

TRAVEL TIPS 2011 + FREQUENT-FLIER SECRETS: MILEAGE UPGRADES

TRAVEL + LEISURE

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T+L READER EXCLUSIVES

CITY BREAKS

CHICAGO Winter WarmUp package at the Omni Chicago (312/944-6664; omnihotels.com). **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Two nights in a suite; two City Passes for entry to five downtown museums; one warm-up dinner at Restaurant 676; nightly hot chocolate turndown. **COST** \$519 (\$260 per night), double, January 2–February 28. **SAVINGS** 20 percent.

NEW YORK CITY Escape to the Big Apple package from Gansevoort Park Avenue NYC (212/317-2900; gansevoorthotelgroup.com). **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Two nights in a Deluxe room; car service through town in a Porsche Panamera; daily breakfast; two bathrobes; two cocktails at Plunge. **COST** \$758 (\$379 per night), double, January 1–February 28. **SAVINGS** 40 percent.

SKI GETAWAYS

NEW HAMPSHIRE Luxury Ski Getaway at the White Mountain Hotel (800/533-6301; whitemountainhotel.com), in North Conway. **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Two nights in a Deluxe room; one country breakfast; one brunch; one dinner at the hotel's restaurant with a flight of wine; one ski lift ticket per person to Cranmore Mountain; free access to all trails. **COST** \$530 (\$265 per night), double, January 2–March 31. **SAVINGS** 25 percent.

OREGON Ski Free package from the Pronghorn Resort (800/541-9424; pronghornclub.com). **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Four nights in a suite; two three-day ski passes to Mount Bachelor; round-trip shuttle passes from the airport and to Mount Bachelor. **COST** \$515 (\$129 per night), double, January 1–February 28. **SAVINGS** 20 percent.



Oregon
\$129 per night



France
\$403 per night



Mexico
\$269 per night

SPA RETREATS

ARIZONA Desert Splendor package at the Hermosa Inn (800/241-1210; hermosainn.com), in Paradise Valley. **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Two nights in a Deluxe Casita; a \$100 dinner credit at Lon's; one \$50 credit at the Blue Door Boutique; one 60-minute spa treatment at the spa per person; daily breakfast. **COST** \$391 (\$195 per night), double, through March 13. **SAVINGS** 30 percent.

FRANCE Winter in Cannes from the 1835 White Palm Hotel (33-4/92-99-73-20; 1835-hotel.com). **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Two nights in a Deluxe ocean view room; daily breakfast; access to the Therme Marines de Cannes Spa; one bottle of champagne on arrival; two cocktails at the hotel's Lounge 360. **COST** \$806 (\$403 per night), double, January 1–February 28. **SAVINGS** 28 percent.

MEXICO Escape to San Miguel de Allende from the Hotel Matilda (855/628-4532; hotelmatilda.com). **WHAT'S INCLUDED** Three nights in a Deluxe room; daily breakfast; two welcome cocktails; one 75-minute Ritual Scalp Spa Treatment at the Matilda Spa; round-trip airport transfer. **COST** \$807 (\$269 per night), double, January 1–May 1. **SAVINGS** 40 percent.

—ALEXANDER BASEK

CRUISE TIPS

TRIP PLANNER

Cruising can be an expensive venture even in the best of circumstances, but there are a few ways to control costs. First, consider the season. Come spring and fall, cruise ships reposition themselves, meaning they return to their seasonal port of call. Prices can drop up to 30 percent off the summer and winter fares during this time. In May, cabins aboard Norwegian's *Epic* will start as low as \$50 a day per person as it sails between Miami and Barcelona. Second: Watch the bill. Carnival has introduced à la carte pricing for food on some cruises, and the extra cost can quickly add up for those who stray from the buffet.

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