



# FACTS, FADS & FUN STUFF

## 20th-Century Express

If you can't come to the exhibit, the exhibit will come to you. The U.S. Postal Service's "Celebrate The Century Express" rolls out from Tampa, Florida, throughout the United States now through fall 2000. The four-car train, which includes a renovated Railway Post Office car, will travel to about 100 cities in more than 40 U.S. states. The "Celebrate The Century" exhibit car commemorates each decade of the 20th century through stamps as well as colorful multimedia displays on sports stars, movie greats, and moments in history and science. Featured categories include People and Events, Arts and Entertainment, Sports, Science and Technology, and Lifestyle. For more information on this free exhibit, visit its

Web site, [www.usps.com/etc](http://www.usps.com/etc).

—Angela Hurley



## Style

### Shades of Fashion

Buying sunglasses for summer? According to Eric Schumann, executive vice president and general manager for Sunglass Hut North American, the following are some of the top trends made for the shade for this year:

**Mixed Media**—Gone are the days of simple plastic frames and lenses. Today's trendy materials combine metals and rubber, plastic and metal, and mixed tonal (monochromatic) colors, such as chocolate frames with tan lenses and navy with cobalt. The Maui Jim Kahuna shades (middle) marries gray (*monel*) metal frames with

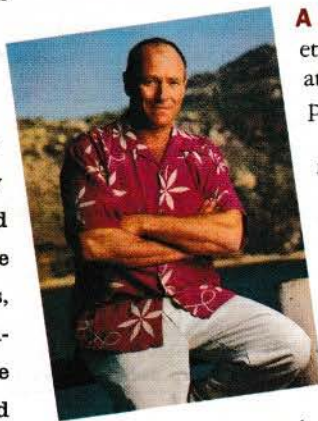
plastic gray and black tortoise earpieces. (Suggested retail: \$228.99.)

**Sport Tech**—The latest sports shades are technically designed for specific athletes but with street savvy fashion appeal. Polarized lenses are all the rage. Special safety with polycarbonate lenses are shock-resistant but fashion right. Check out Bollé's interchangeable tennis shades (right). (Suggested retail: \$220.)

**Crystal Color**—One thing is perfectly clear this year—crystalline color lenses in blue, peach, yellow, brown, or green are where

it's at. Their stylishly sheer tints create a luminescent effect that's easy on the eye for wearers and watchers. See the Ray-Ban High Street rectangles (left). (Suggested retail: \$139.99.)

**Fashion Aviator**—A fashion horse from way back when, today's aviators are an adaptation of the classic style, but in more sophisticated tones. They come in gunmetal frames with gray lenses, chrome frames and flash mirror lenses, and gold frames with brown lenses, to mention a few. Ray-Ban's classic aviator style retails for a suggested \$105.



**A League of His Own** Corbin Bernsen has played a variety of roles during his acting career—from an overconfident attorney on television's *L.A. Law* to a professional baseball player in the movie *Major League*.

Bernsen's most recent role, however, is that of spokesman for RCI's new Vacation Sales Video. "I won't do anything I don't believe in," explains the 44-year-old father of four. "Timeshare is a great way of owning a piece of something without the risk and maintenance of owning (the whole thing)."

Bernsen and his wife, actress Amanda Pays, enjoy vacationing in secluded spots like Hawaii's Kona Village. "What I like about it is that there is absolutely nothing there—no phones, no faxes, no hassles," he says.

Escaping the spotlight isn't always easy for the accomplished actor and playwright, but Bernsen somehow finds a way to effectively comply with eager autograph seekers while spending quality time with his family. "If you go to a place like Disney World, you just have to accept it," he says. "But I don't like it when people come up while I'm eating dinner with my family. I don't want my kids to get a false sense of who I am." —Greg Seiter

## Fact

According to research posted on the Sunglass Hut International Web site, young eyes require extra protection. Eyes of children younger than 14 are three times more vulnerable to ultraviolet damage from the sun than an adult's.

## Fact

If an airline misplaces your luggage during a flight, ask if the airline will reimburse you for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (for toiletries or other emergency items) incurred while waiting for your bags to be delivered to your resort. Some airlines will pay up to \$50 for each day you are without your luggage.





## High and Mighty

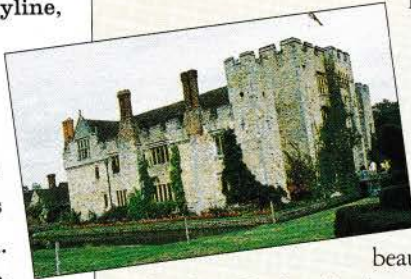
If you're still ushering in the millennium with a bold enthusiasm, heart-racing thrills await you in Ohio. Towering above the Sandusky skyline, Cedar Point's newest roller coaster, Millennium Force, makes its presence known.

The coaster's record-breaking height of 310 feet surpasses that of the Statue of Liberty and the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. The ride makes innovative use of a recently designed elevator cable system to carry passengers, enabling a smoother and quicker ride to the 310-foot hill. The coaster then plunges its riders 300 feet down at an 80-degree angle. Millennium Force is not only the world's tallest roller coaster, it's also the fastest at 92 mph. Cedar Point Amusement Park/Resort opens its 2000 season May 13. For details, call (419) 627-2350 or visit [www.cedarpoint.com](http://www.cedarpoint.com).

—Angela Hurley

## Out There Castle Day-Tripping

Veer off the beaten path on your next London sojourn and head for Hever, a tiny hamlet outside London, which is home to one of England's most charming castles, little known stateside. For history lovers, Hever Castle's most famous occupant was Anne Boleyn, who grew up here before losing her heart and head to Henry VIII. More recent times found Hever in the hands of American expat William Waldorf Astor, who restored the castle and added a medieval village, which accommodated guests attending his lavish parties at the turn of the 20th century. Astor is also responsible for the beautiful gardens, including the Rose Garden and Italian Garden that houses a collection of statuary.



Hever Castle is located about 30 miles southeast of London in Kent. The castle and gardens are open daily, March 1 through Nov. 30; the gardens open at 11 a.m., the castle at noon. Admission fees are about \$12 for adults and about \$7 for those aged 5-14, and children younger than 5 are admitted for free. Private guided tours are available for groups; prebooking is essential. For details, call (44) (1732) 865224 or visit [www.hevercastle.co.uk](http://www.hevercastle.co.uk).

—Helen W. O'Guinn



## [www.trailmaps.com](http://www.trailmaps.com)

Hike to new heights with TrailMaps.com, the Internet's most comprehensive hiking site that leads to more than 4,000 hikes in Washington, Oregon, California, Colorado, and Montana. Just select the desired season, length, and elevation of hike, and any special features you'll need, such as camping facilities or access for those with disabilities, and the database will find the appropriate trail for any skill level. More states will be added later this year. The site also features hiking stories, forums, photos, events, trail maps, a national parks directory, a hike-of-the-week feature, and a boot-fitting guide.

## Fact

An RCI-affiliated property, Divi Tiara Beach Resort in Cayman Brac, Cayman Islands, was named one of the top 10 dive resorts in the world by readers of *Rodale's Scuba Diving* magazine in its 1999 Readers' Choice Awards.



## Figuratively Speaking

- Combined national average of leisure cost for airfares, car rentals, and lodging during January 2000, according to the American Automobile Association Leisure Travel Index: \$382.61 (up 77 cents from December 1999)
- Amount of money, per day, that is exchanged in the world's currency markets: more than \$1.5 trillion
- Percentage of U.S. vacationers who traveled domestically by air in the last 12 months, according to a 1999 Simmons Market Research Bureau survey: 26.9
- Percentage of *Endless Vacation* magazine readers who traveled domestically by air in the last 12 months, according to the same survey: 66.4



## Displaying da Vinci

Nestled in the heart of downtown Victoria, the Royal British Columbia Museum offers

a wealth of opportunities to discover cultures, learn about the rich history of Canada, and view authentic and eye-catching exhibits. This year's splash—the "Leonardo da Vinci: Scientist, Inventor, Artist" exhibition—makes its only Canadian stop in Victoria, now through Feb. 28, 1999. More than 230 paintings, sketches (including his circa 1510 anatomical studies of the neck and shoulder muscles, right), and models will be featured as well as CD-ROM stations, where museum visitors can view da Vinci's designs. The exhibit also features the only two sculptures attributed to da Vinci. To make the experience even more realistic, da Vinci impersonators stroll through the exhibit.

The city of Victoria is getting behind the exhibition, too, as local restaurants



add Italian flair to their menus. One restaurant, Il Terrazzo, is featuring cuisine from the Italian Renaissance period, including wild boar. In keeping with an authentic menu, chef Joseph Wiewer is also creating vintage veggie edibles, as da Vinci was a vegetarian.

For details on the exhibit or special Leonardo da Vinci accommodations and restaurant packages, call (800) 663-3883. For tickets only, call (888) 447-7977. Or visit the museum's Internet site, <http://rbcml.rbcm.gov.bc.ca>.

—Angela Hurley

## Western Web

If you've got a hankerin' to explore the world of Western art and culture, stop by The Autry Museum of Western Heritage's Internet site at [www.autry-museum.org](http://www.autry-museum.org). The attractive and easy-to-use site provides photographs of Western artifacts, paintings, and sculptures, complemented

by informative captions. Banners display upcoming exhibit information—helpful for those planning to travel to the Los Angeles area.



(Left) © Royal British Columbia Museum • (Right) © Autry Museum of Western Heritage

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# FACTS, FADS & FUN STUFF

## Power Train

Faster than a speed-  
ing bullet—Amtrak's  
new high-speed train  
makes its debut at the  
end of this year.

Dubbed Acela (ah-cel-  
la) Express, the train's  
name is a combination  
of "acceleration" and  
"excellence"—two  
properties it has in  
abundance. This swift  
service will be imple-  
mented in Amtrak's  
Northeast Corridor,  
the train line's busiest  
travel region.

Traveling at 150 mph,  
the anticipated Acela  
Express will shave 90  
minutes off the cur-  
rent rail time between  
New York and Boston.

Fluid design and  
track curve modifica-  
tion will enable the  
train to glide with  
more ease. Electrical  
outlets aboard will be  
convenient for busi-  
ness travelers as well.

Proposals for addi-  
tional high-speed  
trains are

already in the  
works for the  
Gulf Coast,  
Southeast, Great  
Lakes, Pacific  
Northwest,

and California.

—Angela Hurley

## Style The Comfort Zone

These shoes were made for walkin' and that's just what they'll do...and if you're in the market for some sole-soothing support, you're in luck when you step up to these popular kicks available nationwide at athletic and specialty walking shoe stores, such as The Walking Company. —Jami Stall



A tradition in footwear that stands up to the test of time, these German-made shoes have been in existence for some 200 years. The über-shoe for comfort and nearly indestructible design, Birkenstock's sturdy sole support is the famed feature. Birkenstock Milano two-buckle backstrap (nubuck cocoa), \$94.95



A longtime pride of chefs, surgeons, nurses, and other professionals who spend a lot of time on their feet, the Dansko name has spread to the general public. Sassy clogs sport a stylish buckle strap that swings back as an adjustable ankle strap. Dansko Ingrid Bucklestrap clogs (black), \$96.95



Mephisto is a top name in walking shoes today, and for good reason. Handmade in France, each pair takes three weeks to create. Styling aside, Mephistos sell for their durability. Appreciated by both sexes, Mephistos feature an air bag system for the heels, air-cushioned latex foam midsoles, orthopedic footbeds, and removable (washable) insoles. Mephisto Holiday women's shoe (taupe), \$250. Mephisto Dribbler men's shoe (mustang), \$260

Made in Denmark, Ecco shoes are comfort plus. Prized for its extensive heel pad, the New Mobile Walker sports a unique "shock point" shock absorber visible on the sole and a forgiving "flexzone" under the toes that's willing to bend. Ecco New Mobile Walker (sand), \$124.95.

**More than Marco Polo** Plunge into uncharted pool territory with a Klutz Guide's Swimming Pool Games: All the Rules, All the Classics. The accordion-folded guide provides 10 pages of ideas for pool games for two or more players and is laminated for durable poolside refereeing.

The guide lists the classics, such as Marco Polo and chicken fights, and includes several new ideas, too, such as basketball using a bucket and tennis ball. Now the kids will know the rules before arguing with the ref.

Another new laminated Klutz guide, Glove Compartment Science, provides backseat laboratory fun on the road. Others in the series that are useful for vacationing families: Backyard Stars: A Guide for Home and the Road, Glove Compartment Scavenger Hunt, and Glove Compartment Games. Klutz laminated guides are \$5 and available in bookstores. For a catalog, visit [www.klutz.com](http://www.klutz.com). —Laurie D. Borman



## Fact

Nearly half the 1,200 golf course superintendents surveyed by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America say many amateur golfers cheat. Thirty percent of those surveyed believed at least one-fourth to one-half of golfers like to bend the rules of the game, while 18 percent of the superintendents said at least three out of four golfers do.

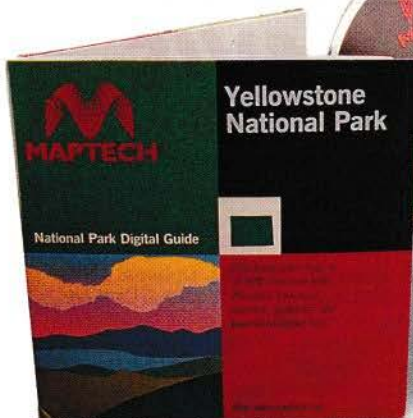




## A Whale of a Time

For those of you following the saga of Keiko (the killer whale of *Free Willy* fame), here's your chance to see his progress in person. Oceanic Society Expeditions, (415) 441-1106 or (800) 326-7491, will take vacationers to visit Keiko at his home in the Westmann Islands, Iceland. The 10-day adventure, May 30 through June 9, will be led by Dave Phillips, founder of the Free Willy Keiko Foundation, and will also include whale-watching off the coast of Iceland and other day-trips. Prices begin at \$2,940 and include airfare from New York or Minneapolis and accommodations.

—Allison Ahearn



## Road Test

## All-American Summer Cruisers: Convertibles

Sport-utility vehicles may let you bring it all with you, but what if you want to escape the daily grind? Top down, radio blasting, carefree convertible cruising is an all-American summer vacation ritual. To celebrate long patriotic holiday weekends, here are some favorite American-made getaway cars. —Patrick Paternie



**Chrysler Sebring**

Queen of the rental fleets reigns as best selling U.S. ragtop. Roomy, upscale interior. Big trunk. Luxury cruiser looks and manners. Strangle-free seatbelt entry to backseat. Body flexes on bumpy roads.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 168 hp, V-6; Mileage: 19/29; Price: \$26,820*



**Chevrolet Camaro**

Best Camaro ever—could be the last edition. Best combo of looks, handling, and performance. V-6 has good power; order Z-28 V-8 for ultimate muscle car. Short but deep trunk holds large suitcases. Backseat passenger straddles intrusive floor hump. Monsoon stereo a "must" option.

*Drive wheels: rear; Engine: 200 hp, V-6; Mileage: 19/29; Price: \$24,771*



**Ford Mustang**

Crisp new styling. Your high school dreamboat is 35 years old but still rockin' and rollin'. Snug interior. Trunk space rewards creative packers. V-6 adequate, but corral the V-8 GT model.

*Drive wheels: rear; Engine: 190 hp, V-6; Mileage: 20/27; Price: \$22,410*



**Chevrolet Corvette**

Ferrari performance at a domestic price. Manual top. Chevy added a real trunk and eliminated the body's creaks and groans; now quality and refinement finally match performance. Too late for Tod and Buz to get their kicks on Route 66, but now it's your turn.

*Drive wheels: rear; Engine: 345 hp, V-8; Mileage: 17/24; Price: \$44,999*



**Dodge Viper RT/10**

America's bad boy is rude, crude, and cramped. The roof is literally a ragtop. Your briefcase is your luggage. Who cares? You're giggling and grinning too much. It's the fastest, most fun way to get from point A to point B, straight line or not. The ultimate American convertible. (6-speed manual only)

*Drive wheels: rear; Engine: 450 hp, V-10; Mileage: 12/21; Price: \$66,425*

*(Prices are for comparably equipped vehicles with automatic transmission. Prices include destination and delivery charges.)*

**Picnic Basket not Included** If you've ever wanted to scout a national park like a park ranger, here's your chance. With an increasing number of vacationers turning to the great outdoors, Maptech has introduced a National Park Digital Guide CD-ROM for each of the 54 national parks. This specialized guide not only provides extensive park information, it enables hikers to customize and print their own topographic map of the park and plan a trail strategy. Great details about park services, regulations, climate, and accommodations make everyone a happy camper. Individual park guides cost \$29.50, and regional sets cost \$69.50. Or you can purchase a complete set of all 54 parks for \$179.50. For more information, call Maptech, (603) 433-8500 or (800) 627-7236, or visit [www.maptech.com](http://www.maptech.com).

—Angela Hurley

## Fact

Don't blame the winds that blow off Lake Michigan for Chicago's nickname, "The Windy City." The term was coined in 1883 by a visiting reporter who wrote about how Chicagoans couldn't stop bragging about their city during the World's Columbian Exposition.









## Kennedy Legacy

For a peek into the life of the 35th U.S. president, visit the Florida International Museum in St. Petersburg for "John F. Kennedy: The Exhibition," Nov. 12 though May 29. More than 500 items—from his christening ring to the watch he wore at his inauguration—will be on display, drawn from the world's largest private collection of Kennedy artifacts. The museum's permanent Kennedy exhibit is slated to open in fall 2000. Ticket prices are \$13.95, adults; \$12.95, seniors and military personnel; \$7.95, college students; and \$5.95, those aged 6-18. For details, call (727) 822-3693 or (877) JFK-SHOW, or visit [www.floridamuseum.org](http://www.floridamuseum.org).

## Road Test

# The New Sporty Station Wagons

Go figure! Suddenly station wagons are cool again. Left behind are the woodgrain exteriors and the image of Chevy Chase leading the Griswold clan on a cross-country pilgrimage to Wally World. The new breed of sport wagons can carry as much gear as many SUVs without the excess baggage of social guilt about being a gas-guzzling road hog. Plus they're more fun to drive. Sophisticated styling draws admiring glances at stoplights. Something that never happens to minivan drivers.

—Patrick Paternie



**Saab 9-5 Wagon**

Saab still drives to the beat of a different drummer with an ignition key between the front seats and options like doggie seat belts and traveling gear. The cavernous interior also holds plenty of people and their cargo with the option of a roll out rear floor for easy loading. Sports car handling in a comfortable cross-country cruiser. Acceleration is sluggish until turbo kicks in, but overall this is one of the best wagons available.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 2.3-liter, 170 hp light pressure turbocharged, 4-cylinder; Mileage: 21/30 (manual); Price: \$33,150*



**Saturn LW2 Wagon**

A new midsize car (L series) from the people who removed the annoyance of price negotiating from the showroom and replaced it with an almost as annoying cultlike enthusiasm. Pleasant styling and a spacious interior are worthy of that enthusiasm. The optional V-6 is quick but not fast. Like the compact (S series) Saturn, plastic exterior body parts should protect against rust and parking lot damage. A hassle-free travel companion but not as exciting or adventurous as the other wagons.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 3.0-liter, 182 hp, V-6; Mileage: 20/26; Price: \$21,360*



**Subaru Outback Limited Wagon**

A sporty tourer with upscale looks at a family price that includes heated leather seats, dual sunroofs, and a sophisticated four-wheel-drive system. Underneath the glitz, it's still the rugged, basic Subaru that has earned the respect of drivers in extreme weather areas. Would benefit from more power and removal of vision-impairing center rear headrest. Great for ski trips.

*Drive wheels: all; Engine: 2.5-liter, 165 hp, 4-cylinder; Mileage: 22/27; Price: \$27,390*



**Volkswagen Passat GLS Wagon**

This one even impressed Beverly Hills parking valets. Quality workmanship and a low price with a long list of standard equipment including traction control, antilock braking system, tilt wheel, and side air bags. Room for five and their stuff in back. The optional 5-speed Tiptronic automatic (shifts like a Porsche) is an additional \$1,075. Sporty ride but can be noisy on freeways. Buy one before Volkswagen realizes what a bargain it is.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 1.8-liter, 150 hp turbocharged, 4-cylinder; Mileage: 23/32 (manual); Price: \$22,275*

*Prices include destination and delivery charges.*



**A Good Start** If you've ever been stranded waiting for someone to help you charge a drained car battery, you know what a hassle it is to find a pay phone or to flag down assistance. Imagine that scenario on vacation 1,000 miles from home.

StartMeUp, a new roadside assistance product from Future Labs and Polaroid, allows you to conveniently recharge your battery from inside the car. The palm-size jump-start plugs directly into your cigarette lighter or auxiliary outlet and replenishes your battery's charge in about five minutes. Not only is the nontoxic product safe for your car's electrical system but it is also designed for one-time use and is easily disposable. The cost for a handy StartMeUp charger is just \$19.95.

You can order the product by calling (888) START-ME or by visiting the Web site, [www.startmeup.com](http://www.startmeup.com).

—A.H.

## Fact

Caesars Indiana's riverboat casino, *Glory of Rome*, is the world's largest gaming vessel, according to *The Guinness Book of Records*.







## Travelin' Tots

Planning a big trip this year but worried about how to keep junior occupied?

Parents can find many helpful travel tips in Family Travel Forum's (FTF) "Tiny Travelers" newsletter.

From properly prepacking a car for safe travel to the best bets for travel books and toys, the newsletter gives helpful hints for vacationing with your little one.

"Tiny Travelers" also promotes hotels, resorts, and cruise lines with kid-friendly programs and activities. To purchase copies of the newsletter (\$6 per issue) or to join Family Travel Forum (\$48 per year), you can visit [www.familytravelforum.com](http://www.familytravelforum.com) or call (212) 665-6124 or (888) FT-FORUM.

—A.H.



## Tip

If your personal car insurance policy does not cover rental cars, you may be covered by your credit card. American Express recommends that travelers ensure their credit card covers rental cars. If so, rent the car with that card and decline the rental company's collision damage waiver, which can cost more than \$15 per day.

## Road Test Freeway Flyers

Back in the '50s when Americans began cruising the new interstate highway system to "see the U.S.A. in a Chevrolet" or similar roomy, family-size domestic sedans, futurists were predicting that by 2000, we'd be rocket-hopping to our favorite vacation spots. Well, the interstate is still the nation's vacation highway. And the countdown to family rocket launches has yet to begin. But, after all these years, Detroit has applied a bit of "rocket science" to bring the full-size sedan into the next millennium. —Patrick Paternie



**Buick LeSabre**

This best-seller among full-size cars was updated midyear with fresh styling, side airbags, stiffer chassis, and new rear suspension. Performance, ride, and handling are a good compromise between luxury and performance. New interior features improved controls and a clean modern appearance. Should appeal to both dads and granddads.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 205 hp, V-6; Mileage: 19/30; Price: \$22,890*



**Chevrolet Impala**

Nostalgic name with modern amenities such as four-wheel disc brakes, antilock braking system, traction control, and side airbags. Interior space and trunk capacity will remind you of the original Impala. Handling, thankfully, won't. Too bad styling is generic Japanese.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 200 hp, V-6; Mileage: 20/29; Price: \$22,365*



**Chrysler Concorde**

Handsome, futuristic styling. Extra roomy backseat. Huge trunk with fold-down rear seatback. Good value but may not maintain quality over long-term. For about \$30,000, the Chrysler 300M lets you share sports car performance and leather-lined comfort with the entire family.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 200 hp, V-6; Mileage: 21/30; Price: \$21,565*



**Ford Crown Victoria**

Traditional rear-drive and V-8 engine hurt fuel mileage compared to others in this class. Easy entry/exit. Plenty of interior space. Over-boosted power steering and soft suspension hark back to flabby-handling highway cruisers of the past. Leave this one for the diehards and highway patrol fleet buyers.

*Drive wheels: rear; Engine: 200 hp, V-8; Mileage: 17/24; Price: \$22,005*



**Pontiac Bonneville SE**

Baroque exterior styling gets worse as you move up the model range. Confusing controls and too many gimmicks make the dash and interior annoying. Five's a crowd inside. Redeeming quality is a powerful base engine with a 240 hp supercharged version as an option. LeSabre and Impala offer similar vehicles with less fussy styling and operation.

*Drive wheels: front; Engine: 205 hp, V-6; Mileage: 19/28; Price: \$23,010*

*(Prices are for comparably equipped vehicles with automatic transmission. Prices include destination and delivery charges.)*

**Sipping Over D.C.** There's high tea, and then there's *high* tea. The Washington National Cathedral doesn't offer traditional high tea, but in terms of altitude, it offers the highest tea in Washington, D.C., at the highest point in the city. A catered tea is served inside the cathedral's tower, with its cool limestone walls and tall windows. The simple—yet elegant—room with small tables is large enough to seat several dozen tea sippers, yet intimate enough to make you feel as if you're in the turret of your own private castle. The views of the city in every direction are as breathtaking as the miniature cucumber sandwiches and tiny scones are scrumptious.

The 14th-century-style English Gothic National Cathedral, which is the second largest cathedral in the United States, offers a tour and tea program every Tuesday and Wednesday. The tour starts at 1:30 p.m., and tea is served at 3 p.m. The entire package is \$18 per person. Call the cathedral, (202) 537-8993, early for reservations and don't forget to ask for a window seat. —Melanie D. Goldman





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## Mexico for a Fee

Beginning July 1, visitors traveling to Mexico via air, car, or bus will be required to pay a \$15 entry fee. For airline passengers, the fee is in addition to the \$18 airport departure tax and will be added to the cost of their ticket. Visitors arriving by car or bus will pay the fee at interior checkpoints 16 miles from the U.S. border. Travelers staying in border cities, such as Tijuana, will not be charged the fee. For more information, contact Mexico's Ministry of Tourism, (800) 446-3942.

### Tip

Before traveling to another country, make two copies of your passport identification page, says the U.S. State Department. This will make it easier to reissue another passport if yours is lost or stolen. Leave one copy at home with a friend or relative. Carry the other with you in a place separate from your passport.

## Style Slink or Swim

Shopping for a swimsuit is no day at the beach. But this season's clever cuts and slenderizing styles can accentuate the positive on any fem form. Check out these popular styles available nationwide at most department stores and the swimwear specialty shop Everything But Water. —Jami Stall

Trendy Mossimo's sassy suits shimmer whether wet or dry. **Tank-style top**, \$39, and **poor boy shorts**, \$49



The **monokini**—designed in 1963 by Esther Williams, synchronized swimming diva—makes waves again. Anne Klein, \$91



The **mini-mizer** incorporates sexy straps, dipping necklines, and strategically designed piping to draw eyes away from unwanted curves and onto those that flatter. Jantzen, \$78



This **tankini** combines pastels and color blocking, which uses broad geometric bands of solid colors to accent and slenderize. Studio Separates, \$39 each



## Vacation-Bound Hound

Many pet-loving travelers are apprehensive about leaving Fido behind when they leave for holiday excursions.

"DogGone," the 16-page "Newsletter About Fun Places to Go and Cool Stuff to Do With Your Dog," offers readers an array of canine-friendly destinations. From downhill skiing resorts to Las Vegas getaways, "DogGone" gives the scoop on pet pampering. The bimonthly newsletter also details activities that owners can do with their pooch—on vacation or off. Dog lovers can learn about obedience training, hiking, volunteer work, and even pet arts and crafts.

Subscriptions are \$24 a year. For details, call (561) 569-8434 or visit [www.doggonefun.com](http://www.doggonefun.com).

—Angela Hurley