

Destinations by Donna

DestinationsByDonna.com



December

2011

Merry Christmas!



Thank you!

Joyeux Noël!

Mele Kalikimaka!

Great Values!

Costa Rica—10 day tour, includes all meals, activities and taxes. From \$1209 per person, double occupancy. Land only.

Golf in the Seychelle Islands –6 nights Lemuria Resort, 5 days golf, inter-island air, transfers, breakfast and dinner daily. \$3,910 per golfer, plus taxes and fees. I can arrange air for you as well.

The World Through My Eyes

On a crisp December morning, I find myself walking down a forest path of wood chips. I'm surprised that I don't feel the wind that usually accompanies any visit in a coastal area. The headlands at Port Orford, Oregon are certainly coastal! I catch the delicate scent of evergreens. There is little sound as we traverse these wooded trails. The only other walkers who seem to be out are a nice couple with their little dog. Coming out of the trees into the sun, I find out where that wind has been waiting for me! Now I feel the strong breeze coming off ocean. The views of sand, rocks and sea, as well as the invigorating walking, make me breathless! Going back to the parking lot, I feel that I've been given a gift--experiencing the beauty of the earth, company of good friends, and a bit of exercise thrown into the bargain! Just then, the "walking couple" come running by as they do their second lap at a pretty good clip. Good for them, but I'm happy with my bit of a walk. Time now for Fish and Chips at the Crazy Norwegian in Port Orford!

Looking to the future

River boat cruising, as a trend in travel, is exploding! Cruise companies are increasing their number of boats and expanding to worldwide coverage. Next summer there will be a new cruise in Africa aboard the Zambezi Queen!

Travel Tip for Today

Say "Thanks!" Remember to say thanks to people who make your travel a good experience. Flight attendants, desk clerks, housekeeping. A small tip is nice, but a heartfelt "thank you" goes a long way! Want to give a gift to someone who travels? How about a magazine or two that relate to a subject they enjoy (quilting, fashion, fishing, cooking, travel—of course!). No guilt about leaving it on the plane for someone else to enjoy. A Starbucks card that can be used in airports and most cities is always welcome. TSA locks are another nice option.

Destination of the Month

The **Netherlands!** Sometimes we just call it **Holland**, but whatever we call this lovely gem of a country, it brings to mind windmills, wooden shoes (yes, some people still wear them), tulips, bicycles, diamonds, great painters, wonderful textiles, and the list goes on! 2012 is the year of the **Floriade** World Horticulture Expo! Once every decade this event takes place in **Venlo**. Make plans now! Go in the spring for flowers—visit the **Kuekenhof** gardens in **Lisse** — incredible! **Amsterdam**—**Rijksmuseum** to see old masters. **Van Gogh Museum** —I love this place and go whenever in town! The **Anne Frank House** is not to be missed. For a bit of fun try **Madurodam** in the **Hague**—The Netherlands in miniature—reopening in April! **Delft**—amazing pottery—not all is blue and white. I have a lovely piece with green and gold. Let me help you experience this European gem!

If you can't go there, go here!

Local Christmas programs and lights— Check local churches for times—free music and programs that bring a smile to your face and peace to your heart. Walk the downtown streets of your local town during an evening to see the lights and decorations. Free is a very good price for this gift to yourself!

Mahalo!

Frohe Weihnachten!

イスタスロウーリス

Arigatou!

Gracias!

!Feliz Navidad!

Selamat Hari Krismasi!

Dankē!

Glædelig júl!

Merci!

Vinaka!

God Jul!

즐거은 성탄절 되세요!

Grazie!

Check out where I've been recently on my blog!
<http://destinationsbydonna.wordpress.com/>

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