

our trips primarily because they want an active and unusual vacation. Those looking for a Club Med atmosphere generally opt for a cruise or beach vacation.

Q Why do you have trips specifically for gay men, but not for lesbians?

We advertise in magazines for both gay men and lesbians, but we get more responses from gay men. Designating some trips for men means that we'll have a more even mix on trips that are open to all. As soon as we feel we can fill up trips specifically for lesbians, we're eager to offer them.

Q I'd like to be on a mixed trip, but don't want to be the only woman.

We periodically designate a trip on which half the spots are reserved for gay men, half for lesbians. The next ones are the *Provençal* trip starting June 21, 1998, and *Valley of the Kings* (Sept. 18, 1998).

Q I'm interested in *The Mistral*, but want to make sure it doesn't overlap the parts of Provence I've already visited. Could you send me a more detailed itinerary?

We can supply day-to-day itineraries and supplemental information for most of our trips. Just give us a call.

Q Who comes on your trips?

The majority range in age from late twenties to early fifties, but we've had people as young as 22 and as old as 73. (No, it wasn't Bob Dole.) Geographically, all regions of the United States have been represented.

By the very nature of what we offer, we get fun, active, and intelligent people who like to participate fully in what life has to offer. Most people who travel with us stay in touch with new friends they made on the trip.

Q Why did you pick Mississippi for your only U.S. bike trip?

Ask anyone who came on *The Natchez Trace* with us last spring, and you'll understand! We wanted a spot that combined pleasant cycling roads, great natural scenery, historic sights, and modern comforts. This trip has it all — and offers a chance to discover a part of the country that many of us know only as a stereotype. Add in that fabled Southern hospitality, plus Cajun shrimp and pecan pie, and you've got the makings of a memorable week.

Q Speaking of Cajun shrimp ... I'm a strict vegetarian. Will that be a problem?

No. Let us know about any special dietary restrictions and allergies, on the questionnaire we send you before the trip. But we do hope you're not allergic to pecan pie!

Details and Terms:

Reservations: Simply mail your application with check for your deposit (\$300 for trips under \$2000; \$500 for trips over \$2000). To reserve by phone, call and we'll hold your place one week while you send your check.

Payment schedule: Your deposit holds your spot until 60 days before departure. We reserve the right to consider a reservation canceled, and the deposit forfeited, if the balance is not received by that date. Payment may be with check or money order.

Eligibility and waiver: Trip participants must be at least 18 years of age, unless accompanied by parent or guardian, and in good health. Our liability waiver must be signed before an application is accepted; on some trips, you will also need to sign a waiver with guide services. Participants agree to respect the laws and customs of the regions in which we travel.

Cancellations and refunds: If you must cancel a reservation, we will refund your payments except for a cancellation fee, which is based on how many days before the departure date you cancel.

Cancellation received by:	Cancellation fee:
90 days	\$100 or 7% of price, whichever is greater
60 days	\$200 or 15% of price, whichever is greater
30 days	50% of trip price
Thereafter	We'll issue credit (good for 18 months) for 50% of payments received

"Price" is defined as the total of trip cost with any supplements requested. Cancellations must be received in writing. There is no refund for participants who join a trip late or depart early. You may wish to purchase trip cancellation insurance from your travel agent.

Bicycle rentals: For biking trips, our rental bicycles are high-quality 18- and 21-speed hybrids, combining the best characteristics of touring and mountain bikes for this type of terrain. The rental fee is \$50 per trip. Please reserve and pay for your bicycle at least 30 days before departure to be sure of availability in your size. You may instead bring your own bicycle; we encourage you to consult with us before deciding to do so.

Trip changes and cancellations: We reserve the right to alter trip itineraries without notice due to road, weather, or other considerations. If a trip must be canceled due to events beyond our reasonable control, we will refund your payments in full. This shall constitute full settlement. We are not responsible for additional expenses such as non-refundable air tickets. Alyson Adventures, Inc., reserves the right to accept or refuse any person as a member of the trip at any time.

Lodging: Prices are per person, double occupancy, except as otherwise noted. If you sign up at least 60 days before departure and want the double occupancy rate, we'll match you with a roommate at no extra charge. Those who want to room alone may do so by paying the single supplement. Shared rooms are non-smoking unless both parties agree otherwise.

Multiple trip discounts: If you sign up for back-to-back trips in the same region, we'll deduct \$50 from the cost of the second trip and provide a hotel room for the night between.

Physical condition: Participants are required to have medical insurance. Before reserving, please consult with your doctor to be sure you have no health-related barriers to participation. You are responsible for payment of any medical services you may require during the trip. To get the most enjoyment out of your trip, plan some conditioning beforehand. We'll send suggestions after you register.

Pre-departure information: Well before your trip begins, we'll send you a more detailed itinerary, as well as suggestions about what to take with you, where to meet, and other travel advice.

Large groups: We can create custom trips for groups of ten or more. Organizations that would like to sponsor a trip through us, as well as groups of friends looking for a special time together, are invited to tell us what they're looking for, and we'll make a proposal to fit your need.

Reserve early! Unlike cruise ships, which handle tens of thousands of passengers each season, we can accommodate only a small group on each trip. Our trips often sell out months in advance. Don't be disappointed!