

Office hours: Mon.-Fri., 7:00 AM-4:30 PM Sat., 9:00 AM-11:30 AM Sun., Closed

Adventures to Go... carefree travel for ages 50 plus

September / October 2012 Newsletter

Day Trips

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NEW! Day In Union Square, December 13
NEW! The Nutcracker, December 20

Overnight Trips

Mendocino Getaway, October 15-18 Reno Getaway, November 7-9 Optional: Reno Dinner & Show Package, November 8 Christmas at Hearst Castle, December 5-7

Trip descriptions are listed on the following pages.
Register early! Trips fill quickly. Waitlists available.
All trips are open to Santa Clara Residents and Non-Residents.

Let's Talk Travel! October 24, 12:30 p.m.

Presentation: 2013 Extended Tour Preview No meeting or new releases in September

Join us and *Let's Talk Travel!* We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in the Mezzanine. Come and learn more about upcoming tours, see travel presentations, or just to talk travel. Santa Clara residents can register for newly released tours following *Let's Talk Travel*. Call (408) 615-3170 for more information.

Adventures to Go – General Information

Trip Availability: All trips are open to Santa Clara residents and non-residents, age 50 plus. Priority registration is given to residents for new trips released after *Let's Talk Travel* on the fourth Wednesday of the month; non-residents can register on the following Monday. Register early! Trips fill quickly! Wait lists are created once trips fill; those on the wait list are called as spaces become available. Trips not reaching the minimum enrollment required will be canceled.

Senior Center Registration Form: Travelers are required to complete a Senior Center registration form and sign a liability release each calendar year prior to participation in the *Adventures to Go* travel program.

Trip Attendance: Only those officially registered for a trip may attend. Participant substitutions are not allowed at time of check-in on day of trip. All travelers must register in advance at the Santa Clara Senior Center and have a current registration form on file.

Refund Policy:

- Day/Extended Trips Please choose wisely; refunds will ONLY be given when a replacement can be found from the Senior Center trip wait list or trip is cancelled by the Senior Center.
- **Travel Insurance** The Santa Clara Senior Center recommends you consider travel insurance, especially for extended trips. Check online at: http://www.insuremytrip.com/ or go to any other insurance provider of your choosing.

Trip/Meal Substitutions: Trip itineraries may be modified due to unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be made to replace the location and/or activity with one that is similar. Refunds are not guaranteed should there be a change in itinerary. Hosted meals may be modified at the discretion of the restaurant.

Trip Activity Levels/Special Needs: Activity levels listed are offered as a guideline. Travelers with accessibility concerns, special needs, or questions should call the Senior Center office.

Trip Pick-Up/Drop-Off: Trips leave from and return to the old police station parking lot, near the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Civic Center Drive, in Santa Clara. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before trip departure for check-in. Motor coach will leave promptly at time specified. *Please note:* During a trip, if a situation (urgent or non-urgent) arises where you are unable to meet-up with your "travel group" at the pre-designated time and place identified by the tour escort(s), it will be your responsibility and expense to make arrangements to get yourself home. This would also apply to any other traveler who may decide to stay with you. A tour escort is not able to stay behind with you for any situation that may occur.

Gratuities: Trip fees include a modest gratuity for the driver of the motor coach and servers at hosted meals. When you experience exceptional service, you may choose to tip an additional amount. City of Santa Clara employees and tour escorts cannot accept gratuities.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) – In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department will ensure that all existing facilities will be made accessible to individuals with disabilities. Reasonable modifications in policies, procedures, and/or practices will be made as necessary to ensure full and equal access and enjoyment of all programs and activities for all individuals with a disability. In order to allow participation by individuals with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity, or related disabilities, please **DO NOT wear scented products** to programs/activities at City facilities. Contact the Santa Clara Senior Center at (408) 615-3170 with accessibility concerns specific to this facility, and the Parks and Recreation office at (408) 615-2260 for accessibility concerns regarding other parks and recreation facilities/programs. For all other ADA questions, contact the City Clerk's office at (408) 615-2220.

Adventures to Go - Trip Information

Trip availability can change from day to day. Contact the Senior Center office for registration information, (408) 615-3170.

Day In Monterey No. 46782 Tuesday, September 4 \$42 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – long periods of sitting, walking, and standing. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.

It's time to go "play" in Monterey. The motor coach will drop us off near the Monterey Bay Aquarium. You will have approximately 5 hours to do what you please. Whether it be visiting the aquarium to see the new jelly fish display, enjoying a leisurely no-host lunch, browsing in the local shops, or looking for bargains at the American Tin Cannery, you will surely have a great time. Please note: Admission to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and lunch are not included in the price of the trip. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

War Horse No. 46172 Sunday, September 9 \$127 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

The National Theatre of Great Britain production of "War Horse" is the most anticipated drama to cross the Atlantic this season. Hailed by the New York Times as "theatrical magic," *War Horse* is the powerful story of a young boy who follows his beloved horse into battle during World War I. Joey, the horse, is caught in enemy crossfire and ends up serving both sides of the war before landing in no man's land. Albert, the young boy, is not old enough to enlist but embarks on a treacherous mission to find his horse and bring him home. What follows is a remarkable tale of courage, loyalty and friendship, told with some of the most innovative stagecraft of our time. *War Horse* is the recipient of six 2011 Tony ® Awards, including best play. Don't miss this last performance at the Curran from orchestra seating. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM*.

Santa Cruz Follies No. 46783 Thursday, September 13 \$79 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking; some stairs; elevator. Join us for this annual tradition - the Santa Cruz Follies. This years show, *Copacabana Finale*, will take you back to one of the hottest nightclubs in America. You will hear tunes in the styles of the Rat Pack, Motown, Jazz, and Pop/Rock mixed into this fast-moving production with delightful singing, high stepping dancing, and a few dashes of humor. We'll lunch at the historic Cocoanut Grove before the show. Our hosted meal will include Roasted Chicken Breast, mashed potatoes, fresh roasted vegetables, Kelly's bakery rolls and butter, Apricot Chocolate Torte, and coffee or tea. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

SF Giants vs. San Diego Padres No. 46784 Sunday, September 23 \$72 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long walk to seats from bus; stairs. It's Fan Appreciation Day at AT&T Park in San Francisco – always a sell out – and we have tickets! Throughout the game there will be prizes galore given to fans sitting in the "lucky" seats. You may be the fan to win the car at the end of the game. We will arrive at the ballpark early to give you plenty of time to explore and purchase food before the game begins at 1:05 PM. We will be dropped off at the entrance near the Orlando Cepeda statue for easy access to our lower box seats that are located in a shaded area by left field. Please note: Game time is subject to change for television coverage; you will be notified if game time changes. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.*

Thunder Valley Casino No. 46923 Thursday, September 27 \$40 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 3 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting. We're traveling to the Thunder Valley Casino & Resort in Lincoln, offering over 144,500 square feet of gaming excitement. Enjoy a drink or delicious cuisine served at one of the 14 bars and restaurants on the premises. Receive a \$15 match play and \$5 food credit that can be used at many of the dining facilities. Please remember your valid photo ID to collect any bonuses, winnings, or rewards. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:30 PM.*

Apple Hill No. 46924 Thursday, October 4 \$87 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – 3 1/2 hour drive each way; periods of walking on uneven ground; good walking shoes required.

We're traveling via luxury Royal Coach motor coach to the beautiful High Hill Ranch on Apple Hill in Placerville. When we arrive, we'll enjoy a delicious, hosted BBQ Chicken lunch served in the Pie House Dining Room. Lunch includes ¼ of a whole chicken (rotisserie style), macaroni salad, dinner roll with butter and honey, apple juice, coffee or hot tea. We'll complete our meal with hot Apple Pie Alamode! After lunch, we'll sit back and relax as we take the Guided Loop Tour. The tour guide will talk about the history and development of Apple Hill while pointing out sites along the way and will provide a few quick stops to give us an opportunity to shop. As the motor coach winds down a country road, we will take in all the beautiful scenery, fruit filled orchards, and fall colors spreading across the countryside. Our last stop will be at High Hill Ranch where you can visit the gifts shop and craft fair, and purchase apples or pies to take home. Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 7:30 PM.

Golden Gate Bridge Walk No. 46925 Wednesday, October 10 \$75 per person

Activity level: HIGH – long periods of walking and standing; you must be able to walk the length of the bridge (over 1 mile) without assistance. Trip is not recommended for those with a heart or respiratory condition, a fear of heights, susceptible to dizziness, or find it difficult to walk long distances in inclement weather.

Put on your good walking shoes, grab your windbreaker or jacket and a scarf, and join us for a brisk walk across the Golden Gate Bridge. We will start at the San Francisco side where we will visit the new Bridge Pavilion and Café before our walk. It will take approximately 2 hours to walk to the Sausalito side of the bridge. Once there we will board motor coach and head to the Presidio for a late lunch (1:15 PM) at the Presidio Golf Course Café. Our hosted meal will include choice of 1/2 Presidio Club Sandwich with New England Clam Chowder, Fairway Burger with French Fries, or Classic Cobb Salad. While at the Presido, we will visit the Monterey Street Barracks to see the exhibit *Before the Bridge: Sight and Sound at the Golden Gate.* Note: The climate on the bridge can be cold, windy, and sometimes rainy; be prepared with layered clothing and walking shoes with good traction. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

Mendocino Getaway No. 46785 Monday – Thursday, October 15 – 18 Per person: \$794 double occupancy and \$1020 single occupancy Half the fee is due at time of registration; balance due August 15.

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 4 hour drive to first destination with a stop mid-way. A detailed itinerary will be mailed to travelers prior to the trip.

Join us as we travel via motor coach to the scenic Mendocino-Fort Bragg coast. On our way we'll make a stop in Boonville for a no host lunch and time to explore the shops and wine tasting rooms of this quaint town. Upon arrival to Mendocino, a local guide will take us on a Historic Walking Tour of the area and we'll visit the Ford House Museum. In the late afternoon we'll check in for a 3-night stay at the Hill House Hotel, the set location for the famous *Murder She*

Wrote TV series. The evening will include a "welcome banquet" at the hotel. On our second day we'll visit the Mendocino Botanical Gardens for a guided tour of the magnificent gardens a true jewel of the Mendocino coast. Afterward a local step-on-guide will join the group as we visit MacKerricher State Park which features an expansive new boardwalk completely ADA compliant offering a safe walking path along a breathtaking portion of the coast known for great sea life views. We'll break for a hosted deli lunch and then our guide will take us on a tour of Point Cabrillo Lighthouse. The evening will include waterfront dining at the Cliff House Restaurant. The third day of our adventure we'll take a round trip ride aboard the Skunk Train in Fort Bragg, which includes a delicious BBQ picnic lunch midway. Afterward we'll visit the Fort Bragg Guest House Museum. Our evening at the Hill House Hotel will include a hosted dinner and presentation by a local author who will share stories about the local movie and TV history of the area. On our last day we'll enjoy free time in downtown Mendocino before our return trip home. Price includes deluxe motor coach transportation via Royal Coach Tours, 3-nights hotel accommodations, baggage handling, gratuities, museum and park admissions, history presentation, step-on-guide services, and Skunk Train excursion, 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners. Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM on Monday and returns at approximately 6:00 PM on Thursday.

Golden Gate Fields No. 46926 Thursday, October 25 \$75 per person

Activity level: LOW – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking; some stairs; elevator. Enjoy Thoroughbred horse racing at Golden Gate Fields in Berkeley. A buffet lunch at the Turf Club will include prime rib, chicken, a variety of salads, fresh fruits, desserts, and a non-alcoholic beverage. View the races from your Turf Club seats. Please remember there is a dress code of "Business Casual," meaning no jeans, shorts, tank tops, or flip flops. Men must wear collared shirts. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

Automobile Collection & Cable Car Museum No. 46927 Tuesday, October 30 \$92 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking; some stairs; elevator. Richard A. Stephens, former Academy of Art University President, has always had a penchant for cars, a sentiment that has been passed down to his daughter and current President of the Academy, Dr. Elisa Stephens. Desiring to offer automotive design at the Academy, Mr. Stephens wanted to give students a design perspective that they would not be able to receive from anywhere else. With access to a museum of rare and classic vehicles, students can study exquisite design and apply that sense of craftsmanship to their own artistic pursuits. We will tour this magnificent automobile museum that preserves and pays homage to these classic fixtures of international automotive innovation and also provides inspiration and a sense of history to students that attend the Academy. Our lunch will be at the Delancey Street Restaurant which is a key training school of the Delancey Street Foundation, the country's largest self-help residential organization for people who are looking to rebuild their lives. In an extraordinary spirit of community service, the owners, chefs and wait staffs of the finest restaurants in the City have helped train the residents to cook, manage and serve in this restaurant which was designed, built, and is operated completely by Delancey residents. Hosted lunch will include choice of Roasted Rosemary & Garlic Chicken, Grilled Burger, or Pasta Pesto. After lunch we'll visit The Cable Car Museum which was established in 1974. Located in the historic Washington/Mason cable car barn and powerhouse, the museum deck overlooks the huge engines and winding wheels that pull the cables. Downstairs is a viewing area of the large sheaves and cable line entering the building through the channel under the street. On display are various mechanical devices such as grips, track, cable, brake mechanisms, tools, detailed models, and a large collection of historic photographs. The museum houses three antique cable cars from the 1870s. Motor coach leaves promptly at 9:00 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.

The Lion King No. 46934 Thursday, November 1 \$117 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.

Experience the phenomenon of Disney's THE LION KING. Marvel at the breathtaking spectacle of animals brought to life by award-winning director, Julie Taymor. Thrill to the pulsating rhythms of Africa Pridelands and an unforgettable score including Elton John and Tim Rice's Oscarwinning song "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" and "Circle of Life." Let your imagination run wild at the Tony Award-winning Broadway sensation that has surpassed all others. "There is Simply Nothing Else Like It" – *The New York Times*. Now you can see it from orchestra seating at the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM*.

Reno Getaway No. 46935 Wednesday – Friday, November 7 – 9 Per person: \$193 double occupancy and \$238 single occupancy OPTIONAL:

- Reno Dinner & Show Package No. 46939 Thursday, November 8
- \$47 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 5 hour drive with a stop midway.

Enjoy round trip motor coach transportation provided by Royal Coach Tours and two nights deluxe accommodations at the Silver Legacy Hotel & Casino. We will make a stop mid-way for a no-host breakfast and will arrive in the Biggest Little City in the World at lunchtime. Upon arrival we will stop at the Nugget Casino where you'll receive a casino bonus of \$5 Cash & \$5 Food Credit. The \$10 total bonus may be used for your lunch while at the casino. We will check in at the Silver Legacy Hotel and Casino around 5:15 p.m. At that time you will receive a casino bonus of \$5 Cash and \$3 Food Credit. The remainder of the time in Reno is free to use as you wish. The trip fee includes deluxe motor coach transportation, gratuities, hotel accommodations and baggage handling. Meals are not included. Treat yourself to an evening of great dining and entertainment at the El Dorado Casino on November 8. This optional dinner and show package includes a grand buffet dinner with more meal choices than you can imagine and reserved seating for "Jersey Nights." The show celebrates the music of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons and takes the audience on a nostalgic trip down memory lane. This spectacular production with singers, dancers and video projection, delivers first class musical arrangements, perfect harmonies, authentic costumes and all of the Four Seasons' greatest hits including: "Oh What a Night," "Sherry," "Walk Like a Man," "Dawn," "Rag Doll," "Bye Bye Baby," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You" and more. Please note: you must register for this package at the Senior Center. Join us! Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM. on Wednesday and returns at approximately 4:00 PM on Friday.

Poinsettias, Cheese & Chocolate No. 46936 Thursday, November 29 \$83 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 hour drive.

Visit Duarte's Nursery for a tour and opportunity to purchase spectacular Poinsettia and Cyclamen plants to grace porches, hearths and to be given as gifts. Duarte's Nursery will be overflowing with crimson, pink, cream, seven different reds and now purple flowers creating a sea of brilliant color. Remember to bring cash or check, as credit cards are not accepted. Our visit to Hilmar Cheese will include a cheese making tour and hosted hot buffet holiday lunch. Afterwards there will be plenty of time to shop for delicious gourmet foods, sweet treats, and gift items found in their country boutique. Next we'll visit the Ghirardelli Factory Outlet store. As you enter you'll be greeted with the wonderful aroma of chocolate and a free sample. The prices are honestly low and you'll find all the traditional favorites in individual packages as well as special holiday gift packs. You can treat yourself to a cup of Hot Chocolate laced with caramel or a scoop of your favorite ice cream before we head home. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM*.

Christmas at Hearst Castle No. 46937 Wednesday - Friday, December 5 – 7 Per person: \$426 double occupancy and \$506 single occupancy Half the fee is due at time of registration; balance due October 26.

Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – there are many stairs and a lot of walking at Hearst Castle. Approx. 5 hour drive with a stop mid-way. A detailed itinerary will be mailed to travelers prior to the trip.

During the Holiday Season. Hearst Castle presents an opportunity for visitors to travel back in time and experience the Castle as it might have been in the 1920s or 1930s, complete with docents dressed in 1930's period costumes re-enacting a Christmas social event. The staff at Hearst Castle works hard to decorate the estate, creating a special atmosphere that is sure to get you in the holiday spirit. There are decorations in many of the rooms throughout the historic California Mansion including two 18-foot Christmas trees the Assembly Room. We will begin our trip in comfort on a Royal Coach luxury motor coach and stay in deluxe accommodations at the Cambria Pines Lodge. The lodge will provide a "welcome" hosted dinner on the first night and a fully cooked breakfast each morning. The lodge will feature beautiful holiday garden light displays and it's first annual European Christmas Market with gift items, ornaments, and holiday treats for purchase. On day two we will have a guided trolley tour of Point San Luis Lighthouse and Avila Beach and enjoy a hosted lunch at Apple Farm Restaurant and have time to shop in the boutique. There will be time to enjoy the Holiday in the Pines Hospitality Celebration...shop in quaint downtown Cambria with merchants and restaurants offering special discounts, festive treats, and live entertainment. Trip fee includes round-trip transportation, accommodations, baggage handling, gratuities, guided tours, a dinner and lunch, and two breakfasts. Motor coach leaves promptly at 9:30 AM on Wednesday and will return at 2:00 PM on Friday.

Beach Blanket Babylon No. 46938 Sunday, December 9 \$133 per person

Activity level: LOW - moderate walking; must walk one flight of stairs.

We're headed to San Francisco for a hosted luncheon at Capp's Corner. The meal begins with minestrone soup and green salad followed by an entree choice of Filet of Sole, Eggplant Parmigiana, Chicken Scaloppine, or Pork Tenderloin. The main course selection is served with pasta marinara and braised vegetables. Dessert is Spumoni Ice Cream. After lunch we'll enjoy a festive holiday performance of Beach Blanket Babylon, the longest running musical revue in theatre history. The delightfully entertaining musical spoof of pop culture featuring extravagant costumes and outrageously huge hats is a great way to usher in the holidays, and an excellent excuse to let loose and laugh. The holiday show features a chorus line of tap dancing Christmas trees, special parodies of traditional Christmas carols, and those GIGANTIC zany hats that have made the show so famous. Please note: there is no bar service for this show. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

Beach Blanket Babylon II No. 46941 Sunday, December 9 \$124 per person

Activity level: LOW – moderate walking; must walk one flight of stairs.

Due to popular demand a second bus has been added for Beach Blanket Babylon. We will start our day with a hosted luncheon at Bocce Café. Lunch will include choice of Meat Lasagna, Chicken Marsala, or Ricotta and Spinach Ravioli, and salad, dessert, and coffee. Afterwards, we'll enjoy a festive holiday performance of Beach Blanket Babylon, the longest running musical show in theatre history, from rear balcony seating. This delightfully entertaining musical spoof of pop culture featuring extravagant costumes and outrageously huge hats is a great way to usher in the holidays, and an excellent excuse to let loose and laugh. The holiday show features a chorus line of tap dancing Christmas trees, special parodies of traditional Christmas carols, and those GIGANTIC zany hats that have made the show so famous. Please note: there is no bar service for this show. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 10:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

Day In Union Square No. 46952 Thursday, December 13 \$40 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – long periods of walking and standing; wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.

Feel the energy of the holiday season in San Francisco! You will be dropped off at Union Square, where you have 5 hours to do what you please. Enjoy a leisurely no-host breakfast or lunch at one of the many fine restaurants in the area, browse and shop for those perfect Christmas gifts, take in the beauty of the holiday decorations in the stores and on the streets. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

The Nutcracker No. 46953 Thursday, December 20 \$123 per person

Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting; short walk to War Memorial Opera House from restaurant.

Come celebrate the holiday season with us. We will begin our day with a hosted lunch at The Blue Muse Restaurant, a favorite spot for theatregoers in the area. Entrée choices include Baked King Salmon Encroute wrapped in puff pastry, Sonoma Chicken Breast sautéed with shitake mushroom and a smooth cream sauce, and Medallions of Pork Filet sautéed in a light port wine and a touch of crème fraiche. Each meal includes a salad, dessert, and coffee or tea. After lunch we will walk approximately 1 block to the War Memorial Opera House for a 2:00 p.m. performance of Tomasson's *Nutcracker*. Our orchestra seating will provide a great vantage point for us to feel the magic and wonder of SF Ballet's lavish production of this beloved ballet, set in San Francisco during the Pan Pacific Exhibition. *Motor coach leaves promptly at* 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.

Are your records at the Senior Center current?

Please contact the Senior Center office if any of your personal information has changed.

(I:\Senior Center\Programs\Adventures To Go\Newsletters\Tour Newsletter- Sept & Oct 2012)