

Independent TRAVEL

SPRING FORWARD, FALL BACK!



AN AMERICA YEAR...

THERE are trends in travel just as there are in clothes, hairstyles and home interiors and at Travel by Design, we think that 2012 is going to be the year for America.

We have seen a return to travel to America in 2010 and 2011 and we have seen a further growth in bookings for 2012. As everyone knows, being such a large country, America is a year round destination and offers a huge variety of holidays and experiences.

Spring forward...

In early spring Florida becomes the playground for the 'Snowbirds', people from the North of the USA, often enduring a similar winter climate (if not worse!) to the UK, flock south to enjoy the warm sunshine of Florida. Miami is a stylish and glamorous city with some Caribbean and South American influences too and combined with the trendy hotels

of Ocean Drive and South Beach it's a great party city and haunt for celebrities. A great short break, but if you can stay a little longer, hiring a car and taking a trip to the Florida Keys, a string of small islands stretching over 100 miles, provides an amazing contrast with the laid back atmosphere and charming small shops, hotels and restaurants.

For beach lovers, the gulf coast of Florida offers beautiful white sand beaches, watersports and golf with luxury hotels.

Summer sun ...



Kristina Hulme
Managing Partner
Travel by Design

Whilst monsoons and hurricanes rage in the Far East, Indian Ocean and the Caribbean, America enjoys a perfect summer climate and has a huge array of choices for a summer holiday. California is the number one choice, and ideal for a fly drive holiday. Starting in San Francisco, which is a great city in its own right, it is also the start point for visits to the wine growing area of the Napa Valley, the Yosemite National Park, and the trendy towns of Carmel-by-the-Sea and Monterey.

South of San Francisco is the famous Pacific Coast Highway, one of the great drives of the world, en route to Los Angeles and the beaches of San Diego at the southern tip of California.

From Los Angeles is it a short flight to Las Vegas which is the gateway to the Grand Canyon a not-to-be-missed feature which can be reached by car, coach or even helicopter. For a very special experience, why not stay overnight in an authentic tipi or ranch cabin with cowboy style entertainment around the campfire.

For the ultimate dream holiday, America's 50th State - Hawaii - is a perfect destination. Most flights land at Honolulu on Oahu island famous for Waikiki beach with Pearl Harbour not far away. Kauai and Maui are two islands much favoured by honeymooners with wonderful hotels and beautiful beaches to explore. The 'big island' of Hawaii is a volcanic island, but still with amazing beaches and tropical forests showing nature at its most stunning. And the ultimate winter honeymoon? How about a few nights in San Francisco, a week on the beach in Hawaii, 3 nights fun and excitement in Las Vegas, finishing with a week skiing in Aspen.

Fall back ...

To experience the Fall season in New England is a must-see for many people and a fly drive visit is a perfect way to explore. Starting with the historic city of Boston, famous for such diverse things as the Tea Party of 1773 and Cheers Bar there is always plenty to see and do. From here it is easy to drive north to explore the lovely rugged coastline, or travel inland into the mountains to see the wonderful fall colours. Accommodation here is in small, historic inns, often owner run, so there is plenty of advice on where to find the best views, and on places to eat or shop.



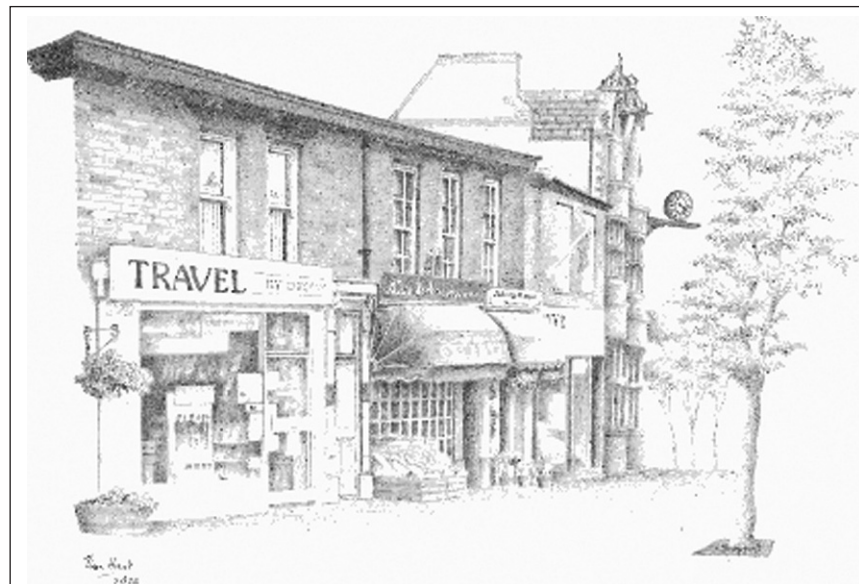
Winter fun ...

The end of the year is a wonderful time to visit the major cities of America. Washington and New York will be dressed for Christmas with an amazing atmosphere and great shopping. In Washington, there are many monuments to visit including The Capitol Building, George Washington's House, The Arlington Cemetery, the National Gallery of Art and of course, the White House. New York has the iconic Central Park, Times Square, the Statue of Liberty, and of course Macy's department store. For a city break with sunshine, we

recommend you head to Miami in Florida ... which is where we started 'Our America Year'!

Travel by Design have been a specialist agent to the USA for nearly 20 years, and can book all your holiday arrangements, whether it is an independent fly drive or a full coach tour. Our little black book (now three large files!) of customer feedback and recommendations is full of helpful tips to ensure a fabulous holiday, so come and see us with your ideas.

Phone us on 01625 584195 or email to info@travelbydesigngroup.com



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