

Manitoba

A ssociation of

Retired

Government

E mployees

Welcome to your Manitoba Association of Retired Government Employees' travel website by Trip Merchant.

This website is password protected for members only access. Simply click on this link https://members.tripmerchant.ca/. Once you click on it, you will have to enter your password, which is "MEMTM18".

*Sign up here for the travel e-newsletter to be aware of the latest travel deals! In the box that says "Organization Name" type in "MARGE"

Trip Merchant partners with membership-based organizations, providing their members with exclusive travel savings and additional benefits! Trip Merchant has negotiated special membership savings directly with travel suppliers, someas much as a 30-50% savings on unique travel experiences. They work with a wide variety of travel suppliers that represent different travel styles in order to accommodate the diverse interests of travellers. On your travel site, you will see these "Travel Styles" in two separate locations; in the top menu bar and also halfway down the home page. These travel styles include;

- Ocean Cruises
- River Cruises
- Guided Tours
- Long Stay Vacations
- Adventure & Active Travel
- African Safaris
- Rail Journeys
- Solo Travel (reduced to no single supplements for single travelers)
- Private Tailor Made and more...







Future International Group Departures (2024)

- Belize Combo Stay: January 3-17, 2024 | Click **HERE** to view all details
- Long Stay in Portugal: February 15-March 13, 2024 | Click **HERE** to view all details
- Antarctica & Falklands Expedition: February 23-March 10, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details
- Wonders of Ecuador & The Galapagos Islands: April 1-16, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details
- Long Stay in Portugal: April 6-May 2, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details
- · Icelandic Adventure: May 18-26, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details
- Tanzania: The Great Migration: August 19-September 2, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details
- Explore Southern Africa: October 8-23, 2024 | Click **HERE** to view all details
- Incredible India: October 25-November 11, 2024 | Click **HERE** to view all details
- Cultural Treasures of Vietnam & Cambodia: November 6-24, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details

*Other trips to consider include, Ireland, Morocco, Costa Rica, Egypt (and Jordan), and more!

Ever dreamed of travelling to COLOMBIA?



Join the Founder's of Trip Merchant from November 26 to December 7, 2024!

Colombia is the second most biodiverse country in the world. After visiting Colombia back in August of 2019 on a scouting trip, Trip Merchant loved it so much they came back separate times for their own personal vacation. Colombia is no longer the unsafe destination it







once was. It is such a beautiful country that offers so many different experiences. The exciting capital of Bogota with its colourful Candelaria neighbourhood, the eternal springtime city of Medellin, the lush landscape of the Coffee Region, home to the worlds tallest palm trees in the Cocora Valley and the spectacular 16 century walled city of Cartagena located on the Caribbean! Colombia will far exceed your expectations...we guarantee it! See below for more information: Discover Colombia | November 26-December 7, 2024 | Click HERE to view all details

More About Trip Merchant & How Your Travel Website Functions:

Why Trip Merchant?: You can read more about "**Why Trip Merchant**", by going to the "Member Benefits" tab in top menu panel and click the drop-down menu to select "Why Trip Merchant".

Search Bar Function: Members are able to search using the search bar on the home page - titled "**Search For Your Bucket List Experience**" should you want to be more specific on what you're looking for.

How to Make a Booking Request?: Once you find the travel product you're interested in, simply click on it and it will open up to a product page that will feature a summary of the travel product selected (this will include the offer, pricing, inclusions, highlights and dates available, member benefit). We also have other tabs which are; itinerary, map, gallery of images, and videos specific to that travel product and/or destination. If you're interested in receiving a quote based on your specific requested departure and air gateway, you can either call the number if provided or simply click on the "Request a Quote" button and put in your details. Once you click submit, it will automatically go to a travel specialist for that specific request and they will get back to you within 24 hours if during the work week. These offers cannot be taken and used to book with any other travel agent. It all must be done through this site and through the supplier partners featured. Otherwise, the savings will not apply, and the Loyalty Program noted below will not be applicable for you to earn travel dollars over and above these savings.

Online Presentations: There are 3 types of presentations you can sign up for (when available); a) Online Tutorials - these are scheduled on a regular basis, enabling you to attend to learn how to use this site as well as ask questions and interact with the presenter b) Travel Supplier Presentations - These presentations are scheduled frequently, often 6-8 per month. These are great if there is a particular travel supplier you'd like to get to know more







about. Experts from these companies do these presentations.

c) Group Departures - About various destinations worldwide and the many group departures that Trip Merchant offers.

Sharing Travel Experiences: When you go on a trip and you want to share a travel experience with other members, go to "Member Benefits" tab in the top menu panel and select "Member Experiences" in the drop down. Trip Merchant will begin to publish these as they receive them from members that travel. We look forward to seeing your travel stories.

Travel Tips and News: Keep up to date in the world of travel. In this section they will have travel tips/blogs on different experiences and destinations, as well as the latest travel industry news and regulations.

Friends and Family: Offers available on this site are extended to your friends and family provided their traveling with you.

Loyalty Program: If you decide to make a booking. Please ensure you send an email with your proof of purchase to <u>loyalty@tripmerchant.com</u>. They will then activate your Loyalty Account, enabling you to register. Information about the Loyalty Account can be found by clicking on the "Member Benefits" tab in the top menu panel and selecting in the drop down "Loyalty Program". All the benefits and how it works will be explained in that section of the travel site. You will only be able to enroll after *once* you have made your first booking, and Trip Merchant has added your email address to the back end of the system allowing you to register. These rewards enable you to accumulate travel dollars to use for redemption on future travel experiences.

Single Travelers: Trip Merchant recognizes the challenges that single travelers are often penalized by having to pay the single supplement. Trip Merchant has a travel style titled "Solo Travel", here is where departures are featured that waive the single supplement cost. Also, in the "**Group Departures**" section all the programs that are shown below the title "Featured Group Departures" have an option when you select the "**Register Now**" on your selected trip that "if you're single and looking for a traveling companion", Trip Merchant will attempt to match you up with somebody from your association of the same gender that is also a single looking for a share.





Sign Up for Trip Merchant's twice monthly <u>e-newsletter</u> directly on the site, so that you can be notified of group departures, new deals, live online travel presentations, last minute offers and other travel news to keep you up to date!

Thank you and we look forward to continuing to offer you great travel opportunities and savings.

Happy travels!

Ryan Mikucki & Tom MacLean- Co-Founders **Trip Merchant**

Bob Bouchard - President **MARGE**



