



# The Sports Leisure TRAVELER

6,097 Active Members • 55,077 Members Since 1979

NOV./DEC. | VOL. 44 | NO. 2 **2022**

## You are invited to a Christmas Party...



**When:** Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Where:** Lunch at the Old Spaghetti Factory & *The Lost Claus* at the B St. Theatre  
**Details:** Limited to 42 of our friends  
 Package includes transportation, 3 course lunch, a bit of holiday craziness and the 2pm matinee show  
**Price:** \$127 per person, payment due at time of reservation

With an aging body, too much cocoa and cookies, a staff of suddenly woke elves, the North Pole melting and 80 million more gifts to deliver this Christmas than last, Santa has finally hit a wall... and Mrs. Claus wants to do something about it. But will he listen?

*“The Lost Claus...”*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Just One Man’s Opinion .....	2
Clayton Place .....	3
The Barber Pole .....	4-5
Human Side.....	5
New Vacations and Getaways .....	6-8
Daycations and Theatre Outings .....	9-10
The Tour Calendar.....	10-14
Teasers.....	15
Tour Updates.....	Back Page



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

## The Travel Guys

*Radio Show*



- *Tips to make you a smarter traveler*
- *Updates for Sports Leisure Travelers*

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

Podcasts and show updates at  
[www.travelguysradio.com](http://www.travelguysradio.com)

Hosted by: Tom Romano and Mark Hoffmann

So much to share, so few lines....

## The Fun of Discovering a New Destination

After 43 years of heading up **Sports Leisure Vacations**, there's nothing that brings more joy to my heart than discovering a new place to visit. That happened in recent weeks, when I took



my first group to **Santa Barbara Sports Leisure** had been to the city a few times over the years, usually staying on the edge of town at a Best Western, or in Ventura at a Marriott Hotel. We couldn't find anyone in town that wanted our business, and the streets of Santa Barbara aren't exactly designed for a tour bus.

But after two scouting trips to recruit hotel and dining partners, we finally made it happen in a grand way. The **Harbor View Inn** has a beautiful new wing we had all to ourselves. Brand new, literally. (Full disclosure, they were not harbor view.) Awesome location, with a charming local restaurant (**Jeannine's**) right next door for breakfast each day.

It was a great four day adventure, with local sightseeing, a visit to Solvang and some fun dining adventures. **Santa Barbara** will be back on the schedule in the spring, combining some of what we did with Hearst Castle in San Simeon. I hope you will consider a visit to this beautiful, clean city. It's nickname is the **American Riviera**, and I'd have to say it's a perfect fit.

## Travel Prices are Soaring

For the first time, the catalog was released with a number of tours and cruises which had travel dates but not pricing. This was done with an eye on the ridiculous air and hotel rates, in the hope they might moderate, given a couple of months. Waiting didn't help much. Air in some markets is a little cheaper. But the cost of travel is MUCH higher than

it was pre-COVID. While I personally do expect it to come down some, wages are not going to drop and fuel prices remain high. Those are the two things driving the increases. Inflation isn't just a United States issue, it's an issue around the planet, as central banks raise interest rates and try to balance supply, demand and prices.

## The bottom line is it's going to cost more to go to our favorite places...

Air is \$200-\$300 higher to go across the country, hotels are getting 20-30% more in popular destinations. It's not just **our** tours that look expensive (they are), the entire travel world has been hit with higher prices. It pains me just to add up the pricing on trips. Ouch.

(In case you are curious, our tours are priced with a formula designed to leave us a 2-3% profit at the end of the day. Margins are small, so there's not a lot of room for discounting on our end. We present you the product, you decide if it's affordable. Shop around, and I suspect you will see it isn't just Sports Leisure trips that have taken a jump, the increases are throughout the travel industry.)

## A Preview Day Thank You

Seems like a lifetime since **Tour Preview Day** on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the KVIE Studios. A crowd of 400 people attended a total of three sessions held throughout the day. The \$10 admission collected from each attendee was donated to two local charities and Tourism Cares. Our new catalog, **Looks Like We Made It** (a post-COVID reference) was distributed.

When the doors and the phones opened up on Monday morning, we were overwhelmed. Many tours sold out within hours. It was difficult to get through on the phones. We have to work out a better system for the future, to cut down on the frustration many people felt. See **The Barber Pole** page for a list of the most requested destinations by Preview Day attendees.

## More New Tours

Because you basically stripped the shelves bare after Preview Day, we are adding new trips to the schedule. Some can be found on these pages and more will be announced in the January newsletter.

## Newsletter By E-mail

This is the first newsletter to be delivered by e-mail to most of our travelers. About 300 of you requested a mailed copy. Couple of things those of you who are receiving this by regular mail should know.

The Post Office has become incredibly **undependable**. Many of you, and I mean **many** of you, didn't receive your annual catalog by mail, or had it delayed for days or weeks. We have no control over postal delivery. We suggest, as does the post office, that you contact your local postmaster and share your concerns with him or her.

Those who asked for a hard copy of the newsletter will receive one free for now. (Starting this summer, there will be a charge for mailed copies of the newsletter.) But know the e-mail copies will arrive first. E-mail and mail will go out on the same day. When you receive the hard copy is up to your post office. We waited almost 20 years to automate this part of our operation. While we realize there are a few of you who still don't have an e-mail address, it's time for us to best serve the majority of our customers. We don't want to leave anyone behind, but we have to do what is good business, especially after waiting so long. If you have any concerns, I welcome your call.

You do know you can print the newsletter, right? And it's always available on line, 24/7/365.

And so it goes...

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

## Hello friends:

I've heard it said the pioneers were so busy making history they had no time to write it down. I know how they felt! To say I've been on the road a lot this year is an understatement, if not making history certainly making travel dreams come true for many of you. Just since Preview Day a short seven weeks ago I've been on six trips visiting five states – plus Ireland, the UK and Mexico! There's so much I want to say, but not unlike the pioneers I can never quite find the time to write it all down.



## Righting a Great Wrong!

In our 2022 Dream Book we advertised the **First-Ever Sports Leisure Vacations Mystery Tour Contest** promising a free trip to the winner. Many of you replied. I was blown away by your awesome ideas. Unable to select just one winner in my own mind, I suggested three – one each on the local, regional and national levels! Then we went quiet and I bet some of you are wondering why. Actually I know some of you are wondering because you've asked!

Tour planning is not rocket science, but it is a unique skill set many of us on staff have mastered. With every departure we bring our experience gained from past visits to the table. Indeed, one of the qualities of

**Sports Leisure** trips that people mention over and over again is our level of expertise. It is rare that the planner, the tour director or both have not previously visited every stop featured on your tour. During these visits we build relationships with the service providers, perform site inspections and do our quality checks. These tour-creation trips take time – a lot of time – followed by more time in the office making the itinerary “work.” Again the history-making pioneers come to mind. Quite honestly, we've just not had the time to put any of your ideas into motion... yet. Please stay tuned!

## In the Pipeline (Updates and Daydreams)

The “Tour Teasers” page in our 2023 Dream Book offered you a hint about the 2023 edition of our **New England Fall Foliage Spectacular**, next year featuring Vermont and the Hudson River Valley. Many of you have already put your name on the list (and there's certainly still room for more). As that tour has taken shape in my mind a presidential theme has emerged. Wasn't Calvin Coolidge from Vermont? President Lincoln's only surviving son, Robert Todd, was also a Vermonter. (His home *Hildene* is a shrine to his family's unique and powerful role in American history.) Weren't the Roosevelt's (both Eleanor and FDR) Hyde Park residents? More information will be sent to those on the Priority Notification List ASAP! Just couldn't pull it all together in time for this edition of *The Traveler*.

**Pure Michigan** in 2023 will be a return to our “UP” (Upper Peninsula) itinerary, but with a twist. Flying into Green Bay and out of Traverse City is proving to be a difficult proposition. As of this writing Michael is looking at alternate air gateways. This adds time, but also the opportunity for additional experiences. The (hopefully) final itinerary is included in these pages.

Whilst on **Autumn in Ireland** last month I asked the group, “What's next?” Two tour ideas emerged from the discussions – a return to Ireland, but staying in manor houses and castles, and Scotland to include the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in August. (Actually there were three ideas – BOTH!) I have my driver/guide/friends Gary (Ireland) and Michael (Scotland) working on itineraries to hopefully roll out in the next edition of *The Traveler*.

And finally, in a few short days Mark and I will make the trek “over the hill” to Reno for the 2022 **National Tour Association** convention. Our trade association's annual fete is the birthplace of future ideas. Who knows what we'll come home with? The stuff of dreams – travel dreams that is – I'm sure.

“Your Tour Guy,”

Clayton Whitehead, CTP  
President

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

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

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



## Topics of interest to TRAVEL CLUB MEMBERS

### Regarding Airport Assistance

On a recent tour, we had **seven** travelers request wheelchair assistance at the airport. This despite the fact that only one of the travelers used a wheelchair or walker on the tour. Two used canes.

Normally, this wouldn't be an issue. Wheelchair assistance at the airport is there for those who need help getting through the airport. Here's the challenge. When seven people request assistance at the same time (along with anyone else in the airport, arriving or departing, who may need assistance in the same time window), it can outstrip the system's ability to handle the requests. The last traveler reached the gate as the flight was boarding.

On another trip, several passengers decided they wanted a medical pre-board on a Southwest flight. Based on the Tour Director's observation at the airport, and the travelers' ability to move around on the tour, most of the people requesting the **medical pre-board** could have easily boarded without it. But then they wouldn't have been able to board early and pick out a prime seat. Could the seat opportunity have been the **real reason** some choose to pre-board?

If you truly need airport assistance, and/or pre-boarding, we understand. But if you are gaming the system to gain a seating advantage, or just to keep from having to navigate the airport, that's a problem. Keep it legit folks. Don't create service challenges for others if you don't need to. We also encourage you to look at the **tour ratings**, which will help you pick trips which match your ability level.

### Please Consider the Latest COVID Booster

**Currently, you must have your COVID vaccinations and one booster to travel with Sports Leisure Vacations. Now, there is a new booster shot** and new virus variants to go along with it. At this time, we have not changed our requirements

for travel, but it is likely coming in the next couple of months.

Why? Over the summer and fall, we have had COVID infections reported after travelers returned home from tour. When that has happened, we attempt to notify everyone in the group. To our knowledge, illness has been brief. So while the virus is still out there and you can catch it in public settings, if your vaccinations are up to date, your chances of severe illness are slim.

If it has been more than **six months** since your vaccination/booster, **please** consult your doctor about getting up to date.

### Real ID

Unless there is another extension, everyone will need to have a **Real ID** by next May in order to travel domestically. We will undoubtedly talk **a lot** about this in the months ahead, but you could be proactive and check into it right now. Follow this link, or Google "Real ID." <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/driver-licenses-identification-cards/real-id/>

### The Travelers asked...

Questions you have asked on line, at Preview Day or while on tour.

**I see our Tour Director(s) in upgraded seats on the plane on occasion. Can't help but wonder who pays for those upgrades?**

Excellent question. Because our Tour Directors are frequent travelers, they sometimes achieve "status" within hotel or airline reward programs. This sometimes results in complimentary upgrades to rooms or seats on the plane. We allow our Tour Directors to accept those rewards, because they come at no cost to the travelers or the company.

**Sports Leisure often offers a discount when a tour is announced for paying in full as opposed to just paying a deposit and not receiving the discount.**

That is true. The reason for the discounts (we refer to them as **Early Payment Discounts or EPDs**) is simple. We have found, through the years, that someone

who pays for their travels in full is **much less likely to cancel** than a traveler who just pays a deposit. By offering a discount (usually around 3%), we are cutting down on cancellations, and giving the money to our travelers who are willing to make a bigger commitment up front. Not very scientific, but it's been shaking out like that for four decades.

**I used to brag to my friends that when you traveled with Sports Leisure, your bags were handled from the start of the trip to the end. But on recent trips, I have often had to handle my own suitcase. Why the change?**

Some of the first people to disappear when COVID flared were service workers "around the edge." Bellmen and skycaps were among those who went away. But there is some good news. Recently, Southwest skycaps reappeared at the Burbank and Long Beach airports. Bellmen and baggage service at hotels is slowly returning.

One challenge is the cost. Getting one bag delivered and picked up at a hotel is now costing an average of \$10. So on a trip with 3-4 hotels and flights, you could be paying as much as \$30-40, just for luggage handling. If you aren't flying Southwest, add \$70 round trip to the airline. So you tell **Mark**, is that service worth it?

**On Sports Leisure trips, I've noticed that often the bus isn't full, particularly on longer tours. Doesn't a smaller number of travelers mean a higher trip cost?**

In a word, yes (5-7%) higher. Fewer people to share bus and tour director costs results in a slightly higher price. But it also means a better travel experience. With 25-30 people on an extended tour (instead of the customary 45-55 many companies sell) there will be more restaurants where you can order off the menu, shorter lines at restroom stops, heck... shorter lines anyplace we go.

### The Preview Day "Cards"

At Preview Day, we asked everyone to answer a couple of questions to enter into door prize drawings for the day. One

– Continued to page 5



## The Barber Pole – Con't

question we asked was, "what destination do you most want to visit." Those in attendance were told it could be someplace already in the catalog or a destination on their dream list. International destinations ranked high:

Australia  
England  
Canada  
Africa  
Ireland/Scotland  
France  
Italy  
New Zealand  
Norway/Scandinavia  
Greece  
Germany  
Portugal  
Antarctica  
South America  
Spain  
Int'l Cruises to multiple destinations

Also mentioned – Switzerland, Galapagos Islands, India, China, Tahiti, Sweden, Croatia

Here are some of the most often mentioned destinations here in our **United States** by our Preview Day friends:

Alaska  
Hawaii  
River Cruises  
New England/Maine  
California (various)  
Niagara Falls  
New York City  
Utah Parks  
Route 66  
Oregon/Washington (various)

We hear you. International trips were curtailed during COVID. You can expect to see a few more of those announced in the coming months. **Scandinavia** is available on a cruise in June.

Our latest **Hawaii** trip (Big Island and Oahu) can be found in this newsletter, we have added another **Niagara Falls** trip for September because of high demand. **New England Fall Colors** is a teaser and will be a tour in a few weeks.

## Reflections of a Boomer

I've seen fire and I've seen rain.  
I've been through the desert on a horse with no name.  
I've gone to Kansas City, I've sang in the sunshine.  
I've been on the road again, with Georgia on my mind.  
Like a rolling stone, I've given peace a chance.  
I've put my camel to bed, and danced the last dance.  
Mr. Tambourine man played a song for me,  
I've whispered words of wisdom, let it be.  
I've fell into a burning ring of fire, and walked the line,  
To all the girls I've loved before, you were always on my mind.  
I've been everywhere, I've been so lonesome I could cry,  
I've driven my Chevy to the levee when the levee was dry.  
I've been to Itchycoo Park in a yellow submarine.  
I've made the scene in a time machine.  
I've done the Hokey Pokey and turned myself around.  
I've welcomed baby back to the poor side of town.  
I've followed the tracks of my tears down a long and winding road.  
I've kept on searching for a heart of gold.  
I've sought shelter from the storm, I've sat on the dock of the bay.  
I've rocked around the clock, on a sunshiny day.  
I've knocked on Heaven's door, blowing in the wind.  
Joy to the world, those were the days my friend.  
Lay lady lay, in crimson and clover.  
It's been a hard day's night, the party's nearly over.

**Uncle Joe**

*(No idea who Uncle Joe is, but thank you for a wonderful musical trip down Memory Lane!)*

## Friends We've Lost...

Everyone on this list was a valued part of our travel family. We will miss them all. Two of our longtime baseball travelers are on this list. They'll be watching games filled with Hall of Famers in heaven, where there are only great seats and no rain outs. If you know of someone who should be listed here, please drop us a note. [marks1t@aol.com](mailto:marks1t@aol.com).

**Shirley Beebout**  
**Jim Connick**  
**Dave Doerr**  
**David Dunlop**

**Karen Egea**  
**Fred Graebe**  
**Chester Pallach**  
**Frankalee Rodriguez**

# New Vacations & Getaways

## Moab, Gateway to Arches National Park

M

Featuring 4 nights at the spectacular Red Cliffs Lodge

6 Days • May 5-9

### ★ Highlights ★

- Explore majestic Arches National Park
- Visit Dead Horse State Park (the most amazing view in the Southwest!)
- Thrilling jet boat tour on the Colorado River
- Experience flightseeing over Canyonlands National Park
- 4x4 Hummer tour
- Roundtrip air to Moab and from Denver
- 8 meals: 4 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3400/3950 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly to Moab, enjoy a hosted lunch and then board your motorcoach for a scenic drive along the Colorado River to your amazing accommodations. **Red Cliffs Lodge – 4 nights (D)**

2. Tour Arches National Park with a local guide stopping for a walk at several famous arches and viewpoints. After lunch, board a jet boat for a one-hour cruise down the Colorado River. View arches and rock climbers scaling the sheer cliff at what they call Wall Street. **(FB,L)**

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

4. Today, enjoy some free time in town. In the afternoon travel in a Hummer 4x4 vehicle to get on top of the red rock in the backcountry. **(FB,L)**

5. Travel by coach to one of the best vistas in the west at Dead Horse Point State Park where you will be 1,500 feet above the Colorado River. **(FB)**

**\$3380 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3905 single**

**\$100 Early Registration Discount**

## Pure Michigan: Mackinac and the UP – Isn't it Grand?

Explore the magnificent Keweenaw Peninsula and Mackinac Island

9 Days • September 15-23

A

### ★ Highlights ★

- 2 nights at Mackinac's famous Grand Hotel, tour by horse and carriage
- 2 nights Houghton, Keweenaw National Historic Park
- 2 nights Marquette on the shores of Lake Superior
- 1 night Green Bay - Go Packers!
- Shipwreck cruise on Lake Superior by glass bottom boat
- 18 meals: Daily breakfast, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Milwaukee/from Grand Rapids
- Door-to-door transportation
- Tour Director: **Clayton Whitehead**
- XXXX/XXXX Gold Passport Points

1. Fly away to Milwaukee and continue on to Green Bay, home of the Packers. This community is small in size, but huge in spirit. Try your luck tonight at the casino located adjacent to our hotel where numerous dinner choices await to use your bonus vouchers.

### Radisson Hotel at Oneida Casino

2. Start the day with a tour of hallowed Lambeau Field before heading north to Houghton on Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

The residents of the region are called "yoopers" (say U-pers) and you'll enjoy honorary status for the next few days.

### Country Inn & Suites – 2 nights (FB,L)

3. The Keweenaw Peninsula was where most of the country's copper was once mined. The scenery is memorable in this place where pristine nature, tiny villages and lighthouses abound. The entire day is a history lesson told by the people who live here and the legacy of those who came before. **(B,L,D)**

4. Leave the Keweenaw and head east along the shores of Lake Superior to the Shrine of Bishop Baraga and Da Yoopers Tourist Trap, because after all, we *are* tourists. A scrumptious Italian feast awaits you tonight! **Fairfield Inn by Marriott – 2 nights (B,D)**

5. Just an hour from Marquette is the small lakeside community of Munising from which you'll cruise Lake Superior to see shipwrecks on a glass-bottom boat! Along the way, Lakenenland Sculpture Park is a must-see stop. **(B,D)**

6. Push east to St. Ignace to catch the ferry for the 20-minute ride to Mackinac Island. Prepare to fall in love at first sight with its historic buildings, quaint shoppes and "no motor vehicles allowed" policy. It's a short horse-drawn carriage ride to Mackinac's iconic landmark – Grand Hotel.



A horse and carriage is the way to travel around Mackinac Island, that's the Grand Hotel in the background

Built in 1887, the lavishly-decorated Grand is prepared to satisfy your every desire this evening starting with a formal dinner and ending with live music and dancing. Best of all, you get to do it all over again tomorrow!

### Grand Hotel – 2 nights (B,L,D)

7. Discover Mackinac's natural beauty on a morning horse-drawn wagon tour. The filming location of *Somewhere in Time*, don't miss the Grand's historical exhibits (yes, there IS a framed portrait of Jane Seymour), art gallery, horse stables, Cupola Bar and have a sit on the front porch which, at 660 feet long, is the longest in the world! (FB,D)

8. Take the ferry back to the mainland and travel along the scenic east shore of Lake Michigan on the LP (Lower Peninsula) with lunch served in the quaint community of Petoskey. In nearby Acme you'll discover an incredible collection of mechanical instruments and antique phonographs at The Music House. The centerpiece of the museum, a huge Belgian pipe organ, is simply amazing, and all instruments are in perfect working order as you'll see...and hear! Continue on for an evening arrival in Grand Rapids. **DoubleTree by Hilton (FB,L)**

9. Grand Rapids has so much to see and do such as the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and the stunning Meijer Gardens. Return to Sacramento on a late afternoon flight. (FB,L)

**Reservations open now. Pricing Dec. 1**

## Niagara Falling for You!

*Every room overlooks the Falls*

**5 Days • September 4-8**



★ **Highlights** ★

- 4 nights Embassy Suites Fallsview – premium views of Niagara Falls – daily breakfast
- Take a Journey Behind the Falls & sail to the base of Horseshoe Falls
- Enjoy a ride in the Whirlpool Aero Cars
- Stroll the boutiques of Niagara-on-the-Lake; visit the Niagara Botanical Gardens & Butterfly Conservatory
- Sample “ice wine,” an uniquely Niagara Region product
- Visit the Welland Canal, a shipping lane connecting Lake Ontario & Lake Erie
- 7 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 2 dinners

# ACTIVITY METER



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



*This is the view of the falls at night from your hotel room window.*

- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Buffalo
- 3100/34500 Gold Passport Points

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

**2.** The Incline Railway delivers you down the hill to the Visitors Center. Descend beneath the bedrock and explore the tunnels of Journey Behind the Falls. The immense volume of water cresting the edge is awe-inspiring, and where the sun meets the water is the most brilliant shade of blue. Breathtaking! Board a cruise past the American and Bridal Veil Falls before sailing right to the base of Horseshoe Falls. Inevitable, you will get wet but that's the fun of it! Dry off and relax back at your hotel before dinner overlooking the falls. **(FB,D)**

**3.** The iconic Floral Clock with its various blooms and colorful foliage create intricate designs. Travel alongside the Niagara River to the upscale resort community of Niagara-on-the-Lake where a wide array of shops await! Maple cookies, maple syrup and maple tea are some signature local products you can find. Lunch on your own is in town before riding the Whirlpool Aero Cars. The river's natural bend creates powerful, swirling rapids below. You have the option for an included visit to the Niagara Butterfly Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Choose decadent cuisine or casual dining for dinner at the hotel restaurant or one of the many eateries only steps away. Create your own experience! **(FB)**

**4.** Massive cargo ships circumvent the treacherous rapids between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie in the Welland Canal. You may even see one in the locks. Sample the most renowned product of the Niagara Region, ice wine, with lunch at a local winery. Harvested during the frozen winter months, it is hard work, but the results are worth the effort! Give it a taste and you'll see! It makes a wonderful gift for family, friends...or yourself! Tonight, do some last minute shopping, dine or kick your feet up and enjoy the stunning view from your room. **(FB,L)**

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

**\$3085 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3430 single**  
**\$100 Early Registration Di\$count**

*This vacation requires a valid passport!*

## Catalina Island, Take Two



*A different itinerary on California's Island*

**4 Days • October 6-9**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 3 nights Atwater Hotel in the heart of Avalon
- Avalon High Speed Ferry with Commodore Level Seating
- Private Guided Tour of El Rancho

- Escondido & Wine Tasting
- Movie Night at the Casino
- Spa Day or Adventure Day Zip Line or Massage (your choice)
- Interior Island Adventure Tour
- 4 meals: 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Southern California
- 2500/3000 Gold Passport Points

Arrive in Southern California in time for an early lunch complete with views of the *Queen Mary* and Long Beach Harbor. Then we board the high speed ferry to Catalina "26 miles across the sea." Arrive and relax, you are now officially on island time.

Originally opened in 1920, Hotel Atwater was the first hotel built under the direction of William Wrigley Jr. after he purchased the Catalina Island Company more than a century ago. He named the hotel in honor of Helen Atwater Wrigley, wife of his son Philip.

Completely renovated in 2019, this historic hotel stays true to the Wrigley family legacy with nostalgic elements like two splits of sparkling wine on arrival day – a tribute to the bubbly Helen enjoyed every evening before bed. It's a cut above. **Atwater Hotel – 3 nights (L)**

**2.** A scenic tour of the island **interior** gets you acclimated for a day of adventure. In the afternoon we will have a private guided tour of El Rancho Escondido with wine tasting and a light lunch. Then this evening we will go to the iconic Casino and take in a movie. **(L)**

**3.** Choices, choices. Are you a spa day person who wants to relax and enjoy a facial or massage or do you want adventure with a zip line or kayak? Perhaps you'd like a day to explore Avalon on your own. There are lots of optional choices (cost not included) and we will help you make your choice(s). Perhaps even a traditional attraction or two. This evening we dine at Steve's Steakhouse **(D)**

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

**\$2490 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2910 single**  
**\$75 Early Registration Di\$count**





# Daycations and Theatre Outings

## The Dickens Christmas Fair

Saturday, December 10

The Great Dickens Christmas Fair is a one-of-a-kind immersive adventure into Victorian London – an elaborate holiday party with hundreds of costumed players performing and interacting with patrons in over 140,000 square feet of theatrically-lit music halls, pubs, dance floors, and festive shops. It's a twilight evening in Charles Dickens' London Town – a city of winding lanes filled with colorful characters from both literature and history. Enticing aromas of roasted chestnuts and hearty foods fill the air. Cries of street vendors hawking their wares ring out above the bustling crowd. Dozens of lamp lit shops are filled to overflowing with handmade gifts. The Dickens Christmas Fair is a treasured Bay Area tradition since 1970 and a splendid way to celebrate the holidays. Lunch is on your own at the Fair. **\$132**

## Nevada City Victorian Christmas

Sunday, December 18

We will start our day with lunch at Cirino's Bar & Grill, an Italian Restaurant in Grass Valley which offers "time honored" Italian recipes from the Cirino family kitchen. You will have some time after lunch to browse the shops on Main St in Grass Valley before heading to Nevada City.

Welcome the holiday season in Nevada City. It's a magical setting of hilly streets with authentic gas lamps, wandering carolers dressed in Victorian attire, and visitors sharing holiday cheer and good tidings. The aroma of roasted chestnuts fill the air, along with cries of street vendors hawking their wares and lamp-lit streets filled with Christmas treasures. **\$134**

## Beetlejuice

Golden Gate Theater

Wednesday, December 28 – 1pm

Look out, the ghost with the most is coming to San Francisco! Based on Tim Burton's dearly beloved film, this hilarious

musical tells the story of Lydia Deetz, a strange and unusual teenager whose whole life changes when she meets a recently deceased couple and a demon with a thing for stripes. With an irreverent book, an astonishing set, and a musical score that's out of Netherworld; this show should not be missed. Mark says it's one of the most enjoyable musicals he has ever seen! (You'll be singing in your seat to DAY-O... you know, the Banana Boat Song). **\$189**

## R.E.S.P.E.C.T. – A Celebration of the music of Aretha Franklin

Golden Gate Theater

Saturday, January 7 – 2pm

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. is an electrifying tribute celebrating the music of the legendary Aretha Franklin. This concert experience takes audiences on a journey of love, tragedy, courage, and triumph. Starring a live band and supreme vocalists, come experience a night of music by one of the greatest artists of all time. **\$167**

## What a Sweet idea

Wednesday, January 25

We will start our morning at Jelly Belly Factory to visit the factory as well as see the new Museum that opened in 2022. The museum presents the evolution of candy-making equipment and the growth of the family-owned Jelly Belly Candy Company through a whimsical and interactive experience. After our visit we will head to Berkley. We will enjoy lunch at **Skates on the Bay**, which is a beautiful and historic waterfront gathering place with views of the San Francisco Bay. We will then take a short drive to TCHO **Chocolate Factory** in Berkley for a guided tour and tasting. TCHO was born nearly 15 years ago out of a shared obsession to re-imagine the world of chocolate from the ground up. **\$158**

Proud members of the



## Kristen Chenoweth

Saturday, January, 28 – 7:30pm

Kristen Chenoweth's many wonderful performances include starring roles in Broadway's *Wicked* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and on television *Pushing Up Daisies* and *Glee*. She has performed to sold-out concert audiences around the world including Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, and the Gallo Center for the Arts on her last visit in 2016. Among Chenoweth's numerous recordings is "The Art of Elegance," an album of American Songbook classics that debuted at #1 on both the Billboard and Amazon charts. In 2009 she released a candid and comic chronicle about her life so far, *A Little Bit Wicked*. Dinner is included prior to the show. **\$241**

## Dear Evan Hansen

Orpheum Theater

Saturday, February 11 – 1pm

It all started with a letter that was never meant to be seen, a lie that was never meant to be told, a life he never dreamed he could have. Evan Hansen is about to get the one thing he's always wanted: a chance to finally fit in. The story of a young man and his struggles with social anxiety, DEAR EVAN HANSEN is the deeply personal and profoundly contemporary musical about life and the way we live it. Winner of six Tony Awards. **\$251**

## Mean Girls

Golden Gate Theater

Wednesday, February 15 – 1pm

Cady Heron may have grown up on an African savanna, but nothing prepared her for the vicious ways of her strange new home: suburban Illinois. Soon, this naïve newbie falls prey to a trio of lionized frenemies led by the charming but ruthless Regina George. But when Cady devises a plan to end Regina's reign, she learns the hard way that you can't cross a Queen Bee without getting stung.

The winner of **SIX Tony Awards, including Best Musical; and the Grammy**



**Award for Best Musical Theater Album, *Mean Girls*** is the hilarious Broadway hit musical from an award-winning creative team, including book writer Tina Fey ("30 Rock" and "Saturday Night Live"). **\$220**

## Jay Leno

*Gallo Center, Modesto*

**Saturday, February 25 – 4:00pm**

Acclaimed TV late night show host, admired stand-up comedian, best-selling children's book author, much-in-demand corporate speaker, TV and movie voice-over artist, pioneering car builder and mechanic, and philanthropist...Jay Leno is widely characterized as "the hardest working man in show business." His late night television ratings domination included two decades as the host of the #1-rated "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno". This will be Jay's second appearance at the Gallo Center. His two shows sold out then, and these two will, as well. Lunch is included before the show. **\$217**

## SIX

*Orpheum Theater*

**Wed, March 1 – 1pm**

From Tudor Queens, the **SIX wives of Henry VIII (divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived)** take the microphone to remix five hundred years of historical heartbreak into a Euphoric Celebration of 21st century girl power! This new original musical is a global sensation! Some are even losing their head over it...

**SIX** won 23 awards in the 2021/2022 Broadway season, including the Tony Award® for Best Original Score (Music and Lyrics) and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical. **\$267**

## Fiddler on the Roof

*Gallo Center, Modesto*

**March 28 – 7:00pm**

Audiences across North America are toasting a new production of *Fiddler on the Roof!* Rich with musical hits you know and love, including "Tradition," "Sunrise, Sunset,"

"If I Were A Rich Man," and "Matchmaker, Matchmaker", **Fiddler on the Roof** is the heartwarming story of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and life, love and laughter. Featuring a talented cast, lavish orchestra and stunning movement and dance from Israeli choreographer Hofesh Shechter, based on the original staging by Jerome Robbins, *Fiddler on the Roof* will introduce a new generation to the uplifting celebration that raises its cup to joy! To love! **\$237**

**\*\*All San Francisco theater matinee trips** include: Roundtrip motorcoach transportation to San Francisco, box lunch served on the way down to San Francisco, Orchestra Seating, time for no-host dinner after the show in the North Beach area before returning home to Sacramento.

**\*\*All Gallo Center trips** include coach transportation to Modesto, lunch or dinner before the show and main floor seating.

# The Tour Calendar *(Previously Announced)*

## Take the Snow Train to Reno

*Ride the California Zephyr through the Sierra Nevada*

**2 Days • February 13-14**



Your journey over the mountains begins from one of our convenient pickups and Amtrak's *California Zephyr* departs from Roseville. Experience a High Sierra winter wonderland as the train climbs through the mountains, providing magnificent and (hopefully snowy) vistas. Don't worry about your luggage – it will travel on board our motorcoach which will meet you in Reno!

Enjoy relaxing views on the train from your seat or the domed observation car. A boxed lunch is included for you to take along so you won't miss the scenery. Your accommodations are at the **Silver Legacy Casino/Resort**. You'll awake to the sweetest day of the year – Valentine's Day! Enjoy a morning at leisure before returning home by motorcoach.

The package includes one-way rail passage on Amtrak's *California Zephyr*, a

boxed lunch, hotel accommodations, casino bonuses (subject to change), and return transportation by motorcoach. 400/400 Gold Passport Points

**\$365 p.p./dbl.occ., \$395 single**

## All Aboard the Coast Starlight

*An Amtrak journey from Seattle to The City of Angels*

**4 Days • March 6-9**

★ **Highlights** ★

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

1. Start your trip in Seattle with visits to places that make this city famous: The

Chihuly Garden and Glass exhibit and the Space Needle where you catch a bird's eye view from the top of this icon. Lunch is served at a local eatery with a view. Your hotel in nearby Tacoma is also a museum featuring amazing works by Pacific Northwest artists.

## Hotel Murano (L)

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

**Many tours listed have very limited space (see back page)**



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

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

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

## Spring Training

*The Cactus League in Arizona with the Giants and A's, great dining, baseball speakers*

**5 Days • March 9-13**

For years you've thought about making the pilgrimage to Spring Training, the Cactus League. For a baseball fan, the spring games are special. Every team is undefeated. You watch as the Giants, A's and other teams start to put together the players which will begin the season only a few weeks later. You'll eat Sunday Brunch at the Wrigley Mansion, enjoy the view and the grub at Rustler's Roost, and learn a little at our Baseball Roundtable.

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

## Game Schedule

**March 9: Milwaukee Brewers vs. Giants at Scottsdale**

**March 10: Giants vs. Colo. Rockies at Talking Stick**

**March 11: A's vs. Cleveland Guardians at Goodyear**

**March 12: A's at Giants at Scottsdale**

**March 13: Giants at San Diego Padres at Peoria**

Note: This schedule should be considered tentative. While the schedule has been

announced, game times (day game or night game) have not been confirmed, and tickets for most games have not gone on sale.

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

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

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

**\$50 Early Registration Discount**

## Hawaii – The Big Island and Oahu

*Enjoy both or just the Big Island*

**Big Island Only 7 Days:**

**March 27 – April 2**

**Big Island and Oahu 10 Days:**

**March 27 – April 5**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 5 nights at the King Kamehameha Hotel, a perfect “walk to lots of things” location on the water, in the heart of Kailua-Kona
- Visit Hawaiian Vanilla – learn the fascinating details on how it's grown and enjoy a “very vanilla” luncheon
- Visit a macadamia nut processing plant and learn about Hawaii's “nut”
- Travel cross island to Hilo to learn more about orchids and how they are grown
- Sightseeing tour to Kealakekua Bay where Captain Cook met his fate
- On your cross-island trip, visit Hawaii Volcanoes Nat'l Park – learn about how the islands were born and how they continue to grow
- Evening luau on the grounds of the King Kamehameha Hotel
- On Oahu, trace the path of President Barrack Obama's high school years, perhaps even meet one of his teachers
- Kualoa Ranch Movie Sites Tour on Oahu – Jurassic Park, Magnum, P.I., and a long list of others were filmed in the islands
- 15 meals: Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 3 dinners

- Visit Pearl Harbor (optional) and hear the story of the attack that changed WWII
- Gold Passport Points: 4300/5150 Big Island Only, 5500/6650 Big Island and Oahu

**Big Island Only**

**\$4285 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5125 single**

**Big Island and Oahu**

**\$5465 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6620 single**

## New Mexico: Land of Enchantment

*Featuring Spaceport America and Carlsbad Caverns*

**6 Days • April 19-24**

★ **Highlights** ★

- Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands National Monument
- Spaceport America
- Sandia Tramway and Old Town Albuquerque
- 11 Meals: 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to Albuquerque/from El Paso
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3250/3600 Gold Passport Points
  1. Lunch is served following your flight to Albuquerque. Your hotel is well-located only steps away from the festive shops and eateries of Old Town. **Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town – 2 nights (L)**
  2. Enjoy the breathtaking views from the famous Sandia Peak Tramway in the morning. The longest aerial tram in America, you'll reach a dizzying height of 10,378 feet above sea level. After lunch “get your kicks” on a guided city tour spotlighting sites of interest around town, including many located along storied Route 66. **(B,L)**
  3. Spaceport America offers visitors an insider's view of the world's first purpose-built commercial spaceport. Gaze upon the iconic design of the Terminal Hangar Facility, see launch sites and gain an understanding of the inner workings of a complex specifically designed and built for space travel, commerce and exploration. Continue on to Las Cruces arriving in the late afternoon. **Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces (B,L)**
  4. White Sands National Monument is one of the world's most awe-inspiring spectacles.

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

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

6. Travel to El Paso, Texas, for lunch hosted at a famous Mexican restaurant and your return flight to Sacramento. **(B,L)**  
**\$3205 p.p./occ., \$3585 single**

## NYC – Behind Broadway and The Bronx

*Exclusively for those who long to wake up in the city that never sleeps*

**6 Days • April 22-27**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Times Square, in the heart of the city
- 2 included nights of theater (One we select – A Beautiful Noise, The Neil Diamond Musical, one of your choice – an exclusive **SLV** feature); a night at Carnegie Hall with the New York Symphony Pops Orchestra (if you do not want the Neil Diamond show, other options are available until October 1)
- A Day Behind Broadway – meet Broadway actors/musicians/technicians to learn the inner workings; talk hits and misses with Peter Filicia, a theater reviewer
- A Day in The Bronx – taste the real “Little Italy”, meet the FDNY and NYPD with stops at a working fire station and police precinct.
- A Day in Downtown Manhattan – stroll Wall Street & the Financial District, 9/11 Memorial/Museum/Observation Deck (all 3 experiences included)
- Free day to visit Ellis and Liberty Islands; optional visit to Grand Central Station
- Roundtrip airfare to/from NYC

- 6 meals: 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 4500/5050 Gold Passport Points  
**\$4490 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5020 single**  
**\$100 Early Registration Di\$count**

## Ghost Towns & Aliens in Old Nevada



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

★ **Highlights** ★

- 2 nights at the Golden Nugget Downtown Las Vegas; 2 nights at the Mizpah Hotel in Tonopah
- Begin with the Goodsprings Ghost Hunt – hear the heartbreaking story of Carol Lombard and Clark Gable, learn how to use an EMF (Electronic Magnetic Field) meter to detect the “presence” of ghosts
- Visit genuine ghost towns – 6 in all – from Las Vegas to Tonopah
- Visit the legendary “Clown Motel” and see the courthouse under restoration in ghostly Belmont
- Travel the Extraterrestrial Highway – home of the secret Area 51, where countless UFO sightings have been recorded
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Las Vegas
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2200/2400 Gold Passport Points  
 Ghosts. Some believe in ghostly spirits and some do not. Still others might be somewhere in the middle. On this adventure you'll have the chance to decide for yourself! Explore not only the old buildings and legends they left behind, but make an attempt to talk to the “previous residents” themselves on an authentic Ghost Hunt!  
**\$2190 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2395 single**

## Catalina Island Dreaming

**4 Days • May 14-17**

★ **Highlights** ★

- 3 nights at Pavilion Lodge –right on the harbor
- High-speed ferry to Avalon
- Private guided tour of the Avalon Casino

- Glass-bottom boat, Island and Under-the-Sea tours
- Nightly wine and cheese reception at hotel
- 6 meals: 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Southern California
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2050/2400 Gold Passport Points  
**\$2040 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2360 single**

## Baseball's Fields of Dreams



*Featuring the Negro League Museum in KC, the Field of Dreams in Iowa, the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown and more...*

**9 Days • May 26 – June 3**

★ **Highlights** ★

- The Negro Leagues Museum
- The Field of Dreams Movie Site near Dyersville, Iowa
- Historic Galena, Illinois
- Cooperstown, home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame; stay at the elegant Otesaga Hotel – special Curator's Program at the Hall
- Yogi Berra Museum at Montclair State University in New Jersey
- Tour sites of Ebbets Field, the Polo Grounds, Yankee Stadium – visit the final resting place of Babe Ruth
- 12 meals: 3 expanded conti, breakfasts, 3 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare (Sacramento – Kansas City, Chicago – Albany, New York/Newark – Sacramento)
- Door-to-door airport service
- Gold Passport Points 5900/7000  
 Join Mark & Tyler for the baseball trip of a lifetime. It makes stops in Kansas City, Dyersville (Iowa) and Cooperstown (NY). You'll explore the Negro Leagues Museum in Kansas City, home of the legendary KC Monarchs, the “Yankees” of the Negro Leagues in the 1900's. Walk among the early-season corn stalks at the Field of Dreams outside of Dyersville and explore 150 years of baseball history at the Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. Along the way, we'll see a couple ballgames (pending the release of the 2023 schedule) and visit famous landmarks like the sites of the Polo Grounds and Ebbets Field in NYC and Brooklyn. Pay

your respects at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in New Jersey, final resting place of George Herman "Babe" Ruth, Yogi Berra, Billy Martin, James Cagney and other legends.

**\$5885 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6960 single**

## Crater Lake and Lava Beds – Mother Nature's History Lesson

*Featuring the Tule Lake WWII Internment Camp*



**4 Days • June 11-14**

### ★ Highlights ★

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

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

**\$1780 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2095 single**  
**\$50 Early Registration Di\$count**

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



*Featuring the Hood River Railroad, the Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler and three nights on the shores of the Columbia River*

**4 Days • June 12-15**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Full-day guided excursion to Mt. St. Helens

- Ride a century-old short line railroad with snow-capped views of Mt. Hood
  - Explore Hood River; visit Packer Orchards and Multnomah Falls
  - 3 nights at the Best Western Plus Hood River Inn – rooms with a view of the river
  - Dinner cruise on the Columbia River; lunch at the Columbia Gorge Hotel
  - 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
  - Roundtrip airfare to/from Portland
  - Door-to-door airport transportation
  - 2250/2550 Gold Passport Points
- \$2250 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2545 single**

## Victoria, Canada's Royal Garden City



*The very best of Canada's Garden City*

**5 Days • June 20-24**

### ★ Highlights ★

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

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

**Pricing will be available December 1.**  
**We encourage you to register without obligation, in order secure your space.**

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



*Featuring rides on Oregon's Rogue River and coastal sand dunes*

**7 Days • June 24-30**

### ★ Highlights ★

- Depart from Sacramento by coach, return by air (independent train return also available)
- Drive through "The Avenue of the Giants" near Eureka
- Redwood National Park – more of the majestic giant trees
- Overnight Garberville (Best Western Plus), Gold Beach (Jot's Resort), 2 nights

- Coos Bay (The Mill), 2 nights Newport (Elizabeth Oceanfront Suites)
  - Scenic drive along the Oregon Coast
  - Ride the Rogue River Mail Boat
  - Flavorful local stops – Misty Meadows Jams, Cranberry Sweets
  - Washed Ashore – Saving the ocean one piece of junk at a time
  - Shore Acres State Park – Awesome ocean views
  - Ride the sand dunes in a giant dune buggy... or take a more adventurous ride in a smaller buggy
  - Cocktail cruise on Newport Harbor
  - A very berry experience – learn how the marionberry was created, have a berry milkshake, perhaps even pick your own
  - Door-to-door service
  - 2700/3150 Gold Passport Points
- \$2660 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3145 single**

## An Atlantic Canada Sampler

*Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island*

**14 Days • July 4-17**



### ★ Highlights ★

- Nova Scotia: Halifax, Peggy's Cove, Annapolis Valley, Bras d'Or Lake, Cabot Trail, Fortress of Louisbourg
  - New Brunswick: Bay of Fundy, St. John, Reversing Falls, St. Andrews-by-the-Sea
  - Prince Edward Island: Charlottetown, Anne of Green Gables
  - 23 meals: Daily breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
  - Roundtrip airfare to/from Halifax
  - Door-to-door airport transportation
  - 6400/7300 Gold Passport Points
- \$6335 p.p./dbl.occ., \$7270 single**  
**\$150 Early Registration Di\$count**  
*This tour requires a valid passport!*

## Cruising the Rhine River from Holland to Switzerland



**10 Days • September 9-18**

### ★ Highlights ★

- 8-day cruise aboard a Scenic "Space-Ship" Riverliner
- Overnight in Amsterdam with local touring
- Holland: Rijksmuseum, Volendam, Edam



- Germany: Cologne, Koblenz, Mannheim, Baden Baden
- France: Strasbourg & the Alsace region
- Included “Freechoice” tour options at every port
- Gourmet meals and all beverages complimentary
- All shipboard gratuities included
- English-speaking staff and local guides
- Complimentary WiFi
- 22 meals: 8 breakfast, 7 lunches, 7 dinners
- Roundtrip air to Amsterdam/Zurich
- Door-to-door airport service

*This tour requires a valid passport!*

**Pricing will be available December 1. We encourage you to register without obligation, in order secure your space.**

## Cruisin’ Aboard the American Queen

*An Upper Mississippi cruise on the grandest paddlewheeler ever built!*

**9 Days • September 24 – October 2**

★ **Highlights** ★

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

Though early a year away, this popular cruise on the Upper Mississippi from St. Louis to the Twin Cities is so popular you have to book your cabin early to get one at all! The *American Queen* – the grandest of all riverboats ever to ply the waters of our nation’s mighty rivers – “gets it” as evidenced

by all the inclusions. Non-alcoholic beverages and snacks are available and complimentary all day long. Beer and wine is included with dinner, and two dining choices are offered: one casual, the other fancy. Regardless of the dining option you select, you’ll enjoy classic Southern cooking along with heart-healthy selections.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Pricing will be available December 1. We encourage you to register without obligation, in order secure your space.**

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

*Featuring a side trip to Alabama for a Salute to Civil Rights*

**7 Days • October TBA**

★ **Highlights** ★

- An up close look at America’s 39th president, featuring his presidential library in Atlanta and his hometown of Plains
- Visit FDR’s Little White House
- 2 nights at Calloway Gardens – a year round resort with over 2,500 acres of flowers and foliage
- 2 nights in Americus at the beautiful Windsor Hotel
- Step back in time to the Civil War days at Andersonville, a POW camp at the end of the war
- Spend a day in Plains, exploring President Carter’s hometown
- Learn the story of the Tuskegee Airmen
- Rosa Parks Museum, National Memorial for Peace & Justice – Montgomery
- 14 meals, r/t air, services of an **SLV** Tour Director, home pick-up

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

**Pricing will be available December 1. We encourage you to register without obligation, in order secure your space.**

**Look What We’re Doing...**



Tours we plan to announce in the January newsletter. If you have an interest in one or more of the trips listed here, call our office and ask to be placed on the **Priority Notification List**. When the details for the tour are ready, prior to the public announcement, we will attempt to contact you and give you the opportunity to register. There is no obligation to go, but we ask that you only place your name on the list if you have a genuine interest. (If you have already placed your name on the list for the **Fall Foliage Tour**, there is no need to contact us again.)

## The Carlsbad Flower Fields



3 Days • April 16-18

Flowers as far as the eye can see, an amazing experience. Plus time along the ocean learning about the creatures who swim the deep. But mostly, this short getaway is about beautiful flowers and a hotel along the ocean. Getaway and hear the waves, maybe get your toes wet in the sand.

## San Simeon, Solvang, Santa Barbara



5 Days • April 24-28

Depart on the Coast Starlight early morning from Sacramento, arriving in San Luis Obispo in mid-afternoon. From there, over to San Simeon on the coast for a two night stay, and two tours of magnificent Hearst Castle. A travel day takes you to Santa Barbara via Solvang, with a stop for lunch and shopping. In Santa Barbara, enjoy dinner on Stearns Wharf, accommodations near the water and a guided tour featuring the Mission, the Museum of Natural History, the Courthouse and other landmarks in the unique Spanish-style. Fly home from Santa Barbara/Burbank. One way by train/coach, fly home.

## Newport, The Gilded Age – plus Block Island and Bit o’Boston



6 Days • June 18-23

A brand new itinerary. Put your name on the **Priority Notification List**, and we will contact you later in November when the pricing is finalized.

Fly to **Boston**, spend a day sightseeing (2 nights in Boston), then head to **Newport**. The home of spectacular mansions and unmeasured wealth in days gone by, Newport is still a striking city. Visit/tour some of the mansions, like the Marble House and Rosecliff. Three nights in Newport at a brand new Wyndam Hotel, with a restaurant and lounge on site.

During your Newport stay, take the ferry to **Block Island** for a day trip. Just a 454-minute ride, the island was known as “the little God’s island” by the native Americans. Some in the region call it the “poor man’s Martha’s Vineyard.” Sightseeing and a lobster dinner highlight your island visit.

## Laguna Pageant of the Masters



3 Days • July/August

Next year, the Pageant of the Masters will celebrate the 90th anniversary of the first presentation of “living pictures” at the Festival of Arts. The 2023 production, “Art Colony: In the Company of Artists,” will acknowledge the deep connections and memorable stories of artists assisting one another throughout the world and throughout history.

## Leavenworth & The Sound of Music

Fall Foliage – Vermont and The Hudson River Valley



4 Days • July/August

In the village of Leavenworth, in the Cascade Mountains east of Seattle, each summer they celebrate their heritage by reprising **The Sound of Music** in the outdoor theater. You’ll fly from Seattle by train, and in addition to the show, there’s plenty

of sights to see in the region. Places like Liberty Orchards, which makes the popular Applets and Cotlets candy.

## South Dakota, America’s Treasures



5-7 Days • September

Mt. Rushmore, the Crazy Horse Memorial, Badlands, Custer State Park Buffalo, much more.

## The Tugboat Races



4 Days • September

Tyler is working on an old favorite, featuring the Washington state capital city of Olympia and the waters of south Puget Sound. Tugboat Racing? A trip to Mount Rainier? A visit to the state capitol building? Dinner at a great waterfront restaurant? A visit to Northwest ReK, home of creatures big and small who call the state home. Come to the south end of Puget Sound with us for a great adventure.

## Fall Foliage 2023



Vermont and The Hudson River Valley

Late September/Early October 2023

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

## Santa Barbara, The American Riviera



4 Days • October

More time in Santa Barbara. 3 nights at the Harbor View Inn, breakfast every day at a unique local spot adjoining the hotel, guided sightseeing including dinner on Stearns Wharf, accommodations near the water and a guided tour featuring the Mission, the Museum of Natural History, the Courthouse and other landmarks. This tour has 3 nights in Santa Barbara, the one above has two nights. Fly to/from Santa Barbara/Burbank (depending on schedules)

See the back page for Early Payment Discounts





9812 Old Winery Place, Suite 1  
Sacramento, CA 95827

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Sacramento, CA  
PERMIT NO. 517

### EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT COUPON

Early Registration Payment Discounts listed here expire on **Friday, December 9, 2022**; or may be withdrawn when 50% of the available space has been reserved. To receive the discount you must pay in full with ten days of registration. If you accept this option the monies paid (less a \$20 administrative fee), including the cost of Cancellation Protection, are returned to you if you cancel more than 70 days prior to departure regardless of the reason for cancellation. Inside the time limits noted above restrictions on refunds apply. See the **Special Vacation Notes & Information** brochure for complete details.

**March** – Spring Training in Arizona – **Save \$50**

**April** – NYC – Behind Broadway & The Bronx – **Save \$100**

**May** – Moab, Gateway to Arches National Park – **Save \$75**

**June** – Crater Lake & Lava Beds – Mother Nature's History Lesson – **Save \$50**

**July** – An Atlantic Canada Sampler – **Save \$150**

**Sept.** – Niagara Falling for You! – **Save \$100**

**Oct.** – Catalina Island, Take Two – **Save \$75**

### VALUABLE COUPON

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

Valid only when used with the adjacent coupon on the tours listed. **Your savings depend on the double-occupancy price of the tour. Save \$10** on tours priced from \$451-\$800, **Save \$20** on tours priced from \$801-\$2250, **Save \$30** on tours priced from \$2251-\$3500, **Save \$40** on tours priced at \$3501 or more. To receive the above discounts, you must pay in full within ten days of registration and purchase the protection at the time you pay for your tour.

### TOUR UPDATE...

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

#### Sold-Out Tours

Dazzled at the Del	Winter in Yellowstone
Key West	Alaska's Aurora Borealis
New Orleans	Colorful Carolina Coast
Monterey	Utah! Life Elevated
San Antonio	Niagara Falls – May
Route 66 – East	Rails Through the Canadian Rockies
Old Cape Cod	San Juan Islands Cruise

#### Limited Space

March – Snow Train to Reno (7)  
 March – Coast Starlight (2)  
 March – Spring Training (11)  
 April – NYC, Boradway & The Bronx (12)  
 May – Ghost Towns of Old Nevada (4)  
 May – Catalina Island (4)  
 June – Crater Lake & Lava Beds (15)  
 June – A Train, A Paddlewheeler, Columbia River (5)  
 June – Redwoods & The Oregon Coast (4)  
 July – Atlantic Canada (10)

## OFFICE HOURS:

9:00am – 3:30pm Monday thru FRI.  
Closed weekends and major holidays  
CLOSED TUES. 12:00pm – 1:15pm

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