

FYI Travel: Oregon's Heceta Head Lighthouse welcomes overnight visitors

by Tom_Roebuck

Oregon's share of the Pacific coastline owes its international reputation to the rugged beauty and natural wonders found along its 363-mile stretch. Unlike other states, all of Oregon's beaches are protected from encroachment and entirely open to the public, so visitors can play along the Pacific and experience its pristine splendor.

SAFE SHORES - The Heceta Head Lighthouse, perched on the cliffs of the central Oregon coast, is one of the few in the country that has overnight accommodations. CNS Photo by Steve Lenz. The quaint and cozy rooms perched next to Heceta Head Lighthouse overlook the mighty Pacific Ocean and offer one of the best vantage points for storm and marine wildlife watching on the central Oregon Coast. First illuminated in 1894, Heceta Head is one of only a few lighthouses across the country that has overnight accommodations. The owners, both certified executive chefs, serve up tempting seven-course breakfasts for their guests, highlighting fresh herbs, cheeses, produce and pastries.

FYI: Winter rates begin at \$133 a night, peak season rates begin at \$199. For more information call toll free 866-547-3696, or visit www.hecetalighthouse.com.

FROM THE WEST COAST TO THE WEST BANK

El Al, Israel's national airline and the only airline to offer nonstop flights between Los Angeles and Israel, will increase the number of L.A.-Tel Aviv nonstops to five every week starting April 1. El Al is also offering a spring early-bird airfare and special companion fares for departures from L.A. between April 1 and May 31. Passengers can fly nonstop from L.A. to Tel Aviv for \$1,483 round trip in economy class.

El Al also has round-trip companion fares when two people travel together. In economy class, the cost is \$1,433 per person; platinum business class is \$3,976 per person; and first class is \$7,105 per person.

Nonstop flights from Los Angeles operate on Boeing 777 aircraft. Every seat on the 777 features personal TV screens in all three classes of service, and a wide selection of in-flight entertainment is offered. First and platinum business class passengers can relax in the comfort of flat-bed seats.

FYI: For more information or reservations, call 800-223-6700 or visit www.elal.com.

NEW MEXICO VIA SNOW OR SADDLE

The Hyatt Regency Tamaya introduces open-range, Western-style horseback riding under the turquoise skies of New Mexico with the new Saddle Up & Spa Dude Ranch Experience package. Participants can hone riding skills on the ancient lands of the Native American Pueblo of Santa Ana.

The five-day package is for all riding levels. Guests will have the opportunity to test and develop their skills in a rugged wild-West setting while enjoying the comfort of a world-class Hyatt resort.

The Saddle Up & Spa package includes five nights in luxury accommodations; five breakfasts, four lunches and five dinners; four days of caring for a dedicated horse, horseback riding and participation in a rodeo and awards ceremony; valet parking; two 50-minute spa treatments; all transportation including to and from airport and riding locations; and \$100 outfitting credit per person. An optional hot-air-balloon ride for an exhilarating aerial view of Albuquerque is \$195 per person.

Package pricing starts at \$3,495 plus for single occupancy. Double-, triple- and quad-occupancy prices are also available. The Saddle Up & Spa Dude Ranch Experience package is available Sundays through Thursdays starting May 25 through Sept. 28, excluding the weeks of July 6 and Aug. 3.

For those that prefer snow to saddles, the La Posada de Santa Fe Resort and Spa invites travelers to enjoy world-class skiing, a rejuvenating spa experience and s'mores with their Ski, Spa & S'more package, available through April 15. It includes two nights accommodations; two full-day lift tickets each day at Ski Santa Fe; one 60-minute massage per person; a welcome amenity of hot cocoa and s'mores; and daily breakfast for two at Fuego restaurant.

FYI: For reservations or more information about the Saddle Up & Spa package, call the Hyatt Tamaya directly at 505-867-1234 or visit www.tamaya.hyatt.com and www.tamaya-stables.com. For activity and dining reservations, please call 505-771-6037.

Rates for the Ski, Spa and S'more package start at \$238 per person, per night, based on double occupancy. Resort fee and parking are included. Subject to availability and blackout dates apply. Taxes and gratuities not included. For reservations or more information call 866-331-ROCK or visit www.rockresorts.com.

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