on the **Priority Notification List** now

Legendary Aloha! Hawaii's Big Island and Kauai

8 Days • February 16-23, 2020

Aloha is much more than simply hello or goodbye; it's love, a mindset and a way of life. Live simply, live kindly... live aloha. On this tour, we combine Hawaiian history and legends with the spirit of aloha, to create a memorable Hawaiian experience.

★ Highlights ★

- 4 nights in Kona on the Big Island; 3 nights Kauai
- Enjoy a luau in the historic spot King Kamehameha first landed on the island - visit ancient temples and ceremonial grounds
- Tour a Seahorse Ranch, Hawaiian Vanilla. an Orchid Farm and a Chocolate & Tropical Fruit Farm
- Flightseeing over Kauai's lush tropical jungles and Napali Coast
- Sample Kauai's local culinary specialties on a Foodie Tour
- 15 Meals: 7 full breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners, 1 brunch
- Door-to-door transportation



- Roundtrip airfare to Kona/from Lihue, Kauai; inter-island airfare Kona to Lihue
- 5000/5700 Gold Passport Points

From the otherworldly volcanic terrain of the Big Island to Kauai's lush tropical rainforests, the relaxing lull of surf crashing on the sand and the thrilling beat of Polynesian drums, Hawaii is truly a feast for the senses! From fine dining to casual pupu platters and Mai Tais, you'll taste the best of the islands.

1. Arrive on the Big Island and transfer to your Kona hotel, located on historic grounds right in the heart of the ocean side town. Tonight, enjoy a luau dinner and entertainment on the historic shores of Kamakahonu Bay, where King Kamehameha and his Royal Court landed. His arrival is reenacted through song and... fire dancers!

Courtyard Marriott King Kamehameha Hotel – 4 nights (D)

- 2. No need to saddle up at the Ocean Rider Seahorse Ranch. Learn about these unique and fragile creatures on an informative tour with a chance to hold a live seahorse! Afterwards, the history of Kona comes alive on a guided tour where Hawaiian mythology and history are intertwined to give a glimpse of the splendor of the lost Hawaiian Kingdom. After an included lunch, explore Kailua-Kona, mere steps from the front door of your hotel, or just grab a Mai Tai and slip into the Hawaiian vibe. (FB,L)
- 3. It's off to Paniolo Country; that's Hawaiian for "cowboy", but don't worry it's not all rough and tumble. Our destination is the Hawaiian Vanilla farm for a tour and lunch. You won't believe the amount of work it takes to grow vanilla, but you'll appreciate the effort over a lunch that prominently features the aromatic ingredient. We will make a stop at Hamakua Macadamia Nut Company for samples and shopping. Our Parker Ranch rest stop allows you to learn a little about Hawaiian cowboys. (FB,L)
- 4. The Saddle Road traverses the middle of the island. On the way to Hilo, pass right between the slumbering volcanic giants, Mauna Kea and the Mauna Loa. It's a beautiful, yet humbling sight to behold! A dazzling hardwood forest can also be viewed from the road.

world-famous Akatsuka Orchid

Gardens, the family has been growing prized orchids for over 30 years. Tour the facility and enjoy lunch among the blooms! At Hawaii Volcano National Park the Visitor Center exhibits give a comprehensive overview of the inner working of one of nature's most powerful entities. From the observation deck, peer into Kilauea's massive crater. You never know what you'll see as conditions vary from moment to moment.

- **5.** A quick inter-island flight takes you from Hilo to Kauai's Lihue Airport. Go for a relaxing drive north along the scenic Coconut Coast to Hanalei Bay, home to fabled Puff the Magic Dragon and the filming location for movie Jurassic Park. After lunch make a stop at the picturesque Kilauea Lighthouse on the bluff before a shave ice dessert! Finely shaved and fluffy ice topped with your choice of tropical flavors. Sheraton Kauai Coconut Beach Resort – 3 nights (FB,L)
- 6. At Lydgate Farms, learn about how the tasty little cocoa bean shaped world civilization... while tasting chocolate, of course! You'll also have the opportunity to sample unusual tropical fruits on the tour.

Drive along the island's southern coast and have lunch at a local family-owned restaurant. Lilikoi (passion fruit) Chiffon Pie from the award-winning bakery across the street is for dessert! On the way back to the hotel stop for Kauai Coffee, cookies, gourmet salts and small batch jams using

seasonal fruits. It's our very own Island Foodie Tour! The evening is yours to kick back and relax. (FB,L)

- 7. Kauai, the Garden Isle, is beautiful from every angle, but it's only from the sky that you can access the rich, lush interior. Soar over the Waimea Canyon, dubbed the Grand Canyon of the Pacific and watch the waves crash along the sheer cliffs of the Napali Coast. Tonight, share your adventure over dinner at the Plantation Gardens in Poipu, where the young chef whips up impressive fare using fresh locally sourced ingredients in a tropical setting. Since the flightseeing only takes a couple of hours, you'll have some free time today at your hotel. (FB,D)
- 8. It's time to leave the islands, but not before a decadent brunch at Gaylord's. All the usual brunch fare with carved meats and a tropical flair! Kalua Pork Eggs benedict, anyone? There is no excuse for leaving hungry. With a full belly and wonderful memories, catch your nonstop flight to Sacramento. (FB,BR)

\$4970 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5695 single \$ave \$250 until May 14

Optional Oahu Extension

Add-on to Legendary Aloha!

3 Days • February 23-25, 2020

Depart Kauai and head to Oahu

Enjoy a guided tour of the acclaimed Bishop Museum where the rich history of the islands is on display. Pay your respects



Enjoy 4 nights in the heart of Kona; located to next to Kailua Pier and Kamakahonu Beach

19

to those who perished on "The Day That Lives in Infamy" at the recently revamped World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument; a must for any American History buff! Visit the humble neighborhood where former President Obama spent his formative years and grab ice cream at the shop where the future president had his first job!

You'll be amazed at the expansive personal collection of Middle Eastern art and artifacts amassed by Doris Duke on a tour of her private home, now museum, Shangrila. A special dining treat is dinner at **Chuck's of Hawaii.** (Longtime Sacramento residents will remember a Chuck's of Hawaii across from Town and Country Village for many years.) This little "hole in the wall" serves a great meal.

All airfare included. Arrive on Oahu from Kauai; returning home to Sacramento from Honolulu. 4 meals: 2FB, 1L, 1D. This is an extension, not a stand alone trip.

\$1085 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1295 single

The World Down Under

Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand aboard the ms Noordam

21 Days • February 21 – March 12, 2020

★ Highlights ★

- 3-night pre-cruise program in Sydney including daily breakfast and lunch
- Visit Ku-ring-gai, Blue Mountains and Featherdale Wildlife Parks
- Tour Sydney sites including the famous Opera House
- All meals included on board the ms Noordam
- Prices include all transfers and port taxes
- Door-to-door transportation

- Roundtrip air to Sydney/from Auckland
- Fully escorted by a SLV Tour Director
 Prices to be announced April 25

Place your name on the **Priority Notification List** now

This vacation requires a valid passport!

DATE	PORT OF CALL
Feb. 26	Sydney, Australia
Feb. 27	At Sea
Feb. 28	Melbourne
Feb. 29	At Sea
Mar. 1	Port Arthur
Mar. 2	Hobart, Tasmania
Mar. 3	At Sea
Mar. 4	At Sea
Mar. 5	Milford Sound/Fiordland Nat'l Park, New Zealand
Mar. 6	Port Chalmers (Dunedin)
Mar. 7	Akaroa (Christchurch)
Mar. 8	Wellington
Mar. 9	Gisborne
Mar. 10	Tauranga (Rotorua)
Mar. 11	Bay of Plenty/Coromandel Peninsula
Mar. 12	Fly Home

St. Patrick's Day in New Orleans

The luck 'o the Irish is yours on our annual journey to New Orleans

5 Days • March 15-19, 2020

★ Highlights ★

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- 4 nights Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
- Downtown Irish Club's Twilight Parade on St. Patrick Day
- Scenic New Orleans driving and French Quarter carriage tours

- Visit the National World War II Museum and Stage Door Canteen
- Learn the secrets of great Cajun chefs at the NOLA School of Cooking
- 8 meals: 4 breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from New Orleans
- 2250/2500 Gold Passport Points
- 1. Welcome to New Orleans, a city renowned for its ability to make a party out of every situation. It has been said, "If the hurricane's too weak, just add rum." That pretty much sums it up! Rest well in accommodations overlooking the famed French Quarter. Your welcome dinner is served at the Court of Two Sisters, hidden away under a blanket of blooming wisteria.

Sheraton New Orleans – 4 nights (D)

- 2. Take a driving tour focusing on the city beyond downtown including the beautiful Garden District and one of the area's unique above-ground cemeteries. In the evening learn the secrets of great Cajun and Creole chefs with dinner at the New Orleans School of Cooking, followed by a horse-drawn carriage ride through the French Quarter. Is it haunted? You'll have to come see for yourself... if you dare! (FB,D)
- **3. Happy St. Patrick's Day!** In this city known for celebrations, you can be sure this holiday won't go unnoticed. The day's activities will be determined when the event schedule is released in the fall, but you can count on it culminating with the annual Downtown Irish Club's Twilight Parade slowly snaking its way through the city. **(FB,L)**
- **4.** A plate full of fresh, hot beignets start your morning at world famous Café du Monde. Next visit the National WWII Museum, a four-block complex covering literally every aspect of The Great War and the Greatest Generation. Take a break from your exploration and head to the Stage Door Canteen where your lunch is served up with a nostalgic musical review. How about a pub crawl when the stars come out? **(CB,L)**
- **5.** The morning opens with a true New Orleans tradition: Breakfast at Brennan's. Save room for the Bananas Foster. Only in New Orleans can you get dessert with breakfast! A short drive to the airport and your adventure comes to a close. **(FB)**

\$2210 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2465 single



The Sydney Opera House is absolutely stunning whether by day or night in "The World Down Under"

The Tour Calendar (Previously Announced)

Making Our Way Around Monterey Bay

3 Days • May 19-21

★ Highlights ★

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- Brunch at the Dolce Hayes Mansion
- · Boat tour of the Elkhorn Slough
- Visit the Shakespeare Society of America
- Tour the American Hat Makers factory
- Taste juice at Martinelli's
- 5 meals: 2 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 2 lunches
- Door-to-door airport service
- Tour Director: Scott Angeletti
- 1300/1550 Gold Passport Points \$1280 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1515 single 2 seats remain at press time

All About The Ballparks, **Southern Style**

Florida, Houston and Atlanta

9 Days/6 Games • May 26 - June 3

GAME / TRAVEL SCHEDULE:

Sun., May 26	Travel to Houston		
Mon., May 27	Cubs/Astros		
Tues., May 28	Fly to Miami, Giants/		
	Marlins		
Wed., May 29	Giants/Marlins		
Thurs., May 30	Giants/Marlins		
Fri., May 31	Fly to Tampa, Minn.		
	Twins/Tampa Rays		
Sat., June 1	Tampa sights		
Sun., June 2	Fly to Atlanta, Detroit		
	Tigers/Atl. Braves		
Sun., June 3	Fly home		
4800/5350 Gold Passport Points			

An American Portrait

History comes alive – everything from West Point to Woodstock

7 Days • May 29 - June 4

★ Highlights ★

\$4790 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5310 single

7 seats remain at press time

- Rochester visit The Strong Museum (America's Museum of Play), the Eastman Museum (of Eastman-Kodak fame)
- Cruise the Erie Canal
- · Tour the homes of Harriett Tubman and William Seward, who were close friends

- · National Women's Hall of Fame, Women's Rights Historic Park, It's a Wonderful Life Museum in Bedford... we mean Seneca Falls
- Visit Bethel Woods, the site of Woodstock, on the 50th anniversary of the event
- Tour West Point Academy
- Visit the Presidential Library of Franklin Roosevelt; see Val Kill, Eleanor's residence
- · Walk over the Hudson River
- Wonderful dining, 14 meals: 1 breakfast, 5 full breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners
- · Door-to-door service, airfare included
- 3200/3550 Gold Passport Points \$3155 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3550 single 1 seat remains at press time

Oregon's Coast, Carousels and Covered Bridges

Walk in the steps of Lewis and Clark, enjoy\ the spectacular coast, dine on a A covered bridge

6 Days • June 23-28

★ Highlights ★

- · 2 nights Astoria, 2 nights Newport (4 nights on the water), overnight Eugene
- · Lewis and Clark history, including stops at Cape Disappointment and Fort Clatsop, their two "mid-journey" coastal homes



Enjoy a hot lunch on a covered bridge near Eugene

- Ride carousels in Seaside and Albany, learn how the horses are made
- Visit Yaquina Head Lighthouse, do a little shopping at Blue Heron Cheese
- Marine Discovery Cruise on Newport Bay, the best educational cruise 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
- 2350/2650 Gold Passport Points \$2335 p.p./dbl.occ, \$2650 single 12 seats remain at press time

Million Dollar Quartet at **Lake Tahoe**

Stay at the Lake Tahoe Resort 2 Days • July 23-24

Million Dollar Quartet is the smash-hit musical inspired by the famed recording session that brought together rock 'n' roll icons Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for the first and only time. The evening show is presented outdoors, by the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival Company with Lake Tahoe as the stunning backdrop.

Stay overnight at the **Lake Tahoe Resort** (formerly the Embassy Suites, next to Harrah's) on the South Shore, which includes a full Breakfast Buffet for you to enjoy at your leisure in the morning.

Enjoy a guided tour of the historic Thunderbird Lodge; plus an included lunch and a quick stop in Truckee before heading back to Sacramento. Please note that the tour includes uneven walkways and high elevations, so is not recommended for those with mobility concerns.

The package includes deluxe motorcoach transportation, three meals (1FB,1L,1D), resort accommodations, all attractions and activities indicated: and the services of a Sports Leisure Tour Director. 600/700 Gold Passport Points

\$570 p.p./dbl.occ., \$655 single



Laguna Beach and The Pageant of the Masters

One of our annual favorite summer getaways to Southern California



3 Days • August 4-6 or August 25-27

Presented in an outdoor theatre in Laguna Beach, *The Pageant of the Masters* uses live people to re-create well-known pieces of sculpture and art. The staging, the costuming, and the effects created by make-up and lighting make it surrealistic and words fail to describe the pageant to others. You have to see it to believe it!

Also featured: Sunday Brunch at Sherman Library & Gardens, 2 nights at the Marriott Newport, Mission San Juan Capistrano, tour at the Pageant of the Masters, exclusive post-event talk.

\$1525 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1750 single 1 seat remains at press time

Olympia Harbor Days & Mount Rainier

Tacoma, southern Puget Sound, and Mt. Rainier – one of last year's highest rated tours, a real sleeper



4 Days • August 30 – September 2

★ Highlights ★
ht stay on the waterfront overlood

- 3 night stay on the waterfront overlooking Budd Bay
- Lunch in the grand Paradise Inn Dining Room at Mt. Rainier National Park
- Cruise southern Puget Sound on the historic steamboat, Virginia V

- Enjoy the festivities of Olympia's Harbor Days, including a tugboat race
- 8 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door to door service
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- Tour Director: Ramona Goodge
- 2100/2350 Gold Passport Points

The highlight of our stay will be the Harbor Days Fest, celebrating the vintage tugboats of the Sound. Interspersed with the festival activities, experience the best of the region from a local farmer's market, local artisans, and a side trip to Mount Rainier.

- 1. Upon arrival in Seattle, transfer to the Port of Tacoma and step back in maritime history as you cruise the waters of the southern sound on the historic steamer, *Virginia V.* Affectionately called "Virginia Vee", this ship has been steaming around the Puget Sound since 1922. The festival kicks off this afternoon, and our waterfront hotel is minutes away. **DoubleTree by Hilton 3 nights (L,D)**
- 2. Mt. Rainier, dubbed "the mountain" by the locals, dominates the skyline on a clear day. This iconic glacier-topped mountain is legendary with mountain climbers and casual visitors. Travel into the national park, and enjoy lunch at the historic Paradise Inn (awesome views on a clear day). Return to Olympia late afternoon. (FB,L)
- **3.** A free morning to visit the Farmers' Market, walk along the waterfront, or maybe even tour a "tug." This afternoon, the "world's

largest vintage tugboat race" takes place in the deep channel of Budd Bay. Viewing of the race is from the water aboard one of the festival's host vessels. **(FB,D)**

4. A leisurely morning with a quick lunch before returning to the airport for your afternoon flight home. **(FB, L)**

\$2065 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2320 single \$ave \$25 until May 14 6 seats remain at press time

"Meet Me at the Fair..."

A Mystery Tour

6 Days • September 21-26



Ed. Note: I'm headed out in April to "scout" some of the destinations on this itinerary. The more I get into setting up my trip, the more excited I get about taking you along next time. Truly most of the featured attractions have never been on a Sports Leisure itinerary. Actually, we are attending two different fairs/festivals on this itinerary. One Is very, very exclusive. A clue: it involves fancy food and beverages. In between, there's a visit to an island. People ask all the time, "So you don't tell them where they are going, how do they pack?" Well, of course we give you some climate Information, and a few clues that might help the sleuths in the group to figure it out. Mystery tours are often taken by people who love the unknown, the unexplored, the places they would have never visited on their own. It's all about the wonder of discovery, and finding something cool, different and VERY exclusive. Airfare, 10 meals and 3200/3700 Gold Passport Points are included.

> \$3170 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3675 single 4 seats remain at press time

Dream In' of Santa Cruz



And enjoy an afternoon of the Follies Show 3 Days • September 10-12

It can't get much better than two nights in your ocean view room at the "Only Hotel on the Beach"... the **Dream Inn** in Santa Cruz. This iconic hotel has always been a **Sports Leisure** favorite and their colorful retro-chic style, modern service, and great amenities are sure to delight you.

The Santa Cruz Follies has been entertaining folks for over sixty years. This year the cast (all over 50 years of age)



Everyone gets into the fun at the Harbor Day Festival



will present "Fascinatin' Rhythms, from Broadway to Hollywood". On our way to the beach we'll stop for an included lunch at Porter's Restaurant at the Poppy Ridge Golf Club in Livermore. Dinner in the hotel ballroom with a million dollar view and lunch at a local restaurant are also included.

We'll get a tour of Santa Cruz with a local guide, head to Bear Mountain and Roaring Camp Railroad for a train ride into the redwoods, have time for shopping in nearby Capitola, and perhaps feel like a kid again riding the carousel on the Beach Boardwalk.

This tour includes door-to-door service, motorcoach transportation, accommodations, 2 lunches and 1 dinner, the Follies Show and the services of a Sports Leisure Tour Director. 1250/1400 **Gold Passport Points**

> \$1220 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1390 single \$ave \$20 until May 14

Rails Around Colorado

3 scenic train rides during fall foliage 7 Days • September 21-27



★ Highlights ★

- 3 scenic trains: Royal Gorge, Cumbres & Toltec, Durango & Silverton
- Royal Gorge Bridge and Park
- Explore the San Juan Mountains In a jeep
- Fly above Telluride on a gondola ride
- Historic guided walking tour of Telluride
- 11 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 full breakfasts, 5 lunches

- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to Denver/from Durango
- Tour Director: Scott Angeletti
- 3800/4300 Gold Passport Points \$3770 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4280 single 4 seats remain at press time

Lake Powell Splendor

No words can describe its beauty



- · Narrated Lake Powell boat tour
- · Guided walking tour of the famous Antelope Canyon

★ Highlights ★

- Enjoy 3 nights in a lakeview room
- Awesome helicopter flight over Lake
- 8 meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches
- Tour Director: Scott Angeletti
- 2750/3150 Gold Passport Points \$2735 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3120 single 9 seats remain at press time

Memphis and Nashville

Celebrate the many musical styles of Tennessee



7 Days • October 8-14 or 15 -21

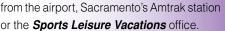
★ Highlights ★

- · 2 nights at The Guesthouse at Graceland
- Tour Elvis' iconic estate including his car and plane collection
- Visit the National Civil Rights Museum
- Tour RCA Studio B and Music Row
- Visit the Country Music Hall of Fame





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prices.

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

and the new Johnny Cash & Patsy Cline

• Behind-the-scenes tour of the The Grand

Spend a leisurely Southern Sunday in

• 14 meals featuring a wide range of

regional flavors: 6 full breakfasts,

Air fare included to Memphis/from

Door-to-door airport service

• Tour Director: Chris Galloway

• 3700/4200 Gold Passport Points

\$3655 pp/dbl, \$4165 single

3 seats remain at press time

Things to Know

Before You Go:

Airfare: On all trips where air travel is

indicated, airfares are included in the listed

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/

Ole Opry and attend a show

charming Franklin, TN

5 lunches, 3 dinners

Museums

Nashville

*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 for more information on any tour listed here, or call our office and we will be happy to send you a detailed itinerary.

Proud members of the





Ride the Cumbres - Toltec Railroad... perhaps one of the best train rides in the states



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EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT COUPON

on **Tuesday, May 14**; 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.

Aug. - Canada Coast to Coast - \$ave \$250

Sept. - Santa Cruz - \$ave \$20

Oct. – Pilgrimmage to Plains – \$ave \$100

Oct. - Old Man River - \$ave \$75

Oct. – Mammoth in Autumn – \$ave \$40

Nov. - Thanksgiving in NYC - \$ave \$100

Dec. - Apple Farm Christmas - \$ave \$35

Dec. - Puttin' on the Ritz - \$ave \$40

Dec. - Desert Christmas in Phoenix - \$ave \$100

Dec. - Rose Parade - \$ave \$50

Jan. - Key West - \$ave \$100

Feb. - Hawaii - \$ave \$250

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OFFICE HOURS:

9:00am – 4:30pm MON. thru FRI. Closed weekends and major holidays CLOSED TUES. 12:00pm – 1:15pm

VALUABLE COUPON

\$ave \$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. \$ave \$10 on tours priced from \$451-\$800, \$ave \$20 on tours priced from \$801-\$2250, \$ave \$30 on tours priced from \$2251-\$3500, \$ave \$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...

A brief list of tours which are sold out, or have only a limited amount of space (10 or fewer seats, number in parenthesis) remaining. Day trips are not listed.

Sold-Out Tours (waiting lists available)

Moab
Annual Christmas Mystery
Catalina Dreamin'
Leavenworth Christmas
Circle BC
Belugas and Polar Bears
Michigan
Alaska's Kenai Peninsula
Hugh Jackman
Cruise Canada and NE
Jewels of Baltic
Albuquerque Balloon Festival

South Dakota

Limited Space (10 or fewer seats)

Delightfully Danish

Lassen (1)

Monterey Bay (2)

Lake Powell (9)

Colorado Rails (2)

American Portrait (1)

Alps of Switzerland (1)

Ballparks, Southern Style (7)

Ferries Towns of Cape Cod (2)

Ferries Towns of Puget Sound (2)

Laguna Pageant of Masters (1)

Meet at the Fair Mystery (4)

Memphis and Nashville (3)