



BURKHALTER
TRAVEL

JUNE 2021

NEWSLETTER

TOUR
SPOTLIGHT

ICELAND
IS OPEN!

\$100 off
select tours
until June 4

WELCOME!

Dear Travelers,

We have missed you! It is been almost a year since we have published a newsletter, but with the vaccine rolling out, we are all ready to get back traveling again. What have you been dreaming about over this past year? Visiting some of our beautiful National Parks or the famous California Coast? Taking in the stunning fall colors of New England? Seeing the amazing natural wonders of Iceland? We have them all! Or if you can't decide, we have our 6th Annual European Mystery Tour....just pack your bag and we'll send you to a fascinating destination full of surprises. Make sure to also checkout our website as we have a lot of exciting destinations already on hold for 2022. After a year of staying home, we are all ready to hear that familiar little phrase, "Flight attendants, please prepare for takeoff."

-Burkhalter Travel



TOUR SPOTLIGHT

ICELAND IS OPEN!

September 29 - October 5, 2021

Have you been dreaming of getting on an airplane and flying off into the sunset? But with so many countries still closed to American tourists, where can you go? You are in luck because Iceland is open! Before the shutdown, Iceland was one of the hottest destinations for American tourists and this may be your chance to go! Currently, Americans only need to show a certificate of full vaccination against Covid-19 or a certificate of previous Covid-19 infection.

Waiting for you in Iceland is:

The Midnight Sun: Situated just below the Arctic Circle, Iceland experiences 24-hour of daylight from mid-May to late July. Want to hike or horseback ride at midnight....it can be done in Iceland.

The Northern Lights: because it sits just below the Arctic Circle, Iceland is the perfect spot for a chance to see the Northern Lights between September and mid-April.

The Geothermal Baths: Iceland has a long history of using geothermal energy as a source of power. And another advantage of Iceland's geothermal nature are the natural pools that can be found all around the country. Take a dip in these warm pools rumored to have healing powers.

The Year-Round Whale Watching: Home to over twenty species of whales, Iceland is Europe's whale watching capital.

The Glaciers: Known as The Land of Fire and Ice, 11% of Iceland's landmass is covered by glaciers. See them on a hike, on a snowmobile tour or even from the sky by helicopter.

The Volcanoes: Iceland exists because of volcanic eruptions and there are still active ones around the island. The Fagradalsfjall volcano started erupting on March 19 and has been going ever since.

The Mountains: The number of mountain ranges make this a hiker's paradise, with options varying in difficulty, length and height.

The Icelandic Horse: This special breed has played a key role in the cultural and historical development of the country.

The Waterfalls: You can see waterfalls in every shape and size. There is even one waterfall that you can walk behind.....an experience not to miss!

The Food: Because of its' location, Icelandic cuisine is based on the fresh seafood and what can be grown on the island. The result is fresh, natural ingredients that make up the New Icelandic Cuisine.

Burkhalter Travel has spots held on a 7-day tour departing September 29 to see all the highlights (call us to get a flyer), and hopefully the Northern Lights. But if you want to go this summer to experience the Midnight Sun, let us know and we can help plan the perfect Icelandic vacation!





AMERICA'S GREATEST TREASURES

July 22-31, 2021

Go west for an adventure from the "Mile High City" of Denver to the lofty peaks of the Grand Tetons. You'll experience the Wild West with its stunning vistas and historic lore, pass through the black hills of South Dakota where the legends of the frontier made their mark, and stand at the national monuments to presidents at Mount Rushmore. Follow the trail of pioneers and history-makers to Wyoming and the spectacular natural splendor of Yellowstone National Park. Your journey through the American West is a tale to be told for years to come.

\$2,009 per person

GERMAN GRANDEUR RIVER CRUISE

July 18-27, 2021

Have you dreamed of vineyards, quaint towns, European architecture and a relaxing adventure? This is the trip for you! Enjoy a river cruise on the Rhine and Main Rivers as you enjoy the beautiful scenery of Germany. Unpack once, but wake up to a new view every day....that is one of the highlights of river cruising! Strasbourg, Frankfurt, Würzburg.... this grand scenic cruise of Germany brings the beauty and charm of its cities and villages to life!

Starting at \$4,754 per person



FRENCH TREASURES RIVER CRUISE

July 19-27, 2021

Take a Wonderful journey through beautiful vistas of France along the Rhone and Saone Rivers with guided sight-seeing of well-known French treasures and some hidden gems too! Experience classic food, amazing architecture picture perfect views with visits to Lyon, Vienne, Tournon, Avignon and Arles. With Avalon Waterways, guided tours are included in every port.....it is time to get out and see France!

Starting at \$4,045 per person

HOLLAND & BELGIUM RIVER CRUISE

August 15-23, 2021

Explore Holland and Belgium in more ways than ever. Begin in Amsterdam and sail to Belgium, marvel at the artistry and natural beauty of the region. In Brussels, explore by bike, take a guided tour or walk the ancient streets and sample treats at a Belgian chocolate-making workshop. In Antwerp, discover centuries of history, take an architecture tour by bicycle through Rotterdam or create a classic Delft tile in a pottery workshop. With this Active and Discovery cruise by Avalon, you will see the world in a whole new way!

Starting at \$3,695 per person

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND FLING

August 25-September 4, 2021

Take a journey into the fabled land of adventure on this vacation to Scotland. From the elegant Georgian squares and 12th-century cathedral in Glasgow, to a full day of guided sightseeing in Edinburgh and a visit to Edinburgh Castle to see the Crown Jewels. You are sure to enjoy the landscape, legends and lore of this wonderful country.

\$2,919 per person

SOUTH AFRICAN SAFARI

September 1-12, 2021

Experience the culture, history, wildlife and beauty of four Southern Africa countries on this once-in-a-lifetime bucket list tour! Discover the historic city of Johannesburg and embark on safari adventures in Kruger and Chobe National Parks. Stand in awe at nature's supreme masterpiece, Victoria Falls, and relax onboard a spectacular sunrise cruise on the mighty Zambezi River.

\$8,199 with air included

RHINE & MOSELLE RIVER CRUISE

September 9-22, 2021

Europe in the fall....there is nothing better! Enjoy your river cruise along the Rhine and Moselle Rivers from Holland to Switzerland, exploring the scenic towns along the way. See the canals of Amsterdam, the vineyards of Breisach, the ancient ruins of Trier, the Black Forest and Heidelberg Castle. And best of all....Avalon Artistry II is your floating hotel. Unpack once but wake up to a new view each morning. The perfect way to see Europe!

Starting at \$5,935 per person



VISIT OUR WEBSITE
for a detailed brochure!
www.burkhaltertravel.com



CALIFORNIA CLASSICS

September 10-19, 2021

From the City by the Bay to the City of Angels, see the famous sights of California on this spectacular vacation. Enjoy the excitement and faster pace of San Francisco and Los Angeles, and take a deep breath and slow down in the areas of Napa Valley and Yosemite National Park. And no tour of California would be complete without a visit to the resort towns of Monterey, Carmel and Santa Barbara or the high-tech area of Silicon Valley. There is a little something for everyone on this exciting tour!

\$3,379 per person

HISTORIC TRAILS & BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

September 18-October 1, 2021

From colonial settlements and Civil War sites to the magnificent Blue Ridge Mountains and stunning Great Smoky Mountains, this southern U.S. tour features historic sites, spectacular scenery, and fun experiences all along the way. You'll overnight in the Washington DC area; Gettysburg; Shenandoah National Park; Beckley; Lexington, Kentucky; Gatlinburg; Asheville; Lexington, Virginia; and Williamsburg.

\$2,419 per person

EUROPEAN MYSTERY TOUR

September 20-29, 2021

What can we say??? Not a whole lot! Join host Mary Kay Harmon for our 6th Annual European Mystery Tour. Each country in Europe is fascinating and fun in its' own right and we are pleased to present a destination that will surprise and delight you. Where you are going may be a mystery, but rest assured, it is an exciting and safe destination. Forget about the planning, fussing over details and arrangements.....let go and let's go!

\$3,199 with air included, per person

NEW ENGLAND RAILS & SAILS

September 29-October 7, 2021

Tour New England by rail and sail during autumn's splendor by taking four exciting rail excursions and three fun-filled New England cruises. Also, travel the beautiful Kancamagus Highway through the White Mountains and spend two nights at Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino.

\$4,009 with air included, per person

BOURBONS, BRIDLES & BLUEGRASS

October 1-8, 2021

Intoxicating views await in bucolic horse country and the Great Smoky Mountains while elating experiences are just around the corner in the local distilleries, music, houses and grand southern estates. Whereas the sprawling Biltmore and Cheekwood Estates will give you a taste of the old South, the current "it" cities of Asheville, Nashville and Chattanooga will welcome you to the energy of the new South. **\$2,659 per person**

ITALY'S BEST

October 2-16, 2021

You've dreamed about Italy – its magnificent architecture, majestic cathedrals, ancient ruins, world-class art, sumptuous cuisine and wine and relaxing cafes – and now it is your time to experience it! On this classic Italy tour, explore its most famous cities and discover its unique sights as you overnight in Rome, Tuscany, Capri and the Venice area.

\$2,399 per person

ROMANTIC RHINE RIVER CRUISE

October 8-16, 2021

Join Burkhalter Travel Advisor Michelle Dent on one of Europe's most legendary rivers. Starting in Amsterdam, head south and enjoy stops in Cologne, Koblenz, Mainz, Strasbourg and Breisach. Excursions to the Black Forest and cruising the spectacular Rhine Gorge are just some of the highlights on this amazing Avalon river cruise.

\$4,750 with air included, per person

TREASURES OF THE PHARAOHS

October 21-30, 2021

Join Mary Kay Harmon as you experience ancient wonders, endless golden sands and atmospheric local souqs in Egypt. From the enigmatic aura of the Sphinx, to the imposing glory of the Pyramids, step into the Land of the Pharaohs and discover the exotic charms of evocative Egypt. Included is a 4 night cruise on the Nile River and an option for an extension to Jordan is available.

\$5,112 with air included, per person



Southern California Charms with Death Valley



BLUE DANUBE RIVER CRUISE

October 24-November 1, 2021

Experience this timeless European river cruise vacation with Avalon Waterways! Begin in vibrant Budapest, Hungary and sail along the Danube River with exciting stops in Austria and Germany, concluding in historic Nuremberg, Germany. With Avalon, you will enjoy larger staterooms, elegant design and upgraded amenities – all while enjoying the beautiful scenery.

\$3,395 per person

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHARMS WITH DEATH VALLEY

November 1-12, 2021

This laidback tour of Southern California explores popular getaways and more in the Golden State. Visit the 18th century mission in San Juan Capistrano, tour the Rat Pack's mid-century modern homes in Palm Springs, and taste today's perfectly aged reds and whites in the picturesque wine regions of Temecula and Paso Robles. You'll also feel the wind in your air on a Jeep tour through Joshua Tree National Park, the sand in your toes along San Diego's 70 miles of beaches, and your inner movie star emerge as you strut down Rodeo Drive.

\$4,189 per person

NATURAL WONDERS OF COSTA RICA

February 5-13, 2022

As you make your way through Costa Rica, lava trails, cloud forests and high-in-the-sky suspension bridges invite you to take a walk on the wild side while scenic boat rides, nature walks and natural hot springs beckon you to leisurely soak in the views.

\$2,269 per person

BEST OF THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

February 7-16, 2022

Enjoy the highlights of Maui, Hawaii and Oahu, including the black sand beaches, Pearl Harbor, Volcanoes National Park and a traditional luau. Plenty of free time will let you truly soak in the Island spirit. On this Hawaiian getaway, life's a beach!

\$3,783 per person



BE GREEN & READ IT ON THE SCREEN!

Did you know that you can receive this same great newsletter in digital form? Plus, it comes linked with all of our tour's detailed itineraries. Email tours@burkhaltertravel.com.

ALASKA IS WAITING FOR YOU!



After the global cruising suspension in 2020 and the closure of Canadian ports to cruise ships in 2021, the Alaska cruise season has been on hold for 2 years. Summer of 2022 is going to be a perfect opportunity to get back to the seas and visit our 49th state! And space is filling up fast!

Burkhalter Travel has secured special group pricing on a number of Holland America land and sea journeys for 2022. Do you want to see Denali? What about the Yukon? Or the glaciers of the Inside Passage? We have an option to cover you! Below are the departures we have special group pricing on.....call us to get a detailed flyer. But if these dates don't work with your schedule, no worries..... your Burkhalter Travel Advisor can help find the perfect cruise and land adventure for you at the best price!

Alaska's Best

June 16-26, 2022

Direct to Denali

June 22-July 3, 2022

Alaska Explorer Cruise

July 8-15, 2022

Alaska and the Yukon

July 6-July 20, 2022
and July 22-August 3, 2022

Denali Adventure

August 3-14, 2022



CHANGE IS IN THE AIR

While we have had to take a pause on group touring, we have been working on some changes here at Burkhalter Travel and Burkhalter Tours. The first change is our name....everything will now be under the name Burkhalter Travel. The second change is that we will be scaling back on our day tour offerings. While we have loved traveling Wisconsin and Illinois with our loyal day tour clients, we are going to be focusing more on our extended tour offerings. And we have a lot of exciting options available for the last half of 2021, 2022 and beyond!

The last big change for our group tour offerings is what is included in the pricing advertised. For the majority of tours listed in our newsletter and moving forward, airfare and a tour host traveling from Burkhalter Travel will not be included. Why did we make this change? So many guests have been making special requests when it comes to their airfare (extending their stay, upgraded seating, traveling with a specific airline) that we want to be able to accommodate those requests. Now when you book a group tour, your favorite Burkhalter Travel Advisor can discuss flight options, extensions and any other additions you would like to make to your tour. A few tours will still include air (such as the Mystery Tour) and your Travel Advisor can explain the inclusions. We are all ready to make your next travel adventure the best one yet!

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE

It has been a long year and we have all been itching to get out and see the world.....instead of just our living rooms! However, only you can decide when you are ready to get back out there. To help make that decision about when and where to start traveling, we have put together the most important COVID-19 travel information from reliable sources like the CDC and World Health Organization into one reliable resource called **Book with Confidence**.

Our Vacation Health and Safety Guide includes over 50 pages of tips and resources about every step of a trip and how to minimize the risks. This includes practical tips such as:

- Health supplies to bring with you
- Ranking the most effective mask types
- Finding nearby COVID-19 tests
- Best place to sit on an airplane
- Lowering risk at the beach and pool
- Entertainment venues to avoid

Our Vacation Health and Safety Checklist is a tool to help document all the health and safety protocols being undertaken to help protect you and your traveling party. Items include:

- Entry requirements at your destination (COVID-19 tests, proof of insurance, contract tracing app)
- What travel insurance generally covers & doesn't cover
- Where masks are required for guests and employees
- Are high touch surfaces being frequently disinfected
- Availability of services via no contact phone app
- What to do when you return home

These resources are available to all of our travelers, so when you are ready, your Burkhalter Travel Advisor is here to walk through the new requirements and help make the best vacation decision for you!



Unless noted, extended tours are land only and do not include the price of air or airport transfers. Your Burkhalter Travel Advisor can discuss flight options. To make a reservation or inquire about a specific tour, please contact your favorite Burkhalter Travel Advisor.

West - Burkhalter Travel

(608) 833-5200, (800) 556-9286
6501 Mineral Point Road
Madison, WI 53705

East - Burkhalter Travel

(608) 241-7500, (800) 414-7166
615A North Sherman Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

Fitchburg - Burkhalter Travel

(608) 441-0151, (888) 522-4269
3050 Cahill Main, Ste. 2
Fitchburg, WI 53711

Baraboo - Burkhalter Travel

(608) 356-4999, (800) 660-8359
141 Third Avenue
Baraboo, WI 53913

Stoughton - Chalet Travel

(608) 873-8133, (800) 733-6970
226 South Forest
Stoughton, WI 53589

Prairie du Sac - Travelog Travel

(608) 643-4599, (800) 242-8457
180 Washington Street
Prairie du Sac WI 53578

Brookfield - Olson Travel

(262) 782-0110, (800) 847-5921
200 S. Executive Drive Suite 101
Brookfield, WI 53005

Dubuque - Travel Headquarters

(563) 588-3456, (800) 383-0563
2095 John F. Kennedy Rd., Suite 1
Dubuque, IA 52002

EXTENDED TOURS CALENDAR

German Grandeur	July 18-27, 2021
French Treasures	July 19-27, 2021
America's Greatest Treasures	July 22-31, 2021
Holland & Belgium	August 15-23, 2021
Scottish Highland Fling	August 25-September 4, 2021
South African Safari	September 1-12, 2021
Rhine & Moselle	September 9-22, 2021
California Classics	September 10-19, 2021
Historic Trails & Blue Ridge Mountains	September 18-October 1, 2021
European Mystery Tour	September 20-29, 2021
Iceland	September 29-October 5, 2021
New England Rails & Sails	September 29-October 7, 2021
Bourbons, Bridles & Bluegrass	October 1-8, 2021
Italy's Best	October 2-16, 2021
Romantic Rhine	October 8-16, 2021
Treasures of the Pharaohs	October 21-30, 2021
Blue Danube	October 24-November 1, 2021
Southern California Charms	November 1-12, 2021
Natural Wonders of Costa Rica	February 5-13, 2022
Best of the Hawaiian Islands	February 7-16, 2022
Southern Charms	April 8-15, 2022
Best of Spain	May 13-22, 2022
Oberammergau's Passion Play	May 18-27, 2022
Emerald Isle	May 26-June 5, 2022
Alaska's Best	June 16-26, 2022
Direct to Denali	June 22-July 3, 2022
Alaska Explorer	July 8-15, 2022
Alaska & the Yukon	July 22-August 3, 2022
Denali Adventure	August 3-14, 2022



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