

Volume 12, Issue 35

TheTravelAuthority.com

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See a complete list of locations inside!

Inside

- Once Before I Die: A Travel Writer's Bucket List



Plan Your Escape Today!

We would love to make your vacation dreams come true! Give us a call or come by our office today. Wherever you want to go, we can get you there.



TRAVEL

FUN FAMILY VACATIONS...

Memories in the Making!



"...Memory is the diary that we all carry with us." – Oscar Wilde

Pause a minute to think about your fondest memories: childhood vacations with your parents, adventures with friends, travels with kids and grandkids. Pause again and recall all the times you came home from a vacation...refreshed, restored and ready to take on the world. Maybe you and your family enjoyed a relaxing getaway on a sunny beach or hiked mountain trails; kayaked on a beautiful lake or maybe simply enjoyed sightseeing in an exciting new city. For most of us travel isn't just something we do, rather it's an inextricable part of who we are. Some things in life are expendable – reconnection with our ourselves and our loved ones when traveling – is not. Lifetime memories are made when we travel and travel is certainly a wise investment in our work/life balance and peace of mind. Please give us a call. We're here to help you plan your next fun family vacation with memories in the making. And as always... wherever in the world you want to go – we can get you there.

IN THIS EDITION:

Cruising...What's New on the Horizon
Travel Agency Highlights
Touring...From Here to There

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CRUISE & TOUR...

Ah...Summertime...it's almost upon us.

School will be out soon... family getaways and vacations move to the forefront in our priorities. If you haven't yet made your plans for your family's get together – we have some great suggestions! Options run the gamut from a multigenerational family cruise to an enticing all-inclusive island getaway in the Caribbean or Hawaii. Other options may include a fun family road trip in the good ole' US of A. And if you and your family want to venture across the Atlantic... we can put together an itinerary on the Continent that will ensure everyone comes home with memories to last a lifetime.

AMAWATERWAYS

This fall, let's consider something different, and all in the "Celebration of Wine!" Expand your horizons beyond the famed Napa Valley wine region, and picture yourself in Europe, leisurely sailing past quaint, historic villages such as Austria's Wachau Valley, marveling at the steep vineyards of Germany's Mosel and Rhine Valleys, or exploring rich multi-cultural traditions of Portugal's Douro region (debuting Spring 2013). Together with our partner, AMAWATERWAYS, we are offering this dream vacation. Each of AMAWATERWAYS' "In Celebration of Wine" itineraries includes onboard educational programs given by renowned wine experts – many of whom are representatives of well-known California wineries. In addition, you can look forward

to shore excursions that include visits to wineries, fine dining plus wine tastings, lectures, and wine-pairings; complimentary wine with dinner, and of course onboard luxurious accommodations and amenities that include live evening entertainment, services of a professional Cruise Manager, and so much more. There are eight unique wine cruises in 2012 that showcase the world-famous wine regions of the Rhine, Danube, and Rhone Rivers. Besides informative and interesting lectures on wine, your guest speaker may discuss specialties of the region(s) you are visiting. In addition to shore excursions to wineries, you and your friends may have the unique opportunity to visit an olive oil farm or maybe even a chocolate factory. These

wine cruises will showcase an exceptional opportunity to experience the very best of Europe's old-world wine heritage and cultures – and all to be enjoyed on the most modern and luxurious ships that sail the rivers of Europe.

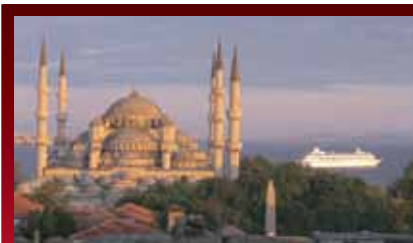
SAILING THE MEDITERRANEAN CRYSTAL CRUISES

This fall, sailing the Mediterranean with Crystal Cruises will be even more fun and exciting. To enhance your cruise experience, Crystal has



introduced "A Year of New Developments" taking place on both the *Crystal Symphony* and *Crystal Serenity*. These "developments" range from even more choices for dining, evening and daytime entertainment, enrichment and fitness, to initiating major redesigns of many of the popular public areas such as the Avenue Saloon, Palm Court Lounge and Galaxy Showroom. Also new for this year... the addition of Chinese "comfort food" highlighted with dinner-on-deck in the Tastes Café. Next, foodies can be tempted with the "reinvention of the Bistro"... as this incredibly popular daytime coffee shop is transformed into an evening café for tapas, desserts and late-night snacks – all accompanied by your choice of fine wines, Champagne, or other beverages of your choice. Plus, Crystal is offering new onboard or enhanced programs/activities that include iPad and Facebook classes, expanded Pilates and Yoga classes, "Tour de Spin" indoor cycling, and so much more. This fall, we're highlighting three superb Mediterranean itineraries – two of which are wine-themed sailings. Book your Fall Mediterranean cruise no later than JUNE 30th, 2012 to take advantage of great savings and benefits – offered exclusively to American Express Travel Agency clients. Benefits include Bonus Share the Experience offering up to \$400 per person shipboard credits, an AMEX Mariner's Club host, a private cocktail reception, and a special shore excursion.

- **12-day "Minarets & Monuments"** departing September 18, 2012 Istanbul/Venice. A Crystal Wine & Food Festival-themed cruise featuring celebrity chef Jon Ashton.
- **12-day "Empires of the Mediterranean"** departing September 30, 2012 Venice/Athens.



Please don't delay – book by June 30th, 2012 to enjoy the best available cruise-only fares!

Any season is a wonderful season to experience the Mediterranean. Our wine and food focused cruises feature celebrity chefs and master sommeliers. Explore the wonders of the Mediterranean with the "World's Best" luxury vacation partner.

12-day "Minarets & Monuments"

Istanbul to Venice • September 18, 2012

From \$3,995 per person

12-day "Empires of the Mediterranean"

Venice to Athens • September 30, 2012

From \$3,995 per person

11-day "Canary Island Celebration"

Barcelona to Lisbon • November 17, 2012

From \$3,615 per person

For more information on these cruises, call your American Express Travel Agency

Cruise-only fares are per person in U.S. dollars, double occupancy, include all promotional savings and do not include cruise port, security and handling charges. All offers may not be combinable with other promotions, apply to first two full-fare guests in stateroom or suite, are capacity-controlled, subject to availability and may be withdrawn or changed at any time without notice. All itineraries, fares, programs and policies are subject to change. Other restrictions apply. Visit crystalcruises.com for complete terms & conditions. ©Crystal Cruises, Inc. Ships' Registry: The Bahamas.

• **11-day “Canary Island Celebration”** – departing November 17, 2012
 Barcelona/Lisbon. This is a Crystal Wine & Food Festival-themed cruise featuring food expert Andre Rochat and master sommelier Doug Frost.

Whether you choose to pamper yourself in the only Feng-Shui-inspired spa at sea or take part in engaging and enriching lectures on world affairs, learn to play the piano or speak a new language, watch a movie, or maybe just stroll the open decks under a nighttime blanket of endless stars...we want you to consider each day at sea with Crystal Cruises simply “a gift to yourself.” Remember... to take advantage of special savings and added benefits as American Express Travel clients, we must book your fall getaway by JUNE 30th. Please call us soon.

FAMILY VACATIONS & FALL GETAWAYS
HOLLAND AMERICA LINE

We find ourselves answering this question over and over: “Is it possible that a vacation could offer something for everyone?” Indeed, it can! Together with our travel partner, Holland America, we can put you and every member of your family on the perfect ship, with the perfect itinerary, and all within a budget that meets your family’s needs and expectations. New for your kids (or grandkids) is an expanded onboard Club HAL® program – and expanded facilities – for children ages 3-12. Next, there are separate hangouts for tweens that includes karaoke, foosball, Internet access and fun electronic games. And for teens – ages 13-17... they literally have their own “space”...a secluded teen deck called the Oasis (available on most ships) that is truly unmatched in the cruise industry. So whether your children and teens prefer their own special activities or prefer to hang out with you and the grandparents, aunts and uncles... it can easily become a family affair.

Next, we’ll switch gears... once the kids are back in school – it will be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

From the epic grandeur of Alaska and the beauty of the Mediterranean to the brilliant fall colors of Canada and New England, experience the world with HOLLAND AMERICA LINE



7-DAY ALASKAN EXPLORER

ms Oosterdam • May – September 2012

Round-trip Seattle, Washington

Interior from **\$749** • Oceanview from **\$899** • Verandah from **\$1,299**

10-DAY ROMAN EMPIRE

ms Noordam • May – October 2012

Round-trip Civitavecchia (Rome), Italy

Interior from **\$1,299** • Oceanview from **\$1,699** • Verandah from **\$1,699**

10-DAY COLORS OF CANADA & NEW ENGLAND

ms Eurodam • September 14 & October 4, 2012

New York to Quebec City

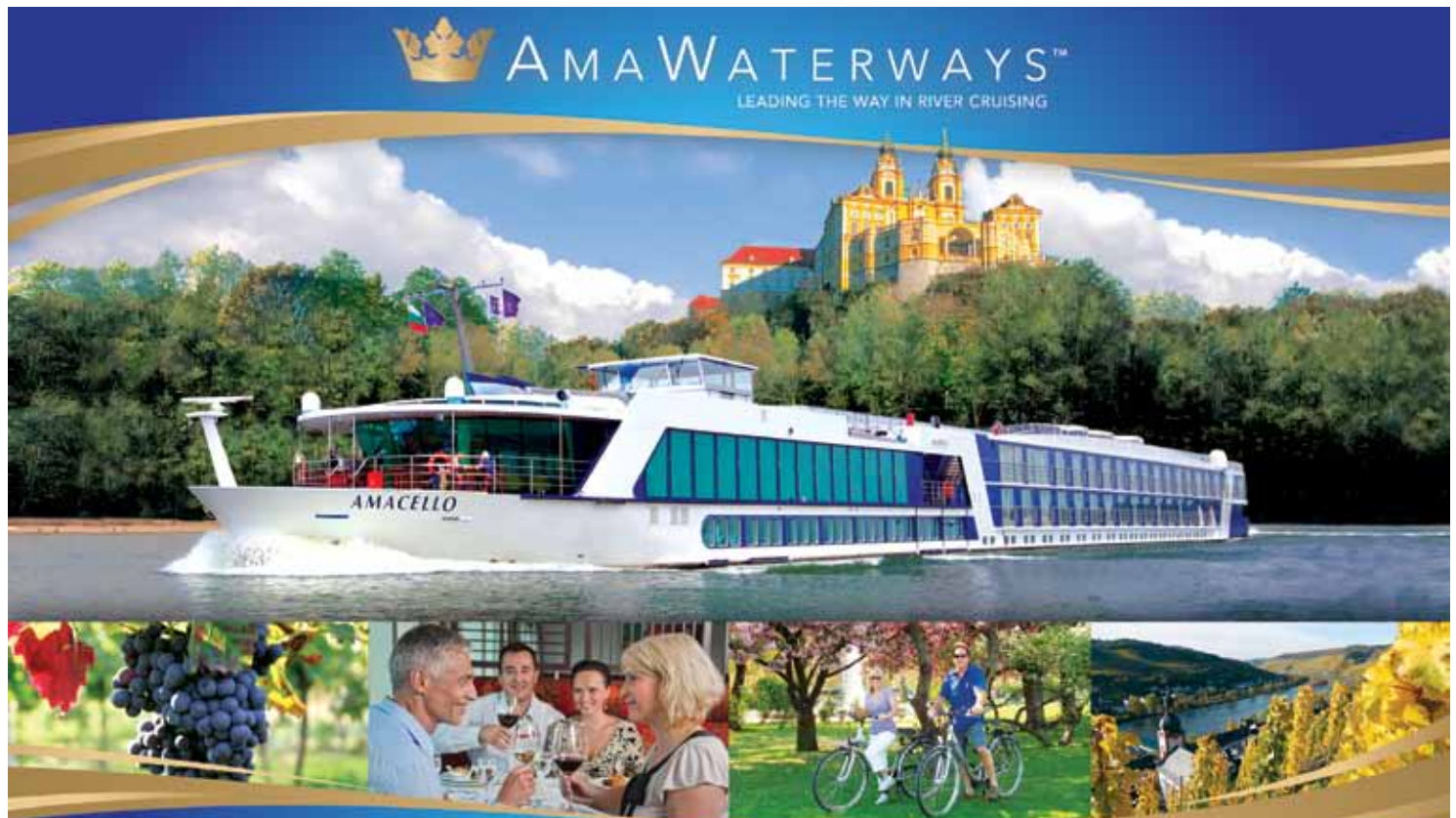
Interior from **\$1,299** • Oceanview from **\$1,699** • Verandah from **\$2,199**

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For more information, call your American Express Travel Agency

Sample fares are per person, cruise and cruisetours only, based on double occupancy in the minimum categories. Airfare is additional. Fares are in US dollars. Taxes are additional and range from \$89 to \$139. Holland America Line reserves the right to re-instate the fuel supplement for all guests at up to \$9 per person per day should the price of light sweet crude oil according to the NYMEX increase to over \$70 per barrel. Fares based on Oosterdam 9/9/12, Noordam 8/26/12, Eurodam 9/14/12 sailings, promo RH. Additional sailings and rates available. Amenities based on double occupancy and may vary per ship & sailing date. Offers are subject to availability and may be altered or withdrawn at any time without prior notice. Ships' Registry: The Netherlands.



CALL YOUR AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVEL COUNSELOR FOR MORE INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS



Headquarters

702 North Shore Drive
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Columbus 812.376.8966
Indianapolis
(Monument Circle) 317.269.1500
Lafayette 765.423.7777
Jeffersonville 812.949.4949
Shelbyville 317.398.0117

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Lexington 859.277.8068
Louisville (Shelbyville Rd.) 502.245.7371
Louisville (Bardstown Rd.) 502.458.8687
Owensboro 270.684.9267
Richmond 859.623.4324

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Cincinnati (Mariemont) 513.272.2887
Springboro 937.684.9044
West Chester 513.342.2515

TENNESSEE

Farragut 865.381.8200
Kingsport 423.392.1111

FLORIDA

Jacksonville (Mandarin) 904.260.7827

MINNESOTA

Lakeville 952.226.9129
Savage 952.226.9412



TRAVEL

**ONCE BEFORE I DIE:
A TRAVEL WRITER'S BUCKET LIST**

BY JANET STEINBERG



“The Bucket List” was a 2007 movie with a plot that followed the terminally ill Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman as they traveled with a wish list of things to do before they “kicked the bucket.” As a young widow in the 1970s, I formed my own travel bucket list and have been scratching off accomplishments ever since.

My wanderlust led me to the opportunities that follow. You can still accomplish most of the goals on my list; two you can't. I sailed, and flew, aboard two historic legends that no longer exist, but the memory of those trips will last a lifetime. So hop on my magic travel carpet, and fly with me to learn about some experiences that I have already checked off my bucket list. I hope it inspires you to make your own bucket list.

ANTARCTICA:

This frozen continent is “The Greatest Show on Ice.” I really did it! I went to the bottom of the world. I went to Antarctica, the most hostile continent on earth. This barren, white continent, that thrills the imagination and overwhelms the senses, is a land of superlatives. While it is the most forbidding, inaccessible land on earth, it is also the most majestic and pristine. This harshest, most inhospitable land is also the windiest, highest, driest, and coldest. (Winter temperatures plunge as low as negative 121-degrees (F). This southern land, that contains 90 percent of the world's fresh water and approximately 95 percent of the world's glacial ice, is the most eerily beautiful continent on earth. If I were Frank Sinatra, I'd croon “I Only Have Ice For You.”

ORIENT EXPRESS:

Riding the rails, from Venice to London on the VS-O-E, (Venice Simplon-Orient-Express) was an experience, not just a means of transportation. There are many faster, and less costly, means of travel but my 30-plus hour ride on the Orient-Express was a romance with history. It was intrigue, glamour, fantasy (a byword for luxury and elegance). The classic continental train, with the navy blue and gold carriages, was resplendent in all its romantic glory. Each cabin was ingeniously designed and decorated with oval marquetry (inlaid wood) flowers. It is impossible to overdress on

the Orient-Express and fun to dress with a suggestion of the Roaring 20's. Long pearls, and a few strategically placed ostrich plumes, can give a period look to modern evening clothes. The VS-O-E is the world's most famous train. It is the king of trains and the train of kings. Agatha Christie was wrong when she wrote “Murder ON the Orient Express.” It's murder getting OFF the Orient Express!

CARNAVAL IN RIO:

I went because it was there...and because I was there. Carnival is an experience. It can be fun, but it can also be a noisy, overcrowded, drunken brawl as 70,000 revelers pile into Rio de Janeiro's Sambadromo. Carnival is the one experience I am glad I have had. But, unlike the others on my bucket list, it is also one experience that I have no burning desire to repeat.

THE CONCORDE:

The Concorde was a supersonic dream machine! This ultimate flight of fancy, that shrank oceans and conquered time along the way, whisked me from London to New York in 3-hours and 18-minutes and, on a second flight, from New York to Paris in a mere 3-hours and 45-minutes. It has been said that both Superman and the Concorde drew “millions of eyes skyward on both sides of the Atlantic. Both traveled faster than the speed of a bullet; both had immense power.” The Superman/Concorde analogy played out in

real time on my first Concorde flight. Hollywood's gorgeous Superman... the late, great hunk Christopher Reeve, was sitting across the aisle from me. When I asked Christopher his opinion of the drop-nosed, sleek-silhouetted time machine in which we were flying, he replied: "It's great! I hope they don't take it out of service." How sad to think that both Superman and the Concorde have left us forever.

TAJ MAHAL:

You cannot keep your enthusiasm down; nor can you control your emotions, when that soaring bubble of marble breaks upon your view. At that moment, fantasy touched reality. My dream was no longer a dream. Standing before the reflecting pool in its idyllic Persian garden, my thoughts flashed to the romantic Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan who had built this tomb symbolizing the eternal beauty and pure love for his wife. I had to see the Taj Mahal at sunrise...when the first rays of dawn distinguished it from the night. I had to see the Taj Mahal at sunset... when the pristine white marble became cool pearl and then warm mauve. I agree with Mark Twain who said the memory of his first distant glimpse of that divine poem in white marble would forever be compensation for traveling halfway around the globe.

QUEEN ELIZABETH 2:

A transatlantic crossing on *Queen Elizabeth 2* was the voyage of my dreams. It was a classic confrontation of man against the sea, an ocean voyage on what was then the only surviving transatlantic super-liner in a jumbo-jet world. *QE2* was a fabulous floating city complete with landmarks and traditions. Passengers were likely to inquire: "What time does this place arrive?" She exuded the grandeur, glitter, and grace of a bygone era. Far more than a means of crossing the ocean, the *QE2* was a destination unto herself. Today's cruise ships may be folksier or friendlier, longer or more lithe, cheaper or costlier. But the *QE2* will always be what the others are not. She will always be a legend.

VIENNA OPERA BALL:

I was Cinderella for a night. A horse-drawn carriage picked me up at the hotel and drove me to the Baroque Vienna State Opera House where a liveried footman helped me from the carriage. The seats in the opera house

had been covered with a temporary dance floor and the room was magically turned into a cavernous ballroom. Throughout the night I was surrounded by beauty. There were countless flowers, crystal chandeliers, sparkling candles, and more than 100 white-gowned debutantes escorted by handsome bachelors who were wearing white ties and tails. After the debutantes and their partners whirled to the tune of a Viennese waltz, the words "alles walzer" (all waltz) were announced. And we waltzed!

Though I have been checking off my travel bucket list for more than three decades, I also keep adding to it. It is one list I won't allow to be completed. Without travel, my life would have a significant void. To quote the poet Rod McKuen: "There's a few more lonesome cities that I'd like to see...While the wine of wandering is still inside of me..."

Janet Steinberg is an award-winning travel writer and winner of 38 national Travel Writing Awards. She is also an independent travel consultant with The Travel Authority in Mariemont, Ohio.

Meet our Dream Makers

Sara LaValli

The Travel Authority
2033 US Highway 41N
Henderson, KY 42420
270-826-6069

sara.lavalli@thetravelauthority.com



Sara joined the travel industry in 1991. She is a Certified Scuba Dive Master as well as a Certified Florida & Hawaii Specialist. If you love to dive or snorkel then Sara is who you want to call. Her favorite vacations always include water; whether it is the ocean, lakes or rivers. If you ask her why she loves being a travel consultant she will tell you that she enjoys being able to make each vacation a great memory for her clients. Adding in that special tour, that great restaurant, the unique shopping area or special event is her specialty. Being able to customize a vacation based on her client's dreams & expectations is what makes her one of our best!

Her Specialties are:

Hawaii, Florida, Honeymoons & Dive Vacations

Lynn Neuhaus

The Travel Authority
6800 Wooster Pike
Cincinnati, OH 45227
513-272-2887

lynn.neuhaus@thetravelauthority.com



Lynn has worked in the travel industry since 1989. She has always loved to travel & gets great pleasure out of helping her clients plan the trip of their dreams. By taking the time needed to listen to her clients she is able to ensure that each trip she plans is one that is customized to her clients needs. Lynn specializes in Africa, Norway, Switzerland & Ski vacations. If you love to hit the slopes, she has the knowledge & the experience needed to create a ski vacation that fits you. Lynn thinks nothing of giving her clients the ultimate in customer service; it is in her nature to go above and beyond. We are excited to call Lynn one of our own, we think you deserve the best and are pleased to have Lynn on our team!

Her Specialties are:

Africa, Switzerland, Norway & Ski Vacations

CRUISE IN LUXURY FOR LESS!

Special cruise offers* when you book your 2012 or 2013 cruise with The Travel Authority

Discounted Departures, Ship Board Credits, Spa Credits, Pre-Paid Gratuities, Free Excursions & Hosted Sailings.*



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Call 877.AXP.1515 for the office near you.

*Special offers are valid on specific sailings only and may vary. Some Restrictions may apply. Offer may be cancelled at any time. Contact your Travel Authority Travel Consultant for details.

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time for a fall getaway – just for the two of you... and we're recommending a Canada & New England cruise. You'll be immersed in the cultures of two "worlds" – historic New England and French-speaking Quebec. We'll help you select one of several 7-15-day itineraries that showcase some of the cruise industry's most enticing itineraries. Home ports include convenient locations such as Boston, New York, Quebec, Montreal, or Ft. Lauderdale. And only HAL is offering sailings to/from Montreal; plus on most sailings, you will enjoy a delightful full day to explore Quebec – their highest-rated port. Many itineraries also include scenic cruising of the St. Lawrence River and the wildlife-rich Saguenay Fjord.



**ALASKA
PRINCESS CRUISES**

If a late summer family vacation is on "your horizon" this year, we recommend Alaska! It's a beautiful time to go... late August into September and with Princess Cruises' "12-Night Connoisseur" Land & Sea Vacation you can be sure you will see and do it all! Sailing from Vancouver/Anchorage or reverse, you can enjoy a 5-night land tour either before or after your 7-day *Voyage of the Glaciers* Cruise. Ports of call include Skagway, Ketchikan, and Juneau along with experiencing the magnificent vistas of Glacier Bay National Park, College Fjord, or Hubbard Glacier – and all to be enjoyed from the balcony of your beautiful stateroom. Combined with your cruise, is a land vacation. Escorted by a knowledgeable tour director, your journey to the "heart" of this Last Frontier will begin when you board the Denali Express in Whittier. Travel by rail through the "heart of the wilderness" to Denali National Park and experience the highest level of service and amenities – all enhanced with a refreshing mountain ambience at Princess Cruises' Wilderness Lodges (at both McKinley and Denali.) Most meals are also included with this exceptional Connoisseur Land & Sea Vacation.

SAIL AWAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH PRINCESS CRUISES

The entire 16-ship Princess fleet will cover the globe throughout the holidays with sailings to the Caribbean, the Panama Canal, Australia/New Zealand, South America, Hawaii and the South Pacific. From admiring beautifully-decorated Christmas trees and hallways decked out in a holiday décor, to listening to strolling carolers, to helping build a Gingerbread House, to partaking of holiday feasts, watching Christmas movie favorites "under the stars," and enjoying Christmas parties with your children...all these activities and many more will ensure that you and your entire family will enjoy a memorable and festive cruise experience... from bow to stern.

TOURING...

**AFRICA!
MICATO SAFARIS**

For many of us, the ultimate travel experience of a lifetime is an African Safari. So, it certainly makes sense to travel with the best. And we're not

Voted
"World's Best"
More Than
Any Other
Outfitter.
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TRAVEL+LEISURE WORLD'S BEST
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alone in our opinion of what defines “best” as our partner, Micato Safaris, has been named “World’s Best Tour Operator and Safari Outfitter” by the readers of *Travel+Leisure* an unprecedented eight times. Why? Because to Micato’s loyal staff – a “safari is a way of life.” First your guide explains to you what to expect over the course of your safari. Be assured, he is highly-educated about the history of the countries you’ll visit – the tribes, the native customs, the food, the economy, the culture . . . it’s like having a naturalist, an historian, an interpreter, a biologist, a food expert, a businessman, a wildlife expert, a tour director, and most of all . . . a friend who’s there to make sure you’re learning, experiencing and enjoying – to the fullest – every minute of your African Adventure. From sunrise to sunset . . . every day on safari is sure to be a marvelous day. How awesome to awake in a luxurious tented camp – with every amenity imaginable including a delightful deck and sitting area – the perfect spot to enjoy a spectacular sunrise with that first cup of coffee. (And we might add . . . that coffee will be hand-delivered on a silver tray to you by your room steward who awakens you each morning with a friendly “Jambo!” greeting.) Next, after a marvelous made-to-order breakfast, it’s time for the day’s first game drive. With cameras in hand, you and your group of new friends head out for the chance to see elephant, zebra, lion, giraffe, water buffalo, the black rhino, and so much more. After a 2-3 hour game drive, you return to your camp for a delightful lunch – alfresco. An afternoon at leisure and then it’s time for a late afternoon/evening game drive . . . a whole other “world” of wildlife often appears at sunset. And without question . . . watching the sun set on an African savannah is probably one of the most incredibly beautiful sights to photograph. Once back at your tented camp, it’s time for cocktails and a fun “recap” of your day on Safari. An elegantly-set dinner table sets the tone for a marvelous and relaxed evening of great food, conversation, and a lot of laughter. After a night-cap, one of the camp stewards will escort you back to your tent. You’ll drift off to the sounds of the wild. What a marvelous day you have had. In addition to exceptional itineraries, there are many reasons Micato Safaris is regarded with such esteem. For example, beginning this year, all gratuities – including those to your Safari Director, guides and drivers – are inclusive with your tariff. This new amenity is just another example of commitment to enhancing your safari experience. Yet first and foremost, is Micato’s commitment to personalized service and attention to detail, as well as their promise to fulfill their One for One Commitment – defined as: “For every person booked on safari, Micato sends an African child to school – a child who would otherwise stay home due to extreme poverty.” Rest assured that every aspect of your itinerary is designed for you to experience the very best of Africa.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



VACATIONS TO FIT YOUR STYLE

With Delta Vacations, you can choose from an exciting array of specialty vacations, each tailored for a unique experience—whether it’s a once-in-a-lifetime luxury vacation, the perfect honeymoon or destination wedding, a getaway with friends, or an escorted tour to encounter the culture of a far-off country. Choose the vacation that suits you:

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Destinations

from here to there

TOURING . . . FROM HERE TO THERE

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DELTA VACATIONS'

All-Inclusive PLUS Program

"What makes an all-inclusive resort vacation so much better?" The #1 reason is this: you will know how much your vacation is going to cost before you ever leave home. Together with Delta Vacations, we can help you select from several fabulous all-inclusive vacations where all the elements are "wrapped up" into one convenient, up-front price – essentially ensuring that "you'll never have to even touch your wallet while on vacation!" Each of Delta Vacations' all-inclusive resort options include a superb array of special amenities: unlimited meals, snacks, and beverages; daily activities and non-motorized watersports, fun entertainment all day long, and some of the resorts also include an exceptional selection of complimentary tours from which to choose. Popular

destinations include Mexico, Costa Rica, and the Caribbean islands – with resort options perfect for families, just the two of you, or for those of us seeking a "luxury vacation." In addition, Delta Vacations features outstanding resorts that offer an "Exclusive All-Inclusive PLUS" option. Indeed, we can up the ante on your all-inclusive experience with this program offered exclusively from Delta Vacations that may include express check-in/checkout, dedicated concierge, unlimited a la carte dining, upgraded in-room amenities, and spa discounts. All of our clients who take advantage of a Delta Vacations package will receive the lowest airfares on Delta Air Lines®, up to 7,500 bonus miles per person, in addition to credited flight miles through their SkyMiles® program, lowest price guarantee, and a flexible deposit and/or payment option.

IRELAND

BRENDAN VACATIONS

Seeing strong demand again this year for their innovative and popular programs – known as "Boutique Guided Vacations," our partner Brendan Vacations is featuring the enviable opportunity to visit – or revisit – Ireland for an 8- or 10-day vacation that offers more flexibility, greater intimate connections with the "locals," and less-crowded conditions. The size of the group is limited to 24 travelers per journey. As such, you are sure to experience and enjoy exclusive sights and activities not possible with larger groups. You will travel in smaller, luxurious motor coaches and stay in upscale, intimate properties such as centuries-old Irish castles, unique hotels, and fine manors with each tour led by a professional Irish driver/guide. This is your opportunity to see and experience Ireland at its best...and actually become part of the "real" Ireland. Of course, the "must see" sights will be included on your itinerary, but there will also be plenty of time just for you... to shop, sightsee or simply sit and relax.

Travel Your Way...Use Membership Rewards® Pay with Points* to travel your way. You can pay for all or just part of your trip with your points, and there are no seat restrictions or blackout dates for flights. You can also use your points for your next cruise or tour vacation.

*To use Membership Rewards Pay with Points, you must charge travel with an enrolled Card at American Express Travel. Points will be debited from your program account and a credit for the corresponding dollar amount will be issued to the Card account you used. If the points redeemed do not cover the entire amount of the charge, the balance of the purchase price will remain on the enrolled American Express Card. Minimum redemption of 5,000 points. Membership Rewards program Terms and Conditions apply; see membershiprewards.com/terms.

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