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MAY/JUNE | VOL. 39 | NO. 7 **2018**

Attendance and Response Strong at Spring Preview Day at KVIE

Over 350 *Sports Leisure Travelers* came to the **KVIE Studios** on Saturday, April 7th, for our **Spring Holiday Preview Day.** At the two hour presentation, attendees learned about nearly two dozen new adventures, including a number of tours scheduled for the first quarter of 2019.

The 17th Annual Christmas Mystery Tour was the most popular, selling all of its 35 seats in two days. The Kauai-Maui trip at the height of the whale season was also on many people's lists, with 20 of the 23 seats spoken for quickly. A Holland America cruise in Australia and New Zealand is also proving to be a popular choice.

With the exception of the trips mentioned above, good seats are still available for the new departures. They are listed on these pages, along with any previously announced tours with space available.

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Travel Club Members at the preview event heeded the call to help out in the community. We requested baby wipes, healthy snack bars, socks and gloves. Our friends at Loaves and Fishes brought a truck to collect the bounty that very afternoon, taking away a small mountain of donations from our travelers to those in need.

Bus Stop Changes

Since our last newsletter, two of our bus stops for motorcoach trips departing from Sacramento have changed. We were asked to leave our stop at the **South Hills Shopping**Center by the owners of the property.

Thunder Valley Casino had been picking up there and flooding the lot with vehicles. We knew it was just a matter of time.

The **Arden & Watt** stop moved last fall to **Howe & Hallmark.** That move was temporary. Once again, the property owner at the original stop did not want us parking there, but we have found a much stronger

location. For details on the new stops, see **The Barber Pole**, on page 7.



Those attending Preview Day helped create a small mountain of needed items for others in the community. Then, Loaves & Fishes came and whisked them away.



Just One Man's Opinion by Mark Hoffmann

Note: June 8-9 marks the 39th anniversary of our company. The first official trip was a bus to Lake Tahoe which left on Friday night and returned Saturday morning, hence the two-day anniversary date. We thank

everyone who has been a part of our success over the past 4 decades. We are grateful for your patronage, friendship and support. Those aren't just words, they mean



something to us. If you are reading these words, you are part of our extended travel family.

* * * * * * * * * * Keep The Ideas Coming

I am remiss in not sending personal thank you notes to acknowledge the many ideas Travel Club Members forward to me on a regular basis. Day trips, long trips, international destinations, things to use on *The Travel Guys Radio Show,* you send me all kinds of neat things. Many of them make their way onto tour itineraries. One idea was a recent stop on our **Route 66** tour. Even when time doesn't allow individual thank yous, I truly appreciate you taking the time to share your dreams and ideas.

A Journey on The Mother Road

Our trip on the first half of Route 66 is in the books. (Part II, Oklahoma City to Santa Monica, takes place in October, three seats remain.) From Chicago to OKC, we got rained on, snowed on, winded on (that may not be an official weather designation, but you get the idea). But nothing would dissuade our hearty travelers. They were there to discover things of yesteryear and that's exactly what we did.

From the homemade pie at the Palm Café in Atlanta, IL; to the high school baseball team on the field in Mickey Mantle's hometown just for us; we saw and did an amazing amount of things. We also supported the economy of small towns everywhere. In restaurants, hotels, attractions and gift shops, **especially**

the gift shops... Our guides John and Carol (who helped make our bladders flatter) helped teach us all about the people and the places of the old road. Off the beaten track was what we were looking for. I believe we found it. It was a great trip. Mostly because the travelers in the group **made** it fun. God, I love traveling Route 66.

New Bus Stops for Day Trips and Overnighters

On the **Barber Pole** page in this newsletter, you will find an update on new bus stops. We were given the boot from another parking lot, so the locations of two stops have changed. See page 7 for details.

What I want to do here is take a moment to acknowledge that these changes are not going to work for some of our travelers. Some people who had the bus conveniently stopping in their Land Park or Arden Park neighborhoods until recent changes will find it harder to get to the new stops, which are less in the neighborhoods and more along the freeway routes.

Or the other hand, if you live in the greater downtown area, this may work out better for you. The new Arden stop is in a much better lit and more secure area. For the first time, the downtown stop carries a \$2 parking charge. It's a lot of change. It was only done out of necessity. We tried to make these changes with longevity in mind. But again, we don't own parking lots, so in some cases we remain at the mercy of others. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. In writing, in person, or by email to <code>Markslt@aol.com</code>.

That Ah-Ha Moment

It's that moment on tour when everything comes together and exceeds even the tour director's expectation. The moment no one will ever forget, often a combination of good planning and sheer luck.

I believe if you ask any of the 27 travelers on the recent **New York, Behind Broadway and The Bronx** tour, they will tell you just such a moment occurred on our visit to the Big Apple. In fact, something even rarer occurred. (Get ready for geeky tour director phrases.) **It was an Ah-Ha within an Ah-Ha**

Moment. I know what you are saying. Ahha...

Allow me to explain. We were at **Carnegie Hall** for a concert with the New York
Symphony Pops Orchestra. It was their
annual anniversary concert, which salutes
a legendary Broadway composer, which
this year they honored, **Alan Menken**(*Beauty and the Beast, Aladdin, Sister Act, Little Mermaid, among many others).*The 90-minute program featured many of
Broadway's A-list performers. It was an ahha moment.

And then **Angela Lansbury** made her surprise entrance. (Remember, she actually sang the *Beauty and the Beast* title song, *Tale as Old as Time* in the film version of the fairy tale.) She sang for us. It was amazing. She is a legend and she sang for us. **At Carnegie Hall.** See, I told you **it was an ah-ha within an ah-ha moment.** Angela Lansbury. At 92, she is looking and singing mighty fine. What an awesome night. We attend the same concert every spring on the New York tour. Who knows who the guest star will be next year. Come with us and find out

And so it goes...

Mark Hoffmann, CTP, President

lark Hotmann

Remembering Our Friends...

Earlier we spoke of our travel family. Each member of our group is special to us. In this space, we honor the passing of those who will no longer be across the table from us, laughing, breaking bread, sharing memories. Farewell our friends. May all your future travel be on the wings of angels.

Father John Lagomarsino
Monica Stephens Foxworth
Lorriane Swenson

Howard Eastham

Bob Frank

Godspeed



Guest Column by Ramona Goodge

Greetings Friends!

Last week Mark returned from the eastern portion of Rt. 66 (Chicago to Oklahoma City); raving about how much he loves traveling the "Mother Road" and meeting

along way. His comments got me to thinking the small towns I have visited over the years; and meeting local residents or participating in a hometown event



does make the trip so extra special. I grew up in a small Midwestern farming community and we didn't have a lot of tourist attractions around us so we had to make our own fun. As a traveler today, getting off the beaten track and doing something local makes it feel like a more authentic experience.

One of my favorite moments, came several years ago in a small British Columbia community. I took a group to a "town" of 60 people. The hotelier, Hans, was a collector of eclectic world art. He bought this old hotel to showcase his collection and to serve as the social gathering spot. They have a Friday night tradition... It is version of "open mike" with old-timers coming into

the hotel for dinner, a beer and sharing music. Imagine their surprise when a big motor coach showed up and 25 Americans came pouring out. I took the Sports Leisure travelers to the Hotel Ymir to meet Hans and see his collection... instead, we became the attraction as folks came pouring in to talk to us. An evening was spent listening to some good music and talking with the townspeople. We were the curiosity. They couldn't believe we were in their town, and enjoying the hospitality. I've been back several times and still get a big hug from Hans, Giles and several others who can never remember my name but know me as "the Sacramento gal." I'll be returning this year while on The International Selkirk Loop tour (August 20-26).

On this same trip, Janet at the Barefoot Handweaving Studio, is more than willing to tell you why she leaves her shoes off while operating the loom; and about the unique artwork on the wall; all the while, Janet is as interested in your story as you are hers. At the Bottle House, Diane tells you about her father-in-law and his unique talent of building a house out of bottles. This cute little home is nestled on the shores of Kootenay Lake and offers some of the prettiest views of the Selkirk Mountains. In Creston, we visit Gerry, a master candle

maker in her modest workshop...and yes, you will be greeted by her dogs. These are the people of British Columbia, of the Selkirk region and as we continue our tradition of building relationships with folks around the world, we build friendships and bridges of understanding.

Closer to home, Olympia is another great place to experience. Capital of Washington State, Olympia has a particular small town feel to it. Once a year, they celebrate their heritage as a port with tugboat races and tall ships. Last year, I wandered the Harbor Days festival and was so impressed with their local pride. Over a dinner of the best cedar-baked salmon I've ever eaten, I talked to a young man who was third generation tug boat operator and he couldn't imagine any other life than working the tugs. He talked about the hardships but also the beauty of working on Puget Sound with Mount Rainer off to the east and the Olympic Mountain range to the west. He talked on about plying the waters with the local pods of orcas and dall porpoises. During a tour of the Port of Olympia, the dock workers proudly showed off a special loading ramp they had designed for loading cattle onto ships. These cattle were headed to Vietnam as breeding stock and wow, did they travel in style and comfort! While cruising the Sound on the Virginia V Bill told about how as a young sailor he had worked the "mosquito fleet", carrying goods from the mainland to the islands. I'll be returning to Olympia for more of that baked salmon and the cruise of the south Sound August 31 – September 3 on the Olympia, the Sound and the Mountain trip.

Traveling is what helps us share others' backgrounds cultures, and unique perspectives. Sports Leisure Vacations looks for those opportunities to connect people through authentic experiences and personal stories. These are the moments that make traveling with **Sports Leisure** so poignant! So next time you are looking for a getaway, consider joining us on a small town adventure...



Join the local residents for a night of live music at the Hotel Ymir

The Customers Always Write

Mark:

The driver of limo 10 on our recent Central Coast tour deserves a special commendation (I think his name was Ellis). He had gone to Vacaville to pick up another passenger and on the way back ran into a lot of traffic which delayed him. He was very courteous and called me to stay he would be about 20 minutes late and did not want me to worry. I did not know how to call Sports Leisure since you do not answer phones until 9am. This is the first time I have ever had anyone call to say they were going to be late and I think that is very courteous. I would like to see this practice continue with the limo company.

Is there a way arrangements can be made with the limo company to contact Sports **Leisure** and the passenger if this happens again? This limo driver stands to be recognized for the service he provided us. Nancy Marre

Ed. Note: Several things to address here. First, we do instruct travelers to stay within range of their phone (that would be the phone number on your registration) during the pick-up times. Nancy, we do that for exactly the reason you shared. So the driver can notify you if he-she is delayed. This isn't always possible, but when it is, being able to hear the phone is important. The drivers have all of your contact info and we do provide travelers with a number to call if your car doesn't arrive by its scheduled time for updates. See your Final Tour Notes for that information.

While our office phones don't officially "open" until 9am, M-F, there is an after hours emergency option. If you call the office, and follow the recorded instructions, you can at least get to the on duty staff member's cell phone (usually this is Clayton). If you have an urgent situation that cannot wait until the office reopens, you can speak to someone (or at a minimum leave a message) on the emergency number. We do ask that you use this option only when your circumstances are urgent, regarding a trip that departs before we reopen for business.

Hi Ramona,

Thank you for the wonderful trip (Desert Beauty). It was so well organized. I will have great memories of it. I enjoyed every minute. Thank you so much. Sincerely,

Elaine Mason

Mark,

We just returned from the Snow Train adventure where we were snowed in at Reno during the full blizzard conditions which closed the Sierra passes. We appreciated your commitment to our safety by providing everything we needed for a safe bus trip home the following day. Jim Pelley and our bus driver, Greg, handled the situation like the skilled professionals that they are. Situations such as this is why we continue to travel with Sports Leisure!

Lee and Jeanne Bickford

Ed. Note: 'Tistrue. One of our Snow Trains took the name literally and while the train got them to Reno, they had to wait an extra day to return. Thanks to the Silver Legacy, who gave our travelers a discounted room rate. Appreciate you taking the time to write.

Mark,

I'd like you to know I am a first-time traveler with **Sports Leisure**. A friend of mine, Judy Corderman, is dedicated to your travel options and has been travelling with you for some years now. She contacted me last October to spark an interest in the Panama Canal Cruise. I bit. I have cruised with Holland America prior and felt right at home on their ship, so the ship part of the cruise was familiar to me.

However, travelling with Ramona and "returnees" of **Sports Leisure** was a fabulous experience. Ramona was delightful, purely delightful. Yes, I would travel with her again. But the experience of meeting other folks that seem to make a travel family, of sorts, made the trip less overwhelming, more travel friendly. It was simply a very good vacation. I did receive the questionnaire and I will fill it out and send it in. I look forward to more travels with Sports Leisure.

Pennie Provo

Ed. Note: We call ourselves a travel family and have for many years. It's nice when someone who is new to "the family" feels welcome and comfortable. As the owner, it makes me proud to hear your comments Pennie. I suspect the rest of the staff will feel the same.

Hi Mark,

Wanted to say thanks again for the donation to the Sac State Athletics crab feed. They auctioned it off at the crab feed and the final bid was \$625 for it. Awesome !!! Thanks

Ed. Note: Cathy is the deli manager at the Raley's store in College Greens. She is AWESOME and so it was a pleasure to donate a baseball trip. Nice to know they bid it up to twice its retail value!

Dear Mark,

On behalf of the Sacramento Retired Teachers Association, I would like to thank you for presenting to our group. We appreciated your kind and positive words about teachers, too. Sincerely,

Manuel Villarreal, SACTAR President

Dear Mark,

Thank you for the wonderful Spring Training trip. Charles and I really enjoyed everything. We read today's paper about the Giant's game on Monday and all the cuts etc. and we felt like we were "in the know" due to your sharing etc. Hope to see you next year. Your A's fans,

Charles & JoAnn Marchese

Dear Sports Leisure Vacations,

Thank you for your donation to U.S. Figure Skating's Memorial Fund in the amount of \$200, made at the 2018 U.S. Championships. Your donation will help preserve the lasting tribute that enables the Memorial Fund to provide financial assistance to skaters pursuing their competitive and/or academic dreams. Sincerely,

Kitty Delio-LaForte, Chair, Memorial Fund Committee

Continued on page 5

Teasers & Teaser Updates

On a regular basis, we fill a page with potential destinations and ask you to place your name on a Priority Notification List. We tabulate those responses and then make decisions on which trips we will offer. Over the years, travelers have asked us to share updates on the latest teasers. You can add your name to any potential trip listed. We ask that you only put your name on a list where you have **genuine** interest in visiting the destination. Putting your name on a Priority List does not commit you to anything. There is no obligation. It simply shows us your interest. When the trip is announced, we make every effort to notify those on the list before the tour is announced to the rest of the Travel Club.

At Spring Preview Day, we asked those in attendance to share their "hope this destination is in the new catalog in the fall" short list. We got a LOT of excellent ideas to combine with this list for new catalog tours.

Presidential California

Visits to the Nixon and Reagan Libraries are the highlights. There has been enough interest here to offer this trip sometime in the next 12 months. Will probably be an overnighter, but could be 3 Days.

TV Land and Hollywood

See a couple of TV shows created before your very eyes. Hoping for enough notice from the studios to offer this trip in the fall.

Polar Bears and Belugas

A trip to northern Canada to see these amazing creatures. Ramona has it on the top of her list. I would expect this trip to be in the catalog in September.

Toe Tappin' Tennessee

Graceland. Dollywood, Memphis, Nashville. Plenty of interest, but no room for it on the calendar. Chris promises this trip will be offered in the fall of 2019.

Fixin' Up Texas

Built around the hit HGTV show, Fixer Upper, starring Chip & Joanna Gaines. Waco, with possibly Dallas and/or Austin. If the list gets a little longer, you will see this trip next spring.

Scandinavian Holiday

A definite for 2019. Our inability to get the hotels/cruise space we wanted kept this one off the schedule this year. Summer of next year is the new target.

Customers Always Write - Con't

Dear Sports Leisure,

This is to let you know I'd be very interested in the trip to Machu Picchu. Might have to sell most of my belongings, but sure it would be worth it. Can't take them with me on trips anyway. Regards,

Jo Anne French

Ed. Note: I hope Jo Anne doesn't mind me printing her note. It gave everyone in the office a belly laugh on a busy day.

Jim Pelley is compiling a list of anyone who might like to go to Macchu Picchu and/or the Galapagos Islands off Peru's coast. We are hoping to put together a trip next year. As Jo Anne has noted, it won't be inexpensive. We will offer it as an A-B tour, so you can see one destination or both. (Macchu Picchu is at a very high altitude and the islands would require the abiiity to climb in and out of a zodiac boat.) Get your name on the list by calling the office.

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

Circle British Columbia

Featuring the northern part of Vancouver Island, the ferry from Pt. Hardy to Prince Rupert, BC, the train from the coast to Prince George. A really pristine area, featuring a ride along the Skeena River. Look for this one in the summer of 2019.

An American Portrait

West Point, Woodstock, Eleanor and FDR historic sites in the Hudson River Valley, a ride on an Eric Canal barge, a visit to Corning Glass, the It's a Wonderful Life Museum, Women's National Hall of Fame (Seneca Falls, NY). Will make it's debut in the spring of 2019.

Canada Coast to Coast by Rail

Last offered in 2017, this trip will be back next year. Fly to Nova Scotia and then work your way back by rail.

Belize and The Mayas

Lots of interest in Scott's new idea. He is having some challenges finding the right partner in Belize. I would expect this trip to be ready to go in 2019.

Macchu Picchu and perhaps the Galapagos Islands

These will be offered as an "A-B" trip, meaning you could do both or just Macchu Picchu or just the Galapagos. **Jim** is hoping this list will continue to build. If we get 4-5 more names showing interest, we will develop this destination for 2019.

Alps of Switzerland and **Northern Italy**

Look for this trip to be offered by Clayton in 2019. Lucerne, Mt. Pilatus, Interlaken, Verona, Padua. Into Zurich and out of Venice.

Numbers too low to consider a trip at this time...

Mexico's Copper Canyon, Sound of Music Sing-a-long at the Hollywood Bowl, Searching for Your Family in Salt Lake, Oregon Theater trip.

Route 66... memories from Chicago to Oklahoma City

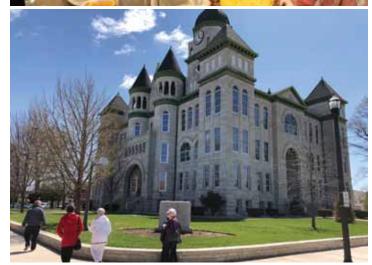












Clockwise from top left: Beverly explains the colorful history of the Rock Cafe in Stroud, OK; One of our many picture stops at the historic Rainbow Bridge near Baxter Springs, KS; We ate breakfast where they've been serving folks for 90 years at Lou Mitchell's in Chicago; The beautiful stone courthouse dominates the square in Carthage, MO; Norma is doing a little souvenir shopping while talking with Rich the proprietor at the Rabbit Ranch near Stanton, IL; Georgjan finds a great price on gas at an old station that might be out of business in Spencer, MO

The Barber Pole, or Once Over Lightly

Bus Stop Changes

In our January/February newsletter, we wrote about losing one of our bus stops (Arden & Watt) and the real possibility we might lose another (South Hills Shopping Center). We asked for your ideas and suggestions on where we might pick up. You responded and sent us nearly a dozen locations you thought might work. Some did the homework for us, asking the impacted businesses (or in some cases churches) if we could park in their lot.

Ramona and Mark each spent the better part of a day driving around the Arden and South Hills neighborhoods, checking out your locations and seeing if we had overlooked someplace on previous searches.

A bus stop needs several things to be considered. First and most important is parking. There has to be parking that is never used by the business and its customers. The second is location. Our city is very spread out. With a maximum of 4 stops, we are trying to serve (conveniently) as many people as we can. Third is accessibility. Can the bus get into the lot or stop on the street? What about the streets leading to and from the stop? Will they accommodate a 45-foot motorcoach safely? Many of the places suggested to us didn't rise to those standards.

The New Locations

As we speculated in January, we were asked to leave the South Hills Shopping Center. Thunder Valley Casino started parking there about a year ago, and the number of cars in the lot increased dramatically. We had permission to park from Vic's Market, which is no longer in business. (In an ironic twist, Vic himself has become a Sports Leisure Traveler.) The owners of the lot gave us no warning and no grace period, forcing people to park on the street for a few days while we scrambled to replace the stop.

The new location for the south part of town is the city lot downtown under the freeway, bounded by 18th. 19th, W and X streets. There is a \$2 charge for daily parking. The lot is used mainly by employees from Sutter Hospital, as the lots closer to the hospital

are not big enough. You need to know your license plate number, and have \$2 in cash or a credit card (the machine is sometimes cranky with some currency, bringing 8 quarters will resolve that). You get a ticket you can place on your dash. There is security in the lot until at least 8pm.

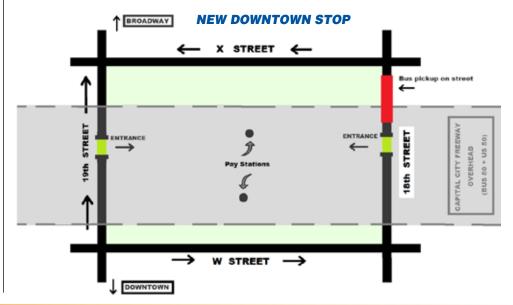
We are very aware this location is not going to be convenient for many in the south area. Please allow us to offer these words. For many years, only one part of town had the bus come directly to their neighborhood to pick them up, Land Park/South Hills. All of the other stops have generally been located close to the freeway, to allow a quicker move through town. Those getting on in Roseville, Antelope or Arden had to sit through two detours to South Hills on every trip headed west. The round trip to South Hills added approximately 20 minutes each way to every trip. Mark has said many times over the years that if he ever found a lot downtown, he would grab it in a minute. Now, that has happened.

If you don't think the folks in the other parts of town had no objection to the long trip south, please think again. They regularly complained and in fact are delighted the two new stops can shave as much as 20 minutes off the ride in each direction. Travelers from Orangevale, Rancho Cordova, Auburn, Lincoln, Carmichael, etc., have had to drive a distance to the closest stop for a long time. We apologize to our south area friends, but truly, this change benefits 80% of our group.

One caller to the office mentioned they saw homeless people near the new downtown stop. But there are homeless people regularly in every lot we use. Our city, like many, has a homeless problem. Perhaps you don't see it as much in Land Park, but darned near everywhere else. The bus never pulls away until all of the travelers have reached their vehicle and it has started. That won't change. Our friend/driver Greg and the tour directors are all interested in your safety.

The new Arden area stop location is adjacent to the Black Bear Diner, across from the Arden Fair Shopping Center. We ask that you park far enough away from the diner that you don't block parking used by their patrons. If you happen to go into the diner for coffee or a meal, you might mention to the manager that you appreciate the ability to park there. We are hoping to secure some discount coupons from the diner soon. For those of you in the south area, if the downtown stop is not to your liking, perhaps the Arden stop would be an acceptable alternative.

We are a company that listens to its customers. If you have a **better idea** for a stop location within a mile or two of downtown, we will certainly check it out. Mark welcomes your comments at MarksIt@aol.com or by phone or in person at the office (Mark travels a lot, so an appointment or a "call ahead" is a great idea.)



Day Trips & Theatre Outings

Cache Creek Casino Express

Tuesday, June 12

Our St. Patrick's Day trip in March was a great success! The casino is well maintained, has a large collection of slot machines and good food, so we are going back. Your 4-hour stay at Cache Creek Casino includes a \$10 Slot Play credit and \$5 food credit. You must be a member of Cache Club Rewards Program to receive the bonus. If you are a first timer to Cache Creek, you will have an opportunity to sign up at the Cache Club service desk the day of the trip. Bring your lucky talisman and come join us for a day of fun and good food. \$49

School of Rock. The Musical

Orpheum Theater, San Francisco

Saturday, June 30 or Wednesday July 11

Based on the movie of the same name and with a rocking new musical score from Andrew Lloyd Webber, School of Rock follows Dewey Finn, a wannabe rock star posing as a substitute teacher who turns a class of straight-A students into a earpopping, riff-scorching, all-conquering rock band! As they prepare for the Battle of the Bands, can Dewey make them embrace the empowering message of rock? Our Wednesday trip includes a lite box lunch, orchestra seating for the 2pm matinee and dinner on your own at Pier 39 after the show. The Saturday trip includes lunch on your own in Union Square area prior to the 2pm matinee and return to Sacramento after the show. Saturday - \$185 or Wednesday -\$159

Floating Homes on the Bay

Sausalito Floating Homes and Marin Civic Center

Thursday, July 19

A fun day in Marin as we visit the community of floating houseboats in Sausalito and the Marin Civic Center designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Begin with a private tour of several

of the "Floating Homes" with their residents who will share details about this floating lifestyle; and can answer questions about their unique way of living. With no two the same, each is customized for the families who choose to permanently live on the water. In the afternoon enjoy a private tour of the Marin Civic Center designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. With the majority of his homes and buildings located in the eastern U.S., this is a rare opportunity to experience the genius and creativity of America's most renowned architect. This is an all walking tour and includes uneven terrain, narrow stairs and walkways, docks, and moving ramps. Free time is included mid-day in Sausalito for lunch and browsing on your own. \$134

From Masters to Modernism

Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Tuesday, July 24

Enjoy a day of contrasting artists and artistry with exhibits at both the Legion of Honor and de Young Museums in San Francisco. Begin the morning at the Legion of Honor for a major exhibition of works by an association of young 19th Century English artists who chose to rebel and innovate against Victorian art and the idealized works of the time. Fascinated by old masters such as Fra Angelico, Pietro Perugion, and Jan Van Eyck, Truth and Beauty: The Pre-Raphaelites and the Old Masters is an eclectic collection of paintings, stained glass, furniture, textiles, and tapestries. Audio-guide is included for this exhibit. In the afternoon, a docent-guided tour is provided for Cult of the Machine: Precisionism and American Art at the de Young Museum. Works by American modernists include Georgia O'Keefe, Charles Sheeler, Charles Demuth, clips of films such as Charlie Chaplin's Modern Times, and decorative arts and objects including a Phaeton automobile illustrate and highlight this industrial and transformative period of our early 20th Century history. Lunch on is on your own at either museum. \$116

Pageant!

An afternoon of fun at East Sonora Theatre Saturday, July 28

Six beauty contestants battle for the title of "Miss Glamoresse" in categories including physical fitness, spokes person and beauty crisis counseling. Every show will be an actual pageant with judges selected from the audience; so there is apt to be a different outcome each performance. Extra bonus to add to the fun: the contestants just happen to be played by men! It is an afternoon of laughter with the Sierra Repertory theatre troupe. Lunch is included at the City Hotel prior to the 2pm matinee. Return to Sacramento fafter the show. \$149

Les Misérables

Returns to The Orpheum

Thursday, August 9 or Saturday, August 11

The Tony Award-winning musical that first ran on Broadway for 16 years is back with a fresh, young cast moving audiences to tears all over again! The action begins in 1815 as Jean Valjean, a man condemned to 19 years of hard labor for stealing a loaf of bread to feed his family, finds only hatred and suspicion when he is released on parole. Meeting one man who believes in him, Valjean breaks his parole to begin a new life. Jean Valjean has to learn how to navigate through rapidly changing times; and often quite violent times in Paris while always staying ahead of his pursuer, the self-righteous police inspector Javert. The story of Les Misérables is one of love, courage and redemption. Thursday trip includes a lite box lunch served on the way down to San Francisco, Orchestra Seating for the 2pm matinee followed by dinner on your own at Pier 39 or Fisherman's Wharf. Saturday trip includes lunch on your own in Union Square area prior to the 2pm matinee. Return to Sacramento following the show.

Thursday - \$175 or Saturday - \$195

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



Magritte at MOMA

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Tuesday, August 28

From rarely seen paintings including a monumental 360-degree panorama, this major exhibit in nine immersive galleries includes more than 70 works by master of Surrealism, Rene Magritte. Known for creating witty, mesmerizing, mysterious, and thought-provoking imagery, he influenced pop and conceptual art, challenging what we see and what we know, Rene Magritte: The Fifth Season, explores the most important bodies of work from the 1940s through the 1960s illuminating his balance of conviction, reality, and fantasy. A private docent tour of the exhibit is included. In the afternoon, enjoy free time to explore additional galleries and lunch on your own in one of the museum cafes before returning to Sacramento. \$124

Phantom of the Opera

Returns to The Orpheum

Thursday, September 6 or Saturday, September 8

The Phantom of the Opera is a musical and operetta Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on the novel by Gaston Leroux... The musical focuses on a beautiful singer, Christine Daaé, who becomes the obsession of a mysterious, disfigured musical genius known as The Phantom, who terrorizes the Paris Opera House and demands that Christine be given lead roles. A haunting love story, the music of the night is unforgettable. Thursday trip includes a lite box lunch served on the way Blueberry is enjoying the sun at Peggys Cove on the rugged north Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia. Kudos to BPS member Georian Gee for capturing the moment!

2018 Ballpark Express

For over 38 years, the BEST way to get to the ballpark in San Francisco has been with **Sports Leisure Vacations**. Our original Ballpark Express, allows you to travel to games in comfort without the challenges of traffic, tolls, gas, and parking! Refreshments are served on board the motorcoach on your way to and from the game. You'll enjoy Field Reserved seating (First Deck) for games at AT&T Park.

	EMOMO	sco Giants
-		JUU GIIGIITI

Sun., July 8	Giants vs. Cardinals	1:05pm	\$153
Wed., July 11	Giants vs. Cubs	12:45pm	\$174
Tues., Aug. 7	Giants vs. Astros	12:45pm	\$153
Wed., Sept. 12	Giants vs. Braves	12:45pm	\$145*
Sun., Sept. 30	Giants vs. Dodgers	12:05pm	\$153

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

down to San Francisco, Orchestra Seating for the 2pm matinee followed by dinner on your own at Pier 39 or Fisherman's Wharf. Saturday trip includes lunch on your own in Union Square area prior to the 2pm matinee. Return to Sacramento following the show.

Thursday - \$175 or Saturday - \$195

Cruising the Estuary and Bay

Featuring a cruise along the East Bay shoreline

Tuesday, September 18

Spend the morning exploring the eastern shoreline of the San Francisco Bay aboard the River Dolphin. Travel past wonderful waterfront sites and islands, viewing the Oakland Estuary; and Yerba Buena Island and lighthouse as you can only from the water. Take a step back as you realize the

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!

breadth and magnificence of this bay and its attributes. The trip is fully narrated, and binoculars are encouraged since we'll talk about the natural as well as cultural history of this area. This is a rain or shine tour with a box lunch included during the cruise. \$139

On Your Feet! The Musical

Golden Gate Theatre, San Francisco

Wednesday, September 19 or Saturday, September 22

The inspiring true story about heart, heritage and two people who belived in their talent - and each other - to become an international sensation: Gloria and Emilio Estafan. A jukebox musical based on the lives and music of 26-time Grammy Awardwinning husband and wife duo; the musical features a score built around the most iconic Cuban-fusion pop music of the past quartercentury made famous by Gloria Estafen, such as "Get on Your Feet!", "Rhythm is Gonna Get You", "Conga" and "Don't Want to Lose You Now". Prepare to be on your feet from start to finish. Wednesday trip includes a lite box lunch served on the way down to San Francisco, Orchestra Seating for the 2pm matinee followed by dinner on your own at Pier 39 or Fisherman's Wharf. Saturday trip includes lunch on your own in Union Square area prior to the 2pm matinee. Return to Sacramento following the show.

Wednesday, \$160; Saturday, \$185



New Vacations & Getaways

Postcards from **Puget Sound**

A

4 Days • September 8-11

* Highlights *

- · Visit charming seaside communities
- Enjoy excellent Pacific Northwest cuisine
- Seaplane flight over the San Juan Islands
- 8 meals: 1 breakfast, 2 full breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to Seattle
- 2250/2750 Gold Passport Points

Take in the stunning natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest by land, air, and sea! Idyllic coastal towns, artist enclaves, boutique shopping and upscale cuisine showcase the best of the San Juan Island.

1. Fly to Seattle and travel to Mukilteo. Lunch is at Ivar's, famous for clam chowder! Visit the historic lighthouse before boarding the Washington State Ferry headed for Whidbey Island. Langley is your first stop to shop, with an included gift card, for all things chocolate at a boutique dedicated to its aromatic qualities. We will treat you to chocolate truffles at Sweet Mona's. Best

2. Depart with a local guide and learn of Eby's Landing, the end of the Oregon Trail. Visit Admiralty Head Lighthouse on the grounds of Fort Casey, dating back to the Civil War. Stop in LaConner for an included lunch with time to stroll the main street shops. In Anacortes, the historic Majestic Inn is your home for the next two nights. Get an overview of the town's history at a local museum prior to check-in. A farm-to-table dinner at the 5th Street Bistro, located in your hotel, is yours to enjoy at leisure. The

Majestic Inn – 2 nights (B,L,D)

Western - Oak Harbor, (L)

3. Sail through the San Juan Island's picturesque scenery to Friday Harbor. Upon arrival, tour the island. Have you ever heard of the Pig War? This was a real skirmish (sort of) between American and British forces. Visit an alpaca farm, taste lavender-infused vanilla ice cream and take a seaplane to go flightseeing over the island archipelago. Lunch is in Roche Harbor at Madrona Grill. If you thought the morning sail was

beautiful, just wait until you see it at sunset. Breathtaking! (FB,L)

4. In Everett, WA, home of Boeing, learn about the company's storied past and latest groundbreaking technology during the Future of Flight tour. At the assembly plant for the 787 Dreamliner, see the assembly process for yourself! Snohomish, WA, is your lunch stop with time to browse the eclectic antique shops before an early evening flight. (FB,L)

> \$2440 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2735 single \$ave \$75 until May 31

Thanksgiving in New York

New itinerary! New experiences! Isn't it time to visit again?



6 Days • November 18-23

★ Highlights ★

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marguis Hotel on Times Square
- Tickets to two Broadway shows including one of your choosing
- Radio City Music Hall Rockettes Christmas Spectacular
- Theatre talk with nationally-syndicated critic Peter Filichia
- Visit Liberty and Ellis Islands
- Experience Disney's Behind the Magic
- Tour the 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 dinner cruise aboard the Bateaux New York
- Round trip airfare to/from New York's LaGuardia Airport
- Home pick-up and return
- 4000/4600 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. (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 1776-foot-tall Freedom Tower. Tonight is your first taste of Broadway. (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. If you prefer not to join us for the Ellis/Liberty excursion, you can have the entire day free. 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. In the afternoon, journey to Radio City Music Hall for the *Rockettes Christmas* Spectacular. A Thanksgiving dinner cruise follows aboard the elegant glass-roofed Bateaux New York featuring excellent food, live music and great sightseeing as the stars come out over the Big Apple. (D)
- 6. The short trip to LaGuardia Airport for your noontime flight brings Thanksgiving in New York to a close.

13 seats remain at press time. \$3995 p.p./dbl occ., \$4570 single \$ave \$125 until May 31

17th Annual **Christmas Mystery Tour**

5 Days • November 29 - December 3

This trip completely sold out from Preview Day responses. Because the trip doesn't depart for 7 months, we encourage you to put your name on the wait list if you would like to go. There undoubtedly will be some cancellations.

\$2215 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2480 single

An Apple Farm Christmas

Featuring Hearst Castle all decked out for Christmas



4 Days • December 4-7

"Deck the halls with boughs of holly" is not just a song they play at the Apple Farm Inn over in San Luis Obispo. Staying at this quaint boutique hotel is like staying at your grandmother's home – *if* she had knic-knacs on every flat surface and holiday trimmings on every spindle and post. Best of all, fresh baked cookies greet you every evening by the fireplace. A holiday favorite for Sports **Leisure** travelers for many years, this Inn is classic Christmas. Add the grandeur of the Hearst Castle and their decorations and you will be inspired to come home and "deck your halls". This early December holiday trip includes three nights at the décorated Apple Farm Inn; a daytime tour of the grand rooms of the Hearst Castle; and other local activities to get you into the holiday spirit. There will even be a few opportunities for you to do some last minute holiday shopping.

- 1. Begin with a drive down through the western side of the Central Valley, arriving at Harris Ranch Inn for lunch. Continue to the coast, arriving in San Luis Obispo in the late afternoon. Tonight, enjoy the cozy comfort of the Inn along with a few cookies. Apple Farm Inn – 3 nights (L)
- **2.** A hot breakfast prepares you for a day of touring along the Central Coast. First up, visit the Elephant Seal Rookery in San Simeon. December is the month the females arrive to give birth to their 70 pound pups! Then, you will tour the Grand Rooms of Hearst Castle and have some time on the grounds. First called, Sam's Hill, this home is definitely an enchanted castle in December. In the afternoon, browse the little shops in

ACTIVITY METER

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

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

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

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

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 attitudes.

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.

Cambria. Upon our return to the Apple Farm Inn, we will enjoy a little holiday reception. (FB,L)

3. Morro Bay is a quaint coastal village with plenty of shopping, great clam chowder and waterfront views. Start with a visit to the Natural History museum for an overview of the area; then drop down 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. Tonight, downtown San Luis Obispo comes alive with their weekly Farmer's Market, voted one of the best in the entire state. A short trolley ride takes you to all the festivities; discover local produce, listen to live music and of course, enjoy the



11

local foods served up fresh for dinner. Shops along Higuera Street and neighboring streets are open for the evening. (FB)

4. Begin your last day with another hot and hearty breakfast. On our return to Sacramento, we make a brief stop in Salinas for lunch at the Steinbeck House. This quintessential American author truly has the story of local boy "done good". While his writings were very controversial at the time they were written, at least by many from his home town, today Salinas is proud of their Nobel Prize winning author. 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 to find the transfer to your home provided by our local car service. (FB, L)

This holiday vacation includes door to door service, roundtrip transportation aboard SuperCoach III, accommodations, 6 meals (3FB,3L), all tours and attractions listed, and the services of a **Sports Leisure** Vacations Tour Director; Ramona Goodge. 1200/1400 Gold Passport Points.

> \$1165 p.p./dbl occ., \$1360 single \$ave \$40 until May 31

A Midwest Christmas Celebration

5 Days • December 6-10

★ Highlights ★

M

- 4 nights Embassy Suites Hotel; nightly complimentary cocktails
- · An evening of Renaissance Period Christmas festivities
- Outstanding holiday theatre and symphony performances
- Genuine Midwest hospitality and comfort food
- 12 Meals: 4 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 3 lunches, 4 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to Omaha, NE
- 2350/2600Gold Passport Points

Revel in the Christmas spirit in Omaha, the crossroads of America! Come celebrate Christmas across a spectrum of history. culture and spirituality. There is something for everyone to enjoy!

1. Arrive in Omaha in time for an early dinner. What's for dinner? Midwestern

Omaha beef, of course! Drive through holiday lights on the way to your downtown hotel, conveniently located across the street from the historic Old Market full of boutique shops and restaurants. Embassy Suites Omaha Old Market – 4 nights (D)

- 2. At the Durham Museum located in a beautifully renovated Art Deco train station, pause in the main hall for a picture in front of the soaring lighted tree then peruse exhibits featuring the history of this major rail hub. As a harpist plays on, lunch is served in elegance at the Joslyn Castle, before a tour of the mansion. At Father Flanagan's Boy's Town, established as a safe place for wayward boys, it now serves children in need nationwide. Tour the grounds and hear the heartwarming, inspirational story. Rest this afternoon before attending the Madrigal Christmas Feaste, a 16th century inspired dinner theatre show. Raise a glass of wassail to the season! (FB,L,D)
- 3. On a guided city tour, follow Omaha's timeline from Lewis & Clark's expedition, to Warren Buffet's billions right into present day as a major center for the finance, construction and insurance industries. At the Joslyn Art Museum (yep, the same Joslyn's as the castle) enjoy a casual lunch before time to explore the galleries along with a special exhibit "American Quilts" on loan from renowned Shelbourne Museum. Shop the boutiques of the Old Market this afternoon before a lively Greek dinner at St. Nicholas Church. Your evening



Scrooge tells Chris how to ruin Christmas

entertainment is A Christmas Carol, put on by the Omaha Community Playhouse for over 40 years. It's a top-notch production sure to knock the bah-humbug out of the biggest Scrooge! (FB,L,D)

- 4. Sunday brunch is served in the General Crook Home on the grounds of Fort Omaha following a tour of the lovingly restored property. The Omaha Symphony really knows how to celebrate the season with a Christmas Spectacular full of rousing music, dancing and comedy. An Omaha tradition not to be missed! Before turning in, join a musical historian playing music from around the world on unique and curious instruments. (FB,BR,D)
- **5.** Save a little room at breakfast for tortes and pastries at a Lithuanian bakery. Walk it off in the Lauritzen Gardens greenhouses where a huge poinsettia tree makes the perfect backdrop for next year's Christmas card. Got a gardener in your life? Don't skip the gift shop! After a cultural presentation and buffet lunch at The Polish House, head for the airport to catch your early evening flight home. (FB,L)

\$2350 p.p./dbl occ., \$ 2585 single \$ave \$75 until May 31

Puttin' on the Ritz for Christmas



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

3 Days • December 9-11

- 1. Sacramento Limousine picks you up from your home and delivers you to the Sports Leisure Vacation office where you will board SuperCoach III for San Jose. Enjoy the lavish award-wining 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 a holiday craft class where you will create a terrarium. Select from over 30 different ingredients to craft your own living world in a large glass ornament. (L)

3. Enjoy a free morning at the resort and a hosted lunch before heading back home.

This package includes door-to-door service, deluxe motorcoach transportation, all attractions listed above, and 3 meals (1BR,2L). 1400/1600 Gold Passport Points

> \$1355 p.p./dbl occ., \$1585 single \$ave \$40 until May 31

> > M

Christmas at The Davenport

Stay in a landmark hotel

4 Days • December 23-26

1st Day - Sun., Dec. 23

Arrive in Spokane in early afternoon. Enjoy lunch at the Spokane Club, a private facility that is the city's finest. A stop at Bing Crosby's home gives you the opportunity to see a huge collection of memorabilia. Sing along to White Christmas while you are there. Check into the Davenport in the heart of downtown Spokane. (L)

2nd Day - Mon., Dec. 24

Travel east past Coeur d'Alene to the Cataldo Mission. The oldest building in Idaho, it was built by Native Americans and Jesuit Missionaries in 1853. Learn the story of the "black robes," and in the Visitors Center, see Sacred Encounters, a world class \$3 million dollar exhibit. It tells the story of the missionaries' arrival in the Northwest. There is also a stop at Beauty Bay on the lake, where hundreds of bald eagles pause to dine on salmon during their annual migration. Be sure to have your camera at the ready!

Back in Coeur d'Alene, there's time for lunch and a chance to browse the shops. Dinner tonight at the Roberts Mansion, a Victorian Queen Anne style home restored to its original charm. There is a tour of the home before dinner. We will offer a Christmas Eve mass this evening with transportation by coach or taxi. (FB,L,D)

3rd Day – Tues., Dec. 25 – Christmas

After breakfast this morning, enjoy a tour of your landmark hotel. We have two gift exchanges today, a real one where you bring the gifts (\$20 max. value); and the White Elephant exchange where WE bring the gifts and you steal them from each other. Loads of fun! Dine together on a Christmas feast in the hotel, and in the late afternoon (it gets dark around 4:00pm in Spokane this time of the year) and early evening, see some of the holiday lights the city is famous for. (FB,D)

4th Day - Wed., Dec. 26

Enjoy breakfast at your leisure this morning. There could be an attraction added before departure. Our return flight departs about 1pm, arriving in Sacramento

at 3pm. (FB)

The price of the trip is \$1665 p.p./dbl. occ., \$1870 single. The price includes airfare, 7 meals and all attractions and admissions as listed. As noted, this is a preliminary itinerary. More will be added, some changes may be made.

\$1665 p.p./dbl occ., \$1870 single \$ave \$50 until **May 31**





3 Days • December 30 - January 1

★ Highlights ★

- Champagne Sunday Brunch aboard the RMS Queen Mary
- A Salute to Vienna performed at the Walt Disney Music Hall
- New Year's Eve dinner buffet and hosted toast
- Reserved parade seating, commemorative souvenir pin and program - pre-parade viewing of the building of the floats
- 5 Meals: 2 full breakfast, 1 brunch, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to Southern California
- 1750/1900 Gold Passport Points
- 1. Fly to Los Angeles and begin with a decadent Champagne Sunday Brunch aboard the famed RMS Queen Mary. Hear of her elegant past and contribution to the allied forces during WWII on a guided tour. At the Walt Disney Concert Hall, dancers twirl in beautiful ball gowns as the symphony plays Strauss waltzes and singers perform lively operattas during A Salute to Vienna, a worldwide New Year's tradition! Check into your hotel for the next two nights. Hilton

LAX - 2 nights (BR)

2. Visit the Float Construction Barns in Pasadena this morning where the spectacular floats take shape. It's a frantic time as flowers, seeds and greenery are attached in the final hours. This afternoon rest up and prepare for the evening festivities. Your hotel is a hub of activity! Enjoy a New Year's Eve Buffet and raise a toast to the ball drop in NY's Times Square.

(FB,D)

3. Stand and salute as an Air Force flyover sets the day into motion! The beautifully decorated floats are sure to capture your imagination, and the beat of the marching bands will have your toes tapping! Enjoy it all from your reserved seating. You'll receive an official Rose Parade seat cushion, program and souvenir pin. At the parade's conclusion lunch is served at the Tam O'Shanter, known for their prime rib and Yorkshire pudding



Learn about the history of The Davenport on your docent-lead guided tour

13

before an early evening flight home. (FB,L) \$1725 p.p./dbl occ., \$1895 single \$ave \$60 until May 31

Kauai and Maui, A Pacific Paradise



Join us for a WHALE of a good time!

8 Days • January 10-17, 2019

Note: This tour visits the islands at the peak of whale season, and the pricing reflects this peak period. Only 4 seats remaining after Preview Day. Early reservations are advised. Maximum group size is 23.

Perfect for a first time visitor yet designed with the most seasoned Hawaii traveler in mind, you're sure to experience new sights, attractions and dining you may have missed on your own. While we do include some of the tried and true Hawaiian staples, they are presented from a different perspective. For example, Kauai's Waimea Canyon is a must-see when on the island, but how about viewing it from a charter flight? Sometimes, it's all about perspective. Learn about the whales, meet the people, taste the food. Come see Hawaii through fresh eyes!

★ Highlights ★

- 7 nights ocean view accommodations
- Tasty, fun and imaginative Island Cuisine
- Whale watching cruise at the height of the season
- Flightseeing over Kauai's lush tropical iungles
- Exciting live theater and musical performances
- 14 meals: 6 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to Lihue/from Kahului
- 5000/5850 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Directors: Chris and Mark
- 1. Fly to Lihue, Kauai and check into your newly renovated hotel. Dinner is in Poipu at Plantation Gardens, popular with locals. The young chef has completely revamped the menu and whips up impressive fare featuring fresh local ingredients in a lovely setting. Courtyard Marriott Coconut Beach – 3 nights (D)
- 2. Chocolate is food of the Gods! Maybe that's a stretch, but it has greatly shaped civilization. You'll learn about how this magical bean made its way from the New

World to Europe and back at Steelgrass Chocolate. Sample chocolate from around the world. Go holo-holo (Hawaiian for "relaxing drive") along the southern coast to lunch at a funky little local restaurant. Dessert is Lilikoi Chiffon Pie from the awardwinning bakery across the street. Yummy! We take our time making our way back stopping for Kauai Coffee, cookies, gourmet salts and locally produced small batch jams. The evening is yours to kick back and relax. (FB,L)

- **3.** Get a bird's eye view of the Garden Isle on a charter flight. Soar over Waimea Canyon dubbed the Grand Canyon of the Pacific, fly along the breathtaking beauty of the Napali Coast and Hanalei Bay. Afterwards drive the scenic Royal Coconut Coast past Princeville to Hanalei. Many scenes from the blockbuster movie Jurassic Park were filmed here in the lush tropical jungles. A late lunch is in Kilauea before a picture stop at the lighthouse on the bluff. (FB,L)
- 4. Catch a short direct inter-island flight to Maui this afternoon, but not before a decadent Sunday Brunch at Gaylord's with all your expected favorites, fresh tropical fruits and authentic island offerings... Ahi Tuna Benedict, anyone?... you won't leave

hungry! On Maui, visit the Maui Tropical Plantation. While admittedly touristy, it's one of the best gift shops in the islands. Your tram driver will discuss the local flora and fauna as you wind through the property. After a fun and tasty stop on the way to your hotel, check into your ocean view accommodations. Enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel. Royal Lahaina Resort - 4 nights (BR,D)

- 5. This time of year, Hawaii has some visitors that set up home in the shallow waters between Maui, Molokai and Lanai; humpback whales! Take a cruise to see mothers interact with their calves, males compete for dominance and hear underwater whale songs. Truly spectacular! Spend the afternoon shopping the boutiques in Lahaina with time for lunch on your own. After freshening up at the hotel, the creation myths, culture and history of Hawaii come to life on stage in U'lalena. Live music mixed with ancient chants and melodic voices all intertwine in this dramatic theatrical retelling. (FB)
- 6. Travel up the slopes of Haleakala to Maui's upcountry for a most unique dining experience. At O'o Farms, learn about organic gardening. Everything is prepared
 - on-site by your chef and the menu features fresh seafood. island raised meats and hot fluffy focaccia bread right from the brick oven. As you sit for lunch the cool fog evaporates, revealing stunning views of the ocean and town below. (FB,L)
 - 7. After a leisurely morning, head to lunch at the Hali'imaile General Store, run by Chef Beverly Gannon, a pioneer of Hawaii Island Cuisine. Prepare for cuteness overload at the Surfing Goat Dairy Farm! Meet the herd and the adorable little kids (baby goats... not actual kids) on a tour, and taste the different cheeses produced. Refresh at the hotel then it's off to Napili Kai for a sunset dinner and slack-key guitar concert with Grammy Award Winner, Uncle George Kahumoku. A



Meet the "kids" at Surfing Goat Dairy Farm on Maui

perfect ending to a very special Hawaiian getaway! (FB,L,D)

8. After breakfast transfer to Kahului Airport for your direct afternoon flight home. (FB)

> 9 seats remain at press time. \$4975 p.p./dbl.occ., \$ 5840 single

A E **Ice Magic Festival** in the Canadian Rockies

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

6 Days • January 17-22

- **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 N.P. is one of the world's premiere destinations with unparalleled majestic mountain scenery. Your accommodations are at the iconic Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise – 3 nights (L)
- **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. 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. A guided tour of the village includes a gondola ride. 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 from (7486ft) above sea level. You will feel like you're on top of the world, when you are standing on the spacious main level observation deck.

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 an afternoon flight that returns you to Sacramento early evening. (FB)

This tour package includes door-to-door service, roundtrip air, deluxe motor coach service, all attractions and tours listed above, 7 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner and the services of a Sports Leisure tour director. 2900/3450 Gold Passport **Points**

Note: You must be prepared for cold weather 0-30 degrees. Average daytime high is 22 degrees.

\$2890 p.p./dbl occ., \$3420 single \$ave \$100 until May 31

This vacation requires a valid passport

Key West, Miami and The Everglades

Featuring Key Largo & 4 nights in Key West 7 Days • January 26 – February 1, 2019

★ Highlights ★

- Visit Florida Everglades National Park, experience an air boat ride and meet an alligator or two
- History abounds in Key West visit the Hemingway Home, The Aguarium, Truman's "Little White House." tour the island aboard the famous Old Town Trollev
- Lunch on private Sunset Key at Latitudes, a short ferry ride from Mallory Pier, a **Sports Leisure** exclusive
- A "Taste of Key West" food tour by trolley, where you sample lots of local culinary treats (including Key Lime Pie, Conch Fritters, Cuban Sandwiches)
- Day cruise on an authentic clipper ship (optional, included), Butterfly and Nature Conservatory
- Cabaret Dinner Show at La Te Da; lunch at famous Sloppy Joe's, a local landmark
- · 4 nights in Key West at the Crowne Plaza La Concha, in the heart of town on Duval Street
- Overnight Ft. Lauderdale Miami city tour featuring South Beach and Coral Gables; overnight in Key Largo
- Tour The Turtle Hospital in the Keys
- Roundtrip air to Ft. Lauderdale (United),

- return from Key West (Delta)
- 13 meals: 2 breakfasts, 4 full breakfasts. 2 lunches, 5 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3900/4650 Gold Passport Points

Key West has become one of our most popular destinations with our annual tour selling out every year, months ahead of departure. It's a top flight experience, limited to just 25-30 travelers. Key West is a pedestrian-friendly destination, and because of that, we walk to many attractions. For that reason, we **do not** recommend this tour for travelers with serious mobility issues.

> 1 seat remain at press time \$4195 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4885 single

The World Down Under

A



Australia, Tasmania & New Zealand aboard the ms Noordam

20 Days • January 23 - February 11, 2019 ★ Highlights ★❖

- 3-night pre-cruise program in Sydney including daily breakfast and lunch
- Visit Ku-ring-gai Chase, Blue Mountains and Featherdale Wildlife parks
- Tour Sydney sites including the famous Opera House
- · All meals included on board the ms Noorrdam
- Prices include all transfers and port taxes
- Roundtrip air to Sydney/From Auckland
- Door-to-door airport service
- Fully escorted by a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director
- Gold Passport Points based on cabin The flight from California to Sydney takes a full day, but two days by the calendar as you cross the International Date Line en route. You land in Australia's most iconic city on the 25th, the eve of Australia Day – a national celebration of the country's uniqueness and diversity.

Spend three nights in Sydney's Hilton Hotel. Located in the central district between the Circular Quay and Darling Harbor, shopping, dining and nightlife are all only steps away. Guided group activities include sightseeing with visits to Homebush Bay, site of the 2000 Olympic Games, and of course a tour of the famous Sydney Opera



Travel outside the city to witness the spectacular wonders of natural Australia in all their radiance. Close to the city yet a world away, Ku-ring-gai National Park contains the most concentrated collection of Aboriginal rock engravings in the world at over 1500 sites which you'll discover by both land and sea. At Blue Mountains National Park visit Echo Point, see Three Sisters rock formation and hear ancient local legends at the Waradah Aboriginal Center. Featherdale Wildlife Park offers the chance to have your photo taken with a kloala, plus seeing kangaroos, wombats, dingoes and fairy penguins in their natural habitat.

It's time to board Holland America Line's ms Noordam on January 28 for dinner and your evening disembarkation. In the words of Goldilocks, she's not too big or too small. She's just right. A mid-sized ship (just under 2000 passengers), the ms Noordam offers graceful nautical lines, stylish public rooms, amazing food in multiple venues, shows and entertainment (how about B.B. King's Blues Club?), and fewer guests – all with an ambiance of timeless elegance where every detail shines.

Ports of call in Australia. Tasmania and New Zealand are weighted towards the latter, a reflection of many years of experience in this region. Australia may be why you are going, but New Zealand is what you'll be talking about on your return.

DATE	PORT
Jan. 28	Sydney, Australia
Jan. 29	Eden
Jan. 30	At sea
Jan. 31	Melbourne
Feb. 1	At sea
Feb. 2	Hobart, Tasmania
Feb. 3	At sea
Feb. 4	At sea
Feb. 5	Milford Sound, New Zealand
Feb. 6	Port Chalmers (Dunedin)
Feb. 7	Akaroa (Christchurch)
Feb. 8	Wellington
Feb. 9	Napier
Feb. 10	Tauranga (Rotorua)
Feb. 11	Auckland

Inside cabins start at: \$6467 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8278 single Outside cabins start at: \$6633 p.p./dbl.occ., \$ 8454 single \$ave \$150 until May 31

This vacation requires a valid passport!

All About the Water

6 Days • February 3-8, 2019

* Highlights *

- 3 nights all-suite Marriott hotel; 2 nights 'Tween Waters, a quirky fun island resort
- Meet the furry residents at The Big Cat Rescue
- See the local wildlife on two nature cruises
- Visit the Ringling Circus Museum
- Learn of Florida's Gulf Coast ecology
- 11 Meals: 5 full breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to Tampa/from Ft. Myers
- 3350/3650 Gold Passport Points

After a successful mystery tour in February, this trip is back as a known destination. Florida's Gulf Coast has a laid-back vibe, beautiful scenery and powdery white sand. Influenced by Southern culture, time moves a little slower here allowing a chance for relaxation and exploration. There's lots to see, do and taste while taking it easy.

- **1.** On arrival, travel the causeway across Tampa Bay to Clearwater Beach, onto Sand Key to your all-suite waterfront accommodations. A fine steak and seafood dinner is served waterside at your hotel. Marriott Suites on Sand Key – 3 nights (D)
- 2. Have your cameras ready, and keep your fingers out of the enclosures at the Big Cat Rescue! Meet the lions, tigers, cheetahs and more that call the sanctuary home. After, you'll have a chance to give alligator a try at lunch. It is Florida, after all! In Tarpon Springs, a thriving Greek community, take a cruise out to a small key in the middle of the Gulf of Mexico to hunt for seashells. The dolphin love to hitch a ride in the boat's wake and play in the waves! Back at the hotel, watch as the sky changes brilliant shades of orange and pink at sunset while you relax on your patio. (FB,L)
- 3. With a local guide, we go back in time to Ybor City, a Cuban enclave that was once the cigar capitol of the world. After lunch, visit a cigar manufacturer where you can pick up a Cuban-style stogie for yourself or a friend. En route back to your hotel, make a stop at Ron Jon's for fun T-shirts and beach gear, an East Coast institution known by every surfer dude! (FB,L)
- 4. Head to Sarasota and The Ringling Museum. Does that name sound familiar? It should! Mr. Ringling ran the circus in the



Get a hands on lesson about Florida's Gulf Coast Ecosystem on Sanibel Island

early 20th century. Take a guided tour of the circus museum and see his private train car. Enjoy free time to explore the lovely grounds or take in the amazing to-scale model of the traveling circus. Lunch is at the museum restaurant before continuing to the Edison-Ford Winter Estates in Ft. Myers. Henry Ford utilized Thomas Edison's invention, the light bulb, on his automobiles and the two shared a great friendship. On Sanibel Island, your hotel is situated between two bodies of water, hence the name. 'Tween Waters Resort – 2 nights (FB,L)

- **5.** The tranquil waters of Tarpon Bay host all kinds of wildlife, even the elusive manatee. You might just see them playing off the docks at your hotel. Aboard a pontoon cruise, your naturalist guide will point out the many different birds and bring the ecology of the bay to life. Stop for lunch at an island favorite before visiting the Bailey-Mathews National Shell Museum. The afternoon is yours to spend as you wish. Relax on the beach, by the pool or take an optional excursion to the Sanibel Historical Village for a glimpse of island life 100 years ago. Tonight, place your bets and cheer loudly during the crab races. You read that right, crab races. It's truly one of the silliest, yet most fun events! Dinner is served at the upscale hotel restaurant. (FB,L,D)
- **6.** Enjoy a leisurely morning before flying from Ft. Myers in the early afternoon. (FB) \$3030 p.p./dbl occ., \$3625 single \$ave \$75 until May 31

Bryce Canyon Winter Festival



Featuring Ice Castles at the Homestead Resort

6 days • February 13-18, 2019

1. Fly direct on Southwest Airlines to Salt Lake City. Travel through the Wasatch Mountains to the town of Midway. Your resort features a unique attraction the oneof-a-kind Homestead Crater. Take a soak in this geothermal spring, hidden within a 55-foot tall, beehive-shaped limestone rock. Tonight, also on property is the Ice Castles featuring ice-carved tunnels, frozen thrones, and towers that reach astonishing heights. LED lights frozen inside 25 million pounds of ice twinkle adding a magical ambiance



Seeing Bryce Canyon at its winter's best, will make a lasting memory

to the already awe-inspiring structures. Homestead Resort (L)

- 2. Travel south into the beautiful red rock canyonlands of southern Utah. Learn about the first man to raft the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon at the John Wesley Powell Museum. Holiday Inn Express, Green River (B,L)
- 3. We make our way to Bryce Canyon National Park today on one of the most scenic roads in the state! First stop is Goblin Valley with its landscape covered with bizarre sandstone formations. Pass through Capitol Reef National Park, over Boulder Mountain and travel scenic Hwy 12 en-route to Bryce. A day you will not soon forget. Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel - 3 nights (B,L)
- **4-5.** The next two days will be spent at the Bryce Canyon Winter Festival. There will be many options to choose from including park ranger walks along the rim of Bryce Canyon to photograph the amazing contrast of the white snow covering the colorful sandstone formations called Hoodoo's. Maybe you would like to try snow shoeing? How about a geology talk or night time star gazing with a ranger? Outdoor activities will be dependent on weather and snowfall. There will also be indoor clinics and demos, photography workshops, family search classes, line dancing at Ebenezer's Barn and Grill and

watercolor classes to name just a few. When the schedule comes out you will get to choose your activities. (2B)

6. Today we head to Las Vegas for our flight home stopping in St. George for a hosted lunch along the way. (B,L)

This tour package includes door-to-door service, roundtrip air, deluxe motor coach service, all attractions and tours listed above, 9 meals: 5 breakfasts, and 4 lunches; and the services of a Sports Leisure tour director. 1900/2150 Gold Passport Points

\$1885 p.p./dbl occ., \$ 2140 single \$ave \$60 until May 31

New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast



Southern hospitality, heritage and cuisine are calling you to the coast!

6 Days • March 10-15, 2019

* Highlights *

- 3 nights in the Sheraton New Orleans
- 2 nights at the luxurious Beau Rivage in
- Scenic New Orleans driving and French Quarter carriage tours
- Visit the National World War II Museum and St. Louis Cemetery
- Tour Biloxi and Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Shrine
- Shrimping cruise followed by dockside shrimp boil



- 10 fabulous meals including Court of Two Sisters and Brennan's: Daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to New Orleans
- 2450/2700 Gold Passport Points
- 1. New Orleans celebrates her tricentennial this year. Why not plan a visit (or a return trip) to toast this great city, famous for its food, history and ability to make a party out of every situation, no matter how bleak. I once heard someone say, "If the hurricane is too weak we just add rum." That pretty much sums it up. Fly to New Orleans and transfer to your well-located Canal Street hotel overlooking the *Vieux Carré* – perhaps better known as the French Quarter. Dinner tonight is served at the Court of Two Sisters hidden away in the heart of the Quarter.
- 2. The morning opens with a true New Orleans tradition: Breakfast at Brennan's. Save room for the Bananas Foster, a dish invented here. Only here will you get dessert with breakfast! Take a driving tour of the city in the afternoon featuring the beautiful Garden District and one of the mysterious above-ground cemeteries. How about a pub crawl once the stars come out? (FB)

Sheraton New Orleans – 3 nights (D)

- 3. Much of the day is free to do as much or little as you please. Your Tour Director will provide a long list of suggestions. In the evening, learn the secrets of great Cajun and Creole chefs at the New Orleans School of Cooking, followed by a horse-drawn carriage ride through the romantic French Quarter. (FB,D)
- 4. Start the day with beignets and café au lait at world-famous Café du Monde. The National WWII Museum has grown into a massive, world-class museum covering four square blocks. To fuel you through your visit, take a midday break in BB's Stage Door Canteen for lunch with The Victory Belles, a dynamic female vocal trio who celebrate the music of the 1940s in the style of the Andrew Sisters. You'll also visit the museum's unique 4-D theatre for their acclaimed production. Beyond All Boundaries. Onward to Biloxi and your fabulous accommodations located on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Feeling lucky? Exciting casino action awaits at this MGM resort. Beau Rivage - 2 nights (B,L,D)

- **5.** A mid-morning shrimping cruise is followed by a dockside shrimp boil for your lunchtime pleasure. Want to eat like a local? This is it! Discover the gulfside town of Biloxi on a guided tour followed by a visit to Beauvoir, the retirement home of the one and only president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, and the neighboring Davis Presidential Library. (FB,L)
- 6. Until our return air is finalized, we can't yet say what adventures await on the last day, except this: It ends with a drive back to Louis Armstrong International Airport in New Orleans bringing your adventure to a close. (FB)

\$2420 p.p./dbl occ., \$2660 single \$ave \$75 until May 31

The Colorful Carolina Coast



Meander the beautiful Southern Atlantic coastline from Norfolk to Jacksonville

10 Days • March 19-28, 2019

★ Highlights ★

- Visit North Carolina's Outer Banks, Kitty Hawk, Wilmington and the USS North Carolina
- See South Carolina's Myrtle Beach, Brookgreen Gardens, Charleston and Ft. Sumter
- · Enjoy Georgia's first city, Savannah, and historic Jekyll Island
- 2-night stays oceanfront on Myrtle Beach and in Charleston and Savannah's Historic Districts
- Overnights in Norfolk, the Outer Banks and New Bern
- 17 meals: 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Round trip air to Norfolk/from Jacksonville
- 4300/4850 Gold Passport Points
- 1. Travel east to Norfolk, Virginia, your gateway to the colorful Carolina coast.

Quality Inn Lake Wright

- 2. Drive along one of America's most unique and scenic geological features, the Outer Banks. Your stops include the birthplace of flight, Kitty Hawk National Monument, and the great Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. Breakwater Inn, Hatteras, NC (FB,L,D)
- 3. Two ferries through Pamlico Sound

highlight this day of travel which includes lunch served on tiny Ocracoke Island, once the pirate Blackbeard's secret hideaway. Rest well in historic New Bern, Carolina's Royal Capital City and birthplace of Pepsi Cola. New Bern DoubleTree Hotel (B,L)

4-5. Say hello to Wilmington, North Carolina's principal port, with a visit to the battleship USS North Carolina for a tour and lunch. Myrtle Beach awaits where your home is an oceanfront condominium with a million dollar view. A lazy day on the beach, dinner and a live musical revue at the Alabama Theatre, the Strand's most popular showplace, are on tap for the second day. Beach Cove Resort – 2 nights (FB,L,D)

- 6. Brookgreen Gardens, the nation's largest outdoor sculpture display, is your host for a beautiful morning. Continue south to Charleston for a harbor cruise to Fort Sumter National Monument where the first shots of the Civil War were fired in 1861. Your hotel is on the city's most famous and fashionable street. Meeting Street Inn - 2 nights (L)
- 7. Begin the day with a city tour by horse and carriage. Following you'll have free time to join your Tour Director for a stroll to the Battery, take in a museum, shop the City Market or repose in your historic accommodations! (B,D)
- 8. Next you're off to the shining city of Savannah. In the evening, a mouth-watering dinner served riverfront in Georgia's second oldest building. DoubleTree Hotel Historic District – 2 nights (B,D)
- 9. A morning trolley tour passes sites related to Savannah's rich past and present. You'll even hop out at a few. Later in the afternoon, feast to your heart's content at a traditional "Low Country Boil" dinner served with libations on Tybee Island, Savannah's beach. (FB,D)
- 10. Depart for Jekyll Island, hideaway of the rich and famous a century ago. Dine in the historic Millionaire's Village, then head to Jacksonville for your return flight to Sacramento. (FB,L)

\$4260 p.p./dbl occ., \$4850 single \$ave \$150 until May 31

Visit us 24/7 on the web at: www.sportsleisure.com

The Tour Calendar (Previously Announced)

Crater Lake and the **Umpqua National** Scenic Byway



Featuring natural scenic wonder in Oregon 6 Days · July 3-8

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

* Highlights *

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

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

> 8 seats remain at press time. \$1880 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2230 single

Planes and Trains of the Pacific Northwest



Discover rail and aviation history and industry in Oregon and Washington

4 Days • August 3-6

★ Highlights ★

- Ride the Oregon Pacific Railroad along the Willamette River and the Snoqualmie Valley Railroad near Seattle
- Travel from Vancouver to Tacoma on board Amtrak's Cascade
- · Visit the Pearson Air Museum and Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, home of Howard Hughes' Spruce Goose
- History is brought to life at the Flying Heritage & Combat Armor Museum
- Watch wide body jets assembled before your eyes at Boeing's Future of Flight
- Roundtrip airfare to Portland/from Seattle

- 5 meals: 2 brunches, 2 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2000/2200 Gold Passport Points \$1955 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2175 single \$ave \$25 until May 31

The Alaskan Explorer **Cruise with Holland America**



Seminars and workshops on board conducted by O Magazine

8 Days • August 10-18

★ Highlights ★

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

The cruise will feature special appearances by contributors from O, The Oprah Magazine as well as thought leaders from The SuperSoul 100. A list of guest speakers, hosts and activities will be announced closer to departure.

Our cruise/tour package will include a pre-

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

Inside cabins start at: \$2280 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3475 single Outside cabins start at: \$2670 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4220 single This vacation requires a valid passport!

Great Cities of Canada



Ottawa, Quebec City and Montreal are yours to discover

7 Days • August 10-16

★ Highlights ★

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



Explore the cobblestone streets of Old Quebec City with a local guide



- 3600/3050 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: Chris Galloway
 2 seats remain at press time.
 \$3591 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4041 single

This vacation requires a valid passport!

A Play on the Lake, A Ride to the Sky



"Beehive" at the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival; the Aerial Tram at Squaw Valley

2 Days • August 19-20

Come with us to Lake Tahoe for a fun, coach only overnighter featuring the 1960's musical, *Beehive*. An exuberant jukebox celebration of women musicians from the 60's; *Beehive* transports audiences on a nostalgic musical journey. You're sure to be singing along to familiar tunes like "My Boyfriend's Back" and "It's My Party" and "The Name Game".

Join your fellow **Sports Leisure** travelers for a late morning trip to Truckee. Check into the **Hampton Inn** with a little time to freshen up and perhaps don your best 60's apparel (optional) before dinner at Moody's. The outdoor venue at Sand Harbor is perfect for a summer night of music with spectacular views of Lake Tahoe as the backdrop!

After breakfast at the hotel depart for Olympic Valley. Squaw Valley is one of the largest ski areas in the United States, and was host site of the 1960 Winter Olympics. A tram ride to the summit provides breathtaking views of the valley, and takes you 2,000 feet up to High Camp. Though the restaurant at High Camp is closed for the summer you can visit the Olympic Museum for a self-guided tour. We'll make a brief stop in Truckee where we'll meet with a local historian and have some time for shopping in this charming Sierra Nevada town. Now it's time for lunch in Auburn before heading back to Sacramento.

This tour includes accommodations, tickets to the play and the tram ride; three meals (1B,1L,1D) and the services of a **Sports Leisure Vacations** Tour Director. 900/1000 Gold Passport Points

\$870 p.p./dbl.occ., \$955 single Add door-to-door service for \$80 p.p \$ave \$25 until May 31

The Magnificent Mendocino Coast



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

4 Days • August 14-17

★ Highlights ★

- Visit the home and museum of early California artist, Grace Hudson, followed by an overnight stay in Ukiah.
- The Mendocino Botanical Gardens offer beautiful display gardens and its trail to the ocean bluffs is spectacular.
- At Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, the docents are prepared to share stories of the keepers and the surrounding community.
- The old Fort Bragg mill site is being restored into Noyo Headlands Park with the Noyo Marine Center
- After a couple of years of challenges, the historic Skunk Train now offers an abbreviated journey along Pudding Creek Estuary.
- Our Fort Bragg lodging for two nights will be overlooking Noyo Harbor at the familiar Harbor Lite Lodge.

This tour includes door-to-door service, accommodations, transportation by coach, all attractions as listed above, 9 meals (3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners), Tour Director: **Jim Pelley** 1450/1700 Gold Passport Points

6 seats remain at press time. \$1440 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1670 single

The International Selkirk Loop



Featuring a breathtaking drive through the Selkirk Mountains

7 Days • August 20-26

The Selkirk Loop is a 280-mile international scenic drive encircling the Selkirk Mountains of eastern Washington, northern Idaho and southeastern British Columbia. The entire loop follows alongside a river or lakeshore, with vast views of the valleys and mountains one minute, intimate water scenes or dense forest the next.

★ Highlights ★

- Multiple-night stays in waterview rooms:
 2 nights in Bonners Ferry, ID and 3 nights in Nelson, BC
- Visit restored SS Moyie and step back to the era of the sternwheelers
- Learn about the culture of the Doukhobors at Castlegar
- Enjoy a night of contemporary luxury at the Davenport Towers, and a decadent Sunday Brunch at the Davenport Hotel
- Roundtrip air to/from Spokane
- 11 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 1 brunch,
 5 lunches
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3300/3750 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: Ramona Goodge
 6 seats remain at press time.
 \$3270 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3745 single

This vacation requires a valid passport!

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.



Olympia, the Sound and The Mountain



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

4 Days • August 31 – September 3 ★ Highlights ★

- · 3-night stay overlooking Budd Bay
- · Lunch in the grand Paradise Inn Dining Room at Mt. Rainier National Park
- Cruise aboard the historic steamboat. Virginia V
- · Enjoy Olympia's Harbor Days Festival, a short walk from hotel
- Sample tastes and treats from the Pacific Northwest
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- 8 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2100/2350 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: Ramona Goodge 8 seats remain at press time. \$2065 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2320 s





3 Days • September 6-8

1. A limousine picks you up from your home and delivers you to the Sports Leisure Vacations' office where you will board SuperCoach III for Reno. Depart Sacramento late morning with an arrival in Reno at 3pm. Your accommodations are located in the heart of "The Biggest Little City" and connected to the Eldorado and Circus Circus hotels. The evening is at your leisure. Silver Legacy - 2 nights

2. This morning is balloon mass ascension! You will have Cloud 9 VIP Club seating which includes heated indoor/outdoor seating on the field, a catered breakfast, \$10 credit to the merchandise booth, a special edition champagne glass and a hosted bar with champagne, bloody Mary's and mimosas. During the morning there will also be target competitions where pilots drop bean bags on targets, and shopping along Balloon Boulevard. Lunch will be hosted with the evening at your leisure. (B,L)

3. Back to the launch field this morning to capture some more spectacular photos and pick up that last minute souvenir. We head



Cruise under the famous Tacoma Bridge and pass the islands of the southern Puget Sound, aboard the historic Virginia V

back to the Silver Legacy to check out and have lunch before departing to Sacramento where your limousine will deliver you home. This package includes door-to-door service, deluxe motorcoach transportation. attractions listed above and the services of a Sports Leisure Tour Director. Balloon events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. 850/950 Gold Passport Points (B)

> \$850 p.p/dbl.occ., \$945 single \$ave \$25 until May 31

Zion and Bryce **National Parks**



Featuring landscapes from another world

5 Days • September 16-20

★ Highlights ★

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

Visit two of Utah's spectacular National Parks on this scenic getaway. Even the travel between the two parks is beautiful. Enjoy first-rate theater near St. George and best of all, it's only a short one-plane ride awav.

> 7 seats remain at press time. \$2060 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2345 single

Rails Around Colorado



Three scenic train rides during fall foliage 7 Days • September 22-28

★ Highlights ★

• Three scenic trains: Royal Gorge, Cumbres & Toltec, Durango & Silverton (note this trip is offered at the height of the fall color season In the Rockies)

Join Scott as he takes you in a circle around the state of Colorado, pausing to ride the scenic trains which dot the landscape.

1 seat remains at press time. \$3590 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3995 single

Moab, Gateway to **Arches National Park**



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

5 Days • October 1-5

★ Highlights ★

- Explore majestic Arches National Park
- Visit Dead Horse State Park (the most amazing view in the Southwest!)
- Thrill to a jet boat tour on the Colorado River
- Experience flightseeing over Canyonlands National Park
- Discover Gateway Canyons
- Roundtrip air to/from Grand Junction, CO



- 9 meals: 4 full breakfasts. 5 lunches
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2600/2900 Gold Passport Points
- Tour Director: Scott Angeletti
 \$2690 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3010 single
 \$ave \$40 until May 31

New England Fall Foliage Spectacular



Leaf peeping in Vermont, New Hampshire, Portland and Boston

8 Days • October 6-13

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

★ Highlights ★

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

New Mexico, Land of Enchantment



Carlsbad Caverns National Park and the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

7 Days • October 9-15

★ Highlights ★

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

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

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

6 seats remain at press time. \$2955 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3385 single

Leafin' on a Jet Plane



A Mystery Tour that's all about fall colors

6 Days • October 14-19

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

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

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

7 seats remain at press time. \$2635 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2965 single

Sedona and Grand Canyon National Park



Featuring a visit to Bearizona Wildlife Park

5 Days • October 21-25

- 2 nights at the Hilton Sedona Resort
- · Lunch at the Enchantment Resort
- Trolley tour to the Chapel of The Holy Cross
- Lunch at the historic El Tovar Hotel
- Guided tour along the rim of the Grand Canyon
- 9 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 4 lunches
- Tour Director: Scott Angeletti
- 2200/2550 Gold Passport Points
 \$2190 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2520 single
 \$ave \$40 until May 31



On Mystery Tours, you'll enjoy the finest "accommodations." This is an actual photo from one of the stops on the trip. (Despite what appears, they are NOT porta-potties. Or so they say...)

Route 66 West - Oklahoma City to Santa Monica

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



10 Days • October 23 - November 1

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

Please view the day-by-day itinerary on line, or call our office for a copy.

The trip includes airfare to OKC/from Burbank to Sacramento (fares from other cities are available), door-to-door service in Sacramento and where available, 23 meals as listed (7FB,2B,8L,6D), the services of a Sports Leisure Tour Director (perhaps even two), all admissions. 3900/4450 Gold **Passport Points**

> 1 seat remains at press time. \$3885 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4410 single

Death Valley and Nevada Ghost Towns



Join Ramona and Mark - two nights in Death Valley, be a part of an authentic ghost hunt

6 Days • November 7-12, 2018

* Highlights *

- 2 nights Furnace Creek Ranch Death Vallev
- 2 nights in the haunted Mizpah Hotel in
- Overnight Golden Nugget Las Vegas
- Be a part of the Goodsprings Ghost Hunt - Walk the ghost town and sit in the Pioneer Saloon, "speak" to the ghosts that inhabit the old mining town
- Visit Belmont A "semi-abandoned" ghost town to explore near Tonopah
- · Ghost stories at the Mizpah; visits to the ghost towns of Goldfield, Gold Point, and Rhyolite, all with ghosts of their own
- Travel the Extraterrestrial Highway and stop at Little Ale-ee-Inn for refreshments
- Full day of Death Valley touring, featuring the Amargosa Opera House, Zabrinski Point, Badwater Salt Flats and the Devil's

Golf Course

- Roundtrip air to/from Las Vegas
- Door-to-door airport service
- 14 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners
- * Tour Directors: Ramona and Mark
- 2400/2650 Gold Passport Points \$2355 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2645 single

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.



Things to Know Before You Go:

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

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

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

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

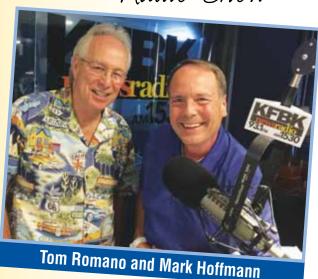
The Fine Print: Our Special Tour & Vacation Notes brochure contains the answers to many often-asked questions. A copy is sent with your reservations.

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

The Travel Guys Radio Show

Making you a **smarter** traveler...

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





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EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT COUPON

Early Registration Payment Di\$counts listed here expire on Thursday, May 31, 2018; or may be withdrawn when 50% of the available space has been reserved. To receive the discount, you must pay in full within ten days of registration. If you accept this option, the monies paid, including the cost of Cancellation Protection, are returned to you in full if you cancel more than 60 days prior to departure for US and Canadian tours or 75 days prior for International tours, regardless of the reason for cancellation. Within the time limits noted above, restrictions on refunds apply. See the Special Vacation Notes & Information brochure for complete details.

Aug. – Planes and Trains of the Pacific Northwest – **\$ave \$25**Aug. – Play on the Lake – **\$ave \$25**

Sept. - Great Reno Balloon Races - \$ave \$25

Sept. - Postcards from Puget Sound - \$ave \$75

Oct. - Moab, Gateway to Arches National Park - \$ave \$40

Oct. - Sedona and Grand Canyon - \$ave \$40

Nov. – Thanksgiving in New York – \$ave \$125

Dec. - Apple Farm Christmas - \$ave \$40

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

Dec. - Sounds of Music Christmas - \$ave \$100

Dec. - A Midwest Christmas Celebration - \$ave \$75

Dec. – Christmas at the Davenport – **\$ave \$50**

Jan. - Rose Parade & Salute to Vienna - \$ave \$60

Jan. – Ice Magic Fest. in Canadian Rockies – \$ave \$100

Jan. – Australia Cruise: World Down Under – \$ave \$150

Feb. - Bryce Canyon Winter Festival - \$ave \$60

Feb. – All About the Water – \$ave \$75

Mar. - New Orleans & Mississippi Gulf Coast - \$ave \$75

Mar. - Colorful Carolina Coast - \$ave \$150

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. The regular cost of this protection is \$15-\$295, depending on the tour price. To receive the above discounts, you must pay in full within ten days of registration and purchase the protection at the time you pay for your tour. Within 60/75 days of departure (see adjoining coupon), coverage is limited to verified medical emergencies. Please refer to the Special Vacation Notes & Information brochure for details, or call our office.

TOUR UPDATE...

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

Sold-Out Tours (waiting lists available)

Dynamic Duo: Cher & Hamilton (7/12)

Christmas in Victoria

Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound

Port, President & Pageant

National Treasures of the West

Boston Bar Harbor

Catalina Island

17th Christmas Mystery

Oregon's Coast, Carousels & Bridges

Stories of Santa Fe & Taos

Oktoberfest, Canadian Thanksgiving

Pure Michigan

Sound of Music Leavenworth

Limited Space (10 or fewer seats)

Int'l Selkirk Loop (6)
Bloomin' Victoria (1)

Mendocino (6)

Zion and Bryce (87)

Great Cities of Canada (2)

Crater Lake (8)

Rails Around Colorado (1)

Leafin' on a Jet Plane (7)

Olympia, the Sound & The Mountain 8)

Puttin' on the Ritz at Lake Tahoe (8)

Dynamic Duo: Cher & Hamilton – Jun. 27 (1)

Route 66 (OKC – Santa Monica) (1) New Mexico: Land of Enchantment (6)

Kauai and Maui (9)

Key West (1)