



Dear Group Leader,

There is no better group of people to travel with than like-minded friends — and no better way to travel than as a Group

Leader with Vantage Deluxe World Travel. Here's why ...

Begin planning now for your group travel in 2009, and take advantage of hot Vantage deals and special group incentives (see panel to the right). We know that in 2009, especially, you will be looking to stretch your travel dollars. Well, we include so much in all of our trips, that once you arrive at your destination — whether it be on a Vantage riverboat or any of our land or small ship trips — your out-of-pocket expenses will be very minimal. And, with Vantage, you and your group can rest easy because we guarantee our prices once you reserve, so your price is locked in against currency fluctuations and fuel surcharges.

Whether your group is interested in an escorted land tour, small ship cruisetour, or deluxe European riverboat cruise — Vantage includes more features so you and your group get the most enriching cultural experiences, and have the most fun together!

As in previous newsletters, the information herein is designed to help you participate more easily in the Group Travel process. But it's also a forum and a place to share ideas. We'd love for you to submit your group photos, and share any stories that would be of interest to other group leaders.

The spring season is the hot time for planning your 2009 Group Travel. Gather your group and reap the rewards while you embark on the Vantage Memorable Journey® of a lifetime!

Sincerely,

Henry Lewis
Chief Executive Officer



Group Travel is **HOT** This Time of Year!

THERE IS A DEFINITE WARMING TREND — and not just in temperature — but also in terms of warm travel destinations, and hot travel deals when you travel as a Group Leader. In fact, Vantage is leading the industry in hot offers for Group Leaders. Here are just a few reasons why Group Travel with Vantage is so enticing:

- You can earn a **FREE trip** with as little as 10 paying passengers
- You can **win a trip to ANYWHERE** that Vantage goes

- You can earn Travel Credits of up to a **\$10,000 CASH reward** through Vantage's Refer a Friend referral program

“Hot” Vantage destinations include *Best of Africa: Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia & South Africa; Extraordinary Wonders of China & the Yangtze River; Peru, Ecuador & the Galapagos Islands; and Castles Along the Rhine & Danube* — just to name a few. Book them while they're hot!

Qualify For One of Our FAM's and See For Yourself!

AS A VANTAGE GROUP TRAVEL LEADER, you may qualify for one of Vantage's FAM trips. These “Familiarization” symposiums reveal the distinct advantages of travelling with us versus other tour operators.

Our next FAM trip for fall 2008 is *Croatia & Montenegro: Hidden Treasures of the Adriatic*, which was rated

“excellent” by 91% of Vantage travelers in 2007. Croatia is a destination not to be missed. See it for yourself!

To qualify, you will need to have travelled with Vantage during the last three years, and your group needs to have included 20 or more passengers. Call our Groups Department at **1 800 994-6321** for more information.

Most Popular Vantage Trips

ALTHOUGH THE RANKING TENDS TO CHANGE RAPIDLY, currently the most popular Vantage trips all have a “riverboat” or “small ship” component. That’s because travellers generally like the idea of unpacking and packing only once. Then there’s the fact that “getting there” involves an ever-changing panorama of riverside scenery, interrupted only by delightful shipboard activities. And, all your meals and most of the sightseeing is all included!

For group travel, a riverboat trip or small ship cruise is a particularly good choice — because the atmosphere aboard the vessel is inherently intimate and convivial. Here are Vantage’s Top 3 most popular trips to journey on as a group:



You’ll view dozens of historic and legendary castles, such as medieval Burg Katz, as you cruise.

CASTLES ALONG THE RHINE AND DANUBE

**16-DAY RIVER CRUISE
MAY – NOVEMBER, 2009**

Fairytales come alive on our most popular river cruise that takes you through the heart of Europe from Holland to Hungary. You’ll cruise the Danube, Main, and Rhine rivers aboard your deluxe Vantage riverboat as you visit historic cities and storybook towns. Highlights include tours of Budapest, Vienna, Nuremberg, Bamberg, Heidelberg, Rudesheim, and more. Airfare, meals, comprehensive sightseeing, and Cultural Connections are all included!

FROM ONLY \$3615



Treat yourself... Dutch style. This delightful river cruise reveals the distinctive springtime charms of Holland & Belgium.

WATERWAYS OF HOLLAND & BELGIUM

**12-DAY RIVER CRUISE
MARCH - APRIL, 2009**

Nothing compares to seeing the iconic windmills and Tulips of the Dutch countryside in springtime — and there’s no better way to explore it all than on a Vantage deluxe river cruise. The scenic wonders of world-famous Keukenhof Gardens await you — and you’ll learn a thing or two about Dutch flower bulbs through a Vantage exclusive visit with Dutch bulb growers. Walking tours of Kinderdijk’s 19 windmills, and Delft and the Royal Delft Porcelain Factory round out this magical journey! Don’t miss it!

FROM ONLY \$3315



Toast the good life as you cruise through the scenic Iron Gates en route to the fascinating cities of Eastern Europe.

EASTERN EUROPE & THE BLACK SEA

**13-DAY RIVER CRUISE
MAY – SEPTEMBER, 2009**

Explore the old world capitals of Eastern Europe, and meet the people of this re-emerging area, who are eager to share their culture with visitors like you. You’ll enjoy lunch with Bulgarian university students, tour the resort town of Constanta on the Black Sea, and experience a thrilling equestrian show on a visit to the Hungarian steppe region. You’ll also enjoy tours of the grand cities of Budapest, Belgrade, and Bucharest. See the Eastern Europe of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, with Vantage!

FROM ONLY \$4015

Refer a Group and SAVE!

As more and more travellers are discovering, Vantage Deluxe World Travel offers the most varied and exciting packages in the marketplace — at prices that are truly exceptional.

At the heart of Vantage programs is superior value — meaning that trips include virtually everything ... round trip air transportation, most meals, comprehensive sightseeing, exclusive cultural events, seasoned program managers, and much more.

And don't forget Vantage's 100% Price Guarantee: Once you reserve, your price is guaranteed not to change, regardless of fuel surcharges and currency fluctuations. Since we include so much in each of our trips, your actual out-of-

pocket expenses at the current exchange rate are minimal.

The Vantage Group Travel Program offers you an extraordinary opportunity to travel with friends, family, co-workers, or fellow members of a club or association. **All you have to do is organize a group of as few as 10 people — in addition to yourself — and you can travel for FREE.** (Alternatively, you can earn a commission in cash or a generous discount for everyone in your group.) Also, ask how your group can save even more by using our SmartBuy program, and save hundreds of dollars more per person.

*Get a group to go away together.
You're sure to have a wonderful time!*

Referral Rewards

Earn Travel Credits and Even Travel FREE!

Refer a friend to Vantage and you BOTH enjoy great travel savings — and now we've improved the terms so it's an even better deal for you, and gets better the more friends you refer! **So what are you waiting for? Spread the word and start reaping the rewards!**

For you:

- **Receive \$150 in Travel Credits** for each new traveller you refer. When you refer someone to Vantage, you'll earn a \$150 Vantage Travel Credit when they complete their first trip (that means you'll earn \$300 for a referred couple)
- The choice to save credits to

earn a **FREE trip** (up to a \$4,500 value) by referring 10 friends who book within one year

- Just in case you need another reason for referring someone to Vantage, we'll also enter you in our drawing to win **\$10,000 CASH** for every referral that books a trip with Vantage

For your friend:

- **\$100 per person** savings off any river or small ship cruise OR
- **\$50 per person** off any land tour or ocean cruise

In summary, because Vantage programs are 5-Star travel experiences, your FREE travel benefits are worth more than they are with other travel companies. Why not enjoy the best in group travel — for you and your members!



Back Row: Hazelee Stevenson, Phyllis Lumber, Lynette Coleman, John McCampbell, Lynore Hay. Middle Row: Jean Bain, Nancy Keenan, Carrie Saito, Anastasia Novikova (Program Manager), Dixie McCampbell, Patsy Perkins, Linda Anderson. Front Row: Jae Gober, Rowena Marks.

Meet the Marks Group

We recently caught up with one of Vantage's stellar Group Leaders, Rowena Marks, of The Marks Group. *Imperial Russian Waterways & St. Petersburg* was the Marks Group's first tour with Vantage, and they enjoyed the experience so much they've already signed up for their next tour, *Waterways of Holland & Belgium* in April 2009.

Regarding their *Imperial Russian Waterways & St. Petersburg* trip, Rowena had this to say,

"We were pampered from the minute we landed at the airport. Our Program Manager was the best! The scenery was beautiful, the onion domes were gorgeous; and the cultural activities were educational and fun. Plus, the ship's musicians were super!"

Rowena mentions many of the components that make a Vantage Memorable Journey® so special: Experienced Vantage Program Managers, comprehensive sightseeing and Cultural Connections, and the luxury, ease, and fun of travelling by riverboat.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

Do you have any great stories or high resolution digital photos you'd like to share from your travels? Vantage would like to hear about your Group Leader experiences and receive your commentary in general.

E-mail **Fran Levoy** at flevoy@vantagetravel.com or write to her at:

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