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May 2021
Newsletter Issue 10



Gemini Excursions Trek Talk

* Treasures of Egypt with Collette Vacations

Thursday, Oct. 28—Monday, Nov. 8, 2021
12 Days, Including a 4-Night Nile River Cruise



I have been blessed to have journeyed on many tours throughout this wonderful world, and one of my absolute favorite destinations is Egypt! The amazing sights & history are jaw-dropping, and the Egyptian people are charming hosts. -An incredible country to tour!

Tour Highlights include:

Air from Cedar Rapids + air taxes/fees/surcharges, all transfers, 21 meals
Visits to the Pyramids of Giza, the Great Sphinx, Grand Egyptian Museum (where King Tut's treasures are on display), Luxor, Valley of the Kings, Temple of Karnak, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Edfu, Philae Temple plus so much more!

Deluxe 4-Night Nile River Cruise onboard the Movenpick Royal Lily, an incredible way to discover the secrets of the Nile, the world's longest river!

FULL COLOR BROCHURES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. Optional Tours to Abu Simbel and 3-night Jordan Post Tour also available!

Starting at \$4899/person—double, \$5599—single A deposit of \$800 will hold your space. **Final payment is due by June 30, 2021.** Travel Protection is available and recommended for an additional \$385 per person. For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/950171>.

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page." -St. Augustine

"Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrowmindedness..." -Mark Twain

LET'S GO SEE THE WORLD!



UPCOMING DESTINATIONS



Mount Rushmore 9/21



Treasures of Egypt 10/21



Australia/New Zealand 2/22



Tulip Time Rhine Cruise 4/22

May Trivia

Built in circa 2550 B.C. and towering over 480 feet above the plateau, what is the name of the largest of the Great Pyramids of Giza?

We will draw one winner (\$10 Gemini Excursions gift certificate) from all responses we receive through May 31.

March '20 trivia: The 10,023 foot shield volcano that forms more than 75% of the island of Maui is Haleakala. Thanks for playing, Judy!

A Friendly Note

Please note that a \$30 cancellation fee will be assessed to bus trips cancelled after the final payment date, with the remainder of the trip cost refundable to you less any unrecoverable costs to Gemini Excursions.

TAKE ME TO THE BEACH!



Myrtle Beach, South Carolina



South Padre Island, Texas



Jan/Feb in Maui —ALOHA!

Vaccinations

Required!

Our upcoming bus trips to the Black Hills and Branson are with Diamond Tours, a trusted tour company I have been using for years.

Due to the pandemic, Diamond Tours now requires that all trip participants:

***Sign a Covid-19 Waiver of Liability; and**

***Provide a copy of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (front and back) showing that they have been fully vaccinated (including second dosage, if required) at least 15 days prior to the departure date of the trip.**

At this time these rules apply to trips in 2021 only. We will have to wait and see what 2022 brings!

* —Ready to Travel Again?

Wow! This past year has certainly been unforgettable. The world has suffered incredibly sad amounts of death, job loss, isolation, anxiety and pressures of a kind we hope not to repeat any time soon. My hope for all of you is that your faith, family and friends have helped see you through and that we can all look back remembering this as a difficult time, yet a precious reminder of the things that really matter in our lives! (Zoom was great, but real hugs are better!) 😊

My husband, Mike, and I ended up taking several driving trips as the year progressed, even flying to Maui in January (-Lots of safety hoops required to get there!). We stayed several weeks in various ocean front properties. After cleaning each condo thoroughly upon arrival we felt pretty safe, still using masks and hand sanitizer everywhere we went. Being right on the ocean we were free to be outside and take lots of great walks along the beaches. —When life hands you lemons, make lemonade!

I hope you are ready to think about traveling again! Our Diamond Tours bus trips require that you've been vaccinated, which will likely be the case for overseas trips as well. Our trip to Circa '21 in October does not require vaccinations. Masks are a likely addition to all tours.

So, after 14 months of being without my job, I hope you'll help me 'get back to work', touring with you starting in September! I've missed being with my travel buddies!

Pam

* Mount Rushmore & the Black Hills of South Dakota

Sun, September 19 — Sat, September 25, 2021

Diamond Tours

Iconic sights await on this tour to South Dakota! Highlights include:

Motorcoach transportation, 6 nights lodging, 10 meals, visit to Mount Rushmore, tour of the Wildlife Loop at Custer State Park, Admission to the Unique Journey Museum, Guided tour of Deadwood, Visit to Crazy Horse Memorial, visit to the Badlands National Park, Wall Drug, the Corn Palace, plus much more!

Price Per Person-Double: \$779 Single Supplement: Add \$255

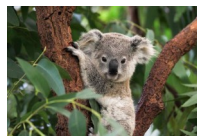
A deposit of \$75 will hold your space. Final payment is due by July 12, 2021. Cancellation Waiver & Post Departure Plan is available & recommended for \$69 per person. For current availability &/or tour brochures with more details, please contact Pam. **Vaccinations & masks required to join us!**



✧ Wonders of Australia & New Zealand

February 16—March 3, 2022

16 Days, with **Mayflower Cruises and Tours**



Visit the other side of the world with our holiday to the 'must see' cities in Australia and New Zealand! Experience the Outer Barrier Reef, take a stroll through Australia's modern cities and revel in the unspoiled natural beauty of New Zealand on this unforgettable journey!

Tour Highlights include:

Air from St. Louis + air taxes/fees/surcharges, all transfers, 20 meals, Visit to Tjapukai Aboriginal Park, Tour of Sydney's famed Opera House, Cruise & snorkel on Australia's Outer Barrier Reef, Enjoy scenic Blue Mts, Encounter native animals at Featherdale Wildlife Park, Enjoy a dinner cruise in Sydney Harbor with fantastic views of the city, Witness the magnificent scenery and wildlife of Milford Sound, Experience a Maori cultural performance and Hangi dinner feast, **PLUS SO MUCH MORE!!**

FULL COLOR BROCHURES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. Post-trip North Island Extension (New Zealand) is also available!

Starting at \$6999/person—double A deposit of \$250 will hold your space. **Final payment is due by November 16, 2021** Travel Protection is available and recommended for an additional \$399 per person.

✧ Tulip Time Rhine River Cruise

April 16—26, 2022—11 Day River Cruise Holiday

The Netherlands, Germany, France & Switzerland



Enjoy a relaxing and inspiring cruise on the Romantic Rhine! Our luxurious river ship tour is during tulip time, visiting iconic ports of call, sampling incredible cuisine and absorbing the local culture! Highlights include:

- *All airport transfers, airfare from Cedar Rapids, taxes and port charges
- *23 Meals: 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 8 dinners
- *Seven nights in a stateroom or suite of your choice, onboard an Emerald Waterways Star Ship, including all shipboard gratuities, complimentary wines, beers & soft drinks with lunch & dinner, complimentary wifi onboard, complimentary bicycles for use ashore, English speaking crew
- *Visit to the magnificent Keukenhof Gardens during peak tulip season
- *Shore excursions in ports of Cologne, Koblenz, Mannheim/Heidelberg, Strasbourg and Breisach, with personal listening devices
- *Two nights hotel stay and touring in Lucerne, Switzerland

Land Starting at \$4,599/person-double, Riviera Deck Cabins

Travel Protection is available and highly recommended. **Air add-ons have been as low as \$199/person**, but are subject to change. **Space on this trip is extremely limited. Contact Pam for full details and current availability!**

Disenchanted! (musical)

Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse

Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021

Poisoned apples, glass slippers...Who needs 'em? Not Snow White and her posse of disenchanted princesses in the hilarious, naughty hit musical for grown-ups that is anything but Grimm. These royal renegades have tossed off their tiaras to set the record straight in this outrageous, not-for-the-kiddies musical!

Price includes lunch with dessert & show, bus transportation & basic driver tip.

Price: \$120 due by September.

Branson Holiday Show Extravaganza

Nov. 29—Dec. 3, 2021

Diamond Tours

Let's get into the Holiday Spirit with a trip to Branson! We'll leave on the Monday following Thanksgiving and enjoy 4 nights in the "Live Music Show Capital of the World".

Trip highlights include:

Motorcoach Transportation, 8 meals (4B, 4D), 7 shows: **All Hands on Deck Christmas Show, Dublin Tenors, Clay Cooper's Country Express, Jesus at the Sound and Light Theatre, Presley's Country Christmas, The Hughes Brothers** and the **Showboat Branson Belle**.

Price Per Person—Double: \$689 (S + \$135) A deposit of \$75 will hold your space. **Final payment is due by Sept 22nd.** Cancellation Waiver & Post Departure Plan is available and recommended for \$59 per person. For current availability and brochures please contact Pam.

Vaccinations and masks required to join us!!

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What's on our Calendar?

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Pam has worked over 25 years as a group travel leader and is excited to partner with Gemini Travel, & Shuttle, Keokuk's full-service award-winning hometown travel agency!

Mount Rushmore & the Black Hills of South Dakota	Sep 19-25, '21
<i>Disenchanted</i>—Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse	October 13, '21
Treasures of Egypt	Oct 28—Nov 8, '21
Branson Holiday Show Extravaganza	Nov 29—Dec 3, '21
Wonders of Australia & New Zealand	Feb 16 —Mar 3, '22
Tulip Time Rhine River Cruise	April 16—26, '22

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Let's Go See The World!! 