

How it works

With the help of our group experts, you the group leader, will select your preferred holiday. A cruise, an all-inclusive resort, or an escorted tour, are some of the options you may want to consider. We will contact our suppliers to obtain the best possible pricing for you based on your selected date. We will also advise you as to the number of people required in order for you to get your trip free. Along with the trip information, we will supply you with marketing materials that will help you promote and gather your group. We will handle all the bookings, paperwork, and collection of payments, and will inform each group member of the travel schedule. Complicated itineraries may require an initial minimal deposit.

How many people are needed for you to travel free?

It varies for each cruise line and tour operator. You can earn a free cruise for two with as few as 10 other people travelling with you (5 staterooms), but the industry standard is one free stateroom for every 10-15 staterooms sold. Tour operators will offer a free trip when the minimum group size is met, so normally the 16th person is free. This may vary with the tour operator, the destination, and the season.

Minimum requirements to comprise a group:

Air only: 10 people travelling roundtrip on the same flights, or 25 people using the same airline to the same destination from different cities.

Cruises: 16 people in 8 cabins on most cruises. On some longer cruises a group is 10 people in 5 cabins.

Hotels: Most hotels require a minimum of 40-50 rooms per night.

Whatever the group, TravelSmart Partners will assist you by designing a trip or program that is just the right fit for your group. Groups need special attention and we will take care of all of the hassles so that your group members can relax and enjoy their vacation. We contract with only the highest quality hotels, airlines, bus and tour companies to guarantee your group a safe, quality, and value-priced trip.

I have been in group travel planning and organizing for many years and can develop a customized program to address the specific needs of your group or organization; including a group escort if desired (this is recommended in many cases). I have personally escorted groups to 23 countries, so I understand the challenges as well as the benefits!

To get started, you will need to officially "register" as a group leader. This is basically contact information and interests. At that time, we will discuss your plans, decide on your destination, and determine the number of passengers needed for you to qualify for free travel. We will also assist you in developing ways of attracting and targeting your group and provide you with marketing materials to assist you in your efforts. Once you have added a guest to your group, that guest is "yours" for as long as you are active as a group leader.

I can be reached by e-mail at ann@travelsmartpartners.com, by telephone at the office at 502.249.8949 or on my cell phone at 502.249.0290. Do not ever hesitate to contact me. I am here to make your job as Group Leaders as easy as possible. Once you have a commitment, please advise them to call me at 800.892.9681 and we will process their reservations. To ensure proper allocation of each guest, ask them to identify themselves as being a member of your group when they call in. I will be contacting you periodically with updates and new information which you can share with your group members.