

The Rambler

A newsletter for Mission Oaks Travelers

Autumn 2019

Goodbye Beach Blanket Babylon!

After more than 40 years, it was hard to say goodbye to *Beach Blanket Babylon*. We hosted 44 passengers on October 6 during our farewell visit, which included time for lunch on Pier 39. During the 90-minute show, many famous people were lampooned: President Trump & family, President Obama, Bill & Hillary Clinton, and even the SF Giants! Thanks to all who came along!



Next Traveler Meetings

Our monthly focus meetings have been gathering steam since we started them in March! Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 20 and will feature Jay Fehan from **Collette Vacations**. Jay will be sharing several NEW tours being offered for 2020 to destinations like Nashville, Vermont, and Santa Fe. On December 18, our meeting will be focused on **train and rail vacations!** There's nothing like traveling by train! All meetings include our "Travel News Update" as well as raffle prizes. Please plan to join us **every third Wednesday** at either of Mission Oaks' Community Centers!

Gibbons Park Community Center

4701 Gibbons Drive, Carmichael, CA 95608

10:30am - 12:00pm

Swanston Park Community Center

2350 Northrop Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95825

1:30pm - 3:00pm

Hello Mission Oaks Travelers!

We're so excited to be the tour and travel partner for Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District! Our company provides services and products from tour operators, cruise lines, rail companies and many others!

The main benefit to using our services is that a portion of all proceeds is provided to Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District to maintain its facilities and provide outstanding programming, classes and community engagement. We invite you to contact us at any time to join our scheduled tours or to arrange individual or family travel! We are more than happy to assist!

Kevin

Kevin Murphy, CTP

Oh The Places You Have Been!

Where have our travelers been? In just the last month, New York & Niagara Falls on a **Collette Vacation**, a cruise aboard **American Cruise Lines** around Puget Sound and even a family trip to **Disneyland!** See inside for more destination ideas! Have suggestions? Drop **Kevin** a brief note at kevin@ortts.com or give a call!.

About Our Masthead: Above we have chosen the Portland International Rose Test Gardens, a feature of our *Rose By Any Other Name* tour in June. See inside!

Open Roads Tour & Travel Solutions LLC

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www.ortts.com

CST#: 2135980-40



New Escorted Tours from Free Spirit Vacations!



Copper Canyon

8 Days * October 2019 - May 2020
\$1595 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1895 single*

Have you ever wanted to visit the largest canyon in North America? Copper Canyon not only provides visitors with visual beauty, but it is also home to the least acculturated Native Americans in all of North America. Come and experience the "Train Ride in the Sky" and be mesmerized by the most dramatic railway journey in the Western Hemisphere, traveling through 86 tunnels and 37 trestles in Mexico.

*This tour begins and ends in Phoenix, AZ. Pre and post hotel stays, along with roundtrip airfare and transfers, are not included but may be arranged for additional costs. This tour requires a valid passport!



Monarch Butterflies

7 Days* February 21-27, 2020
\$1495 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1995 single*

What travels over 3,000 miles from Canada to Mexico's Oyamel Woods, located in the highest part of the Michoacan Mountains? The Monarch butterfly, of course! Come experience this remote area which has become a sanctuary for the Monarchs. The sky above will resemble an orange and black cloud as the Monarchs arrive! Be prepared to hike 1 mile at an elevation of 9,000 feet to get the best view!

*This tour begins and ends in Mexico City. Roundtrip airfare and transfers are not included. They may be arranged for additional costs. This tour requires a valid passport!



Baja Wine and Whales

8 Days * Feb. 26 - March 4, 2020
\$1875 p.p./dbl.occ., \$2200 single

Coastal uninhabited islands, a combination of mountains and deserts, and a lively sea come together in a mixture of incredible natural beauty in central Baja California (Mexico). Travel to this pristine destination of undeveloped splendor! Experience the beauty of magnificent whales and the culture of Mexico, while experiencing the peaceful views and tours and tastings at award-winning wineries.

*This tour begins and ends in San Diego. Roundtrip airfare and transfers are not included. They may be arranged for an additional cost. This tour requires a valid passport!

Escorted Regional Motorcoach Tours

The Spectacular Rose Parade

3 Days *
Dec. 31 – Jan. 2, 2020



- Two nights accommodations at the Hotel Irvine
- 6 meals: 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 1 dinner
- New Year's Eve "Monte Carlo" Party with live entertainment
- Rose Parade reserved grandstand seats with parade program and pillow or blanket
- Movie Night Under the Stars, including snacks
- Showcase of Floats – see the floats up close!
- Home pick up with motorcoach transportation from Lodi
- Professional Escort throughout the tour

\$1279 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1439 single

A Rose By Any Other Name: The Portland Rose Festival, Crater Lake & Shakespeare

5 Days * June 4 - 8, 2020



- Two nights at the Monarch Hotel near Portland, overnights in Klamath Falls & Medford
- Reserve tickets to the Portland Grand Floral Parade, luncheon cruise aboard the *Portland Spirit*
- Lunch at Crater Lake Lodge
- Optional (add'l cost) tickets to attend a performance of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- Deluxe motorcoach and Tour Manager provided

\$1299 p.p./dbl.occ., \$1525 single

Domestic and International Tours

These tours are offered by our trusted travel partners. For more information visit www.ortts.com and click on "Scheduled Tours/Daytrips." A portion of all proceeds benefits Mission Oaks Recreation & Park District.

Tour Name	Day	Dates	Prices	Offered By
Copper Canyon by Rail	8+	Multiple: Oct '19-May '20	\$1595 dbl., \$1895 single + air	Free Spirit
New Year's in New Orleans	5	Dec. 30-Jan. 3, 2020	\$2380 pp/dbl.occ., \$2940 single	Talbot Tours
Monarch Butterflies in Mexico	7	Feb. 21-27, 2020	\$1495 dbl., \$1995 single + air	Free Spirit
Baja Wine & Whales	8	Feb. 26-Mar. 4, 2020	\$1875 dbl., \$2200 single + air	Free Spirit
St. Patrick's Day in Ireland	8	March 11-18, 2020	\$2899 pp/dbl.occ., \$3299 single	Collette Vacations
Cruising the Pacific Coast	8	Mar. 29-Apr. 5, 2020	Prices start at \$1640 pp/dbl.occ.	Talbot Tours
A Safari in Kenya	18	May 4-16, 2020	\$5495 pp/dbl.occ., \$6295 single	Talbot Tours
Charleston, Savannah, Jekyll Is	7	May 15-21, 2020	\$3379 pp/dbl.occ., \$4468 single	Mayflower Tours
The Pilgrim's 400th Anniversary	7	May 25-31, 2020	\$3749 pp/dbl.occ., \$4748 single	Mayflower Tours
Capitals of Central Europe	16	May or September 2020	\$4990 pp/dbl.occ., \$5985 single	Image Tours
Spain & Portugal	15	May or October 2020	\$4790 pp/dbl.occ., \$5955 single	Image Tours
Historic Trains of Colorado	9	August 7-15, 2020	\$3289 pp/dbl.occ., \$4268 single	Mayflower Tours
Best of Scandinavia	10	September 2-11, 2020	\$4579 pp/dbl.occ., \$5478 single	Mayflower Tours
Steamboatin' on the Mississippi	9	September 5-13, 2020	Prices start at \$2995 pp/dbl.occ.	Talbot Tours
Thanksgiving in New York City	5	November 23-27, 2020	\$3219 pp/dbl.occ., \$4118 single	Mayflower Tours

Regional Tours Coming Soon!

Call or email to place Your Name on the "Short List"

California Country

2 Days * February 2020

Travel to the end of the Central Valley, the home of the "Bakersfield Sound." Enjoy dinner and live music at Buck Owen's **Crystal Palace** and a visit to the **Kern County Museum**, to meet the author of "The Bakersfield Sound."

Some Enchanted Evenings

3 Days * April 2020

Two amazing nights on the Central Coast of California visiting **Sensorio**, a new attraction in Paso Robles, and an evening visit to **Hearst Castle** with costumed docents portraying famous visitors to the home of W.R. Hearst.

Spring in Mendocino

3 Days * May 2020

Travel through the spring wildflowers to the north coast. Visit the **Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens**, stroll the village, and the boardwalk at **MacKerricher State Park**, visit **Glass Beach** and **Pt. Cabrillo Lighthouse**.

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Refer a Friend and Save \$\$\$!

We're excited to reward you for referring a friend to travel with us or using our services to book independent vacations or cruises! Refer a friend to sign up for a daytrip and earn \$10 off a future daytrip! Refer a friend to sign up for a tour of 2 days or longer and earn \$50 off a tour of 2 days or longer! Kindly share this newsletter, invite your friend to a future travel show, or share our website, Instagram or Facebook pages online to keep them in the loop!



Winner of Hornblower Cruise!

Congratulations to Harry Hirsch who won two free Admiral's Passes on a Hornblower Dining Yacht. We are proud to raffle tickets and passes to a variety of local and regional businesses including Raley's and Bel Air at our monthly Traveler Meetings. Don't forget to sign up when you attend!



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In the Travel News

Boeing 737 MAX Still Grounded!

Southwest Airlines, American Airlines and United Airlines are still canceling flights every month the Boeing 737 MAX remains grounded. As we head into the very busy holiday travel season, **it's important to check and RE-check** your airline reservations if you're traveling on these domestic carriers. The FAA may not release these planes for regular operations until February or March 2020. Foreign carriers may not have their planes cleared for flying until later depending on the country's aviation authority.



REAL ID Becomes REAL in One Year!

Starting October 1, 2020, all air travelers MUST have a REAL ID in order to pass through TSA security checkpoints at airports. If you rely on a driver's license or state identification to travel, you must appear in person at a DMV office with the appropriate documents to prove your identity. You may also choose to travel with identification issued by the federal government, including a US Passport, border card (Global Entry, Nexus, etc.) or military ID. For more information, please visit: <https://realid.dmv.ca.gov/what-is-real-id-faq/>.

It's Time to Save!

Special incentives are available for the tours listed on the previous pages or offered below. A portion of all daytrip, tour and cruise proceeds benefits Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District! Please contact us with any questions!

American Cruise Lines: Save up to \$1200 per cabin (\$600 per person) on Mississippi River cruises including the Lower Mississippi, New Orleans Roundtrip and Historic South Cruises. Offer may expire at any time.

American Queen Steamboat: Save up to \$400 per stateroom on select Lower Mississippi cruises in 2020. Offers available through November 30,, 2019.

Collette Vacations: Save \$350 per person on any Oberammergau tour offered in June, July or August. Offer may expire at any time.

Hurtigruten Cruises: Save between 15% and 25% on select cruises of Norway from 2019-2021. Also save up to 15% on cruises to Alaska, Antarctica, Greenland, Iceland, Central & South America and through the Northwest Passage. Save up to 25% and receive a \$500 onboard credit on an expedition cruise to North, Central or South America. Available through November 29 or 30, 2019!

Victory Cruises: Save up to \$1,000 per stateroom (\$500 per person) on select Great Lakes cruises aboard the MV Victory I and MV Victory II. Offer may expire at any time.

WWW.ORTS.COM
We're on the Web!!!

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