

Boston Sunday Globe

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M4 Travel

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The Concierge

TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD



La Souffleur beach in Guadeloupe.

CHRISTOPHER MUTHER/GLOBE STAFF



NORWEGIAN SHIFT

French Caribbean routes go to T.F. Green

BY CHRISTOPHER MUTHER | GLOBE STAFF

For the past two years Bostonians have had a tantalizingly inexpensive option to escape to the Caribbean on low-cost carrier Norwegian Air.

That escape from Logan is now a thing of the past.

The airline offered no-frills flights from Logan starting at \$79 one way (usually with \$129 or higher return fare) to the Caribbean islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. As a result, tourism rates on those islands soared about 200 percent. Both of those islands survived Hurricane Irma with minimal-to-no damage.

This year, Bostonians eager to repeat their bargain Caribbean vacation will notice something different. The flights to Martinique and Guadeloupe are no longer leaving out of Logan, they've moved to T.F. Green Airport in Providence (technically Warwick). Earlier this week, you could nab a one-way fare out of T.F. Green to Martinique or Guadeloupe for \$49, but that number may no longer look as appealing to Bostonians when travel to Rhode Island is factored into the mix.

A spokesman for Norwegian says the move is airline related: "The main reason is to streamline our Boeing 737 operation. . . . We launched our new Boeing 737 MAX routes from Providence earlier this summer to a number of destinations in Ireland, Scotland, and Norway. So at Logan, we will focus on our 787 Dreamliner operation."

It's possible to easily get from Boston to the airport in Providence with a little more time — and money. Long term weekly parking at T.F. Green is \$75 a week, or \$15 a day. There is also a T.F. Green stop on the purple Stoughton line of the MBTA, but the train takes more than an hour and a half and there is no weekend service. There is also a Peter Pan Bus available from Boston to T.F. Green, with an average price of \$25 one way.

Those \$79 Norwegian tickets are starter fares. You pay extra to choose a seat, check baggage, or eat or drink on the flight. There are still plenty of bargain fares on different airlines departing out of Logan to warmer climes. You just need to sit and search a bit longer.

HERE

SEE FAMOUS ARTWORKS ONLY IN N.H.

View rarely shown works by avant-garde artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec at the Currier Museum in Manchester, N.H., the only New England venue for this fascinating show. Toulouse-Lautrec captured Paris's cafe culture, raucous nightlife, and famous performers in his posters and advertisements, which still influence modern-day marketing and design. The exhibit, "The Paris of Toulouse-Lautrec: Prints and Posters From the Museum of Modern Art," runs Sept. 30 through Jan. 7, 2018. It features more than 100 works, and will be complemented by a series of films, dance performances, live music, and dress-up events. Admission: \$5 special exhibition fee, on top of general admission, which ranges from free for 12 and under to \$15 for 18 and older. 603-669-6144, www.currier.org.



HAVE A SCREAMING GOOD TIME

Get chased through dark woods and enjoy unlimited rides on a roller coaster and giant swing at Crammore Mountain Resort, weekends throughout October. The resort offers a 50-minute haunting experience that takes visitors through dark rooms and creepy mazes, and then through a scary wooded outdoor space. Keep an eye out for ghosts and ghouls along the way. And don't miss the Haunted Playground, where you can ride on the Soaring Eagle Zip Line, Giant Swing, and Mountain Coaster as many times as you can stomach. The Ghoull

suits visitors 10 and older; age and size restrictions apply for the rides. Rates: \$32 per person for Ghoulling haunting experience; \$19-\$25 for Haunted Playground; \$44 for experience and playground. 603-356-5544, www.theghoulling.com.

THERE

WINE, DINE, AND FLY AT OREGON RESORT

Visit Oregon's wine country and enjoy a private helicopter tour to three wineries in the Willamette Valley, a self-guided winery tour in a Lexus, and a stay in a luxury suite. The Allison Inn and Spa, located 45 minutes from Portland, has unveiled a new VIP package that includes a private helicopter tour from the inn to Premier-Ash Wine Cellars, Gran Moraine Winery, and WillaKenzie Estate, where you will enjoy tours and tastings. Visit Purple Hands Winery and Beaux Freres in your complimentary Lexus rental, and then use your \$500 dining credit at the resort's signature restaurant, Jory, which draws many ingredients from the property's 1.5-acre chef's garden. The package also includes a gift box of five wines. The inn features 77 guestrooms and eight suites with cozy fireplaces and terraces. Rates for the VIP package start at \$5,700, based on double occupancy; regular room rates start at \$420. 877-294-2525, www.theallison.com.

DESERT FESTIVAL BLENDS MUSIC, ART, AND MORE

Join other free-thinking, nomadic souls in the deserts of western Texas for the Trans-Pecos Festival of Music and Love. This three-day festival, which includes headliners Lee Ann Womack, Wilco, and Jenny Lewis, and a stellar lineup of folk, indie, and Americana bands, runs Sept. 28 to Oct. 1. It takes place at El Cosmico, a communal campground-style site in the town of Marfa where visitors sleep in vintage trailers, tepees, yurts, and safari tents. Sign up for workshops that range from hair braiding, embroidery, and drawing with wood-burning pens to weaving your own Acapulco chair. Enjoy classic Texas cuisine from food vendors, and don't miss the yoga

classes, spa treatments, and art installations. Tickets: \$75 per person for one day, \$220 for three days, and \$275 for three days plus camping. www.elcosmico.com/stay/happenings/trans-pecos-festival.

EVERYWHERE

A DRESS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Pack a few Nuu-Muu dresses in your luggage and throw one on for your journey, and you have the staple items for all your adventures. These quick-dry, wrinkle-free dresses come in dozens of jazz patterns (including three new batik designs) and suit almost any occasion: Add jewelry and smart-looking shoes for a business meeting, pair with flip-flops for a beach outing, or toss on running shoes and compete in a 10K.

Each Nuu-Muu is made of a silky polyester/spandex blend, and hand-sewn in the United States.

Choose from several styles, including the Classic Nuu-Muu with the keyhole neckline, or the Scoop Nuu-Muu (with the scoop neckline) or Run-Muu, which come with two handy pockets on the back for stashing car keys, a phone, or other small items. Mini-Muu dresses suit your little adventures, offering the same rip- and stain-proof qualities as the women's versions. Women's XS-3XL, \$88; girl's S-XL, \$48. 360-392-8368, www.nuu-muu.com.

AN ALL-NATURAL BUG REPELLANT

Fend off biting bugs on your travels with an all-natural insect spray. Babytime! Mighty Shield, which suits all ages, has also that's mixed with fruit, seed, and nut oils to create a non-greasy lotion. This lotion protects your skin from pesky bugs, provides anti-inflammatory properties to soothe existing bug bites, and contains moisturizer properties that help hydrate your skin. Active ingredients include castor, linseed, cedar, lemongrass, and rosemary oils. Good for children as young as 6 months old. \$12.50 for 3.4-ounce bottle. www.babytimeusa.com.

KARI BODNARCHUK

Take a ghost tour in Bar Harbor

By Diane Daniel
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

If you take an evening stroll with Bar Harbor Ghost Tours, you'll hear about ghosts, monsters, and giants haunting the historic seaport village, but you'll also be treated to Wabanaki spirit tales passed down in the region for thousands of years.

"Some of our stories date back 12,000 years, and you won't find them in print anywhere," said Jennifer Pictou, who started the native-minded tour company three years ago. Pictou is a member of the Micmac Tribe, part of the Wabanaki Confederacy, known to European settlers as Acadia. Guides dress in 1870s bustle gowns and top hats to represent a group of women who were called "undertaker lady assistants," Pictou said. "During the Victorian era, they were hired into homes after a death to deal with the more delicate matters of grieving, particularly for women and children. So they weren't really undertakers, but a different kind of assistant."

Pictou's "Historic Homes Walking Tour" option also places an emphasis on shared history by relaying Euro-American and Wabanaki perspectives. When Bar Harbor developed into a summer haven and year-round residence, Wabanaki Indian encampments were already established there and Mount Desert Island served as a summer gathering place for many Native Americans.

"The tour looks at the social push and pull, particularly in the area of Bar Harbor," said Pictou, whose other job is tribal historic preservation officer for the Aroostook Band of Micmacs.

The architectural tour also visits historic buildings that were erected during the heyday of the "cottage era" as well as those built in the aftermath of the Great Fires of 1947.

The only outing not including Native American history is the "Prohibition Tour & Speakeasy," an hourlong walking tour of former rum-running and police-dodging hot spots, followed by an indoor tour of the 1932 Criterion Theater, with drinking options.

"The Criterion, which we wanted to highlight, was the old speakeasy," said Pictou, who donates part of that tour's proceeds for the upkeep of the historic theater.

Ghost and architectural tours cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and are free for ages 5 and under. Prohibition tours, for adults only, are \$25. Information and tickets are available at www.barharbortourstours.com.

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Jennifer Pictou addresses a group on a Bar Harbor Ghost Tour.