



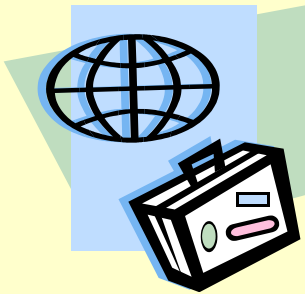
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What Travel Writers Say Newsletter

www.whattravelwriterssay.com

Outward Bound: Tubac Arizona — where art & history meet

© by Michelle Hull Norell



Tubac lies 45 easy-driving highway miles south of Tucson, Arizona, the small university city ringed by mountain ranges. Allow yourself time for a day trip, where—as the welcoming sign announces—“art and history meet.”

The leisurely drive affords myriad sights in addition to the countless saguaro cactus. The Mission San Xavier del Bac (made familiar by famed photographer, Ansel Adams), rises strikingly on the right, a shining lime plaster incarnation of its nickname, “White Dove of the Desert.” Farther on, the huge plateau-like mound that looks like a set from “Close Encounters of the Third Kind” is actually a copper mine, with its own history of mining technologies and corporate battles. On the left, signs invite travelers to tour the impressive Titan Missile Museum in Green Valley.

Tubac is a small community whose dual identities derive from the Tubac Presidio State Historical Park and a multitude of galleries, shops, and artists’ workshops. These two aspects of the town are relatively, but not entirely, discreet. Ambling around town (the right pace for exploring Tubac), the visitor finds an historical plaque on a shop announcing that it was once the “Custom House,” founded in 1914 as a general store and later—since it stood beside the only road from Mexico through Nogales and Tubac to Tucson—the headquarters of Customs, Immigration, and the Border Patrol during ... Read the rest at: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/tubacarizona.html>

You grow up the day
you have your first real
laugh at yourself.

Ethel Barrymore

Latest WTWS Articles

Chipper mulches (seizes) the day (evening) at ESPN's Champion Stadium by Mike Keenan
 In Kissimmee — Bass, Buster, Grouper and Astros by Mike Keenan
 In Orlando — shop 'til you drop vs. read 'til you leave by Mike Keenan
 Sustainable Tourism Thrives in Punta Cana by Judi Lees
 In Arizona, try Tubac by Michelle Hull Norell
 Ride the Rails to Wilderness and Tuzigoot Ruins by Michelle Hull Norell
 Much of Portugal is gratis: here's the top ten tourist freebies by Mike Keenan
 A Sandstone Village — Medina, New, New York by George Bailey

All found at: www.whattravelwriterssay.com

Featured Tips:

Looking for cheap flights, accommodations, currency conversion, even local temperature or subway information? For the latest data, we supply 774 links to every conceivable travel related question that you might have. Bookmark this helpful site to assist you in future travel: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indextips.html>

This month's featured tip: **Vroom, Vroom, Vroom** which searches for the cheapest automobile rental rates - <http://www.vroomvroomvroom.com/> I used this site in March for a 19-day Florida rental and saved \$200 over other auto rental services such as Hotwire which I normally use.

A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable but more useful than a life spent doing nothing.

George Bernard Shaw



In addition to travel tips, our *What Travel Writers Say* website includes:

- Travel articles (486)
- Travel tips & links (774)
- Professional travel writers (93)
- Seniors' travel links (105)
- Current travel industry news (World-wide)
- Free newsletter sign up (33,305 members)
- Readers' Forum Travel Tips



Educators & Friends Travel Discount!

With a readership base of +30,000, we have some purchasing clout that has resulted in a special arrangement with **Glenny Travel** with offices on both sides of the border. Mention that you subscribe to the *What Travel Writers Say Newsletter* & that you are a teacher or friend and you are eligible for discounts that range from 5% to 10% on tours & cruises.

Glenny Travel: <http://www.glennytravel.com/>

Contact Stephen Marshall: stephen.glennytravel@bellnet.ca

Welcome to our newest writer

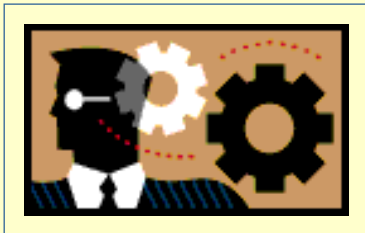
Michelle H. Norell, PhD, has degrees from the University of Rochester, Brown University, and George Mason University. She is an amateur photographer and retired educator with a professional history in school administration and teaching English, Film Study, and Advanced Composition. Welcome aboard!

URL of the month: Instructables

<http://www.instructables.com/>

"Instructables is the Biggest How To and DIY community where people make and share inspiring, entertaining, and useful projects, recipes, and hacks."

There is something for everybody here from baking a pie to painting your car.



Outward Bound: Sea World's Killer Apps

© by Mike Keenan

Sea World's 15-20-minute Killer Whale show is singularly worth the price of admission, but for many, the principal players are troubling. The black and white Killer Whale is the largest predator in the sea, and my guess, after watching these agile animals, is that if you have been selected as their prey of the day, even if you are standing one full regulation football field first down distance away from the water on terra firma, your goose remains cooked. With sensational speed, power and the ability to jump high in the air to literally intercept passes, the Killer Whale reminds me of Dick Butkus of the Chicago Bears, one of the NFL's all-time great linebacker-predators. I date myself again.

The vast stadium is filled to capacity, standing room only as these mammoth creatures swim, jump, speed up, jump again and to display their apparent absolute disdain - they collectively display their ample derrieres to the crowd, raise heavy, broad tails in the air and bring them down forcefully, submerging fans foolishly located in the front rows - in an immense deluge of cascading water.

Imagine the thrill of a solitary kayaker meeting a pod these social critters - on the open sea, their natural habitat. My wife refused to attend the show on the ethical grounds of wild animals held in captivity. Several months ago, the largest of these giants, Tilikum, at 13,000 pounds, grabbed hold of a trainer's pony-tail and drowned her in the pool in front of a startled audience. This raised the thorny issue of captivity once more. I respect my wife's view. However, I'm philosophically wishy-washy on the matter. I figure that professionally, I have an obligation to cover what millions of tourists want to see. And really, this has been the highlight of the trip for me. The mammoth whales are pure poetry in motion. But yes indeed, they are decidedly denied the open sea.

At the park entrance, the first animals we encounter are a flock of flamingoes. I'm not sure about the correct collective noun. It might be a bevy or a riot of flamingoes. The way they stunningly look, perhaps a pride. It's the most pink flamingoes supported on long, skinny legs that I have ever seen, other than their plastic cousins lavishly displayed on a local lawn, signifying that some brave soul has reached 50 or 60 years of age. You don't see...
Read the rest at: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/seaworldflorida.html>

Travel Fact of the day

The Arc de Triomphe in Paris is the largest triumphal arch in the world. The arch stands 162 feet. - Provided by The World Almanac, 2011

More interesting travel facts are available at: <http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/indexdiyounknow.html>



Instant Replay

Anything you're good at contributes to happiness.

Bertrand Russell

Industry News

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

Kissimmee & Orlando

We spent 19 days in Florida, 14 in the Kissimmee-Orlando area and 5 in Dunedin, spring training headquarters for the Blue Jays - http://toronto.bluejays.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=tor.

For 7 days I blogged for Visit Kissimmee. You can read the blogs at www.i.seeKissimmee.com Visit Kissimmee pay a daily fee of \$100 for bloggers, so it's a good way to recover your hotel costs. <http://www.visitkissimmee.com/leisure/>

Hotels in the area have special rates for bloggers which you can obtain from Jennifer Resendez, Domestic Leisure Product Manager, Kissimmee Convention & Visitors Bureau 1925 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy. 407-742-8203/ Fax: 407-742-8262, jresendez@floridakiss.com

We also stayed at a condo run by Magical Memories. These condos are quite spacious, 2-bedrooms, washer-dryer, kitchen etc., & can be had for as little as \$65 per diem.



Magical Memories condos

See: <http://www.magicalmemories.com/> Ph: 866- 535-7851. There are lots of condos available in the Kissimmee-Orlando area for short or long term stays. This makes the hotels quite competitive.

What Travel Writers Say

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Web: www.whattravelwriterssay.com



In Dunedin, we stayed with friends and returned to Orlando for one more day prior to flying on Southwest Airlines back to Buffalo. <http://www.southwest.com/> The flights were reasonable and smooth and there was no charge for baggage (up to two bags)

Best deal I could get for car rental was Alamo through **Vroom, Vroom, Vroom**, better than my Buffalo Entertainment Book and my favourite, Hotwire. <http://www.entertainment.com/save/home> <http://www.hotwire.com/> Saved \$200. See tips section.

Entertainment books are sold (\$15-35) in most major cities, featuring two-for-one prices on meals. The book pays for itself after your first meal.

Our last night was at golf legend, Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club & Lodge, 9000 Bay Hill Blvd., Reservations: 407-876-2429, www.bayhill.com where they are celebrating their 50th anniversary. Palmer's PGA MasterCard Invitational had just concluded, won by one stroke by Martin Laird, <http://www.arnoldpalmerinvitational.com/> the first European to win in its 33 year history.



Arnie in action

Prior to this, we stayed at Mystic Dunes Golf Club & <http://www.mysticdunesgolf.com/> Resort with special rates for bloggers.



Mystic Dunes Course