



City of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department  
Santa Clara Senior Center  
1303 Fremont St., Santa Clara, CA 95050  
1 (408) 615-3170

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**

## **December 2012 / January 2013 Newsletter**

### **Day Trips**

Beach Blanket Babylon, December 9  
Beach Blanket Babylon II, December 9  
Day In Union Square, December 13  
The Nutcracker, December 20  
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CA Academy of Sciences, January 15  
Jackson Rancheria Casino, January 30  
*NEW!* Año Nuevo State Park, February 8  
*NEW!* Day at the de Young, February 12  
Wicked, February 13  
*NEW!* Red Hawk Casino, February 26  
*NEW!* SF Symphony Rehearsal, February 28  
*NEW!* Santa Clara County Crime Lab, March 5  
*NEW!* Ironstone Vineyards, March 12

### **Overnight Trips**

Christmas at Hearst Castle, December 5-7  
*NEW!* Southern California Odyssey, February 19-22

**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!**

**Next meeting: January 23, 2013 at 12:30 p.m.  
No meeting in December.**

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 1 (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 Travel Administrator.

**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.

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**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 1 (408) 615-2220.

## **Adventures to Go – Trip Information**

**Trip availability can change from day to day. Contact the Senior Center office for registration information, 1 (408) 615-3170.**

**Christmas at Hearst Castle No. 46937 Wednesday-Friday, December 5-7**

**Per person: \$426 double occupancy and \$506 single occupancy**

**Total amount due at time of registration.**

**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: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking. You must be able to 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: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking. You must be able to 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 – approx. 1 hour drive; long periods of walking and standing. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers. Bring your own shopping bags.**

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. Please note: It is recommended that you bring your own shopping bags. There is a bag ban in San Francisco; retail establishments are now required to charge 10 cents per bag. *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. Be prepared to walk to War Memorial Opera House, approximately 1 block from the 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.*

**Anything Goes    No. 47960    Wednesday, January 9**

**\$98 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.**

All aboard for this saucy and splendid production of Roundabout Theatre Company's ANYTHING GOES, winner of three 2011 Tony Awards® including Best Musical Revival and Choreography! One of the greatest musicals in theater history, Cole Porter's first-class musical comedy is sailing to the Golden Gate Theatre in San Francisco, starring critically acclaimed actress Rachel York as Reno Sweeney and directed and choreographed by Tony Award® winner Kathleen Marshall. When the S.S. American heads out to sea, etiquette and convention get tossed out the portholes as two unlikely pairs set off on the course to true love...proving that sometimes destiny needs a little help from a crew of singing sailors, an exotic disguise and some good old-fashioned blackmail. From your orchestra seating you will hear some of musical theatre's most memorable standards including "I Get A Kick Out of You," "You're the Top," and of course, "Anything Goes." *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM.*

**Please update your Senior Center application before you travel in 2013.  
Processing begins on January 3 at the Senior Center office.**

**CA Academy of Sciences    No. 47962    Tuesday, January 15**

**\$65 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long periods of walking and standing; some stairs; elevator available. Bring a lunch or money to purchase lunch.**

Brace yourself for the new Earthquake Exhibit at the California Academy of Sciences – a “must see!” The exhibit will give you a glimpse of the 1906 quake’s destructive power, explore how the Earth’s surface is directly related to what is happening inside the planet and show how the Earth’s crust has influenced the evolution and diversity of life on our planet. Sit back in the world’s largest all-digital planetarium and excite your senses with a new, visually stunning show that journey’s through the San Andreas fault, delves into the Earth’s core and explores the seismic science of earthquakes throughout our world. The California Academy of Sciences, named one of the new “Wonders of the World” by Condé Naste Traveler, is the only place on earth where you can explore an aquarium, planetarium, and natural museum under one living roof. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

**Jackson Rancheria Casino    No. 47961    Wednesday, January 30**

**\$41 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

Let the games begin! There are 49 gaming tables, 9 poker tables featuring Texas Hold ‘Em and over 1500 slot and video poker machines for your enjoyment at this casino in Jackson. Dining options include the buffet lunch at Raging River or an expanded menu at Uncle Bud’s. For a quick snack there’s the Café Express, offering hot dogs, salads, sweet treats, side dishes, and beverages. Casino bonus: \$15 slot play and \$5 food credit. Please note: bonuses subject to change without notice. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

**Año Nuevo State Park    No. 48088    Friday, February 8**

**\$102 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 1/2 drive; long periods of walking and standing, possibly in windy, rainy conditions. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.**

We have arranged a very special opportunity for a small group to visit Año Nuevo State Park. A Naturalist guide will accompany the group out to the Año Nuevo State Park boardwalk via a passenger van for an up-close look at the Elephant Seals and their new pups playing in the sand and learning to swim in the tide. The guide will walk the group along the boardwalk for an up-close look at the wildlife without the strenuous walking that is usually required for this tour. Time is included to enjoy the Visitors Center offering interesting natural history exhibits and a bookstore-gift shop. Afterward, enjoy a hosted lunch at Ideal Bar & Grill at the Santa Cruz Wharf. Lunch will include choice of entrée, a cup of soup, warm sourdough rolls, a non-alcoholic beverage, and New York Cheesecake for dessert. Entrée choices are Salmon with Tropical Fruit Salsa, Chicken Breast topped with Artichoke Hearts, Capers, and Olives, and New York Steak served with French Fries. The restaurant is located just across the street from the NEW Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Exploration Center. We’ve included time to visit the state-of-the-art interactive exhibits and watch the 15 minute film featuring magnificent underwater video. Please note: Tours at Año Nuevo go out rain or shine; umbrellas are not permitted. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

**Day at the de Young    No. 48089    Tuesday, February 12**

**\$66 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long periods of walking and standing; some stairs; elevator available. Bring money to purchase lunch.**

We’ll start our day at the de Young Museum in San Francisco with a timed-visit to see one of the most beautiful and artistically important paintings in the world: *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, by Johannes Vermeer, known as the “Dutch Mona Lisa.” The exhibition will include 34 additional masterpieces from the 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch Golden Age that are housed at the famed Royal

Picture Gallery in Hague, the Netherlands. Complementing the exhibit will be *Rembrandt's Century*, drawing largely from a world-renowned collection of works on paper from the Fine Arts Museums' Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts. The collection includes a generous selection of etchings by Rembrandt van Rijn – arguably his generation's most influential artist. The de Young Museum will be the exhibition's first US venue. There will be plenty of time to enjoy a no-host lunch at the de Young Café and visit another limited engagement exhibition, *Rudolf Nureyev: A Life in Dance*. This special exhibition is dedicated to the life and work of the legendary dancer and choreographer Rudolf Nureyev and will showcase more than 80 costumes and 50 photographs from the dancer's personal collection. The Soviet-born Nureyev was recognized worldwide as the most magnificent and charismatic dancer of his time. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:15 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

**Wicked No. 47963 Wednesday, February 13**

**\$126 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long period of sitting. Eat before arrival or bring a lunch to eat on the motor coach. No lunch or stop for lunch provided.**

Back by "Popular Demand," WICKED is coming to the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco. Winner of 35 major awards, including a Grammy and three Tony Awards®, WICKED is "Broadway's biggest blockbuster" says *The New York Times*. Long before that girl from Kansas arrives in Munchkinland, two girls meet in the land of Oz. One – born with emerald green skin – is smart, fiery and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious and very popular. From your orchestra seating, you will be entertained as you watch the two grow up to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good Witch, the witches of Oz. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 12:00 PM and returns at approximately 7:00 PM.*

**Southern California Odyssey No. 48103 Tuesday-Friday, February 19-22**

**Per person: \$834 double occupancy and \$1074 single occupancy**

**Half the fee is due at time of registration; balance due January 18.**

**Activity level: MEDIUM/HIGH – approx. 7 hour drive with a rest stop mid-way and lunch stop. A detailed itinerary will be mailed to travelers prior to the trip.**

We're traveling on a Royal Coach Tours deluxe motor coach to Southern California. We'll stay for three nights in deluxe accommodations at the Doubletree Hotel in West Los Angeles. Our travel day will include a short stop midway and a visit to the Nethercutt Museum to see the collection of rare collectibles ranging from mechanical musical instruments and antique furniture, and American and European cars dating back to 1898-1997. The day will end with a Welcome Banquet Dinner at the hotel. On the second day we'll become fans of movie and television when we tour the Sony Picture Studios and take part in a live taping of *The Price Is Right*. You never know, you may be called to "Come On Down!" A highlight of the week will be a visit to the California Science Center with its new Samuel Oschin Space & Science Pavilion featuring the Space Shuttle Endeavor. There will also be time to visit the Griffith Observatory. Trip price includes transportation, hotel accommodations, baggage handling, admissions, gratuities, 2 lunches and 3 dinners. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM on Tuesday and returns at approximately 5:00 PM on Friday.*

**Red Hawk Casino No. 48090 Tuesday, February 26**

**\$41 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

Spend 5 hours at Red Hawk Casino, situated on an impressive mountain top in the City of Placerville. Red Hawk offers a new class of excitement and gaming action which includes: 2,100 Slots, Progressive Slots, 75 Table Games, Premier High-Limit Area, and an entirely Non-Smoking Lower Level, plus Premium Restaurants. Upon arrival, with valid I.D., receive a Casino Bonus of \$10 Free Slot Play. Bonuses subject to change without notice. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.*

**SF Symphony Rehearsal No. 48091 Thursday, February 28**

**\$85 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive. Periods of walking and standing; some steps. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.**

What goes into a San Francisco Symphony performance at Davies Symphony Hall? What comes before the horns, the tapping baton, the expectant pause, the first fiery notes? Find out at the Open Rehearsal and “Inside Music” pre-concert talk, a remarkable morning of conversation, education and incredible music in the making. There is open seating – we will leave early from Santa Clara to allow plenty of time to choose the perfect spot for viewing. The pre-concert talk is designed to enhance your enjoyment of the concert by providing insights into the works of the program. The rehearsal will include selections by Mozart and Buckner conducted by Michael Tilson Thomas. We'll stop for lunch at Fog Harbor Restaurant and free time at Pier 39. The hosted lunch will include choice of Clam Chowder, Organic Mixed Greens or Caesar Salad and Pan Roasted Alaska Cod, Grilled Chicken in Mushroom Herb Sauce and Baked Shrimp Penne Pasta. Meals include Vanilla Ice Cream with a Biscoff Cookie and coffee or hot tea. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 7:15 AM and returns at approximately 4:15 PM.*

**Santa Clara County Crime Lab No. 48092 Tuesday, March 5**

**\$77 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1/2 hour drive. Periods of walking and standing; some steps. Wear comfortable walking shoes.**

The Santa Clara County District Attorney's Crime Laboratory is a nationally accredited forensic laboratory servicing all criminal justice agencies in Santa Clara County. The examiners evaluate and analyze evidence, interpret results, provide expert testimony related to the full spectrum of physical evidence recovered from crime scenes, and offer technical assistance and training to all user agencies. Service is provided in the major analytical disciplines of controlled substance analysis, firearms/tool marks, forensic biology (DNA), forensic toxicology, latent print processing, questioned documents, trace evidence and computer crimes. Even though we are not permitted to visit the lab, a video presentation conducted by a Criminologist will give us a good overview of the services the crime laboratory offers and offer an insightful question and answer session. Afterward, we'll enjoy a 3-course hosted luncheon at Fiorillo's Restaurant and a Personal Safety Presentation by the Santa Clara Police Department. Entrée choices include Salmon Filet served with sautéed vegetables and roasted red potatoes, Roast Loin of Pork with sautéed vegetables and roasted red potatoes or Penne Pasta with Fiorillo's home-made meatball and topped with meat sauce. The presentation will help heighten awareness of your surroundings and empower you to make personal choices that will ensure your safety and well being. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 9:30 AM and returns at approximately 4:00 PM.*

**Ironstone Vineyards No. 48093 Tuesday, March 12**

**\$125 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 hour drive. Periods of walking, standing and steps; wear comfortable walking shoes and dress in layers.**

Join us for lovely day away in beautiful Calaveras County for a private tour with a knowledgeable guide at Ironstone Vineyards. Our guide will lead us through the spectacular gardens and facility. It's Daffodil time and we hope to see the extensive gardens featuring thousands of Daffodils in full bloom! We'll browse through the gourmet deli and gift shop, Heritage Museum, and Jewelry shop. In addition, our visit will include a tasting of Ironstone Vineyards wines in the massive tasting room accompanied by canapés to compliment each varietal and a hosted private luncheon. Our lunch will include bread, mixed green salad, Roasted Tri-Tip marinated in Red Wine, Garlic, Onions, Rosemary, Soy and Worcestershire sauce with Thyme Roasted Red Potatoes and seasonal vegetables, a “Chef's Choice” dessert, and coffee. A Vegetarian option is available. *Motor coach leaves promptly at 8:00 AM and returns at approximately 5:45 PM.*