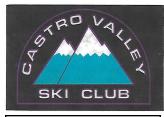
Castro Valley Ski Club Newsletter



Castro Valley, CA 94546 www.cvskiclub.org

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VSC SkiZette

January, 2025

EVENTS CALENDAR

(f) = flyer in this issue

- **JANUARY, 2025** neeting at Carrie's
- meeting at Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant @ 6:00pm
 - eek Banff. Canada

FEBRUARY

- neeting at Anne's
- meeting at Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant @ 6pm

MARCH

- ki Trip to France (f) pg 8
 - neeting at Dennie's
- meeting at Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant @ 6pm
- ki Week Big White, Canada (f) pg 9

UPCOMING

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- Normandy & Seine River Cruise (f) pg 15

& Provence River Cruise (f) pg 18

BAC/FWSA TRIPS

Please visit websites for detailed information.

- bac.org
- Far West Ski Assoc: fwsa.org

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| Christine Brown Richard Warren Connie Wolzinger Linda Melluish | 4 7 8 13 | David Silva Sheron Bealer Barbara Johnson | 14 18 23 | |
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JANUARY

site at www.cvskiclub.org

Castro Valley Ski Club Newsletter

President's Message

Happy New Year everyone!!





2024 has come to an end and for 2025, may the year ahead bring us all that we desire.

> Claudia Fernandes President

Hopefully snow will come and ski season will be wonderful

this year! Wishing everyone the best in 2025!

Our December trolley event was amazing! The food, friends, and the holiday lights from the trolley made our holidays special. Again, many thanks to Pat for setting up our event and thank you to Anne for opening her home for us to enjoy the evening. It was special. It was a wonderful turnout, lots of fun. We have our upcoming meeting this month at Don Jose's - hope to see you there. Pat will be scheduling some more special events this coming year, so be watching.

This year the convention will be in Palm Springs so plan ahead this June, it may be their last. We will keep you posted as we have more information.

Many of you are going skiing this coming month,

, the coming i

we will hope for more snow. you do be safe and enjoy.



May 2025 keep us all happy and healthy!

Best wishes for your best year ever.

Claudia



SkiZette Policy NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 5th of the month Articles submitted by this date will be included in the following month's newsletter . Submit articles to: Dennie Warren, Editor email: dennieluuu1@gmail.com



Didn't get your newsletter? - Change of Address? -PLEASE Contact Maggie Jong, VP Membership email: mozoro25@gmail.com



SPORTING GOODS EXCHANGE

Got any sporting equipment (i.e. skis, snowboards) and/or clothing that you no longer can use, don't want, etc..... let me know & I'll put it here!!!!

OR.... If you need the above let me know as well!!!

This also goes for winter/ski cabins that you'd like to offer for rent or are looking for same.... Let me know!!!!

(Dennie—your editor — dennieluuu1@gmail.com)

GREENHOUSE MARKET-PLACE

I do lots of crafts (crochet, needlepoint & hookrug) and would love to make something for club members —— I make afghan blankets, shawls, caps (to keep your head warm) & I do needlepoint & hookrug (to hang on your wall).... If you would like me to make you something please contact me dennieluuu1@gmail.com..... [I'm your editor]



Happy New Year CVSC Travelers. Lots going on in 2025 & 2026

On May 4th, 28 Castro Valley members will be venturing to Costa Rica for a 12-day adventure. It's been 20 years since we've been there, so I'm excited to see the changes. This is an active trip, with a boat ride up to one of our lodging spots, a visit to the Eco Thermal Hot Springs in Arenal and if you want you can sign up for a zip line excursion.

In early Oct. we are off again on a River Cruise with pre and post trips on the Seine, Normandy to Paris. We will have 37 members on this trip. Many are doing the pre trip to Brittany & Mont St. Michel and the post trip to Paris.

2026......We have been busy setting up a Provence River Cruise with a 3 day stay in Nice in the South of France before we board the river boat up to Lyon. The flyer is included in this newsletter. Don't wait as this trip will fill fast. We are going with Mayflower again, so those who went to Portugal will have a good idea of the layout of the boat. This trip was requested by some of our members.

Far West Ski Association and Bay Area Council of Ski Clubs have lots of ski trips on the horizon. Please look into these as well. They are posted on the front page. We just don't have as many skiers as we used to as the years go by.

A few pictures from our Portugal Trip.....



Happy Skiing & Travels.....



Tucker - CVSC Travel Director & Kathy 2657 Rivers Bend Circle, Livermore CA 94550 925-371-1910 <u>tkhoffmann@comcast.net</u> cell # 510-329-4242

CVSC CST # 2081040

Driving Tips for Driving in the Rain

Rainy driving tips - Slow down! People are so used to driving certain speeds on certain roads that sometimes they forget the need to slow down when inclement weather presents itself.

Before you go -. When you begin a journey in rain, your shoes will be wet and liable to slip off the pedals. Scuff the soles on the rubber matting or carpeting of the car before you start the engine.

How are your tires? - Check your tires on a regular basis. Bald tires significantly reduce your traction on wet roadways, and offer little resistance to hydroplaning.

Turn on your wipers - Replace your wipers regularly, at least once a year. Wiper blades in bad condition don't clear water from the windshield very well and distort your view. Don't follow large trucks or busses closely. Splash and spray from these vehicles can obscure your vision, creating a potentially disastrous driving situation. Keep your distance, and your windshield wipers on, when other traffic is in front of you.

Turn on your lights - Whenever visibility is poor or it rains, headlights are a good way to let other drivers know where you are.. Remember, you are not the only one affected by poor visibility. California requires headlights to be turned on when it is raining or when visibility is reduced to less than 500 feet.

Heavy rain - Heavy rain can overload the wiper blades, allowing an almost continuous sheet of water to flow over the screen. When visibility is so limited that the edges of the road or other vehicles cannot be seen at a safe distance, it is time to pull over and wait for the rain to ease up.

Foggy windows - Rain or high humidity can quickly cause windows to mist up inside the car. In a car equipped with air conditioning, turn up the heat and direct the airflow to your defrosters with the AC switch engaged.

Handling a skid - Losing control of your car on wet pavement is a frightening experience. You can prevent skids by driving slowly and carefully, especially on curves. Brake before entering the curves. Steer and brake with a light touch. If you find yourself in a skid, remain calm, ease your foot off the gas, and carefully steer in the direction you want the front of the car to go.

Driving through Water- Stop the car and check the water level before proceeding. Generally, if the water is deeper than the bottom of your doors or the bottom third of your wheels, it is inadvisable to attempt driving through it.

Check your brakes - If you successfully pass through a deep water hazard, test your brakes. They may be saturated, and only driving very slowly and braking lightly at the same time will generate enough heat to dry them out. Be sure they are pulling evenly on all wheels before building up speed again.

(submitted by Sandy Beecher, Safety Chair)

Christmas Trolley.....





Enjoying great food & wonderful company!!!!!!





Getting there.....



BEAUTIFUL DECORATIONS!!!!!!!!!











Bay Area Council of Ski Clubs Presents: Mini Ski Week to Park City, Utah



February 16-21st, 2025 Park City, Canyons & Deer Valley Resorts

Lodging & Amenities Package Includes:

? 5 nights at the Hyatt Place/Park City – double occupancy (single supplement available)



- ? Welcome reception and Group Dinner included
- ? Free daily hot breakfast buffet from 6:30-9:00 a.m., bar w/food in hotel lobby
- ? Free hotel shuttle & free local ski bus stop in front of hotel
- ? Free wifi & parking, fitness center, near Nordic Ski Center; near downtown area
- ? \$1,080 per person based on double occupancy in 2 Queen bedded hotel with sofa & sitting area

? Registration opens on June 14th. To insure your spot send your \$300 deposit check to: Bay Area Council of Ski Clubs in with your completed Trip Preference Form & Waiver. You must be a member of a BAC Club or a Direct BAC member to reserve a spot.

Airfare or Lift Tickets not included * Park City Resorts: on the Epic pass; Deer Valley on the Ikon pass.

FWSA 2025 Int'l Ski Trip to Tignes / Val d'Isere, France

BASIC Ski Week – Tignes, France March 1 – March 8, 2025 Group departs US Feb. 27, arrives in Geneva, Feb 28 & spend 1 night at a Geneva airport hotel.

Mar. 1st departs by bus to Tignes/Val d'Isere and return to US from Geneva, France on Mar. 8, 2025 Opt. Ext. Trip: Marseille. Nice & more...March 8–14. 2025



Group departs US on Feb. 27th and return from Nice on Mar.14, 2025

All Prices are based on an exchange rate of 1 Euro vs. \$1.10 USD & subject to change.

4-Star Lodging at The Village Montana in Tignes – a SKI IN – SKI OUT hotel!

Prices start at: \$2799p.p. based on double occupancy [air transp. sold separately.]

Single Supplements are available.



For the skiing enthusiast and the snow sports lovers looking for one of the largest ski areas in Europe, look no further...Tignes / Val d'Isere, France has everything you need In the heart of the Alps! The ski areas of Tignes and neighboring Val d'Isere make up what is known as L 'Espace Killy, one of the largest most varied and snow sure ski areas in the world. You will be able to enjoy 186 miles of slopes spread between 9093 acres with an altitude of 11,338 ft.

Senior rates for 65-74 years and 75 years and older SKI FREE!

Your convenient and unforgettable stay in the mountains at the 4-Star, Ski in-Ski out, Village Montana! Basic Lodging Package includes:

- Meet and greet at Geneva Airport with English Speaking Assistant.
- Transfer between Geneva Airport and Geneva Hotel via Hotel Shuttle.
- One-night stay at the 4-Star Crown Plaza, Geneva Airport Hotel with buffet breakfast.
- Transfer between Geneva Airport Hotel via a private coach to Tignes with Englishspeaking assistant.
- 7 night's accommodation at the 4" Ski in-Ski out Village Montana Hotel.
- Welcome/Orientation on March 1st with reps from Tignes Tourist Office and Ski School
- Daily Buffet Breakfast & 5 Dinners at the Village Montana Hotel in Tignes.
- · Complimentary use of the hotel amenities, such as:
 - WIFI
 - o Heated Ski Room with direct access to the slopes
 - o Indoor heated swimming pool, Steam Bath & Sauna
- Après Ski & Farewell events details to be provided.
- Optional day tour details to be provided.

So. France/French Riviera Adven. Trip: Marseille, Nice & more...

March 8 to14 , 2025

Prices: \$1997.00pp (dbl. occ.) or \$2460.00pp Single Supp.

Trip includes:

- 3 nights at the 4 Star Hotel Grand Hotel Beauvau in Marseille
- 3 nights at the 4 Star Beau Rivage Hotel on the Esplanade in Nice
- · English speaking tour escort/manager starting in Marseille
- Breakfast daily
- Day excursions include city walking tours, Chateau de Beaupre, Marseille Panier Area, Grotte de Cosquer <u>https://www.grotte-cosquer.com/en/visit-the-cosquer.cave/</u>, day tour of Camargue (Saint Mariede La Mar) & Aries, visit a perfume factory in Grasse, tour of the Village of St. Paul de Vence & the Foundation Maeght <u>https://fondation-maeght.com/</u>, full day tour to Antibes Old Town and St. Honorat Island & wine tasting, boat to Quai Laubeuf, Cannes.
- Farewell dinner.
- > Stand Alone So. France/French Riviera ONLY (Excludes Tignes/Val d'Isere ski week)
- > Land package price is same as Dbl. Occ. or Single Supplement ext. trip. Contact Gloria for transportation.

Make checks out to: Far West Ski Association (FWSA). Please reference "FWSA 2025 Tignes/Val d'Isere Int'l Trip" on each check.

Send to: Gloria Raminha FWSA VP of Int'l Travel 12707 Windy Ridge Dr. Bakersfield, CA 93312

For more information contact: Gloria Raminha at <u>Garski2011@omail.com</u> or cell: 661/800-8229 State of California Seller of Travel # 203698340

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



FOUNDED 1930



FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION MINI SKI TRIP March 23—28, 2025

Big White, Canada \$745 TRIP PACKAGE

Based on double occupancy. Single supplement pricing is available. Price does NOT include air, transfer, or lift tickets.

Sign up by October 1st and you will get a discount on your trip price. Early Bird discount expires October 2, 2024

Trip Insurance is highly recommended to protect your trip costs should you need to cancel.

The Inn at Big White features an outdoor heated pool, hot tub, games room, fitness center, 24-hour Front Desk, complimentary WIFI, heated underground parking, and ski locker storage. Rooms include minirefrigerator, microwave, and induction cooker. Units have 1 Queen bed and 1 Queen Murphy bed.

Contact: Nancy Ellis – 530-414-8261 – <u>FWSAtravelnancy@sbcglobal.net</u>

Information & Online Signup: http://fwsaminiBW.sat.tours

Included:

Five Night's Lodging Welcome Breakfast Farewell Dinner

Optional for Purchase: 3-day Adult Lift Ticket-\$311 3-day Senior Lift Ticket-\$301 4-day Adult Lift Ticket-\$398 4-day Senior Lift Ticket-\$333

Discounted Equipment Rental

Optional Activities:

- Tube Park
- Ice Skating
- Ice Climbing
- Sleigh Ride Dinners
- Snowshoe Tours
- Dog Sled Tours
- Free Mountain Tours
- Snowmobile Tours
- Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides
- Day Spas

FWSA CST #2036983-40



2025 Castro Valley Ski Club presents

Amazing Costa Rica May 4-15th, 2025



\$2599

Costa Rica is a land of volcanoes, rainforests and cloud forest

Your tour of Costa Rica includes:

- · Ground transportation in an air-conditioned motor coach
- Accommodations at first-class hotels and beach resort
- 15 meals: 9 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 2 dinners
- Professional, English-speaking Tour Director throughout
- Tips & More

Not Included:

· Air & Transfers - everyone is on their own to get air

Travel Insurance:

10% of the price of your trip

Single occupancy supplement is \$750

Send \$300 per person non-refundable deposit to:

Tucker Hoffmann - CVSC Travel Director 2657 Rivers Bend Circle Livermore, CA 94550 510-329-4242 <u>tkhoffmann@comcast.net</u>

CV5C C5T # 2081040





BAC CST# 2050870 Karen Albrecht BAC Trip Leader 712. Watsonia Drive Foster City, CA 94404 650-515-9532 iplaythird@yahoo.com

L'Aia

Rotterdam

Bruxelles Loverio

i buig

BIKE & BARGE BRUGES to AMSTERDAM MAY 8-15, 2025

ITINERARY

- 1. Embarkation in Bruges, the "Pearl of Flanders"
- 2. From Bruges to Ghent through the beautiful Flemish Countryside
- 3. Cycling along the Scheldt: from Ghent to St. Amands
- 4. Pedaling to the city of diamonds: Antwerp!
- 5. From Belgium to Holland by bike & boat Antwerp to Dordrecht
- 6. Cycling through the mills of Kinderdijk to Vianen
- 7. Among mansions, castles and villages toward Amsterdam
- 8. End of tour in Amsterdam

INCLUDED IN THIS TOUR:

8 days/7 nights 7 x breakfast 6 x 3-course dinner Packed lunches Coffee/Tea/Water on board Welcome drink Daily cabin cleaning Climate-controlled cabin Wi-Fi Fully guided cycling tours Jacuzzi on Sundeck GPS Some short walking tours Use of a helmet Use of Manual bike Use of a waterproof pannier bag Fees for ferries Entrance Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp Tasting Belgium products Canal trip through Ghent

JOIN 34 BAC cyclists for a week-long bike & barge tour in Holland and Belgium: the land of bicycles! The terrain is completely flat, and the bike paths, almost all of which are paved, are always well marked. Some stages include a choice between a short and a longer ride, and if one day you don't feel like cycling, you have the option of staying on board the boat. The only variable to keep an eye on is the weather: a little wind or rain could make your ride more adventurous. PRIVATE CHARTER VIA GIROLIBERO CYCLING HOLIDAYS

NOT INCLUDED:

salara

Courty.

Airfare 1-dinner (Antwerp or Bruges) Bottled/Alcoholic Drinks Trip Insurance Entrance fees not mentioned above Transfers to/from the dock

E-bike \$300 (very limited availability)

\$2,425* per person - double occupancy

Deposit: \$500 – to secure your spot \$1,000 Due AUG 1, 2024 Balance Due FEB 1, 2025

Checks payable to: Bay Area Council of Ski Clubs Mail to: Karen Albrecht, 712 Matsonia Dr., Foster City CA 94404

*Trip cost is based on 2024 currency conversion rates. Any major change in currency conversion rates that impact trip cost will be passed on to participants.



92nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention June 12 - 15, 2025

202

Changes

isp

at

Riviera Resort & Spa, Palm Springs

1600 N. Indian Canyon Drive Palm Springs, CA 92262

Hosted by the Orange Council of Ski Clubs

| Debbi Kor Co-Convention Chair <u>fwsadebbi@comcast.ne</u> or 503-314-7078 | Jane Wyckoff Co-Convention Chair <u>fwsajane@gmail.com</u> or 949-933-9607 | Barbara Razo Silent Auction Chair <u>SilentAuction@fwsa.o</u> or 714-401-7341 | Sheila Van Guilder Host Council Convention rg Coordinator <u>svanguil@yahoo.com</u> or 714-656-6032 |
|--|---|--|--|
| minutes away) | ar | I Airport (4 | Aerial Tram at St. Jacinto Park .et's Play Pickleball .8th Annual Pub Crawl |
| 1600 N. Indian Canyon Reservations : Call 760-327-8311 , Gr | & Spa, Palm Sprin Drive, Palm Springs, CA 9 oup Name: Far West Ski A plus tax, single or double o radline: May 19, 2025 | 2262 Association. occupancy — | tyention Highlights Silent Auction & Trade Show Guest Speakers Snowsports Leadership Academy Public Affairs Panels Saturday Awards Luncheon Saturday Awards Banquet FWSA General Meeting & Elections |

FWSA 2025 Summer Ski Trip to Valle Nevado, Chile August 1 – 10, 2025 (7 nights in Valle Nevado & 2 nights in Santiago) The group departs the US on July 31st and arrives in Santiago on August 1st.

August 1st - Half-day Sandiago City Tour before departing for Valle Nevado. All Prices are based on US dollars



Prices start at \$3399 per person, based on double occupancy [air transportation sold separately.] Single Supplements are available.

Valle Nevado resort is located just 90 minutes east of Santiago, Chile on 1,999 acres of terrain, with 34 trails. It is known for its spectacular views of the Andes Mountains, dry snow, and wide-open terrain. It traditionally has a deeper and better snow quality than any of the resorts in Chile due to its high altitude (elevation 10,000'), southern orientation, and extensive snowmaking system. We will be staying at the Hotel Puerto Del Sol which is just 20 meters away from the slopes.

Lodging Package at the Hotel Puerto Del Sol in Valle Nevado includes:

- Meet and greet at Santiago Airport with English Speaking Assistant.
- Half-day Santiago City Tour with English-speaking guide.
- Transfer between Santiago to Hotel Puerto Del Sol in Valle Nevado via a private Coach with English-speaking assistant.
- 7 nights' accommodation at the Hotel Puerto Del Sol.
- Welcome/Orientation Party on August 1st with reps from Valle Nevado Tourism Board.
- Daily Lift Tickets (For those with an IKON pass, a discount will be applied based on your type of IKON Pass and any eligible PASS programs).
- One interconnecting ticket to La Parva or El Colorado resort (Subject to availability).
- Daily Buffet Breakfast & Dinner.
- Hotel Puerto Del Sol
- Après Ski events details to be provided.
 Complimentary use of the hotel amenities, such as:
- WIFI
- Ski storage
- o Spa
- o Outdoor heated swimming pool
- Access to Fitness Center

Lodging Package at the 5-star Hotel InterContinental in Santiago includes:

- Daily breakfast at the hotel.
- Full-day tour to the Central Coast, Valparaiso, and Vina del Mar, then we will travel to Casablanca Valley where we will be welcomed at Casas Del Bosque Vinyard for a tour and tasting followed by lunch.

Send Deposit and Registration Documents to:



Valparaiso

Gloria Raminha FWSA VP of Int'l Travel 12707 Windy Ridge Dr. Bakersfield, CA 93312

For more information contact: Gloria Raminha at <u>garski2011@gmail.com</u> or cell: 661/800-8229. More FWSA Travel information is available at <u>www.fwsa.org</u> under the travel tab.

State of California Seller of Travel # 2036983-40







FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

FALL FOLIAGE CRUISE-MAJESTIC PRINCESS

Sept. 9-19, 2025 QUEBEC CITY TO BOSTON-FALL FOLIAGE

| | | Per Person R | ates: | | |
|--|---|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | \$797/person | \$797/person INSIDE ROOM (2) They pick your room | | | |
| | \$816/person INSIDE ROOM (2) You pick your room | | | | |
| | \$1,897/person | BALCONY ROOM (2) | They pick your room | | |
| | \$1,956/person | BALCONY ROOM (2) | You pick your room Forward/Aft | | |
| | \$2,132/person | BALCONY ROOM (2) | You pick your room Mid Ship | | |
| | \$2,497/person | MINI SUITE (2) They | nick your room | | |
| | \$2,742/person | MINI SUITE (2) You p | nick your room | | |
| | \$250.00 | EXTRA PORT FEES & | TAXES PER PERSON | | |
| | | CRUISE INCL | UDES: | | |
| | 5 - | 10 Nights, All Meals | & Floor Shows | | |
| | | Group Cockt | ail Party | | |
| | 6 Restaurants on the ship plus the Main Dining Room ***\$600.00 more/person (\$60/day) includes the following: | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | *All Drinks *WIFI *Tips Paid | | | | |

ADD QUEBEC CITY HILTON HOTEL (Walking distance to Old Quebec City) Mon. Sept. 8th prior to boarding ship on Sept. 9th = \$143/person double room

> Trip information: Contact Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel, fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net (530) 414-8261

> > FWSA CST #2036983-40

Castro Valley Ski Club Presents

Paris, Normandy, and the Seine River Cruise



October 3-15th, 2025 \$3895 to \$4695 depending on cabin choice - plus air \$1400

Delight in the dazzling sights of Paris, explore the charming villages

along the Seine, and encounter the sacredness of Normandy

Here is all the info on The Seine: Normandy to Paris River Cruise with Grand Circle Cruise Line in 2025. Below are the details for this cruise along with instructions to make reservations.

The upper deck has a small balcony with a sliding glass door. The lower deck has a large picture window and is slightly larger than the balcony cabins.

Learn more about this cruise online at <u>www.gct.com/SEN25</u> you can see deck plans here as well

Here's how you can sign up

1) Call Grand Circle Travel: 1-800-221-2610

2) Mention Group Code: G5-25848

3) Mention you'd like to make a reservation for the The Seine: Normandy to Paris in 2025 with the Castro Valley Ski Club

Deposit is \$500 per person, but more if including travel protection with the deposit.

I have negotiated a special incentive if you sign up by Jan 30, 2024 you will get an additional \$100 off PRICING, also you can get a Good Buy Discount (GBD): Pay in full from a checking account 15 months prior to departure to save up to 10% on your tour and airfare balance. Learn more about our Good Buy Discount online at: www.gct.com/GBD. This adds up!



Pricing:

- Alto D Cabin: \$3895 per person
- Alto C Cabin: \$4295 per person
- Soprano B Cabin with balcony: \$4495 per person
- Soprano A Cabin with balcony: \$4695 per person

Optional Pre-Trip extension to Brittany & Mont St. Michel: \$995 per person Optional Post-Trip extension to Paris: \$895 per person

Single cabins are limited. If available, the single supplement is \$795

Grand Circle Reservations is open 7 days/week. Hours: Monday-Friday: 6am-5pm PT Saturday-Sunday 6am-3pm PT

Tucker & Kathy Castro Valley Ski Club Travel

| English Channel Pointe du Hoc Omaha Beach Honfleur | Arrival/ Departure Included tour Optional Extension Motor Route Cruise Route Tetal Cruiseg 220 miles Jostance (3555m) |
|---|--|
| OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS | Paris ional Extension |

Bay Area Snow Sports Council presents ...

Cruise aboard our privately owned 162-passenger M/S River Adagio

Christmas Markets Along the Danube

Austria: Vienna, Melk, Linz | Germany: Passau, Regensburg, Nuremberg



IT'S INCLUDED

International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges, unless you choose to make your own air arrangements

Accommodations for 7 nights aboard a private river ship with wireless Internet access now in all common areas and cabins

21 meals: 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, and 7 dinners—plus all onboard house beer & wine, as well as soft drinks

5 included tours with personal headsets, up to 6 Christmas markets, and 6 Exclusive Discovery Series events—Wachau Valley discussion • German language lesson • German Christmas Traditions discussion • Regensburg choral concert • Glassblowing demonstration • Main-Danube Canal discussion

Local Program Directors, a Grand Circle Cruise Line exclusive: These dedicated experts are with you and your group of 38-45 travelers from beginning to end to provide insider's knowledge and the perpective that will enrich your experience

Gratuities for local guides and motorcoach drivers

All port charges

Baggage handling for 1 piece of luggage per person, including tips

5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next trip



Reservations & Information Gail Burns 650-255-7883 or Grand Circle 1-800-221-2610

ITINERARY OVERVIEW Departure NOVEMBER 30, 2025 Return DECEMBER 8, 2025

Day 1 • Depart U.S.

Day 2 • Vienna, Austria Embark ship

Day 3 • Melk • Wachau Valley Included Tour Melk Abbey

Day 4 • Linz Optional Tour Salzburg

Day 5 • Passau, Germany Included Tour Passau

Day 6-7 • Regensburg Included Tour Regensburg

Day 8 • Nuremberg Included Tour Nuremberg

Day 9 • Nuremburg • Return to U.S. Disembark ship

MAXIMIZE YOUR DISCOVERIES & VALUE

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

Vienna, Austria 3 nights pre-trip: \$845 per person

Munich, Germany 3 nights post-trip: \$895 per person



www.gct.com/xms

Sensations of Lyon & Provence River Cruise

Including a three-night hotel stay in Nice on the French Riviera 12 Days & 23 Meals

Departure Date: September 15, 2026 Return Date: September 26, 2026 on the Emerald Liberté



OK, Castro Valley, here's our 2026 South of France trip. I have been able to negotiate a \$300 discount if you send in your deposit by March 20, 2025. PLUS....if you went on the Portugal trip you get another \$150 off and all of us get free airfare. We start off with 3 days in Nice and end up after 7 days on the River Boat in Lyon, France. Remember this trip is all inclusive & includes all tips and air!

We have 30 spots on this trip. Send in your non-refundable \$400 deposit to;

Kathy Hoffmann 2657 Rivers Bend Circle Livermore, CA. 94550

Deck Riviera Vista

Category (E) Emerald Stateroom (C) Panorama French Balcony Per Person, Twin \$5465-\$300=\$5165 (small window up high) \$6249-\$300 = **\$5949** picture window comes down

EXCEPTIONAL INCLUSIONS

- 23 Meals: 10 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 7 dinners
- Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Three-night hotel stay in Nice, France
- Touring in Monaco and Monte Carlo
- Seven-night cruise through southern France
- First-class service by an English-speaking crew
- Shore excursions with English-speaking local guides
- Personal listening device for onboard excursions
- All meals included onboard with a variety of international cuisine
- Complimentary regional wines, beer and soft drinks accompany onboard lunches and dinners
- Complimentary bottled water in your stateroom
- All gratuities included
- Complimentary WiFi onboard
- Complimentary bicycles onboard for use ashore

DAY 1 Depart the USA: Depart the USA on your overnight flight to Nice, France.

DAY 2 Nice, France: Welcome to Nice! Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport by a representative of Mayflower Cruises and Tours and transferred to the hotel. A three-night stay awaits in this fascinating city on the French Riviera and the sun-kissed capital of the Côte d'Azur.

DAY 3 Monte Carlo / Nice: Depart by coach for the principality of Monaco to visit Monte Carlo on the French Riviera. Home to the Grand Prix, location of numerous movies and playground

of the rich and famous – you're sure to recognize its beautiful setting and famed casino. After an insightful tour and free time to explore, return to Nice for the remainder of the day at leisure. **Meal: B**

DAY 4 Nice: The final day in Nice is left free of planned activities. A hospitality representative is at your service to help you plan your day in this vibrant city. Meal: B

DAY 5 Nice – Arles: After breakfast, it's time to say farewell to the French Riviera and journey by motorcoach to Arles where the captain and crew welcome you aboard the *Emerald Liberté* – home for the next seven nights. Settle into your new surroundings and enjoy dinner onboard as the vessel remains docked in Arles overnight. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 6 Arles: The UNESCO World Heritage Site and Provençal town of Arles combines all of the region's charms. While strolling through the streets, medieval in character, with the local guide, you'll discover why the colorful houses were an inspiration to Vincent Van Gogh and other famous artists. Visit the 2,000-year-old Roman amphitheater which is still in use today. This evening, a Provençal experience awaits as dinner is hosted by Top Chef finalist, Fabien Morreale. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 7 Avignon: Avignon is one of the few French cities to have preserved its ramparts, historic center and churches. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is well known for the imposing Palace of the Popes. During your guided walk, see the famous ancient stone bridge, 'Pont d'Avignon', crossing the Rhône. Marvel at the ornate beauty of the Palace of the Popes and stroll through the historic center. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 8 Viviers: Arrive in Viviers, a town which still has Middle-Age flair. Join an included walking tour exploring the architectural heritage of this quaint town. Meals: B, L, D

DAY 9 Tournon: As the vessel sails along the gently winding Rhône River, the landscape of Tournon comes into view. Nestled in the valley near the steep slopes of le Massif Central, France's 3rd largest mountain range, it's picture-perfect. During the included tour, a local guide leads you on a walk through Tournon, which is dominated by the 16th-century castle overlooking the village, ancient watchtowers and Roman ruins. The area has a long tradition in wine making, including the renowned wine growing center of Tain l'Hermitage across the river. Meals: B, L, D

DAY 10 Lyon: France's third largest city, Lyon is steeped in history and a former Roman capital. The city is positioned at the confluence of the Rhône and Saône Rivers. Take part in the guided tour of Lyon, which includes a drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Basilique Notre-Dame de Fourvière, Lyon's hilltop church, with stunning views over the town. A walking tour of the city center showcases its architectural wonders. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 11 Chalon-Sur-Saône /Beaune / Lyon: Chalon-Sur- Saône is best known as the birthplace of photography and the center of Burgundy's wine region. Travel by coach to the quaint village of Beaune to visit the Hospices de Beaune, one of the finest examples of French 15th-century architecture. Marvel at the multi-colored roofs of this former hospital, now a museum, which has become one of the symbols of Burgundy. The ship sails back to Lyon this evening. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 12 Lyon / USA: After breakfast, it's time to bid 'au revoir' to France and depart to the Lyon airport for your flight home. Flights to depart Lyon after 12:00pm. Meal: B





2024/2025 Avid Skiers in Control

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510-910-2707 707-479-6272 Claudia.fernandes4108@gmail.com annewilburn@comcast.net mozoro25@gmail.com greendm@comcast.net carriesouza@comcast.net skibuff@comcast.net dennieluuu1@gmail.com Tuckerhoffmann@aol.com

tkhoffmann@icloud.com pkinahon@gmail.com srbeecher@aol.com

WEBSITE: www.cvskiclub.org

WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS

Singles league racing: slracing.tripos.com/schedule.htm Open league racing: olrc.org Weather: nws.mbay.net/home.html Best weather website for snow: Tahoeweatherdiscussion.com

Far West Racing Assoc: fwra.com Web cams on the slopes: magnifeye.com Road conditions: 1-800-427-7623 Info on all ski areas: onthesnow.com

Take a bus to the slopes: nacski.com & tahoeskitrips.com Sierra webcam: sierravisionsstock.com:80/sierravisions/sierra-nevada-webcams/

SKIZETTE FOR JANUARY, 2025



All monthly general meetings are held at Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant, 3430 Village Dr., Castro Valley, CA

SKI WITH PRIDE, LET IT RIDE, WATCH ALL SIDES First With Safety Awareness Slogan award sponsored by:



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