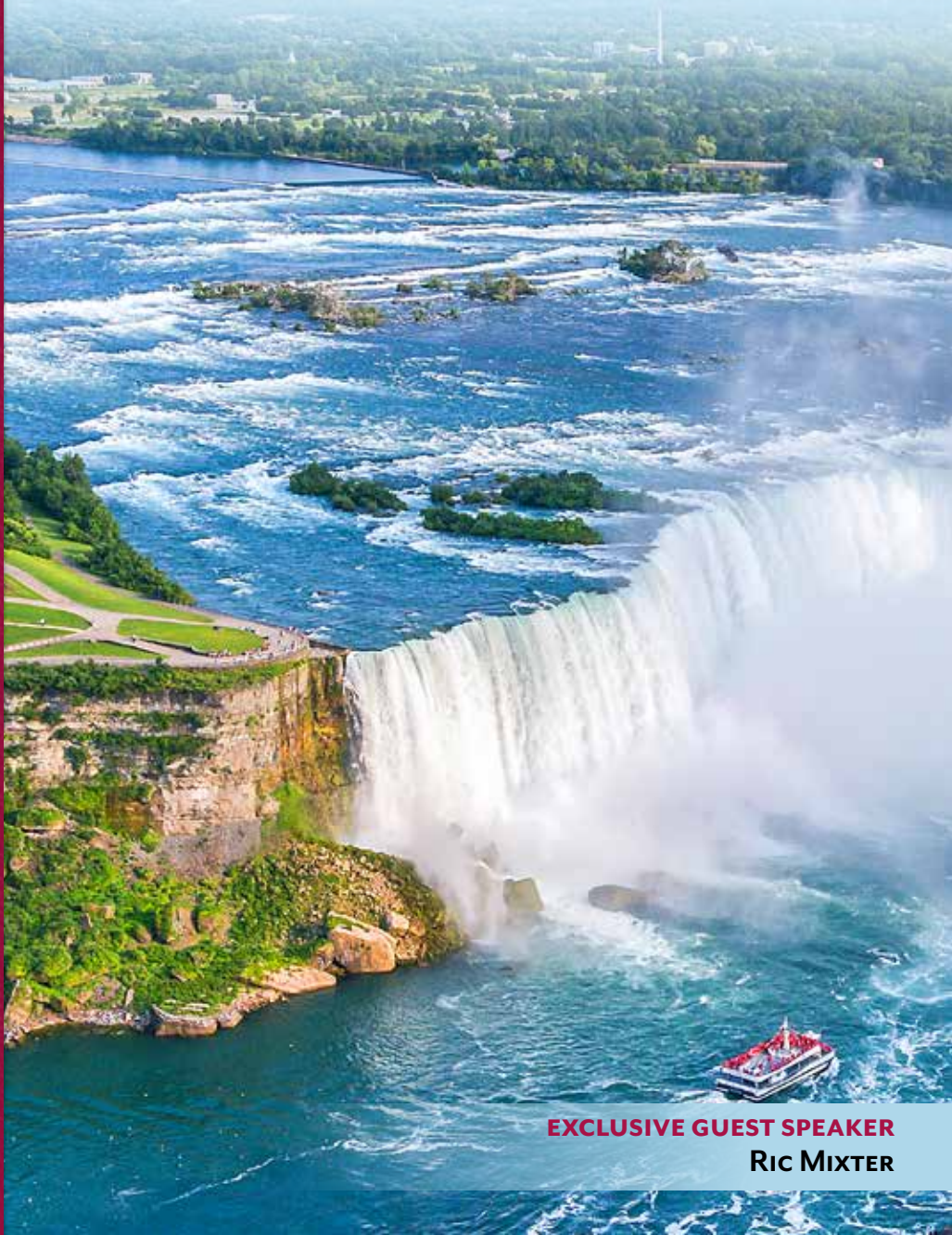




# Cruising the Great Lakes

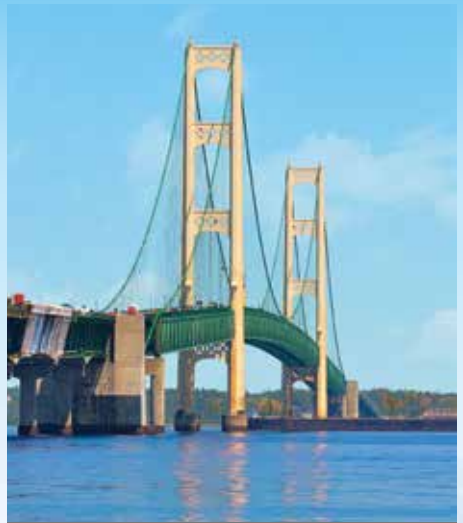
September 25 to October 2, 2023



**EXCLUSIVE GUEST SPEAKER**  
**RIC MIXTER**

## Highlights include:

- ◆ Visit all five Great Lakes—Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and Lake Ontario.
- ◆ Horse-drawn carriage tour of Victorian Mackinac Island and cliff-top Fort Mackinac, with a specially arranged lunch at the elegant, 19<sup>th</sup> century GRAND HOTEL.
- ◆ Private, glass-bottom boat cruise through Big and Little Tub Harbors and around Flowerpot Island in Tobermory, Ontario.
- ◆ Full-day excursion to Niagara Falls with a cruise to Horseshoe Falls and a visit to the Floral Clock with lunch overlooking the falls.



Mackinac Bridge



### Ric Mixer

Great Lakes historian Ric Mixer is one of the most requested maritime speakers in the country. Millions of television viewers recognize him as a shipwreck researcher, diving more than 100 shipwrecks in the Great Lakes, including the EDMUND FITZGERALD. He has interviewed

dozens of shipwreck survivors over the past 15 years, including two from the 1913 Storm, two from the 1940 Armistice Day Storm, and survivors from the largest shipwrecks in lakes Michigan, Huron, and Erie. Mixer, who has appeared as a shipwreck expert on the History and Discovery Channels, has been awarded for 20 years of maritime preservation by the Association of Great Lakes Maritime History.



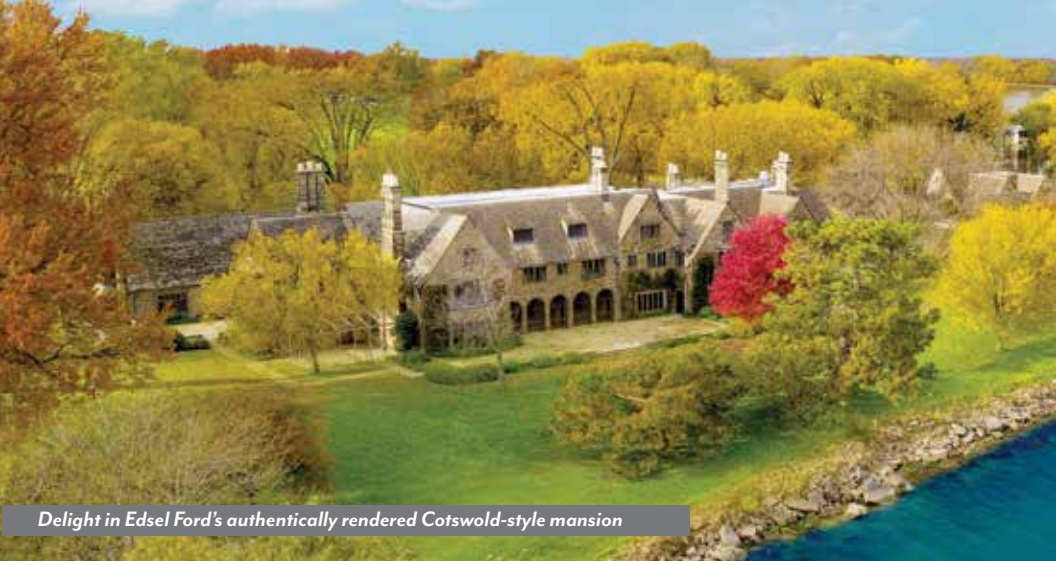
Niagara Falls

## 8 DAY ITINERARY

- 1 Depart home city/  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, U.S./  
Embark ship/  
Cruise Lake Michigan
- 2 Mackinac Island, Michigan/  
Lake Huron
- 3 Soo Locks/Lake Superior/  
Sault Ste. Marie
- 4 Tobermory, Ontario, Canada/  
Lake Huron
- 5 Detroit, Michigan, U.S.
- 6 Detroit/Lake Erie
- 7 Niagara Falls/Welland Canal/  
Lake Ontario
- 8 Toronto, Ontario, Canada/  
Return to home city

PHOTO CREDITS: Alamy, Dennis Jarvis, Dreamstime, Murray Foubister, ©Ponant, Shutterstock; all images are rights managed and cannot be used without permission.





*Delight in Edsel Ford's authentically rendered Cotswold-style mansion*



# COMMONWEALTH CLUB TRAVEL

Dear Club Members,

As the largest surface of fresh water on Earth and the gateway between the Eastern Seaboard and the Midwest, the Great Lakes are ideal for exploring North America's rich maritime history, passion for invention, and sublime natural wonders. This expertly created program cruises all five of the Great Lakes—Ontario, Erie, Superior, Huron, and Michigan—and features lectures on board by shipwreck expert and special guest speaker Ric Mixter.

Journey from Milwaukee to cosmopolitan Toronto during early autumn, when the region's foliage begins to put on its breathtaking, vibrant show. Cruise for seven nights aboard the exclusively chartered, five-star LE BELLOT, featuring only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony. Call at smaller ports and discover some of North America's most alluring towns, visionary cities, and magnificent coastal scenery. Enjoy a nostalgic horse-drawn carriage ride along the picturesque streets of quaint Mackinac Island—unchanged for over 100 years—to the iconic GRAND HOTEL. Cruise the protected waters near Tobermory, Ontario, Canada, part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Transit the historic Soo Locks at Sault Sainte Marie and the Welland Canal near Niagara Falls, two of the world's most celebrated 19<sup>th</sup>-century engineering feats and major catalysts for industrial growth and innovation.

An archetype for 20<sup>th</sup>-century urban growth and the birthplace of Motown, Detroit is currently undergoing a renaissance. Experience the Motor City's fascinating cultural legacy at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Edsel and Eleanor Ford Mansion, and the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation. This journey through the Great Lakes' history and natural splendor culminates with a visit to awe-inspiring Niagara Falls, where a thunderous cascade of crashing water summons one of life's most mesmerizing spectacles.

This exclusive, expertly designed itinerary—co-sponsored with several educational organizations including the College of William & Mary, the University of Southern California, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation — aboard the five-star LE BELLOT, with all meals and excursions included, triumphs the vitality, dynamism, and natural beauty of North America's five Great Lakes. We encourage you to make your reservations while space and extended booking savings are still available!

Best regards,

Kristina Nemeth  
Travel Director  
(415) 597-6720

*The safety and well-being of our travelers remains our highest priority. Cruise lines and some other providers of services (as well as, potentially, some countries) require all passengers traveling on our programs to present confirmation of a full COVID-19 vaccination, and, as well, passengers may have to produce evidence of a recent negative COVID test. All our staff are committed to adhering to all health and safety protocols from the start of your trip to the end as directed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, overseas health officials as well as those protocols mandated by your cruise company (if applicable) and other suppliers of services. Detailed protocol information tailored to your travel program will be mailed to you along with additional pre-departure information.*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



# Maritime Marvels



Welland Canal

In the heart of North America lies the world's largest reservoir of fresh water, carved by glaciers 10,000 years ago. Surrounded by 11,000 miles of spectacularly sculpted shoreline, the five Great Lakes boast powerful natural wonders, historical maritime landmarks, and some of the greatest engineering feats of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Our tour offers a glimpse of life on the Great Lakes over the last two centuries as we visit the nearly 200-year-old Welland Canal that connects Lake Erie with Lake Ontario and the mighty Soo Locks—one located in Sault Ste. Marie in Ontario, Canada, and the other in a city by the same name in Michigan. Learn more about this fascinating maritime history at the SS VALLEY CAMP Museum, housed in a 1917 lake freighter, where two lifeboats from the famous EDMUND FITZGERALD shipwreck are on display.



Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie



SS VALLEY CAMP Museum





## DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

### Depart home city/ Milwaukee, Wisconsin/ Embark the ship

#### Day 1

Arrive in Milwaukee and embark LE BELLOT. Enjoy the Captain's Welcome Reception this evening.

### Mackinac Island/ Lake Huron

#### Day 2

Transfer to the National Historic Landmark, GRAND HOTEL MACKINAC, and enjoy lunch in the hotel's elegant Main Dining Room overlooking the world's longest porch displaying the hotel's many American flags, as well as the glistening Straits of Mackinac.

This afternoon, set off on a nostalgic horse-drawn carriage ride around the island with a photo stop at the famed Arch Rock. Continue to Fort Mackinac for a guided visit. Cruise Lake Huron this evening.

### Soo Locks/ Lake Superior/ Sault Ste. Marie

#### Day 3

This morning, transit the Soo Locks from Lake Superior to Lake Huron and back. Arrive in Sault Ste. Marie and explore the SS VALLEY CAMP, a retired lake freighter that is now a museum featuring exhibits of faithfully restored living quarters and the tragic loss of the EDMUND FITZGERALD.

Continue to the Soo Locks Interpretation Center and watch colossal freighters lower 21 feet from Lake Superior to enter Lake Huron. This evening, cruise Lake Huron.

### Tobermory, Canada/ Lake Huron

#### Day 4

In Tobermory, embark on a glass-bottom boat cruise from Little Tub Harbor to Big Tub Harbor. See the remains of the schooner SWEEPSTAKES, Big Tub Lighthouse, and the Flowerpot Island. Enjoy time at leisure. Prepare for more stunning views this evening as you cruise across Lake Huron.

### Detroit, Michigan, U.S.

#### Day 5

Visit the acclaimed Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation, which spotlights the creative genius of American inventor and innovators that represent defining moments in U.S. history. See Kennedy's presidential limo, the chair where Lincoln was assassinated in Ford's Theater, and the bus where Rosa Parks refused to vacate her seat.

### Detroit/Lake Erie

#### Day 6

Visit the Detroit Institute of Arts, one of the most significant collections of art in the nation, housed in a magnificent Beaux Arts building. See Diego Rivera's monumental Detroit Industry mural, which captures the city's blue-collar history, as well as master works by Auguste Rodin; Michelangelo; Vincent van Gogh; Edgar Degas; and Paul Cézanne. Continue to Grosse Pointe to visit the Edsel and Eleanor Ford Mansion. This evening, cruise Lake Erie.

### Niagara Falls/ Welland Canal/ Lake Ontario

#### Day 7

Drive to Niagara Falls and ride the Hornblower Cruise Funicular down the 19-story rock walls of the



Diego Rivera's Detroit industry murals



Great Gorge and back up. Cruise toward the base of Horseshoe Falls and experience the sheer force of this geological wonder. After a specially-arranged lunch, see the 410 million-year-old layers of the Niagara Gorge and the Whirlpool Rapids, among the world's most extreme. Discover the Sir Adam Beck Power Station, the world's first large-scale hydroelectric generation project, and Niagara's famous Floral Clock, intricately filled with 20,000 plants and flowers.

Reembark and continue through eight locks of the Welland Canal, one of North America's most important economic lifelines. Constructed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the canal links Lake Ontario to Lake Erie and was instrumental in opening the Great Lakes to commerce and prosperity; the canal carries nearly 40 million tons of cargo per year.

Cruise Lake Ontario and attend the Captain's Farewell Reception this evening.

## Toronto, Canada/ Return to home city Day 8

Disembark continue onto the Toronto Post-Program Option or transfer to the airport for your return flight home.



Flowerpot Island, Tobermory

## ALWAYS INCLUDED WITH GOHAGAN & COMPANY

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.

## BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE!

No cancellation fees for new bookings until 95 days prior to trip departure.\*





# LE BELLOT

## Luxury Small Ship, Innovative Design

LE BELLOT represents a new generation of five-star small ships, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Dock in smaller ports inaccessible to larger ships, where authentic cultural experiences and majestic scenery await you. Complimentary alcoholic/nonalcoholic beverages and internet access are available throughout the cruise. All meals aboard ship are included.

## Elegant Suites and Staterooms, 100% with Private Balconies

Each of the 92 five-star staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony.

Grand Deluxe Suites have a floor-to-ceiling panoramic window and spacious private terrace.

Accommodations offer two twin beds or one queen bed, individual climate control, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style amenities.



**2023 DEPARTURE DATE: September 25 to October 2** (Embarkation: September 25 at 3:00 p.m.)

Category	LAND/CRUISE RATES <small>excluding taxes</small>	Extended Booking Discount through Sep. 4, 2023	Rate after Sep. 4, 2023
8	Deluxe stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$4,995</b>	\$5,745
7	Prestige stateroom with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 4, midship.</i>	<b>\$5,695</b>	\$6,545
6	Prestige stateroom with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship and aft.</i>	<b>\$6,395</b>	\$7,355
5	Prestige stateroom with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship and aft.</i>	<b>\$6,995</b>	\$8,045
4	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 3, midship.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$7,995</b>	\$9,195
3	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 4, midship.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$8,695</b>	\$9,995
2	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 5, midship.</i>	<b>\$9,295</b>	\$10,685
1	Deluxe suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>private balcony.</b> <i>Deck 6, midship.</i>	<b>\$9,995</b>	\$11,495
Prestige Suite II	Two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 5, midship.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$10,995</b>	\$12,645
Prestige Suite I	Two-room Suite, expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. <i>Deck 6, midship.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$11,495</b>	\$13,215
Privilege Suite	Large Suite with expansive sliding glass door, <b>larger private balcony,</b> sitting area with sofa. <i>Decks 5 and 6, aft.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$11,995</b>	\$13,795
Grand Deluxe Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <b>spacious private terrace,</b> full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 6, aft.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$12,995</b>	\$14,945
Owner's Suite	Extra-large, one-bedroom Suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <b>spacious private terrace</b> with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. <i>Deck 5, aft.</i> (limited availability)	<b>\$13,995</b>	\$16,095

Single supplements apply across all categories at 160% of the per person double price.

Port taxes are an additional \$450 per person. Additional fuel surcharge fees may apply. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while onboard.

LE BELLOT has been specially contracted for this program and the deck plan is available online or upon request. Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions, and surcharges at any time.





## PRE-PROGRAM OPTION

### Milwaukee

**September 23 to 25, 2023**

Rich in architectural treasures and world-class institutions that reflect its storied history, vibrant Milwaukee is the perfect extension to your Great Lakes cruise. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the historical North Point neighborhood—home to one of the finest collections of Victorian mansions in the Midwest—and tour the expansive Milwaukee Art Museum, an impressive addition to Milwaukee's revitalized waterfront, with more than 25,000 pieces of art. Visit the striking Pabst Mansion, built in Flemish style by Pabst Brewing Company president Frederick Pabst. Accommodations for two nights are in the historical, centrally located PFISTER HOTEL.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$895*

*Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,195*



## POST-PROGRAM OPTION

### Toronto

**October 2 to 4, 2023**

Extend your Great Lakes voyage early in cosmopolitan Toronto, one of North America's most celebrated cultural melting pots. Enjoy a walking tour of the Distillery District, Canada's premier arts, culture, and entertainment destination, and visit Fort York, built in 1793 on the shores of Lake Ontario. Enjoy a specially arranged lunch in the CN Tower's 360-degree revolving restaurant. Visit Casa Loma, a Gothic Revival mansion and garden built in the style of a European castle by Sir Henry Mill Pellatt. Tour the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto's crowning jewel with a collection of over 80,000 works, including the world's largest collection of Henry Moore sculptures. Accommodations for two nights are in the historical FAIRMONT ROYAL YORK HOTEL.

*Price per person, based on double occupancy: \$1,195*

*Price per person, based on single occupancy: \$1,395*

*Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.*



# RESERVATION FORM

**Please send Reservation Form to:**

Commonwealth Club Travel  
110 The Embarcadero  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Email:  
**travel@commonwealthclub.org**  
or call:  
**(415) 597-6720**

008-09/25/23-252

**Please make my/our reservation(s):**

Category: **1<sup>st</sup> Choice** \_\_\_\_\_ **2<sup>nd</sup> Choice** \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Double (two twin beds).  
☐ Double (one queen bed).  
☐ Single accommodations.  
☐ Single but prefer to share and will allow you to select my roommate  
(shares cannot be guaranteed).

**Milwaukee Pre-Program Option**

**September 23 to 25, 2023**

- ☐ Double \$895 per person.  
☐ Single \$1,195 per person.  
☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

**Toronto Post-Program Option**

**October 2 to 4, 2023**

- ☐ Double \$1,195 per person.  
☐ Single \$1,395 per person.  
☐ I am reserving as a single but prefer to share accommodations.

☐ I/We want you to book my/our air from:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(fill in departure city)

☐ I/We will make my/our own air arrangements.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title Full Name Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title Full Name Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Mailing Address (no P.O. Box number please)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State ZIP Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address Business Telephone

Program reservations require a deposit of \$800 per person.

- ☐ Enclosed is my/our check(s) for \$\_\_\_\_\_.  
Make check(s) payable to **Gohagan & Company**.  
☐ I/We authorize you to charge a deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to:  
☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa  
☐ I/We request that you contact me/us via telephone or email for payment  
by ACH.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number Exp. Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature as it appears on credit card

**Please note: Terms & Conditions are available at  
[gohagantravel.com/terms/](http://gohagantravel.com/terms/)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
First participant's signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Second participant's signature Date

**FINAL PAYMENT due June 22, 2023; make by check, ACH, or credit card.  
Reservations made after June 22, 2023 require payment in full at time of  
booking. No cancellation fees until 95 days prior to September 25, 2023!**

**We require membership to the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. Please check one:**

- ☐ I am a current member of the Commonwealth Club.  
☐ Please sign me up/renew my membership with the credit card information provided here.  
☐ I will visit [commonwealthclub.org/membership](http://commonwealthclub.org/membership) to sign up for a membership.

**EARLY BOOKING SAVINGS UP TO \$4,200 PER COUPLE**



Commonwealth Club Travel  
110 The Embarcadero  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 597-6720 [www.commonwealthclub.org/travel](http://www.commonwealthclub.org/travel)

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Gohagan &  
Company