

Destinations

WorldMark®

Published Exclusively for WorldMark Owners

March 2002

VEGAS
dazzles



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Baja Cruise

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Destinations

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Spring's
Beginnings

The bulbs have sprouted and the camellias are blossoming in my front yard ... which can mean only one thing: It's spring. Every year, I get so excited when I see these first flowers emerging, representing new life or life begun anew. After a cold, stark, wet winter, spring always feels like a blessing. To me, this season holds more promise than even the start of a new year.

And speaking of beginnings, WorldMark has a brand-new resort opening in Las Vegas. So, for this month's cover story, we revisit the Entertainment Capital of the World. You may already know that there's more than casinos, lounge lizards and all-you-can-eat buffets to lure you to Vegas these days, but you might be surprised (and intrigued) by just how *much* more there truly is. Our other feature highlights Los Cabos, a perennial hot spot among owners. With San José del Cabo's historic charm and hospitality, Cabo San Lucas' premier golf, sport-fishing and spirited nightlife, and the gorgeous 18-mile strip of coast between them, Los Cabos offers the full spectrum of Mexican vacationing.

There's something else new in this issue. Your fellow readers replied in great numbers to the first "On Location" question we posed back in January. Thanks to all who took the time to write in about their favorite spring destination in WorldMark country. Though we could only publish a handful of answers, we hope they inspire you to make reservations for your own getaway this season.

Have fun, everyone!

Leah Clark



EL ARCO IN CABO SAN LUCAS / PHOTO COURTESY OF LOS CABOS TOURISM BOARD

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Vegas Dazzles

With its bright lights and over-the-top attractions, Las Vegas is a city you've simply got to see to believe.

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A Mexican Mosaic

Los Cabos mixes up the perfect blend of old and new, adventure and relaxation ... just for you.

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cover **photo**

**Glamorous Las Vegas
is a feast for the eyes.**



Congrats!

Shana Sundberg was recently promoted to assistant manager at Whistler's WorldMark Cascade Lodge. A British Columbia native who grew up in nearby Vancouver, Shana has lived in Whistler for several years. During her three years with WorldMark, she has served as a front desk agent and guest services manager. Shana enjoys skiing, and spent a year traveling around Australia and Southeast Asia.



POOL AT WORLDMARK CORAL BAJA, MEXICO

Dedicated Coral Baja Staff Weather Storm

On the heels of the September 11th tragedy, the staff at Coral Baja was faced with another challenge: Hurricane Juliette. With 15-foot swells and winds of more than 100 miles per hour, it was the worst hurricane to hit the Baja Peninsula in years. And just as they had done a few days before, staff members rose to the occasion.

The hurricane caused extensive damage and widespread flooding throughout the community, snapping power lines and washing out bridges, leaving the area without electricity, and with limited food and water. Yet the staff kept everyone warm, safe and reasonably well-fed throughout the ordeal.

In the months that followed, WorldMark offices were inundated with e-mails, letters and phone calls about how well the staff handled this difficult situation. Words like “comforting,” “compassionate” and “calm” were frequently used. Lisa Schaefer, an owner who lives in Arizona, wrote, “Every employee of Coral Baja was ... supportive and selfless. They showed true dedication to making us as comfortable as possible.”

A special thanks goes out—not only to Bernardo Luna and Alma Castillo, who provided leadership—but to the entire resort staff. Eight hundred people in the area lost their homes in the hurricane; several staff

members were among them. Nonetheless, these employees remained at the resort to care for owners and their guests. In turn, as an expression of our deep gratitude for their efforts, Trendwest paid for materials to rebuild the lost homes, and WorldMark generously compensated those who worked throughout the storm and in the long days that followed.

The caring and tireless service displayed by the entire Coral Baja staff only goes to reinforce what many of us already know: At WorldMark and Trendwest, you're not only a member of a timeshare organization, but a very large and compassionate family.

Hey, swingers!

Changes to the Club Classic

Have you signed up yet for the Club Classic? This tournament, created exclusively for WorldMark owners, is open to golfers of all skill levels. To qualify for prizes, simply play six rounds (or more) while vacationing at your favorite WorldMark resorts. As you compete for the title of Club Classic Master in your respective skill category, you'll enjoy fabulous golf and resorts.

There are a couple of changes to the contest this year. Prizes are now easier to attain in the Golf Trails portion. You only need to stay and play at five different resorts to receive a three-night certificate; stay and play at 10 different resorts to receive a seven-night certificate; stay and play at 15 different resorts to receive both a three-night and a seven-night certificate; and stay and play at 20 different resorts to receive two seven-night certificates ... All this, regardless of your score!

Also, as the number of WorldMark resorts increase, so do your golfing options. Because of the vast differences in the many courses available, handicaps will be adjusted in accordance with the USGA slope rating. More difficult courses will raise the handicap; easier courses will lower it.

The entry fee is still just \$5 USD, but the fun and memories are priceless. For official rules and a 2002 entry form, contact any of the board of governors listed below, visit a resort near you, or call Owner Services at 1-888-648-7363.

Don Cogburn
WorldMark at
Big Bear
1-909-878-4227

Pedro Lana
WorldMark at
Rancho Vistoso
1-520-498-6406

Vaden Savage
WorldMark at
Bass Lake
1-559-642-6780

what's **new**

Cabo Transportation

You can now prearrange transportation from the airport to WorldMark Coral Baja. Call the Vacation Planning Center or Trendwest Travel. The cost is \$11 USD per person. You must supply your flight information at the time of booking. Reservations must be made two weeks or more prior to arrival.

Scootin' Around—Elsewhere

When the sun comes out, it's hard to resist heading outdoors to play on scooters, roller blades and skateboards. While you certainly don't have to leave these items at home, we do ask—due to property maintenance and safety concerns—that you not use them at any WorldMark resort. Don't worry, though. Your resort staff can recommend an appropriate place nearby for your children (and you) to play. Thanks for your cooperation.



Inventory Specials

Jump on 'Em

During the month of April, you can vacation at the following resorts for just four cents per credit. Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 to make your reservations.

Midweek Only:

Bear Lake, UT
Bison Ranch, AZ
The Canadian, B.C.
Leavenworth, WA
Pinetop, AZ
Steamboat Springs, CO
Wolf Creek, UT

Midweek and Limited Weekends:

Branson, MO
Lake of the Ozarks, MO

Midweek stays must take place Sunday through Thursday. Reservations at the above resorts are not subject to the 14-day booking window, and you may book multiple units. Holidays are excluded.

We Have a Winner!

comment card drawing

Congratulations to David and Donna Prieto of Sacramento, California, who won a three-night WorldMark stay when we pulled their completed comment card from the hat. You could be next!



■ i n t h e k n o w

Maintaining Our Coastal Properties:

Gleneden

As you know, Gleneden is one of the most popular resorts in the WorldMark system. Located on the beautiful central Oregon coast, close to the beach, it's a terrific family destination, whether you go to soak up sunshine in the summer months or watch the waves pound the shore during winter.

This stretch of coastline also has one of the most aggressive marine environments in the world. The winter season brings not only a tremendous amount of rainfall, but also a particularly powerful wind that regularly hits speeds of 50 to 60 miles per hour. During a storm last November, wind gusts were clocked at over 90 mph! It's obvious how Cape Foulweather—just up the road—earned its name.

With huge rolling waves, blowing rain and shrieking winds, this type of weather does create a dramatic setting for storm-watchers. However, these awe-inspiring storms are brutal on buildings in the area. As a result, over the past year we have been on a campaign to evaluate our coastal properties in Washington and Oregon. We wanted to identify what projects need to be accomplished in order to keep these resorts in top shape, despite the elements. Trendwest's Product Development team has been a valuable partner during this process, serving as a resource for technical and practical information, as well as construction expertise. It's a mutually beneficial arrangement, since the knowledge Trendwest gains will be used to make future coastal resorts even more weatherproof.

During 2001, we focused on Mariner Village. The scope of work in renovating the building exteriors was extensive, and we had to close the resort for three months in order to complete it. This year, we're going to focus on Gleneden. We'll be spending a great deal of time in the coming months making repairs caused by six winters of weather-related abuse. What this means for you: Although much of the planned work won't interfere with normal use of the resort, there may be occasions when it is disruptive. And, depending on the time of year you hope to visit, it may be more difficult to get reservations as we pull space to accommodate the necessary repairs. But once the job is completed, WorldMark Gleneden will be more ready than ever to face nature's onslaught—and provide you with your special home-away-from-home for years to come.



THE OREGON COAST / PHOTO BY MIKE SEDAM

in brief



Monterey Dreamin'
WorldMark Marina Dunes in
Marina, California, had the
highest resort occupancy rate
for 2001 with 99.5%.

Favorite Spring Destinations

“My favorite spring destination is Angels Camp, California. The wildflowers in the Sierra foothills are especially abundant and colorful against the green hills of the Gold Country. California poppies and lupine are everywhere. The rivers and streams of the area are full again. Off in the distance you can see the snow-capped Sierras, which inspire some to head for the slopes. For me, it’s time to get out my sketch book.

“My husband, Austin, and I also love checking out the antique stores in the local Gold Rush Era towns. The people who own and operate these shops are experiences in themselves.” —Joanne Ashmore

“Our favorite destination has to be WorldMark Depoe Bay in Oregon. In spring? Oh yes. To perch atop rocky cliffs and watch the ocean boil, the surf crash, and sealife reel, jump, splash and soar is to find Utopia. Spring offers that wonderful feeling of the world’s rebirth. The grass is greener, blossoms and buds anoint otherwise drab winter limbs, and the real New Year is yours for the grasping.

“As West Coasters from Canada, we’ve lived through many rainy, blustery winters. And lots of places on the ‘wet’ coast provide the kind of exhilaration needed to reenergize in the spring. However, it’s hard to imagine many sites that could equal Depoe Bay’s

For an upcoming issue of *Destinations*, tell us:

What has been your most memorable golfing experience since joining WorldMark?

We must receive your response by March 20. If we publish your answer, you’ll receive a WorldMark logo item. Please e-mail leahc@trendwestresorts.com or write to: *Destinations/On Location*, Attn: Leah Clark, 9805 Willows Road, Redmond, WA 98052.

experience of being right on top of it all.” —Brian Coldwells

“Clear Lake is heaven on earth—especially in the spring. At night, just about every patio door is open with owners standing in awe of the midnight beauty. The sky is so deep and rich that it appears to be a soft blanket of velvet with pinholes of light shining through.

“During the day, I throw out my rod, take my seat, and then nature takes me in like a lost child and lulls me to sleep. I’m in love with Clear Lake and have WorldMark to thank for our introduction. I will go back again and again, because my heart, my sense of inner peace, and my love for nature are always renewed here.” —Audrey L. Dean

“Our favorite spring destination is new to WorldMark, but not new to us. It’s the Kenai Princess Lodge, on the banks of the impossibly teal green Kenai River in Alaska. The winding, 2-1/2-hour drive from Anchorage is alone worth the trip. Traveling along the Turnagain Arm on the Seward Highway, the scenery is breathtaking and always changing, even to old sourdoughs like us who have lived here for years. We never fail to see something beautiful: wildlife such as sheep, moose, eagles and Beluga whales.

“The lodge is tucked back into the woods. Springtime here is quiet. I’ve spent sunny afternoons sitting on our deck, hand quilting, listening to the ravens chortling their liquid noises. I’ve seen eagles soaring above and land in trees just outside our room. It is lovely and relaxing.” —Deb Hardman

Editor’s note: WorldMark has an exclusive exchange agreement with the Kenai Princess Lodge through the end of 2002.

Construction



Seaside

With our three Oregon coast properties in such high demand, we’re pleased to announce that our fourth is scheduled to open next summer. Construction is well underway: The parking garage is essentially complete, the concrete columns and slabs for the 283-unit resort tower are being poured on the sixth floor, and interior framing for the lower level has begun.



Solvang

We expect to break ground in Solvang this spring. The quaint Danish town in Southern California’s Santa Ynez Valley offers access to hiking, horse-back riding, excellent golfing and outstanding local wineries. The feasibility and development assessment for the resort is complete and the project is currently in the schematic design stage.

Ongoing Projects

| Destination | No. Units | Estimated Completion | Status |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Big Bear – Phase II | 50 | Summer 2002 | Framing/sheetrock |
| Las Vegas – Phase I | 210 | Summer 2002 | Framing/interior rough-in |
| South Lake Tahoe | 110 | Summer 2002 | Framing/sheetrock |
| Victoria | 92 | Spring 2003 | Excavation/foundations |
| Sonoma – Phase I | 150 | Summer 2003 | Bidding |

Information as of February 6, 2002.

VEGAS

dazzles

BY HOLLY SOUTH

For a long time, Vegas never held much appeal for me. Though I really enjoyed some of the movies set there: *Leaving Las Vegas*, *Casino*, *Honeymoon in Vegas* and *Swingers*, they never enticed me to visit. The city just looked too much like a smoky, seedy circus on a downward spiral from the days of Dean-o, Frank and the boys.

In recent years, however, Las Vegas has upped its glam factor with spruced-up architecture along the Strip, luxurious resorts, world-class cuisine, high-end shops and snazzy shows at the major hotels. It's no longer just a gambling destination. Maybe I'm the last person to figure this out, but there's much more to Las Vegas than high rollers and lowbrow entertainment. Yet the bright lights and campy self-indulgence that the city is famous for endure. Take pleasure in this amazing, bizarre town, and appreciate Vegas for what it is: a glitzy, eye-popping amusement park, a city like no other.

A Sphinx and Volcanoes and Pirates, Oh My!

Regardless of where you stay, you'll end up spending time at several hotels along the Strip. From the Luxor's giant Sphinx, to the Eiffel Tower and Arc de Triomphe at the Paris hotel, to the fire-belching volcano in front of The Mirage, Vegas hotels are not merely places to sleep; they're attractions in, and of, themselves. A dizzying (and potentially disorienting) array of sights and sounds will either reassure you that you are, indeed, in Vegas, or may cause you to wonder what planet you're on.

RIGHT: Details are everything at the Venetian.
OPPOSITE: A heart-pounding ride at Circus Circus.

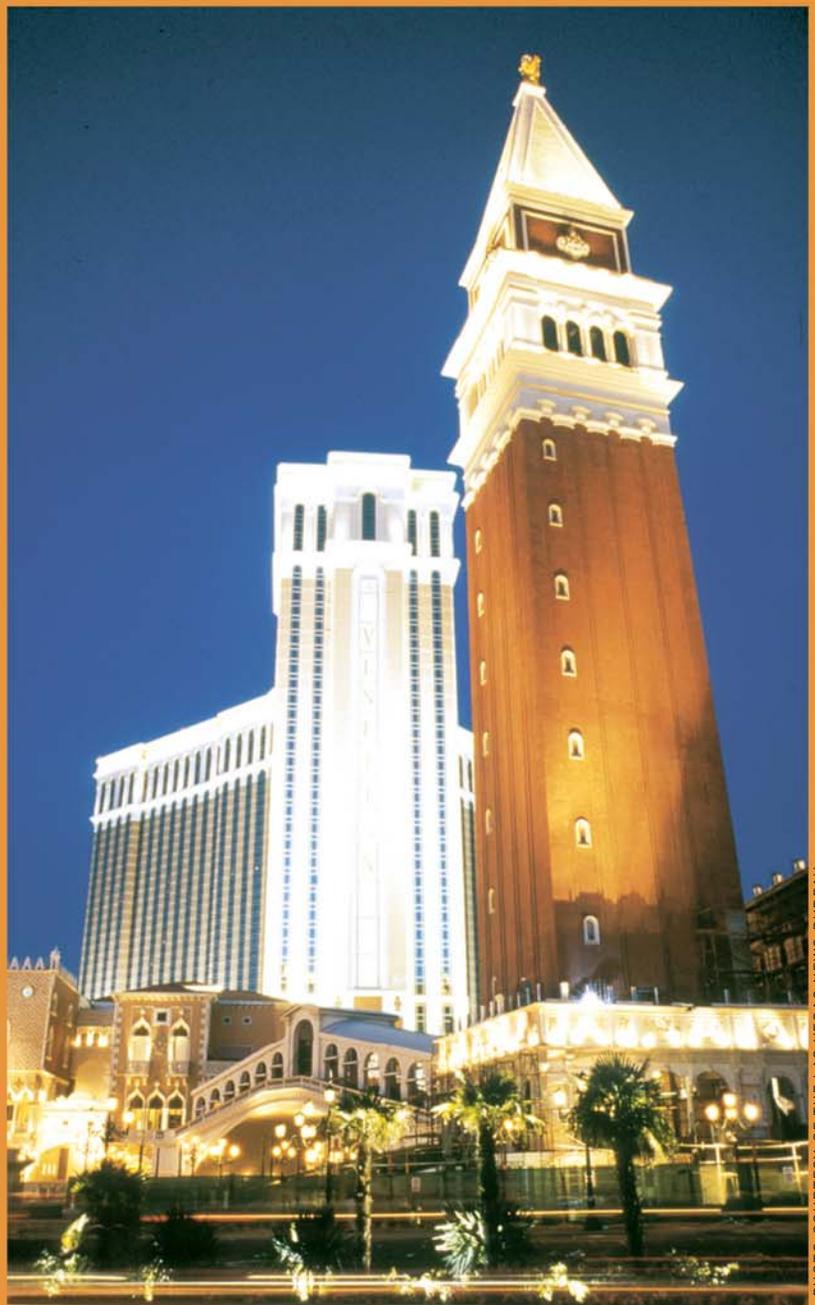


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

In addition to their fantastic décor, the hotels put on some impressive free displays. Two of the best are the extravagant pirate battle at Treasure Island (complete with cannon fire and a sinking ship) and Bellagio's dancing fountains, which are choreographed to a variety of musical selections, from Sinatra to Pavarotti. Both happen at intervals beginning each afternoon, but wait until dark to see the fountains when they're most magnificent. New York-New York is spectacular, too, with its "skyscraper" room towers and replicas of the Statue of Liberty, Brooklyn Bridge and Empire State Building.

Italians Do It in Style

Shopping has recently become an integral part of the Vegas experience, as the Strip endeavors to offer more inducements to the non-gambling tourists. Where else can you find Wayne Newton dolls, showgirl wigs and Prada bags within minutes of each other? The venues, however, are the superlative part of the experience. Two shopping destinations represent must-see attractions: the Grand Canal Shoppes at the Venetian and the Forum Shops at Caesars Place.

The Grand Canal Shoppes, ensconced in a Renaissance-era Venetian village beneath a painted blue sky and puffy clouds, is a striking setting. Nowhere else in Vegas (not yet, anyway) can you enjoy a gondola ride after shopping Banana Republic, Burberry, Kenneth Cole and Sephora. Just imagine gliding down the Grand Canal to the strains of "O Sole Mio," courtesy of your singing gondolier. The Venetian has gone all out in its attempt to create an authentic Old World experience. With its splendid friezes, arches and cherubs, it's an absolutely gorgeous hotel well worth a leisurely stroll.

At Caesars Palace, do as the Romans do and wander along the recreated ancient Roman street. Beneath a painted sky that changes from day to night in 20-minute cycles are fabulous fountains, singing statuary and a laser show. The shops themselves represent some of the biggest names in fashion: Gucci, Versace, Escada and Hugo Boss.

Where Art Thou?

If it's fine art you yearn for (assuming the singing statues at Caesars don't

cut it), Bellagio has many works displayed in its public areas, and its gallery has hosted several fine collections over the last year, including an Impressionist exhibit on loan from Washington, D.C.'s Phillips Collection. Also vying for art enthusiasts' dollars is the Venetian, whose two Guggenheim galleries feature very different exhibits. The Guggenheim Hermitage has Impressionist and Early Modern masterpieces by Cézanne, Matisse, Monet and Van Gogh, while the Guggenheim Las Vegas is currently showing the "Art of the Motorcycle." Designed by renowned architect Frank Gehry, it's a fun exhibit featuring more than 100 bikes from the last 140 years.

For a head-spinning contrast to the elegant Bellagio and Venetian hotels, make your way to the Liberace Museum, just east of the Strip. A shrine to the most flamboyant performer of all time, it has got the costumes, the candelabras, the pianos and the cars, all encrusted with rhinestones and assorted gems. The gift shop will no doubt provide you with your most treasured Las Vegas souvenirs.

Silver Spoon

All that walking and ogling is bound to whet your appetite. And if it's a fine meal you're after, you won't be disappointed. Among the dozens of dining options are restaurants offering exceptional cuisine, including two that have earned the prestigious Mobil Five Star Award: Renoir at The Mirage and Picasso at Bellagio. Both restaurants specialize in French cuisine and display works by their namesakes.

In a town famous for its brunches, the Sunday Gospel Brunch at the Mandalay Bay Resort's House of Blues takes the cake (or the eggs). Feast on the Southern-style buffet and tap your toes to rousing gospel performances. As for the rest of the week, nearly every hotel on the Strip offers good-value lunch



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

and dinner buffets and champagne brunches. (Avoid the lines by eating at off-peak mealtimes.)

That's Entertainment

When the lights go down in Vegas—the self-proclaimed Entertainment Capital of the World—that's when the city really comes alive. Plenty of opportunities abound to hear live music, and you don't have to leave the Strip to find samba, reggae, Top 40, funk and jazz. Good bets for the latter are Café Lago at Caesars Palace, where David Osborne, a superb pianist and entertainer (billed as "pianist to the presidents"), performs most nights; and the Rio's Voodoo Lounge, which offers fantastic views of the Strip and a classy jazz ensemble.

If you've never seen the Cirque du Soleil, you should; it's genuinely riveting and fun to watch. "O" and "Mystère" are playing at Bellagio and Treasure Island, respectively. (Tickets are hard to come by, though, so it's a good idea to plan ahead.) The fabulous showgirl revues are another must-see; these shows are the quintessential Vegas experience and, it seems, a dying tradition. Get your (high) kicks at the Tropicana Resort and Casino's Folies Bergère (Vegas' longest-running) or Bally's Jubilee—what *Las Vegas Life* calls "the best showgirlly show in town." All of these extravagant shows are packed with flash, feathers, sequins and glamour.

But the best entertainment Vegas has to offer isn't the swank nightclubs, the headliners, the comedians or Siegfried & Roy—it's an evening stroll along the Strip. The quality of the spectacles and people-watching really can't be beat.

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Los Cabos: A Mexican *Mosaic*

BY LEAH PARMAN CLARK



On the tip of the 806-mile-long Baja California Peninsula, the twin cities of Los Cabos deliver the yin and yang of Mexican beach vacationing. Traditional culture, contemplation and simplicity are balanced by modernity, action and luxury. Facets of rustic old Mexico blend with upscale hotels and world-class golf courses. You can ride horseback along a solitary beach, linger over a romantic meal, pose proudly for a photo with your catch of the day or dance the night away under starlit skies.

A Tale of Two Cities

Founded by 18th-century friars, unspoiled and historic San José del Cabo retains the charm of a provincial Mexican town. It is also home to your WorldMark resort. The city's pastel cottages, narrow tree-lined streets and town square with leafy paths, blossoming trees and wrought-iron benches are simply delightful.

From San José, 18 miles of stunning sandstone cliffs, sparkling bays, pristine coves and white-sand beaches lead you to lively Cabo San Lucas. This city's deep harbor makes it the natural epicenter of the region's water activities, though it's just as famous for its after-dark action. Places like Cabo Wabo Cantina, El Squid Roe and the Giggling Marlin (where the house drink is called "Strip and Go Naked") keep the boisterous nightlife going well into morning. Here, it is said to be spring break every day of the year.



TOP LEFT: Sun-splashed Mexican architecture. **MIDDLE:** A Mariachi band entertains café patrons. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Supreme fishing off the coast of Los Cabos (photo courtesy of Los Cabos Tourism Board). **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Challenging target golf at Cabo del Sol (photo courtesy of Cabo del Sol).



Gifts Galore

The boutiques in both towns offer a wonderful array of folk art, silver jewelry, wood and pewter home accessories, Talvera ceramics, colorful textiles and other Mexican *artesanía* (handcrafts). For the quality of their goods, Veryka in San José and Cartes in Cabo San Lucas are standout stores. At Cuca's Blanket Factory (also in Cabo San Lucas), you can watch wall hangings, rugs and blankets being woven on looms, and Cuca's will even create a custom blanket for you!

Other regional treasures to take home include carved animals from Oaxaca, masks from Guerrero, hand-painted dishes from Guanajuato and wood furniture from Michoacán. For fresh fish, produce and a sampling of local life, head to San José's outdoor Mercado Municipal. Additional unique shopping can be had at the nearby village of Todos Santos, which also beckons with impressively restored historic buildings and the renowned Café Santa Fe.



Creatures of the Deep

While golf has surpassed fishing as the area's most popular activity, plenty of anglers still head out to sea. The waters off Los Cabos teem with over 800 species of fish, and fishermen get more than 40,000 hookups a year. Blue marlin weigh in at 300 to 600 pounds; the magnificent striped marlin at less than 200 pounds. You can pair up with another angler and charter your own *panga* (a 22-foot skiff), or join a fishing charter. Keep in mind that many trips require a minimum of people, so make your reservations at least a day in advance.

Even if you don't fish, you still might find yourself out on a boat. That's because hundreds of whales migrate from the cold Arctic seas to the warm waters surrounding Los Cabos. Whale-watching is best from January to March. Sea kayaking is a particularly memorable way to get close to these majestic mammals.

Golfers' Nirvana

Los Cabos has become the undisputed golf capital of Mexico, thanks to a combination of gorgeous scenery, reliable weather and immaculate courses that truly test your game. Course fees are high (generally over \$200 USD per round), but serious players consider them to be worth it. While the golf master plan calls for a future of 207 total holes, currently in Los Cabos you'll find the following tantalizing public courses (three of them are designed by Jack Nicklaus):

Palmilla Golf Club, the original Cabo course, is now 27 holes. This 6,938-yard course winds through rugged terrain with frequent views of the Sea of Cortez. Cabo del Sol is touted as Mexico's answer to Pebble Beach. This 7,037-yard desert course draws toward the ocean for its finishing holes. The Cabo San Lucas Country Club, designed by different members of the Dye family, plays like two

continued on page 15

“
So much of who we are
is where we’ve been.”
—William Langewiesche



Discover Boston

Spend five days in Boston, Massachusetts, and the surrounding area. You'll quickly find that Beantown abounds with history and charm. From the narrow cobblestone streets and beautiful homes of Beacon Hill, to the master works in the world-renowned Museum of Fine Arts, to the chic shops and cafés along Newbury Street, Boston is a

cosmopolitan city that's the ideal size for exploring on foot.

October 10 – 15 47,000 credits for two (double occupancy)

Day 1: Arrive in Boston, a cradle of American history, yet a city with a decidedly European feel.

Day 2: Take a sightseeing tour. Highlights include the Old South Meeting House, the Public Gardens, the Old North Church, Beacon Hill, the U.S.S. Constitution and a walking tour through the historic North End.

Day 3: Poke around the city on your own or join a tour of Salem (tour not included in package), known for the infamous witchcraft trials of 1692. Visit the Salem Witch Museum and the House of the Seven Gables, New England's oldest mansion and the inspiration for Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1851 novel.

Westerly Winds of the Caribbean

You've worked hard all your life to get ahead. Now it's time to leave it behind ... at least for a while. On September 1, depart for seven sumptuous nights on Carnival's *Victory*. This cruise has three fabulous ports of call: tranquil Cozumel, which entices underwater enthusiasts with thousands of brilliantly-colored fish at Palancar Reef; Grand Cayman, famous for its crystal-clear waters and Seven Mile Beach; and Jamaica's Ocho Rios, with the refreshing 600-foot Dunn's River Falls.

September 1 – 8

Inside cabin:

21,350 credits for two

Outside cabin:

26,000 credits for two

Balcony cabin:

30,565 credits for two

Don't miss out! Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 to reserve your spot on the *Victory*.

Subject to change and availability. Cash 'n' Credits options available. \$129 USD exchange fee not included.

Day 4: Journey back to the 17th century with a visit to Plimoth Plantation, a living history museum and recreated Pilgrim village. Discover what life was like in 1627, seven years after the *Mayflower* landed in the New World.

Day 5: Begin the day with a high-speed catamaran cruise off the Massachusetts coast in search of humpback whales. In the evening, join your fellow travelers for a special farewell lobster dinner, New England-style!

Day 6: Depart for home with fond memories of one of the great U.S. cities.

The package includes round-trip airfare from Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake City, Denver or Phoenix; airport transfers; five nights' hotel accommodations; five breakfasts and three dinners. Register now at 1-800-457-0103.

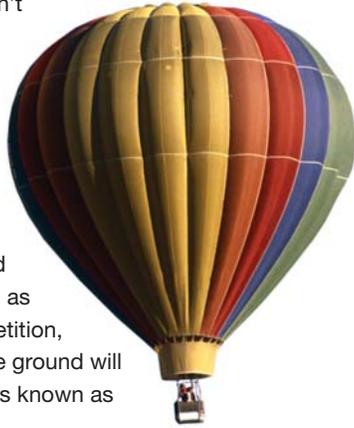
All tours subject to change and availability. Cash 'n' Credits options available. \$129 USD exchange fee not included.

Last-Minute Travel Deals

Trendwest Travel offers short-notice vacation packages and cruises at bargain prices. Don't go anywhere without first finding out what special deals are currently up for grabs. Log onto www.worldmarktheclub.com (click on "Trendwest Travel"), or call 1-800-953-5511. You will be happy you did!

Soaring Orbs, Lifted Spirits

It's a spectacle you won't want to miss: This fall, fifty brilliantly-colored hot air balloons will take to dawn skies above Laughlin, Nevada, filling the desert scenery with unexpected motion and majesty. In the evening, as part of this lively competition, balloons tethered to the ground will create stunning displays known as "night glows."



River Flight in Laughlin, Nevada October 25 - 27 2,225 credits per hotel room (four person occupancy)

Located in rugged mountains that gently slope to the cool banks of the Colorado River, Laughlin is 90 miles south of Las Vegas. From both Los Angeles and Phoenix, it's just a four-hour drive. Laughlin's near-perfect weather attracts five million annual visitors, who enjoy exciting casinos, water recreation, top-name entertainment and year-round golf during their stays.

This event includes two nights' accommodations at the Edgewater Hotel and Casino. Please call 1-800-457-0103 to make your reservation.

Subject to change and availability. Airfare not included. Contact Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511 to make your flight arrangements.

Bahamas-Bound Fantasy

Never been on a cruise? If your idea of fun includes delicious food, exciting activities, lavish entertainment, amazing service and memorable new places, hop aboard this four-night Carnival cruise to the Bahamas. You'll get to explore three different cities—Port Canaveral, Freeport and Nassau—but only have to unpack once. Indulge yourself and discover the joys of cruising!

September 1 - 5
Inside cabin: 12,000 credits for two
Outside cabin: 13,500 credits for two

To reserve your cabin, please call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103.

Subject to change and availability. Cash 'n' Credits options available. \$129 USD exchange fee not included.



PARIS, THE ORIGINAL CITY OF LIGHT

Footloose in London and Paris

Enjoy two vacations in one!

Give yourself the gift of a European vacation. This November, travel to London or Paris ... or both. Meet fellow WorldMark solos in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere, as you discover the history, art and architecture of two of the world's most celebrated cities. Your tour incorporates wonderful sightseeing with plenty of free time for independent exploration.

London is steeped in history and tradition. In addition to visiting many of the city's important monuments during your sightseeing tour, you'll have time to shop and go to the theater, if you wish (a theater ticket is included). During a half-day excursion, you'll also get to marvel at the majesty of Windsor Castle.

Paris is the heartbeat of modern fashion, art and cuisine. Art aficionados will be awestruck by the first-class museums. Other highlights of this trip include an orientation to Paris and a tour of the famous granite island of Mont-Saint-Michel.

Imagine ... Two Weeks in Europe

Option 1: London
18,275 credits for November 2 - 9

Option 2: Paris
19,250 credits for November 9 - 15

Option 3: London and Paris
31,250 credits for November 2 - 15

The package includes round-trip airfare from Los Angeles, San Francisco or Seattle (air options available from other U.S. gateways); hotel accommodations and tours listed above; daily continental breakfast; and, if traveling onto Paris, a one-way, second-class Eurostar ticket from London. Call 1-800-457-0103 to sign up today.

All tours subject to change and availability. Prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Cash 'n' Credits options available. \$129 USD exchange fee not included.

This Month Only!
Book airfare and cruises
using your WorldMark credits.

*Call Trendwest Travel
at 1-800-953-5511 by March 31.*

Australia's Underwater Splendor

Queensland's claim to fame may be the Great Barrier Reef, but the region also offers tropical rainforests, picturesque lagoons and fascinating history.

Find out for yourself when you join fellow WorldMark couples for six nights in Australia's tropical state. You'll spend four nights in Port Douglas, a superb base from which to experience the world's largest coral reef. Don mask and fins to take in the extraordinary spectacle. Or, if you prefer to leave the swimming to the 2,000 species of fish, enjoy the amazing views from a glass-bottom boat or semi-submersible.

Then head north to Cairns for two nights. Local attractions include the breathtaking and historic Kuranda Scenic Rail journey, and the Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park—a fine introduction to the rich, ancient culture of the first Australians.

Port Douglas and Cairns
May 12 - 20
44,150 credits per couple
(double occupancy)

This package includes round-trip airfare from Los Angeles. Space is limited, so call 1-800-457-0103 to register.

All tours subject to change and availability. Cash 'n' Credits options available. \$129 USD exchange fee not included.



New developments for shutterbugs

You've lugged the camera around, coerced friends and family into posing dozens of times, and attempted a few obligatory "arty"

shots of that sunset/waterfall/fill-in-the-blank. After all that effort, make sure you protect your film until it's developed. Here is some picture-perfect advice for traveling with film and preserving your vacation memories:

While most carry-on baggage scanners are safe for film (and are marked as such), many airports are implementing new, stronger scanning equipment for checked baggage that will damage unprocessed film.

- Carry film with you (don't leave it in checked baggage) and request hand inspection.
- You may be selected at random to have your carry-ons scanned as checked baggage; if so, be sure to remove film from your bags.

Better yet, avoid this problem altogether by taking advantage of one of the online photo development services. Many provide

postage-paid mailers so you can send rolls of film from your vacation spots—your pictures may even beat you home!

• Photoworks (www.photoworks.com), Snapfish (www.snapfish.com), Shutterfly (www.shutterfly.com), Ofoto (www.ofoto.com), and CVS (www.cvs.com) all offer film processing and online photo storage.

• When you post photos on a Web site, friends and family members can peruse through your images and directly order reprints or enlargements.

• Several sites provide tools to crop and remove red-eye from photos onscreen before ordering. All promise to deliver high-quality prints with a quick turnaround time.

• Good deals are easy to find. For instance, Photoworks offers free film with each order.

direct exchange easy escapes

- Alexandria, Virginia**
- Banff, Canada**
- Capistrano, California**
- Carlsbad, California**
- Fairmont, Canada**
- Mazatlan, Mexico**
- Newport, Oregon**
- Orlando, Florida**

For more information on these popular exchange destinations, call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103.

VEGAS *dazzles*

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Casinos Royale

An article about Sin City would hardly be complete without mentioning casinos. I'm not much of a gambler, though I do enjoy an occasional go at the slot machines. That said, there's a lot of excitement in entering these cavernous, maze-like worlds. And the surroundings—from the ostentatious décor to the scantily (albeit creatively) clad cocktail servers—make casino-hopping an entertaining way to spend an evening or two.

High rollers tend to flock to the most high-end of Strip casinos, such as those at Bellagio, the Venetian, Caesars Palace and The Mirage. While the Bellagio and Venetian casinos are lovely—with marble-cased slot machines and the like—the latter two are more fun. Chock-full of Roman statues and toga-clad waitresses, Caesars Palace is Vegas excess defined. The Mirage casino, decked out as a Polynesian village, isn't far behind. But if it's an authentic gambling atmosphere you're after, head to the downtown casinos for both that *and* better odds. (And, I have it on good authority, later is better: 4 a.m. is the magic hour downtown.)

Adventures Alfresco

With all that there is to do on the Strip, it's hard to believe you'd need to look elsewhere. But diversions do exist for those who want to escape the glitz blitz.

Soar above the Grand Canyon in an airplane or helicopter, or take the long way in a motor coach. Climb aboard a hot-air balloon (complete with champagne) for a different perspective of the Strip and surrounding desert, or join an exciting raft tour through scenic Black Canyon. You can also create your own adventure in nearby Red Rock Canyon: Work off those cocktails and buffet meals by

hiking, biking or riding to the canyon's sandstone peaks, where you're rewarded with gorgeous desert panoramas. At Hoover Dam, only 45 minutes away, tour the base and tunnels and stop off at the visitor's center for an in-depth look at what the American Society of Civil Engineers calls one of the seven engineering wonders of the world. Afterward, take advantage of the swimming and fishing at Lake Mead (a byproduct of the dam). And golfers need not go without—the Las Vegas area has some of the Southwest's finest courses. Take your pick from the Oasis Golf Club's Arnold Palmer-designed course (one of *Golf Magazine's* Top 10), the legendary course at the decidedly upscale Desert Inn Hotel and Country Club, and the many public courses that dot the area.

Take It Easy

Las Vegas is home to two WorldMark resorts. The newest WorldMark Las Vegas promises to be an excellent way to "do" Vegas. Just a short distance from the Strip's flashy, raucous pleasures (and offering regular shuttle service to and fro), it's nevertheless a world away. After getting your fill of merrymaking, you can peacefully unwind in a beautifully-landscaped, Mediterranean-flavored retreat. With a 140-foot pool, "lazy river," 12,000-square-foot recreation building and spacious, well-appointed units, the resort offers plenty of ways for you to relax.

We'll Always Have Vegas

You'll leave Las Vegas with a long list of things you've seen and done—and a desire to return for more. Come to think of it, it's about time for me to go back. It's been a fairly dreary winter, and the lure of the pleasant Vegas temperature and bright lights is awfully tempting ★



KAYAKING IN LOS CABOS

A Mexican Mosaic

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separate courses. It has the longest hole in Mexico: the 607-yard, par-five 7th hole around the lake. El Dorado Golf Course, a links-style course in the Scottish tradition, features seven holes that border the Sea of Cortez and 12 that are carved out of two canyons. The 6,945-yard Cabo Real Golf Club, designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., offers dramatic views of the desert and ocean from practically every one of its 36 holes.

Quintessential Cabo

What else is available in Los Cabos? You can explore a submerged shipwreck, and snorkel and scuba dive among hundreds of reef fish and giant manta rays. ATV tours will take you to Cabo Falso, an 1890 lighthouse, or La Candelaria, an ancient Indian pueblo. And your trip would not be complete without going on a sunset cruise (kayak recommended, but not essential) around the Arches formation. You'll see cavorting sea lions, Lover's Beach and the soaring granite arch that is El Arco. It's justly the area's most famous landmark, positioned at Land's End where the Pacific meets the Sea of Cortez.

But for at least one quintessential Cabo experience, you don't even have to leave your WorldMark resort. Just put on your bathing suit and head down to the spectacular swimming pool. Soon you'll be waist deep in warm water holding a cool margarita—*con* or *sin* alcohol—in hand. ☒



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