



THE WOMEN'S TRAVEL CLUB®

DESIGNED BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN

VOLUME 16 • ISSUE 7

Dear Travelers,

Women love to talk, but one of our frustrations is how to "talk" to you when our newsletter is late, as it was last month.

Email: Are you getting emails from us? If not, update your email here, even better, put your telephone number on your update.

The Web: Are you checking the site? If not, you missed discount coupons, last minute notices and specials from our 'mother ship'.

Old fashioned phone: Are you calling to get a live person? If not, you are not taking advantage of our friendly 'no question too weird' staff!

Many ask if I personally have done Club trips; the answer is either I have or someone in the office has. A few terrific trips with limited space left which I have done personally are: Lisbon, Seville in Spain and the magnificent Algarve coast for Thanksgiving, Costa Rica in January, especially Arenal booming, Egypt in February, on board our 5-star ship, London in February, where I invite you to my home.

WTC trips fall into distinct categories: 1. Club trips. 2. The Deals, cherry picked from Club ABC's tours, if they fit WTC needs. Example: Austrian Rendezvous Dec. 22-30 \$1499 (with air). 3. Hybrids with the great price but altered for us. Examples: Three City China: \$1399 (with air), Madrid \$1499 with air, Japan March \$2199. 4. Cruise specials with low single prices: e.g., May 8-16 Five Countries Cruise and Summer 2008 two river cruises. 5. Spas: 4 Diamond Turning Stone in Verona, NY, March 27-30 with an American Indian theme and \$300 of elegant leisure clothes from KN Karen Neuberger®. Both KN and WTC are donating to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation for each of you who book.

Phyllis Staller



Noteworthy Tours

Thanksgiving in Tuscany, Nov 20-26.
The Algarve & Lisbon, Portugal and Seville in Spain. Thanksgiving on the coast. Nov 20-26. Limited space left.

Christmas Markets: Berlin, Potsdam and Wittenberg, Dec 7-13. Call.

Austrian Rendezvous: Salzburg and Vienna. Dec 22-29.

Christmas on the Amalfi Coast, one share left. Dec 23-29.

2008 begins here...

Costa Rica, Jan 12-18.

Mexico City and Monarch butterfly migration, Jan 24-27.

Ixtapan de la Sal, Jan 27-Feb 3 and Feb 3-10. Discount.

Waitlist yourself on any trip by faxing in a booking form and writing on it "Waitlist Me".

Fuel surcharges included in all prices. Prices increase as we approach departure dates.

Traveling alone? Our group maintains a 24/7 emergency phone number, so we can assist you anytime, anywhere.

HYBRID TRIPS

EGYPT

**February 8-16 \$2399 + taxes
air included**

Our group travels with a small group from Club ABC. We reserve our own dining tables.

Day 1 Depart JFK direct flight to Cairo. DB on board.

Day 2 Arrive **Cairo**, transfer to 4-star Ramses Hilton. Afternoon free. We are trying to organize dinner with a family at an additional cost. B (Dinner TBA).

Day 3 **Cairo:** Half-day Pyramids of Giza, last of the Seven Wonders. See the Sphinx. PM free with Club friends. (B)

Day 4 Fly to **Luxor**, board 5-star boat: <http://www.emiliotravel.com/cruise/index.htm> All meals included on cruise. Note: drinks are not included. Cabins are outside with lower beds. The ship is air-conditioned, with a swimming pool, Jacuzzi and deck. PM visit Temples of Karnak and Luxor. (B L D)

Day 5 **Esna:** AM Necropolis of Thebes, Tomb of Tutankhamen in Valley of the Kings, Temple of Hatshepsut, Colossi of Memnon. (B L D)

Day 6 **Edfu:** AM Edfu, one of the best-preserved: Temple of Horus. Later Kom Ombo to visit the temple shared by Sobek and Haroëis. Note: Edfu subject to river conditions. (B L D)

Day 7 **Aswan:** Visit High Dam, Old Dam, Quarries, Unfinished Obelisk and Philae Temple. Overnight onboard. (B L D)

Day 8 **Aswan/Cairo:** Elephantine Island and Botanical Gardens sailing in a felucca. Fly to Abu Simbel for temples of Ramses II where local Egyptologists are available to give a brief history. Free time before the airport. (B)

Day 9 **Cairo:** Fly to the U.S. (B). Arrive 3:15PM.

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Checks payable to:
The Women's Travel Club

www.womenstravelclub.com • info@womenstravelclub.com

Take a breath...and then book...

Here comes 2008...

Feb 8-16 Egypt. Call.

Feb 13-21 China Three City Special, from \$1399.

Feb 15-20 *Annual London* with our Founder.

March 14-20 Tuscany. Stay tuned!

March 16-24 Japan.

March 20-25 Madrid City Weekend Special.

March 20-30 Morocco into the Desert.

March 27-30 a unique Spa trip with an American Indian theme at AAA 4 Diamond Turning Stone in the Mohawk Valley of New York + gifts worth \$300 from KN Karen Neuberger Ltd. Both KN and The Club will donate \$100 each to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation for each woman who books. Bring 3 friends and you get another goodie from KN!

April 3-8 New Jersey women, ask about Portugal trip with Garden State Women's Magazine in April.

April 4-12 Paris, our annual Parfait Paris.

April 6-14 Kenya, and on to Tanzania until April 18. Booking now!

April 24-29 Tulip Time with The Club in Holland!

May 1-5 and May 8-12: two Red Mtn. Spa discount weekends this year—extra \$100 service for our group. Book by March 1 only.

May 8-16 Cruise the E. Mediterranean: Greece, Turkey, Israel, Egypt and Cyprus. Double upgrade for us!

May 9-23 departure Shangri-La: Thailand, Tibetan Plateau and Hong Kong. Early bird till Jan 2!

More than 50 trips for 2008, including:

July 4-13 Manaus, Amazon cruise & Rio de Janeiro—see upgraded cabins.

Summer just starting...

July 25-Aug 4 Elbe River Cruise plus Prague, and

Aug 8-18 Provence River Cruise with Paris.

"LAST CHANCE" CLUB TRIPS

Portugal and Spain: Nov 20-26 \$1399

Nov 20 Fly to Lisbon.

Nov 21 Evora walled UNESCO Heritage village. Continue to coastal Algarve. LD

Nov 22 Lagos + drive magnificent coast. The walls date from the 13thc, see the Slave Market, "Santo António" Church, etc. Then Silves, Moorish capital, crowned by its Castle. Thanksgiving dinner with wine. BLD

Nov 23 Seville. Visit UNESCO Heritage cathedral built on a mosque, and its minaret—the Giralda, The Orange Tree Courtyard, Tower, and Jewish district. BL (Driving time 2 hrs. 45 minutes each way.)

Nov 24 Half-day Loule with weekly market. PM free in the Algarve at our hotel, Dom Pedro. B

Nov 25 Tour of Lisbon: St. George's Castle, Discoveries Quarter of Belém, from which the Portuguese sailed, and more. Dinner with Fado entertainment. BD

Nov 26 Flight home. B in Lisbon. **LAST BOOKINGS NOW!**

Best of Coastal & Volcanic Costa Rica: Jan 12-18 \$1399 (land only)

Jan 12 Arrive San Jose overnight 5-star Melia Cariari Hotel.

Jan 13 Tortuguero. PM visit town and Conservation Center. Tortuguero is a Green Sea Turtle nesting ground. See birds, sloths, turtles, caimans, and crocodiles. BLD. Mawamba Lodge has direct access to beach and canals.

Jan 14 Travel through canals, with wonderful vegetation and wildlife. Free time. BLD

Jan 15 Lunch in Guápiles. Visit Arenal Bridges with birds and vegetation. Arenal Parais Hotel—rooms with volcano views and pools with volcanic hot springs.

Jan 16 Breakfast, then a local guide takes us around the National Park. BD

Jan 17 Early AM return to San Jose for a tour. Melia Cariari. Farewell dinner. BD

Jan 18 Leave with 2 group transfers. B



JAPAN

With extensions in Tokyo and Hiroshima

March 16-24, 2008

\$2199. \$650 single. Deposit: \$400.

Includes: 4-star hotels, American breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 1 dinner, 1 light meal on arrival, sightseeing by private bus March 18, 19, 20, 22, 23. Airport shuttle coupons (shuttle non-escorted), bullet train tourist class reserved seats, portorage (one bag), 5% taxes (this might change). Airfare from \$695 + fuel surcharges and taxes.

Days 2 - 4	Tokyo Keio Plaza Hotel	3 nights
Day 5	Palace Hotel Hakone	1 night
Days 6 - 8	Kyoto Kokusai Hotel	3 nights

Note on the trip: we have included a number of meals and wonderful sightseeing. Additional meals can be found for fair prices in Japan! Airfare is available on many carriers but ANA works well for a group.

March 16: Depart U.S. **Suggested flights:** From JFK, NH009 leaving 12:15PM arriving Tokyo at 3:20PM. From LA, NH005, flight details: 11:35AM-4:25PM. From DC, NH001, flight details: 12:20PM-3:25PM. From Chicago, NH011, flight details: 10:45AM-1:50PM. **EXTRA NIGHTS:** Tokyo \$122 twin with breakfast, \$219 single with breakfast. Hiroshima & Osaka add-on available based on seat in bus, with a local tour company. You will then return home March 26. Prices available on request.

March 17: Cross International Dateline; arrive **Tokyo**. Tokyo blends today with a colorful past, a sprawling city, safe and easy to explore. Light group snack on arrival.

March 18: Guided tour to **Tokyo Tower Observatory**, Tokyo Bay; Imperial Palace Plaza, outer garden of the Empress Dowager's residence, and Asukusa Kannon Temple with its arcade. We visit the Ginza on foot and the ancient Buddhist Asakusa Kannon Temple + Nakamise Arcade, which is a "road", with a good selection of traditional fans, clothes, crafts. Experience a tea ceremony at Happoen. (Breakfast, Tea and Welcome dinner in a restaurant.)

March 19: Full day Nikko, with Toshogo Shrine, lavishly decorated shrine complex, Oro-hazaka (drive through), Lake Chuzenji and Kegon Waterfall. We lunch at a restaurant. Return to **Tokyo**. Nikko has been a center of Shinto and Buddhist worship for centuries, amongst mountains, lakes, waterfalls, hot springs, and trails. (Breakfast, Lunch)

March 20: AM drive to Mt. Fuji, passing picturesque countryside; we visit the Visitor Center and go to the Fifth Station, weather permitting. If impassable, we tour Fujiyama Museum. Afterwards, proceed to the thermal resort **Hakone**. Here enjoy lunch, a cruise on Lake Ashi, and a cable car ride up Mt. Komagatake. A delightful soak in the waters is popular. (Breakfast, Lunch)

March 21: Board bullet train to **Kyoto**. With 2,000 temples and shrines, this remarkable city is a national treasure. Transfer to the hotel by shuttle with assistance from our representative. (Breakfast)

March 22: Full day tour to Nijo Castle, a 17th century residence, and Golden Pavilion, a three story temple covered with gold. And the Handicraft Center-shopping in Japan is also art viewing. We lunch at a traditional tofu restaurant. We visit Nanzenji Temple, Philosophers Walk and Ginkakuji Temple. In the evening we suggest you optionally stroll the nightlife area to catch a glimpse of an apprentice geisha. (Breakfast, Lunch)

March 23: Today a tour to Nara for Todaiji Temple, housing the world's largest Gilded Buddha, Deer Park and Kasuga Shrine. (Breakfast)

March 24: Transfer to airport in Osaka for flights. Suggested flights from Osaka via Tokyo to U.S.: JFK-Leaves at 8AM, arrives at 9:30AM same day. LA-Leaves at 1:25PM arriving 9:45AM same day. DC-Leaves at 8AM arrives 9:40AM same day. Chicago-Leaves at 8AM arrives 7:40AM same day.



Phyllis Stoller, WTC founder

'March'ing on...

Besides Japan in March, we have other goodies:

Tuscany: March 14-20 Est. \$1299 + air

The same trip we do at Thanksgiving. One hotel stay in Montecatini, a lovely spa town, with side trips to Florence, Lucca, Cinque Terre, breakfast and dinner with wine daily and one dinner cooked in a private villa!

Madrid City Weekend: March 20-25, \$1499 (includes fuel surcharges).

With r/t air (lowest is JFK) 4-star Tryp Ambassador Hotel, transfers for certain flights, breakfast, tours of the city and Toledo!

Morocco: March 20-30, \$2599 (includes fuel surcharges).

With air from JFK, and this year our route is Rabat, Fez, Erfoud, Ouarzazate, Marrakesh and Casablanca. We added Ouarzazate for its foreign legion feeling, set as it is in the desert. Again, 4-star hotels, most meals, escorted. This trip has some long drives but they are worth every mile!

Turning Stone, 4 Diamond Spa Resort in Mohawk Valley of NY: March 27-30, \$1599, deposit \$300.

4 days and 3 nights in special 'Travel for a Cause', an all-suite deluxe spa resort, all meals, \$345 in services, classes and for our group only: \$300 of elegant leisure clothes from KN Karen Neuburger® as a gift for attending, welcome dinner. American Indian story-telling around the fire pit of Skana spa with hot Native American teas, a private tai chi class for us, finally, an Onondaga woman artist is coming to meet with us, talk about being an American Indian and show us her work which sits in major collections nationally. For each one of you who books, both KN and our Club will donate \$100 each to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation. You loved Canyon Ranch, try this one! Fly to Syracuse, NY.

TWIN PRICES QUOTED. ASK FOR SINGLE SUPPLEMENT IF YOU DO NOT WANT A ROOM SHARE.

CHINA, A Special for The Women's Travel Club

February 13-21, 2008

Price: \$1399 + taxes, includes fuel surcharges

Single: \$190. Escorted

Trip includes: Round trip international air from JFK and all domestic airfare. We can arrange air from other gateways at a different price. Transfers from the airport, round-trip, for JFK flights. 4-star Capital Hotel in Beijing, 5-star Hyatt Regency Xian and 4-star Shanghai Equatorial Hotel in Shanghai. American breakfast daily. 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches (daily), 3 dinners which are Peking Duck and a show in Beijing, Tang Dynasty show and dinner in Xian, and Shanghai cuisine in Shanghai. All hotel taxes & service charges. Extensive sightseeing as listed. Services of our escort and guides.

This is a China Highlights trip, to the three main tourist cities. There will be others besides women in our group. If we reach 10 from The Club, we will have our own group. In any case, we offer welcome drinks for WTC members so we have a group within a group. P.S. At this writing, we did reach 10!

Day 1: Depart the U.S. for China. Cross the International Dateline. Our flights leave from JFK, but ask about West Coast flights at a different price.

Days 2-3-4: Beijing. Arrive in Beijing, located in the north and the capital city of China. Beijing is China's sprawling cultural and political center, as well as a central base to many fascinating sites. Your host will meet you at the airport (for JFK flights) and transfer to our hotel. Transfers available for other flights at an optional cost. Weather in February is winter without the snow! Begin your Beijing exploration. Our tour features the incomparable Forbidden City, home to two dynasties spanning 500 years. This architecturally stunning 200-acre compound, with more than 800 buildings and 9,000 rooms, houses a vast collection of imperial treasures and cultural artifacts. Visit the Summer Palace, home to China's largest imperial garden. You can also visit Tian'anmen Square, the world's largest public square, and site of Mao Zedong's Mausoleum and the Great Hall of the People. We also visit The Great Wall and Ming Tombs. In Beijing one night we attend a show and Peking Duck dinner.

Days 5-6: Fly to **Xian**, ancient capital of China for 11 dynasties and starting point of the famous Silk Route. Here you will see the amazing tomb of Emperor Qin Shi Huang, guarded by more than 700 terracotta soldiers and horses. The tomb is one of the world's greatest archaeological treasures. We also visit the Provincial Museum with its 2,000 ancient artifacts. In Xian one night we attend a dinner show with Tang Dynasty entertainment.

Days 7-8: Fly to **Shanghai**, China's largest city. Sightseeing includes visits to the famous waterfront "Bund" with its European style buildings. We also visit beautiful YuYuan Garden with its many halls and pavilions, and the new Shanghai Museum.

Day 9: Transfer to the airport for our flights home, regaining the day you lost at the start of our trip. Arrive back in the U.S. on **Feb. 21**.



Great Wall of China

PRESIDENTIAL LONDON

February 15-20, 2008

Price: \$1599 Deposit: \$400

Includes fuel surcharges of \$114 and air priced from JFK,
this does not mean you need to fly from JFK! See below.

Single supplement: \$350. From Boston add \$30, from DC add \$75, from Miami, Orlando, LAX and SFO add \$200. From Las Vegas, add \$275. These airfares are based on specific classes of service which were available at time of writing. We quote you actual air when you book! Land only: \$1285.

Trip includes: Economy airfare from various cities in the U.S. to London, based on specific classes of service and fuel surcharges. Price based on JFK, but flights available from elsewhere. 4-nights in centrally located, 4-star Millennium Gloucester Hotel in London, including hotel service charges and taxes. Full English breakfast daily, 3 dinners: welcome, pre-theater, and at Phyllis' home, traditional tea. All tours listed with transfers where noted. Services of a professional guide and of our Founder. And one theater ticket. During our stay in London, our Founder will invite you to her home in fashionable Marylebone area of London. (Not included: airline taxes and transfers from the airport.)

Why this trip? With mild weather in February, free museums, many reasonable places to eat and amazing theater, London is a fine late winter getaway. And your extra hostess is our Club's founder, Phyllis. Special events organized optionally during last year's group: a concert in St. Martin in the Fields' Church and a walk from Westminster to the Cabinet War Rooms.

Feb. 15: Leave on overnight flights from U.S. cities to London's Heathrow and Gatwick Airports. D and B served aboard.

Feb. 16: Transfer on your own to the Millennium Gloucester Hotel. Rest until welcome dinner tonight with other Club members. D.

Our hotel is in Kensington, near Hyde Park, the Victoria and Albert Museum and a tad further to Harrods. The adjacent street is full of restaurants, pubs and shops.

Feb. 17: Today we enjoy a half-day tour in our private bus followed by a guided visit of Westminster Abbey. Early afternoon we stop for traditional tea which includes tea, sandwiches, cakes, of course scones. Transfer to our hotel. B. Tea.

Feb. 18: Today we walk to the Victoria & Albert Museum for a tour of the British collection of art, furniture, silver, etc. The Robert Morris cafeteria is a perfect place for optional lunch. One room is covered with tiles painted by a local girls' art school in the 19th century. Later today, meet and transfer for a pre-theater dinner then a London show—a choice of tickets comes with your booking. Return transfer is on your own. B D.

Feb. 19: Today (time to be announced), we transfer for a half-day walking tour through American history in London. From our founding fathers through Dwight Eisenhower's leadership during WWII, London was the scene of a great amount of American history. It is an easy walk from there to Phyllis' home. Tonight: Cocktails and light fare at her house. Transfers on your own after dinner. B D.

Feb. 20: After breakfast we return to the U.S., or stay on. Extra nights twin and single at preferential prices for Club members. B.



Top 10 Reasons to Join:

- 40 trips a year
- First-class/superior first-class hotels, unless noted
- Group airfares (flights from many cities), including transfers
- Room shares on first-come, first-served basis for non-smokers
- All sightseeing
- English-speaking guides
- Meals as noted
- Private deluxe buses
- Complete pre-trip packages
- Travel Companion Bulletin Board!

Ask about airfare from your hometown, we are a national group with different time zones and hometowns.

Finality!

- **Thanksgiving** in Portugal and Spain: we can “stuff” you in!
- **Christmas:** Try a Club ABC trip to Salzburg and Vienna.
- **January:** Warm up in Mexico and Costa Rica.
- **February:** Commune with Nefertiti in Egypt, have tea with Queen Elizabeth in London, or walk the great wall in China.
- **March on** to Japan, Italy and Madrid, or ‘Travel for a Cause’ to Upstate New York.

All trips are subject to the terms and conditions of The Women’s Travel Club. Penalties for cancellations, changes, deviations apply. A deposit indicates agreement with terms and conditions on our website or sent with your written confirmation. You may book a trip by phone, fax, or online. If by phone, we will read our policies to you, if you require. Fewer than 20 women a surcharge can, but does not usually apply 30 days pre-departure. Travel insurance protects if you need to cancel for a specific reason! Membership Non-refundable.

The Club was founded in 1992 by Phyllis Stoller, a then banker with a non-traveling husband. We are nationally known and an affiliate of ABC Destinations, a major tour operator. To keep prices fair quality high, we do not maintain a mailing list for non-members. \$35 for 1-year • \$65 for 2-years. Members of less than 3 months pay a surcharge. Membership is non-refundable. Need help with email specials or a password? info@womenstravelclub.com

MEMBERSHIP STATUS
CALL 800-480-4448

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