

Volume 15

Issue 9

The Women's Travel Club

"designed by women for women"®



Dear Members:

Our first six months as part of ABC Destinations have flown by. We have explored new places: Spain, Portugal, new parts of Tuscany, S. and N. India, and Iceland. We have added new experiences: cooking in Italy, ballooning in Turkey, haciendas in Patagonia, beach holidays. Now here is our little secret: Before joining forces with ABC, we tested them, with 2 years of trips including Paris, Portugal, Italy. Your feedback was great on choice of hotels, meals, guides *and* prices. Since June, we became capable of issuing airplane tickets, offering riverboat specials in Provence and Germany, and diversifying into 'deal trips'. For 2007 many trips will be new and updated. Some coordinate like Sicily/ Tuscany, Provence/ Paris and Kenya/Tanzania/Zanzibar. We added long weekends in The US and famous resorts, which you wanted--Orlando / NY with The Hudson River Valley, The Greenbrier in W. Virginia etc. **AND PRICES CONTINUE TO DROP.**

Recap of 2006: our 15th year and a milestone. We grew again, from October to now, The Club was featured in 6 newspapers, starting with The Palm Beach Post. One of the nicest comments in that article was from Marilyn, who took her lovely granddaughters on Club trips: "I told them, I won't leave you a lot of money, but you will remember you saw Athens with me". Going into 2007: book early, take advantage of lower priced insurance, ask for hometown airports when we only mention 1 or 2 airports. Or use special club rates at NY airport hotels if you need to stay over.

Beginning in 2007, whenever we visit a Third World country, we will be asking you to bring school supplies and we will deliver them to a local school. Have a wonderful holiday season, hug all those you love *and* tell them you love them!

Phyllis

Deadlines:

Punta Cana, Dominican Republic Jan. 13-20 *all inclusive holiday and a 5 specially priced seats from JFK.*

Ixtapan de la Sal, Mexico spa discount Jan. 28-Feb. 4,

Monarch butterflies migration extension. Feb. 4-6

Mexico City only with Butterflies Feb. 1-6

Beijing China Feb. 4-11 with Xian option

Presidential London Feb. 14-19 with WTC Managing Director Phyllis who invites you to her London home.

Sicily March 9-17 & continue to Tuscany March 16-24 or do

Both... March 9-24, and take \$100 off.

Morocco April 5-14 EARLY BIRD ENDS DEC 1 FOR A SAVINGS.

REMEMBER AIR INCREASES WITHIN 90 DAYS OF DEPARTURE. Due to new regulations, fuel surcharges are now included in trip price not quoted separately. And all payments are to be made to The Preferred Traveler, our bank account name!!!!

Short Getaways for The Club Beijing Blowout Feb. 4-11 includes air from NY, transfers, 4 star Capital Hotel for 6 nights, American breakfast daily, Peking dinner and show. \$927+ taxes. Substitute 2 days in Xian with terracotta soldiers' sightseeing for \$199 at deluxe Sofitel Hotel. Single: \$120 more Beijing, but single in Xian is still \$199. Our pal Suzy Gershman will supply her list of shopping deals in Beijing, an exclusive for you.

As we have access to specials via ABC, we want to pass them to you but with club enhancements! We arrange shares for members, something ABC does not offer, we organize welcome drinks on day one. Finally we are happy to exchange telephone numbers or emails to make you feel comfy.

Other ABC deals-April 13-21 **Peter Deilmann Provence / Burgundy** River cruise followed by women only Paris trip. I just visited the ship: spacious, fresh, great food/ wine, and docked conveniently in the middle of medieval Lyon. Our Deilmann discount is the best around, and includes air, transfer to the ship followed by our Paris trip. Deposit due now.

Finally a winter Caribbean trip: **Punta Cana**, Dominican Republic, white sand and turquoise water. Special price due to ABC.

Who doesn't love a deal, raise your hand!

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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 !

Dec. 24-30 Spain, Madrid and Barcelona. Call for cancellations In 2007 we will have two choices for Christmas.

Jan. 13-20 Punta Cana, Dominican Rep. winter sun in eco friendly hotel, Natura Park. Our package includes all meals, drinks, transfers from the airport and we can book your air if you wish.

Jan. 28-Feb 4 Ixtapan spa deal Mexico.

And what a big response already. Do not delay on this one. If you wish extra days, book them now.

Followed by **Monarch Butterflies til Feb. 6.**

Do Mexico City +Butterflies Feb. 1-6.

We are listening to you and adding extra days to this and other trips. Butterflies here we come.

Feb. 4-11 Beijing add Xian, China.

From \$927 air included \$120 single supplement. Xian is \$199 more. A deal from the E. Coast but W. available at a different price.

Notes: Passports are now needed for Mexico and The Caribbean. You should always have 6 months left on your passport and several empty pages. You can renew a passport when expired or just secure additional pages if your passport is current. If a visa is required for your trip, we tell you and we send you a visa kit with instructions. A visa is 'permission to enter a country'. US citizens usually have visas issued automatically on arrival into most countries.

Some countries use visas as a money maker They require a visa be paid for and applied for, prior to arrival. You need to fill out an application and mail your passport to the consulate involved. We help you thru the process, a simple one but baffling to the new traveler. Anyway the visa stamps are usually pretty impressive in your passport.

Feb 14-19 Presidential London from \$1295 but w. air-with fuel charges: \$1425, Millennium Gloucester Hotel, theater, sightseeing, tea at the Ritz, cocktails at Phyllis London home- personal tours if you ask her!

March 9-17 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 \$2209 includes air. **EARLY BIRD TIL DEC. 1**

April 13-21 Provence river cruise + Burgundy- ask for prices, followed by

April 20-26 Paris LOWER price. \$1799 land, from \$2449 land/ air fuel surcharges.

May 3-7 Red Mt. Utah, spa or golf package. \$100 extra spa credit and group pricing.

May 4-8 Orlando FL golf or spa NEW

May 11-26 N. Thailand, Tibetan plateau, Hong Kong with air and 5 star hotels

May 24-June 3 Danube River Cruise discount with 2 nights in Munich.

July 12-23 The Baltics and St. Petersburg Russia

July 21-Aug. 1 Italy Including San Marino

July 31-Aug. 12 Kenya/Tanzania + Zanzibar an exciting addition.

Aug. 9-12 The Greenbrier, world famous resort, W. Virginia mountains.

More coming: Ixtapan and Canyon Ranch August, colonial Mexico, **Dec. 2 Oman, Muscat, Dubai ;** and due to demand a Christmas markets trip again.

All trips that sold out will be repeated.
Turkey Oct. 5 2007, Iceland also October 2007 and India, again, November 2007.

Please excuse any errors on our site, we had some electronic glitches and old

Ixtapan de la Sal and or The Butterflies. Jan. 28-Feb.4 / 6.

Our umpteenth group discount trip to 4 star Ixtapan de la Sal Resort and Spa in the mountains. 21 services, all meals, hotel, and hotel facilities from early am walks to classes in the gym or pools, plus our annual Taxco silver shopping trip. All inclusive with taxes and gratuities: \$1132 twin and \$1280 single. **Believe it we are almost FULL already. Transfers and airfare extra**

The annual Monarch Butterfly migration takes place not far from Ixtapan. We added a 2 night extension. **Feb. 4-6** You are picked up in Ixtapan, driven to Anganguero and Toluca for sightseeing and shopping , including Vitral de Cosmos, world famous indoor gardens. **BLD Feb. 5** we continue to Rosario Butterfly Sanctuary. There is a steep forest walk to the top where millions of the butterflies await fluttering their wings. Later back to Toluca. **BLD. Feb. 6** Transfer either to the Toluca Airport or back to Mexico City Airport for flights not earlier than 1PM. B

Mexico City and Butterflies. If you wish 3 nights Mexico City and butterflies without the spa: **\$399 twin and \$170 single supplement** with hotel, airport transfers, welcome dinner, breakfast, 2 days touring including anthropological museum, Kahlo museum, Xochimilco, and more. There is a minimum of 4 needed for this price. You then drive from Mexico City to Ixtapan and on to Toluca with the others. Hotel: Holiday Inn Zocalo in the center of town.

So choose away and let us know now! If you wish us to book your airfare to Mexico City, \$35 handling charge.

Presidential London Feb. 14-19, 2007 BOOK NOW TO GET BEST AIRFARES.

- *Ask Phyllis to take you on a favorite walk: from Parliament up Henry VIII's main street, called Whitehall and then to The National Gallery for lunch or a peak. This is the one trip where she is available to you as a private guide.
- *Visiting major museums is free! Don't miss the terrace over The Thames in Somerset House
- * Extra meals at reasonable prices. Fish and chips : try The Sea Shell in North London.
- * Hollywood stars are shopping at Top Shop, a cheap trendy Oxford Street staple.
- *Portobello Rd is open during our stay-have a Ploughman's lunch nearby -- cheese, bread, pickle and onion and wash it down with lager, closest to our beer.
- *Stroll the parks, weather is surprisingly mild and grass is green all year round.
- *When you take your picture with a Guard, in front of a palace built by Henry VIII, look to the right: that townhouse is Charles' private home.
- *Sip tea, eat scones, crumpets, sandwiches at our Ritz experience.
- * Our hotel is conveniently located next to a fine residential area, Kensington and pop into the supermarkets next door for some food gifts to take home: marmalade, biscuits, cheese and tea!

Price: From \$1425 + taxes Note: Price has not changed, we added fuel surcharges to trip price, per new travel regulations. **Deposit \$350 Single supplement: \$275.**
Boston add \$100 from Miami, Orlando, LAX and SFO add \$200. Ask about others. Trip includes: Round trip airfare to London based on specific classes of service. 4 nights 4 star, Millennium Gloucester Hotel, hotel service charges and taxes Full English breakfast daily Welcome dinner 1 lunch, 3 course tea at The Ritz, cocktails at a private home All tours below in our private bus Services of our guide and of our President Not included: taxes and transfers from the airport.

- Feb.14** Depart on overnight flights to London's Heathrow and Gatwick Airports. D and B served
- Feb. 15** Transfer to our centrally located hotel-The Millennium Gloucester. Rest until welcome dinner tonight with other Club members. D. Hotel is in Kensington, walk-able to Hyde Park, and a tad further to The Victoria and Albert Museum and the shops of Knightsbridge. Transfers are on your own, we supply instructions on how to travel into London and can book you a transfer.
- Feb. 16** Today we enjoy a tour in the historic "City of London" first settled by the Romans and today the financial center of Europe, past St. Paul's Cathedral, with a walk over the Millennium Bridge on The Thames River to the Tate Modern Gallery. We lunch in this former power plant turned modern art gallery, overlooking the Thames River. Following lunch we have a guided tour of the spectacular modern art housed in its enormous space. Return to our hotel for optional dinner and overnight. B. L.
- Feb. 17** A half day of touring in wonderful London. Or take the morning off and run to Portobello Road antiques area. Afternoon free for individual fun or join new Club friends for your free time. Tonight we go to a West End theater production (You will have a choice of several plays). B.
- Feb. 18** Morning free. We meet at The Royal Academy for a guided tour of the private collection. Hidden for 200 years, visitors may now see these fine rooms restored to their Palladian glory and filled with works by renowned British painters: Hockney, Gainsborough, Turner, and more. We finish with Sunday afternoon tea at The Ritz, across Piccadilly from the museum. B. Tea at the Ritz. Cocktails and lite fare at our President's house.
- Feb. 19** After breakfast we return to the US or stay on. B.

Extra nights \$138 twin per room per night for Club members.

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.

**Looking Towards
January and February
2007.**



Our first trip to **Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Jan. 13-20** to include 4 star hotel, air from your city, transfers, meals, snacks, entertainment, alcoholic and soft drinks. **Price est. \$1300** from NE varying by your chosen city. **Single: \$2100** + taxes. Fuel surcharge to be est. at \$50 Punta Cana is a 20 mile stretch of beach, with nearby golf courses, and miles of white sand. There are several hotels we can offer but we chose Natura Park, eco-friendly with great staff, a eco-sensitive spa and great food. Final price is determined when you book the trip with airfare. **DO NOT DELAY We have a few seats from JFK at a preferential price for this trip. They are on a charter and very limited!**

Our Beijing China deal: Feb. 4-11 is hard to believe but comes to us thanks to ABC. \$927 plus taxes** for 6 nights Capital Hotel in Beijing, American breakfast daily, airport transfers, Peking Duck dinner and opera. If you wish to join us from other cities: we can arrange flights at a different price with private transfers to join the group. Add Xian and the terracotta soldiers sightseeing plus lunch, for only \$199 single or double at the Sofitel Hotel (instead of 2 nights in Beijing).

Excursions sold in Beijing or before and we encourage all of you joining in, to say hi before the trip and to have a welcome drink together. We will post a time for the drink. For a sneak preview rent 'The Last Emperor' which takes place in Imperial Beijing at the palace.

Visas are required, book early to secure one and make sure you have empty pages in your passport. ** Fuel surcharges are \$128, taxes are \$64 for Beijing only and \$104 for Beijing and Xian. Full trip price with fuel surcharges is \$927 plus taxes of \$64 or \$104.

Morocco: April 5-14 The Club has visited Morocco many times, and April brings lovely weather and snow capped mountains. We fly to Casablanca (a short hop of less than 6 hours), continue to Rabat, the nation's capital and on to Fez, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. From Fez, it only gets better over the Atlas Mts. To Marrakech, one of the wonders of the travel world. Markets, minarets, mosques, medinas. 4 star hotels some historic, most meals, airfare from NY direct to Casablanca, services of a great tour rep. You will not forget the winding streets of a souk overflowing with leather, carpets and spices. Nor the main square in Marrakech lit with gas lamps at night. The Atlas Mts descending from snow to desert and from pine forests to camel tracked dunes. A perfect way to visit exotic countries is with a group! So brush off your magic carpet and come along.

Provence and Paris April 14-21 or stay on til April 26. From Lyon drift down the riverways of Provence and Burgundy with a deal on a Peter Deilmann river cruise. All meals, well priced excursions and an itinerary that includes highlights of this lovely area. Follow on with our Paris trip, based in the Concorde Ambassador, with new sightseeing including The Opera House, Notre Dame, Left Bank, Orsay Museum, Pompidou Center, optional nightclub evening and a 4 ½ star hotel. Book now to get the early bird extra night free.

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 a nationally known affiliate of ABC Destinations a major tour operator. **To keep prices fair quality high, we do not maintain a mailing list for non-members. Dues \$35 1-year /\$65 2-years. Members of less than 3 months pay a surcharge on trips. Membership non refundable.** Need help with email specials or with a password? info@womenstravelclub.com. **All payments are made to The Preferred Traveler, our bank account name.**