

Volume 15

Issue 3

Tulips coming

# The Women's Travel Club

*“designed by women for women”*



Dear Members,

For you sunbirds in Florida where we began 15 years ago, we will again be at The Miami Herald Travel Expo, April 7-9 on South Beach. We welcome current and expired members to join us for a hello and a hug! A bit of background on Miami and The Club. I lived in London for many years, returning to my husband's home town, Miami, in 1980 with two teenie kids. At that time, I was a corporate banker for a large international bank and used to travel for the bank collecting frequent flyer miles when these programs began.

The decision point for starting the club was an incident on a safari. Like many of you, I did not have travel buddies, so I took my adorable 9 year old son out of school, used ff miles and off we went to Africa on a Pan American Airlines safari. At the first dinner, a participant, took me aside and said the following: "You know, your son is a nice boy, but we did not come on vacation to eat dinner with a child. So do not expect us to sit with you at dinner". Well actually Nick was more interesting company than that person, but still it hurt. I started looking for a travel group for women like myself and left the banking world to start The Club because non existed. Our first members were, of course, in Miami; Hurricane Andrew in 1992 dispersed women which is how we first began to grow in other states. We remain devoted to our first gals and each year look forward to seeing some of you at the Miami Herald Exp. I am an invited speaker on women and travel each year but the real pleasure is seeing all of you again. Our booth number and location will be marked on the Expo literature.

By the way, as many of you know, the 9 year old is now a Hollywood screenwriter hobnobbing with the stars; maybe today that woman would like to eat dinner with him? The point of the story is that for whatever reason, we often get ostracized if we are the only solo woman in a group.

Join us on a trip for a different experience; being part of the majority of all women traveling solo.

Here are other reasons women tell us they travel with us :--- He did all the traveling with his first wife! --- My friends think I am crazy to go to India.—No one I know has the money or desire.—I want to take my sister for her birthday.—My best friend needs a pick me up.—I just have to get out of this weather NOW.—I always wanted to go to travel and just retired.—We have elderly parents/ young children... and one of us has to stay home.-- My travel buddy found a beau.—I hate holidays at home. You should all be saying: **I DESERVE IT!**

**LAST MINUTE BOOKINGS ON BUT LIMITED SPACE LEFT ON:**

**Provence April 13-21**

**Paris April 20-27 (these coordinate) do Provence and Paris and take \$100 off combined price. Air to Paris from \$550+taxes**

**Red Mountain Spa in St. George Utah: national parks and more.**

**Peru July 1-7**

**Ecuador July 7-15 including 4 nights in the Galapagos.**

**Last chance Holland America discount Baltic Cruise with 2 nights in St. Petersburg. August 9-21 cabins held til April 1.**

*Phyllis Stoller*

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**Why Holland America? We love it for Value , Price, Destination, Food, Excursions** Discounted cabins held til **April 1**. Then you might have to pay full rate!!! From: \$2299 onwards. \$\$\$\$ savings

**We chose our August 9-21 itinerary for the 2 nights in Russia-** No expensive Russian visa needed and sightseeing with no wasted time. St. Petersburg ranks with Paris, Rome, London:

**Tallinn in Estonia:** most preserved town in the Baltics and certainly its highlight an architectural medieval gem of colorful merchant houses set on cobbled stone streets.

**Oslo.** Holland America offers diverse excursions ie. in Oslo, there is a walking tour, bus tour, historic tour, mythology tour, or tour on your own with Club friends.

**Helsinki:** Tour the city or put on a wetsuit in a high speed boat! Fly to Lapland Visit a farm Find days filled & dinner at our private table.

**Stockholm:** See old town, baroque buildings, Viking ships, finish with a vodka in the ice bar.

A long and fascinating trip to cool spots with hot sights.

One member said it right: 'Holland America does such a great job, I could sit in the spa all might doing the same cruise over and over.' **SHARES ARE HARD TO ARRANGE DON'T WAIT. CALL FOR CABIN PRICES AND AIRFARES.**

25-30 trips a year...first-class/superior first-class hotels unless noted...group airfares (flights from many cities)...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...and new: Travel Companion Bulletin Board! Ask about airfare from your hometown-we are a national group with different time zones and hometowns.

**MEMBERS' PRICES QUOTED BELOW ..... Keep your membership**

**Current to void surcharges on trips..... within 60 days of departure, prices increase**

**Provence April 13-21 and continue to Paris if you wish.** The best of France- between the Alpes Maritime and the Med: Marseilles to Arles, Aix en Provence and Avignon. Romans, Popes, Princes, and Impressionists lived here. Even the French Tourist Office calls many parts - for instance, Gordes which we visit- the loveliest countryside.

**Why go this year?**

Our trip is in April: great weather yet still off season.  
The euro has dropped for us! So we have been able to eliminate trip surcharges. France is making a effort to bring in the tourists: Air France has sales almost every day. The government has published a series of excellent free guides including Jewish Provence! Ask us how to obtain these.  
The Man Booker prize went to Matisse The Master who spent a great amount of his life in S. France: read it now before you go..

And order your free guide on art in Provence from [promotion@crt-paca.fr](mailto:promotion@crt-paca.fr). Buy Occitane soap where it is made. Dribble olive oil that tastes like fruit, and bring along your first set of water colors for a try.  
**SPECIAL GUARANTEED ROOM SHARES ON PROVENCE TRIP/ GOOD FOR ANOTHER 2 WEEKS. BOOK THE TRIP AND VISIT US IN MIAMI THE WEEK BEFORE AND PICK UP A GOODIE.**

**\$2250 PLUS AIR INCLUDES EVERYTHING BUT A FEW MEALS. TRY AIR VIA DUBLIN OR ICELAND TO PARIS FOR A NEW SLANT.**

**Continue to Paris and take \$100 of combined trips.**

**April 21-27 Fabulous Paris in Hote: Concorde Ambassador** where Charles Lindbergh stayed after his solo flight in 1927. 4 star, recommended restaurant, stylish lounge, gym, close to posh Opera area. Grab a last spot. **6 nights and 7 days from \$1999 SHARES**

**GUARANTEED** Currently there are several art extravaganzas and as always, new sites: see the just restored Delacroix ceiling in the Louvre, a major renovation. Stop by the Paris Visitors Bureau for a free booklet on walking tours in optional time. Ask our rep- who will be in the hotel each am- for tidbits you want. I personally love art and walking off Berthillon ice cream, -shoppaholics visit the discount designer La Vallee Village.

- April 5-17 The Silk Route.** Full
  - May 11-15 Red Mountain Spa** near Las Vegas, Brice and Zion parks. LTD SPACE
  - June 16-20 Canyon Ranch AZ** discount
  - July 1-7 Peru**
  - July 7-15 Ecuador and Galapagos** *this year with 4 nights in the islands.*
  - July 12-24 From Wales to Ireland**
  - July 21-29 Oaxaca + Puebla, Mex City**
  - Aug. 2-6 Canyon Ranch MA + Tanglewood.**
  - August 4-13 Yukon to Alaska**
  - Aug. 8-21 DEAL on Holland America Cruise from Copenhagen** to The Netherlands, 2 days in St. Petersburg.
  - August 13-20 Ixtapan de la Sal spa S** discount with 21 treatments and 2 side trips.
  - Sept:** Turkey from Ankara to Istanbul
  - Oct.** New York City again.
  - Onwards Oct:** Canyon Ranch Lenox deal, approx **Nov. 1** North and South India, approx **Dec. 1** Argentina/ Brazil with a day in Uruguay, **Feb. 1** Shangri La **March** Tuscan Table and Born to Shop Tuscany.
- WE ARE PLANNING A BIG YEAR.**

**Paris 2006**

We stay in Concorde Ambassador Hotel, near the Opera, for 6 nights and 7 days. You can, by the way, get tickets to tour the Opera House or to see ballet or opera on last minute space. Besides our guide on tours, we have a rep at the hotel each am to help you with suggestions. **April 20** Depart for Paris. **April 21** Transfer to our hotel, welcome dinner in a restaurant. **April 22** Full day sightseeing from our private bus: the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame and more. Lunch in a local restaurant included. **April 23** Half day sightseeing in Le Marais, medieval section of Paris with lunch in a local restaurant. **April 24** Half day tour of The Louvre, followed by a walking tour of the area. **April 25** Today we visit two elegant museums: Marmottan and Jacquemart Andre. The former is in a 19c mansion with Monet's works. The latter, is a mansion with a spectacular collection or art and furnishings. Lunch in the lovely tea room. **April 26** Orsay Museum on the Left Bank, with national collection of modern art, then a walking tour and lunch, Dinner tonight together before we start packing! **April 27** Transfer back to the airport and flights home.

Save \$100 if you do Paris and Provence!!!

\$1999. Single \$490. Airfare and portorage at the airport not included. A local host will be in attendance each am and a guide will be on sightseeing trips. .

**LATE BOOKING SURCHARGE WAIVED FOR TWO MORE WEEKS. SHARES GUARANTEED FOR SAME TIME PERIOD.**

**Wales on to Ireland- two charmers July 12-24 or continue to London. \$2595 Single supplement: \$675 Deposit \$500.**

**Includes:** escort for 13 days, 11 nights hotels, 3 and 4 star (3 in rural areas are cozy comfy!). Meals, as noted. Sightseeing as noted. Ferry to Dublin. **Not Included:** air into London out of Dublin or r/t London with a stop in Dublin.

**Includes a laugh a day with Welsh and Irish friends. And some of the most untouched and magnificent scenery in the British isles.**

**July 12** Depart on flights to London's Heathrow Airport. **July 13** Group transfer 1PM to royal Windsor area for dinner and overnight. (If your flight is later, taxis are available). Welcome dinner **July 14** Continental breakfast. Depart **Windsor** for Wales via the awesome Severn Bridge. Stop at Chepstow on River Wye, where you have time to explore **Chepstow Castle**. Continue to **Tintern Abbey**, nestling in the wooded Wye Valley. It was founded in 1131 for Cistercian monks. Next stop Caerleon where you visit **Roman barracks, amphitheatre and baths**. Continue to Cardiff. Dinner/ overnight B. D. **July 15** Full breakfast. AM sightseeing of Cardiff, to include the **Castle**. PM Llanrindod Wells via **Brecan National Park**. The park has sweeping mountains, lush open-lands and moors and Ystradfellte waterfalls. Dinner/overnight. B. D. **July 16** Full breakfast. AM depart Cardiff and travel to Llanberis via Llongollen, Betws-y-coed and **Snowdonia National Park**. Dinner/ overnight. B. D. **July 17** Full breakfast. Depart Llanberis travel to Caernarfon via Conwy. On arrival in **Caernarfon** visit the **Castle**, which hosted the investiture of Prince Charles. Continue to Holyhead to take the ferry to **Dublin**. On arrival in Ireland, a Dublin bus will be at the port to transfer us to our hotel in the city. B. **July 18** Full Irish breakfast. AM a local Dublin guide takes us on a tour, passing by St. Patrick's Cathedral, Phoenix Park and Trinity College. This afternoon free for independent sightseeing and shopping. B.

**July 19** Full Irish breakfast. Depart Dublin/ travel to Galway. PM our guide will take us on a tour of colorful Galway. Dinner overnight. B. D.

**July 20** Full Irish breakfast.. Today you enjoy Galway Bay to the **Cliffs of Moher**. The Cliffs of Moher are breathtaking rising to a height of 200 meters out of the sea and extending 8km. Continue to **Killarney** where we stay. Dinner B. D. **July 21** Full Irish breakfast. Today enjoy **The Ring of Kerry** - that boasts captivating mountain and coastal scenery dotted with fishing villages. Later, on your return to Killarney, you experience a **Jaunting Car Ride**, a 200 hundred-year-old cart pulled by a horse, unique to Killarney, starting in the town then through the National Park including Muckross Lake, Abbey & House. Dinner overnight at hotel. B. D.

**July 22** Full Irish breakfast. Depart Killarney-travel County Cork to **Blarney Castle** Kiss the Stone and acquire the "gift of the gab." Next is Cork & Waterford with the **Crystal Factory**. Continue to Wexford for farewell dinner and overnight. B. D. **July 23** Full Irish breakfast. Depart Wexford- head for Kilkenny -medieval city dominated by a Norman Castle and ancient Cathedral. Then to the historic Kildare. Continue to Dublin. B. We left dinner out to give free time in Dublin our last day. **July 24** Full Irish breakfast. AM, transfer to Dublin Airport for your return flight to the USA. Or London. B. **SOME ROUND TRIP FLIGHTS WILL AUTOMATICALLY TAKE YOU BACK TO LONDON ANYWAY.**

**Notes: Idyllic villages, dramatic seashores, two Celtic charmers and off the beaten track itinerary. Small group guaranteed. Add time in London at a 4 star hotel for \$175 a night that includes continental breakfast. No green beer, no touristy tackiness, no rushed visits.**

**All trips 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 specific reasons! Membership Non Refundable.**

**Avoid summer 'schvitzing' Be cool in colonial Mexico. Temps**



**79-54! Oaxaca (WAHACA), Puebla, Cuernavaca and Taxco and the major dance**

**festival. July 21** Meet Mexico City Airport. Welcome dinner overnight.

**July 22** Tour Frida Kahlo's home and studio continuing our artistic theme with a visit to the artists' market in San Angel. Lunch tour the famous Anthropology Museum in one of the most spectacular modern buildings O/N M. City. **July 23** We begin our journey to Oaxaca, stopping in Puebla, a UNESCO World Heritage Site to stretch our legs along the cobbled streets. On to Oaxaca for hotel and dinner. **July 24 GUELGUETZA!** An un forgettable day of our trip in Cerro de los Lunes where we are part of the largest dance festival in Latin America. Dressed in traditional costumes, 100's of Indians perform pre Columbian ceremonies and dances. Dinner together.

**July 25.** On to mountainous Monte Alban, ancient Zapotec community overlooking the valley. We continue to Atzompa below for market day. Lunch then tour of Santo Domingo Church and museum. **July 26** We travel to Teotitlan del Valle, to see weavers demonstrate their craft. Lunch then the ruins of Mitla with royal tombs, House of Pillars and village. Final stop is Santa Maria del Tule to see the amazing tree! Overnight Oaxaca. **July 27** depart Oaxaca/ enjoy the countryside as we drive to Cuernavaca, noted for gardens and perfect climate. O/ N Cuernavaca. **July 28** Taxco, colonial silver town in the mountains. Dinner and O/N Cuernavaca. **July 29** Transfer to M. City Airport for flights after 3PM.

Includes: Lovely colonial hotels, meals above, guide, transfers above, entrance fees. \$1750 Single: \$375 more. **Very limited group.** Ask for itinerary and list of hotels.



**Holland America Discount for members: From Copenhagen to Russia ending in Rotterdam. Save \$ with The Club and get a share.**

2 days St. Petersburg, scenic cruising Oslo Fjord, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Norway. Holland Cruise line does airfare and transfers. When we organize a group: 1. We mail you a list of Club cabins so you can get in touch. 2. We organize a dinner table or two for our group. 3. We help you with room shares to save substantially. 4. We often have wine and goodies for free. Cabins from: \$2298 12 day cruise on Rotterdam.

**Paris Pointers:** Ten reasons to grab a last spot: 1. Our hotel was Charles Lindbergh's when he flew the Atlantic! Historic, central, great neighborhood, special price for us. 2. Poilane- artisanal bread 3. Stop by the rococo style Rodin museum on the Left Bank for 500 sculptures in his former home. Kiss the Kiss. 4. On Sundays, visit Paris' only organic street market on the Blvd. Raspail for lavender, herbal soaps and more. 5. Need to reflection, visit the new Holocaust Museum in Le Marais after our walking tour of the area. Or stop by The Picasso Museum nearby. 6. Swoon to music in medieval Ste. Chapelle or attend a free concert in The Madeleine Church. 7. Eat macaroons in Angelina tea shop or the world's best quiche in Tarte Julie. 8. Stay on at the Orsay Museum for the blockbuster Cezanne and Pissarro Exhibit. 9. Enjoy an opera at the old or new Opera Houses

**10. Come to Provence and Paris and get your DISCOUNT of \$100 and guaranteed shared room. Airfare from \$550 plus taxes r/t Paris.....**

**SEE INSIDE For PLANS FOR AUTUMN ONWARDS WITH THE CLUB and BEGINNING OF PLANS FOR 2007**

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Return Service Requested

The Club was founded in 1992 by Phyllis Stoller, a then banker with a non-traveling husband. We are nationally known. Berkeley Insurance protects your funds. We donate to women's charities. **To keep prices fair quality high, we do not maintain a mailing list for non-members. Dues are \$35 1-year/\$65 2-years. Members of less than 3 months pay a surcharge. Membership non refundable. Need help with email specials or a password? Email us// do not call our office for email help**

**FOR MEMBERSHIP STATUS, EMAIL OR CALL US 800-480-4448**