

Catching the Wind

with

Drifter Sister

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2016 Catch the Wind Tours

2016 is coming up fast. It's time to make your decision.

It's not too late to sign up for a week of pampering at **Ixtapan Spa** in Mexico this Winter on the final *Catch the Wind* tour of 2015 – but the priority is to choose where you want to go with me in 2016 because things are now moving quickly! Seriously. I mean it. New choices include **Cuba** and **Croatia**, both of which are catching on fast and filling up already. France 2016 is full, but you can send a deposit for 2017 if you want to make sure you have a spot. There are still four slots open on the **"Let's Go to Tuscany"** tour in October, and June's **"Let's Go to Ireland"** still has a few spots remaining. But even I must admit, the most exciting *Catch the Wind* tour for 2016 is **AFRICA, during the migration. DON'T MISS IT!** **This fantastic *Catch the Wind* trip comes around only once every few years, and the prices will only go up, folks. So if you have been wanting to go to Africa, now is your best chance ever. Just bite the bullet and DO IT!**

CROATIA ISLAND HOPPING CRUISE - April 23-30, 2016



What a treat. Small boat cruising for a week in arguably the most beautiful waters, visiting some of the most beautiful islands in the world - the Dalmatian Coast.

I have chartered the 38-passenger **M/S Splendid**, but will accept only **30 passengers** so we will not be cramped. This ship is brand new, having experienced its first sailing in the Summer of 2014. I was on it in May of 2015, and it is beautifully appointed with fastidiously clean, spacious cabins, and a great crew. See page 3 for photos of the boat and cabins.

Ports of call will include **Split, Dubrovnik, Mljet's National Park, Hvar, Boi**, and more.

Hop aboard as we explore
these fun-filled waters together.

CUBA HERE WE COME May 1-12, 2016

The new rules are making it possible for more people to visit Cuba. I want to get there before the onslaught. Want to join me?

12 Days, on a coast to coast journey, visiting the iconic Havana hotspots, plus Trinidad, Baracoa, Santiago, and Camaguey. Never heard of some of these places? Neither had I – because it was off limits. Now it's possible to see for ourselves the beauty of the countryside, learn about the culture, interact with the friendly people, taste the fabulous food, and so much more.

Visits to Cuba must still have a cultural focus, and can only be arranged by licensed operators. So I am going through one of the best, with more than 20 years experience in doing this type of tour.

We will stay in some of the best hotels available, plus local B&Bs, dine in authentic restaurants, primarily paladares – restaurants run by self-employers, for a more vivid interaction with Cuban reality and homemade Cuban food. There will be two cooking classes, and we'll visit a coffee plantation, sugar mill, rum factory, and so much more. Not to mention Earnest Hemingway's stomping grounds.

I hope you see the value in doing this now, before things open up and change too much. I am taking a maximum of 10 passengers, and five spots are already taken. I suggest you reserve yours today.

CROATIA/MONTENEGRO 2017

This *Catch the Wind* tour combines two of the latest 'must see' destinations – at a great price – for a fabulous experience you won't want to miss.

What a great time we had this year on our first *Catch the Wind* adventure in Montenegro – home-based for a full week at Hotel Conte in beautiful Perast, nestled on the shore of the Bay of Kotor. I was expecting beauty. What we got was majestic splendor in fjord-like conditions. Truly breathtaking. And the food. My goodness, what a treat. The meals were sumptuous and abundant throughout.



Each day we headed out in our private motor coach to visit exotic locations such as **Risan**, **Gospa od Skrpjela** (Our Lady of the Rocks) and **Mt. Lovcen** ("Montenegrin Mount Olympus"), plus we explored the charming mountain villages, lakes, museums, churches, royal palaces, wineries, and more.

For our second week, we boarded *M/S Splendid*, a brand new, 38-passenger yacht, for an exciting adventure along the Dalmatian Coast, beginning and ending in **Dubrovnik**, and including **Mljet's National Park**, **Hvar**, **Boi**, **Split**, and more.



This 'experiment' was such a success that I have decided to add it to my biennial line-up, so it will again be offered in 2017. Not sure of the dates yet, but if you want to be kept apprised of the details as they take shape, be sure to let me know.

If you are anxious to get to Croatia in 2016 and a fun-filled week on the *M/S Splendid* would scratch that itch, check out the info on page 1.



SPA PACKAGE Nov 29 - Dec 6, 2015

Located about 60 miles southwest of Mexico City, in the foothills of the Sierra Madre Mountains, **Ixtapan de la Sal Spa** is a wonderful place to unwind and pamper yourself.

This family-owned and operated Spa has been in operation since the mid 19th century, and is just the most relaxing and beautiful place one can imagine. Included in the package are:



- Daily Swedish massages
- Facial and Reflexology Treatments
- Manicure and pedicure
- Daily morning walks; aerobics, salsa, yoga, and pilates classes
- Tennis lessons, and more.



The food is wonderful, and you can take your choice of spa dining (for the calorie conscious) or the more traditional full menu.

You may also choose a **Spa/Golf plan**, where you can mix spa treatments with sessions on the beautiful Par 72, 18 hole **championship golf course**. Ecologically designed by Don Sechrest Golf Inc., with magnificent vistas over mountains and valley, the private course also offers some of the longest and most challenging holes in Mexico. Several lighted tennis courts are located on the Spa grounds as well.



An **excursion** to the famous silver mining town of **Taxco** is a highlight. Named one of Mexico's "Pueblos Mágicos" (Magical Towns) due to the quality of the silverwork, the colonial constructions and the surrounding scenery. Shopping in the silver shops and a special lunch is included.



We fly into Mexico City and are picked up and whisked away in private vans, via toll roads, to the Spa, which is gated and very secure. The sweet little town nearby has a charming church and square, plus a few shops.



All of this, including your room, meals, transfers, travel insurance and all gratuities is offered at a price far cheaper than any Spa you can find in the States with similar amenities.

An entire week of pampering.

What a treat. And YOU deserve it!

Keep in mind, this is only offered every few years.

AFRICA - Aug 12-26, 2016

Africa 2014 was an awesome experience. So much so, that I'm going to do it again in 2016, with one important addition – Kenya – during migration!

Two weeks in Kenya during the migration will be the base of the 2016 *Catch the Wind African Safari*, with a 12-day pre-trip extension to **Victoria Falls** (up close and personal, from top to bottom) and **Botswana's Okavango Delta**, plus a 10-day post-trip extension in **Namibia** (big red dunes, and more).

And those of you interested in honing your photographic skills will be especially interested to know that renowned **teacher/photographer Jeff Sink** will be with us in Kenya. Jeff has led 14 safaris, and his photos have been sold all over the world. In addition to the wildlife, he is an expert on the history and culture of East Africa, and his presence will add to the enjoyment for all, whether you are a serious photographer or not.

You may choose one, two, or all three of the segments of this safari.

A Drifter Sister trip to Africa comes along only once every few years. Don't miss this one!



FRANCE - Sept 2017

This renovated 12th Century castle is almost too good to be true. Elegant, yet comfortably cozy.

Chateau d'Agel is in the sweetest little village with, in my opinion, the friendliest inhabitants, and we have the best translator ever (my friend Bonnie).

If you are ready to be pampered like a princess (or prince) in your very own castle, visiting the well-known, yet less-crowded, part of the French countryside (Languedoc-Minervois), then this is the tour for you!

This very reasonably priced tour is a great value, as so many are realizing. It fills up fast and is booked through 2016 already, so if you want to go in 2017, **I suggest you send your Good Faith Deposit now to hold a spot.**



TUSCANY - Oct 22 - Nov 5, 2016

Same great trip so many of you have already enjoyed. But if you haven't, you're lucky, because you have yet to experience it.

Our first villa is Borgo Corsignano, featuring old-world farmhouse charm on picturesque rolling Tuscan hills, nestled into the farmland of the Casentino Valley. A perfect location from which to visit Cortona, Asissi, Arezzo and more, by car and train. Plus hidden gems known only to the locals, such as La Verna and Stia.

Our second villa, Podera San Guiseppe, is a renovated farmhouse resting in its very own peaceful wooded valley. Where rustic charm meets modern convenience. From here we easily reach Volterra, San Gimignano, Siena, and more hidden gems, such as Monteriggione and Colle Val d'Elsa.

Daily visits to the hill towns of Tuscany center around these two base villas, and evenings 'at home' with a glass of Italian wine, bread and cheese round out this incomparable experience.

October is one of the very best times to be anywhere in Europe, but especially Tuscany! Where the smell of freshly tilled earth and Fall colors assault the senses.

Hey, give it a try. You just may become hooked on this unique travel experience, as have so many before you.



IRELAND - June 4-18, 2016

In 2014 my group and I found that Summer is a great time to visit the Emerald Isle – longer days and a bit warmer than in the Spring, plus more energy and activities.

Fabulous scenery, surprisingly tasty food, friendly folks, and trad music sessions that get your toes a'tappin. This tour has it all, at its very best.

Starting and ending in Dublin, we cover all the highlights, staying in guesthouses and boutique hotels right in the little towns, so we can really get a feel for the place.

Our 'extra special' guide Tim makes sure we see and experience everything and are well taken care of.

Because it's only offered every other year, this tour tends to reach its maximum, and I have received many Good Faith Deposits already. **If you would like one of the few remaining spots, please let me know right away, so I can hold one for you.**



CROATIA ISLAND HOPPING CRUISE



**April 23-30, 2016
1 Week**

**Privately Chartered, Small Boat Cruise
30-Passengers
\$1,800* PP/DBL**

INCLUDED

7-Day Cruise on 38-Passenger Vessel
(Accepting only 30 Passengers)
Newly Built in 2014 - M/S Spendid
Explore Islands along Dalmation Coast
Split, Dubrovnik, Hvar, Bol, & more
2 Meals Daily - Excursions - Gratuities

*Based on 20 Passenger Minimum

CUBA

**May 1-12, 2016
12 Days**



**SMALL GROUP - MIN 6/MAX 10
\$4,900 PP/DBL (Including Air from Miami)**

INCLUDED

Culinary & Cultural Emphasis
11 Nights Lodging in Hotels and B&Bs
Baracoa/Santiago/Camaguey/Trinidad/Havana
RT Airfare Florida to Havana
28 Meals - 2 Cooking Classes
Sugar Mill - Coffee Plantation - Rum Factory
Salsa Dancing - Hemingway
English-Speaking Guide
Guide Gratuities

**TUSCANY Oct 22 - Nov 5, 2016
2 Weeks**



**SMALL GROUP - MIN 6/MAX 8
\$3,200/PP/DBL**

INCLUDED

2 Weeks lodging in Villas
Rental Cars (including gas)
4 Special Group Meals
Supply of Breakfast Items
Evening Snacks & Beverages
Train tickets to Arezzo & Assisi
Bus ticket to Siena
San Gimignano - Chianti Country
La Verna, Volterra and much more

Popular 5-Day Cinque Terre Extension (\$1,150)

IXTAPAN de la SAL SPA

**Nov 29-Dec 6, 2015
1 Week**



**SMALL GROUP
MIN 10/MAX 20
\$2,200*/PP/DBL**

INCLUDED

Lodging in Old-World, Charming Hotel
Delicious Spa Meals (3 Daily)
Daily Massages/Reflexology
Facials/Nail & Hair Treatments
Water Aerobics/Yoga
Choice of Spa or Golf Package
Tennis Lessons
Excursion to Taxco
Airport Transfers
Travel Insurance and All Gratuities

***Reduced to \$2,000 with 10 or more**

IRELAND

June 4-18, 2016



2 Weeks

SMALL GROUP - MIN 8/MAX 14
\$4,800*/PP/DBL

INCLUDED

Lodging in Guesthouses
Luxury Motor Coach and Guide
2 Meals Daily & Evening Snacks - Gratuities
Museums - Attractions - Entrance Fees
Dublin Sightseeing & DART Day Pass
Trad Music - Castles - Town Tours
Golfing & Horseback Opportunities
Dublin - Kilkenney - Dungarven - Colb
Killarney - Doolin - Connemara - Burren
Kinsale - Inis Mor - New Grange

***Reduced to \$4,200 with 10 or more**

August 12-26, 2016



SMALL GROUP - MIN 6/MAX 16
\$8,900 PP/DBL (w/10)

INCLUDED

2-weeks Kenya **during Migration**
featuring **Teacher/Photographer Jeff Sink**
14 Nights Lodging - All Meals
Guide Gratuities - Entrance & Park Fees
Tours and Activities, including Game Drives
All Transfers & Ground Transportation

Also Offering

August 1-12 Pre Trip Extension
Victoria Falls/Botswana's Okavango Delta
Aug 26 - Sep 4 Post Trip Extension
Namibia

FRANCE

September 10-24, 2017

2 Weeks



SMALL GROUP - MIN 8/MAX 12
\$3,450 PP/DBL

INCLUDED

2 Weeks Lodging in Chateau d'Agel
RT Train from Paris - 1 Night Paris
Rental Cars & Gas - Local Translator
10 Mid-Day Meals + Catered Dinner
Supply of Breakfast Items & Evening Snacks
Daily Outings including Carcassone, Minerve,
Collioure, Albi, Montpellier, and more
Boat Trip on Canal Midi
Wine Tour and Tasting, and much more
Relaxed Itinerary

Pre-trip Extension to Paris (\$900)

I am truly excited about returning to Africa in 2016,
and would love to have YOU share this experience.

This Safari is even more special, as I've asked Jeff Sink
to join the group for those of you wanting
to improve your photographic skills.

The best price possible has been negotiated, so that
I can again offer a quality experience at a reasonable price.
You will find that other Safaris, Photographic
or not, are more expensive and offer less.



If you are interested in one of the
2016 *Catch the Wind* Tours, please let me know soon,
especially for Africa and Croatia,
as the deadlines for deposits are coming up quickly.

SPA? Did someone say we're going to the SPA?
YOU BET!

Still need a few more sign-ups to make it happen though,
so let's get those Good Faith Deposits in Pronto!

DRIFTER SISTER

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PRINT THIS PAGE IF YOU PREFER TO MAIL YOUR REQUEST OR WOULD LIKE TO SEND A
GOOD FAITH DEPOSIT

By sending a Good Faith Deposit you guarantee a spot on the tour. It is also a way for me to gauge how many serious commitments I have for a particular tour so that I can determine if it is a GO or not. It is fully refundable If the tour does not materialize or something comes up and you must cancel, and applies toward your payment when you do go.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Email: _____ I am interested in the following Drifter Sister Catch the Wind Tours:

___Ixtapan de la Sal Spa -Dec 2015 ___Croatia Island Hopping Cruise -April 2016 ___Cuba -May 2016
___Ireland -June 2016 ___Africa -August 2016 ___Tuscany -Oct 2016 ___Croatia/Montenegro 2017 France
2017

I have checked for availability and am including a Good Faith \$100 Deposit per person for the following
tour(s): _____

TO LET ME KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST IN A PARTICULAR TRIP

Give me a call at 702-294-4365, drop an email to ihla@driftersister.com or simply fill out this form and drop it in the mail. Send to: **Drifter Sister, P.O. Box 60042, Boulder City, NV 89006.**

READY TO SIGN UP?

Give me a call at 702-294-4365, or drop me an email at ihla@driftersister.com. so that I can send you a sign-up package.

THIS AREA FOR COMMENTS OR NOTES TO DRIFTER SISTER