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- Get travel advice and tips.
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Destinations

A Magazine Exclusively for World Mark Owners

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Multiple Personalities

What is a WorldMark vacation to you? Is it a series of annual events that you count on for quality time with your family, allowing everyone to reconnect and remember what's important? Is it your personal conduit to great adventure and discovery? Is it your own private passage to quiet, contemplative places where you can de-stress and regroup? Thanks to the flexibility of the vacation credits system and the diversity of resorts and adventures offered, your WorldMark vacation can be anything you need or want it to be.

I was looking for relaxation, but got the excitement of an encounter with Hurricane Marty on a recent visit to WorldMark Coral Baja. But even with this unusual disruption, it was clear that our resort and the region of Los Cabos had boundless gifts to offer. San José del Cabo surrounds you with the peace, beauty and majesty of old Mexico; Cabo San Lucas presents a lively, Americanized town that sizzles with energy and amusements; the Sea of Cortez and surrounding terrain teem with options for adventure on land as well as on (and under) the sea. Join me on page 8 as I investigate these vastly varied environments, all easily accessed on one WorldMark getaway.

Whether you need peace and quiet, stimulation or just a change of scenery, your WorldMark vacation can provide it all. It's a multiple personality that needs no psychiatrist—it just needs you to decide who you want to be, where you want to go and what you want to experience each time around.

Bearla Jacholski Baker ...



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 Take advantage of a new offer from American Express™
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Even a hurricane can't quell the unique allure of this Mexico favorite

COVER: WorldMark Coral Baja, Mexico (Photo by Dan Stearns)



Golf Bonanza

at Palm Springs

by Sue Bromley, WorldMark Palm Springs Resort Manager



orldMark Palm Springs is partnering with Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort to present WorldMark owners with a great new program: "WorldMark's Golf Bonanza." Starting in December, this stunning golf course will be the scene of friendly competition every Thursday afternoon. Using set tee times arranged by Tahquitz Creek, WorldMark owners can vie for best score, closest to the pin, longest drive and other personal bests, and be rewarded with certificates and their favorite beverages in take-home souvenir glasses. What a perfect opportunity to meet and develop friendships with other owners!

Tahquitz Creek hosts some of the best golf in Palm Springs and is truly a

golfer's paradise, with challenging designs giving way to a magnificent view of the city and the Santa Jacinto Mountains. Its two championship courses are distinctly different: The Legend offers a traditional country club layout with tree-lined fairways; The Resort boasts a desert links layout with undulating greens, flowing waterscapes and striking mountains. "WorldMark's Golf Bonanza" will offer owners an exciting challenge, great fun and something special to talk about when they return home from their Palm Springs vacation. WorldMark Palm Springs is pleased to be able to offer this exclusive owner service as part of our ongoing effort to provide the best vacation experience possible.



Let It Snow, Let's Go

During the month of December, 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 and Limited Weekends

Angels Camp, CA
Big Bear, CA
Bison Ranch, AZ
Branson, MO
Clear Lake, CA
Galena, IL
Lake of the Ozarks, MO
Pinetop, AZ
Rancho Vistoso, AZ

Midweek Only

Birch Bay, WA Reno, NV Running Y, OR The Canadian, BC Wolf Creek, UT

Exotic

Denarau Island, Fiji

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.

COMMENT CARD DRAWING

We Have aWinner!

Deane Sheppard of Antioch, California, has won a three-night WorldMark stay through our monthly drawing. All she had to do was fill out and submit her comment card—Lady Luck did the rest!



Las Vegas New Year

by Angie Penick, WorldMark Las Vegas on Spencer Street Resort Manager

Last year over 250,000 people celebrated New Year's Eve on the Las Vegas Strip. If you plan to ring in 2004 in the Diamond City, keep this valuable transportation information in mind:

- Las Vegas Metro Police close down the Strip (aka Las Vegas Boulevard) from north of the Stratosphere to south of Mandalay Bay and a mile each way east and west. Except for emergency vehicles, all road traffic (including taxis and buses) is excluded from that area from 6 p.m. on Dec. 31 until 6 a.m. on Jan. 1.
- While parking is normally free at Strip casinos, many close their parking lots on New Year's Eve to anyone who is not a registered guest. If open, casino lots may charge from \$20 to \$40 per car for the night. And if you park at these lots before 6 p.m., you will not be able to leave with your car until

the following day at 6 a.m.

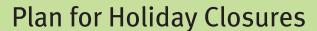
- Citizens Area Transit (CAT), the Las Vegas public bus system, will be free for 24 hours, from 6 p.m. on Dec. 31 until 6 p.m. on Jan. 1. The buses will get you as close to the Strip as possible.
- The WorldMark Las Vegas on Spencer Street resort shuttle will stop running at 6 p.m. on Dec. 31 and start running at 10 a.m. on Jan. 1.
- The WorldMark Las Vegas resort shuttle will run its regular hours—10 a.m. to 1 a.m.—but will drop off and pick up owners at the public bus stop on Sunset Avenue.
- Please be aware that if you fly into Las Vegas on Dec. 31 with an arrival time around or after 6 p.m. and are staying at a Strip location within the closed-off area, taxis and shuttles will not be able to take you all the way to your hotel.

This year when we sent out the Annual Owners' Meeting voting materials, we added a little incentive to encourage more owners to participate in the voting process. Every owner who sent in their vote by August 31 had their name put into a drawing to win a seven-night stay at the WorldMark

resort of their choice.

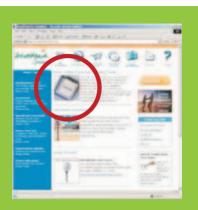
Vote Early

The lucky winners are Earl and Karen Breuker of Tucson, Arizona! Not only did they greatly contribute to their club by casting their vote, they also won seven days to vacation their way—the WorldMark way. It's your



All Vacation Planning Center services—including online reservations and cancellations—will be closed over Thanksgiving weekend, November 27-30. This is to facilitate the move of Reservations and Trendwest Travel to their new offices. There will be no telephone or online services available during this time. We apologize for any inconvenience.





Online Cancellations

Canceling your WorldMark reservation is now a simple click away. Trendwest's I.S. department delivered this cool new Web site feature in September, helping to reduce the growth rate in calls to the Vacation Planning Center.

To cancel a reservation, go to www.worldmarktheclub.com, sign in and click on the "view/cancel reservations" link

TOP: The clubhouse at the Landmark Golf Course. BOTTOM: Spectacular scenery even from a sand trap.

construction



Indio, CA Phase I

Land has been acquired for the 283
Phase I units that will grace the magnificent grounds of the Landmark Golf Course in Indio, California. The Landmark will host the PGA Skins Game November 24 - 30, 2003.
WorldMark's newest California resort is located just 20 miles east of Palm Springs. Acquisition is complete, design development documents are being assembled, and building construction is scheduled to begin in spring 2004.



Ongoing Projects

Destination	No. Units	Est. Completion	Status
Angels Camp II, CA	88	Summer 2003	Loading to operational In design Plans in review In design; permits submitted
Grand Lake, OK	63	Spring 2004	
Las Vegas, NV Phase II and III	192	Fall / Winter 2004	
Seattle, WA (Camlin Hotel)	100	Summer 2004	

Information as of September 30, 2003.



Earn thousands of Membership Rewards points fast! Simply use the American Express Card when you are ready to purchase an additional vacation ownership, from November 1 through December 31, 2003, and you'll earn double Membership Rewards points with an eligible, enrolled Card. Points can be redeemed

for hundreds of retail, entertainment and travel rewards from a variety of partners.

So, when you decide to buy, use the American Express Card, earn thousands of Membership Rewards points and enjoy a lifetime of great vacations!





To be eligible to earn bonus points, you must be enrolled in the Membership Rewards program at the time of purchase and you must charge your purchase on an eligible enrolled American Express Card between 11/1/03 and 12/31/03. Bonus points will be credited to your Membership Rewards account within 6-8 weeks after charges appear on your billing statement. The double Membership Rewards points offer is valid during November and December 2003. For more information about the Membership Rewards Program, visit www.americanexpress.com/rewards or call 1-800-AXP-EARN (297-3276). Bonus ID 4315.





The nath of least resistance

For the most relaxed vacation possible, the course of (in)action is simply to never leave the grounds of WorldMark Coral Baja. Seriously.

Our beautiful resort is located approximately 10 miles southeast of the San José airport and two miles south of the city of San José del Cabo. The two main five-story buildings facing the beach meet at a gentle angle and resemble inviting arms that embrace the public area: Two spas, barbecue areas, an onsite restaurant and the striking, enormous cross-shaped pool with its swim-up bar. An additional building is located across the parking lot in back and has no ocean view, but those owners staying there are compensated with spas for their personal aquatic joy.

Even for money, food shopping or souvenirs, there's no need to go into town. The front desk exchanges cash and traveler's checks for pesos, and there is an ATM on the grounds. The company store on site sells food staples, snacks and bottled water as well as postcards, magazines and souvenirs; Trader Dick's, just outside the WorldMark entrance,

has a slightly bigger selection including some fruits and vegetables (Trader Dick's is scheduled to move a little further south of the resort in November 2003); and a liquor store on site sells libations. Souvenir vendors arrive right outside the roped-off beach boundary daily and will happily bargain with you for silver and turquoise jewelry, shawls and serapes, T-shirts and woven bags.

Feeling the urge to move a bit? The resort activities director leads stretching classes and water aerobics every day but Thursdays and Sundays. A volleyball net resides on the beach and another can be found at one end of the pool for water polo; a putting green, tennis court and shuffleboard court grace the premises as well. For the gym enthusiast, an exercise facility is located inside the company store and offers treadmills, stationary bikes, free weights and a universal machine. And if you've always wanted to sit atop a galloping horse and feel the wind in your hair, horseback rides are available from the vendor who appears daily with several horses and two canine companions. Reward vourself after these activities with a visit to on-site Spa Arriba, which can pamper you with everything from a manicure to a deep-tissue massage.



Colorful souvenirs on the beach at Coral Baja.

When hunger strikes and you don't feel like messing up the kitchen, stroll a few yards to Mama Mia's Restaurant, which is open from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily and presents a Mexican Fiesta on Tuesday nights and a beach barbecue every Friday, both with great musical entertainment. Just outside the WorldMark entrance are two American buddies—Subway and Domino's Pizza for eat-in or take-out treats, along with the Sardina Cantina, which offers



breakfast, lunch and dinner in a cozy, sports-bar setting.

You can even learn a little something if you're so inclined: Scuba diving basics are taught at the resort Mondays and Fridays, Spanish language on Tuesdays and Fridays and bartending lessons are held every Saturday afternoon. Expand your horizons along with your waistline!



The road to wherever you want

If you're curious about the world beyond WorldMark Coral Baja, you'll want to rent a car and explore. San José del Cabo is your stop if you're longing for authentic Mexican atmosphere. The city is located just two miles north of our resort: A brief drive along Highway 1 aka the Corridor—the four-lane paved major arterial connecting San José del Cabo to Cabo San Lucas—detours to the hotel district along the Paseo San José. Turn left onto Boulevard Mijares to go straight into the heart of San José del Cabo.

This is the Mexico you imagined, brimming with low, pastel-colored buildings studded with beautiful ornamental tile work and topped with terracotta roofs. An open, landscaped mall with stone arches, a gazebo and



fountain dominates the city center. Directly across the street from this plaza is San José Church, which can trace its roots to a mission built by Spanish Jesuits in 1730. One block south of the plaza is the Palacio Municipal, which was, on our visit, still bedecked with green, white and red bunting from the September 15 celebration of Mexican Independence Day. Shops, restaurants and crafts booths line the charming streets and present many choices for shopping and dining. We opted for the open-air café in front of the popular Tropicana which combines an inn with a bar and grill.

If you crave the recognizable with just a slight Mexican tang, head 18 miles south from WorldMark Coral Baja along the Corridor into Cabo San Lucas, Once a rustic outpost centered around its active marina and catering to sport fishing, Cabo San Lucas now seems to burst with luxury hotels, timeshare resorts, popular bars and restaurants and a raucous party atmosphere. It is a mecca for students during spring break season, and the "Dude!" ambiance persists throughout the entire year. Here you'll find happy-hour hangouts such as El Squid Roe, The Giggling Marlin, Latitude 22+ and the Cabo Wabo Cantina, which is owned by Sammy Hagar, once of rock group Van Halen. If you crave a mall fix, the enormous Puerto Paraiso—accessible from the marina side or from Cárdenas, the major boulevard—presents local designers and eateries along with American familiars such as Ruth's Chris Steak House, Houlihan's, Johnny Rockets, Guess and Sanrio, makers of the "Hello Kitty" merchandise. For a more native retail experience, stroll along the promenade edging the marina to meet with countless vendors of beads, silver jewelry, bags and shawls; then seize the opportunity to have your picture taken with a fourfoot iguana sitting on your head.

Know Before You Go

TRAVEL: Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511 is your best source for lowest rates on airfare, car rentals and transportation to and from the airport in Cabo.

DOCUMENTS: A passport is preferable for identification purposes; otherwise you'll need two forms of photo ID. An American Tourist Permit will be issued on your flight to Mexico—keep this with you at all times.

CAR RENTAL: You are required by law to buy Mexican auto insurance when you pick up your rental. Keep in mind that speed limits and lane divisions are very loosely adhered to, and driving at night is not recommended.

WATER: The water at WorldMark Coral Baja is purified, but has a high degree of sodium in it. If you have high blood pressure, bottled water is advised.

For an outing into the country, head north from Cabo San Lucas to Mex.19 for the 47-mile drive to Todos Santos. Fields of cactus and shrubby pines as well as ranches hosting grazing cows and horses line the two-lane road that yields to a magnificent view of the Pacific Ocean on your left. The baked coastal landscape slowly evolves into a greener setting of palms, avocado and mango, and you know you've arrived at Todos Santos, an artists' colony formed by Cabo San Lucas expatriates who had tired of the commercialization of that city. You can browse for hours in the galleries, studios, shops and cafes, and lose yourself in El Tecolote Libros, a tiny but exceptional bookstore. Culinary arts are also well represented; Café Santa Fe has a three-star reputation, but as children of rock n' roll, Steven and I headed for the Hotel California, immortalized by the Eagles in one of their signature songs. The intriguing décor of the hotel and restaurant includes wood salvaged from a shipwrecked Norwegian vessel, and tropical plants, wrought iron and vibrant tile work lend an air of exotic mystery. We lingered in the courtyard and savored an excellent lamb and three-cheese quesadilla while observing a woman channeling Frida Kahlo in dress and hairstyle go through several personality changes while talking to the staff—a truly bohemian moment.





Weather or not

Although Hurricane Marty left a calling card of challenging road conditions and unpredictable electrical service, Steven and I were still able to sample the unique and varied charms of Los Cabos. The best were the simplest: The brilliance of the stars at night once the skies cleared, the multitudes of yellow butterflies dancing along the post-storm wind currents, and the sight of smiling WorldMark owners blissed-out in the spas, eyes closed, plastic margarita cup in hand. After all, vacation is really a state of mind.

THIS PAGE: Inviting tropical decor in a WorldMark living room. Along the Boulevard Mijares in San José del Cabo.

OPPOSITE: The arch in Cabo San Lucas.



The Action Option

If you go on vacation to stay on the go, Los Cabos provides a variety of outlets for your energy. The experts at **WorldMark Coral Baja's Information Center** can best advise you on local tours and rentals – just dial 720 from the comfort of your

In the meanwhile, preview Baja activities at these Web sites:

Golf has surpassed fishing as the area's primary leisure activity, and several courses beckon within comfortable distance of WorldMark Coral Baja.

--- www.golfvisitloscabos.org

Sport fishing is still very prominent; at the Cabo San Lucas marina you can charter a boat with all necessary gear to reel in a blue marlin trophy.

---> www.fishcabo.com

Whale watching is spectacular here; peak season is January to March.

---> www.caboexpeditions.com

Sea-kayaks and boats take you to the famous Arches rock formation and Lovers Beach, that strip of golden sand where the Sea of Cortez "kisses" the Pacific Ocean

---> www.adventuretrip.com/baja_main.htm

Scuba divers have some nice local sites, and the best diving can be found at Cabo Pulmo—the only coral reef on the western side of North America, and the seamount at Gordo Banks. Both are about a two-hour drive from Cabo.

---> www.mexonline.com/landsend.htm

ATVs and scooters provide sandy, bumpy fun in several scenic areas.

---> www.ranchotours.com

Kite surfing and paragliding present vistas of Baja to share with the pelicans, frigate birds and cormorants.

--- www.bajaexplorer-mx.com

Book Baja now! Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 or book online at www.worldmarktheclub.com.



🦰 o what happens when a hurricane—or other act of nature—decides to become part of your vacation itinerary? Although rare, tropical storms do occur at our exotic locations in Los Cabos, Hawaii and Fiji. Here's what to expect and what you can plan for.

Resort reservations

- If you cannot get to your resort destination because an airport is closed, you will not be charged any credits for the nights you are not occupying your unit.
- If you cannot leave your resort destination because an airport is closed, you will not be charged any credits for the additional nights you must stay in your unit.
- Keep in mind that as soon as the airport re-opens, new owners will be coming in expecting their units to be ready, so you should make arrangements to leave as soon as the airport and your airline are operational.

Travel

• Trendwest Travel must adhere to whatever policy each individual airline adopts to address a specific weather event. Most airlines do not waive change fees until the event has occurred, even if it is anticipated. After the event, airlines typically will allow rescheduling of flights within a specified

- timeframe with no fees. Trendwest Travel can assist you with rescheduling your flights before your travel has commenced.
- If you are unable to leave your destination because the airport is

closed, contact the local airline office. Trendwest Travel cannot rebook your flight for you at this point, so ask your resort staff for assistance in contacting the airlines locally.



Los Cabos amenities

- Restaurants and shops in both San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas open or close after a hurricane depending on whether or not they have a generator or can function without power. Smaller stores tend to be open, particularly those with non-perishable inventory.
- Don't expect to use your credit card while the power is out. After a hurricane, even if a store has a generator, many merchants seize the opportunity to operate on a cash-only basis.
- Most banks remain closed and ATMs are not operational for a few days after a hurricane, so keep an eye on your cash reserves.
- Street vendors offer deep discounts to make up for less foot traffic in their territories during the bad weather:

 After Marty, silver bracelets that were \$1 USD apiece the day before dropped to two for a dollar.

The best thing to do when the weather goes bad and the power goes off is to let go of your pre-conceived notions as best you can and try to find the good in the unexpected. The noise and distraction of televisions, VCRs and radios are gone; the pressure is off to look good, take stunning vacation pictures or cook; all you can do is ride it out and enjoy yourself. The morning after Hurricane Marty, one owner told me that he had gone outside during the height of the storm and sat in the spa, just so he could experience the elements first-hand. "It was the coolest thing I've ever done!" he happily exclaimed. In terms of personal safety, I can't commend his behavior, but I give him credit for finding his own silver lining in the clouds.

OPPOSITE: Post-Marty mud in Cabo San Lucas.

THIS PAGE (Top to bottom): All's well at WorldMark in a comfortable penthouse; swim up libations at the pool; tan while you play tennis; Mama Mia can serve you, rain or shine.











2004 Hawaii Car Rental Rates Now Available



Trendwest Travel and Budget Rent a Car have teamed up to bring you great Hawaii car rental rates in 2004. Budget Rent a Car has extended their 2003 rates for 2004, so now you can save more than ever before!

SAMPLE WEEKLY RATES:

Economy \$148 USD
Compact \$155 USD
Intermediate \$180 USD

Call Trendwest Travel today at 1-800-953-5511 and hit the road in Hawaii for less!

Sample rates are based on low season, valid January 1 - February 6, March 31 - June 30 and August 24 - December 18, 2004. Rates higher during other times. Rates do not include taxes and other fees. Rates and rental policies are subject to change without notice, are based on availability and are subject to blackouts. CSR 2067820-50

direct exchange

Winter Wandering

Capistrano, California
Carlsbad, California
Dana Point, California
Fairmont, British Columbia
Grand Cayman Island, Caribbean
Kihei, Maui, Hawaii
Mazatlan, Mexico
Newport, Oregon
Oahu, Hawaii
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
San Francisco, California
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Scottsdale, Arizona
Sedona, Arizona
Sunriver, Oregon

Exchange fee of \$129 USD applies. One-bedroom unit = 9,000 vacation credits; two-bedroom unit = 10,000 vacation credits. For more information on these popular exchange destinations, call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103. CSR 2067820-50

STILL HOT

Australian Adventure for Cash May 3 - 11, 2004

From Los Angeles: \$1,632 per person From San Francisco: \$1,757 per person From Seattle: \$1,902 per person

Includes round-trip airfare from Los Angeles, San Francisco or Seattle; flight from Gold Coast airport to Sydney; airport transfers and taxes; hotel accommodations; Australia Zoo visit and tour of Sydney; daily continental breakfast. Fiji and New Zealand stopovers available for additional charge.

Call 1-800-457-0103 today!

All events subject to change and availability. CSR 2067820-50



Australia/New Zealand Cruise

It's never too early to plan an outrageously wonderful Valentine's Day for 2005! Book this voyage-of-a-lifetime on Princess Cruise Line's *Sapphire Princess* and thrill to the exotic wonders of Australia and New Zealand.

February 11 - 23, 2005

The Sapphire Princess sails from Sydney, Australia, for Melbourne, Australia; Tasmania (Hobart), Australia; Dunedin (Port Chalmers), New Zealand; Christchurch (Lyttelton), New Zealand; Wellington, New Zealand; Auckland, New Zealand; also, scenic cruising in Fiordland National Park.

Inside cabin: 18,000 credits plus

\$2,570 for two

Outside cabin: 18,000 credits plus

\$3,225 for two

Balcony cabin: 18,000 credits plus

\$3,575 for two

Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 today to reserve this spectacular voyage!

Subject to change and availability. All prices include \$129 USD exchange fee and \$275 USD per-person port fee. All rates based on double occupancy. Airfare not included. CSR 2067820-50

Giddy Up Pardners

at the Lazy K Guest Ranch

May 8 - 11, 2004

See the West as the cowboys did as you live the simpler life at the historic Lazy K Bar Guest Ranch in Tucson, Arizona.

Packages include three nights' accommodation, all meals, daily horseback ride, ranch activities, evening entertainment, use of game room, shuffleboard, tennis courts, pool and spa.

Standard Room Package (based on double occupancy, maximum of two in room): 14,200 credits for two

Larger Room Package (based on double occupancy, up to four in room): 16,200 credits for two

Additional Person, age 6 and up (added to Larger Room package, up to four in room): 4,225 credits per person

Child, age 3 - 5 2,715 credits per child

Children must be 6 years of age to participate in ranch activities and horseback rides. Rooms are not equipped with telephones or televisions. Phone and fax services are available at the ranch office. Airfare and \$69 USD exchange fee not included. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50

Alaska Cruises

Celebrity Cruise Line's Seven-night Alaska Hubbard Glacier Cruises

June 18 and August 27, 2004

The *Mercury* sails from Seattle, Washington, for Juneau, Skagway, Hubbard Glacier, Ketchikan and Prince Rupert.

Inside cabin: From 35,000 credits for two Outside cabin: From 43,000 credits for two Balcony cabin: From 59,000 credits for two

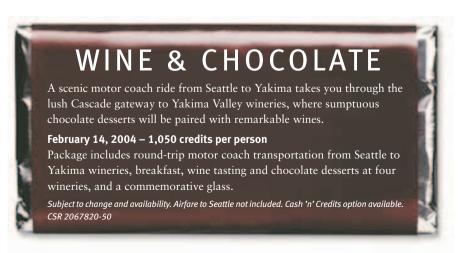
May 12 and September 15, 2004 Carnival Cruise Line's Seven-night Glacier Bay Alaska Cruises

The *Carnival Spirit* sails from Vancouver, British Columbia, along the Inside Passage and Glacier Bay for Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan.

Inside cabin: From 30,000 credits for two
Outside cabin: 42,000 credits for two
(available for May 12 sailing only)
Balcony cabin w/obstructed view: From
44,000 credits for two
Balcony cabin: From 46,000 credits for two

Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 today!

Subject to change and availability. All rates are in U.S. dollars and are based on double occupancy. \$129 USD exchange fee, port fees and all taxes are included. Airfare not included. CSR 2067820-50



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For over 27 years, Interval International has been committed to quality – both in the resorts we affiliate to our Quality Vacation Exchange Network and in the services we provide to our members.

Thousands of Interval members come back year after year, entrusting us with some of life's most memorable moments — vacations spent with family and friends.

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