

MAY 2007

Travel World

The Magazine for Destination Travel Specialists

NEWS®

Incredible! India

www.incredibleindia.org

Airline partners:

Fly well | **Qatar Airways** | **AIR INDIA**

ITB Berlin 2007

Larger and More Global Than Ever

CARIBBEAN

Wedding
Paradise
Next Door

AFRICA

The Lure and Lore of **Ethiopia**
Beckons the Adventurous Traveler
Tanzania—The Land of
Kilimanjaro and Zanzibar is
a Gem for All Reasons

LATIN AMERICA

Costa Rica
Great Deals During
the Green Season

Travel World NEWS®

The Magazine for Destination Travel Specialists

MAY 2007

ISSUE NO. 227

executive office
50 Washington Street
South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710
Voice: 203-853-4955 • Fax: 203-866-1153

internet website
www.travelworldnews.com

publisher
Charles Gatt, Jr., Publisher
charlie@travelworldnews.com

editor
Jennifer M. Lane
editor@travelworldnews.com

design production manager
Linda Rogers
production@travelworldnews.com

Maria Rebello, Accounting Manager
Cindy Johnson, Circulation Manager
Carol A. Petro, Design Consultant

dive editor
Lorry Heverly

cruise editor
Michael Iachetta

southeast regional correspondent
Joan Gonzalez

western regional correspondent
Connie Skoog

south america correspondent
Mark Zussman
mark_zussman@yahoo.com.br

contributing editors
Jacquie Balaschak • Andrew Bill • Mona Birch
Jerry W. Bird • Ann Charles • Gail Dubov
George Hairston • Al Haut • Evelyn Kanter
Marjorie Klein • Nancy Marcantonio • Anita Mason
D.O. Christian Rieger • Knox Robinson
Mary Ellen Schultz • Helen Kittl Smith • Diane Terry

Travel World News (ISSN 1044-4602) is published monthly by Travel Industry Network, Inc., 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710. The cost of a subscription in the USA is \$25, in Canada \$40. For subscribers outside USA or Canada, the rate is \$80. Please send check or money order in U.S. dollars payable to **Travel World News**. For change of address, please enclose your mailing label and send to: Circulation Department, **Travel World News**, 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT. Periodicals postage paid at Norwalk, CT, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **Travel World News**, 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710. Address advertising inquiries and/or editorial copy to: **Travel World News**, 50 Washington Street, South Norwalk, CT 06854-2710. Copyright 2007. All rights reserved. Printed in USA. No part of this publication may be reproduced without permission.

All advertising in **Travel World News** is based on data submitted to the Publisher by the advertisers. The Publisher shall not be liable for the accuracy or inaccuracy of any information contained in **Travel World News** and shall not be liable, including but not limited to consequential or special damages, to any party for any products or services advertised or reported upon herein. The Publisher shall not be responsible for typographical errors. All information contained herein is subject to change without notice by the parties providing such products and services. The Publisher reserves the right to reject any advertising that has been submitted at his sole discretion. Upon providing a refund of any amount paid to the party whose submittal was rejected, the Publisher shall not have any liability to any party for such rejection.

INDUSTRY EVENTS

ITB Berlin 2007: Larger and More Global Than Ever 3

CALENDAR 6

EUROPE

Hotel Warwick Champs-D' Elysées: A Touch of Excellence 7

MEDITERRANEAN 10

NORTH AMERICA 12

INDUSTRY NEWS 13

FAM TRIPS 15

SECTION TWO • CARIBBEAN

The Wedding Paradise Next Door 3

Caribbean Resource Directory 15

SECTION THREE • LATIN AMERICA

Great Deals During the Green Season In Costa Rica 2

Ski Chile This Season With Sportstour 11

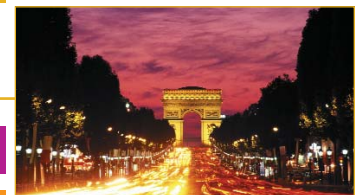
Latin America Resource Directory 15

SECTION FOUR • AFRICA

Ethiopia: The Lure And Lore Beckons Adventurous Travelers 3

Tanzania: The Land of Kilimanjaro and Zanzibar Is A Gem For All Reasons 7

Africa Resource Directory 15



ITB Berlin 2007: Larger and More Global Than Ever

With a spotlight on India, the leading international meeting of the travel industry sets new records.

BY JENNIFER M. LANE

Each year the ITB Berlin, whose last edition took place March 7-11, 2007, becomes an even more international event. In 2003 approximately one third of all trade visitors came to Berlin from abroad, and this year they accounted for 43 percent of the total, a two percent rise over the previous year. The world's largest travel trade show did not only set new records for the number of exhibitors - 10,923 companies from 184 countries - but the number of trade visitors broke the 100,000 barrier for the first time. Between Wednesday and Friday, 108,735 trade visitors were recorded, a 15 percent rise. The ITB Convention Market Trends & Innovations proved

to be a major attraction, with participation up by a quarter and a total of more than 9,000 trade visitors. On Saturday and Sunday, 68,419 members of the general public came in search of ideas for their next vacation, compared with the 68,270 who attended last year. Over the five days of this trade show, the halls on the Berlin Exhibition Grounds were visited by a total of 177,154 visitors.

Klaus Laepple, President of the National Association of the German Tourism Industry (BTW) and President of the German Tour Operators' and Travel Agents' Association (DRV) summed up as follows: "As the world's top event for the travel industry the ITB was a massive success. As the figures clearly reveal, there were substantially more trade visitors compared with last year. The ITB can justifiably carry the designation International, because the proportion of foreign visitors rose again this year. Exhibitors were positive in their assessments of this event too. They are thoroughly satisfied, reporting on many new customers and plenty of contracts. The ITB provides the general public with a unique opportunity to learn about the attractions and advantages of the most



Discover America Pavilion at ITB Berlin 2007.

varied range of countries and regions in a concentrated form, all at one location, and to obtain suggestions about their next holidays. The partner country, India, made the best possible use of the ITB in order to gain the maximum publicity and to highlight its potential as a destination for vacationers and business travelers alike. Encouraged by such positive signs the travel industry is expecting a successful year for tourism. Tour operators and travel agencies are confident that last year's positive trend will be continued and that the travel sector will finish the year with further increases."

New Schedule and ITB Convention a Major Success

This year for the first time, Friday at the ITB Berlin was reserved exclusively for trade visitors. Exhibitors and visitors were conducting business until late in the afternoon and also on Saturday.

Many members of the public were waiting to be admitted well before the doors opened. With three stages, live acts from around the world, wonderful travel prizes and many opportunities to get actively involved, the ITB Berlin has a great ap-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

INDUSTRY EVENTS

ITB BERLIN FROM PAGE 3

peal for the general public.

The ITB Conventions Market Trends & Innovations, Europe's largest specialist convention for the travel industry, again effectively fulfilled its role as a think tank for the travel sector. Along with the discussions about climate change, the ITB Hospitality Day and ITB Aviation Day have proved to be leading industry forums. In their third year, the ITB Business Travel Days have become well established as a platform for business travel manager, offering workshops with a strong practical element, forums on specific countries, and the new Suppliers' Day. The ITB Convention attracted a total attendance of 9,000.

Spotlight on India

India already occupies a strong position within global tourism as a destination for business travelers and tourists. Due to its political stability, a strong economy and an increasingly favorable climate for business and investment there are excellent prospects for an increase in tourism. During the ITB Berlin the subcontinent highlighted a wide range of offers and numerous promotional campaigns. On the evening prior to the start of the trade show, India organized a spectacular opening ceremony featuring the country's many diverse aspects. Giriraj Singh Kushwaha, European Director, India Tourism said: "We are very happy with everything. Our exhibitors are reporting very good business, better than at last year's event. Tour operators are displaying an enormous amount of interest.

Our appearance as partner country at the ITB Berlin was a thoroughgoing success. I can state this on behalf of my



Business session at the booth of the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation.

Minister of Tourism and Culture, Ambika Soni, too. We were also very satisfied with the organizational arrangements made by Messe Berlin. A great deal of media interest has been generated. In Germany too India is "in." During the weekend the ITB is much busier and louder than during the trade visitors' days. We want and need the general public, our tourists. We are now expecting a record number of visitors to India in 2007."

ITB Berlin 2008

In terms of quality and volume, the ITB Berlin continued to strengthen its position as the world's leading marketing platform for the travel industry. The next ITB Berlin 2008 will take place from Wednesday to Sunday, March 5-9, 2008.

From Wednesday until Friday admission will again be restricted to trade visitors only.

ITB Berlin, www.itb-berlin.com

Once again at ITB Berlin, and as in previous editions, the VIII International Exposition for Tourism and Travel Books and Magazines was very successful, organized by the Centre led by Miguel Montes and sponsored by Messe Berlin, Madrid Tourism Board, the City Councils of Aranjuez & La Granja de San Ildefonso, and with the collaboration of the Marva Group, and Hotel St. Michael's-Heim of Berlin.

National and international publishing companies have participated in the exhibition, as well as all of the Spanish and Portuguese magazines focused on tourism for professionals and the general public. A great number of international tourism magazines have participated. Also present was Travel World News.

Next year at the ITB Berlin 2008, the Tourism Documentation Centre expects to find the necessary support to organize the 9th Edition of this Exhibition as well as the 1st International Award of Tourism Publications.



From left to right: Astrid Ehring, Press Chief ITB Berlin; Luz Marina Heruday, Deputy Manager ITB Berlin; David Ruetz, Senior Manager ITB Berlin; Miguel Montes, Manager of Tourism Documentation Centre; Inés Galindo, Manager Madrid Tourism Board; and Gonzalo Nates, Assistant Manager of Tourism Documentation Centre.

FOCUS ON...SLOVAKIA

By Dave Richardson

The Slovak Republic (Slovakia) is a good example of how a small country is helping to increase tourism both inbound and outbound with the help of an ITTFA member exhibition – Slovakiatour, held each January in the capital, Bratislava.

When Czechoslovakia was dissolved in 1993, the Czech capital of Prague soon became a major tourist destination with air travel being liberalized within a couple of years. But Slovakia was virtually unknown except to its neighbors, despite its many natural assets and easy access from key European tourism markets.

Bratislava, the historic capital, has an attractive setting on the River Danube and is close to Vienna. The High Tatras Mountains are one of the last wildernesses of Europe offering activity holidays in summer and skiing in winter, and throughout the country are natural spas with great appeal to health-conscious travelers.

Slovakia is now starting to emerge from the shadow of its better-known neighbor, with significant investment in its tourism infrastructure both before and after its accession to the EU in 2004. Slovakiatour provides the perfect forum for tour operators to discover more about the country, and for foreign tourist boards to target the increasingly mobile Slovak market.

Slovakiatour was held for the 13th time in January 2007, having made its debut shortly after independence. It attracted 521 exhibitors including 342 from the domestic market and 179 from other countries, including 30 tourist boards. The total of 62,387 visitors included nearly 9,000 from the trade, the total number having grown by over 50 percent from only 40,000 in 2004.

The tourism fair is held alongside two other exhibitions, helping to boost attendance. The Hunting and Leisure exhibition focuses on outdoor pursuits, while Camera Slovakia is a festival of film and photography.

The Slovak regions are always strongly represented, with a major focus on spa tourism which extended into the business seminar program in 2007. In 2008, Slovakiatour will extend this with a general focus on rural tourism.

Slovakia's spa product is being modernized to appeal to a wider audience, with a focus on wellness and relaxation as well as medicinal cures. The most significant development is opening of the country's first five-star spa hotel at the resort of Piestany where the 111-room Thermia Palace, built in 1912, is next to the Irma Health Spa and mud pool. It is operated by Danubius Hotels which also runs several spa hotels in Hungary, including Budapest and Heviz.

Although the majority of visitors arrive in Slovakia overland, tourism is also developing thanks to low-cost airlines including SkyEurope (which has a base in Bratislava) and Ryanair. SkyEurope routes include a direct service from London Stansted to Poprad, in the High Tatras Mountains.

The number of Slovaks traveling abroad increased from 17 percent of the population in 2005 to 22 percent in 2006, and this is reflected in strong representation of tourist boards at Slovakiatour.

Sunshine destinations are the most popular, led by Croatia, Greece and Bulgaria.

Head of the fair's management team, Ernest Nagy, says: "During the 13 years of its existence, Slovakiatour has become the largest and most significant tourism fair in Slovakia and holds an important position among travel and tourism fairs in the Central European region.

"The number of exhibitors, visitors and represented countries increases every year. An inseparable part of the fair is a rich accompanying program as well as the project of Honoured Country, which every year introduces an attractive holiday destination."

Slovakiatour is a member of ITTFA, International Travel Tourism Fairs Association, www.ittfa.org

BIT 2008 TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 21-24 IN NEW RHO EXHIBITION CENTRE



Bit 2007 - the International Tourism Exchange- was a great success and was the first to be held in the new Rho exhibition centre. The 2008 show will take place in the fieramilano Rho exhibition centre from Thursday to Sunday February 21-24, 2008.

It will be an even more international Bit which will promote the Italian tourist product more effectively, always represented at the highest institutional and business levels, as well as the international supply which in 2007 saw many new entries from different countries, and the Tourism Collection area including the most important leaders from the supply chain.

Following this year's success, EXPOCTS confirms the second Bit Tourism Awards will take place at Bit 2008. This recognition rewards excellence within the tourism system and assembles the opinions of travelers and travel agents via a major on line opinion poll.

A major characteristic of Bit 2007 and much appreciated by operators was the extensive visibility afforded to exhibitors thanks to the "machine" which was running for 365 days a year and which brought together all the information, data analyses and communication tools. This is a strategy which will be streamlined even further in 2008 and will provide additional opportunities for those companies that sign up. Bit 2008 will take place in the fieramilano Rho exhibition centre from Thursday to Sunday February 21-24.

Bit, www.bit.expects.it

2007/2008 - CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
JUNE			
7-10	EUROCOTAL	Malaga, Spain	www.eurocotal.es
11-13	City Break	Athens, Greece	www.citybreakexpo.com
14-16	ITE HK 2007	Hong Kong, China	www.itehk.com
17-19	Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Conference	Miami, FL	www.caribbeanhotels.org
18-21	Asia Luxury Travel Market	Shanghai, China	www.altm.com.cn
JULY			
11-13	6th Mediterranean Travel Trade Show	Denver, CO	800-247-3323
22-25	NBTA International Convention	Boston, MA	www.nbtalconvention.org
SEPTEMBER			
5-7	La Cumbre 2007	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	www.lacumbre.com
6	Moscow International Travel Workshop	Moscow, Russia	www.moscowworkshop.com
6-9	FITE 2007	Guayaquil- Ecuador	www.fite.info
9-11	The Trade Show 2007	Las Vegas, NV	www.thetradeshows.org
12-14	TravelMart Latin America	Cartagena, Colombia	www.travelmartlatinamerica.com
17-18	BIT Peru 2007	Lima, Peru	www.bitperu.com
25-27	ITME 2007	Chicago, IL	www.motivationshow.com
25-28	Otdykh/Leisure 2007	Moscow, Russia	www.euroexpo.ru
25-28	PATA Travelmart	Bali, Indonesia	www.pata.org
26-27	North American Ecotourism Conference	Madison, WI	www.ecotourismconference.org
26-28	Top Resa	Deauville, France	www.topresa.com
28-29	No Frills Travel & Technology Expo	Bergamo, Italy	www.nofrillsexpo.com
OCTOBER			
3-5	CIS Travel Market	St. Petersburg, Russia	www.reidtravelexhibitions.com
4-7	Adventure Travel World Summit	Whistler, BC, Canada	www.adventuretravelworldsummitt.com
8-11	Guanacaste Marketplace	Guanacaste, Costa Rica	www.guanacastemarketplace.com
10-12	Cancun Travel Mart	Cancun, Mexico	www.cancuntravelmart.com
11-13	Central American Travel Market	San Jose, CA	catm2007@canatur.org
12-14	TTG Incontri	Rimini, Italy	www.ttgitalia.com
16-18	BTC Conference 2007	Tallink Victoria, Baltic Sea	www.balticsea.com
31-Nov 3	DEMA	Orlando, FL	www.demashow.com
NOVEMBER			
1-4	Philoxenia	Thessaloniki Greece	www.helexpo.gr
6-9	BTC International	Florence, Italy	www.btc.it
7-9	ALTA Airlines Leaders Forum	Cancun, Mexico	www.latamleaders.com
12-15	WTM-World Travel Market	ExCel London, UK	www.wtmlondon.com
17-18	The Philadelphia Inquirer Travel Show	King of Prussia, PA	www.phillytravelshow.com
17-20	FIT America Latina	Buenos Aires, Argentina	www.fit.org.ar
27-29	EIBTM 2007	Barcelona, Spain	www.eibtm.com
27-29	Travel Media Showcase	Palm Springs, CA	www.travelmediashowcase.com
DECEMBER			
3-6	International Luxury Travel Market	Cannes, France	www.iltm.net
3-6	International Golf Travel Market	Cancun, Mexico	www.igtm.co.uk
JANUARY 2008			
6-9	SATH World Congress	Orlando, FL	www.sath.org
11-13	Monte Carlo Travel Market	Monte Carlo	www.mctm.com
13-15	Caribbean Marketplace 2008	Paradise Island, Bahamas	www.caribbeanhotels.org
18-26	ATF	Bangkok, Thailand	www.atf2008thailand.com

TO LIST YOUR EVENTS EMAIL: editor@travelworldnews.com • FOR ADDITIONAL EVENTS VISIT: www.travelworldnews.com/calendar

Hotel Warwick Champs-Elysées: A Touch of Excellence

Experience the best that Paris has to offer at the Hotel Warwick Champs-Elysées.

BY JENNIFER M. LANE

Located in the heart of Paris Golden Triangle which encompasses the Etoile, the Champs-Elysées and Avenue George V, the renovated luxury, four-star hotel Warwick Champs-Elysées is in the middle of the business, tourist, fashion and luxury goods center of Paris.

The elegant and contemporary atmosphere of the Hotel Warwick Champs-Elysées, with its refined interior and personal service, are all designed to make guests feel as comfortable as possible. Each of the 149 rooms is the perfect place for a relaxing stay.

All rooms and suites offer stylish and contemporary decor and the latest in modern conveniences that includes individual air conditioning, flat screen and satellite television, dual-line telephone, modem connection, high-speed Internet access, voicemail, plus a video recorder and mini hi-fi system with CD player in all the hotel suites. Some have a private terrace with exceptional views of the city. The Presidential Suite features a large salon, a private area, a marble bathroom with whirlpool, and recessed flat screen TV. It also has a terrace with a stunning panoramic view.

The W Restaurant and the W Lounge Bar at the Warwick Champs-Elysées Paris Hotel have been recognized by the most prestigious gastronomic guides, and exemplify a distinctive culinary lifestyle. Serving innovative French cuisine, W Restaurant offers a seasonal menu, while the W Lounge is an inviting Paris meeting place for an aperitif or cocktails and light gourmet meals. The ideal venue for meetings, seminars and banquets in Paris, the Warwick Champs Elysées Paris Hotel offers three fully equipped conference rooms that can accommodate up to 150 people in total.

Paris Romance Package

Paris is one of the most romantic cities in the world and the Champs Elysées is considered to be the most beautiful avenue. Their Romance package will combine both a very romantic destination with the best location. Guests will be welcomed with Champagne, flowers and chocolate, and then enjoy a romantic candlelight dinner at their restaurant the W. Package for two persons includes buffet breakfast; one candlelight dinner at the W restaurant; VIP treatment in the room (Champagne, chocolates, flowers); and 10 percent VIP shopping discount card of Galerie Lafayette.

Champs-Elysées Spring Package

From now until June 30, 2007 travelers can discover the Hôtel Warwick Champs-Elysées with their Champs-Elysées Spring Package. This package for one or two people includes



Enjoy an Eiffel Tower view from a well-appointed suite at the Warwick Champs D' Elysées.

free upgrade with accommodation in a Deluxe room; welcome with a fruit platter and water in the room; one complimentary glass of Champagne served in the W Bar; full American buffet breakfast; and 10 percent VIP shopping discount card at Galleries Lafayette department store.

VIP Parents and VIP Kids (VIP / VIK)

Give a family the VIP treatment they deserve with the hotels VIP / VIK package. Especially designed for families, their spacious junior suites with two queen size beds will give the family enough room to relax after a shopping spree on the busy Champs-Elysées or an exploration of Le Louvre right from the pages of "The Da Vinci code." Breakfast for the entire family and children's gift are included for all VIP's. Package includes buffet breakfast for the whole family; 10 percent VIP shopping discount card at Galerie Lafayette Department Store; VIP amenities for VIP "Very important Parents" (Champagne in the room); and VIP presents for VIK "Very important Kids."

Crazy Horse "Taboo"

Nothing is "Taboo" in Paris..... Book their "Crazy Horse" Package for a three-night stay including buffet breakfast and guests will be invited to the Crazy Horse, one of the most glamorous and sought after Parisian cabarets. Enjoy a high quality show with half bottle of champagne per person. You can also upgrade from a superior room to the next category for approximately \$40. Call the hotel or visit their website for current room rates and package pricing.

Hotel Warwick Champs-Elysées,
resa.whparis@warwickhotels.com,
Warwick International Hotels, 800-203-3232,
www.warwickhotels.com

NEW EURAIL REGIONAL PASSES AVAILABLE

Eurail Group has introduced two new Regional Passes that widen the options for discovering Europe.

Valid for travel in two bordering European countries, Eurail Regional Passes were developed to offer travelers the opportunity to explore two countries in depth. The two new combinations are Czech Republic-Germany and Germany-Poland, bringing the total number of Eurail Regional Passes up to 20 and offering travelers more freedom and choice in planning rail travel.

The Eurail Czech Republic-Germany Pass allows travelers to explore Germany and the Czech Republic with just one pass. The options include the capitals of Berlin and Prague, and two great European Rivers, the Rhine and the Moldau. A train ride away lie beautiful and impressive landscapes like the Black Forest and Bohemian Woods, and pearls of Middle European architecture in the cities of Prague, Plzen, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Magdeburg. Fast, efficient, high quality train service links both countries several times a day.

With this pass, travelers can enjoy breakfast in a stylish Berlin coffee shop, have lunch on the banks of the Elbe in Dresden, and a romantic dinner under the Hradcany Castle in Prague. These are also the beer capitals of Europe, with an immense variety from world-known brands to the hidden gems of small-town private breweries.

The new Eurail Germany-Poland Pass

makes it easier than ever to get around this fascinating country. The capitals of Berlin and Warsaw are under six hours apart by train. Beautiful landscapes like the Rhine valley in Germany and the Baltic seashores of Poland are impressive from the window of a train. Enchanting, historic city centers of Krakow, Wroclaw and Görlitz were made for strolling, and off the beaten path, Rügen Island in Germany and the Masuren lake district of Poland beckon more adventuresome travelers.

Superior quality day and night trains link both countries several times a day. EC day trains run between Berlin, Poznan and Warsaw (Berlin-Warszawa-Express) and night trains connect Frankfurt to Warsaw and Berlin to Krakow.

Eurail, www.Eurail.com

GRAND HOTEL À VILLA FELTRINELLI READY FOR RE-OPENING

The Grand Hotel à Villa Feltrinelli prepares to re-open on Thursday, April 5. For the past five months, the Villa has been making sure this magnificent neo-Gothic mansion will effectively be as good as new, from the decking of its classic 1920's 16-meter pleasure craft, 'La Contessa,' to the parquet flooring of the Magnolia Suite (once Benito Mussolini's bedroom); across the lakeside croquet lawn and towards the formal Italian gardens laid out over eight acres of parkland; and up from the cellars filled with 1,000 top northern Italian wines.

Ten ceiling frescos appear as fresh as they

were when hand-painted in the 1890's by the Lieti brothers. The elegant ice-cream cart is in mint condition ready to be stocked again with homemade gelati, before being wheeled out under the pool's canopied pavilion.

This recent investment of over \$1 million has placed a magnifying glass over the smallest and largest of details – an understandable figure when it's recalled that the Villa opened as a hotel in July 2001 after a five year restoration program costing some \$30 million.

On the western shore of Lake Garda, the Villa was once the summer retreat of the Feltrinelli family. The Villa's opulence befitted a prosperous family of the time and today still captures the essence of a superbly smart private home.

While the graciousness of the past is captured within the 13 formal bedroom suites of the Villa itself, the other nine that are dotted around the well-manicured park – in three cottages and a boat house - have a more rustic elegance.

From April 5 – October 21, Villa Feltrinelli will once more be welcoming those seeking the ultimate weekend break, honeymoon or any celebration that's best enjoyed in couples or with a few close friends but without young children.

For those who may decide to venture beyond the grounds of the Villa, there's much to explore locally; whether heading by boat to the other side of the lake for the opera in Verona or strolling into the neighboring fishing port of Gargnano.

"Whatever your reason for visiting Villa Feltrinelli, we will make sure that you will have a truly magical experience," says Managing Director, Markus Odermatt.

Room rates range from approximately \$1,310 to \$4,278 (May 1 – September 30, 2007) and from approximately \$936 to \$3,744 (April 5-30 and October 1-21, 2007) per night and include breakfast, house wines, and personal laundry and valet service, along with a number of other amenities.

Villa Feltrinelli,
grandhotel@villafeltrinelli.com,
www.villafeltrinelli.com

Academic Tours
 Malta • Sicily • Italy • Tunisia • Cyprus • Sardinia
 Libya • And Beyond

Tours • Hotels • Air • Packages

Conferences • Education • Honeymoons

WWW.ACADEMICTOURS.COM
1-800-875-9171

PACKAGES IN TAORMINA OFFERED AT GAIS HOTELS GROUP PROPERTIES

Taormina is Sicily's most exclusive seaside resort. For a holiday devoted to shopping and relaxation, guests can stay at the hotels belonging to The Gais Hotels Group, open year-round. The Grand Hotel San Pietro is a luxury five-star that was inaugurated just more than a year ago; the Villa Diodoro is a four-star overlooking the sea, minutes away from the heart of Taormina's old town; the Lido Caparena showcases the regenerative effects of the personalized treatments at the Wellness Club; and the Hotel Isabella is an elegant three-star hotel right on Corso Umberto, in a strategic shopping location.

In 2007 Gais Hotels Group offers a special package at their four hotels that includes: two nights in a double room with continental buffet breakfast; free upgrade to a Superior room with balcony and sea-view (subject to availability); third bed free for one child up to 12 years old in the same room with parents; and a 10 percent discount on all beauty treatments at the Caparena Wellness Club in Taormina Mare. Rates are valid from March 31 to October 31 2007.

Prices at the Grand Hotel San Pietro are approximately \$497 per person (two nights); Hotel Villa Diodoro are approximately \$332 per person (two nights); Hotel Lido Caparena & Wellness Club are approximately \$259 per person (two nights); and Hotel Isabella are approximately \$203 per person (two nights).

Gais Hotels Group, prenota@gaishotels.com, www.gaishotels.com

VENEZIA LINES - FAST FERRIES VENICE TO CROATIA

Over the past four years, Venezia Lines has carried thousands of Americans and Canadians between Venice and North Croatia. The idea of flying into Venice and sailing to Croatia with a Venezia Lines fast ferry has proven to be a perfect way to reach Croatia.

In fact, the idea of combining one or two days in Venice with a grand tour of Croatia is becoming more popular from year to year.

Operating international lines between the Italian port of Venice and Croatia/Slovenia as well as Southern Adriatic line between the Italian port of Bari and Albania, Venezia Lines is quickly becoming an important fast ferry operator in the Adriatic Sea. In 2007, Venezia Lines will operate almost 400 voyages on its various routes, with a total of three Norwegian built fast ferries.

For information and online bookings, please view their web site. Venezia Lines, www.venezialines.com

WELLNESS PACKAGE OFFERED AT KEMPINSKI HOTEL GIARDINO DI COSTANZA

The treatments in the Wellness centre of the Kempinski Hotel Giardino di Costanza in Mazara del Vallo are the product of an unusual union: natural Sicilian products and scientific rigour. Algae and herbs, mixed just a few seconds before being applied so

as not to lose their active ingredients, citrus fruits freshly squeezed to preserve their vitamins, sea salt, and volcanic clay are the main elements of the beauty program designed by Daniela Steiner.

All of this is delivered in a spa where the motto is "Let yourself be pampered." Every treatment is personalized, being created according to the needs of the individual customer.

Inspired by the architectural concept of the old Trapani baglio (fortified farmhouse), the Kempinski Hotel Giardino di Costanza, a luxury 5-star hotel reflects the local culture and architecture of western Sicily with refinement and elegance.

The Wellness Package includes three nights in a deluxe double room; buffet breakfast; free use of the sauna, gym and pool; and a package of treatments for him and her including energizing treatment with Sicilian salt, purifying skin treatments, herbal massage, facial, manicure, and massage.

Prices range from approximately \$1,044 per person in a double Deluxe room, to approximately \$1,461 per person in the Campagna suite. The supplement for additional nights is approximately \$170 per person per night in a double Deluxe room and approximately \$309 per person per night in the Campagna suite.

Kempinski Hotel Giardino di Costanza,
info.mazara@kempinski.com, www.kempinski-sicily.com

GREECE GROUP DEALS

- ▶ Guaranteed Group rates for 2007
- ▶ Group requests usually quoted within 48 hours
- ▶ Athens, Classical sites, mainland and Greek Island programs
- ▶ Best Greek Island cruise quotes in the market
- ▶ Generous free Tour Leader policy
- ▶ Custom itineraries for incentives, meetings, religious, history, culinary, museum, archeology and general-interest groups



 **FreeGate Tourism**

800-223-0304
www.freegatetours.com

AFRIQIYAH AIRWAYS OPENS SALES AND TICKETING OFFICES IN U.S.

Afriqiyah Airways has announced its expansion into U. S. market with the opening of four Sales and Ticketing offices in Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles and New York.

Afriqiyah Airways is a carrier founded in 2001 to showcase a re-emerging Libya to the world stage. It flies a fleet of new A320s on its regional routes and has ordered new A330 aircraft for its longer haul expansion cities. With rapidly improving commercial and political relations between the United States and Libya, the carrier felt this was the time to establish a presence. In addition to growing commercial ties with the U.S., Libya has a wealth of Roman and indigenous historic tourism sites and venues of keen interest to intrepid American travelers. Afriqiyah Airways currently serves six key cities in Europe and connects these cities with a host of cities in Central and Western Africa through its home base and hub in Tripoli. The cities served in Europe are Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva, London (Gatwick), Paris (Charles de Gaulle), and Rome. It also serves Benghazi in Libya.

Cities served in Africa and the Middle East include Cairo, Jeddah, Lome, Bamako, Naimey, Accra, Lagos, Cotonou, Ndjamena, Douala, Khartoum Abidjan, Bangui and Ouagadougou.

With the opening of these offices Afriqiyah Airways will enhance the services provided to its valued American passengers and travel professionals. Extended reservation hours and sales support are available from 9:00 a.m. on the East coast to 5:00 p.m. on the West coast five days a week. By year's end these services will be expanded throughout the country.

Afriqiyah Airways, 877-FLY-0999, www.afriqi.net

TRAVEL EGYPT PRESENTS LUXURY PRIVATE TOUR OF EGYPT AND JORDAN

Travel Egypt presents the ultimate luxury Egypt and Jordan fully escorted private tour. This 24 day program treats guests like royalty from their arrival in Cairo until their departure. Guests will enjoy the comforts of the finest hotels including the Four Seasons, private palaces and king's retreats as they are led through history by Egypt and Jordan's top guides. Cruise the Nile on the new luxu-

rious French style Premier cruiser, the St. George.

The tour will introduce visitors to all the major sites along the Nile valley from the famous temples of Ramses at Abu Simbel to the shore of the Mediterranean Sea at Cleopatra's Alexandria. Travel through the Bible's book of Exodus with a visit to the Sinai. Continue the journey to Jordan where visitors will marvel at the "Rose Red city" Petra, see Wadi Rum (where Lawrence of Arabia operated in WWI), float on the Dead Sea, and gaze on the promised land from Mt. Nebo.

The tour is available October through May with weekly departures. This is a private tour, not a group program. Tour is priced from \$6,990 per person including air from New York.

Travel Egypt, 877-778-3497, travelegyptinc@gmail.com, www.travelegypt.com

PARTNERSHIP OF EUROPE BY AIR AND AEGEAN AIRLINES LINK EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST

Europe By Air expanded its flight network to include its unique FlightPass program one-way fares of \$129 between Athens, Greece and Cairo, Egypt. "Our long time partnership with Aegean Airlines and 22 other participating carriers is now expanded to include a network that not only offers cheap flights within Europe but beyond Europe." said Bill Wolf, EuropebyAir President. "This is but a first step in our developing links between Europe and the Middle East for our clients."

Aegean Airlines' scheduled flights between Athens and Cairo operate five times a week. Aegean also flies internationally between Greece and Germany, Italy, Hungary, Bulgaria and Cyprus. All Aegean international destinations are available at the \$129 fare and Aegean's domestic scheduled services between the Islands and the Greek mainland are available at \$99. FlightPass fares are one-way and do not include local taxes or fees. Confirmed reservations are made in advance and no fees apply for changes. Buy as few or as many FlightPasses as needed. FlightPasses can be used on any of the 23 participating airlines, and are valid for 120 days but are non refundable.

Europe By Air, 888-387-2479, www.EuropebyAir.com



www.travelegypt.com
Everything you need to know.

History comes alive with our classic Nile valley tours led by top Egyptologists.
And UNIQUE programs including:

- The Ladies tour:** In depth examination of Egypt's Queens and Goddesses.
- Child's Egypt:** The perfect tour for families.
- Birds of the Pharaohs:** Combining history with incredible bird watching.
- The David Robert's Photography tour,** for amateurs and experts.

Plus walking tours, sport fishing, scuba diving, camel treks and more.
toll free: 1-877-778-3497
email: travelegyptusa@gmail.com

Logos: ASTA TOP TOUR OPERATOR PROGRAM, OSSN, CLIA, EGYPT

MEDITERRANEAN

TRAVEL EGYPT PRESENTS A "CHILD'S EGYPT" TOUR

Travel Egypt presents a special tour designed for families with children ranging in age from preschool to teens. While the program features introduction to the major historic sites of Egypt it does so in a "hands on" environment by exposing the children to a living history example of what life was like in ancient Egypt for both the royal families and the workers. Instead of being "tombled out" by repetitious visitations to places that after a few days all resemble one another, they are transported in time to relive the adventure and thrill of events as they occurred. Not only that, but they will be entertained by camel rides into the desert, sailing on the Nile in a Felucca (native sailboat), entering a pyramid, climbing around old fortresses, and a hot air balloon ride over the Necropolis of Thebes (Luxor). They will come to know the sophisticated city children of Cairo and the village children of upper Egypt (plus if you elect a visit to the Sinai, exposure to life as the nomadic Bedouin live it).

They will also have time to enjoy the family oriented first class hotels, chosen especially for this tour, that offer not only fine accommodations but giant swimming pools, entertainment centers, playgrounds and various sports activities.

Departures are September through May. The nine-day/eight-night tour starts at \$2,495 for adults and \$1,095 for children, including air from New York. The 15-day/14-night program starts at \$3,795 for adults and \$1,495 for children including air from New York.

The tour is commissionable to IATA, OSSN and CLIA agents. Travel Egypt, travelegypt@gmail.com, www.travelegypt.com

GOWAY PRESENTS AFRICAEXPERTS' ETERNAL EGYPT

AFRICA Experts by Goway encourages travelers to discover the ancient culture of Egypt in style and luxury, and offers a wide range of travel options throughout Egypt to suit all tastes. Egypt has a vast array of temples, monuments and archeological sites for visitors to explore.

AFRICAExperts' touring options are flexible and can be customized and combined to come up with the perfect vacation. A Nile Cruise is a highlight of the Egyptian experience; visitors can view landscape and scenery that they would otherwise miss by flying between destinations. Cairo is also a "must see," and a visit to Egypt is not complete without experiencing Old Cairo, the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities which holds the Tutankhamen collection, and a visit to the Great Pyramids and Sphinx. Feature tours include the 15-day Mysteries and Magic of Egypt priced from \$1,561. This tour includes eight-days in Cairo and a seven-day Nile cruise from Luxor, plus a bonus offer of up to six free nights accommodation in the Red Sea Resort of Ein Sokhna.

For travelers with limited vacation time, the popular nine-day Classic Egypt tour which includes four days in Cairo and five-day Nile cruise from Luxor is priced from \$1,296. A highly recommended post-tour excursion would be a visit to Abu Simbel to see

Amsterdam • Athens • Brussels • Catania • Casablanca • Frankfurt
Geneva • London • Moscow • Milan • Paris • Prague • Rome • Zurich
...and 30 other major destinations.



A natural hub at the center of the Mediterranean and accessible from most European gateways, Malta is both a safe and exciting destination. For travel originating from the USA we can offer you net fare agreements with Delta, Northwest and Virgin Atlantic.



AIR MALTA

www.airmalta.com

1-866-357-4155

e-mail: info@worldaviation.com
www.worldaviation.com

the Temples of Ramses II. The temples were cut from the rock face, shifted to higher ground in the 1960's and rescued as the waters of Lake Nasser began to rise following completion of the Aswan High Dam.

Any of these travel ideas can be combined and incorporated into AFRICAExperts programs throughout North Africa and East Africa. AFRICAExperts is the exclusive division of Goway Travel that specializes in safaris and vacations to this amazing continent. AFRICAExperts/ GOWAY Travel Inc., 800-245-0920, africaexperts@goway.com, info@goway.com, www.africaexperts.com, www.goway.com

MEDITERRANEAN

resource directory

Academic Tours
800-875-9171
www.academictours.com

Air Malta
866-357-4155
info@worldaviation.com
www.airmalta.com

Freigate Tours
800-223-0304
www.freegatetours.com

Goway
800-387-8850
www.goway.com

Travel Egypt
877-778-3947
travelegyptinfo@gmail.com
www.travelegypt.us

Venezia Lines
simon@venezialines.com
www.venezialines.com

For additional listings please visit the online resource directory: www.travelworldnews.com/agent

MARRIOTT NEW ORLEANS AT CONVENTION CENTER NAMES MONIQUE COOLING DIRECTOR OF SALES & MARKETING

Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center has named Monique Cooling as the new Director of Sales and Marketing. Cooling brings over five years of hospitality sales experience to the table and will be responsible for all aspects of sales and marketing for the property.

In her new position, Cooling will oversee the daily activities for the riverfront hotel including sales and marketing performance, guest services and more. The property, located in the Warehouse/Arts District and a short walking distance from the French Quarter, features 320 guestrooms, 11 suites and 24,464 square-feet of meeting and event space with 18 meeting rooms.

"I am thrilled to be joining the dynamic and hardworking team at the Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center," said Cooling. "I am looking forward to being a part of what makes this special hotel even more successful in the New Orleans market and helping further enhance our guests' experiences."

Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center, 866-530-3763, www.neworleans.marriott.com, marriott.com

"STAY ANOTHER DAY" AT WINDSOR COURT HOTEL THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2007



Visitors to New Orleans can enjoy a complimentary extra night on the new Club Floor at the Windsor Court Hotel. The property was recently voted the Number One hotel in New Orleans by Zagat Guide 2007.

The four upper floors of the hotel are ded-

icated Club Floors, offering distinctive accommodations with the finest views of the city and Mississippi river. With private keycard security access, the Windsor Court adds luxury to luxury, creating premium room design, personal butler service and amenities carefully selected to pamper guests.

The hotel's "Stay Another Day" promotion gives guests the opportunity to stay three nights in a room or suite on the Club Floor with the fourth night complimentary. This offer is valid May 1 to September 30, 2007 and subject to availability (not available during city wide conventions and special festival dates.) Club Guest Rooms are from \$289 to \$475 per night, Club Junior Suites from \$299 to \$525 per night, and Club Full Suites are \$329 to \$575 per night, based on double occupancy, exclusive of taxes and service.

Club Floor guests have exclusive access to the new Club Lounge with its outdoor terraces offering views of the Mississippi and an indoor drawing room accented with fireplace, Steinway grand piano and a library.

At the Windsor Court guests may have in-room spa treatments, dine in the New Orleans Grill or swim in the rooftop pool. The hotel is the gateway to the best of New Orleans. This offer provides extra time to dine around the city, see the mansions in the Garden District, ride the streetcars, tour the city and museums, or take a kayak excursion through the swamps surrounding the city.

The Windsor Court Hotel,
888-596-0955, 800-237-1236,
res@windsorcourthotel.com,
www.windsorcourthotel.com,
www.orient-expresshotels.com

THE GREENBRIER RESORT REOPENED APRIL 2

After an extensive \$50 million renovation project, The Greenbrier resort in West Virginia reopened on April 2, 2007. The legendary property will debut 63 updated guest rooms with new marble bathrooms, updated décor, executive-style desks with larger workspaces, and new furniture. All of the resort's 721 guest rooms will be out-

fitted with new bedding and linens, large plasma-screen televisions, and enhanced bathroom amenities. An entirely new culinary experience will debut summer 2007 with the opening of Hemisphere, a new restaurant with a globally-influenced tasting menu, and 38°80, a unique cocktail lounge. The Greenbrier will continue to offer over 85,000-square-feet of available meeting space, over 50 recreational activities to its guests, including indoor and outdoor tennis, golf on three championship courses, rock climbing, tours, falconry, fishing, off-road driving, and use of the property's 40,000 square-foot spa.

"Wonderful changes are coming," says Paul Ratchford, President of The Greenbrier resort. "This significant renovation project will ensure that The Greenbrier continues to provide its valued guests with the impeccable service and amenities that the resort has been famous for since 1778."

The Greenbrier will continue to be an ideal setting for meetings and conventions of any size. The Greenbrier Conference Center boasts a three-level wing that comprises over 85,000-square-feet of flexible meeting space. Over 50 meeting rooms are available for guest use. The Greenbrier is also an ideal destination for weddings, banquets, business meetings and reunions. Additional meeting spaces include outdoor venues and locations such as terraces, patios, roof-top gardens, and a 16,500-square-foot exhibit hall. Meeting planners are available to guests seeking service in regards to preparation and ideas.

Under the direction of Chef Michael Voltaggio, Hemisphere will herald a departure from

The Greenbrier's previous dining experience. Serving only dinner five nights a week, the Hemisphere menu will feature a choice of up to four tasting menus paired with wine and cocktail flights. The Greenbrier's new cocktail lounge also debuting this summer, 38°80, will feature hand-crafted flights and artisan garnishes along with world lounge music.

The Greenbrier Resort, 800-624-6070,
www.greenbrier.com

JOHANNA FRAGANO ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF EHMA



JOHANNA FRAGANO

An historic decision was made for EHMA (European Hotel Managers Association): Johanna Fragano, National Delegate Italy and Malta, was the first lady elected Chairman of the Association. It happened during the 34th General Meeting held recently in Munich. The new Management Council for the term 2007/2010 also includes Peter Bierwirth, National Delegate Germany (First Vice President), and Manuel Otero Alvarado, National Delegate Spain (Second Vice President).

"I have a great trust in the future," says the new EHMA president. "In the next three years we can continue to grow. Not only that, we can accomplish important projects to the benefit of the members, our companies and the big global family of tourism, by supporting peace and environment for ourselves and the next generations."

EHMA is a non profit association founded in Rome in 1974, formed by 450 hotel managers of four and five star hotels at European level, committed to maintaining professional development as well as the amicable and ethical spirit of this profession.

EHMA, secretariat.ehma@ehma.com

THE TRAVEL INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES NEW BENEFITS FOR CTA CANDIDATES

The Travel Institute has added new benefits and value to its Certified Travel Associate (CTA) program for 2007. CTA candidates can now participate in free online reviews of the eight core courses as well as a test preparation session with an Institute facilitator. Candidates have also started receiving new electronic bi-monthly Study Buddy newsletters containing motivational tips and strategies to help them stay on track while they study.

In addition, CTA candidates now have access to a special section of The Travel Institute discussion board where they can ask questions, share ideas, and make new friends. After earning the CTA designation, graduates will also receive a \$100 credit toward either the CTC or CTIE course.

Launched in 1997, the CTA certification program is primarily geared to front-line travel professionals who have 12-18 months of industry experience. More than 7,000 travel professionals have earned the CTA designation.

"Because so many frontline and home-based agents who enroll in CTA study independently, we wanted to provide them opportunities to network and communicate with their peers through the newsletters, discussion board, and online study groups," said Pat Gagnon, CTC, director of program development. "Earning the CTA designation is a great way for travel professionals to achieve more credibility from their clients as well as their peers."

The Travel Institute, 800-542-4282, www.thetravelinstitute.com

MARIINSKY PACKAGE AT CORINTHIA NEVSKIJ PALACE HOTEL



Corinthia Nevskij Palace Hotel's entrance Ballet Imperial at the Mariinsky Theatre.

Take part in one of the world's most revered cultural attractions during St. Petersburg, Russia's spectacular "White Nights" season, courtesy of the five-star Corinthia Nevskij Palace Hotel.

During the May - July period of the "White Nights" in St Petersburg, the sun doesn't set until late at night. City evenings come alive with individuals strolling along the stone quarries enjoying the fabulous city panorama, dining out late and attending the superb cultural events for which St. Petersburg has long been noted.

In its special "Mariinsky Package" offered from May 10 - July 20, 2007, Corinthia Nevskij Palace Hotel guests can enjoy a sumptuous buffet-breakfast, dinner for two in the Landskrona restaurant (without beverages), early check in and late check out options when available, and most excitingly, tickets to the acclaimed Mariinsky Theatre. The total price per person is \$664 in a double room, all taxes included (an extra night is \$439 per double room, including breakfast and VAT).

The Mariinsky Theatre plays an important role in the life of St. Petersburg. This season, it will host the 15th International Festival of Classical Arts "Stars of the White Nights" which runs annually on the main stage of the theatre. Distinguished conductors, instrumentals and singers participate in the festival. This year, in addition to the main stage, the festival performances will also be held in the recently restored Mariinsky theater concert hall, which was destroyed by fire in 2003.

Situated on the famous Nevskij Prospect, the five-star Corinthia Nevskij Palace Hotel is central to every neighborhood in St. Petersburg. All of the major historical sites including the Hermitage Museum and the Winter Palace, the Alexander Nevskij monastery, St. Isaacs Cathedral are nearby, as are the major business districts. By 2008, the Corinthia Nevskij Palace Hotel will be the largest luxury property in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Corinthia Hotels, www.corinthiahotels.com

MICROTEL INNS & SUITES AND HAWTHORN SUITES TO FEATURE 'SHORT STATURE ACCESSIBILITY KITS' IN ALL HOTELS

To better serve the over 1.2 million Americans of short stature, Microtel Inns & Suites and Hawthorn Suites are providing accessibility products preferred by Little People at all of the brands' nearly 400 hotels currently open around the U.S., which will also become 'Little People Friendly Locations.' Microtel Inns & Suites and Hawthorn Suites are the only hotel chains to offer the 'Short Stature Accessibility Kit' tools and training system wide.

The Short Stature Accessibility Kit, designed by Direct Access Solutions, includes a custom stepstool, ergonomic reach grabber, door security latch adapter, extension or 'push-pull' tool, and specially designed closet rod adapter.

Both Microtel and Hawthorn Suites have a longstanding commitment to provide

quality accommodations and service to travelers with disabilities and are sponsors of The Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality (SATH). Microtel also recently received the Eagle Award from Disability Rights Advocates (DRA) for excellence in providing accessible lodging and for making a significant contribution to the advancement of people with disabilities.

Direct Access Solutions (DAS),
www.lp-access.com;
Microtel Inns & Suites, 800-771-7171,
www.microtelinn.com;
Hawthorn Suites, 800-527-1133,
www.hawthorn.com;
The Society for Accessible Travel & Hospitality (SATH), www.sath.org

TRAVCOA JOINS ATS

American Tourism Society (ATS) announced that California-based Travcoa was its newest member. The announcement was made by ATS Executive Vice President, Don Reynolds. Louise Shumbris, Vice President of Product Operations and Development, will represent Travcoa.

ATS is a New York-based professional travel industry association dedicated to promoting, developing and expanding high-quality, reliable travel between North America and the ATS destination areas: the Baltics, Central and Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean/Red Sea Region and Russia.

"Our decision to join ATS was based on the fact that Travcoa and ATS share a similar vision and history, pioneering new destinations and opening up new worlds for the traveler," said Ms. Shumbris.

Reynolds said "We are very pleased to welcome Travcoa and look forward to working together to further strengthen ATS's mission." He also noted that Travcoa's decision to join ATS is evidence of the fact that ATS is rapidly gaining recognition in the travel industry as an effective and meaningful organization, committed to education of, and practical information for, its members." The next ATS conference will take place in Croatia, April 15-20, 2007. **ATS, www.americantourismsociety.org**
Travcoa, www.travcoa.com

TRAVEL INSURED INTERNATIONAL OFFERS TRAVEL PROTECTION

Travel Insured International, the service focused travel protection company, reminds travel sellers and consumers that untimely weather events should not blow away good travel investments as they disrupt good travel plans. A comprehensive travel insurance plan, such as Travel Insured's Worldwide Trip Protector, offers several benefits designed to provide financial protection from travel disruptions created by storms.

If a trip is cancelled due to weather which causes complete cessation of services of the common carrier for 24 consecutive hours, Travel Insured can reimburse the insured traveler for up to the total cost of the trip.

Worldwide Trip Protector's trip delay benefits can provide an insured up to \$150 per day in meal or lodging expenses, or pre-paid, unused land or water accommodations, if the trip is delayed for six or more hours due to a carrier-caused delay including bad weather.

The same travel delay benefits of up to \$150 per day can apply when an insured traveler is delayed on the way to the airport by a traffic accident, whether the insured is directly or indirectly involved in the collision.

An insured whose primary residence – or destination's accommodations – are made uninhabitable by flood, fire or other natural disaster within 10 days of a scheduled trip departure date can be reimbursed for up to the total cost of an insured trip.

Missed connection provides coverage if a flight is delayed, including for bad weather, of three hours or more causes insured travelers to miss a cruise or tour departure. Worldwide Trip Protector offers protection for lost baggage and personal effects, as well as for delayed baggage that is misdirected for more than 24 hours from time of arrival at your destination.

If your passport or medications are lost, Travel Insured can reimburse your costs to replace them.

Travel Insured International,
www.travelinsured.com

ARTA
100%
Travel Agents.

We're proud to say
that ARTA
does not accept
airlines or
other suppliers
as members.

We work
ONLY
for agents!

Sign up for our
FREE
30-day trial membership:
www.artaonline.com

FRANCE, MONACO, ITALY

Unique World Cruises is offering a Fam Trip to France, Monaco, and Italy November 8-15, 2007. This eight-day discounted tour features Nice, Cannes, and Monte Carlo with optional excursions to San Tropez and San Remo. Price is from \$1,198 per person and includes air via Air France from New York, accommodations in first class hotel, double room, buffet breakfast and dinner daily, welcome dinner and farewell dinner in Nice, hotel and local tourist taxes, airport transfers, and guided city tours of Nice, Cannes and Monaco. Trip includes the service of local guides. Single supplement is \$178. Airport taxes are \$268.

Unique World Cruises, 800-669-0757,
uwc@uniqueworldcruises.com, www.uniqueworldcruises.com

MEXICO

Desire Resorts, the duo of clothing optional retreats for couples only in Mexico has announced 2007 travel agent familiarization rates. Agents can now experience the new Desire Resort & Spa Los Cabos in Baja with special Travel Agent Rates good for the entire year. Through December 20, 2007, stay for a rate of \$80 per person, per night. (Rate is applicable for only for Superior Room bookings.) Agents can also experience Desire Resort & Spa Riviera Maya. It is located 20 minutes from Cancun-yet secluded and private. With its beach and its perfectly conceived adult amenities, it is the ultimate couples only all-inclusive resort in the Cancun area. From May 1-December 25, 2007, rates are \$93 per night for a Garden View Room and \$108 for an Ocean View Room.

Rates are per person, per night based on double occupancy. Rates include all meals, unlimited liquors and tropical cocktails, room service, and resort activities and taxes and tips. Rates are subject to availability and hotel confirmation. All reservations must be clearly identified as "Travel Agent Special" and at least one person in the party must be a registered Travel Agent and present an IATA number upon check in. All reservations must be sent directly to the hotel at reservcabos@desireresorts.com

Desire Resorts, 888-201-7551, reservcabos@desireresorts.com,
www.desireresorts.com

NICARAGUA

Tara Tours Inc. has announced their Educational Familiarization trip for IATA/CLIA Travel Agents. American Airlines, the sponsor airline, will be taking agents from the Gateway City of Miami to discover Nicaragua on May 21, 2007.

This eight-day/seven-night program is \$999 per travel agent based on double occupancy. Spouse/companion welcome at an additional cost. The Fam trip includes: a Tara Tours escort; round trip international air from the gateway city of Miami on American Airlines; one night at the five-star Crowne Plaza Hotel in Managua; one night at the five-star Real Continental Hotel in Managua; one night in Ometepe Island at the Villia Paraiso Hotel; two nights at the Dario Hotel in Granada; two nights at the five-star Barcelo Montelimar Beach Resort; tours of the colonial towns of Leon and

Granada; excursion to the Masaya Volcano - active since 1946; full day excursion with boat ride to Lake Nicaragua and the Ometepe Island (world's largest island in a lake); 14 meals total including breakfasts daily; all transfers, taxes and land transportation with English speaking guides; and all tips to guides and drivers.

Tara Tours, Trips@taratours.com

RUSSIAN WATERWAYS

Imperial River Cruises is offering a 15-day Fam cruise from Istanbul to Kiev on June 2-16, 2007. Prices for travel agents start from \$1,390 (tax not included), companion + \$150. The trip begins in Turkey's capital, Istanbul and visits Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova, and Crimea. The trip finishes in one of the oldest cities in Eastern Europe, ancient capital of Kievan Rus, "The Mother of Russian Cities": Kiev.

Imperial River Cruises, 866-922-4640, river@cruisebyriver.com,
www.cruisebyriver.com

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Sterling Vacations is offering an eight-day/seven-night Best of the West Med cruise onboard Louis Cruises' *m/s Coral*. The 676 passenger ship sails easily into the ports of France, Spain, Italy and Morocco. Guests will enjoy Moorish architecture, an optional overland excursion to Granada and Alhambra Palace, the jet-set night life of Ibiza, the intriguing sights of Tangiers and more. You can alternatively board on Fridays in Barcelona, Saturdays in Genoa, or Sundays in Marseille.

Departures from Marseille are May 13, 27; June 10, 24; July 8; September 2, 16, 30; October 14, 28; and November 4. The specials price is \$899 inside / \$1,099 oceanview + tax (save \$600-\$2,000 per cabin). All rates are ppdo.

Sterling Vacations, 866-345-7755, info@sterlingvacations.com,
www.sterlingvacations.com

IATA

→ **100,000** of them are getting theirs this year.
Are you getting yours?

A global network of over 100,000 travel agencies have been profiting from the benefits of **IATA/IATAN accreditation**.

To make sure you get yours, visit our Website at www.iatan.org

IATAN

Experience Europe by Eurail!

Eurail Passes make the journey as memorable as the destinations



Sit back and relax as the great sweep of Europe rolls past your window. There's no more enjoyable way to see the entire continent than from the comfort of a train. Glide from city to city via ravishing countryside and charming villages. It's an experience like no other as you sample contrasting cultures, meet different people and arrive energized and ready to take in the sights.

Eurail offers a range of rail passes to suit every traveler's needs, whether your customer wants to discover the whole continent, or focus on just one or two countries.

Discover Eurail's New Destinations; the Eurail Czech Republic-Germany and Germany-Poland Passes are available this Spring!

Welcome to Europe by Eurail!



The best way to see Europe

To purchase, see your local travel agent or contact one of the following authorized Eurail Sales Agents:



eurail.com



1-866-9-EURAIL
acprail.com



1-866-WORLD-51
flightcentre.com



gta-travel.com



1-800-4-EURAIL
agent.raileurope.com