

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

Christmas market in Vermont to a Mini Travelmate for baby

By Neece Regis | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT NOVEMBER 23, 2013



Mini Travelmate for baby

HERE

GERMAN CHRISTMAS MARKET IN VERMONT

Experience an authentic German Christmas market at the Windham Hill Inn in West Townshend (Dec. 7-8, noon-5 p.m.). Offerings from the Erzgebirge region include multitiered wooden nativity pyramids, smokers (carved wood figurines that burn apple or cinnamon incense), and table linens. Local artisans will also participate, selling jewelry, pottery, woven scarves, candles, wood ornaments, handblown glass, and more. Enjoy Gluehwein — a spiced mulled wine — and cookies, or indulge in a full German lunch (noon-3 p.m.) in the restaurant, including wiener schnitzel, weisswurst, soft pretzels, and sauerkraut. Relais & Châteaux accommodations from \$270 per night include breakfast. 802-874-4080, www.windhamhill.com

TOBOGGAN BUILDING IN MAINE

Just in time for sledding season, Camden's historic Hartstone Inn launches Toboggan Building 101, a two-night getaway package where you build your own hardwood toboggan to take or ship home. Guests receive two full days of instruction in basic techniques, such as bending, sanding, finishing, and fastening. After class, enjoy two signature Slippery Slope cocktails and a nibble from the kitchen, followed by a five-course chef's tasting menu. Includes a multi-course breakfast both mornings. Rates: \$745 for traditional room; \$845 for a suite (double occupancy); add a third night for \$75. Booking online: type TOBOGGAN in the "Special Requests" section. 800-788-4823, www.hartstoneinn.com

TEDDY BEAR HOLIDAY TEA

Take your tykes to Teddy Bear Tea, a holiday tradition offered at Castle Hill Inn, a Relais & Châteaux property overlooking Narragansett Bay in Newport, R.I. (Dec. 7, 14, 21; 3:30-5 p.m.). Children can bring their own teddy bears and enjoy warm tea, petit fours, and readings of classic holiday books. Families are encouraged to bring a new teddy bear in original packaging to donate to Newport Child & Family Services. Adults \$25; children are complimentary with a teddy bear donation. Make a weekend of it and stay the night in the original 19th-century mansion, or in waterfront accommodations. Rates from \$399. 401-849-3800, www.castlehillinn.com

THERE

BOTSWANA AND ZAMBIA SAFARIS

Experience southern Africa's astounding wildlife on one of two newly launched luxury safari adventures into Botswana and Zambia offered by Five Tours & Expeditions, a company committed to the protection of biodiversity and natural habitats. Both the seven-day

Botswana & Zambia — Three Rivers tour (from \$6,345), and the nine-day Botswana & Zambia tour (from \$9,135), explore iconic locations, beginning with Victoria Falls, a two-mile wide curtain of water, and visit untouched wildlife reserves to view vast herds of elephant, buffalo, hippo, antelope, giraffe, zebra, lion, leopard, cheetah, and more. Departures Jan. 1-April 15. Rates reflect land price, per person, double occupancy. 800-244-3483, www.bigfive.com

NAVIGATING BARCELONA

The newly launched website hereBarcelona aims to connect tourists and locals by creating a virtual marketplace where individuals and businesses can offer, find, and exchange any type of service: tours, classes, sports, dining, massages, events, professional services, and more. The site promotes new business ventures and responsible tourism while offering visitors unique ways to experience Barcelona, such as how to find where the locals dine, cooking classes for teens, and events organized by ethnic minorities. All services are verified, tested, and reviewed by users before being published. Free. <http://herebarcelona.com/>

EVERYWHERE

BABY A-GO-GO

Turn your baby's convertible car seat into an airport stroller with Gogo Babyz Mini Travelmate. Weighing only 3.5 pounds, the compact, fully assembled product attaches easily with a ratcheting buckle system, and provides safety and stability by integrating wide wheels with a telescoping handle. In addition to easing navigation through crowded airports, Mini Travelmate eliminates the need to rent or borrow a car seat at your final destination. Recommended for ages 6 months to 4 years. \$64.99. For infants, check out Travelmate Deluxe. \$149.99. 888-686-2552, [http://gogobabyz.com/product-i14581-c26-Mini_Travelmate .aspx](http://gogobabyz.com/product-i14581-c26-Mini_Travelmate.aspx)

STICK-ON WALLET FOR YOUR PHONE

When is a wallet not a wallet? When it's a Wally. Crafted with Italian leather, Wally is a slim, stick-on pocket that attaches to the back of your iPhone allowing you to travel light while carrying a few credit cards and cash. Simply pull the integrated ribbon to access your cards, and push them back to conceal them. Available from Distil Union in Ninja Black or Cowboy Brown. \$39.99. 843-321-8353, www.distilunion.com/products/wally_iphone-wallet