

NEWSLETTER

sitzmarke

August 2019 Volume 55 Issue 3



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FROM MISSION CONTROL

BY JAN FERRELL, PRESIDENT

Whew! Think snow and Vail and Banff and Beaver Creek and—the list goes on regarding our awesome trips this season. We will let you know when the trips are open for registration so be quick on the draw to get on your trip. Check your email for club blasts as well as our website for updates. Fear not if it is full. Go ahead and get on the wait list. Doesn't cost you a dime. I've run enough trips with a wait list to tell you that it is entirely possible that you may get on the trip.



The September general meeting will be at Dave and Buster's 6010 Richmond. It will be September 9th and it starts at 6:30 PM. Our trips will be showcased and you can chat with the Trip Leaders. Our exceptional V.P. Activities, Lynn Burch is always there and looking for good ideas regarding restaurants, happy hour places and fun things to do.

Be there or be square! (Wow, did that date me or what?)
Jan

COUNTDOWN TO LIFTOFF

BY BEVERLY ROBERTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF TRIPS

Hello from the trip desk!!

Are you ready? In case you haven't checked the website lately, here's the BIG REVEAL of the 2019-2020 trip schedule!! We have 7 ski trips and 5 adventure trips lined up for an amazing variety of travel experiences.



Here's what you can look forward to on the slopes:

- In December, we kick off the ski season with the pre-Christmas trip to Vail. This trip is already SOLD OUT!! Contact the TC to get on the wait list, and keep your fingers crossed.
- 2020 begins with a multi-club trip to Banff, Canada. Thanks to the strong US dollar compared to the Canadian dollar, this trip is very attractively priced (translation – dirt cheap!!). Sign up early, this will sell out quickly! Then we close January with a club trip to the always-popular Beaver Creek, Colorado. Don't wait on that one either!
- Moving into February, we have the TSC Winter Expedition trip to Chamonix, France. The hotel is super cool – check it out. Next is a club trip to Telluride, Colorado, for that

'Rocky Mountain High' experience. After Telluride, there is the TSC Winter Shootout trip to Crested Butte, Colorado – often referred to as the 'last great Colorado ski town'.

- Our last ski trip leaves on 'Leap Year' February 29, for a luxury ski week in Deer Valley, Utah. Your private transportation will whisk you to your Deer Valley lodging, where you will spend a week 'living the life' – complete with ski valets!!

Then, after the skiing ends, the adventures begin!! These are all 'bucket list' trips, so be sure to sign up early!

- In May, we're looking at several options for 'beachy' trips – maybe with a little cruise action added! More to come on that.
- In early June, we are offering a trip to Russia, from Moscow to St Petersburg. The itinerary is almost finalized. Stay tuned.
- In late August, we have a cruise in the Greek Isles, with a pre-trip in Athens. Itinerary and pricing is almost complete.
- At the end of September, we have a trip that many of you have been requesting for a LONG time. Arlen Isham is going to lead one of his famous, popular, amazing sightseeing/hiking trips in Zion National Park and the Grand Canyon.
- And then in October, we have a breathtaking TSC trip to New Zealand, with a pre-trip to Australia and a post trip to Fiji.

You may be wondering why we have not listed two Texas Ski Council trips – the Traditional trip to Keystone, or the Final Showdown trip to Sun Valley. Space City has decided to not run trips to these two locations. We ran a club trip to Keystone last year, and our survey revealed very low interest in returning. We did have a very high interest in the Sun Valley trip, but unfortunately, we were assigned bedding that was below the standards of SCSC. If any member wants to go on either of these trips, please contact the Clear Lake Area Ski Club (CLASC) and see if you can join under the TSC reciprocity clause.

Also, don't forget, we are going to split sign-up into 3 groups this year:

- August 12, 7pm: Sign up for Banff, Beaver Creek, Chamonix, Telluride
- August 19, 7pm: Sign up for Crested Butte, Deer Valley
- August 26, 7pm: Sign up for Beach trip, Russia, Greek Isles Cruise, Hike/Sightsee, New Zealand

We have pricing information for all the ski trips. We are still working with tour operators for final details on some of the adventure trips. As soon as the information is available, it will be posted on the Space City website.

There's lots going on!! Be sure to check the website often, as we will update information as soon as we finalize the details. Enjoy!!

Beverly Roberts, VP Trips

2019 - 2020 Ski Trips

Resort	Trip Coordinator	Schedule	Land	Full
Vail	Kasia Rezmer	Dec 7-14, 2019	\$1,325	N/A
Banff	Ali Pethick	Jan 18-25, 2020	\$716	\$1,129
Beaver Creek	Ann Dorn	Jan 25 - Feb 1	\$1,048	\$1,386
TSC Chamonix	Cindy Moore	Jan 31 - Feb 8	\$1,543	\$2,338
Telluride	Rene Reed	Feb 8-15	\$1,371	\$1,985
TSC Crested Butte	Linda Erdman	Feb 22-29	\$1,116	\$1,593
Deer Valley	Stuart Traver	Feb 29-Mar 7	\$1,893	\$2,457

2019 - 2020 Non-Ski trips

Resort	Trip Coordinator	Schedule	Land	Full
Beach trip	George Sargent	Beginning May	TBD	TBD
Russia	Jill Nanney	Beginning June	TBD	TBD
Greek Isle Cruise	Thuy Rocque	Aug 27 - Sep 5	TBD	TBD
Hike/Sightseeing	Arlen Isham	Sep 26 - Sep 30	\$599	N/A
Zion Natl Park, Grand Canyon				
TSC New Zealand main	Linda Kuper	Oct 13-24	\$2,492	\$4,233
NZ Pre - Australia	Linda Kuper	Oct 7-13	TBD	TBD
NZ Post - Fiji	Linda Kuper	Oct 24-28	TBD	TBD

HAVING A BLAST

BY LYNN BURCH, VICE PRESIDENT OF ACTIVITIES

The June Dinner at Las Ventanas Mexican Restaurant had a great turn out of 32 people, the food was delicious and the place is really nice. The June 23 Volunteer Party at the Kuper's beautiful house was lots of fun. 62 members attended and Bruce and Robert did a great job with the Brisket, Chicken and beans and of course the frozen Margarita machine that helped keep us cool. We were afraid it may rain but we lucked out with just a few sprinkles. This yearly party is a good way to thank all the people that volunteer through the year and help keep the club moving forward.



June Happy Hour on June 27 at Pub & Grill Galleria on Richmond had a good turnout. There was plenty of parking and we had a lot of room so you could actually hear the person you were talking to. We liked the place so much I am going to have what they call a reverse Happy Hour on Tuesday July 30. The Happy Hour prices start at 7 and there is free pool and a DJ for dancing. This is an add in and does not replace the regular Happy Hour.

Dance lessons are continuing monthly with July doing

the triple Two Step, but August could change. Check the website for details.

July is Dinner at Ragin' Cajun, Happy Hour at Hugh O'Connors and the Escape Room where 10 have signed up.

August we will be having another go at Bingo at SPJST Hall, Dinner at Union Kitchen, Standup Paddle Board, Happy Hour and Trivia at Beer Market, and Galveston Sand Castle competition.

Both Game Day and Game night will be on their usual Tuesday schedule at Tea + Victory.

Please check the website often for new activities. This is where you learn about them and can sign up.

Thank you to all the members who participate in the events, as long as you keep coming and signing up for activities we will keep having them and adding new ones.

EXTRAVEHICULAR ACTIVITIES UPCOMING AUGUST EVENT CALENDAR

July 25	Happy Hour at Hugh O'Connor's
July 28	Escape Room
July 30	Reverse Happy Hour at Pub Grill Galleria
August 7 to 28	Dance Lessons every Wednesday
August 8	Bingo at SPJST Hall
August 13	Game Day at Tea + Victory
August 17	Dinner at Union Kitchen on Memorial
August 18	Standup Paddleboard
August 22	Happy Hour & Trivia at Beer Market
August 24	Galveston Sand Castle Competition
August 27	Game Night at Tea + Victory

THE NEXT **BIG** SCSC GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

DAVE & BUSTER'S

6010 RICHMOND

6:30PM - 8:30PM

HAPPY SUMMER!

Peru, what an enchanting journey!

On May 29, twenty-six of us boarded a United flight direct to Lima. After a quick stay overnight (and I mean quick) we flew the next morning to Cuzco, the fabled capital of the Inca Empire, perched about 11,000 feet above sea level. Upon arrival, we traveled to the nearby Sacred Valley of the Incas led by our incredible tour director (Celestino) and local Peru guide (Luis). After a group picture at Lookout Taray and pictures with locals and llamas, we stopped at the private Princesita restaurant where we enjoyed a Shaman ceremony to thank Pachamama (Mother Earth) prior to lunch.



our name while thinking of people to purify and take away bad energy. We then blew three times on the leaves before adding to the offering. This ritual concluded when the Shaman set the offerings on fire to vanish.

Next, we visited Awanakancha, a weaving center that is also home to llamas and alpacas. We arrived at our hotel, Sonesta Posada, shortly thereafter – a former monastery surrounded by lush gardens in the quaint village of Yucay. A few celebrated happy hour with a first taste of Peru's



national drink, the Pisco Sour, a spirit of 38-48% (aka “pesky sour”). We also had the opportunity to spend our Sols on popular souvenirs sold by vendors right outside our hotel rooms. Later we enjoyed a welcome dinner where several had a first taste of alpaca, Peru's prized protein.

On Friday, May 31, we went to the town of Ollantaytambo to meet Rosa who showed us a house of Quechan people, demonstrating how these citizens of the Inca Empire lived. As an unplanned cultural experience, we also got to participate in a national earthquake drill where we stood in a designated safe zone or Sona Segura.



We then climbed the ruins of the Inca estate. This 15th century fortress or Temple Hill featured many terraces (taller than the average man) and MANY steps. At the top we saw a great vantage point of the Sacred Valley while attempting to catch our breath at the Temple of the Sun.

Afterwards, we had lunch at Paraqay restaurant in Urubamba and got to sample more of the local cuisine including ceviche, a national dish of Peru. Then we traveled to Pisac where we visited a local silversmith and shopped in the colorful surrounding market.

The next morning, June 1, was our BIG day as we were on the bus at 6:00am to embark on our expedition to Machu Picchu! Our fabulous bus driver, Freddie, dropped us at

the station to board the Vistadome train for a 1 ½ hour ride through the lush Urubamba Valley passing stunning scenery and hikers on the Inca Trail. We arrived at Aguas Calientes around 8:30am to visit “The Lost City of the Incas”, rediscovered in 1911. We were guided through the ruins, took an abundance of photos and learned so much about this mystical site. It was breathtaking (pun intended), everything and more than we expected.



After lunch we re-boarded the train and celebrated our incredible day on a boisterous ride with wine, cerveza, dancing with a “masked stranger” and a fashion show on our journey to

Cuzco. We arrived at our hotel, Novotel Cusco, just in time for a light dinner. At an altitude of 11,200’ above sea level, those that didn’t get relief from the cocoa tea or “magic potion” for headaches, could opt for oxygen provided by the hotel at no charge.

On Sunday, we ventured on a half-day tour to the outskirts of Cuzco. We saw Tambomachay (Temple of Water), the sentinel of Puca Pucara and the sanctuary of Qengo before climbing the amazing ruins of Sacsayhuman (sexy woman), an Inca architectural masterpiece with fabulous views of the city below.



The tour ended with a stop at an alpaca store to learn the difference between BABY alpaca

and MAYBE alpaca. We then had the afternoon free to walk the narrow streets of this old colonial town, relax in one of the many outdoor cafes, browse galleries or shop in the many stores selling local crafts.



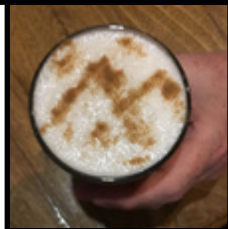
The next morning, June 3, we took a guided walking tour. We went in the Convent of Saint Dominic of Cusco and saw Qorikancha, the navel of the Inca universe. At the Plaza de Armas, the center of the Inca Empire, we encountered a

children's parade with music and colorful outfits, an early celebration of the 6/21 Winter Solstice – Inty Raymi (Sun Festival). June 21st is the shortest daylight of the year and their ancestors held this festival to ask the sun to come back. In Cuzco, they celebrate all month (including fireworks early in the morning). After a tour of the impressive 16th century cathedral built on the ruins of the Inca Palace, we had the afternoon to explore at our own pace, including the large mercado for more shopping and bargaining!

That evening, Celestino arranged a group dinner so we could sample more local cuisine. Deva was a small family restaurant run by an Argentinean and his Peruvian wife. In addition to our buffet, we got to sample guinea pig, a local delicacy usually served at special occasions, and Chicha de Jora (corn beer). Our waiter also gave a presentation on the hundreds of varieties of corn and potatoes in Peru.



On Tuesday, we boarded the bus for our journey to Puno. Another unplanned cultural experience: our departure was delayed for an hour to ensure we arrived after roads were cleared into Puno – demonstrators had been blocking roads with rocks and glass to protest mining that had been polluting the rivers of the high plateau.



During our drive along the rugged snow-capped Andes, we stopped at Oropesa where we sampled a popular local bread (Pan Chuta) fresh out of the oven, visited a 17th century church in the charming village Andawaylillas, shopped at the market square in Raqchi, took a group photo at La Ralla at 4335 meters or 14,244.5 feet and passed quaint local villages and herds of llama and alpaca. We also stopped in Puca Pucara for Café Caca (google it) that was highlighted in the movie “Bucket List”. Early in the evening we arrived at the Hotel Libertador overlooking the majestic Lake Titicaca.



On June 5 our local guide, Charo, led us on an unforgettable boat journey to explore Lake Titicaca, South America's largest and highest navigable lake situated between Peru and Bolivia. First, we visited the floating islands of the Uros Indians that still practice the old traditions of fishing, trapping birds and living on the lake plants. The tortora reeds, which grow abundantly, are used for their boats, houses and to build the very islands on which they live. As we disembarked, we were greeted by five local families – “Kamisaraki” (Hello, how are you); we answered “Hualiki” (I am good, thank you). Their colorful outfits were not costumes, but everyday clothing. Their warm welcome included interesting stories about their culture/daily life and an opportunity to purchase handmade crafts.



Next, we took a short cruise on a charming reed boat before heading to Taquile Island where the indigenous inhabitants



are dedicated to agriculture and crafting of high-quality textiles. They shared their customs, traditions and unique attire before we enjoyed a lunch of fresh trout (caught just three hours earlier).

On Thursday, we left for the Juliaca airport an hour early to avoid any road blockages due to continuing protests (whew!).

Upon landing in Lima, we stopped for lunch at Café

Restaurant Larco, a former late 18th century ranch house near the museum and surrounded by flowering gardens. We then toured the San Francisco Church and catacombs and saw the Plaza de Armas and the Government Palace. Later, we drove to the fashionable districts of San Isidro and Miraflores where we celebrated our incredible journey with a farewell dinner.

We departed Lima on an overnight flight, arriving 6 ½ hours later in Houston at 7:00am Friday Morning, June 7.

A true bucket list adventure with 26 savvy travelers truly blessed by Pachamama: Diane and David Stotz, Lara Sterzing, Nancy Richard, Jo Ann Zemlicka,



George and Darlene Hirasaki, Jim Hassing, Vivian Wang, Pat Musemeche, Sam and Sandra Cornelius, Beverly and Charlie Roberts, Patricia Salinas, Michele Reynolds, Craig Campbell, Terry Gray, Robert Reidenbach, Kim Hlavinka, Megan Melius, Gloria Lopez, David Walter, Roger Holzman and Joan Waddill.



Mamajuana or Bust Recap! by George Sargent, Trip Coordinator



2014



2019

Okay, here's the shot of the week but they were taken 5 years apart. Same beach. Same two people with different swim suits and the same visor! Although the colors in the two pictures differ the visor is more faded. Can you see the "A"?

The Resort

What a wonderful time we had during the week of May 4th. I was there in the late summer of 2014 and a lot has changed. The rooms and restaurants have all seen significant remodeling improvements. All the lower level rooms had



their own pool spanning the lower level. It added a touch of "I want that next time" feel.

The Beach

The Ambar beach still is one of my favorite beaches and the pool was never better. The crystal white sand extends at least 50 yards from the shore. Starting at about 15 yards from the waves one could find shade provided by palm trees and cabanas. This deep beach extended right up to the adult pool and the adjacent buffet.





The Pool

The adult pool offered comfort and convenience. Although busy, with 26 people in our group one never had to go far looking for someone in our group. I'd drop my towel, water shoes and tee shirt on a chaise and head for the water with a Dirty Monkey, Chocolate Martini or BananaMama. Many other drinks were offered but you get my point. It was all about being catered to and full relaxation.



The Dining

There were many dining options. For breakfast most visited the Ambar Palmyra. This location offered a vast array of choices morning, noon and night. I'm not sure I heard a single complaint - it would have been difficult to not find something catering to your taste buds. When you walked in, a hostess greeted you with mimosas or Bloody Marys made to your preference. From there you had to be real careful not to hurt yourself by over eating.

For lunch, I spent most of my time at the pool restaurant. This location was just a few steps from the beach or the pool. It was a good thing actually because my tummy didn't need further abuse. Yet, I still found myself wanting to sample the myriad of selections. This place still had everything but offered an appropriate ambiance for swim attire.

Dinner was supposed to be the crème de la crème. It WAS for many. Many of the gourmet restaurants offered exquisite food. Another term I've used is eclectic. Simply put, the menus offered the fancy and unique if not somewhat unusual. If you are the type that often wants something different, then these restaurants are what you want. If you are more of a steak and potatoes type person careful navigation through the menu and maybe a few questions

should yield flavors that satisfy your appetite. And of course, the Palmyra buffet was always a winner.



The Entertainment

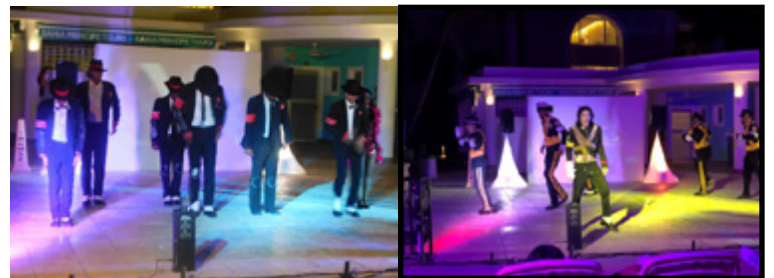
Most resorts of this nature have nightly entertainment. The Bahia Principe is a large resort with seven separate resorts which includes the Ambar. There was something going on every night. In fact, there were maybe two or three separate venues offering live entertainment. These venues were located all over the place with many requiring a quick shuttle ride in order to be timely.

White Night involved listening and dancing to reggae music on the beach at night. There were lots of cool people having a lot of fun moving to angel wing lights.

The Magic Show was held in an open air amphitheater.



Just outside of that, there was a small rendition of Cirque du Soleil. I have to say some of the acts were pretty eye catching. I never made it to see the Michael Jackson revue but heard excellent reports that "Michael" was very good. There were so many nightly events going on it was hard to catch everything.



Live music was everywhere. There was even a Silent Disco. People wanting to dance would wear headphones that had psychedelic lights flashing to the beat of the music. But

the audience could hear nothing. It seemed like a bunch of crazies all dancing to a rhythm that was basically unheard.



Many of us found ourselves late night at the sports bar. Yes, the Rockets were trying their best. And before we turned in we could always find friends sharing a nightcap at the lobby bar.

Golfing In Paradise

Punta Cana is known for its golf. I'm not a golfer but several in the group were. Jeff Cross headed up a team including his wife Elise, Ron Rambin and Matt Lora. They told me the locations were nice but pricy. That didn't hold Jeff back as I believe he golfed for 4 days. The others golfed for 3 days or less.



Our Excursion to Alto De Chavon and Catalina Island

There were plans to do multiple excursions. But after getting to the resort, most people didn't want to leave. Sandra McCunis took the lead by asking questions to find out what people wanted. In the end her research indicated people wanted to snorkel and swim at Catalina Island. Catalina Island is in the Caribbean as opposed to where we were staying on the Atlantic side of the Dominican Republic. We took a bus to Catalina Island via another interesting village called Alto De Chavon.

Alto De Chavon

This village would have been a great back drop for the Game of Thrones series. It was actually created in 1976 by industrialist Charles Bluhdorn and finished in the early 1980's. It's a cultural center with 5000 seat amphitheater. The Pet Shop Boys, Frank Sinatra and Julio Iglesias to name a few have played there. The grounds include a church of certain notoriety, a number of restaurants and gift shops. It was pretty neat.



Catalina Island

Of course what we really wanted was the water, beach, snorkeling and catamaran ride to Catalina Island. We were not disappointed. Catalina Island is located about 1 ½ miles off the southeast coast of the Dominican Republic. It is a popular destination for tours from the mainland. The island offers mostly undisturbed terrain and beaches with crystal clear waters where one can swim, snorkel and scuba dive. Our particular tour included natively prepared foods and simple adult beverages.



The Last Supper

The Ambar was not set up to offer a-la-cart dining for 26 people at a different restaurant every night. We ended up separating into much smaller groups and even going to different restaurants on a given night. But for our last evening, I suggested everyone eat at the Palmyra. The Palmyra offers a different cuisine every evening and our Friday evening "last supper" featured native Dominican dishes. I was initially concerned but was soon relived and became immediately excited to see the goodness surrounding me. It was a smorgasbord of good eats. The Ambar worked hard to satisfy our dining reservations. The resort welcomed our idea of gathering as one group at the buffet. I met with the restaurant manager, his crew and both the resort manager Pablo and assistant manager Carlos. Everyone seemed sincere in making sure we were happy. I was so impressed with the carefully placed rose petals.



The People

My favorite trips have been with the people I most enjoyed. Sure, the exotics and mountains of the world are

spectacular. But for me, it's the fun and good times with friends that make a trip memorable. This Mamajuana or Bust trip had one of the most compatible groups of people I've ever traveled with. Twenty-six of us enjoyed the fun, food, beaches and sun to our fullest.



Post Trip Party

The Rabin's offered their beautiful home for the post trip party. Rowena took on the role of 'Post Trip Head Honcho' and teamed up with Roberta for a great dinner. Frozen Pina Colodas were chosen for the Caribbean rum reminder of where we'd been. Shrimp appetizers helped kill off afternoon tummy growls. Numerous bottles of wine were consumed with lasagna and blackened chicken alfredo. Desert was used to finish off the feast with cheesecake bars and key lime pie. I'd say all-in-all Roberta and Rowena did a superbly excellent job!

Honorable mentions for trip contributions

- Diane Gresko for communication support during the trip.
- Craig Campbell and Rowena Roche for their support of a medical emergency requiring an almost all night stay at a hospital.
- Sandra McCunis for leading the group excursion to Catalina Island.
- Jeff Cross for his coordination and support of the golfing group.
- Roberta and Ron Rabin for offering their home for our post trip party.
- Roberta Rabin and Rowena Roche for doing everything regarding the post trip party.

The End Until Next Time



VOLUNTEER PARTY 2019



PUB & GRILL HAPPY HOUR



LAS VENTANAS DINNER





COTTONWOOD HAPPY HOUR



TRIPS 2019

BY BEVERLY ROBERTS, VICE PRESIDENT OF TRIPS

TSC Fall Expedition Portugal and the Douro River Cruise

September 24- October 4, 2019

TC Melody Bohlmann

Experience the unique sites and culture of Portugal with a taste of Spain on this combination land and river cruise Main trip. We start our journey by flying into Lisbon and we stay there for two nights in a four-star hotel. We then travel to Fatima and sightsee in Coimbra and then board the brand new, exclusively chartered river vessel the *MS Emerald Radiance* for our seven-night river cruise along the Douro River. We also venture to Rodrigo, Vega Terron, and Salamanca, Spain. We end the Main trip in the home



Picture source Bing.com

of Port wine, Porto, and fly back to the US. Or there is an optional three-night, four-day post trip to Barcelona for an additional cost estimated to be \$1,489 which includes airfare but doesn't include a Barcelona city tax (approximately \$3 per person per day).

The Itinerary for the Main Trip:

DAY 1 –Depart the USA Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Lisbon, Portugal.

DAY 2 –Lisbon, Portugal. Upon arrival, you will be met by a Mayflower Tours representative and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the day is at leisure to explore Lisbon. This evening, join your Mayflower staff and fellow travelers for an included dinner. Included Meal: Dinner

DAY 3 –Discover Lisbon. After breakfast, an included tour highlights the famous sites of the city. See Jerónimos Monastery, 'Monument to the Discoveries,' and Belem Tower, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a free afternoon to shop, dine and experience this cosmopolitan city on your own. Included Meal: Breakfast

DAY 4 –Fátima / Coimbra. Enroute to the ship in Porto visit Fátima, home to the Sanctuary of Fátima, an important Catholic pilgrimage site. The city's fame originates from the apparitions of Our Lady of the Rosary that appeared to three shepherd children in the nearby fields. Continue to Coimbra and its famous university before arriving in Porto to embark the *MS Emerald Radiance*, home for the next seven nights. Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 5 –Porto / Pinhão. Today is a day of sailing through the twists and turns of the Douro Valley. Designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this area is sparsely populated by small quaint villages and typical communities with vineyards and small farms. This afternoon, the ship arrives in the village of Pinhão, perfectly situated on a river bend surrounded by terraced hillsides that produce some of the world's best Port wine. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 –Pinhão / Vega de Terron. Begin the day with a visit to a beautiful quinta vineyard with spectacular views of the Douro Valley. Learn about wine production and its importance to the culture and economy. This afternoon, the ship sails for Vega de Terron, gateway to Spain. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7 –Salamanca, Spain. Today's excursion takes you to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Salamanca, Spain. During the guided walking tour, see amazingly detailed and intricately carved buildings of the university, the 12-th century Romanesque church of San Martin and the house of Shells. Regal splendor abounds in the Plaza Mayor, the heartbeat of the city. You'll have free time to explore independently before returning to the ship in Portugal. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 8 –Pocinho. Arrive in Pocinho and disembark for a morning excursion to the Coa Valley Museum. Designed to blend in with its surroundings, the concrete structure houses prehistoric stone carvings made by the early inhabitants of the Douro which were uncovered during construction of a nearby dam project. Return to the ship for lunch and relax on deck as the ship sails through idyllic surroundings on the way to Régua. This evening, enjoy an off-ship dinner at a traditional vineyard estate. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 –Régua. After arriving in Régua, journey to the

marvelous baroque village of Lamego, home to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies one of the most important pilgrimage sites in Portugal. See the Sanctuary perched atop the hill, with its iconic 686-step granite staircase, decorated with the traditional Portuguese blue and white 'azulejos' tiles. Return to the ship in Régua after the excursion. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 10 –Porto. Having traversed the Douro River, the ship returns to Porto – a city with an eclectic mix of modern and ancient architecture. An included tour highlights the sights from historic landmarks to the scenic beauty. And it wouldn't be complete without a visit to a wine cave for a tour and tasting of Port wine. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure in Porto. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 11 –Porto / USA. This morning, disembark the *MS Emerald Radiance* and bid a fond farewell to Portugal, filled with memories of this remarkable cruise along the 'river of gold.' Included Meal: Breakfast

Please note that the pricing is still under negotiation and will probably need adjustments. Also, since this trip includes a river cruise, there are different cabin levels on the ship and pricing will vary based on cabin levels. This is a TSC trip so there will be other clubs selecting cabins. Because of this, the dates for this trip could change and there will be others vying for the cabin choices. Sign up early for your best chance at the cabin of your choice!! Currently, the primary potential date is September 25, 2019 but depending on sign up levels and cabins available, the dates may be changed to early September or early October 2019.

The pricing includes airfare **provided that you register on-line and pay the non-refundable deposit of \$400 per person before October 1st**. The deposit is non-refundable unless you buy the trip insurance from the Tour Operator, Mayflower, and the non-refundable cost of the trip insurance for the Main trip is \$429. If you register on or after October 1st, the cost will go up significantly (\$675 or more) to cover airfare.

Best Current Estimates for each cabin based on per person, two in a cabin with airfare **if registered and deposit received prior to October 1:**

Riveria Deck \$4,553 (lowest level cabin 153 to 170 sq ft, at river level with small window that does not open).

Vista Deck, Cat B \$4,913 (160 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Vista Deck, Cat R \$5,273 (188 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Horizon Deck, Cat A \$5,453 (160 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Horizon Deck, Cat P \$5,543 (170 sq ft, large balcony type window that opens with screen

Owners Suite \$5,903 (285 sq ft, floor to ceiling windows that open with screen)

Riverview Suite \$6,083 (300 sq ft, floor to ceiling windows that open with screen)

All cabins have bathroom with shower and hair dryer; complimentary WiFi; two twin beds that can be put together, 16 dresser, closet, telephone safe, individual climate control, flat screen TV; mini-fridge.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM 2019-2020

President	Jan Ferrell	president@spacecity.org
Vice President of Activities	Lynn Burch	activities@spacecity.org
Vice President of Trips	Beverly Roberts	trips@spacecity.org
Vice President of Marketing	Bil Cusack	marketing@spacecity.org
Vice President of Membership	Bruce Lowther	membership@spacecity.org
Treasurer	Dave Gresko	treasurer@spacecity.org
Secretary	Diane Stotz	secretary@spacecity.org
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Director of Trips	Marsha Lutz	dot@spacecity.org
Director of Public Relations	Ross Baker	dop@spacecity.org
Dir. of Communications & TSC Rep	David Stotz	webmaster@spacecity.org

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Director	Ross Baker	board1@spacecity.org
Director	Laura Carmin	board2@spacecity.org
Director	Leslie Cashio	board3@spacecity.org
Director	Anne Thomas	board4@spacecity.org
Director	Ann Rogers	board5@spacecity.org
Director	Ali Pethick	board6@spacecity.org
Director	Maria Koterias	board7@spacecity.org

Space City Ski and Adventure Club is a proud member of the Texas Ski Council and the National Ski Council Federation.



JULY HAPPY HOUR



Hugh O'Connor's

7620 Katy Freeway
Edwards Center at Silber

Thursday July 25 5 TO 8:30 PM

Happy Hour prices until 7 PM

\$2.00 off all drafts, bottled beer and liquor

\$5 house wines 6 different appetizers for \$7

After 6:30 you can get a steak, mashed potatoes and green beans for \$15 to \$19. Plenty of free parking

AUGUST HAPPY HOUR

Beer Market

920 Studemont

Thursday August 22 5 TO 8:30 PM

Happy Hour prices until 7 PM

\$4 select craft canned beer

\$5 house wines \$6 signature craft cocktails

\$1 off any beer Lots of food choices

Plenty of free parking

From 8 to 10 they have trivia so we can stay and play



Sitzmarke

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are emailed a link to the Sitzmarke each month. Non-members may download the newsletter from our website in the *About Us/Club Documents* section on www.spacecity.org

GENERAL INQUIRIES

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