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Affordable winter packages in the Adirondacks

BY MAX HARROLD, THE GAZETTE DECEMBER 9, 2011 10:10 AM

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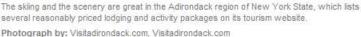
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STORY

PHOTOS (1)





Adirondack winter outings

The New York State tourism agency's website for the Adirondack region, in the northern part of the state, has several winter lodging and activity package ideas at affordable prices. For example, the 19-room Ledge Rock Inn near Whiteface Mountain in Wilmington, N.Y., about 160 kilometres southwest of Montreal, offers packages that include hotel accommodation and a ski lift ticket starting at \$78.50 U.S. per person, per night. The inn is right across from the Whiteface Mountain Ski Center, and just a short distance from the bobsled track, ski-jumping complex, skating arena and Lake Placid, site of the 1980 Winter Olympics.

Or you could stay at the Fort William Henry Resort in Lake George (260 kilometres south of Montreal), where the ski packages range from \$293 U.S. to \$394 U.S. for two nights' accommodations for two people, two daytime ski lift tickets to nearby ski hills, full breakfasts and shuttle transportation to and from the hill.

For more winter packages, including guided snowmobile tours, horsedrawn sleigh outings, snowboarding trips, toboggan runs and snowshoeing holidays, check out visitadirondacks.com







LATEST UPDATES »

Police find no toxic waste in trailer in Lachine

A large police operation Thursday night turned up no traces of a dangerous substance in a trailer parked in an industrial parking lot in Lachine.

COMMENTS (0)



Montreal condo starts up 68 per cent in last year

New condo construction in the Montreal area bucked national trends last month, with starts soaring 68 per cent, year over year, the Canadian Mortgage and

Housing Corp. said Thursday.

COMMENTS (0)

I'm told the trip "celebrates the spring holiday with visits to eight disparate ports including the UNESCO-listed city of Porto, noted for its eponymous wine (and) the Spanish town of La Coruña where glass and white-framed harbour buildings have earned it the nickname The Crystal City." Guests spend Easter eve on the Channel Islands of Sark and Guernsey, off Normandy, and Easter Sunday in the French town of Honfleur, with a stop at France's oldest surviving wooden church, Ste. Catherine's Church. Honfleur's architecture is said to have been a major influence on the Impressionists.

The trip is on the MS Fram, which has a capacity for 318 guests. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/3tykhdc or hurtigruten.us or call 1-877-301-3117 or 1-800-582-0835.

Toronto Santa cruise

The Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto is offering a Santa Package Dec. 17 and 18 for \$149 per night, per room. That includes accommodations for two at the 977-room hotel and two tickets to the Santa Cruise on those dates aboard the Northern Spirit, a Mariposa Cruises vessel. Children 6 years old and under get to board for free. Kids can visit with Santa and his elves during the 30-minute voyage and obtain a free photo of their visit with the jolly guy. Additional tickets for those 7 and older can be purchased through the hotel at \$10 each. Children 17 and under can stay for free in the hotel room.

During Winterfest on Toronto's Waterfront, you may also want to watch the free puppet shows and free dog shows at Queen's Quay Terminal and take in some free skating at Harbourfront Centre. The free Cavalcade of Lights, with festive holiday lighting decor, continues throughout December in four locations: the restored and enhanced Tall Ship on the Amsterdam Bridge (at Simcoe) with animated super bright LED lights, the Music Garden, the Firehall and The Westin Harbour Castle. The Westin's Santa package can be booked by calling 1-866-716-8101 and mentioning rate plan SANTAPKG. It can also be booked online at westin.com/harbourcastle.

European cruise

The Hurtigruten cruise line is offering a 10-per-cent discount on its 10-day Western Europe Easter Voyage if you book it by Dec. 31. The trip sails April 1 with eight ports of call between Lisbon, Portugal, and Hamburg, Germany. Sale-priced fares range from \$2,363 U.S. to \$5,063 U.S. per person, double occupancy, and that includes accommodations, all meals on-board, wind and water-resistant jackets and all aspects of the on-board program, including expert lectures about the history, culture and natural environment of the different ports.

WestJet Vacations sale

WestJet Vacations is having a seat sale on its flight-and-hotel vacation packages if you book by Dec. 21 for travel now through Dec. 21 and again from Jan. 9 to 31. The company has departures from Montreal and has 44 holiday destinations in the United States, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Man killed in five car pileup in Beauharnois

Twelve charged in cocaine trafficking ring

Quebec seeks input on Turcot landscaping



So, for example, an eight-night stay for two at the 348-room Park Royal Cozumel on the Mexican Island of Cozumel, in the Caribbean Sea, is available for \$2,118. That includes round-trip airfare, round-trip transport to and from the airport in Cozumel, all meals and snacks during your stay, unlimited domestic and international alcoholic beverages, daily entertainment programs, a snorkelling tour, an introduction to scuba lesson in the pool and all taxes and gratuities.

Guests can book through westjet.com/vacations/en, or by calling a travel agent or by calling WestJet Vacations at 1-877-737-7001.

Italy tour packages

Perillo Tours' website ItalyVacations.com is offering new six- to eight-day Fly and Drive vacation packages focused on the culinary culture of eight regions in Italy: Campania, Lazio, Piedmont, Puglia, Sicily, Tuscany, Umbria and Veneto. The packages start at \$1,290 U.S., based on double occupancy. Flights are extra, but can be booked through the company with flights from many U.S. cities.

Travellers choose their departure dates and tour on their own by car on a pre-planned itinerary. Each itinerary includes four-star accommodations at hotels or historical residences, a private rental car with unlimited mileage, meals at typical Italian restaurants, guided tastings of slow food wines and Presidia slow food products. ItalyVacations.com also offers single and multi-day independent activities at extra cost.

I'm told these include "visits to Alba's Slow Food Hearth Market, the old wine cellars at Ugo Chiola for a tasting of local wines, the centre of Turin for gourmand tasting and Grinzane Cavour castle, the headquarters of the first Piedmontese Regional Winery. Guests can also take vineyard tours ... and hands-on cooking classes guided by experienced native Italian chefs." For more information, please visit italyacations.com/culinary/fly-drive-vacations.

mharrold@montrealgazette.com

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