



Castro Valley, CA 94546
www.cvskiclub.org

CVSC SkiZette

October, 2025



EVENTS CALENDAR

(f) = flyer in this issue

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OCTOBER
NO GENERAL MEETING THIS MONTH
 3-15 CVSC Paris, Normandy & Seine River Cruise
 31 CVSC Halloween Party

NOVEMBER
 12 CVSC Board meeting at Pat's
 19 CVSC General meeting at Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant @ 6pm

DECEMBER
 4 CVSC Christmas Trolley (f) pg 7

UPCOMING
 2026:
 9/15-26 CVSC Lyon & Provence River Cruise with pre trip to Nice (f) pg 8

BAC/FWSA TRIPS
 Please visit websites for detailed information.

BAC Web site: skibac.org **Far West Ski Assoc: fwsa.org**

2026:
 1/24-31 BAC/FWSA Ski Week to Crested Butte (f) pg 11
 2/22-27 FWSA Mini Ski Trip to Schwietzer Mtn., ID (f) pg 11
 2/22-27 BAC Mini Ski Week at Sun Peaks, B.C., Canada (f) pg 12
 2/28-3/7 FWSA Int'l Ski Trip to Chamonix, France (f) pg 13
 11/30-12/8 BAC Christmas Markets Cruise along the Danube (f) pg 14

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Dan Davis	11
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Ray Jong	13
John Fagan	15
Marjory Jong	25

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



Castro Valley Ski Club Newsletter

President's Message

Happy Fall  everyone the weather is changing and the holidays are fast approaching! Hope you had a great summer and now we can look forward to another season filled with fun, friends and adventures.



Claudia Fernandes
President

We have the Halloween party event coming up at Pat and Dan's on October 31. Please let Pat know if you plan to attend. It's just \$5 to cover the gift for the best costumes, we will be providing some appetizers and wine that evening. Hope you are able to join in the fun.

This month the club members will be off to France on another wonderful travel adventure put together by Tucker and Kathy. So we will not be having a club meeting this month. Hope to see you at either the Halloween event or at our next club meeting in November. Enjoy your October adventures!

We did have a great turnout at our last club meeting, we provided appetizers for the evening and we will continue to subsidize our events for members and provide perks at meetings. We want to give back to you when you can attend our travels, our events and our meetings.

Have a happy Halloween  be safe take care and see you soon.

Claudia



SkiZette Policy

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE: 5th of the month

Articles submitted by this date will be included in the following month's newsletter .

Submit articles to:

Dennie Warren, Editor

email: dennieluuu1@gmail.com



Didn't get your newsletter? - Change of Address? -

PLEASE Contact Maggie Jong, VP Membership

email: mozoro25@gmail.com

SPORTING GOODS EXCHANGE

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

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

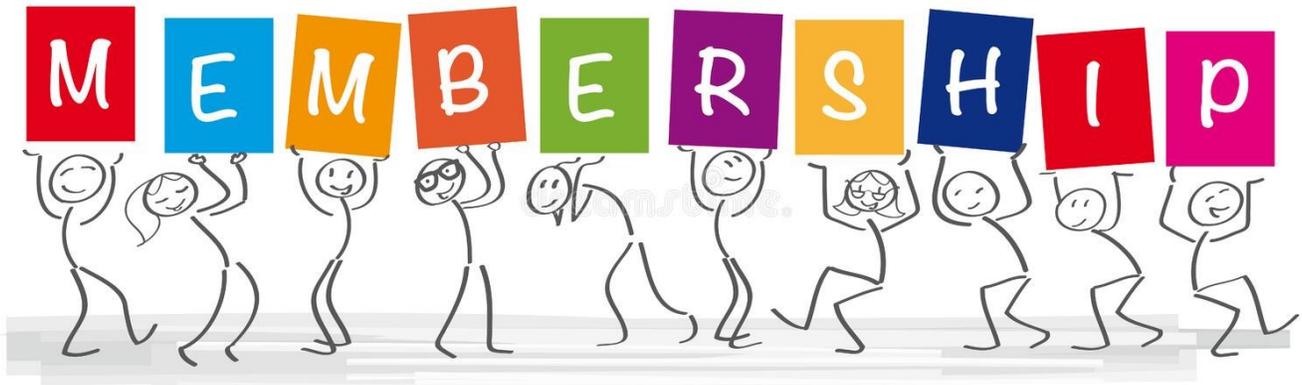
This also goes for winter/ski cabins that you'd like to offer for rent or are looking for same.... Let me know!!!!

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

GREENHOUSE MARKET-PLACE

Do you do lots of canning (fruit — jams/ jellies/preserves) and would like members to know about it — let me know & the word will go here!!!!

Are you blessed with culinary expertise (make pies, special desserts, etc) and would like to share?? Also, let me know!!!



FINAL CALL!

**CASTRO VALLEY SKI CLUB MEMBERS:
TIME IS RUNNING OUT!**

Get your renewal checks in by October 31 and save.

Dues received by October 31 are \$35 for the first person and \$15 for each additional person in the same household for renewing members with NO lapse in membership.

After October 31, renewing members pay \$50 for the first person and \$20 for each additional person in the same household.

All NEW members pay \$50 for the first person and \$20 for each additional person in the same household.

Make checks payable to the Castro Valley Ski Club.

Please send dues, membership application and signed waiver to:

Maggie Jong / VP Membership
2597 Wellingham Dr.
Livermore, CA 94551



cvskiclub.org

Membership Application

October 1, 2025 thru September 30, 2026

Member's Name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Family Members signing up in Same Household: _____ Relationship: _____ Birth Date: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Member's Phone No: (Home) _____ (Mobile) _____

Family Member's Phone No: (Home) _____ (Mobile) _____

E-mail Address: _____

*Please provide e-mail address to receive the club's newsletter CVSC SkiZette
OR*

Enter: "US Postal Service" to get the CVSC SkiZette by US mail

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Membership Dues: Yearly - October 1st thru September 30th

\$50.00 Primary Member / \$20.00 Each Additional Family Member in Same Household.

Discount: Membership Renewal discount if paid by October 31st with **No Lapse in Membership.**

\$35.00 Primary Member / \$15.00 Each Additional Family Member in Same Household.

Check # _____ / Date: _____ / Amt Paid: _____

- Interested in Volunteering as our Club is only as Strong as its Volunteers?
 Chair/Host Social Activity Committee Volunteer Phone Committee Other
- New Member; how did you hear about our club? _____
- New members joining after July 1st, membership is valid thru Sept. of the following year.

**YOU MUST READ AND SIGN THE WAIVER AGREEMENT OR YOUR APPLICATION
CANNOT BE ACCEPTED!**

Please send the membership application, the signed waver, and the dues to:
Maggie Jong, V.P. Membership
2597 Wellingham Drive, Livermore, CA 94551 / email: mozoro25@gmail.com
Make your check payable to the Castro Valley Ski Club.

RELEASE, WAIVER AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

In consideration of my being allowed to participate in CASTRO VALLEY SKI CLUB Events and Activities, I HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

I HEREBY ASSUME ALL RISKS INVOLVED IN MY PARTICIPATION IN CASTRO VALLEY SKI CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

I HEREBY RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Club members, its officers, participants, promoters, sanctioning organization or any subdivision thereof, owners and lessees of the premises used to conduct said events, and each of them, all for the purposes herein referred to as “release” from all liability to the undersigned, his/her personal representative, assignees, heirs, and next of kin for any and all loss or damage on account in injury (including death) or property.

I HEREBY AGREE TO INDEMNIFY, DEFEND, SAVE AND HOLD THE RELEASEES, AND EACH OF THEM, HARMLESS from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, liabilities and fees (including attorney’s fees), damage to personal property, personal injury or death that any of them may incur as a result of, or relating to my participation at any event, and whether caused by the negligence of releasees or otherwise, and whether such claims, losses, damages, liabilities and fees (including attorney’s fees) including any personal injury or death are brought against me or any of the releasees.

EACH OF THE UNDERSIGNED FURTHER EXPRESSLY AGREES that the foregoing release, waiver and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by law in the State/Province in which the event is conducted and that if any portion thereof is held invalid it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full force and effect.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAS READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNS THIS RELEASE, WAIVER AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT and further agrees no oral representations or inducements apart from the foregoing have been made.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE (ALL APPLICANTS MUST SIGN)
Parents or guardian must sign for those under 18 year of age.

(Signature) (Date)

(Signature) (Date)

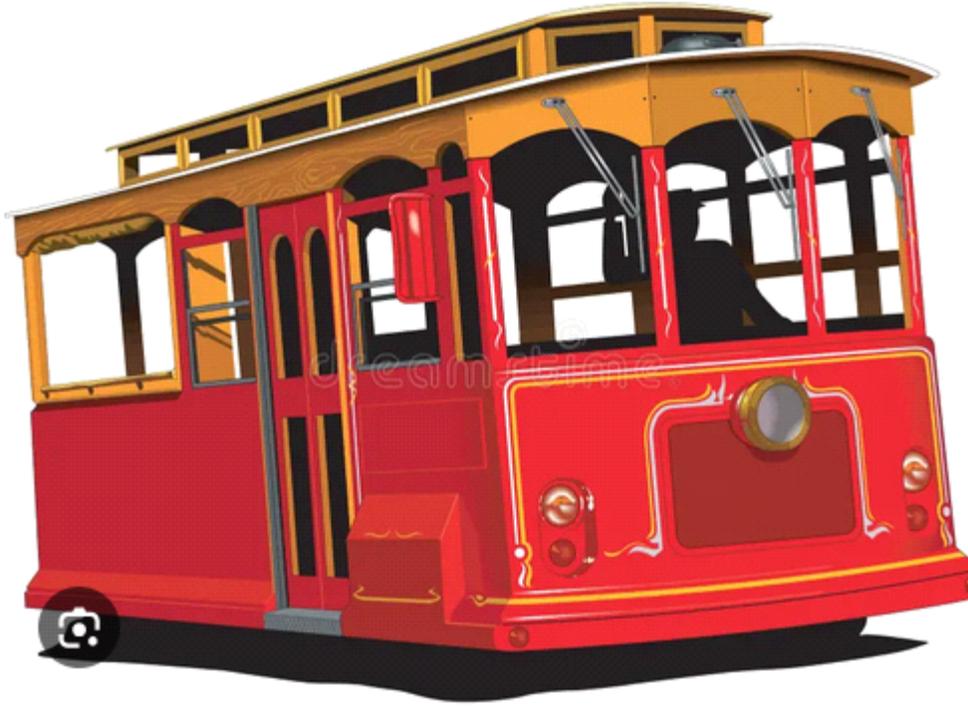
(Signature) (Date)

(Signature) (Date)

CVSC CHRISTMAS TROLLEY EVENT!

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Hosted by the CVSC at Anne Wilburn's home



Cost: \$38 for Members \$60 for Non-Members

The fun starts at **5 o'clock**

Heavy appetizers and wine provided

at

2389 Merlot Lane, Livermore, CA

The Trolley will pick everyone up at Anne's home at **7 o'clock**
to take us around to see all the Christmas lights.

Make checks payable to CVSC and send to Pat Green at

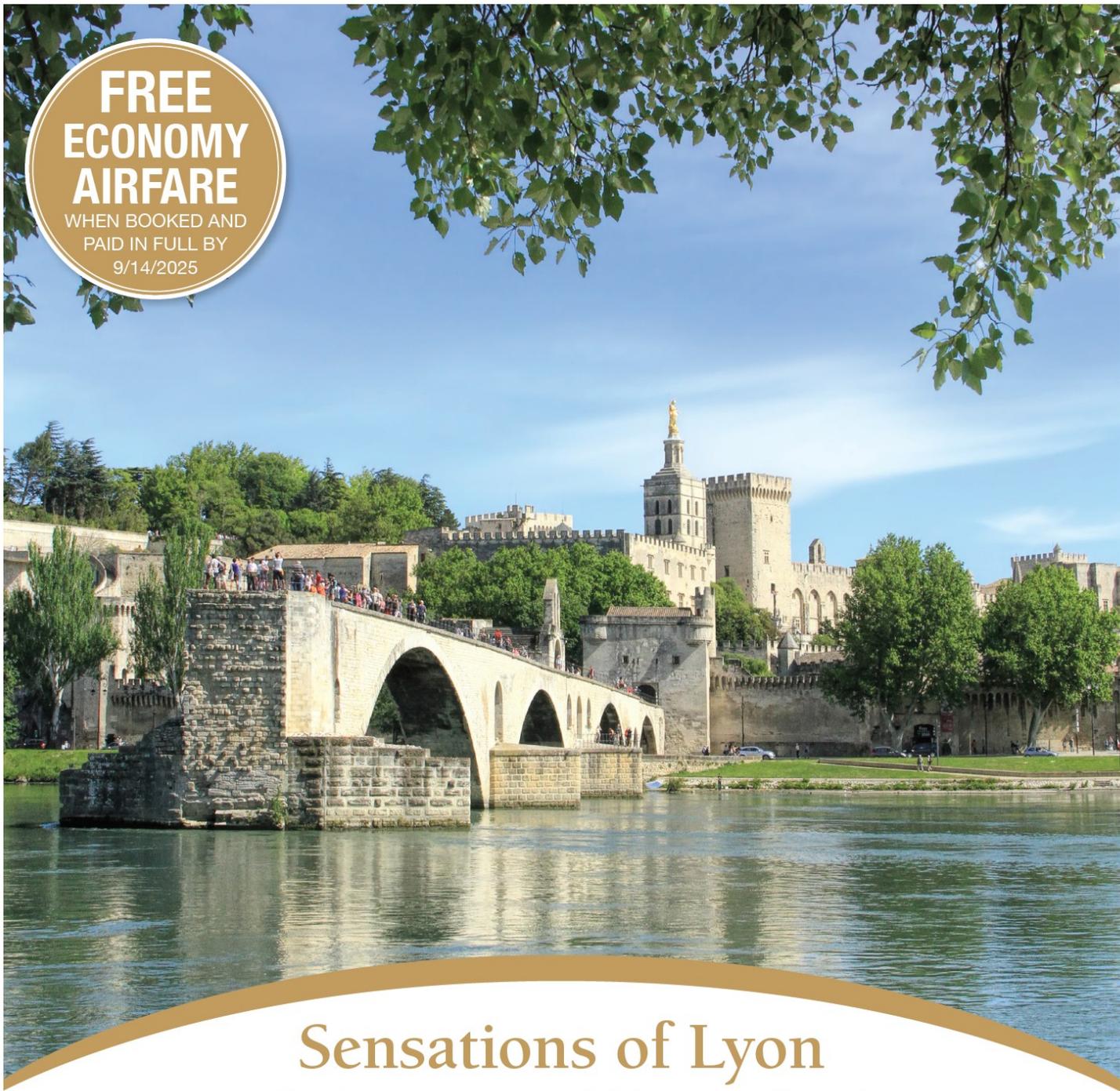
4655 Cope Ct, Pleasanton, CA 94566

Any questions? Call Pat at 925-846-7250

Please RSVP by November 26th

**FREE
ECONOMY
AIRFARE**

WHEN BOOKED AND
PAID IN FULL BY
9/14/2025



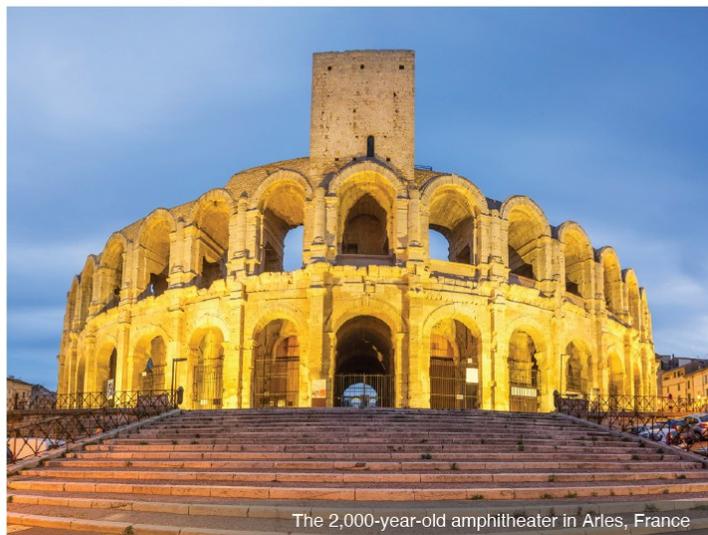
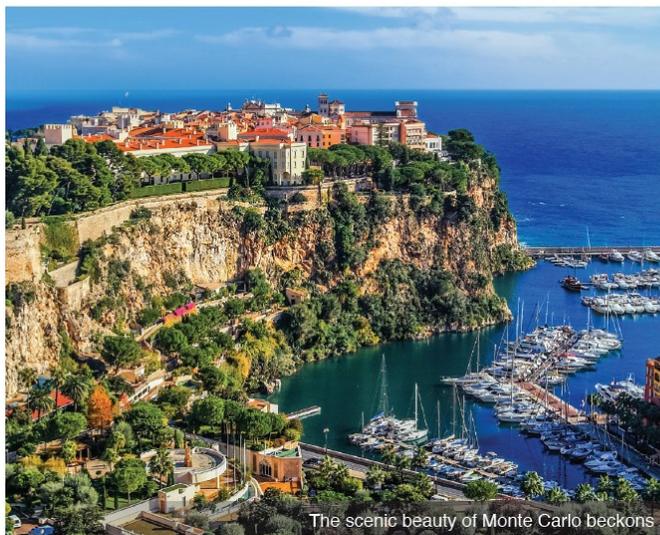
Sensations of Lyon and Provence River Cruise

Including a three-night hotel stay in Nice on the French Riviera

Departure Date: September 15, 2026



Sensations of Lyon and Provence River Cruise



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

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

DAY 3 Monte Carlo / Nice: Depart by coach for the principality of Monaco to visit Monte Carlo on the French Riviera. Home to the Grand Prix, location of numerous movies and playground of the rich and famous – you're sure to recognize its beautiful setting and famed casino. After an insightful tour and free time to explore, return to Nice for the remainder of the day at leisure.
Meal: B

DAY 4 Nice: The final day in Nice is left free of planned activities. A hospitality representative is at your service to help you plan your day in this vibrant city. **Meal: B**
DiscoverMORE: Saint Paul de Vence (additional expense)

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

DAY 6 Arles: The UNESCO World Heritage Site and Provençal town of Arles combines all of the region's charms. While strolling through the streets, medieval in character, with the local guide, you'll discover why the colorful houses were an inspiration to Vincent Van Gogh and other famous artists. Visit the 2,000-year-old Roman amphitheater which is still in use

today. This evening, a Provençal experience awaits as dinner is hosted by Top Chef finalist, Fabien Morreale. **Meals: B, L, D**
DiscoverMORE: Visit to L'Occitane Factory (additional expense)
DiscoverMORE: Excursion to Les Baux de Provence (additional expense)
EmeraldPLUS: Provençal dining experience onboard

DAY 7 Avignon: Avignon is one of the few French cities to have preserved its ramparts, historic center and churches. Classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is well known for the imposing Palace of the Popes. During your guided walk, see the famous ancient stone bridge, 'Pont d'Avignon', crossing the Rhône. Marvel at the ornate beauty of the Palace of the Popes and stroll through the historic center. **Meals: B, L, D**
EmeraldACTIVE: Canoeing excursion
DiscoverMORE: Excursion to Pont du Gard (additional expense)
DiscoverMORE: Visit to Chateauneuf du Pape with wine tasting (additional expense)
EmeraldPLUS: Classical concert in Avignon

DAY 8 Viviers: Arrive in Viviers, a town which still has Middle-Age flair. Join an included walking tour exploring the architectural heritage of this quaint town. **Meals: B, L, D**
DiscoverMORE: Visit to Chauvet Pont D'Arc (additional expense)

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



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

Meals: B, L, D

EmeraldACTIVE: Guided bike tour (instead of included city tour)

DiscoverMORE: Tour to Pérouges (additional expense)

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

EmeraldPLUS: Cheese and olive tasting onboard

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

Itinerary and vessel subject to change.

HOTEL AND CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Days 2 through 4 – Best Western Plus Hotel Massena or similar, Nice, France

Days 5 through 11 – Aboard the *Emerald Liberté*



Exceptional Inclusions

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



BAC CST# 2050870
FWSA CST#2034983-40



BAC 2026 FWSA Ski Week January 24-31, 2026

Lodging Options

Package Includes:

- 7-Nights Lodging
- Welcome Reception
- Giant Slalom Races
- BAC Council Dinner
- Farewell Banquet, Awards and Dance

Available:

See registration form for details

- Group Air
- Ground Transportation

Elevation Hotel www.elevationresort.com



Ski-in/out, spa, multiple bar/restaurants, close to base village bars/restaurants, hot tub/pool/steam room/sauna; a resort kitchenette with a microwave, under-counter refrigerator, sink, toaster, coffeemaker.

- 1 King or 2-Queen Beds - \$1,660 per person/double occupancy
- \$1,235 Single Supplement

The Grand Lodge Hotel www.skicb.com/Plan-Your-Trip/stay/details/The-Grand-Lodge-Crested-Butte-Hotel-and-Suites?location=50422320



200 yards to slopes; on-site dining, pool, hot tub and ski valet; across from main Transit Center to get free shuttle to town; Emmons Studio has king size bed and pull-down king size Murphy bed; kitchenette with microwave, one burner stove, dishwasher, sink, under-counter refrigerator, coffee pot, dishware, and utensils

- 1 King & 1 King Murphy Bed - \$1,525 per person/double occupancy
- \$1,100 Single Supplement



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



EPIC PASS Resort

<https://www.ski.com/season-passes-epic-pass?ls=12099>

Use this link to purchase your EPIC Pass and earn a \$50 lodging discount for purchasing the EPIC Pass and \$40 lodging discount for purchasing the EPIC Local pass. Both passes are good for unlimited access to Crested Butte and NO BLACKOUTS FOR EITHER PASS.

No Pass but need lift tickets – Purchase an EPIC 1-Day to 7-Day Ticket based on your needs

SEND YOUR \$500 DEPOSIT, PAYABLE TO BAY AREA COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS, TO RESERVE A SPOT

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



FOUNDED 1930



FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION MINI SKI TRIP February 22—27, 2026

Schweitzer Mtn., ID

Schweitzer Resort is in North Idaho and is a great destination for our FWSA Mini Ski trip. It has 2,900 acres of lift-served terrain, 92 trails, open bowls, chutes, groomers, and tree skiing. Top elevation is 6,400' and annual snowfall of 300". 4,350 acres of back-country terrain accessed by cat skiing.

We will be staying at Selkirk Lodge and Humbird Hotel, both ski-in/ski-out properties. Guests can drive to Sandpoint, ID, or fly to Spokane, WA and rent a car or take a shuttle to Schweitzer.

The mountain has something for everyone. They have 10% beginner runs, 40% intermediate runs, 35% advanced runs, and 15% expert runs.

Hope to see you at Schweitzer!

Sign up by October 1st for the Early Bird Discount

Included:

Five Night's Lodging
Welcome Activity
Farewell Event

Optional for Purchase:

3-day Lift Ticket—\$382
4-day Lift Ticket— \$510
80+ ski FREE

IKON PASS

Discounted Equipment Rental

Optional Activities:

- Nordic Trails
- Snow Shoeing
- Tubing
- Cat Skiing/Boarding
- Scenic Lift Ride to Summit
- Snowmobiling
- Night Skiing

Contact: Nancy Ellis – 530-414-8261 – FWSAtravelnancy@sbcglobal.net

Information & Signup: <http://fwsamini26SW.sat.tours>

FWSA CST #2036983-40



***BAC Mini-Ski Week to Sun Peaks Ski Resort, B.C. Canada:
IKON pass resort
February 22-27th, 2026***

Sun Peaks Resort has excellent annual snowfall & powder and the second most skiable acreage in all of Canada! Our BAC Council group has ski-in/ski-out hotel rooms at the Sun Peaks Lodge in the heart of the quaint & friendly village. Enjoy our Lodge's hot tub, sauna and steam room. Great après ski bars & restaurants nearby.

The Lodging/Amenities package at \$766 per person includes:

*5 nights hotel rooms: double occupancy: 2 Queens or King rooms Limited Single supplements

*Daily full buffet breakfast

*Welcome Reception & Group Dinner Event

Alaska Group Air available: SFO to Kelowna: \$402 per person

Ground Transportation from Kelowna Airport w/grocery stop-\$144 per person

Group Lift Tickets for Adults & Senior on Sports America site; IKON pass resort

ONLINE registration with Sports America via this link. Sign up with a \$300 deposit

http://bac_sunpeaks26.sat.tours/ Trip Leader: Gail Burns, BAC Trip

Coordinator: gailb3098@gmail.com 650 255-7883 BAC CST: #205-00870

FWSA 2026 Int'l Ski Trip to Chamonix, France



BASIC Ski Week – Chamonix, France February 28 – March 7, 2026

Group departs US Feb. 26, arrives in Geneva, Feb 27 & spend 1 night at a Geneva airport hotel.
Feb. 28th departs by bus to Chamonix and return to US from Geneva, France on Mar. 7, 2026
Group air details to be provided.

Ikon Pass holders will have access to the five resorts within Chamonix Mont-Blanc Valley



All Prices are based on an exchange rate of 1 Euro vs. \$1.15 USD & subject to change.

4-Star Lodging at the Hotel Alpina Eclectic Chamonix

Basic trip - starting price at \$2672

Prices will be based on double occupancy.

[air transp. sold separately.] Limited number of Single Supplements are available.

Chamonix is situated in the French Alps just north of Mont Blanc, the highest mountain in Western Europe. Between the peaks of the Aiguilles Rouges and the notable Aiguille du Midi, it borders both Switzerland and Italy. It is one of the oldest ski resorts in France, popular with alpinists and mountain enthusiasts.

Basic Lodging Package includes:

- Transfer between Geneva Airport and Geneva Hotel via Hotel Shuttle.
- One-night stay at the NH Geneva Airport Hotel
- Transfer between Geneva Airport Hotel via a private coach to Chamonix
- 7 night's accommodation at the 4* Hotel Alpina Eclectic Chamonix.
- Welcome/Orientation on February 28 with reps of Chamonix Tourism Board
- Daily Buffet Breakfast & 5 Dinners at the Hotel Alpina Eclectic Chamonix.
- Complimentary use of the hotel amenities, such as:
 - WIFI
 - Heated Ski Locker
 - Spa & Wellness Center
 - Includes one hour per night access to the jacuzzi, sauna, hammam, fitness room.
Please note that this free service is subject to availability, and that it is mandatory to book in advance since the number of people per slot is limited in order to ensure greater comfort.
- Après Ski & Farewell events – details to be provided.
- Optional day tour - details to be provided.
- All taxes, fees and resort fees included.



Opt. Extension Adventure Tour: Paris & Normandy

Starting on March 7, 2026

Prices will be based on double occupancy-Single supplement rooms are available.

Schedules are subject to change

Trip includes:

- 8 nights lodging – 4 nights in Paris, 3 nights in Normandy & 1 night at Paris CDG Airport Hotel
- English speaking tour escort/manager for entire tour
- Breakfast daily
- Day excursions to:
 - Paris: Île de la Cité & Le Marais, Notre-Dame Cathedral, Latin Quarter (Pantheon, Luxembourg Gardens), Sainte-Chapelle, the Conciergerie and more.
 - Normandy: Visit Claude Monet's House and Gardens at Giverny, D-Day Landing Beaches, (Omaha Beach, American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, Pointe du Hoc, Arromanches, D-Day Museum and more.
- Free Time to Explore
 - Stand Alone So. France ONLY (Excludes Chamonix ski week)
 - Contact Gloria Raminha for details and pricing.
 -



Make checks out to: **Far West Ski Association (FWSA)**. Please reference "FWSA 2026 Chamonix Int'l Trip" on each check.

For more information and payment details contact:

Gloria Raminha
FWSA VP of Int'l Travel
12707 Windy Ridge Dr.
Bakersfield, CA 93312
Garski2011@gmail.com
cell: 661/800-8229

State of California Seller of Travel # 2036983-40



Bay Area Snow Sports Council presents ...

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

Christmas Markets Along the Danube

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

8 days from **\$2,995**
River Cruise Tour only

9 days from **\$4,445**
with international airfare
from San Francisco



IT'S INCLUDED

- International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges, unless you choose to make your own air arrangements
- **Accommodations** for 7 nights aboard a private river ship with wireless Internet access in all common areas and cabins
- **20 meals:** 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 7 dinners—plus all onboard house beer & wine, as well as soft drinks
- **5 included tours** with personal headsets, **up to 5 Christmas markets**, and **6 Exclusive Discovery Series events**—Main-Danube Canal conversation • German language lesson • Regensburg choral concert • *Stollen* baking demonstration • *Christmas Traditions* conversation • Wachau Valley conversation
- **Local Program Directors, a Grand Circle Cruise Line exclusive:** These dedicated experts are with you and your group of 38-45 travelers from beginning to end to provide insider's knowledge and a local perspective
- **Gratuities** for local guides and motorcoach drivers
- **All port charges**
- **Baggage handling** for 1 piece of luggage per person, including tips
- **5% Frequent Traveler Credit** toward your next trip



Reservations & Information **1-800-221-2610**

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Departure **NOVEMBER 30, 2026**

Return **DECEMBER 8, 2026**

Day 1 • Depart U.S.

Day 2 • Vienna, Austria

Embark ship

Day 3 • Melk • Wachau Valley

Included Tour Melk Abbey

Day 4 • Linz

Optional Tour Salzburg

Day 5 • Passau, Germany

Included Tour Passau

Day 6-7 • Regensburg

Included Tour Regensburg

Day 8 • Nuremberg

Included Tour Nuremberg

Day 9 • Nuremberg • Return to U.S.

Disembark ship

MAXIMIZE YOUR DISCOVERIES & VALUE

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

all with FREE Single Supplements

Vienna, Austria

3 nights pre-trip from \$895

Munich, Germany

3 nights post-trip from \$945

PLEASE MENTION THIS CODE WHEN BOOKING

G6-29997

www.gct.com/xms

WHAT TO EXPECT

Group Size

- This trip has a group size of 38-45 travelers (with approximately 3-4 groups onboard) each with a local Program Director exclusive to Grand Circle

Pacing

- 9 days, with 7 nights aboard a private river ship
- Return flights to U.S. often require departing from ship in early morning hours

Physical Requirements

- Included features on your trip may consist of 3-4 hours of physical activity each day. Travelers should be able to walk 1-3 miles unassisted within a time frame of 1-2 hours, and walk on uneven surfaces, including steep and unpaved paths, hills, riverbanks, 25-50 stairs without handrails, and cobblestones, which can be slick in wet, colder or frozen conditions

- Optional activities and walks may be offered in addition to the above mentioned activity level
- Not accessible for travelers using wheelchairs or scooters
- Travelers using walkers, crutches, or other mobility aids must travel with a companion who can assist them throughout the trip
- We reserve the right for Program Directors to restrict participation, or in some circumstances send travelers home, if their limitations impact the group's experience

Terrain & Transportation

- Diverse terrain and uneven walking surfaces, including steep paths, hills, riverbanks, 25-60 stairs without handrails, and cobblestones
- Travel by 162-passenger river ship and 49-seat coach

- Changes in water-level depths may require adjustments to your itinerary
- Docking for the following locations may be up to 1 hour outside of the city center, with transportation to and from the ship by motorcoach: Regensburg, Germany; Nuremberg, Germany; Passau, Germany

Climate

- Daytime temperatures range from 38-45°F during cruising season
- Rain, ice, snow, and wind are possible during the holiday season

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 • Depart U.S.

Depart the U.S. today on your flight to Vienna, Austria.

DAY 2 • Vienna, Austria • Embark ship

You'll be met at the airport today and transferred to your private river ship. Mingle with your fellow travelers during dinner onboard this evening. If you began your discoveries early with our optional pre-trip extension to *Vienna, Austria*, you will join your main group today.

D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 3 • Melk • Wachau Valley discussion

After setting sail this morning, enjoy hot chocolate and relax onboard as your ship

cruises along the Wachau Valley. Your Program Director will provide enlightening commentary about this UNESCO World Heritage Site consisting of sculpted hills and medieval towns built along the river during an **Exclusive Discovery Series** discussion. Later, disembark in Melk for an excursion to the dramatic 900-year-old Baroque Melk Abbey.

B,L,D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 4 • Linz • Optional Salzburg tour

This morning the ship calls at the port of Linz. You have the day free to explore this Old World city. It offers a wealth of discoveries—from its Hauptplatz, one of the loveliest squares in Europe, to the 17th-century Abbey of St. Florian, where Linz's native son, Anton Bruckner, was the

organist and composed many of his famed masterpieces of church music.

Or, join us for an optional full-day tour of Salzburg, the Baroque city of Mozart. Savor hearty Austrian fare over lunch at a local restaurant. Tonight, celebrate the holidays with your fellow travelers at the Captain's Farewell Dinner.

B,L,D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 5 • Passau, Germany • German language lesson • German Christmas Traditions discussion

Begin the day with an **Exclusive Discovery Series** German language lesson, where you can learn some German phrases—such as, *Schöne Feiertage* (Happy Holidays)—commonly used during the Christmas season. In mid-morning, disembark to



Vienna, Austria

explore Passau on an included walking tour, which includes visits to St. Stephen's Cathedral and the Bishop's Residenz. After time to admire the remarkable artistry displayed at the festive Christmas handcrafts market, gather onboard for an **Exclusive Discovery Series** conversation on the history of German Christmas traditions, as your ship cruises along the picturesque Danube River to Passau.

B,L,D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 6 • Regensburg • Choral concert

Today, you'll arrive and dock around mid-morning in Regensburg, Germany's largest medieval city. Then, enjoy a walking tour of this hidden treasure. Since the city suffered no damage during World War II, it remains beautifully preserved. Your tour features the Old Town Hall, the famous Stone Bridge, Germany's oldest, and the Regensburg *Christkindlmarkt* (Christmas market) in

Neupfarrplatz. After dinner onboard, join us for an **Exclusive Discovery Series** event as we walk to a local church to hear a choral concert featuring festive holiday music.

B,L,D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 7 • Regensburg • Main-Danube Canal discussion • Stollen baking demonstration • Captain's Farewell Dinner

Enjoy a leisurely morning onboard today. Your cruise toward Nuremberg begins shortly after lunch. During the afternoon, you'll enjoy two **Exclusive Discovery Series**: a discussion outlining how the Main-Danube Canal's innovative system of locks has made Europe's rivers navigable, and a *Stollen* baking demonstration, where you'll learn how to prepare this traditional German bread made with fruit and nuts, and topped with powdered sugar.

B,L,D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 8 • Nuremberg

Your ship docks at Nuremberg quite early this morning. After breakfast, you disembark for a tour of Nuremberg, one of the most important cities of the Franconia region. Later, visit Nuremberg's famous *Christkindlmarkt* (Christmas market), where you have free time to browse on your own. This is Germany's most famous traditional Christmas market, and it is open throughout the holiday season.

B,L,D—M/S *River Aria* or M/S *River Adagio*

DAY 9 • Disembark ship • Return to U.S.

After breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for your flight home, or join the *Munich, Germany* post-trip extension.

B



Regensburg, Germany

Christmas Markets Along the Danube

Departure NOV 30, 2026
Return DEC 8, 2026

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C	Sonata	\$3,295
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 Best weather website for snow: Tahoeweatherdiscussion.com

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

Take a bus to the slopes: nacski.com & tahoeskitrrips.com
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SKIZETTE FOR OCTOBER, 2025



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