



THE WOMEN'S TRAVEL CLUB®

DESIGNED BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN

VOLUME 17 • ISSUE 1

Dear Travelers,

Cooperating weather! We used to think that winter here and across the Ponds meant misery, and that summer meant swelter. However, off-season travel is proving to be the "it" trend. Winter in places like London, Paris and Italy is increasingly mild and counter to that, last summer lost its heat and groups in Europe found comfy climes and fewer tourists. So what do we have left for your winter-spring enjoyment in Europe?

London. Your tour is comprehensive but outside of our time together, museums are free, their restaurants excellent, and much of central London is walkable. A favorite restaurant is on the roof of the Tate Modern, another on the same level of the Portrait Gallery, and a 3rd restaurant chain, Pret A Manger, serves cheap gourmet sandwiches. The current blockbuster exhibit is *Terracotta Soldiers* from China, you need to contact the British Museum separately for hard to get tickets.

Tuscany in March with Florence. We are based in Montecatini, a spa town heralding from the 20th century when Europeans took their first trips abroad.

Madrid end March, a free wheeling do-your-own tour.

Paris in April, sorry Sarkozy is taken but the Left Bank beckons.

Holland in April means tulips.

Greece in April with a mini cruise to not "get your feet wet with *The Club*".

Our trips to European destinations are mainly organized but with some time for personal hobbies, family trees, or for finding the perfect gift for Gramps.

And further afield: Japan, Morocco and China. Plus extra departures for Mexico.

Club long distance trips are similar but, in more exotic places, we are quite inclusive leaving you less time for wandering. Highlights are always part of these adventures, along with some unusual sites and experiences.

The Club



Noteworthy Tours

Tuscany March 14-20

Japan March 16-24

Madrid Weekend Special March 20-25

Morocco Into the Desert April 3

April 4-12 Our annual Parfait Paris.

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.



WINTER & WARMTH

TUSCANY \$1299 plus air
March 14-20, 2008

March 14: Leave on overnight flight to Pisa (flights on your own or ask us to book it for you at a special rate).

March 15: Arrive and transfer (optional) for a lovely drive to Montecatini. Dinner tonight with our group. (Please ask about optional transfers.) (D)

March 16: We are staying at an elegant spa hotel; feel free to use the facilities of the Grand Vittoria Hotel. Today we drive to our lovely villa farmhouse where we will cook our own Tuscan dinner with a professional Italian chef. (B D)

March 17: Full day to Florence with our guide. Walking tour, only then time for shopping and strolling. (B D)

March 18: Half-day tour to Lucca. (B D)

March 19: Full day tour to the coastal area of Italy called Cinque Terre, a land dotted with villages and beautiful scenery. (B D)

March 20: After breakfast, return to the Pisa airport for flights home, via Milan. (Again, we can group you for transfers to the Pisa airport.)

MADRID WEEKEND \$1499
plus airline taxes of approx. \$160
March 20-25, 2008

March 20: Depart from JFK to Madrid on Iberia Airlines. (D B on board.)

March 21: Arrive Madrid, elegant capital of Spain. Be met and transferred to the 4-star Hotel Tryp Ambassador.

March 22: Half-day tour of Madrid. (B)

March 23: Half-day tour of Toledo. (B)

March 24: Full free day in Madrid. (B)

March 25: Return home on Iberia flights. (B)

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Checks payable to:
The Women's Travel Club

www.womenstravelclub.com • info@womenstravelclub.com

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

April 18-26 Greece & Turkey.

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.

More than 50 trips for 2008, including:

June 20-27 Amalfi Coast with Naples and Pompeii.

June 27-July 6 Best of Spain: Madrid, Barcelona and the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao.

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

July 21-August 3 Super Italy from Rome all the way to Venice.

July 25-August 4 Elbe River Cruise plus Prague.

August 1-10 Brazil with Salvador, Rio and Iguazu.

August 8-18 Provence River Cruise with Paris.

August 16-31 Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok and Bali.

Summer:

Ixtapan de la Sal, usually middle and last Sundays in August, and Canyon Ranch Berkshires in August, plus Croatia, October 16-23. Patagonia November 11-23, Uzbekistan October 28-November 10, Croatia, and many more...

December 23-29 Christmas Amalfi Coast .

Note: If you wish to overnight on the East Coast, we can book you at the JFK Hilton at a preferential price.

RED MOUNTAIN SPA

May 1-5, 2008

and May 8-12, 2008

4 nights each or stay on!

\$1045 per person, double occupancy. \$1294 per person, single

Red Mountain Spa is located in high Utah desert, a drive from Las Vegas or St. George. It is surrounded by acres of the desert in majestic beauty. Its solitude, fitness activities, hiking and biking in Snow Canyon, healthy gourmet cuisine and array of wellness classes will set you on the path to lifelong fitness and health. Red Mountain has a year-old fantastic spa facility and you will adore the star walks as well as the surrounding national parks. There are optional trips to the north rim of the Grand Canyon & Bryce Canyon National Park and more nearby. **We need six booked by March 1st for our group discount and a \$100 resort credit.** Past groups have loved Red Mountain as well as the majestic parks of the American southwest.

MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE:

Deal or No Deal?

May 8-16, 2008 7-night cruise

\$1446 twin occupancy, and \$2074 single. Deposit \$400.

Air is quoted separately, please ask.

Five Countries on Three Continents, Double Upgrade and Early Bird for our Members.

Join us on a destination cruise from Athens to Cairo, to Ashdod (Jerusalem / Bethlehem), to Cyprus and Antalya in Turkey, then Santorini and Mykonos in Greece, ending back in Athens. MV Blue Monarch, a 4-star classic ship with 500 passengers, refurbished cabins and plenty of ship activities is our choice. We get TA outside cabins as part of our double upgrade. Call us for airfare and transfers to the ship, and away we go!

Excursions on MV Blue Monarch are reasonable and, if not sightseeing, you may enjoy the pool, fitness classes, spa, dance lessons and classical concerts. Meals are buffet-style at the pool or seated in the dining room at tables for our group.



PERFECT PARIS

April 4-12, 2008

Price: \$2299 Single: \$999

Includes: 7-nights excellent hotels, many meals, sightseeing, entrance fees and services of our wonderful local hostess and guide.

April 4 Depart. (D, B on board). Look as you land for a magnificent city panorama.

April 5 Arrive Paris. Optional transfer to Paris Hilton at the foot of the Eiffel Tower. Welcome dinner at a restaurant and orientation. (D)

***Note on transfers: there are many ways to travel from the airport to our hotel, we send you information and a list of others on your flight so you can meet up! We are happy to arrange a private car to meet you.*

April 6 Full buffet breakfast and full day sightseeing from our bus. We go up to the first floor of the Eiffel Tower. Lunch at a restaurant or traditional tea room. Tonight dinner in a restaurant (B L D).

April 7 Breakfast, then sightseeing, including Notre Dame and a charming walk through medieval Ile St. Louis with hidden treasures of Parisian life. (B)

April 8 Breakfast, then off to the Left Bank for a walking tour and guided visit of the Orsay Museum. Free PM (B)

April 9 Breakfast, then a full free day with help from our guide. (B)

April 10 Breakfast, then walk to the Louvre for a guided tour. The rest of today is free. If you are a shopper, bring Suzy Gershman's Born To Shop guidebook. Buy Pariscope at a newspaper stand; English is in the middle section.

April 11 Breakfast, then free time. Farewell Dinner in a restaurant. Our guide will be at our hotel to help with options. On Fridays there are free fashion shows at elegant Galeries Lafayette store. Email:welcome@gallerieslafayette.com

April 12 Breakfast, then off to the airport for flights home.



SHANGRI-LA:

W. China, Thailand
and Hong Kong!

May 9-22, 2008

\$3399 + taxes, air from JFK

4/5 star hotels, tours and meals mentioned. Escorted China and Thailand, locally hosted in Hong Kong.

Day 1-May 9: Overseas flights.

Day 2-May 10: Arrival Hong Kong.

Day 3-May 11: Hong Kong half-day guided tour. (B)

Day 4-May 12: Fly to Kunming, then Lijiang in Yunnan (elevation of 8,530 ft.). Dinner in Old Town, a UNESCO Heritage Site. (B L D) (Meals determined by airline schedule).

Day 5-May 13: Full day Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. Stop at the airport used by the "Flying Tigers" during WWII. Visit Naxi village, Lijiang Mural and Black Dragon Pool Park, at Dragon Snow Mountain. PM performance of Naxi music in Old Town theater. (B L)

Day 6-May 14: Shangri-La. Visit Stone Drum Town, set on the Yangtze River, Tier Leaping Gorge. Continue through rugged scenery to the Tibetan plateau and Zhongdian. There are 470 snow-capped mountains 13,000+ feet. (B L)

Day 7-May 15: Full day tour Songzanlin Monastery, largest Tibetan monastery in Yunnan. This five-story building is covered with wooden carvings and gold-plated tiles. During its prosperity, there were 3,000 monks. Morning, noon, and evening, the solemn tolling of bells plus drums can be heard. Visit a Tibetan family and old town of Zhongdian. (B L)

Day 8-May 16: Fly to Kunming, known for its beautiful landscape, history, folklore. Tour the Stone Forest, "First Wonder of the World". PM free.

Day 9-May 17: Tour the Flower & Bird Markets. Free time until transfer to the airport for Thailand.

Days 10-11-May 18-19: Chiang Mai in the highlands. Full day to Chiang Dao for elephant riding and river rafting (weather dependent). Additional free day for shopping. (B)

Days 12-13-May 20-21: Fly to Bangkok. Its collection of markets, shops, temples, museums, palaces and parks will fascinate. We include a half-day tour. (B)

Day 14-May 22: Bangkok/USA. After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight. Arrive in JFK early evening, May 22. (B)



Top 10 Reasons to Join:

- 60 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.

Don't miss out....

Check our website frequently and look in our Members' Section for specials and coupons, or Google us for recent articles from USA Today, Smartertravel.com, Pink Magazine, and more....

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.

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 CALL 800-480-4448
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 or a password?
 Need help with email specials
 non-refundable.
 pay a surcharge. Membership is
 Members of less than 3 months
 \$35 for 1-year • \$65 for 2-years.
 list for non-members.
 we do not maintain a mailing
 To keep prices fair quality high,
 major tour operator.
 We are nationally known and an
 affiliate of ABC Destinations, a
 by Phyllis Stoller, a then banker
 with a non-traveling husband.
 The Club was founded in 1992

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THE WOMEN'S TRAVEL CLUB

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