

WorldMark
BY Trendwest

Destinations

A Magazine Exclusively for WorldMark Owners

October 2008

The Scenic Route

WorldMark's Arizona Resorts
Provide Year-Round Fun

RCI[®] Community



Win Half-a-Million Miles
from Continental OnePass[®] or
Delta SkyMiles.^{®*} Register now
at [RCIcommunity.com!](http://RCIcommunity.com)

Check out the RCI Community!

Come see why other vacation owners love RCIcommunity.com.

Visit the RCI Community for travel inspiration and information – **FREE** – from fellow timeshare owners. This is where to go to swap stories, discover destinations, and dream about fabulous trips still to come. You can:

- Read travel journals and timeshare reviews.
- See photos from around the world.
- Get travel advice and tips.
- Write travel journals of your own to earn Community Credits for travel gear, dream vacations, and more.
- Register for a chance to win 500,000 frequent-flier miles!

Register for **FREE** at RCIcommunity.com for automatic entry into the sweepstakes. Plus, you can earn up to four extra entries, one for each time you write a travel journal. Already registered at RCIcommunity.com? Great – you can still enter for a chance to win!

Visit RCIcommunity.com today!

*Usage of airline miles will be governed by all terms and conditions of the applicable airline loyalty program. No purchase necessary to enter sweepstakes. For complete rules or to enter beginning 9/1/03 – 12/31/03, go to www.RCI.com and register. To receive additional entries, follow prompts and write a journal, or mail your name, complete address, and Member ID# to: RCI Community Half-a-Million-Miles Sweepstakes, 530 Broadway, NY, NY 10012, 11th Floor. Limit four additional entries per entrant/e-mail address, either by journal or mail. Open to legal U.S. and Canadian residents, 21 years of age or older at time of entry, who are current RCI Members. Void in Québec, Puerto Rico, and wherever prohibited. Sponsor: RCI, 7 Sylvan Way, Parsippany, NJ 07054. If you no longer wish to receive sweepstakes opportunities, write to Sponsor.

Destinations

A Magazine Exclusively for WorldMark Owners

VICE PRESIDENT OF RESORT OPERATIONS

Dave Herrick

PUBLISHER

Wendy Noritake

ACTING EDITOR

Beáta Jachulski Baker

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Keith Walsh

DESIGNERS

Jill House, Destiny Boegelsack

COMMENTS ARE APPRECIATED

Destinations Editor
9805 Willows Road, Redmond, WA 98052
(425) 498-2500

CONTRIBUTORS:

Sylvia Betancourt, Sam Buckingham,
Emma Croston, Patty Daly, Heather Hart,
Leslie Hibbard, Lidija Kolukcija, George Lenes,
Jeannie McGregor, Vaden Savage, Tom Smith, Julie
Stevens, Donna Wilson

RESERVATIONS DEPARTMENT

1-800-457-0103
Mon. – Fri., 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. PT
Sat. & Sun., 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. PT
(Closed Tues., 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. PT)

OWNER SERVICES

1-888-648-7363
ownersupport@worldmarktheclub.com
Mon. – Fri., 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. PT
(Closed Tues., 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. PT)

TRENDWEST TRAVEL

1-800-953-5511
Mon. – Fri., 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. PT
Sat., 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. PT
(Closed Wed., 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. PT)

INTERVAL INTERNATIONAL

Service line: 1-877-678-4400
Flexchange recording: 1-800-722-1747

RESORT CONDOMINIUMS INTERNATIONAL

1-800-585-4833

Visit *Destinations* on the Web at
www.worldmarktheclub.com/destinations

© 2003, WorldMark, The Club. All rights reserved. Vol. XIII, No. 10, October 2003. *Destinations* is published monthly by WorldMark, 11601 Willows Road, Building A, 2nd Floor, Redmond, WA 98052. *Destinations* is an official WorldMark publication. Subscriptions are covered by dues paid by owners of WorldMark. Non-owner subscription price of \$12 per year, including state sales tax. Application to Mail at Periodicals Postage Rates is Pending at Seattle, WA. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *Destinations*, 9805 Willows Road, Redmond, WA 98052.

Off Season and Right on the WorldMark

It's autumn: Kids are back in school, places of business are in full swing and the highways are a little emptier after the summer crush. What a perfect time to take advantage of the road less traveled and the site less populated!

Your WorldMark ownership is ideally suited for just this sort of off-season adventuring. Because of the flexibility of your vacation credits, you can plan an autumn jaunt, stay in a variety of WorldMark resorts and get the most out of this quieter vacation period.

Car trips are particularly enjoyable at this time of year, and **Keith Walsh** helps you get into the road trip frame of mind with this month's feature story. Join Keith as he takes you on a grand tour, traveling throughout **Arizona** and visiting our three unique properties in that state. See page 8 to hit the southwestern road along with him.

Non-traditional vacation times can be some of the best: Wide open spaces feel bigger, colors appear more vivid and even food tastes better when you can relax and enjoy yourself in an unhurried and quieter atmosphere. How nice that with your WorldMark ownership you can choose to be smack in the middle of high season liveliness, all alone out on the lonesome prairie or anywhere in between.

Beste Jachowski Baker

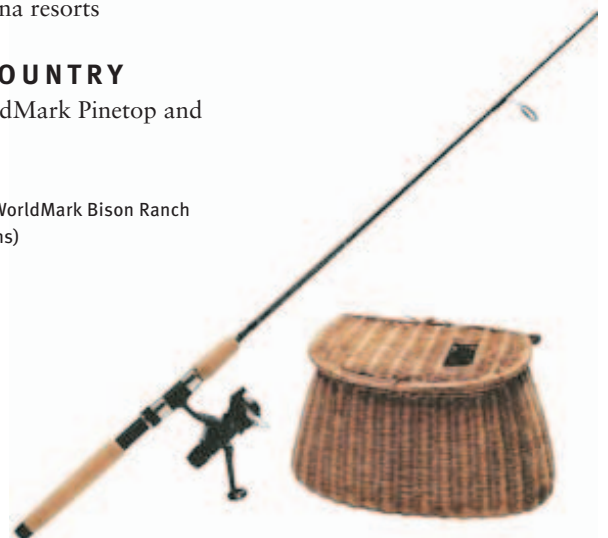
THEODORE ROOSEVELT LAKE IN ARIZONA (PHOTO BY KEITH WALSH)



CONTENTS

- 6 WORLDMARK BALLARAT AND WORLDMARK POKOLBIN HILL**
Meet our two newest South Pacific gems
- 8 A JOURNEY THROUGH WORLDMARK ARIZONA**
Travel with Keith Walsh to our three distinctive Arizona resorts
- 10 THE RIM COUNTRY**
Summer at WorldMark Pinetop and Bison Ranch

COVER: Poolside at WorldMark Bison Ranch
(Photo by Dan Stearns)



Last Splash



Seasonal Pool Closings

Some of your club's outdoor pools at resorts situated in colder climates will be closed from November through March. These closures—a result of minimal use by owners during the inclement weather season—help conserve energy and reduce operating costs.

Outdoor pools will close for the season at Bass Lake, Big Bear, Birch Bay, Bison Ranch, Branson, Lake of the Ozarks, Mariner Village, Park Village, Pinetop, Reno, Steamboat Springs (indoor pool remains open), South Shore, Tahoe and Wolf Creek.



Final Reminder Annual Owners' Meeting

One last reminder that this year's Annual Owners' Meeting will be held on October 16, 2003, at the Doubletree Hotel Bellevue in Bellevue, Washington. Registration begins at 6 p.m. and the meeting will start promptly at 7 p.m.

The Doubletree Hotel Bellevue is located at: 300 112th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98004 425-455-1300 - Main Number

We look forward to seeing you there!

Can't attend the Annual Owners' Meeting in person? A transcript of the meeting will be posted on the WorldMark Web site—www.worldmarktheclub.com—on December 8, 2003.

Plan for Holiday Closures

In honor of the Thanksgiving holiday next month, WorldMark Reservations, Owner Services, Adventures In Exchange and Trendwest Travel will be on the following schedule:

	THURS NOV 27	FRI NOV 28	SAT NOV 29	SUN NOV 30
Reservations	Closed	6am—2pm	6am—5pm	6am—5pm
Owner Services	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Adventures In Exchange	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
Trendwest Travel	Closed	Closed	8am—2pm	Closed

COMMENT CARD DRAWING

We Have a Winner!

Luck has smiled on **Alan** and **Diane LaVeille** of Bellingham, Washington. They won a three-night WorldMark stay when we selected their completed resort comment card during our monthly drawing. Fill out that card and try *your* luck!



INVENTORY SPECIALS (TOP TO BOTTOM): WORLDMARK LAKE OF THE OZARKS, MO, AND WORLDMARK ARROW POINT, ID.
(PHOTOS BY DAN STEARNS)

inventory specials

Have a November to Remember

During the month of November 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

Bison Ranch, AZ
Denarau Island, Fiji
Lake of the Ozarks, MO
McCall, ID
Pinetop, AZ
Wolf Creek, UT

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.

Midweek Only

Angels Camp, CA
Arrow Point, ID
Bass Lake, CA
Bear Lake, UT
Big Bear, CA
Birch Bay, WA
Branson, MO
Cascade Lodge, British Columbia
Rancho Vistoso, AZ
Sundance, British Columbia
Victoria, British Columbia



Swing Through Club Classic's final month

The 2003 Club Classic golf tournament winds up at the end of the month, but there's still time to make one last run at WorldMark golfing fame. Open to owners of all abilities, the tournament offers great prizes including resort stays, golf accessories and the coveted Club Classic green blazer. The entry fee is just \$10 USD, and the board of governors will accept your scores through October 31, 2003.

For more information, inquire at the resorts, call Owner Services at 1-888-648-7363 or log on to the WorldMark Web site at www.worldmarktheclub.com.



WorldMark Operations on the Move

WorldMark operations will be moving to a different building during this fall. There may be a short suspension of services in Reservations, Owner Services, Adventures In Exchange and Trendwest Travel. Up-to-date information regarding the move and service schedules will be posted on the WorldMark Web site at www.worldmarktheclub.com.

Australian Expansion



WorldMark Ballarat and WorldMark Pokolbin Hill

Your resort choices at WorldMark South Pacific just got bigger and even more exciting. **WorldMark Ballarat** in Victoria and **WorldMark Pokolbin Hill** in New South Wales have joined our resort family Down Under.

WorldMark Ballarat is situated in historic Blythwood Grange, a National Heritage Site. While the outside of the mansion cannot be altered, the interior has been refurbished to contain one-, two- and three-bedroom units that boast the WorldMark touch. Ten units in Phase I are now ready to accept guests; an additional 20 units are envisioned for the near future. The resort estate consists of 44 acres of landscaped grounds with orchards, extensive gardens, a five-acre lake and an antique chapel. Amenities include a restaurant, enclosed pool with changing facilities, spa, sauna, volleyball courts, gym and exercise area, game



WORLDMARK BALLARAT ©TOURISM VICTORIA-AUSTRALIA

room with pool table and barbecue facilities. The city of Ballarat was once a gold-mining town and contains many historic attractions.

WorldMark Pokolbin Hill currently offers 10 two-bedroom condos in the Hunter Valley area of New South Wales, with more units planned for the future. Nestled in Australia's oldest winemaking region, this new resort offers a pool, spa, barbecue area, tennis court, nature trails and an on-site restaurant. Besides touring the local vineyards and wine cellars of this rural district, owners can

enjoy a 100-seat sight-and-sound water theatre, an aqua-golf driving range and nine-hole putt-putt course, pubs, restaurants, galleries, shops and a budding olive oil industry that is coming into its own.



BALLARAT LAKE ©TOURISM VICTORIA-AUSTRALIA

SPECIAL OFFER
for Interval International Members Only

This Month's Featured
Getaways

One-Week Accommodations
From **\$299**

Orlando, Florida
2 bedrooms

Atlantic City, New Jersey
1 bedroom

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
Studio

Use of the Getaway program is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Individual Memberships and Exchanges set forth in the current Interval International Resort Directory. Getaways are subject to availability. Holidays and highly demanded weeks are generally not available or may be priced differently. You do not relinquish the timeshare period that you own. Getaway confirmations are final and non-refundable. Getaways are subject to local laws where applicable. Travel must be completed by December 31, 2015.

**INTERVAL
INTERNATIONAL**
The Quality Vacation Exchange Network™

888-353-3021
Outside N. America +305-666-1834, ext. 7759

Still Hot

**FOOTLOOSE IN WHISTLER
BLACKCOMB**
January 23 - 26, 2004

Ski/Snowboard Package
9,575 credits per person

Dogsled/Snowmobile Package
11,905 credits per person

LONDON EXCURSION
March 27 – April 3, 2004
24,000 credits for two people



Call 1-800-457-0103 and book your adventure today!

All events subject to change and availability. Cash 'n' Credits option available. For details on these events, see page 15 of the September issue of Destinations, or go to the WorldMark Web site at www.worldmarktheclub.com. CSR 2067820-50

The *Cash 'n'* Credits Option

On Adventure Club cruises, tour packages or special events where the “Cash 'n' Credits” option is mentioned in the fine print, you can pay using all cash, all credits or any combination of both. All you have to do is tell your vacation planning counselor how many credits you want to use and they will calculate the remaining cash value.

Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 today and ask about the Cash 'n' Credits option on any of the great Adventure Club offers.

On select Adventure Club special promotions that stipulate “Credits Plus Cash” there is a minimum cash amount required to book.

construction zone



PHOTO BY DAN STEARNS

WorldMark Windsor, Phase I

The 150 units of the Phase I development of WorldMark Windsor will begin accommodating WorldMark owners throughout the month of October. Nestled in the lush beauty of Sonoma County, our newest California resort offers classic WorldMark comfort combined with small town charm. Sample unique vintages at family-owned wineries, explore the lively shops and restaurants of the newly constructed Old Downtown and enjoy seasonal events on the Town Green.

Ongoing Projects

Destination	No. Units	Est. Completion	Status
Angels Camp II, CA	88	Summer 2003	Loading to operational
Discovery Bay, WA (restoration)	52	Summer 2003	Remodeling complete
Galena, IL	55	Autumn 2003	Open
Las Vegas, NV Phase II and III	192	Fall / Winter 2004	Plans in review
Seattle, WA (Camlin Hotel)	100	Summer 2004	Contractors chosen; in design

Information as of August 29, 2003.

A Journey Through WorldMark Arizona



RANCHO VISTOSO, PINETOP AND BISON RANCH

by Keith Walsh

At the car rental counter in the Tucson airport, I make an impulsive choice—a red Mustang convertible. How many opportunities in life does one get to take a road trip in the perfect road trip car? Growing up, I had loved *Arizona Highways* magazine, pouring over its pages and dreaming of the desert air, sunsets over rugged mountains, soaring ridges and deep canyons. Here was my chance to drive those highways and see my childhood daydreams come to life.

My adventure begins as I leave the Tucson airport (with the top down, of course). Before my trip is over, this little roadster and I will have covered more than 900 miles, experiencing both the desert landscape that defines WorldMark Rancho Vistoso and the crisp mountain air of WorldMark Pinetop and Bison Ranch.

Driving time to WorldMark Rancho Vistoso is about 30 minutes. The resort

is just north of the city in the town of Oro Valley, about 2,600 feet up in the Santa Catalina Mountain foothills. It tends to be cooler here than in Tucson, and Tucson tends to be cooler still than its neighbor Phoenix. Summer highs generally remain below 100°, with frequent afternoon showers (the July and August monsoon season); nighttime temperatures are moderately warm. Wintertime visitors can expect cooler days and chilly nights; temperatures dip into the 30s in January. Fall and spring are nearly perfect.

Incorporated only as recently as 1974, Oro Valley is one of the fastest growing areas in Arizona. Evidence of its expansion is on view along Tangerine Road, which is the route I take from I-10 to the resort, and inside the Rancho Vistoso development, which includes many high-end homes and golf courses. It's no wonder the area is booming. The view from this area—the pinnacles of the Pusch Ridge and the rolling desert



WORLDMARK RANCHO VISTOSO

scenery—is stunning.

The resort itself pays homage to both the Spanish and Native American heritage of its surroundings. The units carry this desert feel inside, with cool sand-colored tile, paddle fans and Southwest patterns. The back of the pool deck overlooks a rugged slope of desert, and in front is the resort clubhouse with everything you've come to expect: pool tables and Ping-Pong, video arcade games, exercise equipment, comfy sofas for lounging and tables for playing games. The clubhouse is the setting for Monday morning's activity orientation, where Renae Turco, the resort's activities coordinator, helps you set your vacation itinerary. She recommends **Kartchner Caverns State Park**, which was revealed in 1988—80 of its 550 acres have been developed for tourist viewing (be sure to call ahead for reservations); the **Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum**, a truly authentic desert experience; the town of **Tombstone**,



DESTINATIONS PLANNER

Rancho Vistoso

Getting There: WorldMark Rancho Vistoso units range from studios (with full-size kitchens and a Murphy bed in the living room) to three-bedroom penthouses. It's a Red Season resort 48 weeks of the year, with White Season falling in late July and early August. There is no Blue Season. The most convenient airport is Tucson International, but the Phoenix airport is a possibility if you'll be visiting Pinetop or Bison Ranch as well.

Getting Around: Southern Arizona is very spread out, so having a car is imperative. If you're visiting Mexico, you'll want to park on the U.S. side and walk across the border to Nogales. Plenty of secure parking is available for about \$5 USD.

Having Fun: Your resort caters to the golf enthusiast, with one of the top public courses in Arizona—the **Golf Club at Vistoso**—just minutes away. Arrange your tee times at the front desk to enjoy great discounts. Area activities range from desert adventures to urban amenities. There's even a ski resort area on nearby **Mt. Lemmon**, though this summer's Aspen Fire has forced it to close.

Eating Out: Oracle Road heading south into Tucson is a good bet for nearby dining; you'll find especially good Mexican, Southwest and Italian restaurants here. Downtown Tucson has plenty of great options between Speedway Blvd. and Broadway Blvd. If you're looking for the nightclub hotspot, you'll find it on 4th Ave.

which continues to pay homage to its Wild West roots and its infamous citizens Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday; **Bisbee**, a fun village of craftspeople and galleries; more than a few favorite restaurants; a fantastic massage therapist; and even a wine-tasting tour southeast of Tucson in the Sonoita area, which includes the once-bordello-now-award-winning **Village of Elgin Winery**. And **Nogales, Mexico**, is just a hundred miles south of Tucson, making the run to the border a fairly simple one. Some lively fun-for-the-whole-family activities are horseback riding, organized at the resort on Thursday afternoons, and a desert jeep tour offered by **Sunshine Jeep Tours**.

Company owner Glenn presents the two-hour ride with the help of his sidekick Elizabeth, a harmless gopher snake with an uncanny ability to protect itself by appearing as noisy and malevolent as a diamondback rattler.

After scheduling a Tuesday morning golf lesson and tee time, I decide to spend my day getting to know the desert a little better. It's a dry, comfortable 90° outside, so off I go to the **Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum**. The museum is just outside Tucson, and the true monarch of this

landscape is the saguaro cactus. An icon of southern Arizona, this succulent is slow to grow, gaining just under an inch per year in its early stages, which makes its mammoth height and reach truly

WEATHER STATISTICS			
TUCSON, AZ			
MONTH	AVG HIGH	AVG LOW	PRECIPITATION
	(F)	(F)	(IN.)
Jan	63.9	38.6	0.87
Feb	67.8	41	0.7
Mar	72.8	44.6	0.72
Apr	81.2	50.4	0.3
May	89.9	58	0.18
Jun	99.6	67.9	0.2
Jul	99.4	73.6	2.37
Aug	96.8	72.1	2.19
Sep	93.3	67.5	1.67
Oct	84.3	56.6	1.06
Nov	72.7	45.6	0.67
Dec	64.3	39.8	1.07



impressive. Everywhere the legions of saguaro appear celebratory, their arms up in their air, basking in the shadeless heat. A display of reptiles and amphibians inside the museum puts otherwise difficult to find animals in front of the visitor's eyes, but it's the outdoor path through desert flora that is most impressive. On a trail that claims to give you the true desert experience, you walk through grasslands (which support a small prairie dog population), wildflowers, an extraordinarily varied cactus garden and even a hummingbird area.

I spend the afternoon back in town exploring the area near **El Presidio Park** in Tucson, lunching at the original **El Charro** restaurant (spicy hot really means something here) and browsing through the shops in the **Old Town Artisans** building. And then I step into the **Tucson**

Museum of Art for a couple of hours and check out their extensive collection of Latin American and post-colonial works.

My last stop of the day is **Tucson Electric Park**, summer home of the minor league Tucson Sidewinders and spring training base for the Arizona Diamondbacks and Chicago White Sox. Watching future big leaguers is a real treat as the sun begins to set and the air cools; I find a general admission seat in the front row and savor a margarita.

Rancho Vistoso's resort manager, Pedro Lana, is a font of knowledge when it comes to golf in the area. He's set me up with a tee time at the **Golf Club at Vistoso**, and the next morning turns into another nature walk, albeit an often accidental and frustrating one. The course is magnificent, with panoramas of the desert and perfectly manicured fairways throughout. It's also difficult:



WORLDMARK BISON RANCH

My golf ball finds its way under scrub or simply disappears into the tangle of pale growth, and signs warning of rattlesnakes keep my searches short. On the third hole, I learn that I cannot hit through a prickly pear cactus; my shot cracks a thick leaf, but the leaf does not give.

Luckily the WorldMark owner making up the other half of my twosome is good company, so the day on the course turns out to be a delightful one. We talk a great deal about some of his





favorite resorts, and by the end of the round we exchange contact information and offer open invitations to visit each other's homes.

Afterwards, it's time to turn the convertible north, crank up some music and embark on the 200-mile trek to **WorldMark Pinetop**. The drive takes me past **Biosphere 2**, the experimental habitat that once sealed up eight people for two years, through the Tonto National Forest and the Apache Indian

Reservation, along a harrowing and beautiful canyon switchback to a bridge over the Salt River, into the central business district of Show Low and finally into the charming town of Pinetop-Lakeside, with little gift and antique shops, restaurants, coffeehouses and outdoor sporting outfitters galore.

It's 67° at sunset as I pull into the parking lot. With the top down, I've had the heat blasting for the past hour, and I shiver when I cut the engine. I've arrived at a true Arizona mountain lodge—at an altitude of 6,200 feet and surrounded by tall pines, the air is crisp under the clear night sky.

From here, the drive to **WorldMark Bison Ranch** is exactly one hour. The two resorts draw visitors for many of the same activities: nature hiking along the **Mogollon** (pronounced MUG-e-on)

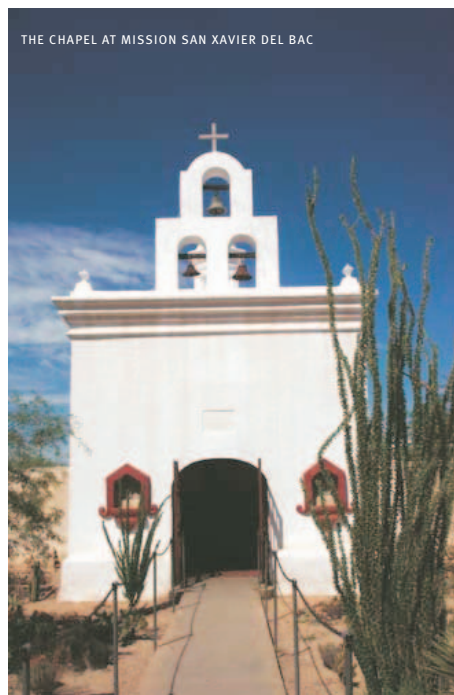
Rim, hunting and fishing on the Indian reservation, day drives to the **Petrified Forest National Park**, overnight trips to the Grand Canyon and, of course, simple relaxation on a chair by the pool or inside by the fireplace.

I'm excited about the attractions I'll find here in the higher elevations. I've covered over 400 miles of Arizona's highways so far, and I still have many hours of driving to look forward to. My convertible and I have gone out into the desolate desert together, up into mountains, along the banks of a canyon and even headlong into a violent thunderstorm.

And before we're through, we'll venture down into some of the hottest regions of the state, where I'll watch the temperature climb to 113°; we'll hang out together on the desolate shore of the Theodore Roosevelt Lake, created by the dam that powers most of Phoenix; and we'll return to Tucson to say goodbye to our friends at Rancho Vistoso. My Arizona road trip is one I will cherish as a childhood dream fulfilled.

For information on Major League Baseball's spring training in Tucson, see Destinations Extra at www.worldmarktheclub.com/destinations.

WEATHER STATISTICS			
HEBER-OVERGAARD, AZ			
MONTH	AVG HIGH (F)	AVG LOW (F)	PRECIPITATION (IN.)
Jan	46.4	15.9	1.41
Feb	50.3	18.9	1.19
Mar	55.2	23	1.42
Apr	63.8	28	0.68
May	72.2	34.8	0.45
Jun	82.7	42.9	0.43
Jul	84.7	52.1	2.9
Aug	81.6	50.68	3.02
Sep	77.1	43.5	1.61
Oct	67.8	32.9	1.55
Nov	55.4	22.7	1.3
Dec	47.5	16.9	1.78



DESTINATIONS PLANNER

Pinetop

❖ **Getting There:** WorldMark Pinetop is a Red Season resort 38 weeks of the year. The off-season weeks fall between November and March. You can book studio through three-bedroom units. Phoenix, the nearest major airport, is 180 miles away. The regional airport in Show Low has regularly scheduled flights to and from Phoenix and on-demand flights available from many southwestern airports.

❖ **Getting Around:** During the winter, always check road conditions first by calling 1-928-537-7623. The main street in Pinetop-Lakeside, AZ 260, is not pedestrian-friendly, but you'll be too tired from your long day hikes to cross the street on foot anyway.

❖ **Having Fun:** The Fort Apache Indian Reservation is home to enough lakes and wildlife to suit most anglers and hunters. For a different kind of game, the **Hon-Dah Resort and Casino** is just three miles east of the resort. There are a number of great public golf courses in the vicinity, including **Silver Creek Golf Club** and the **Show Low Country Club**. The town of Greer can be an interesting daytrip, with fine western-style restaurants, antique shopping and artist galleries. It's also right next to the **Sunrise Park Resort**, which offers downhill skiing in winter and horseback rides in summer.

❖ **Eating Out:** An owner favorite is the nearby steakhouse **Charlie Clark's**. The **Pasta House** serves fantastic Italian fare, and for scrumptious pie, head for **Annie's Tea Room**.

Ready to book? Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103.

The Rim Country

Summer at WorldMark Pinetop and Bison Ranch

I'm not a morning person, but after seeing the fishing photographs on the bulletin board in the lobby of **WorldMark Pinetop** and hearing owners brag about the fish they caught, I was hooked. Thursday, 4 a.m.: I'm on my way east to the **Apache Indian Reservation** and **Horseshoe Lake** with John Allen, **WorldMark** front desk clerk and resident fishing expert. I'm grateful to have an experienced guide showing me the ropes—for instance, who would have thought that the 24-hour convenience store next to the casino just three miles away sold fishing licenses? We pick up single day permits for the reservation and off we go.

With over 40 lakes nearby, many with convenient boat rentals on shore, and five kinds of trout—including the native threatened Apache Trout, which can only be taken from the reservation—it's no wonder so many cars leave the **WorldMark Pinetop** parking lot before dawn and so many of the resort's barbecues are fragrant with grilled trout at lunchtime.

John provides me with tips to get started, and I hurl my line off into the darkness, listening for the plunk. And then I relax and wait. And wait. And wait.

I cannot report that I reeled in a single fish. I did, however, get to enjoy



THE 9TH HOLE ON THE WEST COURSE AT TORREON GOLF CLUB

By Keith Walsh

the sunrise, the mist over the water, the call of an eagle that kept circling our fishing hole and a particularly smug osprey that pulled a big trout out of the water right in front of us. I also got to enjoy John's company and a part of Arizona I wouldn't have seen from the highway and certainly wouldn't have found were it not for **WorldMark**.

Pinetop's proximity to the **White Mountains** and the potential for outdoor adventures provides most of its drawing power. It was **WorldMark's** first Arizona property and is one of the most popular in the network. The grounds include a recreation center, an outdoor pool open from March through October, two spas, a tennis court, basketball net and horseshoe pits. Inside, you'll get a cozy western lodge feel, with a fireplace in your living room, open kitchen and a view into a pine forest from your deck.

Besides fish and game advice, the front desk at Pinetop can direct you to various nature trails, the closest of which runs right from the resort itself; golf

courses; horseback riding opportunities; restaurants and shops. Summer is truly the tourist season in the area, but winter provides plenty of reasons to visit as well. The higher elevations of the **White Mountains** are covered in snow all winter, completely altering the area's scenery. Many of the multi-use **White Mountain TrailSystem** trails are groomed for cross-country skiing, and the **Sunrise Park Resort**, with an average of 250 inches of snowfall annually and a top elevation of more than 11,000 feet, offers some of the best downhill skiing in the western U.S.

My drive between Pinetop and **WorldMark Bison Ranch** is interrupted for a five hour spell in the town of Show Low, the hub for the spokes of Pinetop and Bison Ranch, for 18 holes at the **Torreón Golf Club**. Again I team up with a **WorldMark** owner, and I hear tales about successful vacations taken all over the world using vacation credits. The course is immaculate and scenic, with water hazards and occasional peaks

where, I'm told, you can see all the way to New Mexico.

Evidence of this past summer's fires appears in small and large amounts along AZ 260 as I drive west towards the town of Overgaard. But life is back to normal now, and everywhere there is blackened bark there is also fresh green popping up from the soil. After 30 minutes of driving, Bison Ranch appears on the left, a true village on the frontier.

The colorful clapboard village square, named Bisontown, with its restaurant and shops, is the lynchpin of the Bison Ranch community, which includes cabins, homes, corrals and an outdoor entertainment stage.

Resort units sit atop the many shops in the front of Bisontown and on both floors of the adjacent buildings. The feel is entirely of the Old West, and my two-bedroom condominium is dotted with cabin-like touches like an oil lamp chandelier and a Navajo-patterned sofa.

Sunday evenings, owners and guests are invited to an orientation where they're introduced to the area's attractions and activities. This is a great opportunity to set your vacation schedule—you'll want to have your western photo taken and secure your

seat at the weekly **barbecue dinner**. On site you'll find a catch and release fishing pond (you can borrow fishing equipment at the front desk), a comfortable clubhouse, gift shops, a buffalo museum (exhibits ranging from buffalo nickels to Buffalo Bill), an ice cream parlor, the **Whole Enchilada** Mexican restaurant and lounge, as well as warm weather seasonal activities like pony and horse

rides, rodeos and cowboy storytelling. The outdoor pool is open from March to November; during winter months you'll find National Forest cross-country ski trails just west of Heber—Overgaard. The **Mogollon Rim** is visible just a short distance from the resort, and if you want to look out

from the top of the rim you can drive to the edge on AZ 260 about 25 minutes west. The view is incredible—a nearly straight-down fall for thousands of feet gives you a perspective on how this four-season climate can exist so close to the Arizona desert. As I head back home, I'm already planning my next visit here—perhaps when the temperature falls and I can head out on a trail in snowshoes or ride the lift to the top of Apache Peak and ski the Geronimo run or just sit quietly by the fireplace, enjoying the tranquility of small town Arizona.

WEATHER STATISTICS			
PINETOP-LAKESIDE, AZ			
MONTH	AVG HIGH (F)	AVG LOW (F)	PRECIPITATION (IN.)
Jan	52.9	21.7	0.71
Feb	56.4	25.3	0.63
Mar	60.6	29.6	0.81
Apr	68.8	35.4	0.56
May	77.8	42.8	0.56
Jun	87.8	50.8	0.46
Jul	90.2	58.1	2.12
Aug	87.4	56.8	2.61
Sep	83.9	51.1	1.48
Oct	74.4	40.2	1.08
Nov	62.7	29	0.69
Dec	54.3	23.2	0.76

DESTINATIONS PLANNER

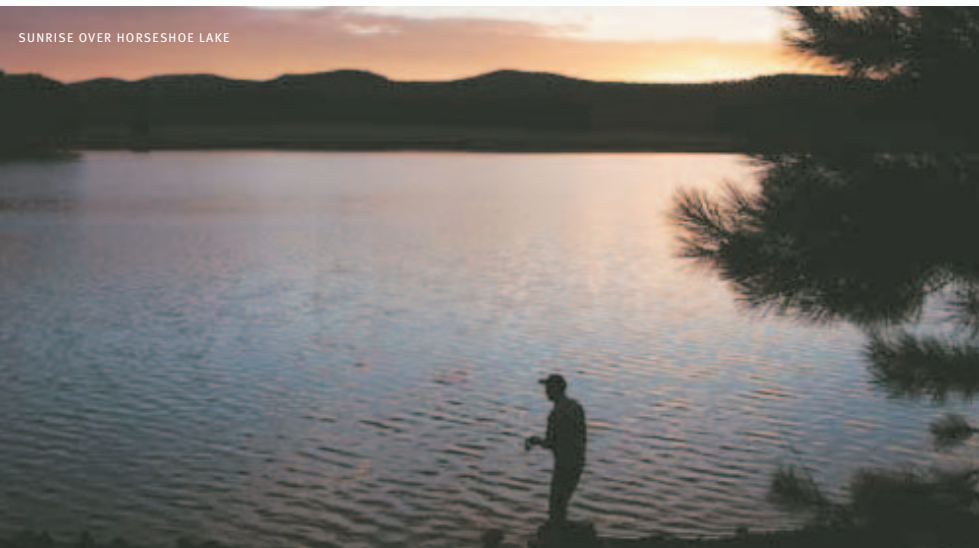
Bison Ranch

Getting There: WorldMark Bison Ranch is a Red Season resort 38 weeks of the year. Like Pinetop, its off-season weeks occur in the late fall and winter months. Only one- and two-bedroom units are available. Phoenix International Airport is 140 miles away.

Getting Around: The resort is about a mile east of the small commercial area of Overgaard and about 30 minutes west of Show Low. Bisontown has seasonal dining and shopping options on the premises, but for movies or other entertainment you'll have to drive to Heber, Overgaard or Show Low. The elevation at Bison Ranch is 6,600 feet—for winter road conditions, call 1-928-537-7623.

Having Fun: The resort has on-site activities during the summer, from horseback riding to cowboy cookouts. From November to mid-March, the pool is closed and seasonal activities leave town, so you'll find the resort a peaceful and relaxing place. Many archaeological sites are just a short distance away, and the **Petrified Forest** and **Painted Desert** are reasonable daytrips.

Eating Out: The **Whole Enchilada** and **Wild Women Saloon** is convenient and very good. For breakfast, you have **Twinnie's Coffee Break**, serving pastries and coffee. They also scoop ice cream and have a limited sandwich menu for lunch. A list of local restaurants in Overgaard and Heber compiled by your WorldMark staff is included in your check-in information.



SUNRISE OVER HORSESHOE LAKE

Seven-night Western Caribbean Cruise for Cash plus Credits



VOYAGER OF THE SEAS AQUARIUM BAR (PHOTO COURTESY OF ROYAL CARIBBEAN)

Take your spring break on Royal Caribbean Cruise Line's *Voyager of the Seas*. Savor the luxuries on board and relax at three exotic ports of call as you stroll Grand Cayman's famous Seven Mile Beach, soak up the Mayan sun at Uvero Beach and snorkel Belize's dazzling underwater world.

April 18 - 25, 2004

Royal Caribbean's *Voyager of the Seas* sails from Miami, Florida, for Belize City, Belize; Costa Maya, Mexico; and Georgetown, Grand Cayman.

Inside cabin: 12,000 credits plus

\$1,050 for two

Outside cabin: 12,000 credits plus

\$1,400 for two

Balcony cabin: 12,000 credits plus

\$1,700 for two

Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 to reserve your cabin!

Subject to change and availability. All rates based on double occupancy. All prices include \$129 USD exchange fee and \$172.90 USD per-person port fee. Airfare not included. CSR 2067820-50

WorldMark *Down Under*

May 3 - 11, 2004

From Los Angeles: \$1,632 per person

From San Francisco: \$1,757 per person

From Seattle: \$1,902 per person

You begin your adventure with three nights on the Gold Coast at Surfers Paradise, Australia's premier holiday destination. Here you'll also visit the Australia Zoo—home to over 750 animals on over 50 acres and Steve Irwin, the Crocodile Hunter!

Next you fly to Sydney for three nights. Enjoy a full-day sightseeing tour, viewing the Sydney Opera House, the Conservatorium of Music, Parliament House, Old Mint Building, beautiful Hyde Park, St. Mary's Cathedral, the Art Gallery and the Domain along with a harbor cruise that includes lunch.

Package includes: Round-trip airfare from Los Angeles, San Francisco or Seattle; intercontinental flight from Gold Coast airport to Sydney; airport transfers and taxes; hotel accommodations; tours listed; and daily continental breakfast.

Three extra nights in Sydney: Additional \$249 per person.

Includes three nights' hotel accommodation, daily continental breakfast, one full-day tour of the Blue Mountains or Hunter Valley with Mount 'n Beach Safaris and all airport transfers.

Fiji stopover: Additional \$449 per person

Fly on your last date from Sydney to Nadi, Fiji. Includes three nights' hotel accommodation in a deluxe ocean view room at the Hideaway Resort, daily

continental breakfast and airport transfers.

New Zealand stopover: Additional \$549 per person

Fly on your last date from Sydney to Auckland. Includes two nights' hotel accommodation in Auckland's Sebel Suites and one night in Rotorua's Royal Lakeside Novotel, Auckland harbour cruise, Rotorua tour, Maori Hangi native dinner, daily continental breakfast and airport transfers.

Call Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511 and ask for your WorldMark Down Under Tour!

All tours are subject to change and availability. All prices are per person and based on double occupancy. Air options from other U.S. gateways available on request. Shipping fees not included. CSR 2067820-50

Three-night Baja Cruise for Credits

Treat Mom to a three-night cruise for Mother's Day. Luxuriate at the spa, double down at the casino and lounge on the deck; then shop 'til you drop in Ensenada.

May 7 - 10, 2004

Carnival Cruise Line's *Ecstasy* sails from Long Beach, California, for Ensenada, Mexico.

Inside cabin: 13,000 credits for two

Outside cabin: 15,000 credits for two

Outside quad cabin: 26,500 credits for four

Call the Vacation Planning Center at 1-800-457-0103 to reserve the perfect Mother's Day present!

Cruises subject to change and availability. All rates based on double occupancy except for quad cabins. Taxes and port fees included. Airfare and \$129 USD exchange fee not included. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50

**direct
exchange**

Head for Fun

Capistrano, California

Carlsbad, California

Dana Point, California

Fairmont, British Columbia

Grand Cayman Island, Caribbean

Maui, Hawaii

Mazatlan, Mexico

Newport, Oregon

Oahu, Hawaii

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

San Francisco, California

Scottsdale, Arizona

Sedona, Arizona

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

Footloose in Cancun

Welcome to Cancun, one of the Mexican Caribbean's most exquisite playgrounds. Your home base is the Gran Caribe Real Resort, a five-star beachfront delight. The resort is centrally located and within minutes of shopping, golf, restaurants and discos.

Three full-day adventures are included with this package. Discover Isla Mujeres, a former pirate hideaway with picturesque painted houses, crystalline waters and pristine beaches; Chichen-Itza, an enormous complex of Mayan ruins in the middle of the Yucatan jungle; and Xcaret Park, an eco-archeological interactive park featuring lush botanical gardens, a tropical reef aquarium, underground rivers and daytime shows with folkloric dances and Mayan rituals.

May 1 - 8, 2004

15,500 credits per person, based on double occupancy*

Package includes: Seven nights' accommodation at the Gran Caribe Real Resort; round-trip transfers from airport; welcome reception; Isla Mujeres tour with round-trip sailing to the island, continental breakfast, open bar, lunch, games on the beach and live music (snorkeling available



MEXICAN MAYAN RUINS

at extra charge for equipment); Chichen-Itza tour with round-trip transportation, certified guide, entrance fee and lunch; and Xcaret Park tour with round-trip transportation, a guide and entrance fee (swimming with dolphins, horseback riding on the beach and boat rides available at extra charge).

Call 1-800-457-0103 and book your Paradise Package today!

**Footloose events cater to solo travelers—owners will be paired up to meet double occupancy requirements. Single occupancy rooms are available at a higher cost. Subject to change and availability. Airfare and \$129 USD exchange fee not included. For best rates on airfare, contact Trendwest Travel at 1-800-953-5511. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50*

Your Private Christmas Ship

The Christmas Ship Festival has been a favorite holiday tradition throughout the Seattle area for 54 years. Embark on a magical evening as you cruise Lake Washington on the *MV Kirkland*—which has been reserved exclusively for WorldMark owners—decked with hundreds of shimmering white lights and holiday garlands. En route you'll stop at a bon fire and enjoy a Christmas choir and the views of other illuminated boats. On board, delight to a visit from Santa, sing-alongs and a kids' coloring area. In

true holiday spirit, a portion of all ticket sales will go to benefit The Seattle Times Fund for the Needy.

December 17, 2003

Cruise time is 7:00 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.

700 credits per adult

450 credits per child (age 5-12)

Subject to change and availability. Round-trip cruise is from Carillon Point in Kirkland, Washington. Ship has two fully enclosed decks, one outside deck, restrooms, snacks, a no-host cash bar and on-board activities as described above. Hotel and airfare are not included. Cash 'n' Credits option available. CSR 2067820-50

INTERVAL INTERNATIONAL



Quality you can count on ... at an irresistible price

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.

We want to give the same extraordinary level of service to you.

2 YEARS
FOR THE PRICE OF 1:
ONLY \$79 U.S.

*Worldwide Exchange Privileges • Low-Cost Getaways • Golf Resort Program • Informative Publications
Online Convenience at www.intervalworld.com • Travel Services and Discounts • And More*

**INTERVAL
INTERNATIONAL**
THE QUALITY VACATION EXCHANGE NETWORK™

Enroll today! Call toll-free: 888-353-3021

(Or 505-666-1884 ext. 7739 (outside toll-free limits) Source Code 92851 (New member enrollment only.)