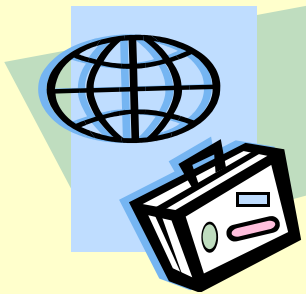




What Travel Writers Say Newsletter

www.whattravelwriterssay.com

Outward Bound: Mike Keenan



April and Easter have both arrived, but March was an extremely busy month with the TMAC (Travel Media Association of Canada) AGM/Conference in Cardiff, capital of Wales and visits to Savannah, Georgia and Hilton Head, South Carolina where we watched news media coverage of the hotly-debated Obama public health care initiative in the United States.

The Toronto Star published my take on Welsh rugby which can be found at: <http://www.thestar.com/travel/europe/article/788961--in-cardiff-it-s-about-beating-the-famine> The Welsh treat the sport like a religion, and, as you will read, there is no greater challenge than that of the vaunted "All-blacks" from New Zealand.

Sun Media also published my piece on amazing Cardiff which can be read at: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/cardiffwales1.html> More about Wales later as it's a remarkable venue for tourists, not just to count millions of sheep and hundreds of castles.

Please see Outward Bound, page 3

Why buy good luggage?
You only use it when
you travel.

Yogi Berra

Readers' Forum Contest

Travel Forum: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indextravelforum.html>

The above link takes you to our "Travel Forum" where you can post tips and ask questions related to travel. To help stimulate readers, we are running a contest: for each tip supplied, your name is entered into a draw. It might take you two minutes, but the prize is well worth two minutes; it's a two-night stay for two at Toronto's Delta Chelsea Hotel in deluxe accommodation with dinner for two in the restaurant, "Bb33" and hotel parking. The hotel is located in the heart of the city with easy access to shopping (Eaton Centre) and theatre. (33 Gerrard Street West. Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1Z4, (T) 416 585 4396 www.deltachelsea.com)

We announce the winner in May's edition so send in your April tips. Major League Baseball starts again April 4, so you might like to take in a Jays game while in Toronto. (MLB official site: <http://mlb.mlb.com/index.jsp>) Send tips to whattravelwriterssay@cogeco.net

Please see Readers' Forum Contest on page 3

Featured Tip

Are you worried about deep-vein thrombosis on long plane flights? For the latest information, check: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/tipsthrombosis.html>

Do you want to:

- Safari in Tanzania?
- Use a lesson plan?
- Teach English somewhere in the world?
- Access an international telephone code?
- Access world temperatures?
- Use a time/date calculator?
- Know what to tip?
- Discover Canadian tourism events yearlong?
- Find a world tourism office?
- Access a worldwide list of towers?
- Find information about trains worldwide?
- Discover information on translation?
- Access travel blogs or travel books?
- Try playing travel games?
- Brush up on travel gear spa?
- Travel with a pet?

If you hear a different drummer - dreamer, take a chance ... The road you choose to travel means the difference in the dance.

D. Morgan

See Featured Tips, p. 4



Educators

Educators are reminded that our database contains lesson plans and an abundance of material that can be readily adapted to the classroom.

If engaged in "Trivial Pursuit" contests, this is the place to go!
See actual lesson plans at:

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/tipslessonplan.html>

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/tipslessonplan1.html>

Website of the month: Universal Newsreels www.archive.org/details/universal_newsreels

In the pre-TV era, people saw the news every week in their neighbourhood movie theatres. Newsreels were shown before every feature film and in dedicated newsreel theatres located in large cities. Universal Newsreel, produced from 1929 to 1967, was released twice a week. Each issue contained six or seven short stories, usually one to two minutes in length, covering world events, politics, sports, fashion, and whatever else might entertain the movie audience. These newsreels offer a fascinating and unique view of an era when motion pictures defined our culture and were a primary source of visual news reporting.

Universal City Studios gifted Universal Newsreel to the American people, put the newsreels into the public domain, and gave film materials to the National Archives in 1976. Surviving materials from the entire collection are available at the National Archives and Records Administration in College Park, Maryland.



Outward Bound: Mike Keenan cont'd.

Savannah touring was rewarding particularly after re-watching *Midnight in the Garden of Evil* featuring Kevin Spacey and John Cusack, directed by Clint Eastwood. Most non-Southern actors murder Southern accents, but Spacey hit it just right all the way through. The Mercer House was the setting for the movie. It was designed by New York architect, John S. Norris, for General Hugh W. Mercer, great grandfather of Johnny Mercer whose songs are played throughout the film. Construction of the house began in 1860, was interrupted by the Civil War and was later completed, circa 1868, by the new owner, John Wilder.

The Mercer Williams House Museum is located at 429 Bull St., Monterey Square. See www.mercerhouse.com. Savannah's array of public squares entice travellers to walk from one to another and along the way, one may visit Forrest Gump's bench and Clary's Cafe, Main St., from the film, *The Legend of Bagger Vance* directed by Robert Redford.

Savannah boasts many historical firsts: First Jewish Congregation in the South (1733), First City Planned on a System of Squares in North America, First English Hymnal (1736), First Lighthouse on South Atlantic Coast (1742), First Black Baptist Congregation (1788), First Cotton Gin (1793), First Golf Course in America (1794), First Steamship to Cross an Ocean (1819), First Motorized Fire Department in America (1911), First Girl Scout Troup in America (1912).

Restaurants are many and varied and we enjoyed several meals in the nearby City Market area, adjacent to Ellis Square, bustling with people, both locals and tourists. Otis Johnson, Savannah's mayor, says that there are few things he enjoys more than a leisurely stroll through downtown Savannah. "I've lived here my whole life, yet I still gasp at the picture-postcard scenes that lurk around every corner." We heartily agree!

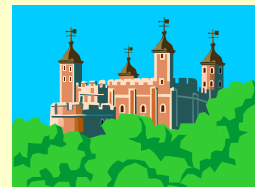
Travel is educational; it teaches you how to get rid of money in a hurry.

S. Barry Lipkin

Featured Tip from page 2

- Avoid travel scams?

Well, that's just the "T" list of travel tips at www.whattravelwriterssay.com where there are 400 more links to every conceivable travel related question that you might have. Be sure to bookmark the site to assist you in the future.



Industry News

For the latest travel industry news, visit: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indexnews.html>

Best Western Promenade Hotel: in the Historic District
Toll Free Reservations: 800-780-7234
412 W Bay Street, Savannah, Georgia, 31401-1115, US
Phone: 912/233-1011 Fax: 912/238-0020

Located within walking distance of the Historic District, River Street and the City Market. The famed restaurant, *The Lady and Son's*, owned by Chef Paula Deen <http://www.foodnetwork.com/paulas-home-cooking/index.html> is close by. History fans will enjoy visiting the First African Baptist Church, the Mercer Williams House and Old Fort Jackson, all within five miles of the hotel. Tybee Island, famous for its beautiful beaches is just a short 20 minute drive away.

Savannah web resources:

Savannah by foot tours: www.savannahtours.com
Savannah movie tours: www.savannahmovietours.com
Walking tours with Savannah Dan: www.SavannahDan.com
Davenport House Museum: www.davenportsavga.com
Architectural tours of Savannah: www.architecturalsavannah.com
Savannah Area Convention & Visitors Bureau: www.SavannahVisit.com

Contact Erica Backus, Director of Public Relations:
ebackus@SavannahVisit.com Ph: 912-644-6405

Savannah architecture includes beautiful examples of Federal, Georgian, Gothic Revival, Greek Revival, Italianate, Regency, Romanesque Revival and Second French Empire buildings and its ironwork has been restored to its original beauty.

The city is encapsulated by a protective canopy of trees and shrubs - solid Live Oaks, magnificent Magnolias, dripping Spanish Moss and colourful Azaleas known as "the royalty of the garden."

For those of you who enjoy photography, I recommend the Old Savannah Tours trolley which affords great views and provides a quick overview of the city. www.OldSavannahTours.com

A good way to view the riverfront is by a riverboat - www.savannahriverboat.com which travels along the Savannah River and under the impressive Talmadge Memorial Bridge which allows automobiles to venture to South Carolina. You will probably witness huge ships unloading on the extensive docks just past the bridge.

We flew into Savannah/Hilton Head International Airport <http://www.savannahairport.com/> where we rented a car with hand controls from Hertz - <http://www.hertz.com/rentacar/reservation/gaq/index.jsp?bsc=t&targetPage=reservationOnHomepage.jsp>
All travel arrangements (car rental, flights, etc.) were made through Hotwire.com - <http://www.hotwire.com/> which provided the best rates available at the time. We use Hotwire a lot and thus far, have not been disappointed.

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