

Volume 15

Issue 8

Hiccup

The Women's Travel Club

"designed by women for women"®



Dear Members:

We are settled in our new offices. In case you did not know where Bloomfield NJ is, go see Jersey Boys the musical. Bloomfield is where the guys bought "hot jewelry". But of course that is out of date, and today we sit with 100 travel professionals at ABC Destinations, where we are working away to offer members more trips, better deals and lots of variety. **More trips:** we are planning 40 during 2007. **More deals:** we will repeat our Italy long weekends as we have a special "in" on the airline. Eurofly is located in our office, giving us a price and availability advantage. In Jan. we added **Punta Cana** for winter sun. In April and May we have two river cruises: Provence in April and Danube in May, both at the best prices in the "market". Both are booking now. We do not hold cabins so when the boat is full, you are left on the dock. Paris connects to Provence and a new Sicily trip in March connects to Tuscany. **Variety:** Alpine Lakes, Baltics for Summer, Kenya for August, golf trips, and even our Ixtapan de la Sal trip this year includes an extension to view the Monarch butterfly migration. Our site has some of these new trips, and we are happy to mail you a copy of the home page if you are not electronic.

One of our more unusual new trips is **Canary Islands**. These islands are a part of Spain but 1,000 miles south with balmy weather all year round. There are several UNESCO Heritage Sites, beautiful views, friendly villages and New Year's Eve dinner with the bubbles that go with this time of year. The airfare has gone up incredibly, so we changed our similar trip: **Dec. 30-Jan. 6**. See inside.

It has become apparent to us that many of our members like to get away for the Holidays and for winter sun. Thanksgiving: we do too much. Christmas: too many thoughts of times past or school vacation time. New Year's: Harry hasn't met Sally yet or we hate the hoop la. Our Thanksgiving trip filled immediately // Spain for Christmas has only a few spots left // and The Canaries are singing. Do not delay. And remember, for Holiday trips, airfares rise dramatically but we have protected you on The Canary Islands for a short while. Give yourself a gift this year-- a trip with our Club.

With The Women's Travel Club, you don't have to wait for friends to make up their minds. Come with us, a traveling family. And ask for a room share to save \$\$ so you can treat yourself to one more thing you cannot live without. *Or give a gift certificate of a membership or credit to your pals.*

Phyllis

Deadlines:

Argentina and Brazil Nov. 30-Dec. 12 one room left

Spain for Christmas Dec. 24-30, ltd space left.

Canary Islands for New Year's Dec. 30-Jan.6, 2007 new trip

Ixtapan de la Sal, Mexico spa discount Jan. 28-Feb. 4, Monarch butterflies extension. Feb. 4-6

Beijing Blowout Feb. 4-11 with Xian option

Presidential London Feb. 14-19 with our WTC President Phyllis who invites our group to her London home.

More winter coming including Punta Cana. See inside for more NYear's choices.

REMEMBER AIR INCREASES WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DEPARTURE.

Short Getaways for The Club Rome Special Oct. 28-Nov. 3 \$999 last minute possible. We were able on this and 2 Iceland trips to add extra excursions so members could see more.

Beijing Blowout Feb. 4-11 includes air from NY, transfers, 4 star Capital Hotel for 6 nights, American breakfast daily, Peking dinner and show. \$799+ taxes. Substitute 2 days in Xian with sightseeing for \$199 at deluxe Sofitel Hotel. Single: \$120 more. Our pal Suzy Gershman will supply her private list of shopping deals in Beijing, an exclusive for club members.

Presidential London Feb 14-19 Annually we visit London with our WTC president. For those of you who do not know her, Phyllis lived in London for 10 years and has kept a home there since the 1980's. She customizes the weekend to specific needs. In past years, member challenges have been>Where can one horse back ride? > Where can you buy English embroidery? What are the best museums for modern art? What is the "hot" store? Where can I see flowers in February?

Includes: air to London, 4 nights 4 star Millennium Gloucester Hotel, welcome dinner, Tea at the Ritz, English breakfast daily, one theater ticket, tours and an invitation to a private home. **From: \$1295 plus airline taxes.**

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Write all checks to The Preferred Traveler!

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40 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 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 90 days of departure, prices increase And sometimes so does airfare!

LAST CALL !

Nov. 5-17 or 20 North and South India last minute unlikely-but try.

Nov. 30-Dec. 12 South America- Argentina, Bariloche and Rio. \$3249+taxes includes air, 4 star hotels, most sightseeing. Extras will not break the bank: A terrific meal with wine in Argentina costs \$20. A taxi ride back to a spot you loved on our tour will set you back \$3. A full day hacienda trip into gorgeous countryside is FREE, it is included in our trip and usually an extra in other journeys.

Ψ A special club item is the tour of Buenos Aires' world famous opera house: Teatro Colon.
 Ψ Another is Tango lessons followed that night by a Tango show.
 Ψ Haciendas in the hills
 Ψ and on the way home, Rio de Janeiro for 3 days. BA and Rio are 2 of the most beautiful cities in the world: see them with new friends sipping your Argentine merlot or munching Brazilian bbq. PS fine Argentine wine is a big \$10 a bottle. Treat yourself.

One share available! Fax in to grab it.

Notes: Passports are now needed for Mexico and The Caribbean. For travel you should always have 6 months left on your passport. And renew it with either new pages if you are a big traveler or get a new one if a visa is required for your trip. And we do forewarn you if that is the case. Brazil: visa needed on arrival.

Nov. 21-27 Thanksgiving: prepare dinner in a villa, Assisi, Cinque Terra Montecatini. \$1499+ taxes air *full*
Dec. 24-30 Madrid / Barcelona. \$1699 air inc. 2 left.
Dec. 30-Jan. 6 Canary Is. \$1999, air inc. New Year's Eve party
Jan. 13-20 Punta Cana, Dominican Rep.
Jan. 28-Feb 4 Ixtapan deal Mexico. Followed by Monarch Butterflies til **Feb. 6.**
Feb. 4-11 Beijing add Xian, China. From \$799 air included. Great single price too.
Feb 14-19 Presidential London from \$1295 w. air, Millennium Gloucester hotel, theater, sightseeing, tea at the Ritz, cocktails at our President's London home and much more.
March We are trying for a winter golf trip.
March 10-17 Sicily, which connects to Tuscany if you wish a longer trip.
March 16-24 Tuscany / Florence, our annual trip- LOWER \$ Group air available.
April 5-14 Morocco to \$2099 includes air.
EARLY BIRD TIL DEC. 1
April 13-21 Provence river cruise + Burgundy, followed by
April 20-26 Paris LOWER price. \$1799 land, \$2299 land/ air
May 3-7 Red Mt. Utah, spa or golf discount package. \$100 extra spa credit.
May 11-26 N. Thailand, Tibetan plateau, Hong Kong. \$2999, with air and 5 star hotel
May 24 Danube River Cruise discount.
June/July/August coming Alpine Journey ready, Kenya/Tanzania Safari + Zanzibar ready, The Baltics , Ixtapan August group, Canyon Ranch August with Tanglewood Festival, annual Mexico jaunt, and we are trying for the famous Greenbriar for 3 night spa/golf deal. What a busy year we have planned.

All trips that sold out in a flash will be repeated-do not despair.

Canary Islands New Trip

We have rebooked our trip a day later- Dec. 30 in order to protect you from \$\$\$ airfare increases. Our new trip is based in Tenerife South, with half board and optional excursions-we are in the 4 star Mediterranean Palace Hotel. We will be joining others from Club ABC Tours, our affiliate. But as usual our Club has a special: dinners are included as well as the party. *Our Club remains unique, we merely want to pass along deals from our new affiliate.*

Travel Tips for the Holidays

Have paper money and credit cards in a plastic bag in your pocket-- you cannot lose them in security that way! Don't wear jangley jewelry or belts even some gold jewelry sets off the machines. What you can take carry-on out of the country-is not always what you can return with - BA has the most conservative rules so check them for a litmus test of current rules. Have a wait at the airport. Use the complimentary shuttle to an airport hotel and wait there. Or treat yourself to a day pass at a private airport lounge: most charge \$50 on the spot. Or try www.prioritypass.com

From a member returning from Iceland in the busiest October in Club history:

Degnan from MA: I have traveled with more expensive tours and found this trip to Iceland to be great value for money. I plan to keep in touch with a few of the women and hope to travel with them again.
From The Palm Beach Post Oct. 8 2006, Marilyn from FL says about taking her granddaughters on two of our trips: 'It's a wonderful shared experience. I told them: I'm not going to leave you a lot of money but you can say you saw Athens with your grandmother.'

Holidays A gift for yourself

Christmas in Spain Dec. 24-30 \$1699+ taxes Single: \$300. Dec. 24 Depart with Santa on overnight flight to Madrid, elegant Spanish capital. Dec. 25 Arrive and transfer to our 4 star NH Nacional Hotel. After a half day city tour, we finish with a special Christmas dinner. D. Dec. 26 Half day tour of medieval Toledo an ancient Jewish and Christian village, then free time to spend with Club friends. B. Dec. 27 Full free day in Madrid B. Dec. 28 Train to Barcelona then half day city tour of this Art Deco Mediterranean city. We stay 3-5 minutes from Las Ramblas, the main shopping area in Hotel Tryp Apolo, 4 star again. B. Dec. 29 Full day tour to Montserrat monastery, a historic mountainside complex where besides visiting sites, we hear the monks' concert. B. Dec. 30 Return home or stay on in Spain or continue to Paris, as we are now using Air France B. **AT WRITING TWO SPACES LEFT.**

Madrid Mania: Don't miss The Prado, one of the 5 top museums in the world and in our 15 years The Club has seen them all: National Gallery in London, Louvre in Paris, Prado in Madrid, Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Met in NYCity.

New Years in The Canary Islands Dec 30-Jan 6 \$1999+taxes. Single: \$328 Our trip includes airfare from JFK, airport transfers, 6 nights in 4 star Mediterranean Palace Hotel, buffet breakfast and dinner daily, a New Year's Eve party and dinner, sc and taxes. Optional excursions bookable there or beforehand if you are a planner.

Why this new destination? The Canaries These islands lie 1,000 miles from Spain and are as different as they can be. Outside of the beach area where we stay, there are tiny villages dating back hundreds of years and an island of natural beauty capped with a volcano snow capped much of the year. Visit La Gomera: from where Christopher Columbus set out, a UNESCO HeritageSite for its national park-Garajonay- and its history. Another not to be missed is Mt. Teide volcano and the massive park that surrounds it. These volcanic islands each topped with mountains, grow tropical fruit you will enjoy during your stay. And visit the other towns, some ancient some modern resorts. But do it in the company of our Club. We join our affiliate for trip and excursions, but as usual, you get a list of women from our Club and you will pal around together-- both in the hotel and on excursions. Our hotel has a swimming pool, sun terraces, and a spa. You will be in the Mare Nostrum Resort area. Besides our New Year's Eve dinner and party, each night there is a Mediterranean buffet to enjoy.

More New Year's Dates... Here are a few more getaways all done on individual bases, not Club groups-but we will put you in touch with others going on your departure date.

London Any day with land and air. Trafalgar Square at midnight on Dec. 31 is their Times Square scene. Or have your New Year's drink at a friendly pub. Choose your gateway and 4, 4 ½ or 5 star hotels. From: \$449 and taxes. Full English breakfast daily included.

Paris Dec. 28-Jan. 2 or stay on. Air plus 4, 4 ½ or 5 star hotels, from \$1199 + taxes. Ooh LaLa, champagne and foie gras what a decadent way to welcome in 2007.

Paris and Rome Dec. 28-Jan. 5. As above but we add the flight to Rome and extra nights in a 4 star hotel in Rome. From \$1399+ taxes. Continental Breakfast daily in Paris and buffet in Rome.

Prague Getaway Dec. 28-Jan. 2 with air, 4 or 5 star hotel, and more. From: \$1299 plus taxes. Buffet breakfast included daily. These can be done as a single, for a small group or a huge family

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

Looking Towards January and February 2007.



During a gorgeous autumn it is a shame to talk about winter. But the reality is our trips are selling out early. This January besides annual **Ixtapan de la Sal Mexico**, we are offering a 3 day post trip, for Monarch Butterfly Viewing. This time of year & a day's drive millions of butterflies migrate. Stay tuned. January 28-Feb. 4 is Ixtapan with 21 services, great food, Taxco trip for silver and golf + spa. The spa has become so popular we cannot be sure of availability. Last year we turned some of you away. \$1132 twin and \$1280 single includes taxes. Next on our agenda for winter warmth is our first trip to **Punta Cana, in the Dominican Republic. Jan. 13-20** to include 4 star hotel, air from your city, transfers, meals, snacks, entertainment, drinks. Price est. at \$1399 from NE varying by your chosen city. Single: \$tba. Punta Cana is a 20 mile stretch of beach, with nearby golf courses, excursions to swim with dolphins. There are several hotels we can offer but we chose Natura Park, an eco-friendly hotel with friendly staff, a eco-sensitive spa and great food. Final price is determined when you book the trip and airfare. **DO NOT DELAY THIS IS A SMALL HOTEL.**

London with Phyllis Feb. 14-19 This trip can be booked from any Virgin Atlantic gateway and it includes 4 star Millennium Gloucester Hotel in a fine neighborhood, full English breakfast, welcome dinner, one lunch, tea at the Ritz, touring. Phyllis invites you to her 18th c. home for drinks. Plus, one theater ticket. Weather in London is surprisingly mild in February; crocuses are up in the parks and grass is always green. Deposit \$350 due now. Final price is determined on the day you book the trip. **From \$1295 + taxes based on booking now.**

A sneak peak at early Spring 2007: March>> Sicily and Tuscany, do one or both together. April is our discount Peter Dielmann Cruise and Paris, do one or both.

Provence and Paris are annuals but this year we changed both itineraries for repeat people. The Provence River cruise can be used by non members (husbands, families) but our group again has special dining etc. Paris is women only. May is Red Mt. Spa for those who want to see the magnificent country of S. Utah. The spa sits between Bryce, Zion, Four Corners and Snow Mt. National Park. And Shangri La for adventurers who have a different idea of paradise-Western China with Thailand and Hong Kong!

It is likely that we will be adding more winter trips, as between *The Palm Beach Post* and *San Francisco Chronicle* feature articles, we are swamped with calls and new members. Every woman who calls here says the same thing: How come I did not know your Club? So talk it up more to your friends and we will continue to grow- ask us for print or PDF newsletters for your distant pals. And keep your eyes open for Town & Country article on us coming shortly.

40 new trips Specials announced all the time! Keep memberships up to date, your email and phone accurate and your bags packed. Remember: write checks to The Preferred Traveler not to The Club.

The Women's Travel Club®
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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 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. Due \$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? info@womenstravelclub.com.**
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