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**Recommended by Members of the Canadian Institute of Travel Counsellors**

## **Top Destinations**

- Tuscany, Italy
- Los Cabos, Mexico- for fun, beach and contrasting geography (dessert & beach)
- Italy, Mayan Riviera in Mexico, France, Cuba, Jamaica
- Island of Langkawi, Malaysia (beautiful beaches—the ocean is clear, warm and perfect for swimming)
- Dubai
- Machu Picchu, Peru
- Hawaii, Dubai, Italy, Jamaica, Cuba, Dominican, Mayan Riviera, Rio de Janeiro, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Costa Rica, Ireland, Scotland, UK, France, Vancouver, Toronto & Niagara Falls, Montreal, Calgary, Halifax, Las Vegas, Florida, California
- Bali, Fiji, Bora Bora Maui
- Whistler, Lake Louise, Lucerne, Perth, Agra, Hong Kong, Singapore, Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Victoria, Tobago
- Washington D.C.
- My favorite destination so far has to be the drive along the north coast of California starting in San Francisco. The scenery offers some of the most spectacular sights I have ever seen. The coastal drive with winding roads, high cliffs, splashing waves, green hills was incredible.
- The nicest beaches and clearest, turquoise water have to be at Paradise Island, Nassau, Bahamas. I first travelled there for a business retreat and enjoyed the island so much I returned this February for a week vacation.
- Iceland, Northern Canada, Costa Rica
- Jamaica, France
- Everyone needs to have travelled to Egypt at least once in their lifetime
- Kluane Lake, Yukon;
- Point Pelee, ON
- NL - St. Anthony, L'anse aux meadows, Grand Bank
- PE - Charlottetown, Anne of Green Gables, Cavendish
- NS - Mahone Bay Boat Festival, Bluenose at Lunenburg, Baddeck
- QC - Eastern Townships, Sherbrooke, Gatineau Nat. Park
- ON - Ottawa, Parliament of Canada, Nat. Gallery of Canada, Rideau Hall, Royal Canadian Mint, Canadian Agricultural Museum, Aboriginal Experience, Victoria Is., Canadian Museum of Civilization, Gananoque, Take the three hour Cruise" Lost ships of the Thousand Islands."
- ON-Hamilton, Royal Botanical Gardens, Dundurn Castle
- ON-Sudbury, Science North,
- ON-Thunder Bay, Sleeping Giant Provincial Park 24400ha, Pass Lake
- ON-Niagara Falls
- QC - Eastern Townships, Sherbrooke, Gatineau Nat. Park
- MB - Boissevain, Murals, Churchill

- SK - Wanuskewin Cultural Centre, Prince Albert National Park
- AB - Emerald Lake, Banff National Park, Lethbridge, Dinosaur Provincial Park
- BC - Bella Coola, Barkerville, Ft. St. James NHS, Nanaimo (home of Nanaimo Bars)
- YT - Tuktoyakuk, Whitehorse
- NT - Hay River, Arctic Circle High Arctic Lodge
- NU - Iqaluit, Coral Harbour, Pond Inlet
- SouthEast Asia
- Vietnam from South (Ho Chi Minh City ) to North (Saigon)
- Laos—Vientiane, the Plain of Jars in Phonsavan and the Pak Ou caves in Luong Prabang
- Cambodia—Angkor Wat
- Myanmar—Yangon (Rangoon), Mandalay and Pagan
- Philippines—Puerto Galera, Cebu, Bohol, Borocay Island, and the amazing rice terraces in Banaue
- Hong Kong—just wander on the Hong Kong side—so much to see and do
- Chile—the Atacama Desert is amazing. Plan on a 4-5 day stay in the town of San Pedro de Atacama. Bring your sense of wonderment with you!
- Easter Island—you need at least 3 full days—more if possible. Great people, great scenery, relaxation, and the food is wonderful!
- Japan—One of those ‘it is not as expensive as people make it out to be’ places. The small towns are the best. Just hop on a bicycle and discover! Try out some of the pottery towns like Hagi and Arita, or sample Saki and learn how it is made.
- Mongolia—go for the annual Nadaam Festival in July where they celebrate wrestling, archery and horseback riding. Amazing costumes and scenery. Awesome Buddhist monasteries. You can even venture into the Gobi desert to look for dinosaurs!
- Ireland—one of the friendliest, most interesting countries
- Portugal—friendly people, excellent food and wines, great variety of landscapes
- New Hampshire—great skiing, excellent ‘duty free’ shopping, wonderful scenery, very hospitable people.
- Hawaiian Islands: When I planned my trip to the islands I called it my holiday of a lifetime-it was and more. I did everything I had hoped to and stayed in the Rainbow Tower of the Hilton Hawaiian Village (where the blue Hawaii drink was originally created), went to see Don Ho, and learned how to surf!
- The Hawaiian island of Kauai is a spectacular destination. You can drive from the north to the south in 2 hours and along the way you will travel from rain forest to desert. Waimea Canyon is a photographer’s dream
- England, England, England – there is something to see no matter where you are and ... it never rains in the pubs
- Danube Riverboat cruise with Uniworld from Budapest to Passau
- Yellowknife, NT – Aurora Viewing ;Tofino, BC – Storm Watching at the Wickannish Inn; Drumheller, AB - Royal Tyrell Museum
- Jamaica - the music, the people, the beaches!! Amazing! & Once you go, you know!
- Belize - A beautiful country, and friendly people who love Canadians. Altun Ha is a must see.
- Tauranga New Zealand
- Cayman Islands- Grand Cayman ... The most beautiful place I have ever visited! From the restaurants to the hotels to the tours and especially the beaches...everything was amazing!
- Sandestin Resort, Florida
- Kenya Safari ...just came back...life altering....wonderful! (picture travelling in a hot air balloon, over the Serengeti plains at sunrise (then enjoy a champagne breakfast on the plains)
- Egypt...exhilarating....imagine riding the camels at the base of the pyramids...did that recently...wonderful

- U.A.E. such a cosmopolitan area....changes, changes, everything under the sun to offer the traveller...amazing! (skate, ski, golf and dune buggy in the desert)
- Florence, the most perfect city in the world; Galapagos
- Morocco was my all time dream come true vacation
- Bay of Islands in New Zealand—which are made up of Waitangi, Paihia, Russell plus surrounding communities such as Kerikeri; Much of New Zealand's early history took place in the Bay of Islands (N.Z.'s first capital was at Russell which was named Kororareka, and at Waitangi the Maori's gave sovereignty of N.Z. to Queen Victoria); Beautiful beaches and bays, ideal for boating and swimming. Known within New Zealand as the "Winterless North" for a reason. Far enough away from Auckland that it is not overrun with people (about a 4-hour drive north).
- Myanmar: The people are wonderful and anything one buys goes to them and they love to talk to outsiders; Cambodia: Thousands of tourists but nature and history still survive; Papua New Guinea: So diversified
- Syria for it's Crusader Castles, rich history, excellent condition of historic sites, baclava, rose petal jam, warm hospitable people.
- Nicaragua for it's entangled political history especially when it is still a memory of news casts and intrigue only 30 years ago. A great book to read is Blood of Brothers by Stephen Kinzer. Read it then visit Nicaragua. And don't forget to enjoy exploring the impressive volcanoes, countryside, beaches, and reserved people with an interest in who you are.
- Tonga to find out what Tonga Time is all about - manyana ! Relax and enjoy turquoise oceans, coral reefs, islands... Snorkel, dive, yacht, kayak, hike, cycle, horse ride...it really is the ideal!
- From MontegoBay to Negril; From Adelaide to the 12 Apostles; Any Hawaiian coastal drive; From San Francisco to L.A (along the Pacific Coast Hwy); From Capetown to the coast; Into the Mekong Delta (via bus + boats); Southern Africa (Namibia / Botswana). ; Train trip from Singapore to K.L. ; Motorbike ride through southern England; Alaskan Cruise; Belize
- One of my favourite places in the world is Toledo Spain, it was the ancient capital of Spain, has the 4th largest cathedral in the world, a wonderful artists community, an ancient city that is arrayed down the hillside and when you round the corner on the highway it is a breathtaking sight that is beautiful to behold. I plan on spending a week there at the Christina hotel, it was a convent in the past and is now a welcoming boutique hotel in close proximity to all that there is to see in Toledo. Take your comfy walking shoes as you will spend many hours roaming the cobblestone streets that wind through Toledo
- Greece. It has the beauty, the cultural diversity, reasonable to travel around, and safe.
- Thailand, a country of smiling people, beautiful handicrafts, spectacular beaches, interesting culture, wonderful food, amazing hotels and service.
- Costa Rica--Monteverde - the most incredible mountainous region and landscape I have ever seen. They aren't such a "touristy" destination yet... And for Eco-Tourism supporters - this is an incredible destination.
- Tahiti – not well travelled by Canadians yet, but has some of the most beautiful beaches and resorts in the world.
- Paris – does not matter if you have been there a dozen times or never before, there is always something new to discover or rediscover.
- Caribbean – easily accessible via air to Canadians and lots of islands to chose from.
- Myanmar--Despite the controversy - Myanmar is the most beautiful country I have ever been to. The people are wonderful as well. I have friends there (they are nationals not ex-pats) and even when the flooding hit, they were able to let me know by email that they had lost many things but they were safe. Travel agents and travellers alike have to decide for themselves whether to travel to this destination.

- Madagascar--The fourth largest island in the world and it is truly an original. You can sample many things on the most exotic and interesting island. It is a paradise for naturalists and birdwatchers, the eco traveller and those loving a great beach vacation with diving. It is a wonderful place to buy spices and exquisite embroidery. You can do a dhow safari - island hopping all around Madagascar.
- Ecuador--This small country in South America has everything to offer. Shopping for superb custom made leather goods, beautiful textiles. Its location and climate has all four seasons at once depending on you altitude. Travel through the Avenue of the volcanoes, travel into the Amazon basin and do an add on to the Galapagos Islands.

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