



*Imagine it is the first weekend in February and you have just arrived in Santo Domingo. It's a lovely, balmy time of the year – but what is this? Everywhere you look, devils in shiny fabrics and grotesque masks have taken over the streets, whooping and grimacing and swinging bizarre balloon-like cow bladders as if the gates of hell have been thrown open. These are the diablos conjuelos, (lame devils) of the Dominican Republic, a much-loved tradition that heralds the beginning of the carnival season. It's party time!*

# Discover the Magic of Mardi Gras



competition with “the big guys”—carnivals in Rio, Trinidad, New Orleans and even Venice.

## A SPECIAL DUTCH TREAT

In St. Maarten, the half-Dutch, half-French Caribbean island, Carnival is the longest party of the year with 17 days of road marches, calypso, “band of the year” competitions, parades and dancing in the streets. The festivities usually begin with a “T-shirt Jump-Up” parade to Carnival Village on the outskirts of Marigot, a temporary little world dedicated to merry-making. Here you can spend the night “jumping up” and tasting “lolos,” special Creole dishes like conch and dumplings and johnnycakes washed down with “sea moss,” a legendary island aphrodisiac made of seaweed.

## STORM BEFORE THE CALM

The roots of Mardi Gras reach back to ancient Rome and the wild post-harvest feasting. This tradition was later absorbed by the Christians into a last festive “blow out” before Ash Wednesday and the fasting and penitence of Lent. Today,

carnival festivities are often the biggest event of the year in many countries, particularly in the Caribbean, Central and South America. Most Carnivals take place during the traditional pre-Lent period but others have pragmatically moved to other months when they are not in

## MAKING MUSIC IN CUBA

Carnival in Cuba has all the usual traditions – the elaborate floats, the parties, the dancing in the streets – but here the fun takes place in the summer and music is the most important element. For months beforehand, each



neighborhood's comparsa (music society) practices for months to create a unique show that blends salsa with dance. During Carnival these

Elvis Presley once said: "Why can't every day be like Christmas?" Treat yourself to a mad, mad Mardi Gras and you're likely to say the same thing about carnival.

bands host concerts by the Malecon, Havana's seafront boardwalk, all vying to be chosen the most popular band with the catchiest chorus and call to dance. One of the most popular events is a whole day dedicated to children with clowns, magicians and magical floats.

## MEXICAN MASQUERADE

As a predominantly Catholic country, Mexico adores Carnival. Mazatlan hosts the third largest carnival after Rio and New Orleans while other areas like Puerto Vallarta and Cancun have smaller carnivals but with just as much dancing,

merriment, floats and high-energy parties. In Mexico, Carnival is officially celebrated for five days prior to Ash Wednesday but the biggest party takes place the weekend before when the streets are filled with revelers wearing masks to keep away evil spirits and dancers swaying to a multitude of bands. Parties go on day and night with masqueraders throwing and breaking cascarnes (confetti-filled eggshells) over each other. Mexicans throw in their own

special twist with castillos (castles) from which nightly fireworks are launched.

## BLAME IT ON RIO

Carnival in Rio de Janeiro is the most famous of them all, attracting people from all over the world who come to play a character, wear wild costumes, dance with a samba school and "just let it all hang loose." Many visitors just watch the immense float parades but the real, once-in-a-lifetime thrill



is to actually march with a samba school. These

"schools" are not teaching institutions but groups of people from a neighborhood who get together to produce the costumes and floats for Carnival. Each year they choose a different theme and there may be up to 5,000 members marching along with six to eight floats in each school.



# TOP TEN Carnivals for 2003

**Mardi Gras in New Orleans**  
Jan 25 – Feb 12



**Carnival in Rio de Janeiro**  
Mar 1 – 4



**Carnival of Venice**  
Feb 21 – Mar 4



**Carnival in Mazatlan**  
Feb 27 – Mar 4



**Carnival of Nice**  
Feb 21 – Mar 5



**Cologne Carnival**  
Feb 27 – Mar 5



**Carnival in Dominican Republic**  
Late Feb



**St. Maarten Carnival**  
Mar 3 – 4



**Havana Carnival Weekends**  
Jul 15 – Aug 15



**Quebec Winter Carnival**  
Feb 1–17



*World of Vacations is delighted to bring you the*

# *Dominican*

*Make your next vacation  
a World of Vacations  
holiday to the  
Dominican Republic.  
Choose from 35  
All-Inclusive Resorts in  
Bayahibe, Santo  
Domingo, Punta Cana  
and Puerto Plata.*

The Dominican Republic has grown into one of Canada's favourite holiday destinations. It promises sun-drenched beauty, a relaxed pace, plenty

As you approach the Dominican Republic's east coast, fragrant coconut groves, unspoiled rain forests, limestone caverns and rare aquatic birds in a rainbow

Juan Dolio and Boca Chica satisfy sunseekers and water sports enthusiasts alike with golden sand protected by natural coral reefs.



In Bayahibe, just 90 minutes from Santo Domingo, "rush" is a four letter word, relaxation the order of the day. When down-time becomes too demanding, choose a day trip to one of the neighbouring islands or go snorkelling along the fresh coral coast. When sunny afternoons dissolve into

of adventure and exceptional value for quality accommodation.

The north or "Amber" coast of Puerto Plata, named for its rich, abundant amber deposits, is fringed by some 70 miles of unparalleled beach and is a haven for sun worshippers, golfers and eco-tourists alike. Puerto Plata's lively Playa Dorada complex is replete with discos, casinos and nightclubs. The smaller villages of Sosua and Cabarete (the island's internationally renowned windsurfing capital) are also enormously popular.

of hues, blend harmoniously with a sweeping palette of superb resorts. Punta Cana, the sunrise coast, is a wondrous celebration of sea, sand and sunshine with perhaps the most soul-inspiring beaches in the entire Caribbean.

Historic, vibrant Santo Domingo is an extraordinary blend of the stately grandeur of old world colonialism, the modern glitz and dazzle of lively casinos and spirited discos, and the enduring appeal of Latin magnetism. The beaches of the resort area of



halcyon evenings, when the day's hardest decision is whether to lounge by the pool or enjoy a pleasant stroll along powdery palm-fringed beaches, when dinner calls by way of gentle sea breezes mingling with the fragrance of fresh-grilled seafood, you know you're in paradise.



# Republic

with an incomparable selection  
of 35 All-Inclusive Resorts

## 7 or 14 Day Punta Cana

4 plus star Catalonia Bavaro Beach, Golf & Casino Resort



Nov 1 – Apr 30 2003



### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE fruit basket and bottle of rum.

This all-suite resort features a lovely beachfront setting, a wide section of restaurants, freshwater pool, Jacuzzi, 5 bars, disco, golf course, casino, massage, fitness



centre and 2 tennis courts. Each junior suite comes complete with 1 king or 2 double beds, soaker tub and a hammock on the balcony.



#### Your All-Inclusive Punta Cana Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Vancouver / Calgary or Edmonton (from \$1489), Winnipeg (from \$1759), Halifax (from \$1499) and Moncton (from \$1399), 7 or 14 nts accommodation, 3 buffet meals daily (à la carte dinners with reservation), unlimited wine with lunch and dinner and domestic beer and select international brand drinks, various sporting activities, water sports, Kid's Club (ages 4-12), daily activities, nightly entertainment and transfers.

CDN from  
**\$1259\***

## 7 or 14 Day Puerto Plata

4 plus star Iberostar Costa Dorada



Nov 1 – Apr 30 2003



### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE fruit basket and bottle of rum.



This elegant, colonial style resort offers an exciting range of holiday options – lush tropical gardens, activities for all ages and a beautiful stretch of beach. The resort features



freshwater pool, kid's pool, 5 Jacuzzis, 3 bars, 4 restaurants, disco, babysitting services, massage and beauty treatments, steambath, spa, gym and 2 tennis courts. Rooms have a/c, couch, king or 2 double beds and mini bar.



#### Your All-Inclusive Puerto Plata Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Vancouver/Calgary and Edmonton (from \$1519), Regina/Saskatoon (from \$1779), Winnipeg (from \$1669), Halifax (from \$1499) or St. John's (from \$1449), 7 or 14 nts accommodation, 3 buffet meals plus snacks daily, 3 à la carte dinners (with reservations), unlimited wine with dinner and domestic beer and select international brand drinks, sports activities, water sports, Spanish and dance lessons, Kid's Club (ages 4-12), daily activities, nightly entertainment & transfers.

CDN from  
**\$1269\***



# St. Maarten

## A little European.

## A lot of Caribbean.

Sophisticated and genteel, St. Maarten/St. Martin is surrounded by talcum-white beaches and shimmering sea. This charming island is half Dutch and half French with just a small sign acting as a friendly border, making it the smallest island in the world shared by two sovereign powers. Come enjoy two vacations in one amidst this perfect blend of two European cultures.

Visit the Dutch capital of Philipsburg, with its quaint old-world buildings and great duty-free shopping bargains on jewelry, cosmetics, electronics and china. Explore the island's 37 pristine beaches – wide strand beaches, clothing-optional beaches... endless choices. The waters around St. Maarten,

with its clear visibility and colourful reefs, are rich with sea life for scuba divers and snorkellers. And, St. Maarten offers a thrilling sailing experience – crew aboard one of several America's Cup contenders.

Dine-around at any of 400 restaurants on St. Maarten – there's Caribbean, Creole, French, Indonesian, Italian, to name only a few! The island is known as the *culinary capital of the Caribbean*. Nightlife is

hopping – on St. Maarten, disco lives! Or, try your luck at the 12 casinos – all the table games and everyone's favourite, the slot machine. Experience for yourself the friendliest island under the sun.



For tourism information on St. Maarten, call (416) 622-4300 or visit the website at [www.st-maarten.com](http://www.st-maarten.com)

### 7 Day St. Maarten

5-star Maho Beach Resort & Casino



Nov – May 2003



**Select Value!**  
Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE room upgrade. Subject to availability. Must book by Dec 31 2002.



The beautiful Maho Beach Resort & Casino is located beachfront, just 3 minutes from the airport and close to Cherie's, the most popular nightclub on the island. Recently renovated, the resort features 2 pools, 1 with swim-up bar, 3 restaurants (Ocean Terrace

for buffet meals, Palm Restaurant for international and à la carte dining, and The Point, for upscale steak and seafood), plus Q Club disco above Casino Royale, the island's largest casino, 4 lit tennis courts, fitness centre and health spa, and a shopping arcade. The Maho Beach Resort & Casino is great for families. Rooms accommodate up to 2 adults and 3 kids. Kids under 6 stay and eat free, with special rates for kids 6-12.

**Your All-Inclusive Vacation includes:**

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Windsor & Halifax, (domestic flights available from \$319 from Calgary, Edmonton & Vancouver to Toronto), 7 nts accommodation, 3 buffet meals daily or à la carte with reservations, unlimited drinks from 11 a.m. to closing, water sports equipment, 1 free admission /person/week to "Casino Royale Theatre," daily \$10 match play coupon per room, free transportation twice weekly to Orient Beach and transfers.

Apr 5, 12, 19  
departures  
CDN from  
**\$1849\***



## 7 Day Caribbean Cruise

aboard Golden or Grand Princess



Jan 25, Feb 2 & Mar 8 2003

### Select Value!

Our gift to you.

Book with us and receive a bottle of wine and \$50-\$100 US shipboard credit per cabin.



Spend 7 glorious days cruising aquamarine seas along the palm-covered shores of the Eastern or Western Caribbean. Surrender to intoxicating tropical breezes, festive island activities and duty-free shopping – and let *Princess's* very own private island,

*Princess Cays*, add an exclusive touch of paradise to your adventure. Experience innovative cruising that's all about you aboard *Golden Princess* or *Grand Princess*. Destinations in themselves, *Princess* ships are equal in activities and amenities to many land-based resorts.

#### Ports of Call

**Jan 25 & Mar 8** – Ft. Lauderdale, St. Maarten, St. Thomas, Princess Cays, Ft. Lauderdale

**Feb 2** – Ft. Lauderdale, Princess Cays, Grand Cayman, Costa Maya, Cozumel, Ft. Lauderdale



For more *Princess* Cruises see page 32.

#### Your Princess Cruise features:

Personal Choice Cruising<sup>SM</sup>, choice of 4 dining options for breakfast, 7 for lunch and 8 for dinner, 3 show lounges and largest floating casino, Lotus Spa, wrap-around teak promenade deck for walking and jogging, fitness centre, 4 pools, sports deck for volleyball, basketball and paddle tennis, Virtual Reality center, the Fun Zone children's centre & AOL Internet Café. Price includes savings up to \$1218.

Jan 25, Feb 2  
Cat I  
CDN from  
**\$1159**

## 10 Day Caribbean Cruise

aboard Dawn Princess

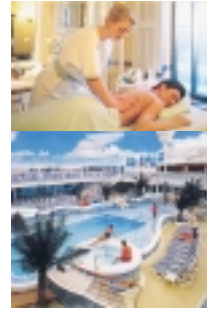


Jan 9 & Feb 8 2003

### Select Value

Our gift to you.

Book with us and receive a bottle of wine and \$100-\$200 US shipboard credit per cabin.



Cruise the Caribbean for 10 glorious days aboard the *Dawn Princess*. Experience Antigua's fabulous yachting scene and the superb golf on Barbados. Catch St. Lucia's spectacular mountain scenery, St. Thomas's famous duty-free shopping – even crew in a 12-meter sailing regatta off St. Maarten. Top it all off with an extravagant beach-party picnic on *Princess's* private island, *Princess Cays*, for a vacation nothing short of sublime.

#### Ports of Call

Ft. Lauderdale, Antigua, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, St. Thomas, Princess Cays, Ft. Lauderdale

For more *Princess* Cruises see page 32.



#### Your Princess Cruise features:

Personal Choice Cruising<sup>SM</sup>, choice of 5 different dining areas including 2 intimate dining rooms and a 24-hour international food court, 2 show lounges, casino, lavish spa, wrap-around teak promenade deck for walking and jogging, fitness centre, 3 pools, sports deck for volleyball, basketball and paddle tennis, the Fun Zone children's centre and AOL Internet Café. Price includes savings up to \$1146.

Jan 9  
Cat JJ  
CDN from  
**\$1521**

# CUBA

Adventures on Land and at Sea



*Let the Caribbean's largest island awaken your senses. From immaculate white beaches to culturally thriving historic cities, Cuba will surprise and captivate you. Make it your next cruise destination!*

Air Transat Holidays and Festival Cruises invite you to discover exotic harbours of the Caribbean on a 7 day cruise. Exclusive to Air Transat Holidays, this new cruise program lets you explore the fascinating cultures and landscapes of Cuba, Mexico and Jamaica. Your charming ship, the *Caribe*, will take you on a cultural journey beginning and ending at the port of Havana, with colonial Havana only steps away.

Take advantage of our affordable packages combining flight and cruise and, receive \$100pp discount and free land transfers when you purchase a cruise in conjunction with an Air Transat Holidays package in Varadero. Experience the endless pleasures of life at sea, the beauty of historic Havana, and the beach paradise of Varadero – all on one exciting holiday!



## 7 Day Caribbean Cruise

aboard Festival Cruises Caribe



Dec 23 – April 7 2003

### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE Air Transat onboard entertainment package (headset, drink & duty-free boutique voucher).

The *Caribe* is a classic yet contemporary ship that has been fully refurbished to offer all modern amenities along with the European refinement of first-class service and stylish décor.

#### Ports of Call

Havana, at sea, Calica (Mexico), George Town (Grand Cayman), Montego Bay (Jamaica), Treasure Island (Cuba), Havana



#### Your Cruise Package includes:

Return airfare from Vancouver/Calgary\* to Varadero (departures from Edmonton, Ottawa and Toronto also available), 7 nts accommodation aboard ship, all meals, wine, beer, soft drinks and mineral water with lunch and dinner (served in restaurant only), daily activities, nightly entertainment, prepaid gratuities and round-trip transfers. Cruise only also available.

Jan 6, 13, 20, 27  
CDN from  
**\$1699\***

## 7 Day Varadero

4-star Sol Palmeras



Nov – Apr 29 2003



### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE fruit basket & bottle of Rum.



Set in lush tropical gardens on the Hicacos peninsula, with direct access to the beach, this superior resort has a buffet and 3 à la carte restaurants, bars including swim-up, Kid's Club (5-13), playground and wading pool.

#### Your All-Inclusive Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Halifax (from \$1599), Edmonton (from \$1579), Vancouver, & Calgary (from \$1559), 7 nts standard guestroom accommodation, 3 buffet meals daily plus à la carte with reservations, 24-hour snack and beverages, unlimited local and select international drinks, watersports, 2 intro scuba-diving lessons, daily activities, nightly entertainment and transfers.

Nov-Dec 17  
CDN from  
**\$1299\***



## 7 Day Cayo Coco

4 1/2-star Melia Cayo Guillermo



Dec – Apr 29 2003



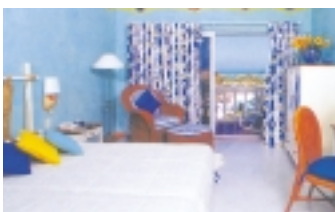
### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE room upgrade to ocean view  
(limited quantities).

If you're an ocean lover, let the crystalline waters of Cayo Coco's magnificent beaches inspire you. The islet of Cayo Guillermo, on Cuba's north coast, offers breathtaking scenery, and the 4 1/2-star beachside Melia Cayo Guillermo is situated near one of the world's largest coral reefs. Enjoy spectacular ocean views from your luxurious room. Take advantage of the many watersports. Find everything you need to relax in exquisite style, including superb cuisine, fabulous entertainment and enchanting surroundings.

Located directly on the beach, set in beautiful lush surroundings the Melia Cayo Guillermo features restaurants including 2 à la carte, bars, pool, snack bar and a Kids Club (4-12), wading pool and babysitting(\$).



#### Your All-Inclusive Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Halifax (from \$1539), Vancouver/Calgary (from \$1799), 7 nts standard guestroom accommodation, 3 buffet meals daily, à la carte lunch and dinner with reservations, 24-hour room service, mini-bar with soft drinks, water and beer in room, unlimited local and select international drinks, drinks at Fun Club Disco until 2 a.m., water sports, 1 intro scuba lesson, daily activities, nightly entertainment and transfers.

Dec 1-Dec 14  
CDN from  
**\$1299\***

## 7 Day Caribbean Cruise

aboard Norwegian Sun or Sky



Sun: Dec 7, Jan 4, 25,  
Feb 1 – Apr 5 2003  
Sky: Dec 1, 8, 15, Jan 5-Feb 19  
Feb 23 – Apr 13 2003



### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE Bon Voyage Basket  
with wine and 2 NCL beach towels.  
Must book by Dec 31 2002.



Cruise the Caribbean freestyle! Choose a week in the endless sun of the Western Caribbean, visiting Mexico, Belize, Grand Cayman, and the Bay Islands. Or experience the elegant tropical liveliness of the Southern Caribbean in San Juan, St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, St. Kitts and St. Thomas. Travel in style and comfort aboard *Norwegian Sun* or *Sky*. Perfect beaches with crystal-clear waters, exciting excursions and some of the best duty-free shopping in the world – *it's all here for you!*

#### Ports of Call

**Sun:** Miami, Grand Cayman, Roatan, Belize, Cozumel, Miami

**Sky:** San Juan, St. Lucia, Barbados, Dominica, St. Kitts, St. Thomas, San Juan

For more *Norwegian Cruises* see page 32.



#### Your Norwegian Sun or Sky Caribbean Cruise features:

Freestyle Cruising – dine when, where and with whom you want, with no formal dress code. Your choice of 6 or 9 restaurants, 12 or 13 bars and lounges, 2 adult swimming pools plus 1 for kids, Kid's Korner, Teen Club, Video Zone, ice cream bar, 5 hot tubs, Body Waves Spa, 24-hour fitness centre, jogging track, basketball/volleyball court, golf driving net, casino and shops.

Sun, Dec 7, Cat K  
CDN from  
**\$884**

Sky, Dec 1, Cat KK  
CDN from  
**\$826**



# 7 Day Paradise Island, Bahamas

Club Med Village without children's facilities



Nov 2 – Apr 19 2003



## Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE \$50 US Trident Treat in-resort gift certificate per booking.



Welcome to Paradise! Experience the elegance of our three splendid mansions, enclosed by exotic gardens. Renovated rooms and the new harbourside restaurant promise comfort and dining pleasure. The silvery, half-moon beach is perfect for a host of sports and the 18 hard tennis courts feature an intensive program. On the other side of Nassau Harbour, fabulous shops, tropical gardens, golf courses, historic sites and casinos vie for your attention. For relaxation and adventure, come to Paradise!

### Beach Games! From Jan 4-Feb 1

Participate in beach and water tournaments throughout the day – beach volley, water polo, soccer, sailing and kayaking. After the games, celebrate your victory at the biggest beach parties!



### Club Med Paradise Island

306 a/c rooms, 2 restaurants, 3 bars, Club Med Boutique, sports including Club Med ATP advanced tennis, snorkelling, Club Med fitness, windsurfing, kayaking, volleyball, sailing, golf and archery.



### Your Club Med Paradise Island Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto, Vancouver or Calgary, 7 nts accommodation, 3 meals daily, wine and beer with lunch and dinner, a host of sports and lessons with professional instruction, exciting evening entertainment, transfers and limited travel insurance. Book now and you may save up to 30%.

Toronto departure  
CDN from

**\$2110**

Van/Cal departure  
CDN from

**\$2370**



# 10 Day Caribbean Cruise

aboard 6-star Silver Cloud



Dec 2 2002 & Mar 18 2003



## Select Experience!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE shore excursion in Cartagena\* (*Cartagena through the eyes of Gabriel García Márquez*) or Grenada (*Past and Present*).

Sail the Caribbean aboard the luxurious *Silver Cloud*. Bask on gorgeous beaches or explore Grenada's churches, Aruba's fabled Dutch houses and Cartagena's formidable fortresses and colonial architecture. Experience the best of everything on the 6-star all-suite *Silversea*, named number one by *Condé Nast Traveller's* Readers' Travel Awards, "World's Best Small Ship" by *Travel + Leisure* and "Best of the Best" by Robb Reports. *It doesn't get better than Silversea!*

### Ports of Call

**Dec 2** – Bridgetown, St. Vincent, Grenada, Los Roques-Venezuela, Curaçao, Aruba, Cartagena\*, Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, Cristobal

**Mar 18** – San Juan, Aruba, Antilles, Caracas-Venezuela, Grenada, Antigua, St. Lucia, Bridgetown



For more *Silversea* Cruises see page 31.



### Your Silversea Cruise features:

6-star service including ocean view suites with Frette bed linens, plush bathrobes, Bvlgari toiletries and personalized stationary, complimentary beverages including selected wines, spirits and Moët & Chandon Champagne, open-seating dining in the restaurant and café or 24-hour room service, Mandara Spa, show lounge, Bvlgari Boutique, lounges and casino, all gratuities included. Round-trip air and 1 nt hotel available from \$950 US.

Dec 2  
Vista Suite  
US from

**\$2995**

# Costa Rica A NATURAL ESCAPE



*Come to Costa Rica and revel in Pura Vida, a local expression meaning to celebrate the good life with friends. Soak up the sun on stunning beaches. Explore the National Parks and view amazing wildlife and volcanoes. And do it all amidst some of the friendliest people in the world.*

*With over 19 years' experience arranging travel to Costa Rica, Fun Sun Vacations has become the preferred choice of many Canadians. From simple air-only arrangements to individualized itineraries, you can always count on our attention to detail and value.*



## 10 & 14 Day Discover Costa Rica

A 3 Centre Vacation



Nov – Oct 2003

### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive FREE Key to Costa Rica guidebook and 2 coffee mugs.  
Must book by Dec 31 2002.

The best of Costa Rica! Plenty of rest and relaxation awaits you on the sun-drenched beaches of the Pacific Coast. Pamper yourself at the *Occidental Tucano Resort & Spa*, a highland oasis surrounded by tropical forest. Indulge your inner adventurer with day excursions from San José and explore the shopping and dining delights of this fabulous, cosmopolitan city.

#### Itinerary

3 or 4 nts San José (choose between 4 hotels), 3 nts at Occidental Tucano Resort & Spa, 4 or 7 nts at your choice of 4 beach resorts

#### Bonus Inclusions

Enjoy a Wildlife Riverboat Cruise on the Rio Frio into the northern frontier, a relaxing 30 minute massage, and your choice of a Thermal Bath or Walking Program!

#### Your Discover Costa Rica Tour includes:

Return airfare from Vancouver and Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa and Halifax, 10 or 14 nts accommodation, transfers between properties and cities, San José city tour and visit to Café Britt with lunch, breakfast daily, airport transfers and services of a local Fun Sun Vacations representative.

10 Nights  
Western departures  
CDN from  
**\$1959**  
Eastern departures  
CDN from  
**\$1892**

## 15 Day Two Oceans Tour

From Atlantic to Pacific



Nov – Oct 2003

### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive FREE Key to Costa Rica guidebook and 2 coffee mugs.  
Must book by Dec 31 2002.

Imagine exploring the wild, remote region of Tortuguero on the Caribbean coast or lounging beside the Pacific at the all-inclusive *Barcelo Playa Tambor Resort*. Imagine gliding through the treetops of a rain forest on an aerial tram, or relaxing in the natural Jacuzzis at the *Occidental Tucano Resort & Spa*. Imagine no longer – come and experience it with us!

#### Itinerary

2 nts San José (choose between 3 hotels), 2 nts Jungle Lodge, 1 nt Suerre Hotel, 3 nts Occidental Tucano Resort & Spa, 4 nts all-inclusive Barcelo Playa Tambor, 2 nts San José

#### Bonus Inclusions

Visit to Café Britt with lunch, Cruise the Tortuguero Canals, visit a butterfly farm, hike to Cerro Tortuguero, Tico-style BBQ, Rain Forest Aerial Tram, 30 minute massage plus your choice of a Thermal Bath or Walking Program!

#### Your Two Oceans Tour includes:

Return airfare from Vancouver and Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa and Halifax, 14 nts accommodation, 28 meals (11 B,7 L,10 D), transfers between properties and cities, San José city tour and sightseeing, airport transfers and services of a local Fun Sun Vacations representative.

14 Nights  
Western departures  
CDN from  
**\$2976**  
Eastern departures  
CDN from  
**\$2829**



# Mexico Fiesta Favo

Originally promoted as the tropical Pacific Coast village where Richard Burton courted Elizabeth Taylor during the making of the film Night of the Iguana, Puerto Vallarta has come a long way. Today, this once-sleepy Mexican village is a modern resort destination with a history of romantic stories and an extensive range of all-inclusive hotels lining the sandy coast north of town.



Happily, development has not been at the expense of this charming cobblestoned colonial Mexican village. The old church still commands the town square and the bayside Malecon, or boardwalk, offers a sunset stroll for visitors and residents alike. Late-night shoppers laugh and move to the music spilling into the streets.

PVR offers a great combination of excellent hotels, water sports such as deep-sea fishing, steep waterfalls in the interior jungles, and the market and music of the original town. The broad curve of Banderas Bay offers

## Puerto Vallarta

windsurfing, sailing and whale watching.

For years, the cobblestoned streets of "Vallarta" have charmed Canadians. Today, the town and its surrounding area offer you an array of vacation options. Stay near town and enjoy the shops and nightlife. Or, just north of the marina area, you'll find smaller, intimate hotels. Twenty-five minutes further north is Nuevo Vallarta, boasting the prettiest, widest beaches in the entire region.



Puerto Vallarta is considered the ideal vacation destination for first-timers to Mexico while at the same time boasting enough diversity for those who come back again and again.



Taking care of every little thing.

### 7 Day Puerto Vallarta

4-star Grand Marival or 3 1/2-star Las Palmas Beach Resort



Dec 15 – Apr 30 2003



#### Select Value

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE \$50 Roots Gift Certificate per couple. Must book by Dec 31 2002.



#### 4-star Grand Marival Nuevo Vallarta

This Canadian owned and managed hotel is adjacent to the original Club Marival. Great for families-Kids Club, babysitting (\$), and Kids 2-6 stay and eat FREE. Superior rooms & the facilities of both properties, this beachfront resort is a "Grand" choice.

#### Your Grand Marival All-Inclusive vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Vancouver/Calgary (from \$1659), Edmonton (from \$1679), Winnipeg (from \$1639), 7 nts accommodation, 3 meals & snacks daily, all drinks (10am-midnight), watersports, use of bikes, horseback riding, Spanish language and dance classes, daily activities, nightly entertainment & transfers.

Jan 17 & 24  
CDN from  
**\$1589**

#### 3 1/2-star Las Palmas Beach Resort

This charming property boasts a great location on a fine stretch of beach close to town. Great for families featuring a Kids Club, babysitting (\$), and Kids 2-12 stay and eat free



#### Your Las Palmas All-Inclusive vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Vancouver/Calgary (from \$1359), Edmonton (from \$1399), Winnipeg (from \$1339), 7 nts accommodation, 3 meals & snacks daily, all drinks (10am-1am), watersports, Spanish language classes, daily activities, nightly entertainment & transfers.

Jan 15 & 22  
CDN from  
**\$1319**

*From the Caribbean's Mayan Riviera to the Pacific Ocean's sandy bays and beaches, Mexico is a land of coasts and contrasts. Welcome to SIGNATURE VACATIONS' Mexico, where we take care of every little thing.*



## Mayan Riviera

One of the most fascinating destinations in Mexico, the Mayan Riviera combines the long sunny beaches of the Yucatan Peninsula with the breathtaking relics of Mayan history.

Anchored by the charming and colourful town of Playa del Carmen, ferry terminus for the island of Cozumel, the "Riviera Maya" combines turquoise seas, powder white sands and lush green jungles on a palette of choice and activity.

This region is dotted with low-rise hotels that blend into their natural surroundings and the area is made up of small, independent, typically

Mexican communities that beckon to be explored. Your hotel offers a base from which you can study Mayan culture or snorkel the offshore reefs, shop for Mayan treasures in the boutiques of Playa del Carmen and take the ferry to Cozumel for the day. Be sure to ask your SIGNATURE destination representative for more details.

Wherever you go in the Mayan Riviera, you'll bring back memories of good times and a great SIGNATURE vacation.

**ROOTS**

www.roots.com

Prices include Early Booking Bonuses where applicable (book by dates differ by hotel). Promotional offers can not be combined.



Taking care of every little thing.

## 7 Day Mayan Riviera

4 1/2-star Iberostar Paraiso Del Mar or 3-star Club Bananas



Dec 15 – Apr 30 2003



### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE \$50 Roots Gift Certificate per couple. Must book by Dec 15 2002.

### 4 1/2-star Iberostar Paraiso Del Mar

Located 15 minutes from Playa del Carmen, these comfortable bungalow units are nestled within 35 acres of lush tropical gardens and a beautiful, white-sand beach. Great for families featuring a Kids club, babysitting (\$) and Kids pool.



#### Your All-Inclusive Iberostar Paraiso Del Mar Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto/Ottawa\*, Halifax (from \$2109), St. John's (from \$2029), Winnipeg (from \$1909) Vancouver/Calgary/Edmonton (from \$2059), 7 nts accommodation, 3 meals and snacks daily, all drinks, room service, watersports, Spanish language, dance & pottery classes, daily activities, nightly entertainment & transfers.

Jan 9-24  
CDN from

**\$1869\***



### 3-star Club Bananas Playa Del Carmen

This laid-back hotel is the ideal spot for those wishing to explore the area. Located in the quaint village of Playa del Carmen (where the ferry crosses to Cozumel). Complimentary shuttle to the hotel's own Beach Club located 5 minutes away.

#### Your All-Inclusive Club Bananas Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto/Ottawa\*, Halifax (from \$1549), St. John's (from \$1389), Vancouver/Calgary/Edmonton (from \$1659), Winnipeg (from \$1409), 7 nts accommodation, 3 meals daily, all drinks (11am-11pm), watersports, use of bikes, daily activities and transfers.

Jan 9-24  
CDN from

**\$1369\***



## 7 Day Manzanillo

3- star Club Maeva Manzanillo



Nov – Apr 29 2003



### Select Value!

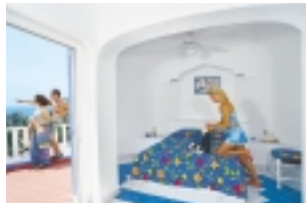
Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE Air Transat onboard entertainment package (headset, drink, duty-free boutique voucher).

Tropical plantations, scenic bays and lagoons are yours to explore in Manzanillo, one of Mexico's most fertile regions. The lively Club Maeva Manzanillo is specially designed for families, with a *Kid's Club*, multiple restaurants and bars, disco, pools (including adults-only) and babysitting(\$). Join in a variety of activities and sports... or bask in the endless sun. Club Maeva is a world of choice for you and your family!

#### Club Maeva

Club Maeva has a lively ambiance and a super Kids' Club, the 1 bedroom villas have 1 queen bed and a living area with 2 single sofa beds. The property features restaurants including 1 à la carte, snack bar, bars, disco, pools including 1 for adults only, Kid's Club (2-12) wading pool and babysitting(\$).



#### Your All-Inclusive Vacation includes:

Return airfare from Toronto\*, Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton (from \$1359), 7 nts accommodation in 1 bed villa, 3 buffet meals daily, à la carte dining with reservation, snacks, unlimited local drinks and house wine, free admission to disco including drinks, Kid's Club (2-12), daily activities, intro scuba & snorkelling lesson, nightly entertainment and transfers.

Nov 6-Dec 17  
CDN from  
**\$1279\***

## 7 Day Mexican Riviera Cruise

aboard Star Princess



Jan 25, Feb 8, Mar 15  
Apr 12, May 3 2003

### Select Value!

Our gift to you.

Book with us and receive a bottle of wine, \$50 US shipboard credit per cabin and a 2-category upgrade.



Spend 7 unforgettable days on the Mexican Riviera aboard *Star Princess*. Do what you want when you want in our casual atmosphere, and enjoy the most affordable balconies of any major cruise ships. Join fellow passengers in paddle tennis, tee off at the 9-hole putting green or indulge in a game of blackjack. Stroll the romantic promenade deck or pamper yourself in the luxurious spa. *Princess* is cruising reinvented – cruising your way!

#### Ports of Call

Los Angeles, Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas, Los Angeles

#### Great for Families!

3rd & 4th person fares start at \$289 CDN

#### For more Princess Cruises

see page 32.



#### Your Star Princess Cruise features:

Personal Choice Cruising<sup>SM</sup>, 3 separate dining rooms (24-hour indoor/outdoor dining, Italian trattoria and Southwest-style restaurant), 3 show lounges and largest floating casino, Lotus Spa, wrap-around teak promenade deck, fitness centre, 4 pools (1 with swim-against-the-current lap pool), Virtual Reality centre, the Fun Zone children's centre, state-of-the-art digital imaging service, putting green and 2 golf simulators, AOL Internet Café and a wedding chapel. Price includes savings up to \$1015.

Jan 25  
CDN from  
**\$1159**



## 10 & 14 Day Panama Canal Cruise

aboard Coral & Island Princess



Jan 23 & May 13 2003

### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive FREE \$200 US Shipboard Credit, 2-5x7 photo vouchers and a bottle of wine per cabin.

Marvel at one of the world's great engineering triumphs with the cruise line that knows it best. Surrounded by exotic wildlife and emerald-green jungles, you'll explore the magnificent Panama Canal and exotic ports with Island Princess or the brand new *Coral Princess*. *Personal Choice Cruising*<sup>SM</sup> by Princess revolves around you. Every aspect of your vacation is personally tailored—with options in alternative dining venues, specialty restaurants, spa services, daily activities and nightly entertainment. *Princess... the best in the Panama Canal.*

#### Ports of Call

**10 day – Jan 23:** Coral Princess  
Ft. Lauderdale, Cozumel, Grand Cayman, Limon, Panama Canal, Cartagena, Ft. Lauderdale

**14 day – May 13:** Island Princess  
Ft. Lauderdale, Aruba, Cartagena, Panama Canal, Puntarenas, Acapulco, Cabo San Lucas, Los Angeles  
(Optional: May 28, 3 days – Los Angeles to Vancouver)



For more *Princess* Cruises see page 32.



#### Your Princess Cruise features:

Personal Choice Cruising<sup>SM</sup>, choice of different dining areas, 2 show lounges and casino, Lotus Spa, wrap-around teak promenade deck for walking and jogging, fitness centre, 3 pools, sports deck for volleyball, basketball and paddle tennis, and the Fun Zone children's centre. Price reflects includes savings up to \$1267.

May 13 Cat I  
CDN from  
**\$2953**  
Jan 23 Cat JJ  
CDN from  
**\$2101**

## 11 & 15 Day Panama Canal Cruise

aboard 6-star Crystal Harmony



Jan 21 & Feb 12 2003



### Select Experience!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE shore excursion in Aruba\* (*Island Tour with Lunch*) or Puntarenas\* (*Tropical Rainforest Walk with Lunch*), and prepaid gratuities.



Imagine yourself surrounded – on one side, the sun-washed beaches of the Mexican Riviera, and on the other, the calm, blue waters of the Caribbean. Now imagine sailing through the spectacular Panama Canal without the hassle of unpacking and repacking. See the best of the Caribbean and Mexican Riviera aboard 6-star *Crystal Harmony*, a luxury cruise experience judged the "World's Best Large Ship Cruise Line" for a record six consecutive years by *Travel + Leisure* and *Condé Nast Traveller* magazines.

#### Ports of Call

**11 day – Jan 21:** Ft. Lauderdale, St. John, St. Thomas, St. Maarten, St. Lucia, Aruba\*, Panama Canal, Caldera

**15 day – Feb 12:** CDN from \$4780  
Ft. Lauderdale, Playa del Carmen, Cozumel, Puerto Limon, Panama Canal, Puntarenas\*, Acapulco, Los Angeles



For more *Crystal* Cruises see page 31.



#### Your Crystal Harmony Cruise features:

Accommodation in spacious, luxurious staterooms featuring cozy down duvets and honour bars, 3 distinctive dining choices (dining room, specialty restaurants Prego or Jade Garden), 24-hour room service, 7 lounges and bars, casino, and nightly entertainment, computer University at Sea, spa and fitness facilities. Price includes savings up to \$3100.

Jan 21 Cat G  
CDN from  
**\$3451**



## 7 Day Hawaiian Cruise

aboard Norwegian Star



Dec 8, 15 2002 &  
Jan 19 – Jul 27 2003

### Select Value!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE Bon Voyage Basket including bottle of wine in stateroom and 2 NCL beach towels.

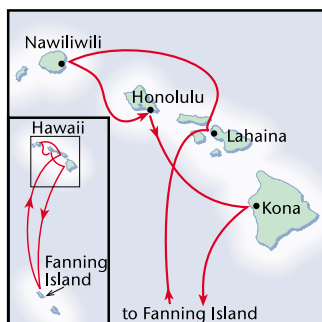
Must book by Dec 31 2002.

Golden sands, turquoise waters, misty volcanoes – the beauty of the Hawaiian Islands is legendary. Join us as we cruise Hawaii's spectacular islands in laidback luxury. Explore ancient sites. Unwind on warm, sandy beaches. Visit the sacred "Garden Island" of Kauai. And, explore NCL's exclusive Pacific hideaway, Fanning Island. Indulge in the huge array of activities and amenities aboard *Norwegian Star* – it's Freestyle Cruising in Paradise!

#### Ports of Call

Honolulu, Kona, Fanning Island- Republic of Kiribati, Lahaina, Nawiliwili, Honolulu

For more *Norwegian Cruises* see page 32.



#### Your Norwegian Star Hawaiian Cruise features:

Freestyle Cruising: dine when, where and with whom you want and no formal dress code. Choose between 10 restaurants and 13 bars and lounges, Spa, 2 swimming pools, 6 hot tubs, 24-hour fitness centre, basketball/volleyball/soccer court, Planet Kids and themed kid's pool.

Dec 8 Cat KK  
CDN from  
**\$1275**

## 10 & 12 Day Canada New England

aboard Holland America's ms Rotterdam



May 23 & Sep 17 2003



### Select Experience!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and you will receive a FREE shore excursion Quebec City (*The Best of Quebec City & Countryside*).



Canada and New England are seafaring wonderlands. It doesn't get any better than rocky headlands, towering lighthouses, flaming foliage, New England towns, the European ambience of Quebec... or maybe it does. Maybe you prefer a sophisticated mode of travel, delving into history and nature, dressing up on occasion for dinner, being waited on graciously. Maybe you prefer to get more than you paid for. That's the intimate, elegant *Holland America* experience!

#### Ports of Call

**12 day** – May 23, 10 day Sep 17 (does not stop in Oak Bluff's or Portland); New York, Newport, Oak Bluff's-Martha's Vineyard, Boston, Portland, Bar Harbor, Halifax, Sydney, Charlottetown, Quebec City, Montreal

For more *Holland America Cruises* see page 31.



#### Your Holland America Cruise features:

"No tipping required" policy, superb dining, 24-hour room service, accommodation in spacious staterooms, production spectaculars, movies and casino, exercise and sports program, luxurious Ocean Spa. As Canadians, enjoy drinking "Bloody Caesars" or Molson Canadian beer and even settle your on-board account with Canadian Currency. Price includes savings up to \$3308

May 23 Cat M  
CDN from  
**\$2396**



## 7 Day Tahiti Cruise

aboard m/s Paul Gauguin



Feb 15, Mar 8 & Mar 29 2003



### Select Experience!

Our exclusive gift to you.

Book with us and receive a FREE shore excursion in Bora Bora, (Bora Bora – The Pearl of the Pacific) \$100 US shipboard credit per suite plus FREE economy airfare from select CDN cities.

Dive into azure waters. Explore exotic cultures. Or simply bask in the warm sea breezes of one of the world's last natural paradises. The *ms Paul Gauguin* gives you an intimate view of the glorious islands of Tahiti and French Polynesia without intruding. Like the shell of a South Sea pearl, the *Paul Gauguin* opens to reveal its inner treasure – luxurious personalized service delivered with sophisticated French flair and natural Polynesian grace.

#### Ports of Call

Papeete, Raiatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora, Moorea, Papeete

For more **Radisson Seven Seas Cruises** see page 31.



#### Your Radisson Seven Seas Cruise features:

**FREE round-trip economy airfare**, informal yet elegant ambience (no formal wear required), gratuities included, complimentary wine with dinner and in-room bar set-up, cocktail parties, free soft drinks, mineral water and fruit juices, high level of personalized service (211 crew to 320 guests), spacious, ocean view staterooms and exceptional cuisine with open-seating dining in 2 distinguished restaurants plus an outdoor grill and 24-hour room service. Full spa and fitness center, casino, entertainment and state-of-the-art retractable watersports platform offering free programs and a SCUBA dive program (\$).

Price includes savings up to \$565 US.

Cat F  
US from  
**\$2585**

# You Could WIN

a 7 Night Cruise for two to Tahiti  
aboard *ms Paul Gauguin*



Enter for your chance to win a 7 night Tahiti cruise for 2 aboard **ms Paul Gauguin**, courtesy of **Radisson Seven Seas Cruises**. Simply complete the form below and mail, fax or bring this form into our Travel Agency (only available from our travel agency) by December 27 2002 and you have the chance to be our next winner. We will also enter the name of your friend or family member you have referred into our draw. Draw date is January 20 2003. Contest winner must be 21 years of age or older. Approximate retail value is \$10,000 CDN. Complete rules and regulations are available from our travel agency. No purchase necessary.

Fill out and return for your chance to win!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Continue to send me travel information.  Remove my name from your database.

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Birthdate: Month \_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_  
 2. Travel interests:  
 Adventure Travel  Ecotourism  Island Resorts  
 All-Inclusive  Escorted Tours  Safaris  
 Art/Culture/Theatre  Food/Wine  Shopping Trips  
 Bicycling Tours  Family Travel/Disney  Singles Trips  
 Cruises  Golf  Skiing  
 Diving  Hiking/Walking Tours  Spas/Fitness  
 3. Destination Interests:  
 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. Have you cruised before?  Yes  No Would you again?  Yes  No  
 If No, would you consider a cruise in the future?  Yes  No

### Treat a Friend!

To a free subscription of *The Select Traveller* catalogue. And, as a Bonus, we'll enter their name for a chance to win a cruise to Tahiti for 2!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prov: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Our Travel Agency**