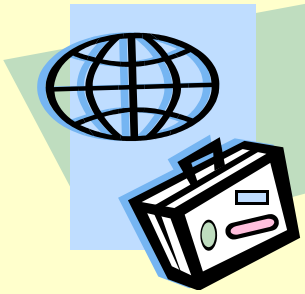




# What Travel Writers Say Newsletter

[www.whattravelwriterssay.com](http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com)

## Outward Bound: Mike Keenan



March brings the much awaited school break as well as "madness" for college basketball fans wherein the best hoopsters from across the U.S. are engaged in competition that whittles them down to a "Final Four" confrontation.

The usual suspects will be there - Duke, Kansas, Kentucky, Syracuse, Villanova, West Virginia, Georgetown, Wisconsin and many others, each representing a specific geographical region but utilizing athletes on scholarships from every part of the world. You can check the latest standings at the NCAA's official website: <http://www.ncaa.com/>

For real die-hards, check out the "10 greatest NCS March Madness Games of the decade" at: <http://mmod.ncaa.com/>

In March, I will explore Wales in the UK and then beautiful Hilton Head in South Carolina. I hope some of you have fun in the sun and that the remainder, in consolation, take lots and lots of vitamin D. (Not nice; I know.)

*A journey is like  
marriage. The certain  
way to be wrong is to  
think you control it.*  
John Steinbeck

## Readers' Forum Contest

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

The link above 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 winter contest whereby for each tip supplied, your name is entered into a draw, much like throwing your business card into a bowl. It's simple. There are no gimmicks. It might take you two minutes, but the prize is well worth two minutes because 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. Not bad, eh? 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](http://www.deltachelsea.com) )

We will run the contest during two newsletters, March and April and announce the winner in May's edition. Send in your tips. Major League Baseball starts up again April 4, so you might like to take in a Jays game while in Toronto. (MLB official site:

## Featured Tip

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

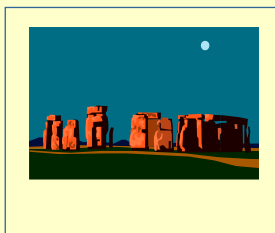
Do you want to:

- Find a rental property advertized by the owner, omitting the middle man?
- Know the religious affiliation in a particular country?
- Visit a reservoir or dam somewhere in the world?
- Discover a restaurant rating?
- Find a resort in Ontario?
- Learn more about Rick Steves and his travels?
- Find a river located somewhere in the world?
- Learn about rock climbing?
- Check on available roller coasters?
- Access a sacred site?
- Check the sex ratio in any country?
- Track a ship?
- Visit a shrine?
- Try skydiving?
- Read a worldwide skyscraper list?
- Find a specific spa?

*One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things."*

Henry Miller

See Featured Tips, p. 4



## Educators

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

Even 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: How the brain works

Every animal you can think of - mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians - has a brain. (Yes, even politicians. I know; that's mean.) But the human brain is unique. It gives us power to think, plan, speak, imagine & travel. It's truly an amazing organ.

Find out more about the brain at <http://www.howstuffworks.com/brain.htm>



## Readers' Forum Contest cont'd.

<http://mlb.mlb.com/index.jsp>)

So what's a travel tip? It could be anything, a recommended restaurant or hotel or activity or something learned over the years that assists you with travel. Check out some examples on our webpage. Don't forget that in a draw, everyone has the same chance and it will be far, far better than that of any Lotto game run by the government.

To help inspire you, here's a look at the Chelsea in Toronto where you can treat yourself to an affordable getaway at Toronto's Entertainment Hotel! Just steps from all the city has to offer, enjoy free skating at City Hall, get lost in our "new" cultural treasures, the ROM and AGO; take in a musical like Menopause Out Loud or Little House on the Prairie; or cozy up inside, in our adult-only pool and health club or five restaurants and lounges. Great Canadian Weekends begin at the Delta Chelsea!



*Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.*

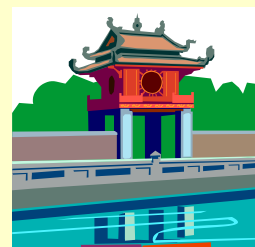
*Mark Twain*

*Featured Tip* from page 2

- Investigate Sport Tourism?
- Locate stars & satellites?

Well, that's just the "R-S" list of travel tips at [www.whattravelwriterssay.com](http://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>

Interested in visiting beautiful **Alexandria, Virginia**? Check out the full year of scheduled tourism activities at our Industry News section:

<http://www.whattravelwriterssay.com/travelnews1.html#alex>

Holland's world-famous **Keukenhof Gardens** will open in grand fashion with "Gone With the Wind" exhibition: March 18 – May 16, 2010. The 80-acre park located one hour from Amsterdam and renowned for millions of tulips, narcissus, hyacinths and other bulb flowers. Open daily from 8:00am to 7:30pm. Admission fee is 14.00 Euro (approx. US \$20) adults & 7.00 Euro (approx. US \$10) for children. [www.keukenhof.nl](http://www.keukenhof.nl)

**Barceló Habana Ciudad** Debuts as Upscale Miramar's Newest Urban Hotel: Enjoying a strong presence in Cuba since 2002, where it opened four other hotels (Barceló Solymar Beach Resort and Barceló Marina Palace Beach Resort in Varadero, and Barceló Cayo Santa María Beach and Barceló Cayo Santa María Colonial in Cayo Santa María), Barceló Hotels & Resorts just opened its first urban establishment on the island: Barceló Habana Ciudad (<http://www.barcelohabanaciudad.com>), a five-star hotel with 186 rooms located in the well-known residential area of Miramar.

### What Travel Writers Say

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Canadians have made it clear that **Barbados** is one of their top choices when it comes to vacation destinations. A total of 63,826 Canadians visited Barbados in 2009, boasting an 11.2 per cent increase from the previous year. This year, **Air Canada** is celebrating 60 years of flying to Barbados. The airline currently provides daily direct service from Toronto (9 flights weekly) and twice-weekly direct flights from Montreal. **WestJet** also offers non-stop flights from Toronto, five times a week.

Peru's ancient Inca ruins of **Machu Picchu** should reopen April 1, more than two months after rain stranded hundreds of tourists at the popular spot, the government said.

One-half of U.S. adults have taken an **adventure trip** in the past five years. This includes 31 million adults who engaged in hard adventure activities like whitewater rafting, scuba diving and mountain biking. (Source: Adventure Travel Report.)

The **learning aspect of travel** is important to U.S. travelers, with 30.2 million adults having taken an educational trip to learn or improve a skill, sport or hobby in the past three years. Eighteen percent of travelers in the past year said that taking such a trip was the main purpose of their travel.

**Family reunions** and travel seem to go hand-in-hand, judging by the fact that 34 percent of U.S. adults have traveled to one in the past three years.

One-fifth of U.S. residents went on a **garden tour**, visited a botanical garden, attended a gardening show or festival, or participated in some other garden-related activity in the past five years.