



The Sports Leisure TRAVELER

5,237 Active Members • 53,195 Members Since 1979

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER | VOL. 41 | NO. 3 2019



Sail Away with Us...

To the land of the Midnight Sun, snowy peaks and stunning blue-green fjords, Norway's North Cape; to the iconic ports of call in the Mediterranean Sea... Visiting Rome, Florence and Barcelona...

We are currently offering two international cruises in the **2020 Dream Book**: a **Mediterranean cruise** and a cruise to the **North Cape of Norway**. (Full description of itineraries maybe found on pages 30 and 31). **Michael Downer** is your cruise specialist. Michael has years of experience

with both the Oceania and Holland America cruise lines. We are excited to be offering these specific itineraries because **Sports Leisure** travelers have asked for these destinations and experiences.

The **Oceania Cruise Line** offers an upscale cruise experience with specially designed shore excursions and on-board menus to highlight the culture, history and arts of the Mediterranean. **Holland America** offers a slightly more relaxed atmosphere with an impeccable crew and genteel hospitality.

When you travel with **Sports Leisure**, you have the peace of mind knowing that you have a travel advocate with you each step of the way. Michael works with the cruise line to set up your stateroom and on-board account, secure the necessary documentation (visas for many countries), and assist with the selection of your shore excursions. Your **Sports Leisure Vacations'** Tour Director is with you from the airport through the duration of the trip; assisting with any questions or concerns; coordinating transportation; and checking in with you throughout the trip.

Some tour directors are even known to host a cocktail party or two, just to make sure they see everyone! When you travel with **Sports Leisure**, either as a solo traveler or with a companion,

you are never alone. Your Tour Director is there to facilitate your experience.

Time is running out to book the Mediterranean cruise. Space on the ship is limited and going quickly. If you have ever wanted to cruise in style; visit Monte Carlo, Malta and the Mediterranean... **Call Michael before December 1st**. There is also a sense of urgency for the Norway cruise as this is a popular international itinerary and the best cabins on the ship are selling rapidly; call before **January 15th**. If you are interested in the Panama Canal or the Danube River cruise, call to put your name on the **Priority Notification List now** as Michael is in the process of securing space for 2021.

Our office will be closing at noon, December 24th so that staff can enjoy the holidays with friends and family. Office reopens January 2nd.

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★★★★★★★★★★

Editor Mark Hoffmann
Executive Editor Ramona Goodge
Writers & Photographers: **SLV Staff**



Clayton welcomes over 600 **Sports Leisure** Travelers to our annual Tour Preview Day, where attendee's get the first glimpse of our new vacations. Read **Mark's** comments inside on page 2.

Just One Man's Opinion by Mark Hoffmann

Thoughts on a Sunday afternoon, while listening to old Harry Chapin folk songs on YouTube... Harry died 37 years ago, but his music still rings pretty true today. Amazing songwriter. Most of the people reading this are wondering, "Who the heck was Harry Chapin?" Remember **Cats in the Cradle** or **Taxi**? Those were two of Harry's story songs.



In an hour or so, I'll head on over to the KFBK studios, next to the Doubletree Hotel across from Arden Fair, to join **Tom Romano** to offer up the latest edition of **The Travel Guys Radio Show**. It's without a doubt one of the things I enjoy most in life. I've known Tom for over 35 years. Without him, there would be no radio show. He is such an incredible professional behind the microphone or in the studio. Amazing.

Been spending this first day of "standard time" putting together the latest edition of **The Traveler**. Tomorrow, **Ramona, Clayton** and the rest of the team will add tours and articles and proof reading and off to the printer it will go. It's a quiet Sunday at the office. **Scott's** Sedona tour left this morning, the last extended tour to leave until late this month (Thanksgiving in New York).

Just about all of the planning/tour directing staff is dragging a bit. The fall season is our busiest and with Preview Day in the middle of September, most haven't had a break since sometime in August. **Chris** and **Scott** both did back-to-backers. That means you come home one night from a long tour and leave again the next morning. **Clayton** and **Ramona** have had schedules heading out of the country or across the ocean. All have worked hard to meet your expectations.

While I'm thanking people, none of this happens without the support team in the office, handling small emergencies and making sure you are well cared for before your trip (and after). While we are running all over the planet, they are here, at 9812

Old Winery Place, doing the work behind the curtain.

★★★★★★

Tour Preview Day in September was another rousing success. Our biggest challenge is tours which sell out within hours of the phones opening. Really makes putting your name on the **Priority Notification Lists** a winning idea. That way, you often receive notice a few days before a tour is announced to the rest of the Travel Club.

Don't be afraid of putting your name on a wait list. Just for fun last summer on one of these Sundays, I took a bunch of wait lists from the last year and found that over 85% of the people on a list got a chance to go on the tour at some point. Putting your name on a wait list doesn't obligate you to anything. If we call to let you know there's room for you, and you've changed your mind for whatever reason, no biggie.

The post-Preview Day sales broke all records. Again. Thank you. We sell 1/5 of everything we sell all year on one day, most of it in two hours.

I notice driving around town that some of our premier competitors, Trafalgar, Collette and Tauck are all advertising on the radio, along with another company I would avoid at all costs, Gate One. Not sure what made them all get more aggressive in their marketing around town, maybe they heard a small local company was stealing a lot of the escorted travel market share and decided to come after it. Jealousy is a terrible thing. Just sayin'...

★★★★★★

Diana Comes to Broadway

The story of the Princess of Wales, enjoyed by nearly a hundred **Sports Leisure Travelers** last winter in La Jolla, will premier on Broadway this spring. It was so loved by our first group of theater critics last year, we have added it to our annual springtime visit to **New York City**.

The itinerary features a day "behind Broadway," meeting people involved with getting the curtain up every night. Actors and actresses, musicians, stage crew, we have listened to them all share their stories

of Broadway. We also go to The Bronx one day, stopping to visit a police and a fire station (the ladies tend to enjoy spending a little time with the men in uniform), dining in Little Italy and stopping in at a host of shops in a real New York neighborhood.

There's a night at **Carnegie Hall** in **dress circle box seats**. The New York Pops salutes Broadway and it's always an amazing evening. Then there's the two nights on Broadway. See **Diana** and another show **you choose**. If you were on one of the trips to see **Diana** last year and would rather not see it again, you can select **two** shows if you register soon.

As always, we stay in the Marriott Marquis in Times Square. If your wallet can afford it, it's a great trip. I'd say once-in-a-lifetime, but since many folks have been with us more than once to NYC, I guess that description is sort of out the window.

★★★★★★

Over 50,000 people have joined our Travel Club over 40 years, enough to populate a medium-sized town. Many of you know someone from a previous generation who traveled with us. It is a great success story. It couldn't have happened, or continue to happen, without your support.

*"All my life's a circle, sunrise and sundown,
The moon rolls through the nighttime,
'Til the daybreak comes around,
All my life's a circle, but I can't tell you why,
The seasons spinning round again, the
years keep rollin' by..."*

– Harry Chapin, "Circle"

And so it goes...

Mark Hoffman, CTP
Owner/Founder

Proud members of the



Hello friends!

I've always thought it was funny that the company whose name starts with SPORTS takes you to live theatre more than any other type of event. As a self-proclaimed theatre geek that makes me extremely happy. The words "job security" also come to mind!



Though I consider Broadway to be the center of the theatre universe, at least in North America, certainly the state of California is a close second with countless noteworthy stages scattered from north to south. Chief among them would have to be the winner of the 1993 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, the **La Jolla Playhouse**. This small theatre hidden away on the UC San Diego campus is a powerhouse when it comes to mounting major productions including 101 world premiers, 52 commissioned new works and sending an amazing 32 productions to Broadway, most recently **Diana** which many of you saw on one of three **Sports Leisure** vacations earlier this year. This poignant new musical traces the story of the Princess of Wales through her fairy-tale romance, marriage and entry into the Royal Family. What I like most about the show is that none of the characters are painted as being overly good or bad, but as people simply trying to survive and find a shred of happiness within the rules and expectations they're required to live by. Diana is not completely perfect and Charles is not completely a heel. Even Camilla has redeeming qualities . . . well, just a few! Are you intrigued? It's not too late to see **Diana** as it's our featured show on **NYC – Behind Broadway and The Bronx**, April 24-29, 2020. See the complete itinerary at www.sportsleisure.com.

What is going to be La Jolla's Next Big Thing? It may well be **FLY**, a thrilling, funny, dangerous and most definitely grown-up look at J.M. Barrie's beloved novel, *Peter Pan*. You'll see Neverland come to new life with

a powerful and percussive score, dynamic choreography and aerial acrobatics. Adding a little Cirque worked for the recent revival of *Pippin*. Now let's see what it does for Peter, Wendy, Captain Hook and that bothersome crocodile. Tickets are included in our **FLY Away to the Sea** itinerary scheduled for February 20-22. So you get a hot new show along with San Diego's (usually) perfect weather. What better than this to pull you away from Sacramento's winter doldrums?

Come From Away, the moving story of thousands of air travelers forced to land in Gander, Newfoundland following the events of September 11, 2001, was – you guessed it! – first staged at the La Jolla Playhouse. From there it has gone on to successful runs in New York, Toronto and London's West End, winning one Tony Award and four Olivier Awards including Best New Musical. The show will come in for a landing at Sacramento's Memorial Auditorium in May, and we've got **the best seats in the house (rows A-D)** for the Thursday matinee performance on the 21st. Find all the details on the *Day Trips & Theatre Outings* page.

And speaking of shows at Memorial, don't forget the winner of the 2017 Tony Awards for Best Musical and Best Score, **Dear Evan Hansen**. We have **the best seats in the house (rows A-E)** – do you see a theme

here? – for the Thursday matinee on January 23rd. I won't kid you. This is one of the most painful shows I've ever seen, but also one of the most relevant, with a soaring score by Pasek and Paul (the duo who brought us the music in "La La Land" and "The Greatest Showman"). It tells the story of Evan, a socially awkward high school student, the suicide of the student who bullies him, his crush on the dead boy's sister and above all his desire for the "perfect family." The glue holding these story lines together is the amazing power of social media in today's society, especially among youth. If you're trying to understand a younger neighbor or grandchild, *Dear Evan Hansen* will give you a unique window into their world.

Shakespeare said "all the world's a stage." Here at **Sports Leisure Vacations** we're proud to give you access to some of the world's best stages, shows and seating the year around. Theatre geeks unite! You are most definitely welcomed and encouraged here!

"Your Tour Guy,"

Clayton

Clayton Whitehead, CTP
Vice President

The Travel Guys

Radio Show

- **Making you a smarter traveler with tips you can use on the road**
- **Weekly Travel News, with updates on stories you won't hear elsewhere**
- **Consumer Advocates Chris Elliott and Ed Perkins**

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



Tom Romano and Mark Hoffmann

The Customers Always Write

Dear Mark,

As you know, we had to cancel Dreamin' of Santa Cruz, Sept. 10 on short notice, due to a bad fall Nancy had experienced. We have never purchased cancellation insurance and thought we would surely have to "eat" the cost of the trip. Today we received a surprise from a staff member, informing us of a significant partial refund. We always knew SLV to be a classy outfit, but this was above and beyond all expectations. We will purchase travel insurance in the future! Thank you for your generosity and keep up the good work. Sincerely,

Ed and Nancy Pratt

Dear Mark,

Thank you so much for including The Strong on your Rochester New York tour (American Portrait). They were a wonderful group and your escort was amazing! Blue Dog found his way into one of our exhibits and I do believe your group had fun trying to find him! Hope to welcome a future group again soon! Kind Regards,

Karen Dodson, The Strong Museum, Rochester

To The Nice folks at Sports Leisure,

I have enjoyed receiving your travel catalogues for many years, had great times on several trips, but now at age 87, I'm afraid I'm thru traveling! You can take my name off your mailing lists. You do a great job with your travel guests – enjoyed the ride while it lasted. Your tour personnel were wonderful!

Phyllis Bolton

Ed. Note: Thank you Phyllis, for sending along a "retirement" note. We went many great places together. We will miss you, your smile and your sense of humor. You were always a joy to have on a trip. Be well and thanks again for choosing **Sports Leisure** for your travels.

Dear Mark,

Thank you for hosting another enjoyable informative Preview Day. Thank you also for taking time to meet my friend who was attending her first SLV event. She

was a bit overwhelmed by the richness of offerings and was greatly impressed by the professionalism and organization that are so typical of **SLV**. Wishing you success.

Jean Wu

Dear Mark and Clayton,

Thank you for all of your efforts on behalf of our kids. It means a lot to have your ongoing support for our service of children experiencing homelessness. You are amazing! Warmly,

Casey Knittel

Mustard Seed School

Ed. Note: Once again, the school which is part of the Loaves and Fishes ministry received a share of the Tour Preview Day admissions. The school is for transient children, who may not have a place to learn, to stay warm, to get something nourishing to eat. You/we have proudly supported Mustard Seed for many, many years.

Dear Ramona,

Thank you for your donation of \$208 made on 7/16/2019. Through your support, Yolo Basin Foundation can continue our work to foster public appreciation and stewardship of wetlands and wildlife in the Yolo Basin. Sincerely,

Martha Ozonoff, Executive Director

Ed. Note: This was the donation for the **Bat evening**. We probably had more comments on that simple day trip than anything we have done for a long time.

Hi Mark,

Downsizing and purging! There are a few nuts in any family, but you are the only baseball nut I know. Thought you might enjoy it! Take care, love your tours and staff.

Susan Deuter

Ed. Note: Thanks Susan, for the baseball memorabilia. Love it!

Hi Mark,

Great trip to the Albuquerque balloon festival 10/5-10/12 2019. Our friends from Medford Oregon, Ralph & Diane Jewell, enjoyed the trip very much and hope to

attend more **Sports Leisure** trips, now that they are retired.

Scott's enthusiasm for the balloon event is contagious, understandably so; he knows all there is to know and better yet whom to ask if he doesn't know. We hope you will consider his suggestions for continued balloon trips and possibly a group Topgolf excursion on rest days.

Thomas our bus driver, was professional in every way and added to the festive event with his humor & kind heart. My wish is that a day trip to the Native American petroglyphs with a naturalist to interpret the symbols, in lieu of shopping, would be considered on one of the rest days. Happy travelers,

Emma and Gale Higgins

Scott/Mark –

Just wanted to circle back and say Thank you! We followed your itinerary almost to the letter... and had a great time. Weather was perfect 90% of our time there... and our kids really enjoyed the hikes and thermal features. It was a GREAT family vacation. Thanks again for all your help!

Kelly Brothers, CFP®, MBA

Ed. Note: Kudos to **Scott Angeletti** for helping our friend Kelly put together a family trip. There might be someone out there reading this who went with **Sports Leisure** on a trip to Chicago for Cubs baseball and Notre Dame football a few years back, where Kelly and his family were a part of the group. A most memorable trip, as thunderstorms caused the evacuation of the stadium TWICE during the game.

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:

marksit@aol.com
clayton.whitehead@sportsleisure.com



Just Ordering A Pizza... from Google

CALLER: Is this Gordon's Pizza?

GOOGLE: No sir, it's Google Pizza.

CALLER: I must have dialed a wrong number – sorry.

GOOGLE: No sir, Google bought Gordon's Pizza last month.

CALLER: OK. I would like to order a pizza.

GOOGLE: Do you want your usual, sir?

CALLER: My usual? You know me?

GOOGLE: According to our caller ID data sheet, the last 12 times you called you ordered an extra-large pizza with 3 cheeses, sausage, pepperoni, mushrooms and meatballs on a thick crust.

CALLER: OK! That's what I want.

GOOGLE: May I suggest that this time you order a pizza with ricotta, arugula, sun-dried tomatoes & olives on a whole wheat gluten-free thin crust?

CALLER: What? I detest vegetables!

GOOGLE: Your cholesterol is not good sir.

Friends We've Lost

Been a while since we have published this list, so it's a little longer. I started business in a stand at Marilee Denio's Farmer's Market in Roseville. Rest in peace Marilee, Bev, Bunny and Gilbert and damn, there are a lot of old **Sports Leisure** traveling buddies on here, and one American hero. Rest in peace and travel safely with the angels. – Mark

Bev Sjurson

Richard Creveling

Paul Winter

John Fletcher

Peggy Johnson

Chester Barrett

Donna Pierini

Carol Lou Williams

Mary Jane Smitt

Marilee Denio

Priscilla "Bunny" Alexander

Gilbert Ford

Elijah Cummings

Godspeed

CALLER: How the heck do you know?

GOOGLE: We cross-referenced your home phone number with your medical records & have the result of your blood tests for the last 7 years.

CALLER: OK, but I don't want your rotten vegetable pizza! I already take medication for my cholesterol.

GOOGLE: Excuse me sir, but you have not taken your medication regularly. According to our database, you only purchased a box of 30 cholesterol tablets once at Drug RX Network 4 months ago.

CALLER: I bought more from another drugstore.

GOOGLE: That doesn't show on your credit card statement.

CALLER: I paid cash.

GOOGLE: But you did not withdraw enough cash according to your bank statement.

CALLER: I have other sources.

GOOGLE: That doesn't show on your last tax return unless you bought them using an undeclared income source, which is against the law.

CALLER: Enough already! I'm sick to death of Google, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and all the others. I'm going to an island without internet, cable TV, no cell phone service and no one to watch or spy on me.

GOOGLE: I understand sir, but you need to renew your passport, it expired 6 weeks ago.

Ponder These

- What if my dog only brings back the ball because he thinks I like throwing it?
- If poison is past its expiry date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?
- Which letter is silent in the word "scent", the S or the C?
- Why is the letter w, in English, called double u? Shouldn't it be called double v?
- Maybe oxygen is slowly killing you and it just takes 75-100 years to fully work.
- The word "swims" upside-down is still "swims".
- Intentionally losing a game of rock, paper, scissors is just as hard as trying to win.

- 100 years ago everyone owned a horse and only the rich had cars. Today everyone has cars and only the rich own horses.
- Doctors told Stephen Hawking he had two years to live in 1953.
- If you replace "W" with "T" in "What, Where and When", you get the answer to each of them.
- Many animals probably need glasses, but nobody knows it.
- If you rip a hole in a net, there are actually fewer holes in it than there were before.

What Love is all About

It was a busy morning, approximately 8:30 am, when an elderly gentleman, in his 80's arrived to have stitches removed from his thumb. He stated that he was in a hurry and that he had an appointment at 9:00 am. I saw him looking at his watch and decided, since I was not busy with another patient, I would evaluate his wound.

On exam it was well healed, so I talked to one of the doctors, got the needed supplies to remove his sutures and redressed his wound. While taking care of him, we began to engage in conversation. I asked him if he had a doctor's appointment this morning, as he was in such a hurry. The gentleman told me no, that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife. I then inquired as to her health. He told me that she had been there for awhile and was a victim of Alzheimer's Disease.

As we talked and I finished dressing his wound, I asked if she would be worried if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was, and hadn't recognized him in five years. I was surprised, and asked him, "And you still go every morning, even though she doesn't know who you are?" He smiled and patted my hand and said, "She doesn't know me... but I still know her."

The Barber Pole, or Once Over Lightly

Topics of interest to Sports Leisure Travelers...

For Those Requiring Assistance at Airports

It's a subject we have addressed here before. Some of those who travel with us find it easier to get through an airport with the assistance of a wheelchair and the accompanying attendant. All airports provide this service and we are happy to assist those needing assistance.

But, based on recent observations by Tour Directors, and negative comments from other travelers, we need to talk about airport assistance. When one of our groups lands in an airport and we have more than a couple of wheelchair requests, it often maxes out the system, particularly at smaller airports. When that happens, service slows down, perhaps even stops. You see, we aren't the only flight landing and often other flights have requests for assistance also. Most are patient with this situation. Some are not. (Recently, one of our travelers **really** unloaded on a wheelchair pusher who was delayed. It was totally unjustified and embarrassed the rest of the group. That person is no longer welcome on **Sports Leisure** trips.)

We have also noticed something else. There are more wheelchair requests when we are flying on Southwest. **A lot more.** Some people have figured out boarding early in a chair is the way to get the seat you want. Some of these early boarders in wheelchairs have been known to walk off the plane under their own power at flight's end, declining the wheelchair waiting in their arrival city. Even Southwest has started to police this situation, because of the growing number of pre-board requests. Those who abuse the system this way are creating a situation where people who truly need help cannot get it. (Did you know you can approach the gate agent on Southwest flights and get a pre-boarding sleeve, so you don't need a wheelchair to "beat the system?").

Because the situation is getting worse

instead of better, we are making an open appeal to our travelers. Please do not request airport assistance unless you truly need it. When you request it, understand that in a small airport, there may be only one or two people to push a chair. Even in a large airport, there can be significant delays. One other consideration; wheelchair pushers rarely make more than the legal minimum wage. **When the attendant is friendly and efficient, a gratuity is in order. Kindly remember it is not the attendant's fault you had to wait.**

Please don't misunderstand. This is not about those who truly need help in the airports. It **is** about being considerate of other travelers, and patient when the extra services you need cannot be supplied at the drop of a hat. If you have any questions or comments, **Mark/Ramona/Clayton** welcome your call. Thank you.

Listening to videos, etc. on your cell phone, on the bus

Several of our travelers have written or called recently, asking us to clarify the policy on cell phone usage on the bus. There are two parts to our policy, **cell calls** and **listening to/watching videos with sound.**

Cell Phone Calls. An example: Your phone rings. You answer and greet the caller. "I'm so sorry, I'm traveling right now and cannot talk. Could we connect later?" Of course, if it's urgent, please take care of things. Another option. If the call is important and will be extended, retire to the "phone booth" at the back of the coach. You can sit comfortably and talk as long as needed. (It also doubles as the rest room, so if someone knocks, you may have to give up your seat.) Our policy is to ask our travelers to limit the number and length of their calls.

Listening to videos: Second example. You are surfing the internet on your phone or other device. You decide to watch a video. Perhaps the grandchildren have posted something on Facebook you want to hear. Cool. **Use headphones.** It is poor form (and frankly rude) to expect everyone to listen to what you are hearing on

your phone. Imagine the noise if 6-8 people decided to listen to videos at the same time (which is now fairly common). Easy solution.

Use headphones. Or wait until you are in a more private situation where you won't disturb others.

Effective November 15th, Tour Directors have been asked to advise those in violation of the above policies to use a headset or take their calls later. Again, we welcome your comments.

Quick Reminders – Help us Provide You with the Best Possible Service

Return the Release Form – When paying for a tour by mail, kindly remember to return the form regarding **Cancellations/ADA.** **You cannot travel if we do not have a signed copy 21 days before departure.** When you pay by credit card, you must mail this document in, or you can scan it and forward by email.

Effective January 1, our Cancellation Policy will change slightly. There will be a **\$20 charge** for any reservation on an extended (more than one day) tour cancelled after the deposit has been paid. Previously, there was no charge until 60 days prior to departure. The change was made necessary because some people are booking multiple tours and cancelling all but one at the 61 day mark. We are hoping this small tweak will eliminate that issue.

Upgrades on the Plane – Make sure you tell your reservationist you wish Economy Plus, Comfort +, or first class seats. **Michael** will get those seats when he tickets the group and notify you of availability and charges. **Please make these requests at time of reservation.**

Traveling with a Walker? – We need to know 4 weeks before departure so we can schedule a vehicle with room for your assistive device.

PASSPORT INFORMATION

Your passport must be valid for at least six months past the end date of your tour.



Day Trips & Theatre Outings

Hamilton

The smash hit is carried over

Wednesday, February 26 OR March 11

With more dates to be announcement

Lin-Manuel Miranda's story of Alexander Hamilton, an immigrant from the West Indies, is absolutely must-see theatre! Hamilton is the story of America then, as told by America now with an exciting musical score accentuating a dramatic story. Our Wednesday departures include a lite snack on the way to San Francisco; orchestra seating, and a stop at Pier 39 after the show for dinner on your own. **\$228**

The Great Dickens Christmas Fair

Sunday, December 1

Kick off your holiday season by immersing yourself in the world of Victorian London at the Cow Palace in SF. Wind your way through music halls, theatres, pubs, dance parties and charming shops overflowing with hand-made holiday treasures. Take in the alluring aromas of roasted chestnuts and hearty foods offered at the Fair. Perhaps you'll run into Charles Dickens himself! Victorian-era costumed participants are encouraged. Lunch is on your own at the Fair. **\$118**

Christmas Shopping in San Francisco

Monday, December 2

Join our annual trip to San Francisco to browse, shop, or just enjoy the festive window displays and store decorations. Lunch is at your leisure in Union Square with an optional shuttle to Pier 39 for the afternoon before returning home. **\$89**

Return of the Cranes

Sunset viewing of the sandhill cranes

Thursday, December 12

The optimum time to view these large birds is at dusk as they return to the Isenberg Crane Reserve. A late lunch is included following an earlier visit to the Cosumnes River Nature Preserve. This trip returns after dark and is a rain or shine experience. **\$139**

Christmas Lights in San Francisco

Thursday, December 19

Our always popular trip to San Francisco welcomes Christmas season with a narrated tour of the city dressed and decorated in celebration of the holidays. With views and visits in and through the neighborhoods of Civic Center, Union Square, Nob Hill, and the Embarcadero, the bright and colorful lights of the skyline, bridges, and city, will put you in the spirit of this festive time of year. An early dinner is included at Fog Harbor Restaurant on Pier 39 before the tour. **\$144**

Dear Evan Hansen

Memorial Auditorium, Sacramento

Thursday, January 23

Dear Evan Hansen, winner of six 2017 Tony Awards including Best Musical, is the story of an awkward high school teen who finds himself in the middle of a lie that spirals out of control through the power of social media. Sometimes hopeful, sometimes brutal, sometimes heartbreakingly tragic, the story is propelled by a brilliant score. We don't just have seats, we have THE BEST seats in the auditorium in rows A through E, center orchestra! The day begins with a buffet lunch served at the Claim Jumper, a popular downtown eatery located in the historic Elk Tower. **\$202**

Civic Center of San Francisco

Tour City Hall, Opera House and Davies Hall

Monday, February 24

Located in what is considered the heart of San Francisco, the Civic Center contains many of the cultural and government organizations. Built in classical architectural style, the area provides a vast amount of the city's history and is a designated National Historic Landmark. With both Craig Smith and docents from the Performing Art Center, tours include Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, War Memorial Opera House, Herbst Theatre, and iconic City Hall. Be advised these are walking tours. Lunch is included at Max's Opera House Café. **\$141**

The Last Ship

At the Golden Gate Theatre

Wednesday, March 4

The acclaimed new musical starring and with music and lyrics by internationally renowned musician Sting (from the famous English rock group The Police) is coming to San Francisco in 2020. It is the tale of Wallsend in the northeast of England, a shipbuilding community torn apart by the closing of the shipbuilding industry. Sting wrote this musical as an homage to where he came from as well as to those that raised him. Sting plays Jackie White, the shipyard foreman who rallies the workers as their corporate overlords threaten closure. Trip includes snack box onboard the coach, orchestra seating at the 2pm matinee, dinner on your own at Pier 39 after the show and return to Sacramento. **\$216**

Roll with the Bakers

Boudin's Bakery in San Francisco

Thursday, March 19

Spend the day at Boudin Bakery on Fisherman's Wharf learning the history of their Sourdough Bread, the original "San Francisco treat." Along with your bread lesson (no experience required), enjoy watching the bakers at work from a glass-walled catwalk above their professional kitchen; also included lunch in the Boudin Restaurant, docent tour of their collection of bread-making memorabilia, and a take-home loaf of their delicious bread! There will be a little free time to browse on your own before boarding a Bay Ferry to Vallejo where our coach waits to return you home to Sacramento. A tasty day, rain or shine. **\$158**

Dancing With The Stars: Live!

Evening performance at Stockton Arena

Sunday March 22

An all-new production of *Dancing With The Stars: Live!* is sure to wow you as the Pros perform your favorite routines from the hit TV dance competition show. Experience the excitement, glamour and glitz you see



in the ballroom every Monday night, live on stage. Scheduled pro dancers include Witney Carson, Gleb Savchenko, Lindsay Arnold, Val Chmerkovskiy & Jenna Johnson, Emma Slater & Sasha Farber and more. An early dinner at Angelina's Spaghetti House precedes the 7pm performance. **\$156**

A Day at the Races

Golden Gate Fields, Berkeley

Friday, March 27

This always popular outing includes a multi-course buffet lunch and finish line seating in the enclosed Turf Club at Golden Gate Fields. Enjoy the races from your comfortable table overlooking the track, television monitors for a close-up view, and betting windows conveniently nearby. Arrival is timed for the first race and departure after the last race of the day. **\$147**

Happy Birthday, Golden Gate Park!

Thursday, April 2

One of the world's most iconic parks is celebrating its 150th Birthday in April and you are invited to the party! With Craig Smith as guide, we will tour and stop throughout the park learning how this vast area of nothing but sand dunes is the verdant and horticulturally diverse attraction it is today. Larger than New York's Central Park, its 1,017 acres includes not only gardens and recreational areas, but renown cultural and science venues as well. Enjoy included lunch at the Beach Chalet Restaurant located in the park and conclude the day at the serene and picturesque Japanese Tea Gardens. **\$147**

Book of Mormon

At the Golden Gate Theatre

Sunday, April 19

The *Book of Mormon* follows the story of two missionaries who are sent from Salt Lake City to a remote Ugandan Village. Their tasks are to introduce and ultimately convert the Ugandan people over to Mormonism. After opening on Broadway, this show won nine Tony Awards in 2012. This show contains **very strong adult language**. This trip will include snack box onboard the coach, orchestra seating for the 1pm matinee,

dinner on your own at Pier 39 following the show and return to Sacramento. **\$225**

Joy Luck Club

CATS production at Nevada Theatre

Sunday, April 26

CATS, the Community Asian Theatre of the Sierra presents Amy Tan's bestselling story this spring. A tale of four Chinese mothers and their American daughters, this play follows the interconnected stories, the relationships and people who complicate their lives. The story takes place in both China and San Francisco from the early 20th century to 1987. Lunch is included in Grass Valley prior to the matinee. **\$109**

Come From Away

Memorial Auditorium, Sacramento

Thursday, May 21

Nominated for 7 Tony Awards, *Come From Away* takes you into the heart of the remarkable true story of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town of Gander, Newfoundland that welcomed them. Cultures clashed and nerves ran high, but uneasiness turned into trust, music soared into the night and gratitude grew into enduring friendships. On 9/11, the world stopped. On September 12th their stories moved us all. Our seating is the best in the house – Orchestra rows A-C – so you can count on an up-close and personal encounter with the folks that came from away and locals alike. The day begins with a buffet lunch served downtown at the Claim Jumper prior to the matinee curtain. **\$182**

The Band's Visit

At the Golden Gate Theatre

Wednesday, June 3

In this joyously offbeat story, set in a town that's way off the beaten path, an Egyptian band gets lost, arriving out of the blue into an isolated hamlet in Israel's Negev Desert. Winner of 10 Tony Awards, including Best Musical; and a Grammy Award winner for Best Musical Theatre Album, *The Band's Visit* presents beautiful music and a story about strangers bringing a town to life in unexpected ways. Our Wednesday departure includes a snack box on board the coach, orchestra seating at the 2pm

matinee, and dinner on your own at Pier 39 after the show. **\$167**

Distinctly Napa

Wine and Culinary Treats with a bit of history

2 Days • April 13-14

On this overnight trip travel to nearby Napa Valley in the comfort of our specially outfitted motorcoach. We will depart Sacramento in time for an included lunch at **Ristorante Allegria** in downtown Napa. The restaurant is located in an old bank building, circa 1916, featuring 35 foot ceilings. The atmosphere is perfect for an elegant meal; and setting the stage for your afternoon. Following lunch, a local historian/guide provides a bit of Napa history on a tour of the city (some walking involved). Our hotel for the night, **The Napa River Inn** is centrally located in downtown Napa where world class restaurants and shopping abound. You have the evening free to explore and dine at your leisure. The Oxbow Market, a **Sports Leisure** favorite is a short, easy walk from the hotel.

Rise and shine! "What's for breakfast?" You can have your continental breakfast delivered to your room, or go downstairs and dine-in at Sweetie Pies. "Ready for today's adventure? Let's go!" The **Castello di Amorosa** is described as "an authentically-styled 13th century Tuscan castle winery in the Napa Valley". After a guided tour of the castle enjoy a family style lunch in the Great Hall, paired with a selection of three premium wines. Return to Sacramento taking the scenic Hwy 128 along Lake Berryessa and Putah Creek.

This tour will include three meals (1 continental breakfast, 2 lunches), a guided tour, wine tasting, and fabulous accommodations. As this is an overnigher, the coach will be picking up from our convenient locations in Sacramento. **Please note that this trip does include two walking tours, sometimes over uneven pavement and cobblestones.** 800/900 Gold Passport Points.

\$760 p.p./dbl.occ., \$895 single



The Tour Calendar *(Previously Announced)*

Legendary Aloha!Hawaii's Big Island & Kauai, w/opt'l Oahu extension

8-10 Days * Feb. 16-23/25



Two seats remain in our group of 23 heading to the islands. 4 nights in Kailua Kona at the King Kamehameha Courtyard by Marriott, 3 nights at the Sheraton Kauai. Lots of included tours, including flightseeing and a vanilla farm luncheon. 15 meals and air are included. Call our office for a copy of the day-by-day Itinerary, or view it online.

\$4970 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5695 single
(2 islands)

\$1085 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1295 single
(adding the optional Oahu stay)

Eagles, Owls and Agriculture in the Carson Valley



Unique birds of prey viewing and agricultural education experience

3 Days • January 24-26

- Private Ranch and Barn Owl tours
- Birds of Prey Tour – the birds return to the Carson Valley each winter
- Sunday brunch at Harrah's Lake Tahoe
- Tour Genoa & the Carson Valley Museum
- 2 nights Carson Valley Inn
- 3 meals: 1 brunch, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- 950/1100 Gold Passport Points

\$945 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1060 single

See page 5 in our 2020 Dream Book

Death Valley and the Eastern Sierra



Two nights in Death Valley; visit Manzanar National Historic Site

5 Days • February 3-7

- 1 night at the Golden Nugget in Las Vegas, 2 nights Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley, 1 night Bishop
- Walk through Goodsprings and sit in the Pioneer Saloon, "speak" to the ghosts that inhabit the old mining town
- Visit Manzanar National Historic Site
- Full day of Death Valley touring, featuring the Zabrinski Point, Badwater Salt Flats and the Harmony Borax Works



Japanese Peace Cranes adorn Manzanar's monument

- Fly to Las Vegas/coach return to Sacramento, door-to-door airport service
 - 9 meals: 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners
 - 2250/2550 Gold Passport Points
- Death Valley... its name alone conjures up all sorts of images: lonely prospectors, teams of mules pictured on boxes of borax, and early television westerns. Explore a few of the deserted or nearly deserted towns along the way, starting with a trip to the ghost town of Goodsprings. You are sure to be surprised by the beauty, intrigued by the stories, and awed by the splendor that is Death Valley National Park and the Eastern Sierra Nevada.

\$2225 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2510 single

See page 10 in our 2020 Dream Book

Take the Snow Train to Reno



Ride the California Zephyr through the Sierra Nevada

2 Days • February 11-12 & March 10-11

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 winter vistas.

On the train, enjoy relaxing views from your seat or from the domed observation car. A box lunch is included for you to take on the train so you won't miss the scenery! Your

accommodations are at the **Silver Legacy Casino/Resort**. Enjoy a free morning at leisure on the second day before returning home by motorcoach.

The package includes one-way rail passage on Amtrak's *California Zephyr*, a boxed lunch, hotel accommodations, casino bonuses, and return transportation by motorcoach. 350/400 Gold Passport Points

\$320 p.p./dbl.occ., \$355 single

Add door-to-door service for \$109 p.p.

See page 5 in our 2020 Dream Book

FLY Away to the Sea

See FLY, the newest Broadway-hopeful at the La Jolla Playhouse



3 Days • February 20-22

2 nights at the Embassy Suites downtown San Diego, spend a day at SeaWorld, enjoy a luncheon cruise on San Diego Bay and do a little shopping/strolling along the waterfront. Highlight of the trip is the opportunity to see a Broadway-bound show, *FLY!*, a version of *Peter Pan* for grown ups.

\$1285 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1455 single

See page 14 in our 2020 Dream Book

A Taste of Healdsburg

A close-to-home culinary adventure



2 Days • February 25-26

Come along with us on a relaxing, no-fly trip that will take us to the small town that *Vogue Magazine* called the "Next California Culinary Destination." Revisit some familiar places and explore new ones as we travel to Healdsburg in the heart of Sonoma County.

\$799 p.p./dbl.occ., \$899 single

Add door-to-door service for \$109 p.p.

See page 6 in our 2020 Dream Book

Tucson – A Gem of the Southwest



Featuring the Loews Ventana Canyon Resort

5 Days • March 10-14

- Culinary tour and fine dining experiences
- Kartchner Caverns State Park
- Mission San Xavier del Bac
- Garden Tour at Tohono Chul Park
- Tour the DeGrazia Gallery In The Sun
- 4 meals: enjoy lunch together each day



- Door-to-door service
 - Roundtrip airfare to/from Tucson
 - 2300/2700 Gold Passport Points
- \$2290p.p./dbl.occ., \$2685p.p single**
[See page 11 in our 2020 Dream Book](#)

Spring Training

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

5 Days • March 12-16

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 perhaps wonder why it took you so long to get here. You'll partake in the Sunday buffet 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, our seats generally in the shade (amazing how important that little detail is) and the atmosphere is casual and friendly. Our group will number 15-25.

Tentative Game Schedule

Thursday March 12	A's vs. L.A. Dodgers in Glendale
Friday March 13	Giants vs. Arizona Diamondbacks/Scottsdale
Saturday March 14	Giants vs. Cincinnati Reds at Goodyear
Sunday March 15	A's vs. San Diego Padres at Mesa
Monday March 16	Giants vs. Colorado Rockies at Talking Stick

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 buffet breakfast every morning (except Sunday) at the **beautifully refurbished Marriott Hotel**.

The package includes 7 meals, roundtrip air to/from Phoenix, four nights at the Marriott, game tickets in premium (and generally shaded) locations, the services of a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director and 2600/3000 Gold Passport Points for qualified travelers.

\$2595 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2960 single
[See page 12 in our 2020 Dream Book](#)

Nebraska: Sand Hill Cranes (and other surprisingly cool stuff)

It's Sandhill Cranes, Prairie Chickens and Kool-Aid

5 Days • March 23-27

- Evening and morning viewing of cranes at Rowe Sanctuary
- Visit the Crane Trust Foundation headquarters
- Walk through the Kool-Aid exhibit at the Hastings Museum
- Spend the morning in Red Cloud, home to author Willa Cather
- Early morning "chicken dance" experience
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip air to Kearney/from North Platte, door-to-door service
- 2300/2550 Gold Passport Points

Come with **Ramona** to this most unlikely destination. Besides the cranes, she has found a host of fun things to do in the middle of the country!

\$2295 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2540 single
[See page 18 in our 2020 Dream Book](#)

Classical Empires of the Mediterranean

Cruise from Monte Carlo to Barcelona, with stops in Italy, Malta and Spain

14 Days • April 17-30

DATE	PORT OF CALL
April 17	In-flight
April 18	Arrive Monte Carlo – 1 night
April 19	Monte Carlo – Ship departs at 8pm
April 20	Florence/Pisa/Tuscany, Italy
April 21	Rome, Italy
April 22	Amalfi/Positano, Italy
April 23	Taormina (Sicily), Italy
April 24	Valletta, Malta
April 25	Cruising the Mediterranean Sea
April 26	Alicante, Spain
April 27	Valencia, Spain
April 28	Palma de Mallorca, Spain
April 29	Arrive Barcelona – 1 night
April 30	Fly Home

We are pleased to partner with **Oceanica Cruises** for such a vacation aboard the

Riviera. Designed with luxury and comfort in mind, the *Riviera* offers an impeccable level of personalized service with a country club casual ambiance. This ship which carries 1250 passengers (and an 800 member crew) offers unique epicurean and travel experiences with multiple dining venues, of which six are open-seating gourmet restaurants with no surcharges.

The 10-day cruise includes iconic Mediterranean ports of call. While shore excursions are not included in the package price, this particular departure does include an on-board credit which may be used for shore packages, on-board services such as the Canyon Ranch Spa, or on-board shopping.

Upon arrival in Monte Carlo, a city tour acquaints you to the sights and sounds of this famous city. Overnight and enjoy another day on the French Riviera before boarding your floating home for the next 10 nights. Visit the Renaissance city of Florence or Pisa; travel through the Tuscan countryside to San Gimignano with medieval towers. In Rome, revel in the timeless monuments, from the ancient Roman Forum to the splendor of St. Peter's Basilica. Amalfi, Taormina, Valletta, Alicante and Valencia offer opportunities to bask in the sun, marvel at buildings seeming to stand suspended on the cliffs, and partake in the ancient history of this spectacular area. Palma de Mallorca is a beautiful island rich with the magnificent Seo Cathedral and amazing natural wonders. In Barcelona, disembark from the ship early in the morning, allowing for a full day of touring before spending your final night in the Mediterranean.

This package includes the services of a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director, door-to-door service, roundtrip airfare to Nice/from Barcelona, two additional nights' lodging (1– Monte Carlo; 1 – Barcelona), local touring in Monte Carlo and Barcelona.

Veranda Staterooms start at:

\$7910 p.p./dbl.occ., \$11,175 single
Prices based on estimated air.
Gold Passport Points based on cabin selection

This vacation requires a valid passport!
[See page 30 in our 2020 Dream Book](#)

Beautiful Bodega Bay and The Coast

Featuring the Sonoma Coastline



3 Days • April 26-28

- Relax in comfort and enjoy the hospitality of Bodega Bay Lodge & Spa, overlooking Dorian Beach
- Tour the Marine Biology Laboratory
- Dine at the historic Occidental Union Hotel; and legendary Tides
- 5 meals: 2 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 2 lunches
- Door-to-door service and deluxe motorcoach transportation
- 1200/1400 Gold Passport Points

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

\$1200 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1390 single

See page 9 in our 2020 Dream Book

NYC – Behind Broadway and The Bronx

Times Square, two Broadway shows and a night at Carnegie Hall



6 Days • April 24-29

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Times Square, in the heart of the city
- 2 included nights of theater (*Diana!*, based on the life of the princess; and one show of your choice – an exclusive **SLV** feature); a night at Carnegie Hall with the New York Symphony Pops Orchestra
- 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 Downtown – 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

- 6 meals: 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to/from NYC
- 4200/4750 Gold Passport Points

If you've always longed to wake up in the city that never sleeps, allow us to use our many years of expertise to help you personalize your visit. See at least two Broadway shows and spend a night at Carnegie Hall. Harness the city's energy for a true New York experience. Come with us, we'll show you how!

\$4160 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4705 single

See page 15 in our 2020 Dream Book

Pathways of Patriots



Featuring the Virginia International Tattoo, a colorful display of pageantry and music

7 Days • April 27 – May 3

- 2 nights Prince William County – Manassas National Battlefield, Ben Lomond Historic Site, Occoquan, Effingham Manor Winery
- Quantico National Cemetery, Museum and US Marine Base
- Richmond – Statehouse, American Civil War Museum, CSA White House
- Colonial Williamsburg
- 2 nights Norfolk – Virginia International Tattoo, NATOfest Parade of Nations
- 12 meals: daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to Dulles/from Norfolk
- 3300/3750 Gold Passport Points

Join **Clayton** as you step back to a tumultuous time in our nation's history. As you visit the many Civil War sites, battlefields and historic sites of Virginia, it is a time of reflection on the formation of our country. It all comes together with a Parade of Nations and an evening of music at the Virginia International Tattoo.

\$3285 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3725 single

See page 16 in our 2020 Dream Book

We appraise and/or buy old coins

Call for an appointment to have your coins appraised and/or purchased. Find out what your treasures are worth!

916-361-2051 ask for **Bob** or **Mark**

Baseball, History of America's Pastime

Pilgrimages to see and learn about baseball's landmarks



"There are only two seasons – winter and Baseball." – **Bill Veeck**

Part 1 – May 2-9 • 8 Days

The Giants in Minnesota, the Negro Leagues Museum, The Field of Dreams, Wrigley Field tour, Churchill Downs

1. Fly to Kansas City, late lunch at legendary Arthur Bryant's BBQ, Negro Leagues Museum. – 2 nights
2. Truman Presidential Library, WWII Museum, De. Tigers vs. K.C. Royals.
3. Fly to Minneapolis, Giants vs. Twins. – 2 nights
4. Meet the son of a baseball legend, sights in the Twin Cities, Giants-Twins.
5. Travel by coach to the Field of Dreams in Iowa. Overnight Dubuque
6. Wrigley Field Tour, fly Chicago to Louisville – 2 nights
7. Tour Louisville Slugger Bat Factory and the Muhammad Ali Museum, possible minor league game
8. Breakfast at Churchill Downs w/tour, fly home.

\$3899 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4399 single

Part 2 – Sept. 22-27 • 6 Days

Yankee Stadium, Fenway Park, Cooperstown, Hoboken, Polo Grounds site

1. Fly to Newark – 2 nights.
2. Hoboken (first baseball game site), Yogi Berra Museum, Polo Grounds site, Astros vs. Yankees.
3. Gates of Heaven Cemetery – Babe Ruth gravesite (plus Billy Martin and a host of others), travel to Cooperstown – 2 nights
4. Visit the Hall of Fame. Special program featuring artifacts not on display, presented by the museum curator.
5. Travel to Boston, stop in Mudville (Holliston, MA). Orioles – Red Sox at Fenway. Overnight.
6. Tour Fenway Park, fly home.

Prices available December 1

Place your name on the

Priority Notification List now!

See page 13 in our 2020 Dream Book



Springtime in Yosemite

*Giant Sequoias, waterfalls and
spring flowers*

A

3 Days • May 12-14

- 2 nights at the Rush Creek Lodge, just outside the park
- Free time to visit Yosemite Falls, the Ansel Adams Gallery, and the Yosemite Museum
- Guided tour highlighting the history and points of interest throughout the valley
- 3 meals: 2 lunches, 1 dinner
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- Door-to-door service
- 1500/1800 Gold Passport Points

Springtime is the optimum season to view Yosemite's magnificent waterfalls and get a peek at its display of spring flowers. On your full day in the park, the morning will consist of a fully narrated tour to discover the history, geology and people of Yosemite. The afternoon is your time to explore the valley as you wish. Perhaps a walk out to Mirror Lake, or time at the museum and Ansel Adams gallery. In the evening, return to your mountain resort.

During our time in the park, visit the Giant Sequoia trees area around the newly restored Mariposa Grove (weather and conditions permitting). This area has undergone major reconstruction.

While we will be entering and exiting the park several times, we are confident you are going to love the improved accommodations: Rush Creek Lodge, located just one mile from the Big Oak Flat entrance to Yosemite National Park on Highway 120. It features a contemporary, rustic sensibility inspired by the breathtaking nature surrounding its 20-acre wooded hillside setting. While not inside the park, its location provides an opportunity to enjoy both the park and the serenity of the lodge in comfort and away from the crowds. If you have stayed in the park over the past few years you are aware its motel rooms have become a little tired.

\$1465 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1770 single

See page 6 in our 2020 Dream Book

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



Kinetic art is just one of the many forms of art along the famed Canyon Road

Soulful Santa Fe

*Featuring majestic scenery, inspiring art
and creative cuisine*

A

5 Days • May 23-27

- 4 nights in a beautiful, perfectly located hotel
- Savor fun, imaginative Southwest cuisine
- Guided tour of the Palace of the Governors & visit the State Capitol Building
- Travel through stunning O'Keefe Country with a naturalist guide
- Immerse yourself in the art of famed Canyon Road
- Learn about Native Culture at Acoma Sky City Pueblo
- 8 meals: 4 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Albuquerque, door-to-door airport service
- 2300/2600 Gold Passport Points

Known as "The City Different," Santa Fe is truly unique. There is a magic of sorts... the light is a little brighter, wonder is in the air and a calmness permeates your soul leaving you feeling refreshed and restored. A short stroll from your hotel is the central plaza (location, location), the heart of town, lined with boutiques, museums and restaurants. It's all yours to experience and explore!

\$2275 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2560 single

See page 21 in our 2020 Dream Book

Walla Walla and Pendleton

*Lewis & Clark, Oregon's Cowboy Country,
the Columbia River*

M

5 Days • June 1-5

- At Sacagawea State Park and Patit Creek, a living history guide brings you back to the days of Lewis & Clark
- Walk on a piece of the Oregon Trail
- Unique cider/chocolate and local wine tasting
- Makers Tour in Pendleton – Hats, saddles, boots
- 2 nights each – Walla Walla & Pendleton
- Learn about CBDs, the new hemp/cannabis-based pain med
- Lunch at the Columbia Gorge Hotel – 11 meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- 2150/2350 Gold Passport Points

Enjoy a collage of experiences on this two-state vacation to eastern Oregon and Washington. This is where the Corps of Lewis and Clark walked on their return to Missouri. Today, it's a land of cowboys and wineries, flanked by a majestic river, beckoning the visitor to learn about its colorful history and pleasant small towns. (This was originally a Mystery Tour itinerary in May of 2019. Because it was so highly rated, it returns to the schedule.)

\$2120 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2335 single

See page 24 in our 2020 Dream Book



A Connoisseur's Tour through Holland, Belgium and France

For aficionados of history, art, architecture... and fried potatoes!

11 Days • June 5-15

E

- Holland: 3 nights Haarlem; visit Amsterdam (Rijksmuseum), Zaanse Schans, Volendam and Delft
- Belgium: 2 nights Bruges; visit Antwerp and Ghent
- France: 1 night Arras, 3 nights Paris; visit the Louvre and Musée de Orsay
- All well-located 4-star hotels
- 16 meals include full breakfast daily and a farewell dinner cruise on the *Bateaux Mouches*
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to Amsterdam/from Paris
- 5650/6150 Gold Passport Points

\$5650 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6105 single

This vacation requires a valid passport!

See page 32 in our 2020 Dream Book

Falling for Boise

Featuring Shoshone Falls in the Snake River Canyon

4 Days • June 6-9

A

- 2-nights at the upscale Inn at 500 Capitol
- Culinary and history walking tour of Boise
- Tour of the Basque Museum
- Visit Shoshone Falls
- Roundtrip air to/from Boise
- 7 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport service
- 2000/2250 Gold Passport Points

\$1960 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2240 single

See page 43 in our 2020 Dream Book

Ferries, Islands and Towns of Old Cape Cod... and Pilgrims in Plymouth!

Commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims' arrival

8 Days • June 12-19

A

- 2 nights Plymouth, 2 nights Provincetown, overnight Hyannis, 2 nights Nantucket
- Guided Tours of Plymouth and Plimoth Plantation, Provincetown, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket; Cape Cod National Seashore
- Ferry rides from Boston to Provincetown,



Looks like these travelers found the sign, now where is the rock?

- Hyannis – Martha's Vineyard – Nantucket – Hyannis
- Tour Boston, ride the famous Swan Boats on Boston Common
- Sand dune excursion and Trolley tour of Provincetown with colorful theatrical entertainment
- 15 meals: breakfast daily, 2 lunches, 6 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Boston
- 4250/4900 Gold Passport Points

\$4245 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4880 single

See page 28 in our 2020 Dream Book

Highway 101 – The Oregon Coast, Berry Nice

The most spectacular coastline in America, a coach/fly tour

6 Days • June 21-26

M

- Depart from Sacramento by coach, return by air (independent train return also available)
- Drive through "The Avenue of the Redwoods" near Eureka
- Redwood National Park – more of the majestic giant trees
- Overnight Eureka, 2 nights Coos Bay, overnights in Newport and Beaverton
- Scenic drive along the Oregon Coast
- Great local stops – Misty Meadows Jams, Cranberry Sweets
- Washed Ashore – Saving the ocean one piece of junk at a time
- Shore Acres State Park with ocean views

- Cocktail cruise on Newport Harbor
- A very berry experience – learn how the marionberry was created, berry milkshakes are included
- Door-to-door service
- 2450/2800 Gold Passport Points

\$2450 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2760 single

See page 26 in our 2020 Dream Book

The Sounds of Music in Leavenworth

Featuring beer, bratwurst and an outdoor theater experience

July 2020

A

Our summer getaway to the lovely Bavarian-themed mountain village Leavenworth, WA for the summer theater series is always a crowd favorite. During a performance of beloved classic, *The Sound of Music*, the hills come alive with Maria and the Von Trapp Family. A second show will be added once the schedule has been released. Take a scenic train ride through the Cascade Mountains and spend a day in orchard country, Cashmere and Wenatchee. Stop for a tour, shopping and lots of samples at the Aplets & Cotlets Factory and a quirky family owned produce stand! A tour of Rocky Reach Dam gets you up close to the inner workings of this engineering marvel, while a visit to the Pioneer Museum and Village highlights the Native American history and geology of the area. Grab a bratwurst and a beer and you've got a rousing good time without the long plane ride over the Atlantic Ocean. Prost!

Pricing announced January 3rd

Priority Notification List available

See page 41 in our 2020 Dream Book

Circle British Columbia

Inside Passage cruise and riding the rails through BC's Northern Interior

8 Days • July 2020

E

- Flight over the Georgia Strait into Port Hardy
- BC Ferry daylight cruise through the Inside Passage
- Travel through British Columbia's beautiful rugged interior by train during daylight hours: VIA's *Skeena* (Prince Rupert to Prince George)
- Jet boat ride on the Fraser River through



- the Fort George Canyon
- 9 meals: 2 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to Vancouver/from Prince George

Due to limited services in the remote areas we will be visiting, and the modes of transportation, you must be prepared to handle your own luggage at airports, ferry terminals and train stations.

Date, prices after December 1st

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

This vacation requires a valid passport!

See page 36 in our 2020 Dream Book

Cruise Norway and the North Cape

"Voyage of the Midnight Sun"

17 Days • July 3-19



DATE	PORT OF CALL
July 3	Overnight flight
July 4	Arrive Amsterdam – 1 night
July 5	Amsterdam – Ship departs at 5pm
July 6	At Sea
July 7	Eidfjord / Scenic cruising Hardangerfjord
July 8	Bergen
July 9	Molde
July 10	Trondheim
July 11	At Sea
July 12	Honningsvåg / Scenic cruising- North Cape
July 13	At Sea
July 14	At Sea
July 15	Alesund
July 16	Flam / Scenic cruising-Sognefjord
July 17	Stavanger
July 18	At Sea
July 19	Arrive Amsterdam – Fly Home

The *Nieuw Statendam* typically carries 2600 guests. **Holland America's** signature experiences cover arts, culinary delights, history and culture at each port with a variety of shore excursions ranging in levels of activity.

The flight from California to Amsterdam takes a full day, arriving the following morning. A city tour and lunch ease the

transition into the European culture; visit the Rijksmuseum, one of the world's foremost museums dedicated to Dutch arts and history. As you sail out of Amsterdam the next day, journey north to the land of the midnight sun, stunning fjords and vistas, and charming Viking villages.

In the shadow of snowy peaks and stunning blue-green fjords, **Eidfjord** is considered to one of the most beautiful villages in Norway. **Hardangerfjord** is the fourth-longest fjord in the world and plunges down almost a half mile at its deepest point. Take in the best of the landscape as you sail toward the ever-imposing mountains of Hardangervidda National Park. Waterfalls, islands and shoreline villages dot the journey.

This package includes the services of a **Sports Leisure** Tour Director, door-to-door service, roundtrip airfare to/from Amsterdam, one night's accommodations and local touring in Amsterdam.

Inside Cabins start at:

\$6108 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8417 single

Outside Cabins start at:

\$6810 p.p./dbl.occ., \$9715 single

Prices based on estimated air.

Gold Passport Points based on cabin.

This vacation requires a valid passport!

See page 31 in our 2020 Dream Book

Lassen Volcanic National Park



Featuring rivers, lakes and waterfalls

3 Days • July 8-10

- Stay at Redding's newest hotel located on the banks of the Sacramento River
- Travel along the scenic Volcanic National Highway, stopping for a picnic lunch at Manzanita Lake
- 4 meals: 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- Motorcoach transportation
- 1200/1400 Gold Passport Points

A deep winter snow-pack altered our 2019 visit to Lassen Volcanic National Park yet we still enjoyed the beauty of the mountains, the power of the waterfalls, and peacefulness of the lakes. We return this year, in the hopes that the roads will be clear of snow.

\$1180 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1390 single

See page 7 in our 2020 Dream Book

Laguna Beach and The Pageant of the Masters

3 Days • July 26-28 OR

August 23-25



- Excellently located reserved loge seating in outdoor amphitheatre
 - Behind-the-scenes presentation about the workings of the pageant
 - Champagne brunch while cruising beautiful Newport Harbor
 - Morning visit to Balboa, a popular 19th century vacation destination
 - Dinner at Terra Restaurant overlooks the Festival of Arts
 - 3 meals: 1 brunch, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
 - Door-to-door service
 - Roundtrip airfare to/from Southern California
 - Motorcoach transfers and the services of your **Sports Leisure Vacations** Tour Director
 - 1600/1800 Gold Passport Points
- One of the world's most unique festivals, *The Pageant of the Masters* captivates and entertains audiences with a show hard to explain. Celebrating its 87th year of production, experience well-known paintings and sculpture as they come to life in a live two hour performance accompanied by a full orchestra.

\$1590 p.p. /dbl.occ. \$1795 single

See page 40 in our 2020 Dream Book

Maine – Lobsters and Lighthouses



From pristine coastlines, lush forests, rugged mountains and wildlife, it's all here!

7 Days • August 19-25

- Stay 2 nights waterfront near Bar Harbor and tour Acadia National Park
- Guided tours of Portland and Kennebunkport
- Enjoy a Lobster cruise and traditional Maine Lobster bake dinner
- See 4 lighthouses and visit the Maine Lighthouse Museum
- Join a moose-viewing expedition in the western mountains
- Visit the Maine State Capitol and Museum
- 13 meals: breakfast daily, 1 lunch, 6 dinners (including a Maine Lobster bake)
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Portland, ME



- 4000/4650 Gold Passport Points
\$3995 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4620 single
See page 29 in our 2020 Dream Book

The Magnificent Mendocino Coast

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

4 Days • September 8-11 

Our lodging for **two nights** will be overlooking Noyo Harbor at the familiar **Harbor Lite Lodge**. In the early morning, as you enjoy your first cup of coffee, watch as the fishing fleet heads out for the day. In the evenings, enjoy the fresh catch of the day as we dine at some of the area's oldest and finest establishments.

This tour includes door-to-door service, motorcoach transportation, accommodations, all attractions as listed in the catalog, 9 meals (3B,4L,2D), and the services of a **Sports Leisure Vacations** Tour Director. 1500/1750 Gold Passport Points

\$1490 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1725 single
See page 27 in our 2020 Dream Book

Capitol Reef National Park and Monument Valley

Featuring three nights at the new Dwellings Resort in Bluff Utah

6 Days • September 13-18  

- Tour Monument Valley with a Navajo guide
- Explore both the Valley of the Gods and Capitol Reef National Park in a 4x4 jeep
- Stand in four states at once at the Four Corners Monument
- Roundtrip air to Durango/from Salt Lake City, door-to-door airport service
- 12 meals: 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 2 dinners
- 3300/3700 Gold Passport Points

\$3280 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3685 single
See page 23 in our 2020 Dream Book

The Historic Columbia Gorge Hotel

On the banks of the Columbia River, on the Oregon-Washington border, sits a wonderful old hotel

4 Days • September 2020  

- 3 nights at the Columbia Gorge Hotel
- Breakfast each morning in the hotel

dining room, 8 included meals (3 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners)

- Daily excursions featuring the Maryhill Museum and Winery, the Hood River Valley and a cruise on the river, Multnomah Falls
- Ride the Mount Hood Railroad to Parkdale
- Hotel History Talk – learn about the people who have visited, when the hotel was built (1921) and about the early settlers
- Visit the Vancouver Farmer's Market
- Door-to-door service

Dates, prices available December 1st

Place your name on the Priority Notification List now!

See page 44 in our 2020 Dream Book

British Columbia Bears and Wildlife

Featuring Knights Inlet Lodge and Grizzly Bears

6 Days • October 2-7 

- 3 nights at the Knight Inlet remote floating wilderness lodge in a comfortable room with private washroom and shower
- 2 full days of guided wildlife viewing, including watching Grizzly Bears from nearby viewing platforms
- Marine wildlife excursions as weather allows
- Seaplane to/from Campbell River
- 12 meals: daily breakfast, 4 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip air to Campbell River/from Vancouver
- 6550/8000 Gold Passport Points

One of **Sports Leisure's** most outstanding adventures! The Knight Inlet Lodge is a **remote floating lodge in the wilderness**, accessible only by seaplane or boat; and many activities include climbing into marine vessels or walking on uneven surfaces. For these reasons, **you must be in stable physical condition, with good mobility**. We **do not** recommend this tour for travelers with moderate to serious mobility issues.

If you have questions or concerns, talk with **Ramona** before booking. Due to limited services in the remote areas we will be visiting, and the modes of transportation,

you must be prepared to handle your own luggage at the airports and hotels.

\$6520 p.p./dbl.occ., \$8000 single

This vacation requires a valid passport!

See page 39 in our 2020 Dream Book

US 50, The Lincoln Highway, America's Loneliest Road

Journey across Nevada on the loneliest and most historic highway in America

5 Days • September 29 – October 3 

- Authentic Basque-style lunch
- Visit the ghost town of Cherry Creek
- Explore McGill Drugs, frozen in time from 50 years ago
- Ride the Ghost Train of Old Ely, visit a bordello and meet the ladies... optional, of course
- Tour Eureka & Austin, tiny historical outposts on the historic Lincoln Highway
- Visit the Nevada State Museum in the old Carson City Mint
- Lunch atop Harrah's Tahoe, 11 included meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 full breakfast, 5 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door service
- 1550/1800 Gold Passport Points

\$1530 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1775 single

See page 45 in our 2020 Dream Book

Relax on Catalina Island

Enjoy three nights in the heart of Avalon

4 Days • October 18-21  

- 3 nights at the Pavilion Lodge
- Sunday Brunch at Long Beach's elegant *Queen Mary*,
- Be whisked away across "26 miles across the sea" on the high-speed *Catalina Express*
- *Twilight in the Casino* tour features wine and cheese on the balcony
- Explore the island with a scenic guided tour and special "undersea" experience
- 6 meals: 3 full breakfasts, 1 brunch, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door service
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Long Beach
- 1950/2350 Gold Passport Points

\$1935 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2320 single

See page 11 in our 2020 Dream Book



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EARLY PAYMENT DISCOUNT COUPON

Early Registration Payment Discounts listed here expire on **Tuesday, December 3rd**; 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.

Feb. – A Taste of Healdsburg – **Save \$20**

Mar. – Nebraska: Honestly, it's not for everyone! – **Save \$50**

Mar. – Spring Training – **Save \$40**

Mar. – Take the Snow Train to Reno – **Save \$10**

Apr. – Beautiful Bodega Bay and The Coast – **Save \$25**

Apr. – Classical Empires of the Mediterranean – **Save \$150**

Apr. – NYC – Behind Broadway and The Bronx – **Save \$100**

Apr. – Pathways of Patriots – **Save \$40**

Apr. – Distinctly Napa – **Save \$20**

May – Baseball, History of America's Pastime – **Save \$150**

May – Soulful Santa Fe – **Save \$35**

May – Springtime in Yosemite – **Save \$35**

Jun. – Tour through Holland, Belgium and France – **Save \$100**

Jun. – Falling for Boise – **Save \$35**

Jun. – Old Cape Cod... and Pilgrims in Plymouth! – **Save \$100**

Jun. – Walla Walla and Pendleton – **Save \$40**

Jul. – Cruise Norway and the North Cape – **Save \$125**

Jul. – Lassen Volcanic National Park – **Save \$25**

Sep. – Capitol Reef Nat'l Park & Monument Valley – **Save \$60**

Sep. – The Magnificent Mendocino Coast – **Save \$40**

Sep. – US 50, The Lincoln Highway – **Save \$40**

Oct. – British Columbia Bears and Wildlife – **Save \$150**

Oct. – Relax on Catalina Island – **Save \$25**

VALUABLE COUPON

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

Valid only when used with Early Payment Discounts. **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...

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

Sold-Out Tours (waiting lists available)

On the Central Coast	Ice Magic
Winter at Ahwahnee	Moab
Winter in Yellowstone	Newfoundland
Oregon Chocolate Festival	Puget Sound
St. Pat's Day in NOLA	Old West Mystery
Colorful Carolina Coast	Pure Michigan
Mystery Tour to Talk About	Bonjour Quebec
Nat'l Treasures of the West	Skagit Valley Tulips
New Fixin' Up Texas	

Limited Space (10 or fewer seats)

Key West (2)	Snow Train to Reno – Feb. (8)
Death Valley (4)	VA's Pathways to Patriots (9)
Hawaii (1)	Hawaii & Oahu (1)
Tucson (5)	Spring Training (4)
Nebraska (6)	Highway 101 (7)
Santa Fe (8)	Capitol Reef (5)
Maine (4)	