

TRAVELIN'...

Community Education Travel Newsletter



Community Education
TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 214

June - August 2012

CET on the Cutting Edge in 2013

What do Chicago's Cadillac Palace Theatre's *War Horse*, Arkansas's *Crystal Bridges*, California's Pageant of the Masters, Iceland and Ireland all have in common? They have all been designated the "go-to" destinations for 2013 and CET has them all on the schedule.

Currently in London and on Broadway, *War Horse* is set in 1914 England and tells the moving story of a boy named Albert and his search for his horse Joey, sold to the WWI Cavalry and taken from England to France. A highlight is the astonishing life-sized puppets created by South Africa's Handspring Puppet Company that bring to life breathing, galloping, charging horses strong enough for the actors to ride. The show has received rave reviews and is scheduled for a limited run in Chicago from December 18-January 5. CET has loge tickets for the January 2 matinee with lunch at Russian Tea Time. Don't miss it!

Each year Conde Nast's *Travel and Leisure* Magazine comes out with it's "must-see" destinations. Of the twelve chosen in 2012 only one was within the United States. That destination was Bentonville, Arkansas, home base for Walmart and now home to *Crystal Bridges* Museum of American Art. CET will take you there April 29-May 4. *Crystal Bridges* is the dream-come-true for Walmart's youngest heir, Alice Walton, who used her considerable wealth (estimated by Forbes at \$21 billion) to showcase her impressive collection of American Art. From Stuart to Copley and Homer to Eakins with a splash of Warhol and Holzer, the museum sits on 120 wooded acres, designed to bring the visitor to nature's masterpieces as well.

The trip also includes time in Tulsa for a walking tour of the Underground Tunnels and a visit to the Gilcrease Museum, dedicated to art and artifacts of the American West; a stop in Eureka Springs; and a visit with "Miss Laura" who will tell us the history of the Old West at Ft Smith. The tour will end in Little Rock with a guided tour of the President William J Clinton Library, a stop at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and a dinner cruise aboard the Arkansas Queen. Maybe we'll even stop at Walmart!

(Continued on Page 3)



A First!

CET Travelers--the first to go to Cuba!--gather in Revolution Square. CET still has some space on its second departure September 6-14. Keep in mind the license to travel to Cuba is only good for 2012 and there's no guarantee it will be issued for 2013. Don't miss this chance!

2012 - 13 CALENDAR

Day Trips

Jul 11 "MythBusters" at Museum of Science
Sep 7 Frank Lloyd Wright's Oak Park
Sep 20 More of Magnificent Milwaukee
Oct 4 "42nd Street" at Munster Theatre
Oct 16 Morton Arboretum Fall Colors
Nov 8 San Filippo Estate
Dec 6 "Plaid Tidings" at Munster Theatre
Dec 13 Chicago Christmas Lights/Lawry's
Jan 2 War Horse--Cadillac Palace

Motorcoach Tours

Sep 19 - 21 Frankenmuth Oktoberfest
Oct 3 - 4 Galena & Dubuque River Museum**
Oct 10 - 12 WI Cranberry Autumn Harvest
Nov 9 - 10 Fireside Theatre & House on the Rock Holiday **
May 15 - 18 Made in Michigan/Ford Museum

Extended Tours

Sep 29 - Oct 5 New England Foliage
Oct 7 - 14 Autumn in the Adirondacks & Hudson River Valley
Oct 20 - 31 Burgundy Provence River Cruise
Oct 25 - 30 Churchill Polar Bears
Nov 3 - 10 Disney for Adults*/**
Nov 16 - 19 Nashville Country Christmas
Jan 10 - 29 Australia/New Zealand
Jan 19 - 26 Dominican Republic
Feb 6 - 12 Florida Keys
Feb 20 - 26 Yellowstone in Winter
Apr 2 - 6 Washington, DC
Apr 22 - 30 Paris/Normandy River Cruise
Apr 29 - May 4 Arkansas Crystal Bridges
May 26 - Jun 4 Alaska
Jul 11 - 19 Iceland
Jul 14 - 26 Russian River Cruise
Jul 23 - 27 Pageant of the Masters, Laguna Beach, CA

*CET Limited Numbers Tour
**CET Sole Use Tour

SPOTLIGHT: Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic is a land of contrasts – it has the highest peak and the lowest point in the Caribbean and the urban street life of its capital, Santo Domingo is the opposite of rural villages only a short drive away. Santo Domingo is a collage of cultures, a vibrant beating heart that fuels the entire country. It's also a living museum, offering the sight of New World firsts (Columbus landed here first!) scattered around the charming cobblestone streets of the Zona Colonial. The Dominican Republic is also famous for the large all-inclusive resorts that dominate much of the country's prime beachfront. Beyond these gated luxury enclaves, the roads lead inland past vast sugar plantations and through small villages. Experience this for yourself as you leave the cold Chicago winter behind on CET's trip to Punta Cana, Dominican Republic January 19-26. Punta Cana is located at the southeastern tip of the country. Some of the best beaches in the world can be found here, with dazzlingly



Some of the best beaches in the world can be found in the Dominican Republic. The Riu Palace Macao Hotel (right photo) awaits!

white sand, turquoise waters and coconut palms growing right down to the sea's edge. You'll stay at the all-inclusive Riu Palace Macao, a property that blends into its surroundings with its silky white beach and hundreds of palm trees. All meals, drinks and non-motorized water sports are included as well as air from Chicago, transportation to/from O'Hare and to/from the resort.

Your trip also includes a choice of two educational tours to learn about the history, nature and significance of the area. Choose from a tour of Santo Domingo, an enlightening cruise on the Chavon River, a dolphin encounter or a backroads tour. So get away from the winter weather and head to a country known for beaches, baseball, merengue and cigars.



MESSAGE FROM LINDA

In our last issue I tried to describe the magic in the air one experiences when they take our Disney for Adults tour. There's another place I and our travelers have also felt the magic and it's Yellowstone in Winter. We are bringing back this popular trip February 20-26. If you've visited the park in the summertime you were undoubtedly impressed, but, having been there myself and hearing the responses from our clients who have been there in the past, the only thing

more impressive than Yellowstone in the summer is Yellowstone in the winter.

Just imagine the spray from Old Faithful and the steam from the Fountain Paint Pots rising in the cold winter air to crystalize on the tree branches. See how easy it is to spot a herd of bison with their brown shaggy winter coats against a snow-white background. Your photos will be stunning!

The best part? No crowds! Often times it's just you and your traveling companions cruising along in your Bombardier Sno-Coach making photo stops at one amazing sight after another. The only other group you may run into is a group of snowmobilers at a rest stop. You compare notes on the comfort of a Sno-Coach to riding on a snowmobile and go your separate ways.

Another "pinch-me" moment is in Jackson, the start of your tour, when you take a sleigh ride through the National Elk Refuge. While safe and cozy under your warm blanket as the Belgian horses pull you through the refuge, you don't know where to look first--the hundreds of elk, the majestic bald eagles in the trees, the noisy trumpeter swans in the lake or the menacing coyotes on the outer rim hunting for the weakest elk. Magical, right?

There's much more as well. From the three-mile hike around the Upper Geyser Basin to catch erupting geysers (if I can do it, you can!) to watching for a wolf pack in the Lamar Valley to learning about the natural wildlife at the Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center, you'll definitely be "wowed".

So, whether it be Yellowstone in Winter or Disney in Fall (still a few seats left) come along and let CET bring you the magic!



CET Manager Linda Kerr braves the elements as she poses outside the Sno-Coach used to travel through Yellowstone.

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Mark Your Calendars!

CET's next Travel Talks! will be on September 12. More details in the next *Travelin'*.

Travel Tip

Want to learn how to speak a few basic words in a foreign language to prepare for your trip? Go to www.travlang.com --the website shows you the word and even speaks it for you.

Don't delay -- book today! Some of the 2012 trips are close to being sold out. Call 847-718-7709. Don't wait too long!

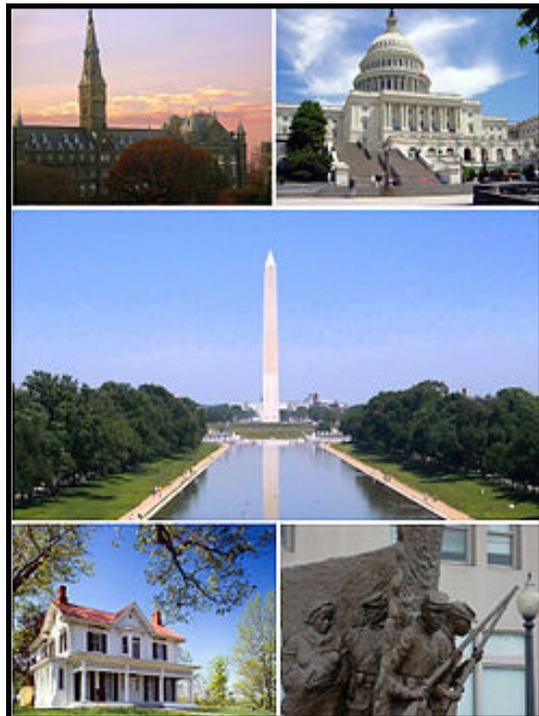


CET Visits Vienna

CET travelers pose in front of the Hofburg Palace in Vienna during their Blue Danube River Cruise in April.

Wanted: Readers

CET would like to start a Travel Book Club. To begin, we are looking for interested readers who have been or currently are in a Book Club to join us in a focus group on July 25 at 10 a.m. in the CET office to gather ideas on how to set up a Book Club. If you are interested in either the Focus Group and/or eventually being a part of our Book Club, call 847-718-7799 or e-mail: linda.kerr@d214.org.



Coming in 2013

It's your chance to visit our Nation's Capital. From April 2 - 6 you'll see the monuments, museums and government buildings that represent our nation. Stay in one hotel and maybe see a cherry blossom or two!

CET on the Cutting Edge...(from page 1)

Hey, did that painting just move? Welcome to the **Pageant of the Masters**, an event held every summer at the Festival of Arts in Laguna Beach, California. The pageant began in 1933

and is THE event known for its *tableaux vivant* or "living pictures" in which classical and contemporary works of art are recreated by real people who are made to look nearly identical to the originals through costumes, makeup, lighting, props and backdrops. The 90-minute performance features an accompanying 35-piece symphony orchestra and live narration in a 2,600-seat outdoor amphitheater, located just six blocks from the beach. Even more amazing? Watching the paintings deconstruct. The dates are July 23-27 and include a day on Catalina Island, Afternoon Tea at the Huntington Library and visits to the Getty Center with its breathtaking views of the Los Angeles valley, and to the Nethercutt Museum, home to antique cars, music boxes and antique furnishing, all restored to perfect working order. So don't stand still, call us today!

Iceland and Ireland, two destinations separated by one letter and 900 miles, are both multiple-category winners in Fodor's *Travel's* Best of Europe Survey. **Iceland** ranked first on both the "Emerging Hot Spots" and "Best Place to Visit in Europe This Summer" lists. CET is going July 11-19 and it's a small-group departure. A group of 12-24 makes it easier to do some of the popular summer activities such as a bike tour of Reykjavik, a deep sea angling expedition or a volcanic cave hike. You'll also visit a family that keeps alive a 400-year-old tradition of catching and preserving Greenland shark. Of course, you'll swim in the geo-thermal waters of the Blue Lagoon and cruise out to Melrakkay Island, a Puffin sanctuary. Be amazed by Iceland's natural wonders on the Golden Circle, a route which encompasses double waterfalls, rugged rift valleys and volcanic fields. Don't forget all that Icelandic history and lore, some of which you'll learn at the former home of Erik the Red. It's the perfect time to visit the Land of Fire and Ice!

Ireland's accolades include second place for its capital, Dublin, being an "Emerging Hot Spot", third place as a "Best Value Destination"

Testimonials

"I'm looking forward to another CET trip. This was my first overnightone and I was very impressed with the attention to detail."
Billie T --Shipshewana and Amish Backroads

"Great Tour. Educational and Fun! Door-to-door service was pleasant and welcome relief from the traditional travel ordeals."
Damji S--Memphis Kings and Civil War Generals by Rail

"Excellent Tour Director, excellent (hotel) location, excellent food--excellent tour!" Catherine D. New York City Tour

and top honors for "Friendliest Place". Everyone who's been to Ireland can attest to the wonderful welcoming people. From the friendly knowledgeable driver/guide who teaches you Irish history as well as a song or two to the hotel staff who make you feel like you're visiting their home to the lively locals at the local pub who have story upon story, Ireland deserves that first place spot. Experience this September 11-22 as CET tours the entire island. See Trinity College and St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. Learn about the 5,000-year-old burial tombs of Newgrange and what life was like during the 1840s famine. See glass blowing and cutting at the House of Waterford and kiss the Blarney Stone before you shop for exquisite woolens at Blarney Castle. Bring back memories of the movies "Quiet Man" and "Ryan's Daughter" as you visit the Dingle Peninsula and the village of Cong. Hear the legends surrounding the Giant's Causeway, huge hexagonal basalt columns formed over 60 million years ago. After a tour of Belfast, make a special stop at the newly-opened Titanic Belfast Museum where state-of-the-art displays teach you about the ill-fated liner. Be entertained by the singers and dancers at Abbey Tavern and spend your last night in a castle. Come along and be treated like a king on this royal Irish itinerary!



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CET Tours are hassle-free! We provide parking in our lot during the tour and take you to/from the airport. We have a meeting before the tour to discuss money, temperature, packing, etc. We help you through airport check-in and explain security procedures. We obtain seat assignments and pay the fees to check your bag. If the place you visit requires a Visa, we obtain the Visa for you. You just have to book early, relax and enjoy the trip!