

WANDERING — IN SEARCH OF — WONDER

2025 DREAM BOOK



Sports Leisure Vacations LLC

CREATING MEMORABLE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES SINCE 1979

Where in the World do you want to go?

Post-pandemic, the entire world decided to re-value travel. It moved up on most people's list of recreational priorities. For a couple of years, that meant higher prices and bigger crowds.

There are signs now 2025 might be more "normal." Demand has leveled off or even dropped a bit. Prices are not going back to where they used to be, but the increases are much more nominal (predictable). Travel costs considerably more than it did five years ago. It's a reality. The question is, are you getting **value** for the dollars you spend when you travel. That's where we come in.

Our job is to add value and substance to your travels. Don't just go someplace, go there and meet some of the people who **live there**. Learn about what makes the area special to those who live there.

When you go to **Crazy Horse Mountain** in the Black Hills, you could stand at the base of the mountain and marvel at a sculpture started by a man who attacked a mountain with a jack hammer. **Or you could ride in a jeep up the mountain and look Crazy Horse right in the eye.** Does that cost a little more? Of course it does. But it's an experience few will ever have, and it gives you an incredible perspective on Crazy Horse, Mount Rushmore or any other large carving. You didn't just go see it, for a short time, you became a part of it. No matter the cost, the experience **is worth it.**

When you go to **Baseball Spring Training in Arizona**, you want to spend some of your time listening to old ballplayers tell stories about their playing days (that might even be true!) When you go



to **New York City**, why not meet people who **work on Broadway in the theaters**, and can share part of that experience with you in person. Make up, scene changes, all the back (and front) of the house things that are interesting as heck, but most theater-goers never learn about.

A sing-along at the Hollywood Bowl, lunch at a vanilla farm on the Big Island of Hawaii, whale-watching in a zodiac in the Galapagos Islands; these are just a few samples of the special touches our tours include.

The discoveries can be as simple as seeing the transition of Fort Bragg on the California coast from mill town to tourist outpost. You might meet "Mr. Tree" in the California Redwoods or the ghosts that haunt the Port Gamble Museum on Puget Sound. Maybe it's just one of the best ice cream cones ever in a local shop.

All year long, we research at home, take scouting trips to destinations, speak to those who promote destinations, restaurants and hotels at trade shows, as we build our knowledge to find the best the travel world has to offer.

On your evaluations, and often in person on tour, you share suggestions and ideas about places you'd like to visit. We listen. Many of those ideas end up incorporated into future travels. We ask your opinion **because we want to know how to make your travels more educational, exciting and wide ranging.**

For nearly a half century, Sports Leisure Vacations trips have been customer driven. Our travelers are spoiled. That's by intention. You have told us which little extras are important to you. We continually search out surprises, big and small, to enhance our itineraries.

You'll see a lot of familiar faces on the Sports Leisure team. We like to tout our experience. Because when it comes to travel, experience matters. The more you've seen, the better equipped you are to handle the curves travel can throw at you. You'll see familiar faces in our office and at our Preview Day events.

Mark Hoffmann, CTP,
Owner/Founder



The Story of How Our Door-to-Door service was born, and a Salute to Friends

Years ago, at a National Tour Association (NTA) convention, **John Statchnik** of **Mayflower Tours**, stood up. We were in an idea-sharing seminar. John offered, "We have purchased several vans and are picking up travelers in the Chicagoland area and taking them to the airport for their trip. I have to tell you our travelers are ecstatic about the service."

I was sitting next to John and he had barely finished speaking when I knew it was the best idea I'd ever heard. Within months, SLV had added door-to-door airport pick-ups to our packages. It was and is incredibly popular. It's our signature service.

John and his wife **Mary** were among our biggest supporters, encouraging me to become a part of NTA leadership and making efforts to guide Clayton in his own volunteer path. Their advice, wisdom and friendship was something of great value.

John passed away recently. He is survived by his lovely wife. It is an honor to share this story and honor them. Now you know the story of how home pick-up began. And how friends are forever.

Happy New Tour Year!

This may seem like a strange sentiment on any day except January 1, but it is truly what this catalogue represents – a new year. Our 46th to be exact. I hope you'll find something within these pages that will make you happy, for it has been our sincere pleasure creating each of these vacations for you! Herein you'll find new adventures and returning favorites from tours within California to destinations half a planet away. Think you've been everywhere? Then maybe a mystery tour is for you! Though not included in this publication, rest assured our popular regional *Daycations* (including San Francisco and Gallo Center theatre) will continue being offered via *The Traveler*, our every-other-monthly newsletter, and on the website.

It's impossible to dive into 2025 without reflecting back on so many amazing experiences in 2024, such as our grand tour of **Australia** for much of the month of February.



March was marked by the ever-popular **Colorful Carolina Coast** which will be repeated again in 2025, though you won't find it here. (Sorry, it's already sold out, but a waitlist is available!)



Spring rushed by in a blur, highlighted by a **total solar eclipse**, then a few weeks later this happened.



I spent most of the summer and fall out of the country including two trips to **Canada** as well as a scouting trip to **Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania** (watch for a Baltic States tour in 2026!), and tours to the **Czech Republic** and **Ireland**.



So much time spent outside the country made many of my usual editorial duties fall to Mark and the rest of the staff. Thank you ALL for your help. Special thanks to **Liam Heckman** and **Kellie Melby** of **Commerce Printing Services** for always having our back and to **Christine Knight** of **Imagesetter** for being a friend indeed!

Yes, it's been quite a year, but just wait until you see everything that lies ahead! So now it's your turn to **wander** these pages. I **wonder** which vacations will make it to the top of your list?



"Your Tour Guy,"

Clayton

Clayton Whitehead, CTP
President



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We have a new mascot at the Sports Leisure office...



Meet Max. Max's owner is **Bob Veliky**, our Controller. Max has been coming to work with Bob for a few months now. We have all taken a liking to him. May brings him treats, Serina plays with him in the office, Max and Mark are buddies.

Max has become one of the family here. If you stop by to make a reservation or a payment, Max will protect you from the wild turkeys and the squirrels. Actually, Max wants to play with the squirrels, but they don't quite feel the same way about him! The turkeys are another issue...

What are your old coins worth?

Millions of years ago, before he started **Sports Leisure**, Mark was a coin collector and even had a booth at the Roseville Auction Yard in his late teens. Now he's taken up collecting (and occasionally selling) coins and currency once again as a hobby. Here's where you come in.



Maybe you have a bag or a box of old coins. Perhaps you inherited a collection when a relative passed. Maybe it's just one or two coins or bills of currency you'd like to know about. If your coins are pre-1964 (50¢, 25¢, 10¢) or pre-1940

(pennies and nickels), or recent coins that are part of mint-issued sets, they may have a premium value. Currency 1935 and before also fits into the "value" category.

But who/where can you take them to get an honest evaluation of their worth? Mark would be happy to give you a free appraisal. If you wish to sell your treasures, that is easy to arrange. Often Mark will offer to purchase them, or get you easily to someone who is interested. You can bring your coins to the office, or for larger heavier collections, Mark can come to you. Just call the office to set up an appointment. Feel free to share this offer with family and friends.

ACTIVITY METER



As part of our commitment to help you select the perfect vacation, refer to the Activity Meter rating to better understand how it matches your interests, energy and fitness level – 1 is the most leisurely while 5 represents what for many could be an overly-challenging adventure. It's important to note that more than one rating may apply to a tour. For example, some travelers will enjoy a visit to a national park by spending time in the visitors center and taking a seat with a view, whilst others prefer to hike a nature trail. Same destination and tour, but two different levels of activity.

The ratings can be found in the Table of Contents and on the itinerary page for each tour. Two numbers indicate the ability to do optional things which limit or increase the amount of physical activity required. This meter is only a guideline. With specific questions or requirements, call the office and speak to the tour planner.

Each level requires your ability to board and disembark a motorcoach without assistance.

1 Leisurely – A tour that can be enjoyed by all requiring a minimal amount of walking on city streets and generally level surfaces. There could be a few stairs. A theater daytrip is an example.

2 Moderate – A tour with some walking activities, standing/strolling at attractions and museums, and some stair climbing. A daytrip to the ballpark or a museum exhibition, and short regional trips are examples. A moderate trip could include air or rail transportation and navigating through airports/stations.

3 Active – A tour which includes longer walks and/or walks on uneven surfaces. Days could be longer including air travel days with layovers. Some of your time could be spent at destinations with high altitudes. This is the level for most of our long-distance domestic and Canadian tours, vacations featuring national parks, and the minimum level for an overseas international trip. You should be able to walk 3-6 city blocks in a timely fashion a few times per day. You could find a flight of stairs without handrails, uneven nature trails and the like. Tours with a seaplane or jeep ride, and the ability to climb into the plane/jeep, along with longer rail journeys fall into this category.

4 Energetic – A tour with an emphasis on walking and other physical activities. Most overseas tours fit in this category, as well as many metropolitan domestic tours (New York and Washington, DC, especially). Expect long plane flights and walking longer distances at connections and/or customs. You might have to climb into a boat, carriage or train. You should not consider a tour on this level if you need wheelchair assistance at the airport or other places.

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





47 years ago Sports Travel started by taking fans to baseball games... and we are still doing it!

Spring Training
5 Days • March 6-10

Join us for our annual visit to Arizona for pre-season baseball in the sunshine. We'll watch the Giants and (Sacramento) A's get ready for the regular season. The package includes 5 games as listed, plus a baseball dinner with a special guest (former player, coach, broadcaster).

Our accommodations are at the Marriott Phoenix Airport, a beautiful property we have stayed at for many years. In addition, we'll enjoy a variety of sightseeing as the baseball schedule allows. Because many people repeat this trip, year-after-year, we rotate attractions. This year's list of possible sights includes:

- Arizona History Museum (with artifacts such as Geronimo's rifle)
- A Guided City Tour of Greater Phoenix
- The Heard Museum of Native Civilizations
- The Japanese Friendship Garden
- A Guided Tour of the Wrigley Mansion



Traditionally, we dine at Rustler's Roost one night, overlooking the valley; and because we are there on Sunday, Brunch at the famous Phoenician Hotel is included as is breakfast each morning (except Sunday) at the Marriott (6 included meals). Fly round trip on Southwest Airlines. 2900/3350 Gold Passport Points.

\$2860 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3340 single 2

Tickets for this trip must be purchased December 1. If you intend to join us, reservations before Dec. 1 are critical to insure your space.

Spring Training Game Schedule

- Thursday, March 6**
Chicago White Sox vs. Giants in Scottsdale
- Friday, March 7**
Giants vs. Cincinnati Reds at Goodyear
- Saturday, March 8**
A's vs. Colorado Rockies at Talking Stick
- Sunday, March 9**
Giants vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa
- Monday, March 10**
Giants vs. Colorado Rockies at Talking Stick

Giants Games at Oracle Park

Our schedule of day trips to Giants games at Oracle will be announced **January 2, 2025**. If you traveled with us on a baseball trip this year, you will automatically be sent the schedule (and it will be posted at www.sportsleisure.com).

The Athletics in Sacramento

Some fans have asked if we plan to offer trips to A's games in West Sacramento. Here's the challenge. The cost of the bus is the same, whether we take you to West Sacramento or San Francisco. A trip to an A's game would cost about the same as a trip to see the Giants play in SF. We doubt fans would be interested in paying \$125-150 to go to a game locally. If we are wrong, let Mark or Tyler know your interest in Sacramento game(s).

Cast your vote now for an extended baseball adventure in 2025!

New York & Cooperstown

6 Days • April 10-15
3 nights in New York City, 2 nights in Cooperstown (home of the Baseball Hall of Fame). Amazing accommodations – the Marriott Marquis in Times Square and the Otesaga Resort in Cooperstown. A full day to visit the Hall and explore Cooperstown. This trip won't be inexpensive (accommodations are a big part of the cost). See three Giants/Yankee games, tour Yankee Stadium, see a Broadway show (tickets included), and get a tiny bit of Big Apple sightseeing.

Be sure to call or write and place your name on the **Priority List**. A decision on the trip will be based on the number of people showing interest (we need 20 to go). Those on the list will be guaranteed a space. We will make a decision by December 1 and notify you.





New Orleans...And All That Jazz

Rest well in downtown accommodations adjacent to the French Quarter
5 Days • March 9-13

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
- Scenic New Orleans driving and French Quarter carriage tours
- A day in Plantation Country: Houmas House and a swamp cruise
- Visit the National World War II Museum and Stage Door Canteen
- Learn the secrets of great Cajun chefs at the NOLA School of Cooking
- 8 meals include daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Round trip airfare to/from New Orleans
- 3450/3850 Gold Passport Points



1. Welcome to New Orleans, a city renowned for its ability to make a party out of every situation. It has been said, "If the hurricane's too weak, just add rum." That pretty much sums it up! Rest well in conveniently-located accommodations overlooking the famed French Quarter. Your welcome dinner is served at the Court of Two Sisters, hidden away under a blanket of blooming wisteria. **Sheraton New Orleans – 4 nights (D)**

2. Take a driving tour focusing on the city beyond downtown including the beautiful Garden District and one of the area's unique above-ground cemeteries. In the evening learn the secrets of great Cajun and Creole chefs with dinner at the New Orleans School of Cooking, followed by a horse-drawn carriage ride through the French Quarter. Is it haunted? You'll have to come see for yourself...if you dare! **(FB,D)**

3. An hour's drive outside the city places you in the heart of Plantation Country with visits to the breathtaking Houmas House, the grandest of the Mississippi River sugar estates, built in 1840. You'll also visit the new Mississippi River Road Museum and see 'gators up close and personal on a Cajun Pride Swamp Tour. Lunch is served in the Dixie Café – how cool is that? **(FB,L)**

4. A plate full of fresh, hot beignets start your morning at world famous Café du Monde. Next visit the National World War

II Museum, a four-block complex covering literally every aspect of the War and the Greatest Generation it produced. Take a break from your exploration at lunch time and head to the Stage Door Canteen where your meal is served up with a nostalgic musical review, Bing and the Belles. You'll also visit the museum's unique 4-D theatre for their acclaimed production "Beyond all Boundaries." **(CB,L)**

5. The morning opens with a true New Orleans tradition: Breakfast at Brennan's. Save room for the Bananas Foster, a dish invented here. Only in NOLA can you get dessert with breakfast! A short drive to the airport and your adventure comes to a close. **(FB)**

\$3430 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3810 single 3





Oregon Chocolate Festival in Ashland

The Sweetest Weekend Ever!

3 Days • March 7-9

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Ashland Hills Hotel
- Attend the Oregon Chocolate Festival Vendor Marketplace
- 5 meals: 1 continental breakfast, 1 lunch, 1 Chocolate brunch, 2 dinners including the exclusive Chocolate Makers Dinner
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- Door-to-door service to/from the office
- 1400/1550 Gold Passport Points



It's no secret that *Sports Leisure* Travelers LOVE chocolate which is why this trip has always been so popular. The Oregon Chocolate Festival has grown since it started 21 years ago and now includes chocolatiers from all over the western states. Come join us for *The Sweetest Weekend Ever*. Chocolate nirvana indeed!

1. Our exclusive transportation service will pick you up at your home and bring you to the *Sports Leisure Vacations* office where you will board the motorcoach and begin your journey north. Stop for lunch in Redding en route to Ashland, Oregon. Freshen up before heading to the Ashland Springs Hotel for the festival's kick-off event, the elegant *Chocolate Makers Dinner* with beautifully crafted dishes paired with wine. If fancy wining and dining is not your thing, opt out and have dinner on your own.
Ashland Hills Hotel – 2 nights (L,D)

2. Enjoy a relaxing morning visiting the Chocolate Makers Festival Vendor Marketplace at your leisure. There you can sample all things chocolate and because

the event is at your hotel, you can come and go as you please. Later today shuttle service will be offered between the hotel/festival and downtown Ashland so you can have lunch and browse their many quaint shops and boutiques. Dinner tonight is included at a local restaurant.

There will be an option of attending an evening performance at the Oregon Cabaret Theater or possibly a play by The Oregon Shakespeare Festival. We will let you know when they announce their schedule and are happy to help you get tickets (optional, additional cost) and even provide transportation. **(CB,D)**

3. Before attending the Chocolate Brunch later this morning, we'll take a short ride to Harry and David's Country Store in Medford for some shopping. We return to Sacramento in the early evening to your awaiting ride home. Now, wasn't that *The Sweetest Weekend Ever?* **(BR)**

\$1365 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1530 single 2





Oregon: Scandinavians, Gardens & Covered Bridges

The state's culture, beauty and history together in one vacation

5 Days • August 12-16

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Oregon Gardens Resort, 2 nights at The Graduate, Eugene's best address
- Tour of Cottage Grove's Covered Bridges, with lunch on one of the historic bridges
- Food, entertainment and festivities at the Scandinavian Festival in Junction City
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 8 meals - 4 full breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Round trip airfare - Portland/Eugene
- 2650/3000 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly non-stop to Portland early this morning. The city was founded in the mid-1800's and has a fascinating history. Let's take a couple of hours and explore it on a tour, perhaps stopping for a treat along the way. Originally called "Stumptown," and named on the toss of a coin, Portland played a significant role in California's early history. You'll hear the story.

After lunch, make the drive an hour south to Silverton in the Willamette Valley, a quaint village with shops you'll want to explore. Nearby is your home, a resort with spectacular gardens. There is a restaurant at the resort and your coach will offer a shuttle into town with two return times.

Oregon Garden Resort – 2 nights (L)

2. The Gordon House is a residence built in 1963, designed by influential architect

Frank Lloyd Wright, now located right next to the Oregon Garden, in Silverton, Oregon. Today features a tour of the house and time in the garden. A half hour tram tour will give you an oversight of the garden, and then you can keep the map as guide.

In the afternoon, we offer a shuttle into town for shopping, lunch, etc. Lunch is also served at the resort. There are so many wonderful restaurants in town, we will dine together in one this evening. **(FB,D)**

3. 90 minutes south of Silverton is the town of Cottage Grove. It's home to 6 covered bridges, old time landmarks. Enjoy a narrated tour of this piece of history, and as a special treat, enjoy lunch on one of the bridges.

Home to the Ducks, University of Oregon, Eugene is a very diverse town. Our guided tour points out highlights like the signature neighborhoods and the reason it's called "Track Town USA." The campus is featured on the tour. Your accommodations for two nights are in one of Eugene's finest hotels. **The Graduate – 2 nights (FB,L)**

4. Junction City doesn't *sound* like it would be the Scandinavian capital of Oregon. But in the early 1900's, Danish farmers were attracted to the area, and today, over 100,000 attend the annual **Scandinavian Festival** and the different days of the event are dedicated to Norway, Finland, Sweden



and Denmark. Enjoy some great food, entertainment and festivities today as the local folks celebrate their heritage at the festival.

Back in Eugene, a visit to the **Cascades Raptor Center** gives you a look at 30 native species on display. This nature center and wildlife hospital specializes in birds of prey. Tonight, gather for a dinner honoring our travels together. **(FB,D)**

5. Before our early afternoon non-stop flight back to Sacramento, we have a lesson in glass-blowing with local artists. Perhaps you will create something worth taking home with you... **(FB)**

\$2650 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2990 single **2**





Springtime in Monterey

Featuring a boat tour of the Elkhorn Slough

4 Days • April 6-9

HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour the Winchester Mystery House and Gardens
- Moss Landing estuary and catamaran cruise of the Elkhorn Slough
- 17 Mile Drive with lunch in Carmel by the Sea
- 7 meals: 3 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 3 lunches
- Travel in comfort aboard our deluxe motorcoach
- Door-to-door transportation to/from the Sports Leisure office
- 2050/2350 Gold Passport Points

1. Begin with a ride aboard our comfortable motorcoach bound for the coast. A lavish brunch is hosted en-route to the Winchester Mystery House. Tour the Mansion and visit their Victorian gardens boasting over 10,000 box hedges and hundreds of varieties of trees and plants. You arrive in Monterey in the late afternoon. **Victorian Inn – 3 nights (BR)**

2. Tour historic downtown Monterey and Cannery Row. Travel the famous 17 Mile Drive along the ocean through Pacific Grove, stopping at the Lodge at Pebble Beach and their Visitors Center to take in the sights. Then we make our way to the quaint and charming town of Carmel by the Sea for sightseeing and lunch. **(B,L)**

3. Moss Landing is today's destination. View playful sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions and hundreds of bird species as you explore the Elkhorn Slough, one of California's most spectacular wetlands, aboard an open-air catamaran boat. Lunch is hosted at a popular seafood restaurant before visiting the Martinelli's store in Watsonville to sample their premium juices. **(B,L)**

4. Stop for a hosted lunch on the way back to Sacramento, arriving in the late afternoon. **(B,L)**

\$2040 p.p./dbl occ., \$2325 single 2





Redwoods & The Ranch, Featuring Kings Canyon National Park

3 Days • May 7-9

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at Wonder Valley, an all-inclusive resort in the Sierra foothills
- Lots of fun, including a Hayride, Campfire and a Dog Show (what's that all about?), there's even a museum with the history of the ranch
- See the Giant Sequoia Trees in Kings Canyon National Park
- Lunch and tour at the Hilmar Cheese Factory
- Explore Forestiere Underground Gardens in Fresno
- Optional activities include horseback riding, archery (no shooting at each other please) and perhaps even a canoe ride
- 7 meals - 2 Full Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners, 2 Hosted cocktail Hours (now we are talkin')
- 1600/1700 Gold Passport Points

1. Your ride-share car brings you to the *Sports Leisure* office this morning. Travel via Luxe motorcoach to Wonder Valley Ranch, which is your gateway to fun, a national park and a great mini/vacation. Once known as a refuge for Hollywood stars in the 1950's, this hideaway will be your home for 2 nights.

Departing Sacramento, your first stop is for lunch and a tour at the Hilmar Cheese Factory. Continue to Fresno, where you take a left turn and head into the Sierra foothills. It's spring, so the hills should still be green from the winter rains.

Your resort-style hotel rooms offer classic accommodations for every guest, including complimentary Wi-Fi and in-room coffee service. There's lots to do, as you'll find out this afternoon, as optional horseback

riding or learning to shoot a bow and arrow is offered. Or perhaps you would prefer just relaxing by the lake. The springtime beauty of Wonder Valley Ranch awaits. **Wonder Valley Ranch 2 nights (L,D)**

2. Today is all about discovery. With a knowledgeable step on guide, we will experience the sights and sounds of Kings Canyon National Park. The park features deep canyons, towering cliffs, and some of the world's largest trees, the Giant Sequoias, including the famous General Grant Tree (which you will see). Return to your resort in mid-afternoon. Cocktail hour, dinner and a campfire under the stars offer a great way to end a wonderful day. **(FB, L, D)**

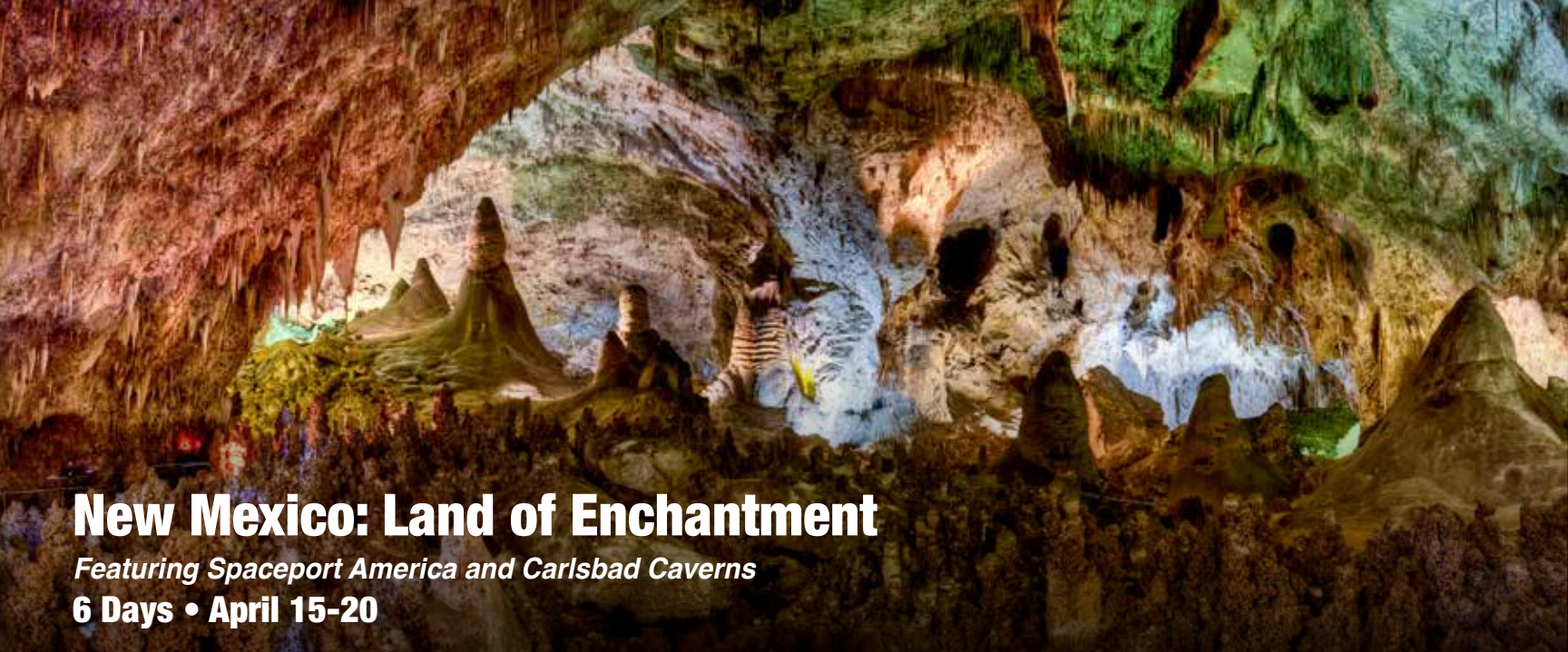
3. After breakfast, there's time for one last activity at the ranch. Then it's time to head for home. First stop is at the Forestiere Underground Gardens in Fresno. These gardens are a unique and fascinating network of subterranean rooms, courtyards, and passageways. They were hand-built by Baldassare Forestiere, a Sicilian immigrant, over a period of 40 years from 1906 to 1946. It's a fascinating story.

Before leaving Fresno, there's a stop for lunch, arriving at the Sports Leisure office in the late afternoon. **(FB, L)**

Please note: Walking surfaces in Kings Canyon and at the gardens have uneven surfaces and would not accommodate a walker safely.

\$1585 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1665 single **2**





New Mexico: Land of Enchantment

Featuring Spaceport America and Carlsbad Caverns

6 Days • April 15-20

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Carlsbad Caverns and White Sands National Monument
- Virgin Galactic Spaceport America
- Los Alamos (Oppenheimer, Manhattan Project)
- 10 Meals: 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to Albuquerque/from El Paso
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3400/3850 Gold Passport Points



1. Fly to Albuquerque and enjoy a hosted lunch before checking into your hotel which is steps away from the shops and restaurants of Old Town. **Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town – 2 nights (L)**

2. Travel to Los Alamos, home to the secret laboratory where the world's first atomic weapon was designed and built. Visit the Bradbury Science Museum where exhibits trace the WWII Manhattan Project. Lunch on your own and some free time in Santa Fe before heading back to Albuquerque. **(B)**

3. Spaceport America offers visitors an insider's view of the world's first purpose-built commercial spaceport. Once inside Spaceport America's secured area, 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. Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces **(B,L)**

4. White Sands National Monument is one of the world's great natural wonders. Explore the breathtaking wavelike dunes of snow-white gypsum that stretch for 275 square miles. 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 (by elevator) 830 feet and view the gigantic subterranean chambers and fantastic cave formations. Gather for a group dinner and toast your New Mexico adventure. **(B,D)**

6. Travel to El Paso, Texas for your return flight. Today's lunch is hosted at a famous Mexican restaurant. **(B,L)**

\$3360 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3810 single 2





San Antonio: Deep in the Heart

An “unpack-once” tour featuring the best little city in Texas

5 Days • April 21-25

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights in the historic Drury Plaza Hotel located along the Riverwalk
- City tour features The Alamo and Mission San Jose
- “The Price of Freedom” at the IMAX Theater, “The Saga” at San Fernando Cathedral, Tower of the Americas at Hemisfair Park
- A day in the Texas Hill Country featuring the National Museum of the Pacific War and LBJ Boyhood Home
- 8 meals: Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip air to/from San Antonio
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2800/3100 Gold Passport Points

1. Deep in the heart of the Lone Star State is a city that is part American, part Mexican and definitely all Texan, San Antonio. Your historic hotel is located beside the famed Riverwalk and features a complimentary Kickback each evening including adult beverages and heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Drury Plaza Hotel – 4 nights

2. Joined by a local guide, take a driving tour of San Antonio and along the El Camino Real to San Jose, one of the historic Franciscan missions that first brought the Spanish into the area. Later in the day visit the most famous of these missions, San Antonio de Valero, or what we know today as The Alamo. Next door, you'll see the IMAX film production that puts the famous battle into perspective and visit a new museum displaying a treasure trove of battle-related artifacts. If you've wrestled up an appetite, tonight's dinner is sure to please. You know what they say: Everything's bigger in Texas! **(FB,D)**

3. Experience the city's unique Riverwalk aboard a river taxi cruise on which a Mexican lunch fiesta will be served. Then you're off to the home of San Antonio's beloved shoes, SAS, where you'll visit the old-timey General Store (anyone for a 10-cent Coke and 5-cent bag of popcorn?) and tour the factory. The afternoon is free for personal exploration along the Riverwalk

or historic Market Square. Tonight witness the sound and light spectacle known as “The Saga” projected on the façade of San Fernando Cathedral. **(FB,L)**

4. With luck, the blue bonnets will be in bloom as you head into the Texas Hill Country. There you'll visit the humble home where Lyndon B. Johnson grew up. Midday you'll visit Arch Ray, a cornerstone of the Texas wine industry. Unique among wineries, they also brew and distill onsite, so there will be lots to see and sample before a tasty lunch is served. You'll also have an opportunity to explore the National Museum of the Pacific War, a world-class museum located in tiny Fredericksburg, the hometown of Five Star Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz before returning to San Antonio. **(FB,L)**

5. Time to say adios, but not before getting a bird's eye view of the city over lunch served high atop the Tower of the Americas and strapping in for the 4D film, “Skies Over Texas” at Hemisfair Park, site of the 1968 World's Fair

\$2770 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3080 single **3**



New York City, Broadway & The Bronx

6 Days • April 24-29



HIGHLIGHTS

- 5 nights at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Times Square, New York's best address
- 3 included nights of theater/music – A **Wonderful World, The Louis Armstrong Musical**; *Steven Sondheim's Old Friends*, starring Bernadette Peters, a night at Carnegie Hall featuring the New York 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" and meet a couple of our shopkeeper friends, say hellow to NYC's first responders with a stop at a police station
- A Day in Downtown Manhattan – stroll Wall Street & the Financial District, 9/11 Memorial/ Museum/Observation Deck (all 3 experiences included) – **transportation this day is by subway/on foot**
- Free morning to visit Ellis and Liberty Islands (with a Tour Director escort) or explore on your own, optional tours of Grand Central Station & Carnegie Hall
- Roundtrip airfare to/from NYC (into LaGuardia, home non-stop from Newark)
- 6 meals: 4 lunches, 2 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- 4750/5300 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. Harness the city's energy for a true New York experience. Come with us, we'll show you The Big Apple!

1. Land at LaGuardia Airport (5:30am departure from Sacramento, connecting in Denver) and head into the city. Get ready for a plentiful family-style dinner at Carmine's, an NYC institution. The lights of Times Square are mesmerizing and right

outside your hotel. It's the premiere address at the center of it all, and you call it home!

Marriott Marquis Times Square – 5 nights (D)

2. Do it the New York way, by subway and on foot. Take the subway to the Financial District. On Wall Street, pause at Federal Hall and say hi to Alexander Hamilton at Trinity Church. After lunch ascend One World Observatory with 360* views. Below, reflect at the 9/11 Memorial & Museum. Back at your hotel by mid-afternoon, kick your feet up for a bit then take your pick from the many restaurants in the area, before meeting in the lobby of your hotel to walk to the theater. You are off to **The Louis Armstrong Musical** at the Studio 54 Theatre. **(L)**

3. At a working precinct station, Bronx NYPD share the rigors of the job and their efforts to strengthen community relations and safety. True heroes! Eat your way along Arthur Avenue, The Real Little Italy. Meet shop owners producing the foods you enjoyed at lunch. Grab some to take home, our treat! Real New York accents and real New York flavor, right here in The Bronx.

A second consecutive night of Broadway theatre features **Old Friends, Music by Steven Sondheim**, starring Bernadette Peters. (If you prefer to see a different show tonight, register and notify us by January 10.) **(L)**

4. You decide how to spend your day! Join your Tour Director in the morning and sail to Ellis & Liberty Islands. In the afternoon, we offer optional sights: Visit Grand Central Station and tour Carnegie Hall, two of the city's most revered landmarks. Or just take all or part of the day and explore your own special spot. We'll point you in the

right direction. (Please note: The cost of the Grand Central and Carnegie Tours are included. Ellis/Liberty cruise tickets would be an additional cost of \$25.)

5. Pull back the curtain of Broadway. At a rehearsal studio, actors, musicians and technicians will talk to you about their training, path to the stage or maybe a little insider gossip! Meet Peter Filichia, a theater critic, with deep roots and a long history in the Broadway world, an endless source of information and full of entertaining stories!

This evening, your trip comes to a grand finale with a concert at Carnegie Hall. Come together for an early steakhouse dinner and share your Big Apple adventures of the past four days. Carnegie Hall will be abuzz for the New York Pops 40th Birthday Gala, and you have exclusive box seats in the balcony! The Pops will honor a star from Broadway and/or the music world. (Watch for the honoree announcement in February.) It's truly a one-of-a kind New York evening. **(D)**

6. Before you flight home this evening, we have more New York excitement! Start by discovering the magic of the Museum of Broadway. Walk through Broadway history, starting in 1732 with the first documented performance in NYC. Learn about ground-breaking moments in Broadway's history.

In Central Park pay homage to John Lennon. At Strawberry Fields, a mosaic spells out "Imagine", timely still today. Lunch is an experience at fabulous **Tavern on the Green**, located inside the park. Finally, it's off to Newark and your 6:30pm non-stop flight home, arriving approximately 9:45pm. **(L)**

\$4710 p.p./dblo.cc, \$5255 single **4**





I Love Lucy and Niagara Falls

Visit Upstate New York and the famed falls that are probably on your bucket list

6 Days • May 18-23

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Embassy Suites Fallsview – premium views of Niagara Falls from every room
- Sail to the base of Horseshoe Falls and visit picturesque Niagara-on-the-Lake
- Explore the birthplace of Lucille Ball – see her museums, homes and gravesite
- Relish the laughs at the National Comedy Center
- Shuffle off to Buffalo on a guided city tour
- Climb a historic lighthouse and take a spin on a carousel
- 11 meals: 5 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Buffalo
- 4000/4500 Gold Passport Points



1. Following a cross-country adventure, arrive in Buffalo in time for dinner and a good night's sleep. **Buffalo Marriott Niagara (D)**

2. With our local guide explore this important "rust belt" city that's presently on an impressive comeback. So many firsts and onlys are part of the Buffalo story. Site of an inauguration (T. Roosevelt), an assassination (McKinley) and home to two commanders-in-chief (Fillmore and Cleveland), Buffalo is filled with presidential history. It's also the starting point of the storied Erie Canal that transformed trade and settlement in a young United States, and to this day is a principal port on the St. Lawrence Seaway. Then there's this hot little wing that really put them on the map! From Buffalo travel over the river and through the woods to Celeron, a tiny hamlet on Chautauqua Lake, and take in a stunning New York sunset on the water. **Harbor Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

3. Nearby Jamestown is the home of Lucille Ball. There you'll visit the Lucy Desi Museum and take the LucyTown Tour featuring prominent sites from her early years as well as her final resting place. Where is lunch served? At the Tropicana, of course! The ultimate tribute to the Mistress of Comedy was the selection of Jamestown as the site of the National Comedy Center, an interactive museum and "laughter laboratory" devoted to all things funny. **(FB,L)**

4. Take the scenic route back to Buffalo along Lake Erie including a visit to the historic Dunkirk Lighthouse. Next check out the Herschell Carrousel Factory and Museum in North Tonawanda which is sure to keep you spinning. After crossing the border and checking into the hotel, throw back the curtains and relish the incredible view. Your spacious suite, the Manager's Reception and, of course, the thundering falls assure your happy stay! **Embassy Suites Fallsview – 2 nights (FB,L)**

5. Travel alongside the Niagara River to the historic community of Niagara-on-the-Lake where a wide array of shoppes await! All things maple – cookies, syrup and tea – are signature local products you will find, not to mention the ice wine! Nearby the iconic Floral Clock with its colorful blooms create intricate designs that are a beauty to behold. Here's the moment you've been waiting for: Take the Hornblower cruise past the American and Bridal Veil Falls straight to the base of Horseshoe Falls. Inevitably you will get wet, but that's half the fun! Dry off and relax back at your hotel before dinner overlooking the falls. **(FB,D)**

6. Returning stateside, stop at Niagara Falls State Park to walk along the top of the American and Bridal Veil Falls. Same falls, but an amazingly different view. Fly home from Buffalo. **(FB,L)**

\$3995 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4485 single 3
This vacation requires a valid passport!





Japan for the Culturally Curious

11 Days • May 21-31

Japan's rich cultural heritage offers incredible experiences that will leave a lasting impression on you. Ancient temples, ceremonies steeped in tradition and Japan's natural beauty have all been preserved for hundreds of years. Your itinerary takes you to some of the smaller, off the beaten path places like Kanazawa, a city influenced by the presence of the Samurai and their lifestyle.

1 & 2. Depart for Japan from Sacramento, stopping in Honolulu for a layover before heading to Tokyo. We arrive at Haneda airport in the early evening the following day. Dinner follows our hotel check in.

Prostyle Ryokan Tokyo Asa – 1 night (D)

3. Japan's train system is not just a means of transportation but a vital part of the country's culture and daily life. Today we travel by Shinkansen or bullet train to the city of Kanazawa arriving late morning. There will be a tour of Kanazawa and one of the Geisha districts this city is noted for. Lunch is included in a local eatery. Your evening is free. **Hyatt Centric Kanazawa – 2 nights (L)**

4. Today while still in Kanazawa we will tour Kenroku park, rich in history and culture as well as Kanazawa Castle whose history dates back to 1580. We'll try our hand at making wagashi (a Japanese confection) and visit the Omicho market. Tonight will be a special night with dinner served by very special locals. **(D)**

5. Today we travel by bus to Yamanaka Onsen. This hot spring resort town is located in the city of Kaga, nestled in a mountainous region and is renowned for

its therapeutic hot springs and scenic beauty. A guided tour and visit to a pottery museum, as well as lunch is scheduled before checking into our hotel for the evening – there may be traditional (close to the floor beds in this hotel). **Yukai Resort Yoshinoya Irokuen – 1 night (L)**

6. We leave Yamanaka today and travel by bus to Shirakawago and Gokayama, a journey that offers scenic views of the Japanese Alps. Gokayama is a tranquil village far removed from the hustle and bustle of urban life. There, along with thatched roof houses (some over 300 years old), they make traditional crafts like washi paper. You will be able to participate in this tradition. Travel by bus to Takayama where we check into our hotel - there may be traditional (close to the floor beds in this hotel). **Takayama Ouan - 2 nights (L)**

7. Takayama is a town that has a rich history of sake brewing, dating back to the 17th century. There will be a tour of Takayama today along with a stop at a sake brewery. Lunch will be at a local eatery. Your evening is free. **(L)**

8. Travel by bus today to Kyoto, stopping along the way for lunch and a visit to a sword museum. You arrive in Kyoto, once the capital of Japan for over a thousand years and check into your hotel. Your evening is free. **Good Nature Hotel Kyoto – 3 nights (L)**

9. You'll spend the day touring this city, stopping at Fushimi Inari Temple aka the "temple with the thousand gates", the ever-popular Nishiki Market, Gion (Kyoto's most famous geisha district, the locals call them

geiko and maiko) and Kinkau Temple, also known as the Golden Pavillion. Lunch is included and your evening is free. **(L)**

10. You have a free day in Kyoto to explore it at your pace. There are still many temples to explore and even more shopping. Why not visit one of the many animal cafes where you can spend time with cats or otters or owls, oh my! Kyoto has many places to satisfy any level of retail therapy. From the neighborhood "convini" (think seven eleven) to shopping complexes several stories high. There will be a tour tonight which will include a dinner. **(D)**

11. Spend a leisurely morning on your last day. Later, you'll go on a food tour where there will be even more delicacies and tastes you can get only in Japan. Then it's off to Kansai airport in Osaka for our journey home, stopping in Honolulu before our final flight to Sacramento, landing at around 9:30pm. **(L)** 0000/0000 Gold Passport Points

Price available October 25 **4**





U.S. 50, The Lincoln Highway, America's Loneliest Road

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

5 Days • June 5-9

HIGHLIGHTS

- 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
- Nevada State Museum in the old Carson City Mint
- 13 included meals - 3 breakfasts, 1 full breakfast, 5 lunches and 3 dinners
- Door-to-door service
- 1950/2200 Gold Passport Points

1. The road trip starts with a ROAD TRIP! Indeed, we'll spend the day getting to Wells via I-80. Take a rest at Donner Lake and enjoy lunch in Reno. Hear the story of the Burning Man, stop at the California Trail Interpretive Center to learn about those riding in covered wagons in the 1800's and arrive in Wells in time for dinner. **Hampton Inn - Wells (L,D)**



2. You may not know this, but both I-80 and US 50 are routes of the **Lincoln Highway**. The Lincoln was the first road to cross the entire country, in 1913. It wasn't a real highway, but more a cobbled together collection of farm-to-market and city-to-city roads. But it was a beginning. We'll talk more about America's first highway along the way.

We leave I-80 and head south on US 93. While Hwy 50 has the "Loneliest Road" nickname, 93 is certainly not filled with big cities, and the ghost town of Cherry Creek is one of our "stops." Indeed, on the two hour ride, you won't see much except watering holes until you reach McGill. The town has a landmark drug store, which closed in 1979, after over 60 years of serving the community. Today, the store is **exactly** the way it was left 45 years ago. Lunch is at a Basque café in town. **La Quinta - Ely (ECB,L,D)**

3. How about a visit to a working **bordello** or a ride on a "ghost" train? Both are on the itinerary today. Of course, we'll visit the bordello and talk with the ladies **BEFORE** they begin the evening's duties.

On to a favorite "lonely road" town, one that's prospering. Eureka is where you discover a historical "snapshot." A restored old Opera House, a great museum and the look of a town gone "boom" in a small way are all a part of Eureka. **Surestay by Best Western - Eureka (ECB,L,D)**

4. The route across Nevada takes us through the historic towns of Austin (pop. 167), Dayton and Carson City, with a stop at the state museum. Also part of the museum



is the historic Carson City Mint. Coins were minted here from 1870-1893. **(ECB,L,D)**

5. The Hardman House - Carson City is worthy of a stop today, before we head for home. More Lincoln Highway history makes the drive familiar, via Echo Summit and Placerville. Imagine driving this "highway" In the 1920's! Arrive back at the Sports Leisure office about 3:30 - 4pm. **(FB,L)**

\$1940 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2155 single 3





Moab, Gateway to Arches National Park

Featuring four nights at the spectacular Red Cliffs Lodge

5 Days • May 4-8

1. Fly to Grand Junction, Colorado. Enjoy a hosted lunch and then board your motorcoach for a scenic drive along the Colorado River to your amazing accommodations. Ahh, Scott's favorite place! **Red Cliffs Lodge – 4 nights (L)**

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. Today is Cinco de Mayo, and we will celebrate this evening with a Mexican dinner served on the resort's private deck overlooking the Colorado River. **(FB,L,D)**

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. This afternoon we head to Dead Horse State Park, one of the best vistas in the West where you will be 1,500 feet above the Colorado River. **(FB)**

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. The evening is at your leisure to soak up the beauty and fine amenities available at the Red Cliffs Lodge. **(FB,L)**

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
- 8 meals: 4 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Grand Junction
- Door-to-door airport service
- 3800/4400 Gold Passport Points

5. After breakfast travel back to Grand Junction for our flight home. **(FB)**

\$3760 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4390 single **3**





Grand Canyon National Park and the Lowell Observatory

Featuring a visit to Bearizona Wildlife Park

5 Days • May 26-30

HIGHLIGHTS

- 4 nights in Flagstaff on this “unpack once” trip
- Guided tour along the rim of the Grand Canyon
- Explore Bearizona Wildlife Park
- Visit Lowell Observatory with evening telescope viewing
- Tour of the Museum of Northern Arizona
- 9 meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Phoenix
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 2950/3250 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly direct on Southwest Airlines to Phoenix. Lunch is included before arriving at your hotel nestled amongst the Ponderosa Pines. **Little America, Flagstaff – 4 nights (L)**

2. Enter one of the world’s greatest natural wonders, Grand Canyon National Park and



take a private guided tour along the rim of the Grand Canyon to Hermits Rest. Capture the colors of the canyon during your photo stops along the way. This afternoon visit the Bright Angel history room telling the story of Fred Harvey and his Harvey Girls, shop at the historic Hopi House or spend your time walking “The Trail of Time” and interpretive geological timeline along the rim with breathtaking vistas. **(FB)**

3. One of Northern Arizona’s top attractions, Bearizona is a 150 acre drive-through wildlife park that promises to give you a close encounter of the wild kind with bighorn sheep, buffalo, and of course, bears and many more animals all roaming free. Tonight it’s dinner and a show at a popular Flagstaff dining institution. **(FB,L,D)**

4. This morning enjoy a docent-led tour of the Museum of Northern Arizona to learn about the arts, culture and science of the Colorado Plateau. Lunch is hosted at a historic Flagstaff restaurant before an afternoon tour of the Lowell Observatory. See the Historic Clark Refractor dating back to 1896 and the telescope that discovered Pluto as well as their brand new Discovery Center that is opening up this November 2024. Flagstaff became the first international Dark Sky City in 2001. Tonight we will head back to the Observatory to gaze at the planets through six telescopes at their open air observatory. **(FB,L)**

5. Travel back to Phoenix this morning for a special musical lunch performance before flying home. **(FB,L)**

\$2925 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3250 single **3**





A Washington DC, Experience

6 Days • May 1-6

HIGHLIGHTS

- 5 nights at the Hyatt Place National Mall – central in the middle of DC, includes
- Visit Arlington National Cemetery (special wreath-laying ceremony for our group)
- Tour of the US Capitol, visit the Smithsonian Institution and National Museums, Ford's Theater and the Kennedy Center (tour and a performance)
- View national monuments, inc. Lincoln, Jefferson, FDR, Martin Luther King, WWII, Vietnam Korea and more
- Visit Mount Vernon, the final resting place of George Washington
- 10 meals – daily Expanded Continental Breakfast, 2 lunches and 3 dinners
- Round trip air – to/from Washington National Airport
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3550/4150 Gold Passport Points



1. Depart on a 7am flight to Chicago, connecting and arriving at Washington National at 5pm. This is the airport close to downtown. Enjoy an early dinner and check in to your hotel. **Hyatt Place National Mall – 5 nights (D)**

2. Embark on a comprehensive city tour this morning with a local guide who will share tales of DC's dynamic past and present. If you've never visited our nation's capital city, you will be impressed. The tour will help orientate you to The Mall and The Smithsonians, so you can pick your pleasure tomorrow. Plenty of stops en route, including time for lunch on your own. **(ECB)**

3. Begin your exploration of the Smithsonian Institutions and the National Mall today. Air & Space, National Gallery of Art, African Art, US Heritage, it's all here. At the pre-tour orientation, we will discuss some of the options. Your coach will operate as a shuttle to allow you to move around easily or even return to your hotel. Maps and cell phone links will also be provided. Tonight, dinner is followed by a performance of "Shear Madness" at the Kennedy Center. The show opened here 32 years ago! **(ECB,D)**

4. Visit the estate of George and Martha Washington, Mount Vernon, beautifully situated on a high bluff overlooking the Potomac. The gardens and museum are both worth a look (it's springtime, so there should be blooms everywhere). There's also a visit to the new National Museum of the US Army, bringing to life the story of the US soldier in times of war and peace. **(ECB,L)**

5. A morning visit to Arlington National Cemetery includes a narrated tram tour with

stops at the Tomb of the Unknowns for the Changing of the Guard Ceremony and a special little twist. There is also a pause at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Lee. There is some down time this afternoon, before dinner at a Sports Leisure favorite, Filomena Restaurant in Georgetown, followed by **"D.C. After Dark,"** a tour of the illuminated monuments. **(ECB,D)**

6. A guided tour of the United States Capitol Building is featured this morning, followed by a visit to the International Spy Museum and lunch before we head to the airport and our flight home. **(ECB,L)**

Those making reservations by November 15th may elect to be submitted for a screening to visit The White House. This will require your full name, citizenship, birthday, city of residence and your Social Security number. Please be advised that those making reservations after that date may be less likely to receive clearance. There is no guarantee we will get a White House Tour, but this follows the procedures to make you eligible. We would likely know 60 days prior to departure.

\$3510 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4120 single **4**



From Boston to the Shores of Old Cape Cod

Visit Boston, Martha's Vineyard, Provincetown and Nantucket

8 Days • May 30 – June 6



HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights Boston, 2 nights Provincetown on the Cape, overnight Hyannis, 2 nights Nantucket
- 4 ferry rides Boston-Provincetown and Hyannis-Martha's Vineyard-Nantucket-Hyannis
- Guided tours of Boston, Provincetown, Cape Cod National Seashore, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard
- Ride the famous Swan Boats on Boston Common
- Visit the JFK Presidential Library
- 15 meals: Daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 6 dinners including a lobster feast
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Boston
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 4700/5350 Gold Passport Points



1. Arrive in Boston about 4:00 pm and transfer to your hotel. A casual dinner tonight is hosted. **DoubleTree by Hilton Boston Logan Airport Chelsea – 2 nights (D)**

2. With a local guide, discover some of Boston's history. Walk through Harvard Yard to the famous Old North Church; then to Paul Revere's home to the site of the (in) famous Tea Party with free time for lunch in Cambridge. Tour historic downtown by motorcoach and ride the iconic Swan Boats, in service since 1877, on Boston Common. Dinner is included tonight at Dovetail Restaurant. **(FB,D)**

3. Explore the iconic JFK Presidential Library this morning (Presidential Libraries are among the most popular attractions we visit) before boarding the afternoon high-speed ferry for a 90-minute cruise to Provincetown. Your waterfront hotel is down a charming country lane, walkable by many to the center of town. **Surfside Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

4. Today tour by trolley and discover the rich history and unique flair of this "end of the road" community. In a special SUV climb the sand dunes for amazing views of the Atlantic Ocean! After lunch, spend the afternoon in town or relax and enjoy the waterfront bay view at your hotel. **(FB,L)**

5. On the southeast end of the Cape, pass through small New England villages before arriving in Chatham. Take time for lunch and browsing. Continue to Hyannis and visit a museum focusing on JFK's life and the mystique of "Camelot". Remember those times (many of us were quite young)?



Tonight, it's time for a LOBSTA DINNER!
Margaritaville Resort Hyannis– 1 night (B,D)

6. Arrive on Martha's Vineyard by ferry for a narrated van tour, then continue to Nantucket on the inter-island ferry where you'll stay two nights at the island's finest accommodations. A complimentary shuttle service is available from the hotel to town every hour. Dinner is included both nights. **Nantucket Inn – 2 nights (FB,D)**

7. One of the nation's oldest communities, Nantucket has a fascinating story to tell. Explore the island and learn of the history and importance of whaling, once the island's main industry. After the tour you are free in town for lunch. Visit the Whaling Museum, do a little window shopping and return to the inn at your leisure. **(B,D)**

8. Depart Nantucket to Hyannis by morning ferry. Board your coach for leisurely ride back to Boston Logan Airport for your afternoon return flight home. **(B,L)**

\$4685 p.p./dbl.occ., \$5350 single **3**



Yosemite Valley is Calling!

Stay in the park at the Yosemite Valley Lodge

3 Days • June 4-6



1. Travel to one of our county's truly spectacular gems. Renowned for its sheer granite cliffs, Half Dome and El Capitan were made famous by photographer Ansel Adams. Stay in the middle of the park where rooms at the Lodge all have balconies or patios as well as refrigerators. **Yosemite Valley Lodge – 2 nights (L)**

2. Tour Yosemite National Park's valley capturing awe-inspiring photos of Yosemite's famous waterfalls and vistas. Highlights include El Capitan, Bridal Veil

Falls, Half Dome, Yosemite Falls and Tunnel View. **(FB)**

3. Enjoy some free time this morning, maybe taking the short walk over to Yosemite Falls. Lunch is hosted in the Ahwahnee Hotel's majestic dining room known for its stunning architecture and interior design with lavish vaulted ceilings, beautiful chandeliers and inlaid wood. Travel back to Sacramento arriving around 5 pm. **(L)**

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Yosemite Valley Lodge
- Guided valley floor tour
- Lunch at the storied Ahwahnee Hotel
- 3 meals: 1 breakfast, 2 lunches
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- Door-to-door service to/from the Sports Leisure office
- 1700/2000 Gold Passport Points

\$1690 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1965 single **3**

MYSTERY TOURS

More mystery tours will be coming soon. Because they include unusual destinations and attractions, they are chosen carefully.

Shucked – A Mystery Tour

5 Days • June 1-5

One of the most highly nominated shows in the 2024 Tony Awards season was called Shucked. It was subtitled A Musical About Corn. Sometimes the inspiration for a mystery tour comes from unexpected places and this would be proof! We just love that word "shucked." From that love came an idea. And from that idea, an exciting mystery tour was born featuring four unique destinations, two of which have NEVER been visited by Sports Leisure before. (Don't worry. You've probably never been to the other two as those tours ran many years ago.)

So what does the word shucked conjure up in your mind? Yes, you shuck corn.

But you also shuck oysters. Additionally, a person could be said to shuck his clothing, especially if a bee has gotten into his bloomers! So is this a tour about corn, oysters, bumblebees and/or bloomers? Or maybe it's a tour about theatrical productions with peculiar names? Aye, you don't really expect us to answer those questions, do you?

Next early summer you're invited into a world where shucking is commonplace, yet revered. Indeed, great monuments have been built to honor the institution of shucking and that which is shucked. Another monument honors dreamers and their dreams. Just be sure not to FALL down whilst looking up at all these monuments. Though sometimes in falling the only way

to go is up! When you look on a map, north is up, but sometimes south is also up – it depends upon your perspective. Are you intrigued by the current architectural rage known as tiny homes? You'll learn about what could very well be the original on this trip. Do you like authors and artists? Both will be saluted and given the honor they are due. One is familiar, the other probably not so much. But you'll never forget his play on light.

Intrigued? What have you got to lose – sign up! It's only 5 days in a land of sunny days and mild temps. No passport is required, just a sense of adventure and a desire to roam! 2750/3000 Gold Passport Points

\$2725 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3020 single



Historic Fort Bragg, Training By The Ocean

Ride the old Skunk Train, enjoy North Coast Hospitality

4 Days • July 14-17



We visited Fort Bragg for the first time in many years in 2024. Ten years ago, one of the tunnels used by the Skunk Train collapsed, and the town's major tourist attraction was crippled. Today, Ft. Bragg has reinvented itself, in a funky sort of way. We enjoyed our visit this past summer, except many on the trip lamented that it wasn't a day longer (this year's trip was 3 days). It's a bit of a drive to get there (and back).

There is so much history in the area, and because of its remote location, not everyone makes it up this way. The train still runs a short route into the redwoods. Come with us on a fun vacation to the coast!

1. From Sacramento we make our way up I-5 to Williams, then west on Route 20 into Lake County. Travel on to Willits for lunch with the Lumberjacks, arriving in Fort Bragg in mid-afternoon.

Your accommodations for three nights are at the **Harbor Lite Lodge**, with views overlooking Noyo Harbor below. Before



dinner, a short walking tour of some of the town's many murals is offered.

The city of Fort Bragg, yes, the whole city, is a California Historic Landmark, with the history of being a logging and mill town. Dinner at a popular local restaurant, with options including locally-caught seafood, brings the day to a close. **(L,D)**

2. After breakfast, our first stop on a busy Fort Bragg day is at the Mendocino Botanical Gardens. A docent leads us on a guided walk through the gardens, telling us the story of the couple who founded the site in 1961. Break for lunch at your leisure downtown, then board the train for the short ride to Pudding Creek in early afternoon. Back at your hotel, enjoy the view and a little down time. Dinner is included again this evening. **(FB,D)**

3. Our "morning in Ft. Bragg" experience starts the day. Downtown has a Marine Science Center where you can learn a bit about what's in the water. On the next block is Mendocino Chocolate, purveyors of..... well, chocolate. Samples and a treat to go are included.

There are two other stops that remain a secret. One is a bakery, another an artist's shop. Promise you will learn something and have fun. (One stop requires climbing a flight of stairs.) Time is also allowed to look around on your own.

In the afternoon, visit Mackerricher State Park. It offers spectacular views of the water, picture options galore and a chance to really enjoy the ocean. **(FB,D)**

HIGHLIGHTS

- Three nights at the Harbor Lite Lodge, overlooking Noyo Harbor
- Ride the Skunk Train to Pudding Creek, view the Redwoods
- Visit the Mendocino Botanical Garden on a guided walk (or explore on your own)
- Walking/coach tour of the murals of Historic Downtown Fort Bragg
- A morning in Ft. Bragg – visit the Marine Science Center, a chocolate store and two surprise stops
- 8 meals – 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners
- Door-to-door service,
- 1950/2200 Gold Passport Points

4. Our lunch stop is the Blue Wing Saloon, part of the historic Tallman Hotel, in Upper Lake. Our return arrival in Sacramento is slated for 3-4pm, with our fleet of cars waiting at the Sports Leisure office to deliver you to your home. **(FB,L)**

\$1925 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2185 single 2





San Juan Islands Explorer

Featuring three days cruising on a private yacht
5 Days • July 6-10

1. Arrive in Seattle and head north to Bellingham. Lunch is hosted before arriving at your hotel. **Four Points by Sheraton Bellingham (L)**

2. Board your private motor yacht with lunch served as you set sail as you begin your first day of exploration in the San Juan Islands. Our captain will determine the best routing based on current wildlife reports. The day ends in Friday Harbor. **Friday Harbor Suites – 2 nights (FB,L)**

3. Today our captain will determine the best route based on current wildlife reports, so be on the lookout. Perhaps you'll see a pod of resident orca whales en route to La Conner, a vibrant artist enclave. Stroll along the waterfront boardwalk and down the main street lined with unique boutiques. Return to Friday Harbor for a hosted dinner. **(FB,D)**

4. Tour San Juan Island by coach stopping at historic and scenic spots. At the exclusive Roche Harbor Resort get a glimpse of the posh life. There is big money here! Enjoy some free time in town before boarding your yacht. A decadent cracked Dungeness crab lunch is served onboard the ship (non-seafood options available) while you set sail traversing narrow passages past uninhabited islands on your return to the mainland. **Four Points by Sheraton Bellingham (FB,L)**

5. Head back to Seattle where you will have a docent-led tour of the Museum of Flight. At the Aviation Pavilion see 19 rare commercial and military planes. Climb aboard the first jet Air Force One or the Concorde. Lunch is included before your flight home from Seattle. **(FB,L)**

\$3620 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3965 single 3

HIGHLIGHTS

- Two nights on Friday Harbor
- Visit the quaint town of La Conner
- Motorcoach tour of San Juan Island
- 9 meals: 4 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Seattle
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3650/4000 Gold Passport Points



- 4 ferry rides on Puget Sound, including Seattle/Bainbridge Island
- Visit the villages of Poulsbo, Sequim and Port Gamble around the sound
- Guided tours: Poulsbo, learn about the town's Norwegian heritage; Olympic National Park
- Learn the story of the lighthouse at Mukilteo, enjoy lunch at Ivar's
- 4 nights Clearwater Casino Resort in Suquamish – gaming for those who enjoy it, beautiful views for those who don't
- Visit: The grave of Chief Seattle, the Suquamish Tribal Museum and the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial – local landmarks which tell the history of the region
- 11 meals: Sunday Brunch (plated), 4 full breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Door-to-door airport service
- Roundtrip airfare to Seattle
- 2950/3250 Gold Passport Points

Ferries and Towns of Puget Sound

One of our longest running and most popular tours - 4 nights a room with a terrific view, ride the ferry boats across the sound, visit small towns and a national park
5 Days • July 20-24

1. Fly non-stop to Seattle. Enjoy brunch at Anthony's (with a view) near the airport. The afternoon ferry ride to Bainbridge Island is the second longest (35 minutes) and one of the most scenic on the sound.

Suquamish is the final home of the late Chief Seattle, the Native American who convinced his people to accept the coming of white settlers. Visit the museum and the Chief's grave; and hear his story.

Your lodging for **four nights** is at the beautiful **Clearwater Casino Resort**, overlooking the waters of Puget Sound. For a welcome dinner this evening, we've arranged a lovely private buffet on the patio (weather permitting). Walk along the sound, sit outside near the fire ring in the evening, it's really one of the most wonderful accommodations in our entire catalog. There are dining choices on property. (Note: The lodge building is completely separate from the casino, a 3 minute walk.) **(BR,D)**

2. Just down the road from our waterfront home is Poulsbo. Founded by Scandinavian immigrants in the 1880's, today it's a popular tourist destination. We've arranged a short guided walking tour, along with a visit to Sluy's, the town's legendary bakery, where you can pick out a FREE treat after lunch! There's also time to explore some of the quaint shops at your leisure.

Port Gamble is another colorful little spot in the Pacific Northwest. The old mill town has been restored and is a National Historical Landmark. Our visit includes a casual outdoor dinner and tour of the local museum, said to be haunted. We'll get the details from a "**ghost's point of view...**". **(FB,D)**

3. More ferry rides today! Cross from Kingston to Edmunds, to reach the Mukilteo Lighthouse. It's open just for us! After lunch at Ivar's on the water, there are two possible ferry routes back, which will be determined by tidal conditions that day. **(FB,L)**

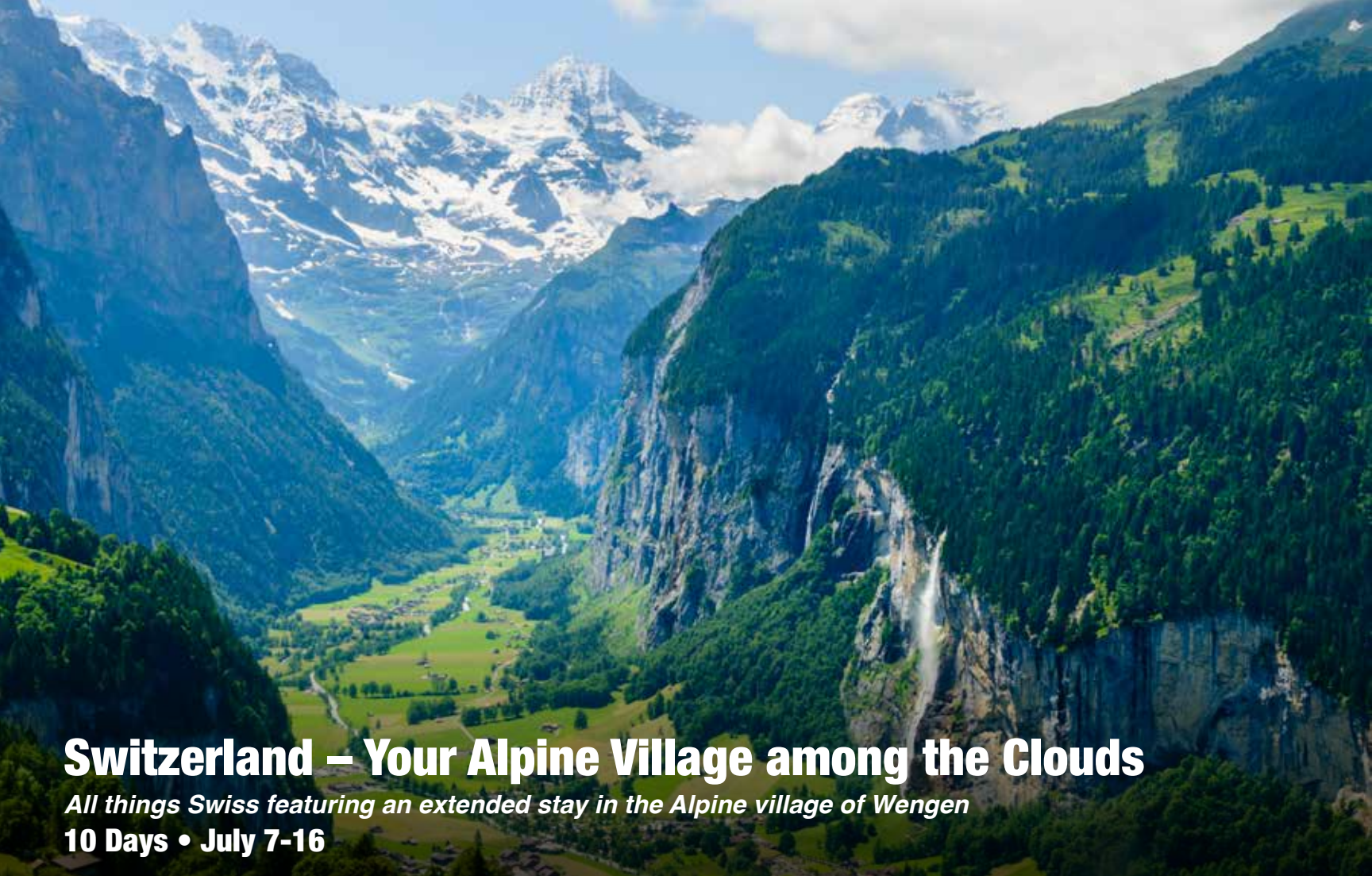
4. Off to visit Olympia National Park this morning, featuring a stop at Hurricane Ridge and spectacular mountain views. Back down at sea level, two stops in quaint Sequim, for lavender and lunch. Eat at a popular diner downtown and then visit a lavender farm. Take some home if you wish, or sample their other products. Ever eat ice cream laced with lavender? It's yummy! Dinner is in Poulsbo with a decidedly local

twist, as the Sons of Norway Hall hosts us for Norwegian-style dining and perhaps entertainment. **(FB,L,D)**

5. Before heading back to Seattle, there is an important stop in Bainbridge. There is a small memorial here, honoring some of the first Japanese-Americans to be taken away to internment camps from Bainbridge Island. Their story is important and it's slightly different from the internment camp sites, as this is an **exclusion** memorial. We'll catch the ferry across the sound, have lunch, then head to the airport and our late afternoon flight home. **(FB,L)**

\$2910 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3225 single **3**





Switzerland – Your Alpine Village among the Clouds

All things Swiss featuring an extended stay in the Alpine village of Wengen

10 Days • July 7-16

HIGHLIGHTS

- 6 nights in the car-free Alpine village of Wengen
- Overnights in Bern and Zurich
- Experience the Bernese Oberland by train, cog rail, funicular, cable car, gondola, Postbus and boat!
- Mountain peaks, Alpine valleys, quaint villages and breathtaking waterfalls presented daily
- City tours of Bern and Lucerne
- 14 meals: Daily breakfast, 1 lunch, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Zurich
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- The services of both a European and **Sports Leisure** Tour Director
- 8650/9700 Gold Passport Points

1. Take off on an overnight flight to Zurich via Washington Dulles – only one change of planes!

2. Upon your morning arrival in Switzerland, meet your Europe-based guide and embark on the journey to Bern, Capital of Switzerland and gateway to the Bernese Oberland. Yes, you'll be tired, but Switzerland's unsurpassed beauty is worth staying awake for, especially as our route takes us closer and closer to the Alps. We'll let you go to bed early tonight! **Hotel TBA (L)**

3. Bern's cobblestone streets and medieval arches make it one of Europe's most picturesque cities. In this UNESCO World Heritage Site you'll take a guided tour to see, among other spectacles, the famed Rose Garden and the impressive 13th Century Zytglogge Glockenspiel. After some free time for lunch and personal exploration, continue on to Lauterbrunnen with its towering cliffs, waterfalls and spectacular vistas. Say good-bye to the motorcoach for a few days as you begin using your included Berner Oberland Pass which provides full access to nearly every train, cog rail, funicular, cable car, gondola, Postbus and boat in the region! Travel by cog rail up to the enchanting Alpine village of Wengen, your home for a week. Wengen is a picturesque small village on the slopes of the Jungfrau and could represent the Swiss Alps on a postcard for its idyllic beauty as it features no cars, only mountains, meadows, forests and the occasional passing brown cow. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner where we'll discuss the unique logistics for your week in the clouds! **Hotel Silberhorn – 6 nights (FB,D)**

4. This morning ride the cog railway for an excursion through the glacier-carved Lauterbrunnen Valley. Board a Postbus to Trummelbach Falls, a series of ten glacier-

fed waterfalls inside the mountain made accessible by a tunnel-funicular built in 1913. Go inside the mountain and see how the falls have carved incredible caves and flumes. Next, take the cable car up to Gimmelwald, a small traffic-free village, then continue to Murren, noted for hiking paths surrounded by bell-ringing cows, waterfalls and wildflowers. At the west end of the valley take the Schilthorn cable car up to the summit of Piz Gloria. At an altitude of 9,700', the revolving restaurant located there was featured in the 1969 James Bond movie "On Her Majesty's Secret Service." **(FB,D)**





5. Today begins with a visit to Wilderswil to board the vintage cog railway up to Schynige Platte for incredible views of the surrounding mountain peaks (altitude 6,800'). Later, take in the scenery as you cruise across turquoise blue Lake Brienz, then ride the Brienz Rothorn steam train to the heights of the Rothorn through Alpine meadows to experience more views of the impressive Alps. **(FB,D)**

6. Enjoy a full day trip to the famous car-free ski resort village of Zermatt situated at the foot of the majestic Matterhorn, one of the world's most famous mountain peaks. Ride up the cogwheel railway to the Gornergrat (9,500 feet) offering incredible views of the Matterhorn and 29 of the highest peaks in Europe. Enjoy time at leisure to explore Zermatt on your own. Perhaps peruse the luxury boutiques and shops or enjoy a meal in a ski lodge. Return to Wengen after an incredible day with the evening at your leisure. **(FB)**

7. You're off on the Jungfrauoch Mountain Rail Excursion, referred to as the "Top of Europe," a place where the highest railway station on the continent is located at 11,300 feet above sea level. Later, travel via cog railway to enjoy a visit to the resort village of Grindelwald to explore, shop and maybe visit a local cafe. Continue on to "Summit in First" via the Grindelwald-Männlichen Gondola Cableway, Europe's longest cable car at an altitude of 7,600 feet. **(FB)**

8. Travel by cog train along the sheer walls of the Swiss Alps back to nearby Grindelwald. There you'll board the yellow Postbus and travel through the most remote portions of Switzerland for exploration of the Rosenlauri Glacier Gorge which features waterfalls, natural whirlpools and fantastic rock formations. Later descend out of the mountains to the amazing 600-foot-deep Aare River Gorge, carved over thousands of years by the Aare River. Later travel to the village of Meiringen known for being

the home of the tasty confection known as meringue and the site of Sherlock Holmes' final case. Have some time on your own to visit the Sherlock Holmes Museum and try a meringue at a café if you wish. This afternoon ride the panoramic express train along Lake Brienz to Interlaken, then take the cog train back to Wengen where we'll make a toast to the great week we've had in the Swiss Alps. **(FB,D)**

9. Ride the now-familiar cog railway one last time to Lauterbrunnen and board a motorcoach for the first time in days! Departing the Alps visit one of the most scenic local residential streets in Europe, the Brunnigasse in Brienz, which also includes a visit to a local wood carving shop. If you were looking for a Swiss timepiece or cuckoo clock, this is the place! Then travel over Brunig Pass to Lucerne, poetically described by Alexandre Dumas as "a pearl in the world's most beautiful oyster." Embark on a Lucerne walking tour featuring the famous Lion's Monument, the historic wooden Chapel Bridge and a walk along shore of beautiful Lake Lucerne. Continue to Zurich and check into your hotel for a farewell dinner and final night. **Dorint Hotel (FB,D)**

10. Return to Zurich International Airport for a late morning departure to the United States, again a one-stop flight through Washington Dulles, returning to Sacramento in the evening, your head filled with happy memories of your time among the clouds in Switzerland. **(FB)**



\$8640 p.p./dbl.occ., \$9695 single **4**
This vacation requires a valid passport!





The Canadian Rockies

7 Days • July 28– August 03

1. Welcome to Calgary, the largest city in the western Canadian province of Alberta. We'll head west around the city on the Trans Canada Highway and soon see the majestic peaks of the Rocky Mountains. Drive through the scenic town of Canmore and pass through the Gates of Banff National Park. **3 nights Banff – Mount Royal Hotel (D)**

2. Lake Louise – Yoho National Park Drive along famous Bow Valley, where wildlife sightings of caribou, elk, and occasionally bears, are common. Stop for a picture of majestic Castle Mountain before passing through Lake Louise Village.

From there, make our way up the twisting roadway to world famous Lake Louise, the emerald green “Jewel of the Rockies” surrounded by glistening glaciers and towering snow-capped mountain peaks. There will be time to enjoy the lake and explore the iconic Chateau Lake Louise before heading back to the Trans-Canada Highway and crossing the Continental Divide into Yoho National Park and the province of British Columbia.

Along the way, we'll take a break for lunch before arriving at awe-inspiring Emerald Lake, filled with glacial run-off water that makes it glisten with the blue-green hue of an emerald. Before we start our journey back into Alberta, we'll stop to view the famed Natural Bridge. **(FB)**

3. Banff – Sulphur Mt. Gondola It's time to explore your alpine resort. Once “Siding 29” on the Canadian Pacific Railway, the town of Banff was intended to be a tourist town from its very inception. The park's first superintendent, George Stewart,

even oriented the town's first street so that it offered the best possible view of Cascade Mountain. This morning, explore Banff on a sightseeing tour with stops at Cascade Gardens, the mysterious Hoodoos, the cascading Bow Falls and the Cave & Basin National Historic Site. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore the shops and galleries of Banff. We'll end the day with an exciting gondola ride to the top of 7500-foot Sulphur Mountain where we'll enjoy a great dinner with a spectacular view of the townsite and Bow Valley below. **(FB,D)**

4. Columbia Icefields Highway – Jasper Traveling through the heart of the Canadian Rockies, drive along the famous Icefields Parkway. It boasts a unique landscape rich in history and natural beauty second to none. We'll view azure, blue Peyto Lake, Mistaya Canyon (the valley of the Grizzly Bears) and climb the switchback road through the Sunwapta Pass before arriving at the famous Columbia Icefields whose waters feed three oceans; Visit the Interpretive Centre, then have the experience of a lifetime - a ride on the Ice Explorer vehicle for a close look at the Athabasca Glacier. At days end, arrive in the charming town of Jasper. **2 nights Forest Park Resort (FB)**

5. Maligne Canyon & Cruise Originally a tiny railway town, Jasper is very different from the alpine resort style glamour of Banff. Surrounded by towering mountains, crystal clear lakes, and abundant wildlife and located within Jasper National Park, it is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Start the day with a short tour of the Jasper townsite before crossing the Athabasca River and driving

HIGHLIGHTS

- Banff, Jasper and Yoho National Parks
- UNESCO World Heritage Site of Banff National Park
- Sulphur Mountain Gondola
- Lake Louise and Bow Valley Parkway
- Yoho National Park and Emerald Lake
- Peyto Lake and the Athabasca Falls
- Ice Explore Ride on the Athabasca Glacier
- Canyon walk & Maligne Lake Cruise
- 10 meals – 6 breakfasts, 4 dinners
- Round trip airfare, Sacramento/Calgary
- 3 nights Banff, 2 nights Jasper, overnight Calgary
- 5550/6400 Gold Passport Points

along the eastern slope of the Rockies. Stop for a gentle walk along the edge of Maligne Canyon. The scenic drive continues to beautiful Maligne Lake, the largest natural lake in the Canadian Rockies. The rest of the afternoon is free to enjoy Jasper. Celebrate the beauty of Jasper National Park tonight with dinner and a wildlife presentation. **(FB,D)**

6. Calgary Our first stop of the day will be at the thundering Athabasca Falls where we'll have a unique opportunity to view for falls from a variety of spectacular locations. Next, we climb up the rugged Sunwapta Pass to the Columbia Icefields and view several glistening glaciers not seen on the northbound journey. A great opportunity to watch for Mountain Goats, Elk, Moose and Bears. View the majestic Bow Glacier. As we leave the Icefield Highway and join the Trans Canada Highway, we'll take a lunch break in Lake Louise Village. As we pass the majestic Three Sisters Mountain peaks we take our last view of the Majestic Rocky Mountains. On the outskirts of Calgary, we'll catch a glimpse of the 1988 Winter Olympic site including the Ski Jumps, and the Bobsled and Luge run. This evening we'll enjoy a final dinner together. **(FB,D)**

7. After a little time to see the sights of the city this morning, it's time to head for home. **(FB)**

\$5515 p.p./dbl.occ., \$6380 single 4



Pageant of the Masters

Art comes to life in the most magical of ways

3 Days • July 13-15



HIGHLIGHTS

- Brunch cruise on Newport Beach Harbor
- Reserved loge seating for the Pageant of the Masters
- Docent-guided tour of the Festival of the Arts
- Exclusive behind-the-scenes talk with a Pageant insider
- Visit Roger's Gardens and the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
- Docent-led tour of the Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Orange County
- 5 Meals: 2 breakfasts, 1 brunch, 1 lunch, 1 dinner
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Southern California
- 1750/1900 Gold Passport Points

The Pageant of the Masters is considered one of the most distinctive art presentations in the world. It is a unique theatrical performance where actors pose as living pictures, accompanied by a live orchestra with a narrator telling the story behind each artwork presented. Hundreds of volunteers work tirelessly to bring together the intricate sets, lighting and costumes which are the hallmarks of the Pageant show. This year's theme is *Gold Coast: Treasures of California*.

1. A short flight takes us to Southern California where we will head directly to Newport Beach and board a City Cruises yacht for a 3-hour brunch cruise. After

brunch we'll stop at Roger's Gardens prior to checking-in to our hotel. Your evening is free. A short ride will get you to the upscale South Coast Plaza where a variety of restaurants and shopping opportunities are available. **Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa – 2 nights (BR)**

2. Today is all about art. This morning we will tour the impressive Segerstrom Center for the Arts complex in Orange County. This state-of-the-art complex has several performance venues including the grand opera house and a concert hall. Later this afternoon we head to Laguna Beach where we will get up close with the artists and their works at the Festival of the Arts for a docent-led tour. This will be followed by

dinner at Terra Restaurant. The highlight of the evening comes later in the outdoor amphitheater where the Pageant comes to life. Our reserved seats are the perfect location to see all the Pageant has to offer. **(B,D)**

3. Return to the Festival of the Arts grounds this morning to meet a representative from the Pageant and learn more about it's almost all-volunteer production. We know that after seeing the show you'll have questions, and you're encouraged to ask them here. Lunch is included before our late afternoon flight back to Sacramento. **(B,L)**

\$1710 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1890 single 2





Fall In Love With Victoria and Vancouver

Butchart Gardens in the Fall!

6 days • Sept. 12-17



1. Fly into Victoria via Seattle. Start your vacation with a touch of elegance and tradition that is High Tea at The Fairmont Empress Hotel. There is nothing quite like the afternoon tea experience that the Empress offers. Your hotel, Chateau Victoria Hotel & Suites, is a short walk from the Empress and is located in the heart of downtown with museums, shops and the bustling waterfront within easy walking distance. The evening is free. **Chateau Victoria – 3 nights (HT)**

2. Head north for our day at the world famous Butchart Gardens. Upon our arrival at the gardens, we'll start with lunch at the Blue Poppy and then have ample time to stroll through the gardens at your leisure. Don't forget to stop at their gift shop where you'll find a wide variety of merchandise from gifts to enhance your garden to jewelry and books. **(L)**

3. How about a foodie adventure today? We'll go on a walking Downtown Food & City Tour that will start right at our hotel. **(L)**

4. Today we will travel by ferry to Vancouver. It's a comfortable journey and you are free to walk about the different decks. Onboard there are coffee bars, a cafe where you can get a snack and even a quiet space. Upon arrival in Vancouver, we have lunch at a local restaurant before checking into our hotel for the next two nights. **The Blu Horizon – 2 nights (L)**

5. Meet Geoff this morning, a local guide who will lead us on a comprehensive city tour. Stanley Park, Chinatown, the steam clock, and other points of interest – we'll see and learn about them all. The Steamclock, is most unique, dating back to 1977. Later this evening we set sail on a Harbour Dinner Cruise as we take in the waterfront sights of this vibrant city of Vancouver. **(D)**

6. Our trip comes to an end today and as we make our way to the Vancouver airport for our flight later this afternoon. Stop for a lovely lunch at Shaughnessey Restaurant before checking in at the airport for our travels back to Sacramento. **(L)**

HIGHLIGHTS

- The world famous Butchart Gardens with lunch onsite at the Blue Poppy
- Traditional High Tea at The Fairmont Empress Hotel
- Travel by ferry to Vancouver
- Guided city tour of Vancouver, featuring Stanley Park (one of the most popular urban parks in North America)
- Dinner Cruise on Vancouver Harbor
- 6 meals: High Tea, 4 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip air to Victoria/from Vancouver
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3700/4100 Gold Passport Points

\$3685 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4070 single 3



Michigan & Mackinac

Stay two nights in GRAND style on North America's favorite island

7 Days • September 2-8



HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island
- 2 nights on the sparkling shore of Lake Michigan in Traverse City
- Overnight stays in Grand Rapids and the Bavarian village of Frankenmuth
- Explore Mackinac Island by horse and carriage
- Visit the Gerald Ford Presidential Museum and Meijer Gardens
- See Sleeping Bear Dunes and The Music House
- History abounds at the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation
- 13 meals: Daily breakfast, 2 lunches, 5 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to Grand Rapids/from Detroit
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 4350/5000 Gold Passport Points

1. Your first dinner and a good night's sleep await you in Grand Rapids, your gateway to Michigan, the Great Lakes State. **Holiday Inn Hotel (D)**

2. Before traveling to the shores of Lake Michigan, stop at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. While president for less than a term, Ford holds an important



place in history. At midday we'll visit the impressive Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park to commune with nature. Onward to Traverse City where your historic hotel is the cornerstone of downtown. **Park Place Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

3. Explore the Traverse City area with a local guide with a spotlight on Sleeping Bear Dunes National Seashore, named The Most Beautiful Place in America by ABC's "Good Morning America" viewers. The nearby village of Glen Arbor is ground zero here in the Cherry Capital of the World. Then you'll set sail aboard the schooner *Manitou* for a 2-hour cruise on Lake Michigan. The evening is left at your leisure to explore beautiful downtown district and its vibrant collection of restaurants and shops. **(FB,L)**

4. At the Music House you'll discover and hear an incredible collection of working mechanical instruments, antique phonographs and the centerpiece of the museum, *Amaryllis* - a huge Belgian pipe organ. Push north to Mackinaw City via Petoskey, then board 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. Your historic hotel built in 1887 lives up to its name! **Grand Hotel - 2 nights (FB,D)**

5. Discover Mackinac Island on your morning horse-drawn wagon tour, including a stop at the Wings of Mackinac, a butterfly house. The afternoon is free for personal exploration. Perhaps you'd like to discover locations used in the filming of "Somewhere in Time," one of the greatest love stories ever, or early American history at Colonial

Fort Mackinac. How about an afternoon bike ride around the island before dinner and dancing back at the Grand? **(FB,D)**

6. Take the ferry back to the mainland and travel south to the Bavarian village of Frankenmuth. A local guide will lead you on a tour about town before checking into your Alpine-themed hotel. The all-you-can-eat German dinner at the famous Bavarian Inn Restaurant is one to remember! **Bavarian Inn Lodge (FB,D)**

7. The legacy...his name. At the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation you'll witness a timeline of our country's genius from Colonial times to the present including R. Buckminster Fuller's all-aluminum Dymaxion House – a 1930s take on what the 21st Century would look like. There might also be a Ford automobile (or two or more) on display! **(FB,L)**

\$4350 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4990 single 3

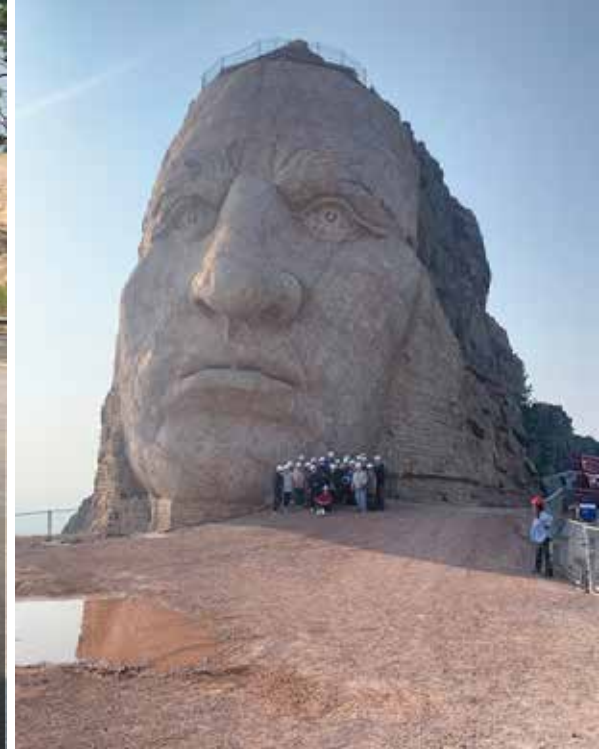




South Dakota's Black Hills

The Badlands, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, and Devils Tower

6 Days • October 5-10



HIGHLIGHTS

- Round Trip Air Sacramento-Rapid City
- Door- to Door- Service
- Native American performance and private luncheon
- Journey Museum
- Mount Rushmore, Badlands Nat'l Park, Devil's Tower Nat'l Mon., Mammoth Hot Springs
- Unique Crazy Horse Monument experience- ride by jeep to the top of the mountain, a VERY exclusive adventure
- Gold Factory Tour
- Custer State Park Buffalo jeep safari and chuckwagon cookout
- Boot Hill/Deadwood tour; Tatanka, Story of the Bison, Spearfish Canyon
- 12 Meals 6 Breakfast 4- Lunches 2- Dinners

1. Your early morning flight connects in Denver and arrives in Rapid City in time for a private lunch and Native American performance by Sequoia Crosswhite. Learn about the South Dakota Lakota ancestors and traditions through stories and music. There is time to explore the Journey Museum, highlighting South Dakota and Black Hills history.

A city tour is next, a chance to see the sights and sounds of Rapid City with a stop at Chapel of the Hills an architectural Norwegian work of art. **The historic Alex Johnson Hotel** is your home for the next 4 nights. **(L)**

2. Two signature attractions fill the day. First, the Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Learn about this famous monument with our personal guide. Our next adventure is to **Crazy Horse Memorial**. Your visit there includes an opportunity only offered to a select few, **the chance to ride to the top of the mountain!**

Indeed, this exclusive addition is only for Sports Leisure Travelers. Dinner with a view is included at Crazy Horse. **(FB,D)**

3. We begin our day with a tour at the Black Hills Gold factory, where we'll see skilled artisans crafting the beautiful tri-colored jewelry that is unique to this area.

Next stop is at the **Mammoth Site**. This active excavation is dedicated to the preservation of Ice Age fossils and it is fascinating. After lunch stop in the town of Custer, before continuing on to **Custer State Park**. Named after Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer, it's the home to hundreds of Buffalo. You'll see them up close and personal as you travel through the park on a narrated Jeep tour, followed by a chuckwagon dinner. **(FB,L,D)**

4. We depart for our next destination, **Deadwood**, the ultimate old west town. You'll stay 2 nights at the **Deadwood Lodge**, located in the heart of the Black Hills. Before check-in enjoy a day in Deadwood. A narrated tour of (in)famous Boot Hill, where shady (and not so shady) characters found their resting place. Free time downtown with optional visits to Deadwood museums, including **the Brothel Museum, the Adams House, the Adams Museum, and the Days of 76 Museum**. **(FB)**

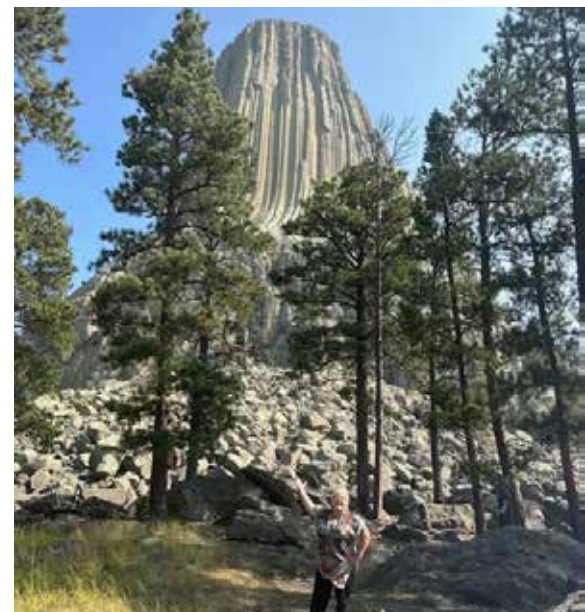
5. On to **Devil's Tower** National Monument in eastern Wyoming. The tower is a geologic feature that protrudes out of the Prairie surrounding the Black Hills. This is a sacred place to Native Americans, and you'll learn why it's called "Devil's Tower". Visit a museum in Sundance to learn some local color. Sundance? Home of the famous Sundance Kid? Hear the story of Harry

Lonabaugh (The Sundance Kid) and how he met Butch Cassidy. Speaking of local color, how about some Huckleberry ice cream before heading back to Deadwood. **(FB,L)**

6. Our last day in South Dakota will be full of awe and wonder. We start our morning with a visit to **Tatanka** and learn the story of the Bison. Kevin Costner, inspired by his time with the Lakota people while filming *Dances with Wolves*, invites you to experience the history of the planes before white settlers arrived. Experience the beauty of the fall foliage as we enjoy our farewell lunch at Spearfish Lodge located in beautiful **Spearfish Canyon**. On to the Rapid City airport for a return flight back to Sacramento. **(BL)**

Pricing on this trip will be available Nov. 15. We encourage you to make reservations now, without obligation.

3





Zion & Bryce Canyon National Parks

Featuring two Broadway performances at the stunning Tuacahn Amphitheater

6 Days • September 23-28

HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit Zion National Park including the remote Kolob Canyon
- Rim tour at Bryce Canyon National Park
- Two performances at Tuacahn Amphitheater
- 3 nights at the new Black Desert Resort
- Overnights in St. George and Bryce Canyon City
- 8 meals: 2 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 1 dinner
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Las Vegas
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3300/3850 Gold Passport Points

1. Fly to Las Vegas where a short drive brings us to St. George, Utah. Lunch is hosted before checking into your hotel for a good night's rest. **Hilton Garden Inn (L)**

2. This morning visit the lesser-traveled part of Zion National Park known as Kolob Canyon for incredible scenery – just a small taste of all that is to come! Next, take a scenic mountain road through colorful fall foliage on your way to Bryce Canyon National Park which will surely be a highlight of your travels. Drive along the rim of the canyon making stops at several overlooks to view the dramatic outcroppings of bazaar sandstone formations called "Hoodoos." This evening enjoy a musical dinner show next door to our hotel at **Ebenezer's. Ruby's Inn (B,L,D)**

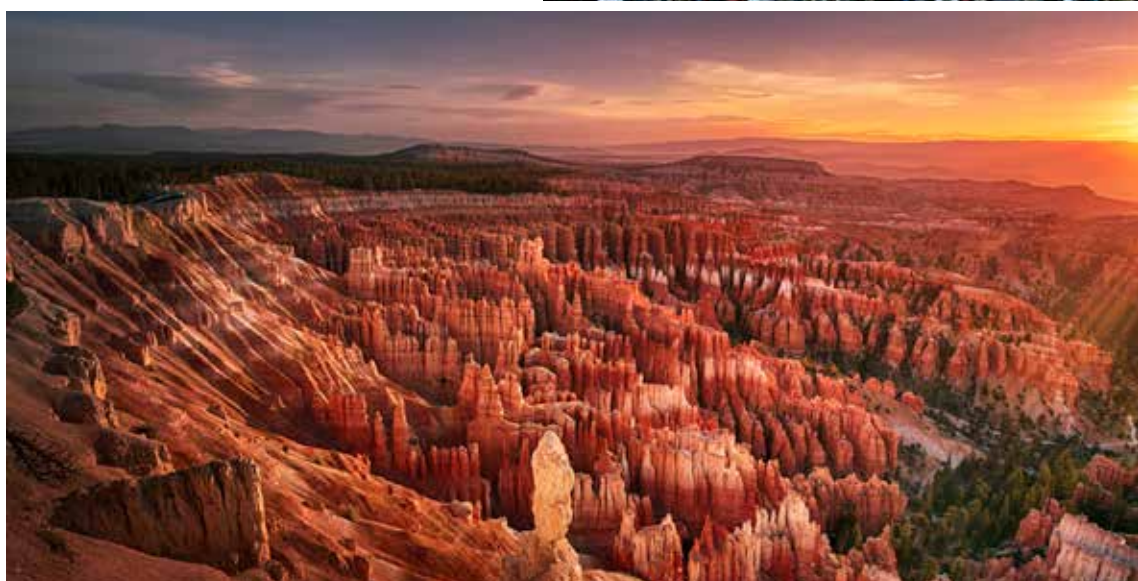
3. Leave Bryce this morning for a return to Zion National Park. Travel Zion Canyon to see towering red rock monoliths as you make your way along the Virgin River that created this beautiful canyon over countless centuries. Lunch will be hosted along the way. The day ends in Ivins at a brand-new resort nestled amongst ancient lava flows with breathtaking red rock canyon views. **Black Desert Resort - 3 nights (FB,L)**

4. Tour the St. George area this morning where you'll be surrounded by even more spectacular scenery, including lunch served with a view. Tonight will be a special treat as we see a performance in the great outdoors tucked in a red rock canyon at Tuacahn Amphitheater. Past performances have included popular Broadway shows. Performers are all first rate, coming from some of the best stages in New York City, Chicago, Las Vegas and Salt Lake City. Shows are TBA at press time and will be announced as soon as possible. **(L)**

5. Enjoy more local touring along with a hosted lunch at a beautiful resort, followed by a free afternoon to drink in the stunning surroundings at Black Desert. Return to Tuacahn in the evening for a second spectacular live performance. **(L)**

6. Return to Las Vegas for your afternoon flight home.

\$3265 p.p./dbl.occ., \$3825 single 3





A Culinary Journey Through Tuscany & Florence

With an optional Rome extension for a taste of the “Eternal City”

9/12 Days • September 30 – October 8/11

HIGHLIGHTS

- 5 nights in a Tuscan countryside resort
- Explore Volterra, Gimignano, Pisa, Lucca and Siena
- Cruise Lake Trasimeno to Island Maggiore
- Learn authentic Italian recipes and the origins of the flavors
- 2 nights in Florence
- See *David* and other wonders of Renaissance art and architecture
- 3 nights in Rome (optional extension)
- See the Colosseum, Circus Maximus, Pantheon and the Vatican
- 14/17 meals: Daily breakfast, 3 lunches, 4 dinners
- The services of both a European and *Sports Leisure Tour* Director
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- Roundtrip airfare to Florence/from Florence or Rome

1-2. Depart for Florence, the capital of Tuscany, aboard an overnight flight. After clearing Customs you're on your way through a magical landscape defined by rolling hills, olive groves, vineyards and charming hilltop towns to the community of Montaiione and your home for the first part of our journey. Savor your surroundings over a scrumptious welcome dinner.

Boccioleto, A Tuscan Countryside Resort – 5 nights (D)

3. We hope you rested well because we hit the ground at full speed today. Begin with an organic cooking and **pasta making class** ending with a lunch of our own creation. In the afternoon we visit a local **olive oil-producing farm** where we'll sample their virgin oils, vinegars and Chianti Classico wine. Dinner is included back at Boccioleto. **(FB,L,D)**

4. Today we travel to Volterra, an ancient and beautiful Italian hilltop city. Nearby we'll visit a **family-run farmhouse** that specializes in saffron production for lunch. In the afternoon visit San Gimignano, the epitome of a Tuscan hill town, where nobles built splendid towers to outdo one another and indulge in their need for status. The medieval structures of this city have largely remained intact and San Gimignano, with its large number of art treasures, is rightfully considered an open-air museum. Next enjoy a delicious gelato ice cream in one of the oldest gelaterias in Italy. Later, visit a local farmhouse and savor a dinner of typical Tuscan dishes paired with local wines. **(FB,L,D)**

5. Take a ride into the Umbria Region of Tuscany today. The heart-shaped Lake Trasimeno is surrounded by rolling hills, olive groves, woods of oak and cypress trees, vineyards and sunflower fields that frame castle-topped medieval towns and villages. There you'll enjoy a **boat cruise** to the Island Maggiore, where lunch is served at a traditional restaurant located on the lake. Return to your hotel for an evening at leisure. **(FB,L)**

6. Today we explore nearby Pisa and Lucca. See the remarkable **Leaning Tower of Pisa** and more in Pisa's "Field of Miracles" including the Duomo and Baptistry. In Lucca explore the Old Town filled with quaint shops and Gothic palaces. Lucca's great era was the Gothic period just before the Renaissance, and the city contains stunning architecture from that time. **(FB)**





7. Siena, known as “the heart of Tuscany,” will be explored on a walking tour of Old Town led by a local guide. The highlight is the Piazza del Campo, the seashell-shaped square on which the famous horse-race, the Palio, takes place each year. Later this afternoon travel to a lovely **Tuscan estate** to learn about truffles followed by delicious tastings of oil and truffle butter bruschetta, salami, pecorino cheese and wines from the estate with and included dinner to follow. The day ends in Florence. **Florence Hotel TBA – 2 nights (FB,D)**

8. Explore the best of Florence on a guided city tour featuring a visit to the Academy Gallery, home to **Michelangelo’s**

David. He is a sight to behold! See the Cathedral, Giotto’s stunning Bell Tower and the Baptistry’s intricate “Gates of Paradise.” Marvel at the open-air museum of **Piazza Della Signoria** with statuary too numerous to count. Florence is an architectural treasure trove with countless significant structures dating from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance. Have fun exploring on your own tonight! **(FB)**

9. Say arrivederci to the Tuscany-only travelers today whilst the rest continue to Rome for the optional extension, with a first stop in Assisi. This beautifully-preserved medieval hill town was home to 12th Century Saints Francis and Clare, the founders of the Franciscan movement (which among other things gave birth to California). The entire walled city is a **UNESCO World Heritage Site** and a magical place to explore in search of the perfect nativity, a Christmas tradition that was born here. Arrive in Rome, the “Eternal City,” in the late afternoon. **Rome Hotel TBA – 3 nights (FB)**

NOTE: The Rome extension as presented herein is dependent upon a minimum of 20 participants. If our number falls short we will offer an alternate experience.

10. Embark on a **Rome city** tour to see such highlights as the Colosseum, the Arch of Constantine, Circus Maximus, Piazza Venezia, the Pantheon and more. Then you’re off to visit another country – **Vatican City.** With your expert local guide explore the Vatican Museums featuring a massive collection of ancient Greek sculptures,

medieval tapestries and Renaissance paintings, ending with the hallowed Sistine Chapel and its ceiling painted by Michelangelo between 1508 and 1512. Next you’ll visit **St. Peter’s Basilica**, home to Michelangelo’s Pieta and Bernini’s colossal seven-story bronze altar canopy. **(FB)**

11. On your final full day in Italy you’re invited to sleep late, then head out to explore the city on your own. Visit a museum. Walk the Via Veneto. Climb the Spanish Steps. There are still so many monuments left to discover, so many plazas to conquer, so many quiet corners for respite! **(FB)**

12. Leonardo da Vinci-Fiumicino, Rome’s primary airport, is about an hour and a half from the city center. Once there, your return passage to the United States and Sacramento begins filled with happy memories of your time in Tuscany, Florence and Rome. **(FB)**

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. This vacation requires a valid passport!

4





Kentucky: Bourbon, Bluegrass & Booms

6 Days • April 8-13

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Lexington, tour Claiborne Farms, Keeneland Racetrack & the Kentucky Horse Park
- Visit one of the world's largest antique stores
- Historic Lexington Tour
- Travel the Bourbon Trail, visit two distilleries
- First Class accommodations - The Campbell House in Lexington (3 nights) & The Brown Hotel in Louisville (2 nights)
- Kentucky Derby Museum
- Thunder Over Louisville - one of the planet's biggest fireworks shows, kicking off the Kentucky Derby Festival
- 10 meals, round trip air and door-to-door service
- 3900/4250 Gold Passport Points

Discover the perfect blend of Kentucky's horse culture, historic Bluegrass charm, and one of the nation's most exciting events with this exclusive 6-day tour. You'll be a part of many of the festivities leading up to the Run for the Roses, the Kentucky Derby. Upon your return home, gather together for a Derby-watching party in Sacramento, complete with food and prizes! Perhaps our most unique tour offering ever!

1. Welcome you to the heart of Kentucky. You'll enjoy a group dinner at the iconic **Columbia's Steakhouse**, known for its rich flavors and welcoming atmosphere—a perfect start to your Kentucky adventure. (It's Mark's favorite steakhouse in the country.) Your accommodations are among Lexington's finest and most traditional. **The Campbell House – 2 nights (D)**

2. Today kicks off with a highlight of the tour—an immersive visit to Claiborne Farms, a celebrated Thoroughbred breeding farm, followed by a private tour of the famous Keeneland Racetrack. Lunch at the acclaimed Honeywood restaurant allows you to savor regional flavors.

After lunch, enjoy a visit to one of the largest antique shops found anywhere! Anritage Antiques is over 18,000 square feet! Even if you aren't buying, there is a wonderful array of treasures to admire. **(FB,L)**

3. Delve deeper into Lexington's history with a guided tour of the city, including a stop in the historic distillery district for lunch. The afternoon takes you to the Kentucky Horse Park, a comprehensive look at the state's proud equestrian heritage, followed by dinner at Dudley's. **(FB,D)**

4. No visit to Kentucky would be complete without some time along the **Bourbon Trail**. What's the Bourbon Trail? Like our own wine country, it's a region highlighting the production of bourbon, with visits to the famed Woodford Reserve and Bardstown Distilleries. Cap off the day in Louisville with a tour of Churchill Downs, the home of the Kentucky Derby.

In keeping with traditional hotels, our home in Louisville is the famous Brown Hotel (Home of the "Hot Brown" – a culinary hot sandwich masterpiece created out of turkey, bacon, tomatoes, and mornay sauce). **Brown Hotel – 2 nights (FB,D)**

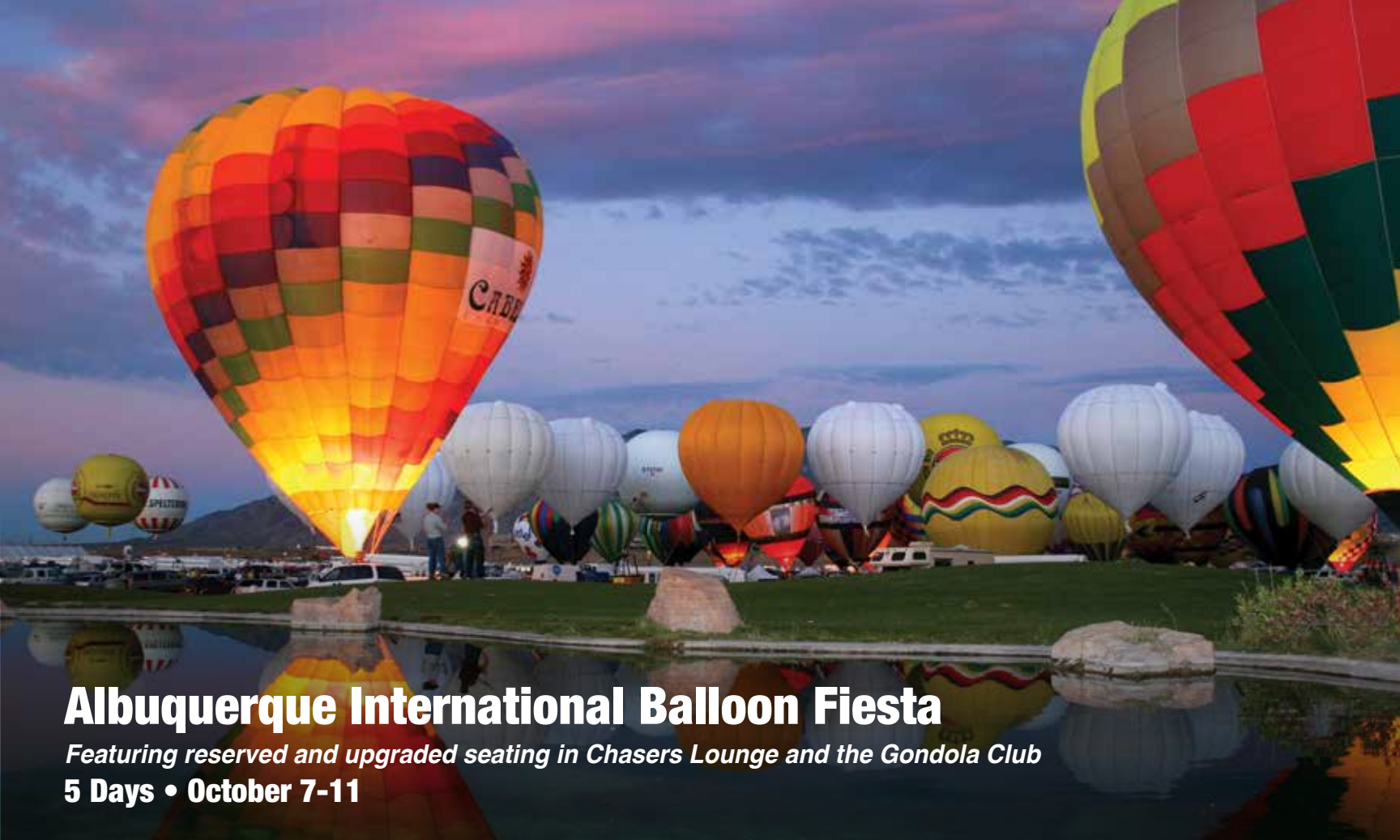
5. Your guided tour of the city gives you a chance to see Churchill Downs and learn the diverse history of the area. Learn about a young man named Cassius Clay, you may remember him as Muhammad Ali, the king of boxing. This is his hometown and today you'll hear his story.

Take a break this afternoon, before the evening brings the crescendo—Thunder Over Louisville! You'll experience the jaw-dropping airshow and fireworks display that kicks off the **Kentucky Derby Festival**. **(FB,L)**

6. Before heading for home this afternoon, there is time for a little more Louisville. Visits the **Louisville Slugger Museum** and the **Frazier History Museum** are slated. They've been making baseball bats here for decades. Hint: The gift shop here is always quite popular. A little Louisville history rounds out your time in the city. **(FB)**

\$3875 p.p/dbl.occ., \$4245 single 3





Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

Featuring reserved and upgraded seating in Chasers Lounge and the Gondola Club

5 Days • October 7-11

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 balloon events: Balloon Glow, Special Shapes and Mass Ascension
- Upgraded seating in the Chasers Lounge and Gondola Club
- Ride the Sandia Peak Aerial Tram
- Turquoise and Abruzzo Balloon Museums
- Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival
- 8 Meals: 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Albuquerque
- Door-to-door airport transportation
- 3850/4350 Gold Passport Points

1. Arrive in Albuquerque and enjoy a hosted dinner before checking into your hotel.

Marriott Albuquerque – 4 nights (D)

2. Travel on the famous **Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway** for stunning views of greater Albuquerque. Tour the Turquoise Museum which is housed in a mansion full of antiques, one of Albuquerque’s new top attractions – a must-see! Lunch is hosted at a favorite restaurant along storied Route 66. Finish the day with a visit to Old Town to browse the shops. **(FB,L)**

3. The Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta with over 600 balloons is the largest gatherings of balloons and the most photographed event on earth. We have upgraded your experience this morning to the Chasers Club Lounge, offering private seating on the field. After the

balloon ascension lunch will be hosted at a famous Mexican restaurant before taking a docent-guided tour of the **Abruzzo Balloon Museum** to learn about hot air and gas balloons from their first flight in 1783 to the present. **(FB,L)**

4. This morning we are watching the balloons from another private venue on the other side of the field, the Gondola Club. Today is Special Shapes Day! This is a very popular ascension with approximately 100 special shaped balloons. You might see Darth Vader and Yoda, a flying cow, maybe Smokey Bear just to name a few. Tonight we re-group for the Fiesta’s “Glowdeo,” a static display of the Special Shape balloons. Dinner will be held in the private **Gondola Club** with live entertainment and an open bar. Following dinner is the spectacular Afterglow Fireworks Show! (All events are weather permitting – high winds could lead to the cancellation of any event.) **(FB,D)**

5. After a sleep-in morning, visit the **Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival** featuring 200 fine artists and craftspeople from throughout the US who come together each year for the Fiesta. Take a break from shopping and enjoy ongoing live entertainment and a food court featuring specialty food booths before heading to the airport for our flight home. **(FB)**

\$3815 p.p./dbl.occ., \$4340 single **3**





Bonjour, La Belle Quebec!

French countryside, historic Quebec City and cosmopolitan Montreal...it's all here!

8 Days • October 7-14

HIGHLIGHTS

- 2 nights in a French Bed & Breakfast with home cooked meals
- Brilliant fall colors in the beautiful Charlevoix Region
- 2 nights in 4-star accommodations in Quebec City
- Visit Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Basilica & Montmorency Falls
- Tour Montreal, including v15 meals: 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners
- Roundtrip airfare to/from Montreal
- Door-to-door airport transportation

Québec's geography, history, people and culture create a most unique identity. With fall colors ablaze, its warmth and authenticity experience the best of Québécois style!

1. Welcome to La Belle Province of Quebec. Arrive into Montreal with dinner served at your hotel. Our location provides easy access to travel through the Laurentian Mountains. – **Hilton Laval (D)**

2. Go on safari at Parc Omega, home to various North American wildlife including moose, bear and wolves. A hearty farm-to-fork lunch is served right on a working farm. It doesn't get any fresher! Stay the night in the premier resort destination of Mont Tremblant. Take a cable car ride over stunning fall foliage. Choose from a varied selection of eateries at your resort for dinner. **Residence Inn by Marriott (FB,L)**

3. Along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River's lies charming Trois Rivières. Maple syrup is featured during lunch at a sugar shack. Try maple sugar taffy for dessert. Bet you can't have just one! In Charlevoix, the land where the mountains meet the sea, the fall colors create a spellbinding setting. Enjoy your surroundings and accommodations at a traditional French auberge, best described as a larger Bed & Breakfast with home-cooked meals.

Auberge Beausejour – 2 nights (FB,L,D)

4. Charlevoix's Flavour Trail has specialty farms producing upscale products used by Canada's top chefs that you'll have the opportunity to taste. Enjoy lunch on your own in charming Baie-Saint-Paul. After browsing the many shops and galleries, return to your hotel for a celebration of Canadian Thanksgiving with a traditional dinner sure to make you say "Oui, oui"! Observed a month earlier than our own, this year you'll have TWO turkey-days! **(FB,D)**

5. Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré Basilica's towering spires extend to the heavens. Notice the elaborate bronze doors during your tour, then visit the artist's studio to learn about his craft. Continue to Quebec City stopping at one of the many roadside brick ovens baking fresh hot crusty bread. How will you take yours? We suggest a deep slathering of maple butter! Enjoy lunch at Quebec City's iconic Chateau Frontenac perched high on the bluff. Walk it off on a tour of historic Lower Town Quebec. Your 4-star hotel is located at the heart of

Old Quebec. Take your pick of charming cafes around the hotel for dinner. **Hotel Manoir Victoria – 2 nights (FB,L)**

6. Île d'Orleans, an island nestled in the St. Lawrence River is truly a special place. At a ciderie, taste an array of apple wines and products after lunch in an 18th century gristmill. A gentle hike along the top of Montmorency Falls gives spectacular views. A gondola ride delivers you to the base and the gift shop, of course! The rest of the day is yours to explore town, or simply find a spot to enjoy your lovely surroundings. **(FB,L)**

7. We're off to Montreal! The cobblestone streets of Old Montreal transport you to another time. The peace and tranquility of Notre Dame Basilica is palpable on a guided tour. Take a rest at the hotel before a fantastic farewell dinner. **Hampton Inn Montreal – (FB,D)**

8. Spin around the city on a guided motorcoach tour through distinctly unique neighborhoods that give Montreal a decidedly cosmopolitan feel. Make picture stops with expansive city views. Alas, it's time to bid "Au revoir" to La Belle province of Québec and catch your flight home. **(FB)**

3

Pricing on this trip will be available soon. We encourage you to register without obligation in order to secure your space. This vacation requires a valid passport!





Alaska Explorer cruise on Holland America's MS Westerdam

8 Days • May 25-June 1

Ports of call:

Seattle is where we start our Alaska adventure. Puget Sound has incredible Pacific Northwest scenery. The beauty of the landscape is unforgettable from rocky outcroppings to forested mountains.

Scenic cruising Stephens Passage. The southern reaches of Stephens Passage offer one of the best whale watching areas in Alaska. The sound narrows as you are funneled into the passage, the mountains come right down into the sea. The water in the passage is ridiculously deep, well over 1,000 feet in places.

Juneau is the most remote, most beautiful, and most unusual state capital in the United States. Surrounded by water, forest, and mountains, visitors can hike a glacier, eat fresh caught fish on a seaside patio and tour a grand capital building all in one day.

Endicott Arm is a 30-mile fjord that snakes through the Tracy Arm Fords Wilderness area. At the head is the majestic Dawes Glacier. The 600-foot tall, mile wide Dawes Glacier takes center stage just around a bend. Endicott Arm and Dawes Glacier are the breeding grounds of harbor seals, one of Alaska's cutest critters.

Sitka has a storied past with jaw dropping scenery. Sitka is located on Baranof Island surrounded by the Sitka Sound's icy blue water. Russia controlled Alaska from the mid-1700s until the United States purchased it in 1867.

Ketchikan is a one of the best spots along the Inside Passage to explore the rich cultural sights of Native Alaskan nations. You can see intricately carved totem poles at the Totem Heritage Center and Totem Bight State Park, with working carvers and a

dance show in the clan house. Don't forget to leave time to explore the sights in the town itself, including historic Creek Street, a boardwalk built over the Ketchikan Creek, where you can shop for souvenirs, smoked salmon and local art, while exploring gold rush era tourist attractions like Dolly's House Museum.

Victoria – This is a brief stop, from 8pm – Midnight and activities off ship will be limited.

Cabins start at \$2320 p.p./dbl.occ., for inside staterooms, \$2620 p.p./dbl.occ., for outside rooms. Single cabins start at \$3265 inside, \$3865 outside

Prices include home pick-up, round trip air, cruise and the services of a SLV Cruise Director. Shore excursions, alcohol and other optional services/activities are not included.

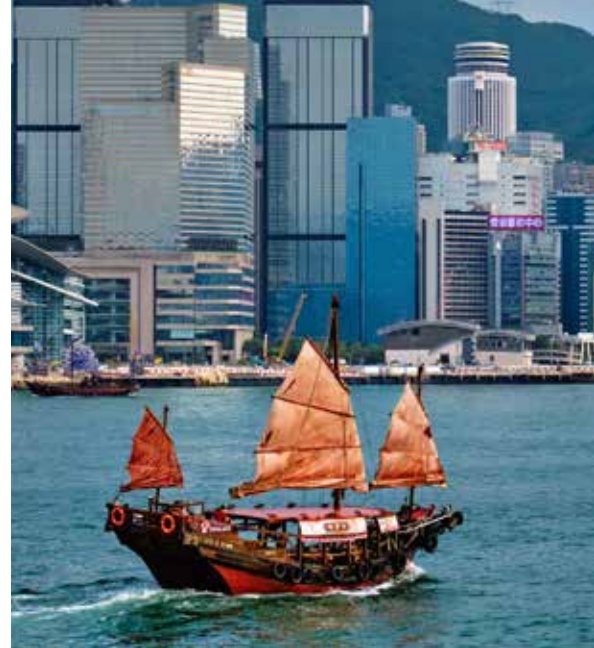
Sunday	Seattle	Depart 3pm
Monday	At Sea	
Tuesday	Cruising Scenic Stephens Passage	
Tuesday	Juneau	Arrive 12pm Depart 10:30pm
Wednesday	Scenic Cruising Endicott Arm	
Thursday	Sitka	Arrive 8am Depart 4pm
Friday	Ketchikan	Arrive 7am Depart 1pm





Far East Discovery Cruise

Hong Kong to Singapore
November 9-23



A little about your ports of call...

Hong Kong - We start our adventure in Hong Kong, one of the world's most glamorous and Cosmopolitan cities. Hong Kong is a regional and global hub for banking, shipping, fashion and food, boasting more than 60 Michelin starred restaurants.

Halong Bay, Viet Nam - Like a combination of Thailand's famous limestone Phang Nga bay and old Hong Kong's harbor with its dragon-sailed junks, Halong bay is a must see. The bay and its almost two thousand islands were declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1994.

Da Nang is located halfway between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. It is a beautiful coastal city. This is the first place that the US Marines landed in March 1965.

Nha Trang is on the southern Vietnamese coast. Work your way forward from Buddhist temples like the 7th to 12th century Po Nagar Cham Towers and the late 19th century Long Son Pagoda, to the cities early 20th century French Gothic style cathedral.

Phu My is the gateway to Ho Chi Minh City. Formerly known as Saigon it is a fascinating mix of old and new. French-colonial architecture vies for attention with modern skyscrapers; sleek designer malls sit alongside bustling local markets.

Sihanoukville, Cambodia is home to some of Asia's most stunning coastline scenery. Renamed in 1964 for King Norodom Sihanouk it is known for its beach activities and local temples.

Laem Chabang is the port for **Bangkok, Thailand** is the only country in Southeast Asia (and one of the few in the world) never to have been colonized by a European power. Buddhist temples and gilded

palaces coexist with the bustle of one of Asia's major metropolises. There are few places in the world where you can spend the morning visiting centuries old temples, have lunch at one of the world's top Michelin starred restaurants and then shop for exquisite garments. And wherever you explore, you will be struck by the warm welcome you receive. "The land of smiles" is a fitting nickname for Thailand.

Koh Samui is a beautiful tropical island. It is Thailand's most famous island for many reasons reasons.

The coast is edged with vivid blue water. By contrast the islands interior includes dense jungles, ancient temples and pristine waterfalls.

Singapore is a present-day city state. It is a modern city but maintains local neighborhoods. It has a mix of ethnic groups mainly Malays, Chinese, and Indian which makes for a vibrant cultural scene and amazing food options.

Our amazing adventure ends here in Singapore.

2 night post-cruise stay with a city tour of Singapore is also included.

Pricing will be available in late December, 2024. Register now, no deposit required until pricing is announced. You can decide at that time to continue on to Asia with us or cancel. We estimate pricing, including round trip coach air, will start in the \$5-6,000 range (dbl. occupancy).

Sunday	Hong Kong	Depart 5pm
Monday	At Sea	
Tuesday	Halong Bay, Vietnam	Arrive 7am Depart 9pm
Wednesday	At sea	
Thursday	Da Nang, Vietnam	Arrive 8am Depart 6pm
Friday	At Sea	
Saturday	Nha Trang, Vietnam	Arrive 7am Depart 3pm
Sunday	Phu My, Vietnam	Arrive 6am Depart 6pm
Monday	At Sea	
Tuesday	Sihanoukville, Cambodia	Arrive 7am Depart 8pm
Wednesday	Laem Chabang (Bangkok), Thailand	Arrive 12pm
Thursday	Laem Chabang (Bangkok), Thailand	Depart 6pm
Friday	Nathan, Thailand	Arrive 10am Depart 5pm
Saturday	At Sea	
Sunday	Singapore	Arrive 7am



The Sports Leisure Difference...

Answers to these frequently asked questions will tell you more about our company and help you enjoy your vacation to the fullest!



What does travel in the time of COVID-19 look like to you?

COVID is still with us. **As we go to press, a new vaccine has been announced. We strongly urge you to consider getting it.** Vaccinated travelers have a lower chance of catching COVID. We reserve the right to reinstate a vaccination requirement and anything else we feel is essential for the health and well being of our travelers, staff and suppliers. Tour Directors have been instructed to ask travelers to “cover their mouth,” to keep from spreading any type of germs around the group.

Can I find you on the web?

You bet! At www.sportsleisure.com you'll find all our recent publications, plus information on upcoming tours, events and more.

I hear you refer to customers as “members.” Do I have to join a club to travel with you?

Absolutely not, though most travelers do elect to join the *Sports Leisure Travel Club*. Only through club membership will you receive the annual catalog, our bimonthly newsletter *The Traveler* and invitations to our special events. Additionally, only members can participate in Travel Club Gold and Day Tripper rebates, our bonus

rewards programs. A complimentary membership is extended to new and potential travelers upon request. After that, it's only \$10 per person, per year. Lifetime memberships are also available.

Are there any fees for cancellation after I make a payment?

Outside 70 days before departure (100 days on international vacations) all tour payments are refunded less a \$20 per person administrative fee upon cancellation. Within 70 days before departure refund provisions vary based on the tour and the reason for cancellation. Please refer to our *Special Vacation Notes and Information* brochure for details.

I have dietary restrictions. Is this going to be a problem?

If you have mild dietary restrictions (vegetarian, lactose and/or gluten intolerant), it is important for you to advise us at the time of registration. As you can certainly understand it is quite difficult for your Tour Director to accommodate those who wait until they are actually traveling to share their special needs. **If you have severe or multiple dietary restrictions you may find this type of travel is not for you.**

Can I make other special requests?

You are invited to make special requests of the airline and hotel(s) serving your vacation at the point of reservation. The more notice we have the better our ability to accommodate you. Requests might include specific airline seating, an upgrade or the need for wheelchair assistance at airports; and at hotels a king bed or handicap-accessible room. **Some special requests, like airline seating, may require additional cost.** Please note we automatically request a room with two beds for those traveling double occupancy unless you tell us otherwise.

Can you explain “door-to-door service”?

Quite simply this means we will pick you up and return you to your home on all vacations of three days or longer. This service may involve a sedan, SUV, limousine or other chauffeured vehicle.

Provided by Baylight Transportation Services in the Sacramento metropolitan area, door-to-door service is included (complimentary) within these boundaries: Davis on the west, Elk Grove on the south, Auburn (95603) and Shingle Springs on the east, Woodland to the north. Service is available for an additional charge for travelers living in Galt, Stockton, Yuba City/Marysville, Grass Valley, Winters, Vacaville, Fairfield, Placerville, Lake of the Pines/Auburn (95602) and Colfax.

A \$100 per person credit is available for travelers to whom this service isn't available or for those who wish to opt out and meet us at the point of departure (usually the airport, train station or office). Another option for those who live in outlying areas is to overnight at a hotel located near the departure point.





On *Daycations* and overnights motorcoaches depart from convenient neighborhood pick-up points in the greater Sacramento area. Door-to-door service is available for a fee on day and overnight trips. Call the office for details.

What can I expect from the motorcoaches you charter?

Whether locally or at fly-away destinations, we seek only the best equipment and drivers available with three things in mind: Your pleasure, your comfort and above all your safety. Onboard amenities usually include plush seating, audio and video systems, wifi, electrical outlets, climate control and a restroom. Additionally, your Tour Director is never far away with water and other refreshments.

You have assigned seating on your tours. What's that about?

We do not rotate motorcoach seats as many companies do. You are free to select the seating of your choice at the point of reservation. Single travelers are sometimes required to take available single seats to leave remaining pairs for those traveling with a friend or spouse. It's important to note many of our extended tours have limited capacity, allowing you to spread out in the rear of the coach if desired.

What about airport security restrictions? They seem to change all the time.

The Transportation Security Administration requires that you provide us your date of birth and full name as it appears on your government-issued photo identification for all vacations involving air travel. Complete passport information is additionally required

in advance for international travel. Up-to-date security information can be found on the internet at www.tsa.gov, including details on how you can qualify for TSA Pre-Check. Our staff stays current on the latest regulations in order to provide you timely and accurate assistance.

Have passport rules changed?

Passports are required for all travel outside the U.S. including Canada and Mexico. If you are of foreign citizenship, we highly recommend you check with your country's embassy and follow its instructions to make certain your travel will be legal and seamless. U.S. citizens in need of a passport can pick up an application at any post office or find it online. **Please allow a minimum of three months for processing. Your passport must be valid for at least six months past the scheduled ending date of your international tour.**

Do I need to worry about airline baggage charges?

As each airline has different policies regarding luggage and associated charges, you may expect rules and restrictions (number of bags allowed, weight, etc.) to vary from trip to trip. You have this Sports Leisure promise: You will never pay to check your first bag on any flight on a U.S. or Canadian airline.

Each checked bag has a strict weight limit of 40 or 50 pounds (we ask that you limit to 40#, airlines are at 50#). Bags weighing more will incur additional fees or be rejected. This policy applies throughout the tour. Many "wheelie" bags and oversized carry-ons that fit in airline overhead bins cannot be accommodated within the cabin of the motorcoach. In such cases you will

be asked to check them coachside with your Tour Director. They will be tagged and available coachside at each overnight stop.

Are my payments protected when I pay for my vacation in advance?

Your deposits and final payments are held in escrow until the tour returns in full accordance with the State of California Seller of Travel Law (#2011549-40).

Can a friend from another city sign up for a Sports Leisure vacation, or join me for a meal or activity at one of our destinations?

Yes! We can arrange travel for friends or relatives to meet our groups from any city in the world. (We currently have over 1,000 Travel Club members who live outside the Sacramento area.) If you have someone who would like to travel with you, have them call us toll free at 1-800-951-5556. With advance notice, we are also happy to welcome your friends or relatives who may live along the tour route and wish to join us for a meal or attraction.

Can I extend my vacation to visit friends or relatives?

The answer is almost always yes, particularly if you register and make your request at least 70 days prior to departure. Many travelers take advantage of this opportunity to visit friends or relatives, or explore a destination in greater detail on their own. There could be additional charges for flight deviations, but generally they are small. If you extend your vacation, and wish to have a car waiting when you get home, airport transportation can be provided for an additional \$100 per household. Please note unique air schedules are not covered by Cancellation Protection on domestic trips.

I have some trouble walking long distances. Will I be able to participate and enjoy the trip?

Walking and some step-climbing are necessary to participate in the normal activities on our vacations. While we can do almost everything for you on a Sports Leisure vacation, the Tour Director cannot provide sustained attention to individual





clients. Please be advised that we visit many cultural sites on tour, not all of which meet A.D.A. requirements due to their historic status and/or physical layout. You must be able to get on and off the motorcoach without assistance.

Let us assure you that people with mobility restrictions are welcome on our vacations. Many of our travelers are over 70, 80 or even 90, something we keep in mind when planning our itineraries. The Tour Planner for each departure knows the itinerary well and would be happy to consult with you personally should you have questions regarding the amount of walking, elevations, etc., on a particular trip. Additionally, each trip is rated with an activity level to identify energy and fitness levels.

What if I become ill and cannot travel? Do you offer cancellation protection or travel insurance?

One or both are available on every departure. Either must be purchased at the time you make your initial tour payment. We strongly recommend you consider this optional protection. Please refer to the *Special Vacation Notes and Information* brochure for details. This coverage may not be available to those who have cancelled more than two tours in a 12-month period or who make their reservation less than one month prior to the departure date.

How does your company deal with "chronic complainers?"

One or two can ruin a trip for all. *Sports Leisure Vacations* reserves the right not to accept or retain anyone whose lack of

personal hygiene or poor general behavior, in the opinion of the Tour Director, impedes the operation of the tour and/or affects the rights of other travelers. A refund of unused tour services is the limit of our liability if a person is required to leave the tour for the reasons stated above. Said passenger(s) will be responsible for any additional costs to return to the city of origin.

We want to learn, discover and have fun together. Our groups are often complimented on their positive attitude by tourism professionals and others who encounter us on the road. Life is too short for making yourself and those around you miserable due to small challenges that are bound to occur. Travel is by nature an inexact science.

And that's the Sports Leisure Difference...





9812 Old Winery Place, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95827

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EARLY REGISTRATION/PAYMENT DISCOUNTS

Early Registration Payment Discounts listed here expire on **Friday, November 22nd, 2024**; or may be withdrawn when 50% of the available space has been reserved.

- March – Spring Training - **Save \$75**
- March – Ashland Chocolate Fest. - **Save \$40**
- April – New York City Broadway & The Bronx - **Save \$150**
- April – Kentucky: Bourbon, Bluegrass & Booms - **Save \$120**
- May – Redwoods & The Ranch - **Save \$50**
- May – Luci & Niagara Falls - **Save \$125**
- May – Moab, Gateway to Arches - **Save \$85**
- May – Washington, DC - **Save \$100**
- May – Japan - **TBA**
- May – Grand Canyon - **Save \$90**
- May – Cape Cod - **Save \$135**
- June – Hwy 50, The Lincoln Highway - **Save \$60**
- June – Yosemite Nat'l Park - **Save \$50**
- June – Shucked, A Mystery Tour - **Save \$60**
- July – Ft. Bragg, Let's Visit the Ocean - **Save \$50**
- July – San Juan Explorer - **Save \$80**
- July – Ferries & Towns of Puget Sound - **Save \$90**
- July – Canadian Rockies - **Save \$200**
- August – Oregon: Scandinavians, Gardens, Bridges - **Save \$75**
- September – Victoria/Vancouver – **Save \$100**
- September – Zion & Bryce Canyon - **Save \$100**
- September – Michigan & Mackinac – **Save \$150**
- October – Black Hills – **TBA**
- October – Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta - **Save \$125**

The Sports Leisure Dream Team

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Donnie Anderson | Mark Hoffmann |
| Scott Angeletti | RoseMarie Holt |
| Donna Carey | Laurin Johnson |
| Michael Downer | Serina Jordan |
| Maureen Gagliardi | Sara Turner |
| Tyler Gerald | Bob Veliky |
| Mariea Hammersley | Clayton Whitehead |
| Patricia Hansen | May Wong |

Sacramento's Travel Radio Show is heard every Saturday at 11am

The Travel Guys Radio Show

- *Weekly travel news from across the country and around the world*
- *Tips to make you a smarter traveler*
- *Updates for Sports Leisure Travelers*

Every Saturday at 11am
KFBK, 1530AM, 93.1FM

Podcasts and show updates at
www.travelguysradio.com



Hosted by: Tom Romano and Mark Hoffmann

Visit us online at: www.sportsleisure.com