





Travel | Insurance/Financial | Automotive | Member Savings

SEE PAGE 3

Vol. 16 No. 2

EAST CENTRAL OHIO REGION

FEBRUARY 2024



Member Choice Vacations® offers immersive experience

Southern Stars: Unveiling Australia & New Zealand

USTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND mesh better than cookies and milk. Together, they create a delicious vacation that few combinations worldwide can match.

Tucked away in the mystical Southern Hemisphere, the tandem opens doorways to wondrous journeys. Down is up and right is left but unforgettable is unforgettable. Step by step, beauty multiplies from all directions. It's more than a vacation. It's an experience. One that will touch your heart, tease your senses and soothe your soul.

It doesn't get much better.

It's a bucket-list trip AAA Member Choice Vacations® will make a reality. This "Explorations" guided tour allows you to dive deeper into your trip's greatest attributes. Get to know the pulse of the destination by talking with locals. Visit places you'll never forget with a group of travelers - no more than 24 - that will allow you to get to know your fellow travelers, tour manager and local guides. Share access to venues, culturally reflective accommodations and destinations that larger groups might not be able to reach. Cook with the locals or wander outside the tour with built-in free time.

Australia & New Zealand Uncovered will run from October 7-28, 2024. The cost is \$12,099 per person double occupancy and includes airfare. Members who book and deposit by February 29 can save as much as \$200 per person.



These jewels of the South Pacific - affectionately dubbed "Oz" and "Aotearoa" - offer an otherworldly allure that is guaranteed to satisfy your wanderlust. They're priceless gems rarely seen but always reward. Absorb the atmosphere and relish radiating lands awaiting your arrival.

This extensive trip to the other side of the world will put you in the best spots to witness locations that only can be fully appreciated by your own eyes. Photos might bring back memories, but personal experiences last a lifetime.

Venture off the usual tourist path to discover the real Australia and New Zealand. Imagine what might be beneath the surface once you take your trip beyond seeing sights. Dive deeper to engage with the environment and culture actively and meaningfully.

Close your eyes and imagine your journey.

REAL ID Extended to May 7, 2025

The Department of Homeland Security extended the REAL ID deadline to May 7, 2025. The REAL ID Act established minimum security standards for stateissued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards. Beginning May 7, 2025,

every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID compliant license/ID, or another acceptable form of ID for boarding commercial aircraft, accessing Federal facilities and entering nuclear plants. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) considers a current passport or military ID acceptable identification for boarding an aircraft. For more information on Ohio's REAL ID compliant license, visit bmv.ohio.gov.

Get Peace of Mind with Automatic Renewal

AAA Auto Pay is the convenient way to pay your membership dues! There are no checks to write, no stamps to buy, no late payments and no risk of having your membership lapse. Choose AAA Auto Pay and your membership dues will be automatically charged to your credit card, debit card, or checking account each year. When you enroll using your credit or debit card, your account will be charged seven business days prior to the membership expiration date. Enroll by using your checking account and your account will be charged one day in advance of the expiration date. To learn more or enroll in AAA's Auto Pay Program, call 1-800-441-5008 or visit your local AAA branch office. To sign up online, log in to your membership account at AAA.com and select "Enroll" in the Bill.

AAA Members Save More at Shell

The Fuel Rewards® Program is all about one thing: providing real, immediate savings on something you use all the time — fuel. AAA Members get automatic Gold Status and save 30¢/gal on their first fill-up at Shell when they join the Fuel Rewards® program by 12/31/23 and make their first transaction within 30/days of joining. After that, save 5¢/gal every day on each individual fill-up of up to 20 gallons from participating Shell stations.

Find Lower Gas Prices with Auto Club app



Eager to find the lowest gas prices in your location? AAA's Auto Club app can help you save time and money by comparing prices of the nearest gas stations. The Auto Club app also goes beyond finding the lowest fuel prices. Members can use it to request roadside assistance, book travel reservations for flight, car rental, hotel, or

cruise, and much more. To get the app, text APP10 to 86792 and you will receive a link to download it.

Upkeep helps drivers avoid breakdowns Components often overlooked can cause big problems

AA has rescued drivers for more than a century, and there are no signs of stopping. It aids stranded members approximately 30 million times annually for a myriad of reasons. There is no telling what could lie ahead, but there are three most common reasons: dead battery, flat tires and overheating.

Remarkably, improved vehicle maintenance could avoid a quarter of these experiences, making it prudent to take care of your vehicle.

Battery issues are the leading cause for roadside breakdowns, particularly during the winter. Batteries lose as much as 35% of their efficiency when temperatures dip below freezing and as much as 60% when temperatures drop below zero.

Cleaning corrosion from the posts and cable connections, as well as washing all surfaces with battery-terminal cleaner or a solution of baking soda and water can keep your battery strong. Retightening all connections also lessens the odds your battery will lose juice.

Automotive batteries typically last between three and five years – less in hotter climate conditions. Don't forget to turn off your vehicle's lights once you've reached your destination. Keeping them on an extended period of time can reduce your battery's lifespan.



THERE TO HELP – Millions of members call AAA each year for roadside assistance. *Image: garry images. Adobe Stock.*

Safeguard against a dead battery by having it tested annually once you've had it three years.

AAA Battery Service offers quick, accurate and convenient mobile-battery testing and replacement. State-of-theart diagnostic equipment will confirm whether your battery will hold a charge or if the problem lies deeper in the electrical system. The service is included with your AAA membership. You

can purchase a new battery and have it installed onsite if one is needed.

Tire care also is essential. Motorists should have them checked frequently during winter months. Pressure begins to drop as temperatures fall. Typically, the rate at which pressure lessens is 1 PSI for every 10 degrees. Proper tire pressure levels can be found in your car's owner's manual or on a sticker located on the driver's side doorjamb.

AAA recommends replacing a tire when 4/32 inches of tread remains. This can be tested by placing a quarter upside down in the tread groove. The tire should be replaced if Washington's head is visible.

Coolant leaks become more common when temperatures plunge. Metal engine parts contract in cold weather and hose clamps loosen. Your vehicle's coolant never loses its antifreeze capability, but the additives that lubricate the water pump and protect internal-engine components from rust, scale and corrosion can become depleted.

It's wise to have your vehicle's cooling system flushed and filled when recommended by the manufacturer. Newer coolant formulations can last as long as five years or 150,000 miles.

Check the coolant level in the overflow reservoir by opening the radiator cap. It should be filled to the "Full Hot" indicator line with a 50/50 mixture of antifreeze and water if it is low.

TAKE CHARGE

Count on AAA to turn battery problems into solutions. AAA Battery Service is available from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. seven-days a week. To verify AAA Battery Service availability in your area, call our toll-free number: 1-800-222-4357.

Road deicers cause billions of dollars in damage Majority of Americans at risk for costly, dangerous rust problems

ay now. Or pay later.

That might be the best way to describe the winter-driving season.

Slick roadways are the primary cause of thousands of car crashes annually. Road crews work before, during and after snowstorms to plow and deice roads. Salts and other chemicals are used to melt snow and ice and allow drivers to safely reach their destinations.

It's an invaluable process but it doesn't come without a price. Millions of Americans are confronted with expensive vehicle repairs from rust damage caused by chemicals used to the clear roadways.

A AAA survey found that drivers paid more than \$15 billion in rust repairs caused by deicing methods over a five-year period. AAA warns drivers to take actions to prevent dangerous rust-related damage to brake lines, fuel tanks, exhaust systems and other critical components.

AAA urges drivers, who experience any of the following vehicle malfunctions, to immediately move it from the road to a safe location and have it towed to a trusted repair facility.

- In-dash warning lights for brakes and other critical systems.
- A "spongey" or soft feeling when applying pressure to the brake pedal.
- An unusually loud exhaust sound or the smell of fumes in or around



CLEARING THE WAY – Rock salt is used to clear millions of miles of road throughout the U.S. It's an effective measure, but it could cause rust damage to vehicles. *Image: robsonphoto. Adobe Stock.*

the vehicle

 The prominent smell of gasoline or diesel fuel when the vehicle is parked or running.

Many state and local transportation departments have shifted from using rock salt to liquid deicers to combat hazardous road conditions. The alternatives have proved to be more effective than traditional salt because they can be applied before a snowstorm, have a lower freezing point and quickly melt ice and snow.

These same characteristics, however, can be even more damaging to vehicles since the chemicals remain in liquid form longer and are more likely to coat components and seep into cracks and crevices where corrosion can accelerate.

AAA recommends drivers take the

following preventative steps to reduce vehicle damage:

- Limit driving immediately before, during and after winter storms when salt and deicing solutions are being applied and are at their highest concentrations.
- Frequently wash your vehicle, paying attention to the undercarriage. This will loosen, dissolve and neutralize road salts.
- Use quality car-wash solution, not a household dish detergent that will strip wax from the vehicle.
- Repair body damage and touch up paint scratches and chips that expose bare metal that could lead to rust.
- Thoroughly wash and clean the vehicle before the start of winter and apply a coat of wax to protect the finish.
- And give the vehicle and undercarriage a methodical cleaning in the spring. Deposits left over from the winter can continue to cause corrosion year-round if they aren't properly removed.

The winter-driving season is a conundrum for all motorists. Unkempt roads are more likely to lead to crashes and treated ones could lead to other forms of damage at later dates.

Responsible driving and proper car care can eliminate headaches and keep motorists from paying now – or later.



East Central Ohio Region

Official publication of AAA East Central

Published monthly (except bimonthly Aug./Sept., Nov./Dec.) by AAA East Central 1972 Wales Rd. NE#1, Massillon, OH 44646-4110 330-833-1084 USPS 0679-850

Periodicals Postage Paid at Massillon, OH

Postmaster: Send address changes to

AAA Motorist East Central Ohio Region P.O. Box 6150 Cleveland, OH 44101

Subscription Rate: \$1 included in Primary Membership dues. All others: \$2/year.

 Publisher......
 Teresa G. Petrick

 Managing Editor.....
 Frank A. Verdecchia

Editorial Offices 5700 Brecksville Road, Independence, OH 44131

5900 Baum Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15206

For advertising inquires, contact Heather Roth at 412-365-7232

e-mail: motorist@aaaec.com

AAA EAST CENTRAL

Chairman	 Robert A. Delviichiei
Vice Chairman	 Robert S. Collins

OFFICERS:

Teresa G. Petrick
Thomas J. Ashley
Neil D. Bassi
Robert S. Collins

GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Glenn B. Bachman, Neil D. Bassi, Robert T. Bouttier, James E. Broome, Jr.**, Edward C. Coaxum, Jr.**, Robert S. Collins, Debra A. Dinnocenzo, Gregory E. Grim, Richard S. Hamilton*, Christopher B. Howard, Mary Beth Jenkins, Mary Lynn Laughlin, William Duff McCrady**, Randell McShepard, Martha Hartle Munsch, Tuck Tinslev III

*Chairman Emeritus

** Emeritus Directors

Copyright ©2024 by AAA East Central. Advertisements in this publication, except for AAA East Central services and products, do not constitute an endorsement by AAA East Central or the publisher. Liability of the publisher for errors and omissions in advertising or editorial copy is limited to printing a correction in the next issue of the publication after the publisher has been notified of the error or omission.

From Where I Sit

Take advantage of Valentine's Day savings Put your AAA membership to work to find the perfect gift

By Terri Petrick President, AAA East Central

t's February, and love is in the air! Valentine's Day, the holiday of love, is quickly approaching and you don't want to be caught off guard when buying your sweetie a gift.

So, if you're in the planning process, consider how your AAA membership can offer you exclusive savings on gifts and experiences this Valentine's Day. After all, what's not to love about saving money?



Terri Petrick

Whether you're planning dinner, a movie, a date night or a weekend getaway, your AAA membership can really come in handy this month.

Let's go over some options.

If you want to try your hand at cooking a special

meal, AAA offers a pantry's worth of exclusive savings on home-meal-kit delivery services. Hello Fresh offers 55% off your first order, and Home Chef offers 60% off your first three boxes. Or, if you're thinking of something clean and organic, Green Chef offers AAA members 65% off of their first box delivery, plus free shipping.

If you prefer to dress up and head out to celebrate at a local restaurant, AAA offers discounts at Landry's Restaurants, including Joe's Crab Shack, Hard Rock Café and more. Discounts are also available at McCormick & Schmick's and Rainforest Café.

If your idea of a special dinner is at a more casual location, consider the **Brick House Tavern + Tap.** With a relaxed atmosphere, seemingly endless assortment of local, craft and import beers, and an inventive menu of American tavern fare, Brick House Tavern + Tap offers guests a



Image: uv_group. Adobe Stock.

Membership has its Privileges



Scan to search AAA's Discounts & Rewards program.

truly next generation "gastro pub" experience.

After dinner, how about a show? Get exclusive AAA discounts on movie tickets by buying them in advance with AAA Tickets. Through this service, members can save on admission to thousands of theaters across the United States. Also, tickets are available for Broadway shows, sporting events, concerts and more.

Or, if you're looking for something to watch while at home, AAA members now have access to exclusive savings with **DIRECTV**. Did you know that you can get up to a \$400 Visa Reward card when you activate new DIRECTV service?

While there's no better way to someone's heart than dinner and a show, AAA discounts open the door to other means of appreciation. Members can get up to 20% off flowers and gifts from 1-800-Flowers. com. Or if a sweet treat is more your style, save 20% on online orders of Cheryl's Cookies' award-winning treats and 25% off on Harry & David's premium fruit, gifts and more.

If you want to really stand out this Valentine's Day, consider booking a getaway. Nothing is quite as fun as being surprised with the gift of travel! Of course, AAA Travel is known for its connections with vendors, hotels and travel services across the world. Whether you're considering a weekend getaway to a local town or even a weekend cruise, call your local AAA Travel Advisor and start planning now.

However you chose to celebrate this Valentine's Day, don't make any purchases without first checking AAA.com/ Discounts to find your options for savings.

Free Junior Associates

Priceless Protection for Teens

If your teen has reached driving age, don't let them go it alone. AAA members can extend their AAA coverage for dependents age 16 to 18, with a free Junior Associate membership. They'll carry their very own AAA card, and are entitled to AAA benefits and services including 24/7 roadside assistance, exclusive savings at AAA Discounts & Rewards, AAA Mobile solutions and more. Members can add Junior Associates by calling or visiting their local AAA office or, by clicking on AAA.com/JuniorAssociate. (All Associate Members must reside at the Primary Member's address, and proof of age may be required).

Note: Free Junior Associates are not available with the Monthly Dues Option.

AAA DIRECTORY

AAA MEMBER SERVICES

TripTiks, Maps, Address Change, AAA Plus 800-441-5008 membersvccntr@aaaec.com

APPROVED AUTO REPAIR: 216-606-6332 aar@aaaec.com

AUTO BUYING SERVICE: 800-446-7433

DRIVER IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS: 216-606-6121

EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE:

Cuyahoga County: 216-606-6000, ers@aaaec.com Ashland, Ashtabula, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Portage, Mahoning, Stark, Trumbull, and Tuscarawas: 800-AAA-HELP

INSURANCE AGENCY: 216-606-6194, 800-343-4851 insuranceservices@aaaec.com

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: 216-606-6701

PUBLIC RELATIONS: 412-365-7274

TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAMS: 412-365-7211

TRAVEL AGENCY: 800-354-8761 www.AAA.com

ALLIANCE 330-823-9820

TRAVEL AGENCY 330-821-2323 2322 South Union Ave., 44601

ASHLAND 419-289-8133

TRAVEL AGENCY 419-289-2222 1074 Commerce Parkway, 44805

ASHTABULA 40-997-5586

TRAVEL AGENCY 440-998-1008 2835 North Ridge Rd. East 44004

AVON 40-695-1795

40-695-1795 35676 Detroit Rd. 44011

BOARDMAN 330-726-9083 TRAVEL AGENC

TRAVEL AGENCY 330-726-0622 1275 Boardman-Canfield Rd., 44512

INDEPENDENCE

16-606-6300 TRAVEL AGENCY 216-606-6080 5700 Brecksville Rd. 44131

AAA BRANCH OFFICE LOCATIONS

LYNDHURST 440-473-0700

440-473-0700 TRAVEL AGENCY 440-473-0747 5356 Mayfield Rd. 44124

MASSILLON

330-833-1084 TRAVEL AGENCY 330-833-1084 1972 Wales Rd, 44646

MENTOR

440-974-0990 TRAVEL AGENCY 440-205-9090 6980 Heisley Rd.,44060

NEW PHILADELPHIA

TRAVEL AGENCY 330-343-4481 1112 Fourth St., 44663 330-343-4481

NILES

330-652-6466 TRAVEL AGENCY 330-652-6466 937 Youngstown-Warren Rd., 44446

NORWALK 419-668-1622

TRAVEL AGENCY 419-668-1622 275 Benedict Ave. Norwalk 44857

SOLON 440-248-9000

TRAVEL AGENCY 440-248-1808 34050 Solon Rd. 44139

STRONGSVILLE 440-783-3395

TRAVEL AGENCY 440-783-3396 17220 Royalton Roadd, 44136

WESTLAKE

440-788-3102 TRAVEL AGENCY 440-788-3103

149 Market St., Crocker Park, 44145



February AAA Member Savings That You'll Love





Buy Tickets for Your Valentine!

Tickets make the perfect Valentine's Day gift and you'll save up to 30%! AAA Tickets offers members exclusive discounts on tickets to sporting events, movies, concerts, attractions, theme parks, and entertainment nationwide. AAA Tickets has everything you need for a memorable experience. Save today and never pay full price again! To purchase tickets visit AAA.com/tickets.



Harry& David

Enjoy Harry & David's Fine Gourmet Meats and Seafood

Avoid the crowds and cook Valentine's dinner at home! Enjoy Harry & David's finest gourmet meat and seafood delivery service brought right to your door. We also have charcuterie and cheese selections, fine wines, an Italian Food Collection, a variety of gourmet fine meats and prepared gourmet meals and entrees. Visit AAA.com/HarryandDavid to shop our collection.

Thanks to **AAA Discounts** & Rewards, members enjoy real savings on the things they buy every day and just about everywhere. The more you use it, the more savings add up. When you're ready to buy, think AAA first. It's the membership that pays for itself.

THE UPS STORE

Save on Shipping and Online Print Services

Save while shipping your packages and envelopes with a member discount of up to 5% off shipping and also a 15% savings on eligible in-store products and services. Save up to 30% off online **print services** for greeting cards, invitations, banners, newsletters and more. Visit AAA.com/theupsstore for a location near you.

Go to AAA.com/discounts and start saving today.

T Mobile

AAA Members Get Up to \$100 When Switching to T-Mobile

Get up to \$100 when you switch to T-Mobile. AAA members receive an exclusive \$100 rebate via virtual prepaid Mastercard® when moving two lines to T-Mobile. This exclusive offer is available on any rate plan and can be combined with device offers. New T-Mobile account, registration and AAA membership validation are required. Visit AAA.com/T-Mobile.



Big Member Savings with Lenovo

Whether its for work, education or gaming, Lenovo has amazing savings on first quality products. Save on the best selling laptops, tablets, phones, gaming laptops, desktop and mobile workstations, accessories, and more. Need it today? Buy online and pick up at BestBuy. Join MyLenovoRewards. Join for FREE and get FREE expedited delivery. Visit AAA.com/Lenovo









Save 25% Off Award-Winning Valentine's Cookies

Treat your Valentine to award-winning desserts and get 25% off online when you use promo code 25AAA. Our buttercream frosting is FAMOUS! For over 30 years Cheryl's buttercream frosted cookies and brownies have become customer favorites. Our cut-out cookies arrive individually wrapped for freshness and easy sharing. Visit AAA.com/CherylsCookies and enter Promo Code 25AAA and Membership# in Member ID box at checkout.

Save 25% on Valentine's Chocolate-Dipped Berries

Shop from our juicy chocolate dipped strawberries are always the right gift. Save 25% this Valentine's Day! We select only the largest, most flavorful berries for our incredible line of dipped fruit and desserts. Always fresh and always ready to share with those you love. Visit AAA.com/SharisBerries and enter Promo Code 25AAA and Membership# in Member ID box at checkout.









Fall In Love with Hertz Gold Plus Rewards for FREE

As a Hertz Gold Plus Rewards® member, enjoy the convenience of skipping the counter*. Join for FREE and enjoy benefits from day one. Plus, book using your AAA CDP #215 to add an additional driver for free, save 10% off prepaid gas and more. Click AAA.com/Hertz, call 1-800-654-3080, or visit your local AAA branch.

*At participating locations.

Help Protect Your Pet & Save up to 20%

Give your pets the care they deserve and help save yourself from expensive vet bills with Spot Pet Insurance. AAA members can save up to 20% off Spot plans—a special 10% group discount on every policy, plus a 10% multi-pet discount on all additional pets. Help protect your best friend in case of accidents, illnesses, behavioral issues, and more with the Spot VetAccess™ 24/7 helpline. Visit AAA.com/SpotPetIns



Save Every Day With Your AAA Membership Card





Planning a Disney vacation?

AAA has discounts on Disney tickets, as well as theme park guides and information on the newest Disney attractions. Members save up to \$100 off Disney theme park tickets at participating resorts: Disneyland® Resort - Anaheim, California and Walt Disney World® Resort -Orlando, Florida. Visit AAA.com/Tickets



Universal Action-Packed Adventure Awaits

Explore 3 amazing theme parks and immerse yourself in the next generation of blockbuster entertainment at Universal Orlando Resort. Go behind the scenes on the world-famous Studio Tour to explore where real Hollywood movies are made at Universal Studios Hollywood.™ Visit AAA.com/Tickets



Receive 2 FREE Days of Airport Parking

AAA members receive 2 free days of airport parking when signing up for Spot Club. Save 10% minimum discount with additional exclusive offers throughout the year. The \$5.95 reservation fee waived on every transaction. Earn points towards free parking with every stay. AAA.com/theparkingspot.



AAA Premium Battery Now In Stock

POWER YOU CAN TRUST.™ Trusted by AAA members and includes a 3-year replacement warranty. Members save 10% off* the retail price of thousands of quality auto parts at participating NAPA AUTO PARTS Stores. Visit AAA.com/NapaOnline.

Lodging Discounts

MARRIOTT **BONV2**Y

Members save 5% or more. Earn Marriott Bonvoy™ points when booking AAA rates. AC Hotels, Aloft, Autograph Collection Hotels, Courtyard by Marriott, Delta Hotels and Resorts, EDITION hotels, Element, Fairfield Inn. & Suites by Marriott, Four Points, Gaylord Hotels, JW Marriott, Le Meridien, Marriott Hotels, MOXY Hotels, Renaissance Hotels, Sheraton Hotels & Resorts, SpringHill Suites by Marriott, St. Regis, The Luxury Collection, The Ritz-Carlton, TownePlace Suites by Marriott, Tribute Portfolio, W Hotels and Westin.





AAA rates. Bellagio, Aria, Vdara, MGM Grand,

Save 10% and earn MGM Rewards when booking

Signature at MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, Delano, Park MGM, NoMad, Mirage, New York New York, Luxor. Excalibur, Circus Circus, Beau Rivage, Gold

AAA.com/MGMResorts

Hilton

SAVE 109

Become a Hilton Honors[™] Member for FREE book AAA rates and save up to 10% while earning Honors points. Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts, LXR Hotels & Resorts, Conrad Hotels & Resorts, Canopy by Hilton, Signia by Hilton, Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Curio Collection, DoubleTree, Tapestry, Embassy Suites, Tempo, MOTTO, Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton, Tru, Homewood Suites, Home 2, and Hilton Grand Vacations. AAA.com/Hilton

BW Best Western. **Hotels & Resorts**

Strike, Borgata, and Empire City.

SAVE 5%

Members save 5% or more at Best Western Hotels & Resorts. Best Western International, Best Western, Best Western Plus, Executive Residency by Best Western, Best Western Premier Collection, Aiden and Sure Stay by Best Western. Join the FREE AAA PreferredSM Best Western Rewards® Program.

AAA.com/BestWestern

SAVE 5%

Join the World of Hyatt FREE loyalty program, Double Your Points, and earn FREE nights. Park Hvatt, Miraval, Grand Hvatt, Hvatt Regency, Hvatt, Hvatt Zilara, Hvatt Ziva, Hvatt Place, Hvatt House, UrCove by Hyatt, Hyatt Residence Club, Andaz, Alila, Thompson Hotels, Hyatt Centric, Unbound Collection by Hyatt, Destination Hotels, and Joie de Vivre Hotels.

Costs can spiral if preoccupied behind wheel Deep look into some lesser-known costs of distracted driving

By Robin Jones

y now, most of us are aware of the dangers of distracted driving. Drivers using their cell phones to perform tasks like texting or surfing the internet are two to eight times as likely to be involved in a crash, according to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

Even so, we regularly witness this risky behavior on our roads, and, if we're honest, some of us are guilty of it ourselves. A recent Traffic Safety Culture Index, a survey conducted by the AAA foundation, found that 97% of people consider texting or emailing behind the wheel as a serious or very serious threat to traffic safety, yet 41% admitted to viewing a text or email while driving in the past 30 days.

The resulting statistics are sobering: 3,166 people died in collisions involving distracted drivers in 2017, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

But aside from fatalities or injuries, drivers should consider the potential serious financial and insurance consequences of distracted driving. For example, if you cause a crash that



STAY FOCUSED – Texting and driving is a bad combination behind the wheel of a vehicle. *Image: SM3photos. Adobe Stock.*

injures people or damages property, your insurer will cover damages up to the liability limits in your auto or umbrella policy. However, it's common nowadays for injured parties to seek compensation above and beyond those limits – and you'd have to pay

for those out of pocket. If the case goes before a jury, you could face punitive damages. In many states, insurance companies are prohibited by law from paying those damages.

Most states have outlawed texting behind the wheel, and several (including California) ban any use of handheld devices. Fines range from \$20 to about \$300, but that won't be the only penalty: A growing number of states impose points on drivers who violate laws regulating texting and the use of handheld devices. Having points on your license can cause your insurance premiums to rise. If you accumulate too many points, your license can be suspended.

To avoid such penalties, don't put yourself in that situation in the first place. Always put your phone out of reach and out of sight whenever you're driving. Enable your phone's "Do Not Disturb While Driving" setting, which silences text alerts and sends a preset message to anyone who texts you while you're in the car. Lastly, take advantage of any in-car systems that allow you to set navigation, play music and make calls via voice commands.

If you're a passenger in a vehicle where the driver starts to use the phone, speak up or offer to make the phone call or type the address into the navigation app so the driver can keep his or her eyes on the road where they belong.

More than half of drivers threats on highways AAA survey finds speeding is a bad habit that is hard to break

report by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety identifies six types of drivers by analyzing risky driving behaviors.

Speeding, distracted driving and aggressive driving were the most common dangerous behaviors. The annual Traffic Safety Culture Index (TSCI) survey developed these six driver profiles by examining patterns of self-reported risky driving behaviors among a large group of drivers. Only four in 10 surveyed fell into the category of "safe drivers."

"Despite acknowledging the dangers, some drivers continue to engage in potentially deadly behaviors, particularly speeding," said Dr. David Yang, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety President and Executive Director. "Understanding the different types of risky driving behaviors and the characteristics of drivers who engage in them is crucial for developing targeted interventions to achieve safe mobility."

As daily driving patterns and traffic rebound from pandemic lows, traffic fatalities remain alarmingly high. Evidence points to fewer traffic stops, while fatal crashes, involving risky behaviors like impaired driving and speeding remain an epidemic on our roadways.

"This study highlights a near-term and important opportunity to concentrate on enforcement that makes an immediate safety impact," said Jake Nelson, AAA's director of traffic safety



Graphic: AAA.

advocacy. "Many risky drivers in this study were classified into profiles that involved speeding behavior. Focusing on speeding drivers will deter other risky driving behaviors like impaired driving and red-light running. This traffic safety measure will have the greatest impact on safety."

The new TSCI report reads that fewer drivers perceive speeding as dangerous, and speeding behaviors have the lowest perceived social disapproval of all examined unsafe behaviors.

It's worth noting that a motorist's need for speeding consistently fails to deliver shorter travel times. It would take driving 100 miles at 80 mph rather than 75 to shave five minutes off a trip.

The six profiles identified by the most recent TSCI are:

Safe Drivers (41.2%) – Few in this group reported engaging in any risky driving-related behaviors, and more women (57%) composed the Safe Drivers group.

Speeding Drivers (22.7%) – These drivers reported driving 15 mph above the speed limit on freeways and/or 10 mph above on residential streets but did not engage in most other dangerous behaviors.

Distracted and Aggressive Drivers (17.3%) – Reported distracted-driving behaviors (texting while driving), speeding and aggressive behaviors like red-light running and switching lanes

quickly.

Distracted Drivers (15.0%) – These drivers reported distracted-driving behaviors like reading text messages and texting while driving.

Most Dangerous Drivers (2.4%) –

Most Dangerous Drivers (2.4%) – While these drivers consisted of only a small percentage of the drivers, they pose a serious risk to themselves and other road users as they reported engaging in all risky driving-related behaviors.

Impaired Drivers (1.3%) – Most live in nonmetropolitan areas. Interestingly, drivers with a four-year college degree were less likely to report driving while impaired. At the same time, the most "overrepresented" group consisted of those with some college or an associate degree.

The survey asked drivers about their perceived level of danger for various driving behaviors. The majority of drivers perceived unsafe-driving behaviors as very or extremely dangerous, and yet, as in past years, many admitted to doing these behaviors at least once in the previous 30 days.

With a steadfast commitment to examining traffic safety, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety has conducted its annual TSCI survey for more than a decade. As traffic safety concerns have escalated, insights from the most recent TSCI shed light on public perceptions, attitudes and engagement in unsafe-driving behaviors, offering valuable guidance for developing effective countermeasures.

Beaches, culture put Thailand atop bucket lists Splendor, architecture and intrigue bless East Asian nation

ucket list trips share many commonalities, but a more popular one might be distance. The farther the destination, the more likely it is to be on your list.

Europe, Australia, an African safari, China, Japan and Egypt quickly come to mind as once-in-a-lifetime visits. But they're just a snapshot. Here's an interesting one: Thailand.

Located in East Asia and boasting the appearance of a gerrymandered congressional district, Thailand rolls natural beauty into urban and historic hotspots. Beaches flourish, and cities rise. Culture reverberates, and adventure accentuates this multidimensional country.

Its history spans centuries and its culture is as exotic as it is friendly. Thailand embraces tourists with its white-sand beaches and bustling cities. Lush resorts populate its myriad shores to make your visit as relaxing as it is memorable.

It might not be easy to step away from Thailand's beautiful beaches that snuggle with the Andaman Sea or the Gulf of Thailand. Light breezes carry the scent of salt water, putting a stamp on its tropical climate. Long-tail boats sail on calm, blue waters through gorgeous terrain. Perhaps a beach chair, umbrella and cocktail might seem to be all you need, but there is so much more.

City-dwellers will find sanctuary in Bangkok, Thailand's capital city. It has more than 8.2 million residents



ONE NIGHT IN BANGKOK – Temples light up in the foreground of a setting sun in Thailand's capital city. *Image: sahachat. Adobe Stock.*

and nearly as much to see and experience. See ancient temples, including Wat Arun. It's 270-feet high, is covered from top to bottom with mosaics and is named for Hindu god Aruna, God of Dawn. It's glorious to behold at dawn or sunset.

Wat Pho – Temple of the Reclining Buddha – is a temple complex that houses the most Buddhas in Thailand. Opulent statues, ornate pagodas and striking stonework spread throughout and tell the story of the local culture.

The Golden Palace once served as the residence of Thai kings, their royal courts and multiple branches of government. Witness fine art at the Bangkok Art & Culture Center. And don't forget to satisfy your appetite. More than 300,000 street vendors serve stir fries, fried rice, curries, grilled meat and fish skewers.

Escape the commotion of Bangkok with a stop in Chiang Mai. Absorb the beauty of mountainous landscapes and historic temples, such as Wat Phra Singh and Wat Chedi Luang. Visit the Chiang Mai Night Bazaar and leave time to visit the Elephant Nature Park.

Thailand's culture continues to permeate through the city of Ayutthaya. A UNESCO World Heritage-listed city, it's populated with monasteries, temples, statues and archaeological ruins. Visit Bang Pa-In Palace, Wat Lokaya, Wat Phra Si Sanphet and Wat Chaiwatthanaram.

Had enough culture? Thailand is teeming with national parks, including Mu Ko Similan, Khao Sok and Khao Lak-Lam Ru. Scuba divers flock to spend hours admiring coral reefs and marine life. Limestone cliffs, awe-inspiring waterfalls and a lush evergreen forest will take your breath away. And a myriad of ecosystems and diverse flora and fauna will keep naturalists animated for hours.

Phang Nga is a Thai province on the coast of the Andaman Sea. Tourists descend upon it to visit Mu Ko Surin National Park, one of the best diving sites in Thailand. Explore by hiking or snorkeling and visit Ao Phang-Nga National Park to explore its stunning caves, emerald-green waters and the picturesque James Bond Island.

Mountains, slopes and stars define Aspen Celebrities, skiers flock to the intimate Colorado town

ountains, snow and stars comprise a Colorado town that offers prime skiing and more celebrities than a Las Vegas heavyweight title fight.

Aspen – also known as "Mini Hollywood" – is a sparsely populated Tinseltown blessed with luxurious resorts, magnificent scenery and premium shops, boutiques and restaurants.

The town's reputation precedes itself. But its history piques curiosities. Just how did it become a second home for our country's brightest stars?

The story dates nearly 90 years ago. The 1936 Olympics included alpine skiing as an event. The sport gained traction, becoming a trendy activity, particularly among the elite.

Businessmen and investors took notice and began building ski resorts in this charming town, knowing it would take the power of celebrities to attract common folks. Movie stars Gary Cooper, Claudette Colbert and Norma Shearer are said to be among the first to visit Aspen in the 1940s. Cooper originally made Aspen a second home, making him the town's first iconic celebrity synonymous with it.

The migration of celebrities enhanced Aspen's reputation. Visitors shouldn't be shocked to run into



BREATHTAKING – Maroon Bells rises into the sky to create a wondrous setting in Aspen, Colorado. *Image: Mike & Valerie Mille. Adobe Stock.*

big-screen stars and singers. Leonardo DiCaprio, Will Smith, Elton John and Sting be among the many who consider it a second home.

Celebrities aside, Aspen also is considered one of the U.S.'s best skiing destinations and attracts more than 7 million tourists annually. Skiers and snowboarders seek thrills and entertainment and rarely are

disappointed.

Winter-sports enthusiasts find nirvana in Snowmass – Aspen's largest and most popular ski area. It offers 150 miles of trails, multiple lifts and an intimate village. Intermediate skiers can take advantage of a host of trails created especially for them.

Novices flock to Buttermilk. Its more than 20 miles of trails are considered

an ideal location for beginners. The trails are groomed. And the runs are wide, giving skiers plenty of room to maneuver. Trails also accommodate intermediate and expert skiers, and its 22-foot superpipe is an X Gamesinspired course.

Hikers and sightseers flock to Maroon Bells and Independence Pass. Maroon Bells rises more than 14,000 feet and boasts beautiful vistas and magnificent scenery. Its jagged peaks and multicolored slopes make it one of the most photographed sites in North America. Travelers have described Maroon Bells as "stunning," "awe-inspiring" and "one of the loveliest places on Earth."

Rent a vehicle at Independence Pass and absorb the 20-mile drive. The scenic road is one of the highest in North America and meanders along the Continental Divide at more than 12,000 feet. Paved hiking trails lead to a sightseeing platform, with jaw-dropping views of the Continental Divide.

Aspen's variety of eateries and bars are meant to satisfy the tastes of an eclectic group of tourists. Browse through its exclusive shops and boutiques and keep your eyes open for a resident of Tinseltown.

Remain alert. You might only get one chance to shine.

Extend your family on AmaWaterways cruiseSmaller ships' cozy settings spark invaluable friendships on river

iver cruising's amiable environment ranks high among the primary reasons to choose sailing intimate waterways. Cruises often begin with handshakes and conclude with hugs.

Ships' limited capacities make it nearly impossible not to meld friendships. The setting sparks cordial greetings and interesting conversations. Journeys create extended families that result in memories destined to last a lifetime.

Laugh, tease and toast. Share stories or make new ones. Backgrounds differ but add color to discussions. Commonalities initiate unforgettable times.

Embarkation opens a sea of unlimited opportunities to meet others. AmaWaterways' vessels – including *AmaSerena* – build bridges to an unknown future that is destined to result in everlasting relationships.

It doesn't take long to familiarize with the surroundings. The lounge is a melting pot. Guests meet for happy hour. Bartenders pour cocktails, the cruise manager makes a speech and a pianist plays relaxing music that enhances the ambiance.

Soon enough, guests begin chatting with fellow cruisers. Subjects vary, depending on interests, but rarely is anyone at a loss for words. Topics range from sports, families or hometowns – and that barely scratches the surface. Not even politics can ruin a conversation.

Tourism bonds people, and river



MEETING PLACE – The intimacy of AmaWaterways ships sparks an environment meant to create lasting friendships. *Image: AmaWaterways*.

cruising unifies individuals in a way few travel options can. Ages vary from baby boomers to millennials. Couples celebrating golden anniversaries converse with newlyweds. It's a generation gap that closes quickly and opens doorways to new beginnings.

Cruisers relish dining for more than satisfying their appetites. They share tables and anecdotes with fresh faces. Wine glasses rarely are empty. Self-deprecating

tales spark laughter and strengthen connections. In no time, photos are taken and shared on social media.

Each night concludes in the lounge. Entertainment varies but never bores and AmaWaterways thrives in keeping the party alive. Dancing is nearly a nightly ritual on *AmaSerena*. Karaoke allows guests to unleash their vocal cords. A DJ and cover band ignite the dance floor. Others flock to the bar or tables for a nightcap. Last call

Tourism bonds people, and river cruising unifies individuals in a way few travel options can. Ages vary from baby boomers to millennials. Couples celebrating golden anniversaries converse with newlyweds. It's a generation gap that closes quickly and opens doorways to new beginnings.

finalizes a fantastic day and has travelers eagerly awaiting the next one.

Excursions expound comradery. Touring towns and medieval castles uncovers common interests. Extra time likely means shopping, having lunch or finding a local establishment. An afternoon libation leaves an indelible mark. Good luck ordering a vodka and soda in a German brewery.

Whoever said river cruising is dull never has been on one. It couldn't be more false. Sailing cozy waterways highlights cultures and brings people together.

Vessels are transporters to an alternate universe. They allow cruisers to escape their daily grinds, find tranquility and make a few new friends along the way.

By week's end, the "Cheers" theme song perfectly sums up the trip because ...

Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name.

Admit it. You sang that previous sentence.

Mysteries of Greenland make it enticing Planet's largest island sparkles near the top of the world

he world's coldest places rarely seem like attractive locations to vacation. Intriguing? Well that's another story.

Greenland ranks among the most intriguing. The world's largest island doesn't boast all-inclusive resorts and don't expect to absorb much of a suntan. You will experience an eye-opening trip few travelers make.

The island is covered by more than 80% ice, snow and glaciers. Nothing is green about it. You might want to call it "Iceland," but that name already has been taken.

Greenland is a mystery waiting to be solved. Its rugged terrain and majestic scenery define its characteristics, making it one of the more fascinating places on the planet.

It passes through the Artic Circle while nearly sitting on top of the world. Humans have inhabited it for more than 4,500 years and today it's home to fewer than 60,000 citizens.

The Midnight Sun shines bright in Greenland, with the sun never setting from May 25 to July 25. And Winter Solstice welcomes more than 20 hours of darkness.

Viking Erik the Red named it in the 10th century, believing that using the word "green" would attract Nordics to emigrate to the island. Perhaps the first marketing scam – ever?

Greenland becomes more intriguing with each fact. Its unvarnished beauty



SUN-SATION – A sailboat sits in the foreground of an iceberg during the Midnight Sun season. *Image: Marc Pelissier. Adobe Stock.*

makes it enticing for naturalists and travelers who can't resist a challenge.

A series of expeditions comprise a schedule of things-to-do while visiting Greenland. Capital city Nuuk is the starting point. Built on a peninsula, it's as close to a metropolitan area you will find.

Boat or plane is the best way to explore the island. Its waterways make it easier to travel, considering there are no

roads outside city limits.

Northeast Greenland National Park is the largest in the world, covering more than 375,000-square miles. It's a refuge for polar bears, walruses, caribou, seals and other arctic wildlife. It also is uninhabited. Visitors must acquire a permit from the Ministry of Nature & Environment to reserve a spot on an expedition cruise that features mountains, glaciers, fjords and icebergs.

Ilulissat Icefjord is an initial place travelers should visit. The area features thousands of icebergs. They vary in size, providing a natural beauty few places can match. The area also features the Sermeq Kujalleq – the fastest glacier in the world.

Kayakers shouldn't skip Blue River. The clear waterway shares the appearance of a vein dissecting a frozen desert of ice. It's found on the Petermann Glacier, which feeds the river with its melting snow, changing its shape annually.

Hikers can take advantage of Greenland's unspoiled nature. Its rocky surface provides clear pathways and Arctic greenery during the summer months. Discover plants, flowers, dramatic rocks, icebergs and glaciers and hardly any people.

For those who don't prefer hiking, a cruise is another exciting way to explore the island. Cruises offer varying itineraries and allow up-close views of marine animals like whales and seals, as well as stunning sights of Greenland's sprawling landscape.

The Northern Lights appear from early autumn through April. They irradiate a sky that is nearly free of light pollution, making it one of the best places in the world to witness this phenomenon.

There's irony in Greenland's thick ice, considering it's a diamond in the rough.



TBD Need content

TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE; BOOK THROUGH YOUR TRUSTED AAA TRAVEL ADVISOR.





1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel

President's Cruise - Baltic Capitals Voyage

August 11-22, 2024 • 11 Nights • Azamara Onward \$4,499 per person double occupancy Balcony stateroom

ITINERARY

Sunday, August 11	Copenhagen, Denmark
Monday, August 12	Gdansk, Poland
Tuesday, August 13	Gdansk, Poland
Wednesday, August 14	Klaipeda, Lithuania
Thursday, August 15	Riga, Lativa
Friday, August 16	At Sea
Saturday, August 17	Tallinn, Estonia
Sunday, August 18	Kotka, Finland
Monday, August 19	Helsinki, Finland
Tuesday, August 20	Mariehamn, Finland
Wednesday, August 21	Stockholm, Sweden
Thursday, August 22	Return Home

2 NIGHT PRE-CRUISE OPTION TO INCLUDE: Price: \$859 per person double occupancy

- 2-night hotel
- accommodations
- Arrival transfers (depending on air schedule)
- Transfers hotel to ship
- Sightseeing in Copenhagen2 breakfasts and 1 lunch





PRICE INCLUDES:

- 11-night cruise accommodations in a Verandah Stateroom
- · Most onboard meals and entertainment
- Government taxes and fees
- Select standard spirits, international beers and wines
- Shipboard gratuities
- Bottled water, soft drinks, specialty coffees and teas
- Self-service laundry
- Concierge services for personal guidance and reservations
- Complimentary AzAmazing Evening Event
- Azamara's White Night (Everyone wears white this evening)
- Special AAA President's Cruise perks
- Upgrade to Premium Beverage package
- Unlimited Wifi for 1 device per stateroom
- \$300 Shore Excursion Credit per stateroom
- 1 night of Specialty Dining







Rates are per person (double occupancy), are subject to availability at time of booking and include accommodations/entertainment, most onboard meals, member perks and government taxes/fees of up to \$184.83. Ask about available add-on airfare. Ship's registry: Malta.

Pleasant Holidays Mexico/Caribbean Need content Pleasant Holidays
Europe
Need content

AAA MOTORIST FEBRUARY 2024

1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel



Pleasant Holidays (supplied)

Princess (supplied)



ICON OF THE SEASSM

7 NIGHT WESTERN / EASTERN CARIBBEAN & PERFECT DAY February - December 2024

STARTING FROM **\$1,699*** USD PER PERSON

ODYSSEY OF THE SEAS®

6 NIGHT EASTERN & PERFECT DAY 8 NIGHT SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN February -April 2024

STARTING FROM \$849* USD PER PERSON

SYMPHONY OF THE SEAS®

8 NIGHT SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN 7 NIGHT WESTERN / EASTERN CARIBBEAN

7 NIGHT EASTERN / WESTERN & PERFECT DAY February - December 2024

STARTING FROM \$989* USD PER PERSON

STARTING FROM \$709* USD PER PERSON

*Taxes, fees and port expenses of up to \$159 - \$178 USD per person are additional and subject to change

AAA VACATIONS * AMENITIES* — ONLY ON ROYAL CARIBBEAN*

ANY SHIP, ANY SAILING & ANY STATEROOM CATEGORY

ALL BOOKINGS RECEIVE SPARKLING WINE AND CHOCOLATE

COVERED STRAWBERRIES

BALCONY AND ABOVE ONLY

ONBOARD CREDIT (Balcony and above only)

\$25 OBC per stateroom 6 nights or less

\$50 OBC per stateroom 7 – 10 nights

\$100 OBC per stateroom 11 nights or more

MEMBER BENEFIT[†] / FREE 8 x 10 PRINT OR DIGITAL PHOTO

AMENITY VALUE UP TO \$250 PER BALCONY OR SUITE BOOKINGS







"Prices are per person, cruise only, based on double occupancy [in interior stateroom] and in U.S. dollars. All itineraries are subject to change without notice. Prices are subject to availability and change without notice. Certain restrictions apply. These may not be available during your voyage, may vary by ship and destination, and may be subject to change without notice and may be withdrawn at any time. Royal Caribbean International reserves the right to correct any errors, inaccuracies or omissions and to change or update large, fees and surcharges at any time without prior notice. Contact your AAA Travel Advisor for full terms of offer including AAA Vacations® @2024 Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. Ships registry. The Bahamas.

1742! 1311111174

1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel

Amtrak/Railbookers (supplied)

Rocky Mountaineer (supplied)



Grand Canyon & Sedona Adventure April 28-May 6, 2024

\$3,999 per person double occupancy

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Sedona 3 nights, resort lodging
- "Old West" evening features activities, private reception and Cowboy cookout w/ entertainment or Sedona dine around
- Verde Canyon Rail Excursion
 Williams, Arizona Grand Canyon Railway Hotel, Western town on Route 66
- Grand Canyon Railway First-class travel from Williams, Arizona
- Grand Canyon National Park
 2 nights lodging within National Park - Motorcoach tour of Southern Rim vantage
- Free time within the National ParkPhoenix area 2-nights, resort lodging
- Desert Botanical Garden
- Heard Museum
- Old Town Scottsdale



Northern California Railways & National Parks May 6-15, 2024

\$6,269 per person double occupancy

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- San Francisco 3-night stay; guided
- sightseeing 4 National Parks Presidio, Yosemite, Sequoia. Kings Canyon and Muir Woods National Monument
- 4 Rail Excursions Napa Valley Wine Train, Amtrak California Zephyr, Yosemite Sugar Pine Railroad, Roaring Camp Steam Train Ride
- Sausalito
- Napa Valley Winery visit
- Lake Tahoe
- Boyden Cavern
- Monterey Peninsula
- Carmel by the Sea - 17-Mile Drive
- Cannery Row
- Santa Cruz
- Silicon Valley Apple Visitor's Center





\$X,XXX per person double occupancy

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

XXXXXXXXXXX

xxxxxxxxxxx

American Majesty

XXXXXXXXXXX

\$X,XXX per person double occupancy

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

xxxxxxxxxxx



more information at AAA.com/FeaturedVacations



Before-discount rate is per person/double occupancy, subject to availability at time of booking and includes roundtrip flights from Pittsburgh, hotels, luggage handling (1 bag/person), sightseeing/admissions per itinerary and local guide. Additional airline baggage fees may apply. Note: Discounts only apply to air inclusive rates.

1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel

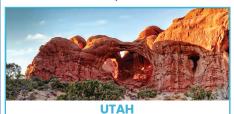
2024 SMALL GROUP ACTIVE ADVENTURE TOURS

Small-group escorted tours are the best! With up to only 14 guests per guide, you'll receive 1-on-1 attention. Small group travel allows you to maximize your precious time off. Instead of worrying about logistics, you can focus all your energy on having the experience of a lifetime.

Travel in a smaller but very comfortable Mercedes Sprinter (or similar) for more flexibility and access to places a bus can't go. See sights, hike trails and drive scenic roads large groups can't. Small group travel allows you more enrichment opportunities as you journey off the beaten path. Enhance your appreciation of natural wonders, make new discoveries and personal connections on these intimate, active adventures.







\$3.789

MAR. 31-APRIL 7; APRIL 14-21; SEPT. 8-15; SEPT. 29-OCT. 5; OCT. 27-NOV. 3; NOV. 17-24

HIGHLIGHTS

Missoula, MT, National Bison Range, Flathead Lake, Big Fork, Two Medicine Lake, Running Eagle Falls, Appistaki Falls, Glacier National Park, St. Mary's, Going to the Sun Road, Whitefish, MT, Guided hiking and optional boating on Lake McDonald, Boating (float trip or whitewater rafting) on Middle Fork of Flathead River

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

MONTANA

JULY 7-13: JULY 14-20: AUG. 4-10; AUG. 11-17; AUG. 25-31

ADVENTURE

ARIZONA • NEVADA

\$3.405 _• MAR.31-APRIL 7; MAY 12-19;

SEPT. 22-29; OCT. 20-27

CANYONS OF ESCALANTE

UTAH • NEVADA

\$3,115 Per pe MAY 5-12; OCT. 6-13

TRAIL OF THE ANCIENTS

NEW MEXICO • COLORADO • UTAH

\$2.925 _°

MAY 11-19; SEPT. 14-22; OCT, 19-27

GRAND CIRCLE EXPERIENCE

NEVADA • UTAH • ARIZONA • COLORADO

\$4.755

MAY 13-24: JUNE 16-27: AUG 18-29 SEPT. 15-26; OCT. 13-24

GRAND TETON & YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

UTAH • WYOMING • MONTAN

\$3.789

MAY 19-26; JUNE 9-16; JULY 14-21; AUG. 11-18; SEPT. 29-OCT. 6; OCT. 13-20

BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

SOUTH DAKOTA

\$2.539 Per

MAY 20-25: JUNE 3-8: JULY 8-13: AUG. 26-31

YOSEMITE, SEQUOIA & THE CALIFORNIA COAST

CALIFORNIA

.369 JUNE 9-16; JULY 21-28

OREGON SOUTH

\$3.019 JUNE 9-16, 2024, AUG. 11-18

COLORADO NATIONAL PARKS

COLORADO

\$3.115

JUNE 16-23; AUG. 4-11; SEPT. 15-22

MAGNIFICENT ALASKA

\$7,899

JUNE 16-26; JULY 21-31; AUG. 4-14

RAILROADS OF THE OLD WEST

COLORADO

JUNE 23-29

OREGON NORTH

OREGON

AUG. 5-11



Special Offer:



Full itinerary & more information at AAA.com/SmallGroups

Before-discount rate is per person/double occupancy, subject to availability at time of booking and includes hotels, luggage handling (1 bag/person), sightseeing/admissions per itinerary and local guide. Prices are land only, ask about air add-on.

CIE Tours Ireland and Scotland



July 21 - 29 / August 25 - September 2 / September 8 - 16

HIGHLIGHTS:

- House of Waterford Crystal
- Dromoland Castle
- Ring of Kerry
- King John's Castle
- · Cliffs of Moher
- Sheepdog Demonstration
- Experience Glasnevin
- Irish National Stud
- Medieval Castle Banquet
- Dromoland Castle Dinner • The Merry Ploughboy Pub
- Jameson Experience Midleton

Ireland is the land of breathtaking landscapes, friendly people, and once-in-alifetime experiences. CIE Tours' vacations to Ireland help you experience the real Emerald Isle, whether you're raising a pint with new Irish friends at a lively pub, following in the footsteps of your ancestors among the rolling hills and picturesque castles, or enjoying the best of Irish culture through tastings and authentic experiences. You'll see Ireland in a whole new light.

Special Offer: ook & Deposit by 2/29/24 Save \$50 off per person from 195,00 Taste of Scotland & Ireland (11 nights)

June 13 - 24 / July 13 - 24 / September 14 - 25

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Glasgow
- Loch Lomond • Loch Ness Cruise
- Blair Athol Distillery
- Scottish evening food and
- entertainment
- Edinburah

- Belfast
- Dublin
- Killarney
- · Blarney Castle Ring of Kerry
- · Cliffs of Moher
- Galway

Let Scotland's lochs and highlands enchant you. There's a reason a unicorn is the symbol of Scotland-it's a land of pure magic. Travel there with CIE Tours to discover every enchanting vista, from the heather-covered Highlands to the depths of Loch Ness. Explore the rich Scottish culture, beyond the traditions of tartan, whisky and bagpipes. Let us introduce you to the charms of Scotland.





Full itinerary & more information at AAA.com/FeaturedVacations



Before-discount rate is per person/double occupancy, subject to availability at time of booking and includes hotels, luggage handling (1 bag/person), sightseeing/admissions per itinerary and local guide. Prices are land only, ask about air add-on.

DEPARTURE.

1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel

MCV Italy & Puglia

MCV Portugal & It's Islands

Summer Sailings on Royal Caribbean's Radiance of the Seas®

MOUNTAIN PANORAMA Alaska Adventure • June 14-26 from \$3,004.00 per person double occupancy



7 night Cruise followed by 5 night Land Tour:

Enjoy frontier hospitality in the small mountain towns of Girdwood and Talkeetna, along with two nights in the wilderness on Denali, for $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ rich Alaskan experience.

ITINFRARY:

DAY 1 – Vancouver, British Columbia Radiance of the Seas®

DAY 2 - Inside Passage cruising

Day 3 - Juneau

Day 4 - Icy Strait Point

Day 5 – Sitka

Day 6 - Skagway

Day 7 - Hubbard Glacier cruising

Day 8 - Seward/Alyeska (Girdwood)

Day 9 - Alyeska (Girdwood) Anchorage/Denali

Day 10 - Denali

Day 11 - Denali/Talkeetna

Day 12 - Talkeetna/Anchorage

Day 13 - Anchorage

ALASKA WILDERNESS SPECTACULAR "Southbound" Cruise Tour • July 13-26 from \$3,274.00 per person double occupancy



6 night Land Tour followed by 7 night Cruise:

See more of Alaska's spectacular scenery in unrivaled comfort traveling the full length of the Alaska Railroad in the glass-domed railcars of The Wilderness Express.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1 - Fairbanks DAY 2 - Fairbanks

Day 3 - Fairbanks/Denali

Day 4 - Denali

Day 5 - Talkeetna

Day 6 - Talkeetna/Anchorage

Day 7 - Anchorage/Seward

Day 8 - Hubbard Glacier cruising

Day 9 - Juneau

Day 10 - Skagway

Day 11 - Icy Strait Point

Day 12 – Ketchikan Day 13 - Inside Passage cruising

Day 14 - Vancouver, British Columbia

GRAND MOUNTAIN MARVELS "Northbound"

Cruise Tour • Aug. 9-22 from \$3,072.00 per person double occupancy



7 night Cruise followed by 6 night Land Tour:

With two nights in Denali and a half-day cruise around Resurrection Bay, this 13-night holiday is filled with opportunities to see Alaskan wildlife by land and sea.

ITINERARY:

DAY 1 - Vancouver, British Columbia Radiance of the Seas®

DAY 2 - Inside Passage cruising

DAY 3 - Juneau

DAY 4 - Icy Strait Point DAY 5 - Sitka

DAY 6 - Skagway

DAY 7 - Hubbard Glacier cruising

DAY8 - Seward

DAY 9 - Seward/Anchorage

DAY 10 - Anchorage/Talkeetna

DAY 11 - Talkeetna/Denali DAY 12 - Denali

DAY 13 - Denali/Fairbanks

DAY 14 - Fairbanks

ALASKA WILDERNESS SPECTACULAR "Northbound" Cruise Tour • Aug. 23 – Sept. 5 from \$2,984.00 per person double occupancy



7 night Cruise followed by 6 night Land Tour:

See more of Alaska's spectacular scenery in unrivaled comfort traveling the full length of the Alaska Railroad in the glass-domed railcars of The Wilderness Express.

ITINFRARY:

DAY 1 - Vancouver, British Columbia

Radiance of the Seas® DAY 2 - Inside Passage cruising

Day 3 - Juneau

Day 4 - Icy Strait Point

Day 5 - Sitka

Day 6 - Skagway

Day 7 - Hubbard Glacier cruising

Day 8 - Seward/Anchorage

Day 9 - Anchorage/Talkeetna

Day 10 - Talkeetna/Denali

Day 11 - Denali

Day 12 - Denali/Fairbanks

Day 13 – Fairbanks

Day 14 – Fairbanks







Rates are per person (double occupancy), are subject to availability at time of booking and include accommodations/entertainment, most onboard meals, gratuities, member perks and government taxes/ fees of up to \$284.63. Ask about available add-on airfare. Ship's registry: Bahamian registry

FEBRUARY 2024 AAA MOTORIST PAGE

1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel



TBD?

TBD?

TBD?

AAA — Travel with Someone You Trust®

Allliance • 330-823-9820 2322 S Union Ave

Ashland • 419-289-8133 1074 Commerce Pkwy

Ashtabula • 440-997-5586 2835 N Ridge Rd E

Avon • 440-695-1795 35676 Detroit Rd

Boardman • 330-726-9083 1275 Boardman-Canfield Rd

Independence • 216-606-6300 5700 Brecksville Rd

Lyndhurst • 440-473-0700 5356 Mayfield Rd Massillon • 330-833-1084 1972 Wales Rd NE

Mentor • 440-974-0990 6980 Heisley Rd

New Philadelphia • 330-343-4481 1112 Fourth St NW

Niles • 330-652-6466 937 Youngstown-Warren Rd

Norwalk • 419-668-1622 275 Benedict Ave

Solon • 440-248-9000 34050 Solon Rd

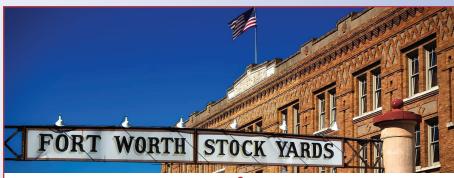
Strongsville • 440-783-3395 17220 Royalton Rd

Westlake • 440-788-3102 149 Market St

AAA TRAVEL AGENCY makes every effort to provide accurate, up-to-date prices as of press time and cannot assume responsibility for typographic errors. Unless otherwise indicated, the printed AAA Member Rates are per person (double occupancy) and subject to availability and airline and operator changes at time of booking. International rates and offers are subject to currency fluctuations and additional tax and security charges. Rates that include airfare include all taxes, government fees and surcharge. Additional airline fees for baggage may apply; consult with a AAA Travel Advisor for details or visit the air carrier's website for baggage allowance and fee information. Additional restrictions may apply. Rates and offers are available at all AAA Travel Agency locations within the service territory of AAA East Central. For tour details, contact AAA or visit AAA.com/Travel. Generally, passports are required for travel outside the USA; consult with a AAA Travel Advisor for details.

FEATURED VACATIONS are AAA East Central's specially priced, unique departures; therefore, tour operators, cruise lines and other travel providers often exclude them from additional discounts or specials they offer. Featured Vacations include services provided by third-party tour destination service companies; consult with a AAA Travel Advisor for details.

1-877-422-2654 AAA.com/Travel



Texas – Solar Eclipse

April 4-9, 2024 • \$6,269 per person double occupancy Explore sites in Waco, Dallas and Fort Worth and attend a VIP Solar Eclipse Viewing Party

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Homestead Heritage Traditional Craft
- Texas Ranger Hall of Fame
- Waco River cruise, Magnolia Market, Dr. Pepper Museum, Waco Mammoth National Monument
- Dallas Historic tour, Sixth Floor Museum, Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip air to and from Dallas/Fort Worth from participating cities

 Roundtrip airport and hotel transfers

 5-night hotel accommodations
- Luggage handling, one bag per person
- 8 meals (restaurants subject to change)
- · Attractions and admissions as stated in the itinerary

• Fort Worth -Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame,

• UTA Planetarium at University of Texas

Stockyards National Historic Site

• VIP Solar Eclipse Watch Party

• Gratuities for included meals

Before-discount rate is per person/double occupancy, subject to availability at time of booking and includes roundtrip flights from Clleveland, hotels, lúggage handling (1 bag/person), sightseeing, admissions per itinerary and local guide. Additional airline baggage fees may apply.



Full itinerary & more information at AAA.com/FeaturedVacations

Panama Canal Cruise

on the Celebrity Summit®

September 19-October 4, 2024 • from \$3,259 per person double occupancy



AMAZING MEMBER PERKS!

Per stateroom, double occup (balcony or higher category)

- 15-night cruise accommodations
- All Included Package for two adults per stateroom
 - Classic Beverage Package, Basic Wi-Fi
 package, Gratuities to shipboard personnel

Sailing through the engineering masterpiece that connects the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean is a bucket-list event on its own, but along the way you'll also visit other exciting tropical destinations steeped in culture, history, and natural beauty. Explore the colorful colonial architecture of Cartagena and the thriving jungles of Costa Rica. Venture deep into the Panamanian rain forest, meet the locals, and learn the inner workings of the fascinating Panama Canal's locks. Take an Eco Cruise on Lake Gatun and explore island habitats created during the Canal's building.



15-NIGHT ITINERARY

Day 1	Los Angeles, CA – Embarkation	Day 9	At Sea
Day 2	At Sea	Day 10	Panama Canal Cruising
Day 3	At Sea	Day 11	Cartagena, Colombia
Day 4	Puerto Vallarta, Mexico	Day 12	At Sea
Day 5	At Sea	Day 13	At Sea
Day 6	Huatulco, Mexico	Day 14	George Town, Grand Cayman
Day 7	At Sea	Day 15	At Sea
Day 8	Puntarenas, Costa Rica	Day 16	Disembark - Ft. Lauderdale

Rates are per person (double occupancy), are subject to availability at time of booking and include 15-night accommodations/entertainment, most onboard meals, member perks and taxes/fees of \$416.00 per person. Ask about available add-on airfare. Ship's registry. Malta.





Full itinerary & more information at AAA.com/FeaturedVacations



2024 No-fly Motorcoach Cruises



CLEVELAND TO BALTIMORE MD DEPARTURES

April 12-20, 2024	Southeast Coast	. Vision of the Seas "	trom \$1,315
July 25-Aug 3, 2024	Bermuda	. Vision of the Seas®	from \$1,409
Nov 9-24, 2024	Southern Caribbean	. Vision of the Seas®	from \$1,304
Dec 7-19, 2024	Southern Caribbean	. Vision of the Seas®	from \$1,267

CLEVELAND TO NJ AND NY DEPARTURES

These departures also include 1-night pre-cruise hotel stay, hotel breakfast and brief New York City motorcoach tour.

June 19-29, 2024	Eastern Caribbean	Liberty of the Seas®	from \$1,759
Aug 21-27, 2024	Bermuda	Carnival Venezia™	from \$1,525
Sept 6-14, 2024	Canada	Carnival Venezia™	from \$1,305
Sept 25-Oct 5, 2024	Canada	Liberty of the Seas®	from \$1,565
Nov 23-Dec 6, 2024	Southern Caribbean	Carnival Venezia™	from \$1,615

Rates are per person (double occupancy), are subject to availability at time of booking and include roundtrip motorcoach transportation from the Cleveland area, cruise accommodations, most onboard meals/entertainment and taxes/fees/port expenses of up to \$532.14 per person.









Full itineraries & pick-up locations at AAA.com/FeaturedVacations

No-fly, no-drive AAA MOTORCOACH VACATIONS **CLEVELAND DEPARTURES**

DC SPRINGTIME

April 18-21 • \$1029.00

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Illuminated Monuments tour
- Full day guided DC sightseeina • Half day Arlington Cemetery tour
- Flight 93 Memorial

HOLLAND TULIP FESTIVAL AND MACKINAC ISLAND

May 5-10, 2024 • \$1,815 HIGHLIGHTS:

• Holland Tulip Festival - guided tour; Nelis' Dutch village: Tulip Immersion

- Garden; Evening performances • Mackinac Island - 2 nights lodging; Carriage tour; Grand Hotel Luncheon
- Dow Gardens Frankenmuth

DANIEL IN LANCASTER PA June 7-9, 2024 • \$779

HIGHLIGHTS:

- "Daniel" performance at Sight & Sound Theater
- "The Full Monty" performance at the **Dutch Apple Dinner Theater**
- Kreider Farms Tour
- Julius Sturgis Pretzel tour

HUDSON VALLEY HOLIDAY & NEW YORK CITY

July 8-13, 2024 • \$1,739

HIGHLIGHTS:

- West Point
- Hudson River Cruise
- Vanderbilt Mansion
- FDR Home & Museum
- Walkway over Hudson
- Manhatťan City tour
- Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island

Kykuit Mansion

• 911 Museum



FRENCH TOAST: MONTREAL/QUEBEC CITY August 19-24, 2024 • \$2,179

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sunset Dinner cruise at Thousand Islands
- Kingston Market Square
- · Montreal City guided tour
- · Quebec City guided tour
- Boldt Castle tour

INCLUSIONS: Roundtrip motorcoach transportation from the Cleveland or Massillon area, accommodations (for multiday tours, based on double occupancy), sightseeing/admissions per itinerary, taxes/gratuities for included features, baggage handling (1 bag/person for multiday tours), meals as indicated and the services of a AAA Tour Manager







Tips From a AAA Travel Advisor: Erin Zmuda

South Africa an eye-opening experience Breathtaking natural wonders, wildlife and more await

ho doesn't want to see penguins live in their natural habitat at Boulder Beach? Experience the sunrise on



AAA Travel Advisor: Erin Zmuda

a morning-game drive, complete with your own personal tracker? Take a cable car up Table Mountain to take in the breathtaking views of South Africa's Cape Peninsula - the city, harbor, and boats below? I have been a Travel Advisor with AAA for 29 years - most

of my adult life – and I love to make my clients' dreams come true. This time, it was my turn, and I still have not woken up from the dream!

African Travel greeted us upon arrival and its guide provided VIP service – accompanying us through customs and immigration, with a van transfer to the hotel and check-in. Our hotel – Table Bay – in Cape Town was conveniently located by the Boardwalk at the Victoria Albert Waterfront.

After a much-needed sleep, Day 1 was all about the culture! We met the owner of the Thunariso Organic garden. She started her business with the goal of teaching the locals to grow their own



EYE CANDY – Cape Town is one of the more beautiful cities in Africa. Mountains rise in the foreground of blue waters. *Image: Erin Zmuda. AAA*.

food and to improve their health and eating habits. Then, we visited the Ekhaya Ekasi non-profit art and education center. They teach the local women crafts to try to create positivity in the community. The highlight was a visit to a local kindergarten, where we attended a graduation ceremony. The school was built out of trash and recycled materials.

Boulder Beach was a remarkable wildlife encounter with the hundreds of African Penguins who reside there. The beach is a sheltered inlet between granite boulders. Boardwalks make the

area wheelchair friendly, but also provide protection for the penguins.

Next, we drove along Chapman's Peak Drive, a toll road on the Atlantic Coast between Hout Bay and Noordhoek in the peninsula renown as one of the most spectacular marine drives in the world. Cape Point is where two oceans meet – the cold waters of the Atlantic Ocean on the west and the warmer Indian Ocean waters on the east. The views were spectacular. I rode the funicular up but decided to do the 10-minute walk down to enjoy the views.

And it kept getting better. Our Winelands tour took us to quaint towns, complete with wine-tasting at family-led Haute Cabriere. We enjoyed lunch at the five-star Delaire Graff Estate restaurant, where we tried local delicacies with a view of the Winelands as our backdrop.

On our Safari, we flew to Skukuza, and stayed at the Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge inside Kruger National Park. As the oldest lodge in the collection, every room is a suite with a blend of relaxed luxury mixed with local tradition, inspired by the owners' love of Africa. Upon arrival, we were briefed about our next two days at the Lodge.

Our stay was all-inclusive with three meals and drinks. We did two game drives by jeep each day – one at 6 a.m. (with an early 5:30 a.m. wakeup call), and 4:30 p.m. (the afternoon time is seasonal), for 2.5-3 hours. Each jeep had a tracker who knows from tradition how to interpret the animal footprints and patterns, and a ranger who sat up front to explain the animals. Over the two days, our tracker did not disappoint. We saw the BIG 5: leopard, lion, elephant, American buffalo and rhino.

Some tips I learned from my experience include discussing the recommended medications and vaccinations with your doctor. It is a personal choice. Bring neutral not bright clothes, and layers; and keep your arms in the jeep, but your camera ready. You do not want to miss any photo opportunities!

I-95 road trip that reaches great heights 2,000-mile highway home to big cities, eclectic destinations

t's common to hear the words "cross country," particularly when it comes to road trips. Miles and miles of highways crisscross our country. They meander through some of our finest natural wonders and most unique locations. Tiny towns, blessed with immense personalities, grab your attention. Mountains, canyons and rock formations leave you in awe.

It isn't a coincidence that travelers often choose cross-country trips. But what about a vertical excursion? Of course, Pacific Coast Highway quickly comes to mind, but it's not your only option.

Interstate 95 is a highway that stretches more than 1,900 miles from the Canadian border in Maine to Miami. It passes through 16 states, as well as the District of Columbia. It takes travelers through a host of metropolitan regions and hugs much of the East Coast shoreline.

There isn't a bad time to witness all I-95 has to offer. See the trees bloom in the spring and their leaves turn brown in the fall. Enjoy miles of beaches. Vibrant scenery lines the roadway like streetlights. Cities and communities are populated by colonial architecture and there are sure to be plenty of eateries, serving mouthwatering, eclectic dishes.

Your only issue might be deciding which places to visit. Many options make research and scheduling priorities before beginning your trip.



PARK PLACE – Maine's Acadia National is a must-stop destination while taking a trip on Interstate 95. *Image: Skyler. Adobe Stock.*

Planning to visit the obvious destinations is easy. Maine's Acadia National Park, Boston, New York City, Miami, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. should be givens. It's finding the hidden gems that will make your trip unforgettable.

It could be a bed-and-breakfast town in Connecticut or Rhode Island. Perhaps a museum in Virginia, an estate in Georgia or historic landmarks populated throughout your journey. There's no telling what could turn up.

St. Augustine, Florida is the oldest city in the U.S., founded in 1565. It's home to the Fountain of Youth, as well as Castillo de San Marcos – a masonry fort that dates to the 17th century. It's withstood attacks from Napoleon in the early 1800s and would be an ideal stop for history buffs.

Few places in the U.S. showcase magnificent Victorian-style architecture like Savannah, Georgia. Its Historic District and Bonaventure Cemetery are comprised of cobblestone streets and intricately

detailed homes. Visit Fort Jackson, which has daily cannon firings. And foodies should take advantage of the traditional and innovative tastes of Southern cooking that only can found in a number of momand-pop restaurants.

The spirit of the 18th century is alive and well in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Several sites date to the Revolutionary and Civil wars. The Rising Sun Tavern is a pub that once was a house built by George Washington's brother, Charles.

Battleship, New Jersey is where you can find one of the largest and most decorated battleships that can be toured and you can learn more about New Jersey's role in World War II, Korean War and Vietnam. Hardcore war aficionados even can arrange to stay a night in one of the bunks.

The Breakers is an elaborate mansion that can be found in Newport, Rhode Island. Commissioned by Cornelius Vanderbilt, it has 70 rooms, massive chandeliers and an abundance of gilt.

Stop by the Eleanor Cabot Bradley Estate in Canton, Massachusetts. Mystic, Connecticut's seaport recreates a 19th-century village with more than 60 restored buildings and more than 500 historic ships. And South Carolina's Congaree National Park offers 26,000 acres of parkland

There's no telling what you might discover on I-95, but it's likely to be a treasure.

Sun is shining bright on Saint Lucia Isle steals the show among the Winward Islands

aint Lucia is a crowning jewel – a gem that shines brightly, rising out of the Caribbean Sea. It's wedged between Martinique and St. Vincent and is dominated by twin volcano peaks of the Pitons.

Saint Lucia is a star among the Winward Islands. Beauty and nature know no boundaries. Guests are drawn by lush mountain highlands, banana plantations and white- and black-sand beaches.

Horseback riding, mountain biking or hiking the island's rugged terrain ranks high among its list of adventures. Cruise ships dock at Place Carenage or Porte Seraphine – both are within walking distance to capital city Castries. Visitors have gathered more than a century at the Castries Market and adjacent Craft Market. They come for the fresh fruits, spices and local crafts.

Saint Lucia's Marigot Bay is stunning. Author James Michener once described it as "the most beautiful bay in the Caribbean." It's a star – even on the big screen, serving as a setting for Sea-Star Island in the 1967 version of "Dr. Dolittle".

Discovered by Columbus in 1499, the island quickly became a precious charm for England and France, changing hands 14 times between the countries before the French ceded it to Great Britain in 1814.



WATER COLORS – Diamond Falls sparkles among a lush forest in Saint Lucia. *Image: Elena Skalovskaia. Adobe Stock.*

Soufrière served as capital during the French colonial era. Shaded under the long shadow of Petit Piton, it's best known as the birthplace of Napoleon's Empress, Josephine.

Diamond Falls is less than a mile east of Soufrière and is considered to be one

of Saint Lucia's finest natural wonders. Its brilliant palette of colors – a rare mixture of minerals in the water – vibrantly paints the rock face. Guests spend the day walking the lush botanical garden or relaxing in the mineral baths and spa.

Learn about processing coconuts,

cocoa and coffee at Morne Coubaril, a working plantation. See an authentic mule-powered, sugar-cane mill. The gardens are comprised of a peaceful oasis of flowers and greenery. Legend has it that visitors grow taller in the rich volcanic soil. The estate's Hotwire Zipline flies over a canopy of banyan, coconut and mango trees and across a bamboo-shadowed gorge.

Soufrière is French for sulfur and Saint Lucia is home to the Caribbean's only "drive-through volcano" at Sulphur Springs. A road leads up to the now-dormant caldera, which still bubbles with steam, sulfur, mud and boiling water. Travelers "take the cure" in one of the more than 20 sulfur and mineral baths.

The black-sand beach of Anse Chastanet is north of Soufrière. It rests under the shadow of the Pitons and is one of the island's premier diving sites. The reef is near the beach and shelters an astonishing variety of coral and marine life

A natural bay connects with an 80-acre, manmade lagoon at Rodney Bay on Saint Lucia's west coast. Many of the island's best resorts call it home. Spend the afternoon surfing or relaxing at Reduit Beach – a stunning stretch of white sand that faces the Caribbean.

Saint Lucia glistens from all directions and never loses its luster.

Sleep deprivation doubles crash risk AAA Foundation study reveals the dangers of drowsy driving

can be a rude awakening for drivers.

Motorists who miss between one to two hours of the recommended seven hours of sleep in a 24-hour period nearly double their risk for a crash, according to research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

ot getting a good night's sleep

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 35% of U.S. drivers sleep less than the recommended seven hours daily. Drowsy drivers are involved in more than one in five fatal crashes on U.S. roadways each year. AAA warns drivers that getting less than seven hours sleep may have deadly consequences.

"You cannot miss sleep and still expect to be able to safely function behind the wheel," said Dr. David Yang, executive director for the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. "Our new research shows that a driver who has slept for less than five hours has a crash risk comparable to someone driving drunk."

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety's report reveals that drivers missing 2-3 hours of sleep in a 24-hour period more than quadrupled their risk of a crash compared to drivers getting the recommended seven hours of sleep. This is the same crash risk the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration associates with driving over the legal limit for alcohol.

The AAA Foundation found that in a



TIRED ACT – Drivers getting fewer than seven hours of sleep are more likely to get into a car crash, according to a AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety survey. *Image: Maksym. Adobe Stock.*

24-hour period, crash risk for sleep-deprived drivers increased steadily when compared to drivers who slept the recommended seven hours or more. Statistics show:

- Six to seven hours of sleep: 1.3 times the crash risk.
- Five to six hours of sleep: 1.9 times the crash risk.
- Four to five hours of sleep: 4.3 times the crash risk.
- Less than four hours of sleep: 11.5

times the crash risk.

Nearly 100% of drivers told the AAA Foundation they view drowsy driving as unacceptable behavior, but nearly one in three admit that at least in the past month, they drove when they were so tired they had a hard time keeping their eyes open.

"Managing a healthy work-life balance can be difficult and far too often we sacrifice our sleep as a result," said Jake Nelson, director of Traffic Safety Advocacy and Research for AAA. "Failing to maintain a healthy sleep schedule could mean putting yourself or others on the road at risk."

Symptoms of drowsy driving can include having trouble keeping eyes open, drifting from lanes and not remembering the last few miles. However, more than half of the drivers involved in fatigue-related crashes experienced no symptoms before falling asleep behind the wheel.

AAA urges drivers to not rely on their bodies to provide warning signs of fatigue and should instead prioritize getting plenty of sleep (at least seven hours) in their daily schedules. For longer trips, drivers should also:

- Travel at times when normally awake.
- Schedule a break every two hours or every 100 miles.
- Avoid heavy foods.
- Travel with an alert passenger and take turns driving.
- Avoid medications that cause drowsiness or other impairment.

The AAA Foundation report is based on the analysis of a representative sample of 7,234 drivers involved in 4,571 crashes. All data is from the NHTSA's National Motor Vehicle Crash Causation Survey, which comprised a representative sample of police-reported crashes that involved at least one vehicle that was towed from the scene and resulted in emergency-medical services being dispatched to the scene.





Australia & New Zealand Uncovered



Scan QR code to learn details about the trip or visit AAA.com/xx.

When: October 7-28, 2024

Cost: \$12,099

(airfare included)

\$200 (Premier), Member

> \$175 (Plus), \$150 (Classic)

Cleveland Airport:

*Person double occupancy.

You're in Wellington, New Zealand - the hip capital known for its windswept coast. You're greeted with a traditional powhiri welcome. Delve into the rich Māori history and enjoy local flavors through a unique Hangi lunch cooked beneath the earth. The Māori culture has been deeply rooted into these lands for more than 1,000 years, offering a living connection to ancient traditions and wisdom.

Cross the Cook Strait to South Island. Scenic wonders like Abel Tasman National Park quickly will snatch your attention. Crystal-clear waters hug golden beaches to create a treasure trove of experiences. Enjoy the

local arts and culinary scene in Nelson before venturing to the Pancake Rocks of Punakaiki. These limestone formations are shaped by the relentless tides of time and weather. Aging rarely has been more graceful.

Adventures deepen in Australia. Enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the iconic Sydney Opera House. Take a sunset-dinner cruise through Sydney Harbour and pinch yourself just to make sure you aren't dreaming.

The stars of the Southern Hemisphere sparkle in Uluru. Parlay a gourmet meal and stargazing under a sky free of light pollution in the Sounds of Silence experience. The Aboriginal

connection to the cosmos is profound. Constellations tell ancient stories about creation and connection. See celestial features like the Southern Cross, the Seven Sisters and even the Milky Way. The clarity is incredible, making it a truly stellar experience.

A glass-bottomed catamaran will take you to the Great Barrier Reef from Cairns. Choose to snorkel, walk the island or talk with a marine biologist. The Great Barrier Reef is one of the Seven Wonders of the World and a marine paradise that hosts more than 1,000 fish species. Its vast, vibrant lagoons are visible from space - a testament to its immense beauty

and ecological significance. Meanwhile, conclude your experience with an ecocultural adventure to learn about Aboriginal traditions and natural remedies in a lush wetland setting.

The riches of Australia and New Zealand know no boundaries. They're destinations that move beyond postcard images and forge unbreakable personal bonds.

Go beyond the standard itinerary to experience the wonder of the lands Down Under. Embrace the journey with Member Choice Vacations®. Contact a AAA East Central Travel Advisor to learn more about the Australia & New Zealand Uncovered tour.

ON QUALITY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS TODAY

ON PARTS AND LABOR¹ (UP TO \$75) Available at all AAA Approved Auto Repair facilities. Restrictions apply. See below **SWIPE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AND SAVE!**



AAA MEMBER BENEFITS:

- ✓ Free 40-point AAA vehicle maintenance inspection² (with any paid service)
- ✓ All repairs are guaranteed up to 24 months or 24,000 miles³
- Worry-free repairs at AAA Approved Auto Repair facilities



TO FIND A PARTICIPATING AAA APPROVED AUTO REPAIR FACILITY NEAR YOU: **CALL** 800-441-5008 **CLICK** AAA.com/Save10

regularly-priced parts and labor at AAA Approved Auto Repair facilities if discount is requested. Cannot be combined with any other discount or coupon. Valid AAA membership card must be presented at the facility at time of service. Available with paid service upon request. Free inspection is limited to items identified on the AAA Vehicle Maintenance Inspection form only. Cost of any repairs not included. Most passenger cars and light trucks are eligible. An appointment may be required. Contact the facility in advance for details. Valid AAA membership card must be presented at time of service. Other restrictions may apply. *All repairs, both parts and labor, are guaranteed by the facility for up to 24 months or 24,000 miles, whichever occurs first, under normal operating conditions, unless otherwise stated in writing. Other restrictions may apply. See facility for details. Copyright © 2024 Auto Club Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.





SELECT THE PLAN THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU:

ESSENTIAL

Free Basic monitoring of your Experian credit file includes:

- Experian Credit Monitoring
- Lost Wallet Protection

Classic/Plus/Premier members: **FREE**

DELUXE

Monitors all three credit bureaus plus:

- Social Security Monitoring
- Dark Web Monitoring
- ldentity Theft Insurance up to \$1 Million
- **And** more

Classic/Plus members: \$10.95/month

Premier members: **SAVE 10%**

COMPLETE

Our highest level of protection includes all the features of Essential and Deluxe, plus:

- Experian Credit Lock
- Online Exposure Removal Assistance
- Social Media Monitoring
- And more

Classic/Plus members: \$17.95/month

Premier members: **SAVE 10%**

FOR COMPLETE PRODUCT FEATURE AND TO SIGN UP TODAY: VISIT AAA.COM/IDSafe OR CALL 844.384.2633 Use this special offer code at checkout:

60FREE24

ProtectMyID® Essential, ProtectMyID® Deluxe and ProtectMyID® Complete are provided by Experian®. You must be 18 years of age or older and a current AAA member to be eligible to enroll in ProtectMyID. A valid email address and access to the internet is required. Products subject to change or terminate at any time without notice. Certain terms, conditions, and restrictions apply. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions. / Credit card required at enrollment. After your 2 free months, you will be billed the monthly rate plus applicable sales tax unless you cancel.

Offer non-transferable and expires 12/31/24. Limit 1, 2-month-free offer, per member. Copyright © 2024 Auto Club Services, LLC. All Rights Reserved.