

‘WHERE THE WEST BEGINS’

Star-Telegram

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Travel

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The itinerary

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The Wauwinet has a deal for a five-night stay.
Courtesy of The Wauwinet

Summer deals on the island of Nantucket

If you are planning a trip to Massachusetts' pricey Nantucket Island this summer, keep this deal in mind: Book five consecutive nights July 6-24 and save 30 percent at the White Elephant Village, the Wauwinet or the Jared Coffin House. Rates start at \$2,500 for five nights at the White Elephant Village and the Wauwinet, while rates at Jared Coffin House start at \$1,180 for five nights. Families will love the Children's Beach right across the street from the White Elephant Village, and guests can use the hotel's complimentary bikes for rides to other nearby beaches, like Steps and Jetties. Book one of the three-bedroom residences and you will get complimentary use of a BMW X5. To book the "Summer for Less" offer, call 800-475-2637 or visit nantucketislandresorts.com. Use code "SFL."

Tweet like you mean it

When communicating with an airline via Twitter, you want your tweets to sing — especially if you need assistance. Here are some tips:

- Follow all the airlines you frequently fly. This way, you can stay abreast of fare sales and rule changes.
- If you sense an oncoming delay or cancellation, send a tweet early so that the agent can start assembling a backup plan.
- Use Twitter when you need help rebooking but for exchanges involving personal information such as flight reservation numbers, email addresses, etc., send a direct message.
- Throw in some praise. Veteran social media users say that sending a compliment earns you the right to complain.

— Andrea Sachs, The Washington Post



The Tower of London
Getty Images/Thinkstock

See London, save money

Visitors on a budget probably know about the London Pass city sightseeing card for popular sites, but now there's a companion app, for iPhone and Android smartphones, with an option of getting push notifications for money-saving offers. The London Pass app is free to download and has lots of features, including Underground and bus maps, itinerary suggestions, telephone numbers, and climate and currency information, as well as full details on attractions offered on the pass, including the Tower of London, the London Bridge Experience and the Thames River Cruise. A one-day adult London Pass is 49 British pounds (about \$67) and a child's is 33 pounds (about \$55). londonpass.com

Fun fact

Obscure Oklahoma facts

Did you know that swearing in Oklahoma is punishable by a \$1 fine for each offense? Or that the honey bee is the official state insect? How about that the Sooner State has a Santa Claus Commission?

All of the above are facts about the nation's 46th state that are being shared and retweeted on the popular Twitter account @OklahomaFacts. The account, created by Tim Berry, has garnered more than 12,000 followers — including country music superstar Blake Shelton, an Oklahoma resident who tweeted that he was going to go broke when he saw the fact about the fine for swearing.

— The Associated Press



Blake Shelton
Invision/AP

Belgium



Belgian and Dutch army engineers move a piece of the floating pontoon bridge into place during a test run on the River Scheldt in 2013.
AP/Virginia Mayo

Spanning the ages

For its World War I centennial, Antwerp builds a Peace Bridge across the River Scheldt, as a link to the past and a path to the future

By Jill Schensul
The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

ANTWERP, Belgium — The morning was bright and cool, and the sun lighted the centuries-old buildings in that Flemish-painting sort of glow.

As we made our way to Antwerp City Hall, kids were already catching air over a pile of tree trunks, a temporary skateboard park set up in the Grote Markt square for a weekend competition. A bride and groom posed for pictures, her dress blinding white in a sunbeam. Cafe owners were setting out chalkboards with the day's specials; gendarmes in uniforms and workers in jumpsuits rushed past them all, eyeing the surroundings in preparation for the day's visit of the new king and queen of Belgium.

Another day, another twist of the street-scene kaleidoscope in this city of surprises and little-known charms.

Now, on my last day, we were off to a meeting on the quite sobering subject of World War I. Belgium, and Antwerp in particular, was the scene of some of the first battles. It was hard right then to even believe the Germans occupied the city for four whole years.

Before arriving in the city, I'd asked if I could get some information on war-related sites in the area. I was surprised, then, when the major players in Antwerp's commemoration activities for the World War I centenary (the anniversary is July 28) said they'd put together a whole presentation for us.

That was where we were heading. Stepping through a back door of City Hall, we were transported from picture-



People fleeing from advancing German troops try to cross over the River Scheldt from Antwerp, Belgium, to Holland in 1914.
Royal Museum of the Armed Forces and Military History via MCT

postcard quaintness and sunshine to the fluorescent world of government blandness.

I settled into a squeaky chair behind an institutionally bland table and prepared for the traditional litany of war-commemoration events: parade, speeches, exhibitions, maybe even a battle re-creation.

Then a small, trim woman walked to the middle of the little room and introduced herself as one of the commemoration's organizers.

"We knew what we didn't want," Marleen Van Ouytsel said. "We didn't want a

war-tourism program."

I smiled. That figures. I should have expected something other than what I'd expected. During my four days in town, I'd come to realize that Antwerpians — from the government on down — think outside the box all the time. So much so

More on ANTWERP, 12E

Red poppies

In Flanders Fields, a tradition to honor war veterans and the fallen blooms across the decades. 11E

Ponder 'Modernism' amid Arkansas mountains

■ A temporary exhibit at Crystal Bridges Museum features the works of Matisse, Picasso and other masters.

By Stephanie Allmon
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BENTONVILLE, Ark. — Let's say it's Sunday afternoon. It's raining. You've spent a couple hours admiring the impressive permanent collection at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, the nearly 3-year-old museum founded by Walmart heiress (and Parker County resident) Alice Walton.

But now you've got a 400-mile drive home from your weekend getaway in the Ozarks. And your companion wants to hit the road.

Here's the advice: Send him to the cafe for a smoothie, and tell him there's free Wi-Fi.

Then buy yourself an \$8 ticket to the temporary exhibition "The William S. Paley Collection: A Taste for Modernism."

By the time you have zipped through the more than 60 works, many by the greatest names in art — Picasso, Matisse, Gauguin, Degas, Cezanne — he will have fortified with a frozen, fruity concoction and returned emails, caught up on the day's headlines and checked the weather forecast for the six-hour trip home.

He's getting the better end of the deal, of course, because you'll want desperately to spend more time with these masters, to study their paintings, drawings and sculptures and reflect on how their work inspired that of American artists. You'll think of returning — but you've only got a few months.

"The Paley Collection," organized by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, opened at Crystal Bridges on March 15; it will return to the MoMA when it closes here July 7.

The selections come from the vast private collection of entrepreneur William Paley —



Cezanne's Milk Can and Apples (1879-80) Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

the brains behind the broadcasting empire we know now as CBS. Upon his death in 1990, he willed his entire art collection to the MoMA.

Paley, who was most active as a collector in the mid-1930s, reportedly was passionate about modern art and selected works he liked rather than those that neces-

sarily would make good investments. "For this reason, many of the works he selected were small in dimension — a size suitable for the walls of Paley's personal New York apartment, where most of the works resided throughout his lifetime," press materials say.

Organizers say they hope

More on EXHIBIT, 14E