

The Open Road is beckoning...

Come join us!



**THE OPEN ROAD
COMPANION
Travel Company
2010 Trip Schedule**

Owned and operated by:



THE OPEN ROAD COMPANION Travel Company

The Open Road Companion Travel Company began after TAC Enterprises took a trip to Disney World with a group of their consumers. In trying to provide the best possible trip, we did much research with similar companies. What we found were large group tours (20-25) where the travelers were shuttled from place to place, with many of the accommodations average at best. At The Open Road Companion, we are committed to providing small group vacations (no more than 8-12 travelers) with a low traveler to staff ratio (3:1 or 4:1). We also pride ourselves in providing the nicest accommodations with a wide variety of activities on each trip to satisfy the pickiest traveler, while at the same time generally providing the trip at a lower rate. Listen—the open road is beckoning...come join us!

To schedule an unforgettable vacation:

Lisa Bailey, Companion Travel Counselor

C/O TAC Enterprises

2160 Old Selma Road

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The Open Road Companion Travel Company is a program offered by TAC Enterprises. TAC Enterprises is an accredited, non-profit organization located in Springfield, OH, that has over 45 years in service to individuals with disabilities. TAC has excelled in providing vocational and personal development services for people with disabilities, offering a variety of options and opportunities through habilitation services, community-based and on-site business environments, personal services and community activities. Our community and business partnerships enable people with disabilities to contribute to society through meaningful employment and increased opportunities for independence, self-confidence, and dignity.

The Open Road Companion Trips

January-December 2010

JANUARY 2010

Kalahari Indoor Water Park (Sandusky, OH)

Date: January 25-27

Cost: \$525

Pace: Slow/Moderate

Shake off the Winter Blues at America's largest water park in Sandusky, Ohio. Catch a wave in their 500 gallon Flow-Rider, which creates 5-foot waves you can surf on! Ride on their "uphill" rollercoaster water slide, or relax on the lazy-river – relaxing while the water carries you along. Paint a piece of pottery in the craft room, pick out your favorite candy at the Candy Hut, play putt-putt golf, all while enjoying great dining at the park restaurants. Play in the warm, tropical Kalahari Water Park while the winter winds howl outside!

FEBRUARY 2010

Western Caribbean Cruise

Date: February 27-March 3

Cost: \$2300 (May be lower based on package)

Pace: Slow/Moderate

Take a relaxing, five-night western cruise to the Caribbean. Enjoy traveling to exotic ports with two full days at sea! Enjoy port stops at a Sandals Beach Resort and Labadie, Haiti. Take advantage of the many activities offered aboard ship, eat some of the best food with a vast array of choices, and swim in the turquoise waters of the Caribbean Sea! Whether this is your first time, or you are certified sailor, this Caribbean cruise will be one that you will never forget!

MARCH 2010

Disney World/Universal Studios (Orlando, FL)

Date: March 6-11

Cost: \$1800

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Stay in one of the beautiful resorts in the Orlando area. Visit Mickey Mouse and the gang at Magic Kingdom for a day and then enjoy the best of the Hollywood at Universal studios. Enjoy relaxing at one of the many resort pools while dining at great restaurants including a hilarious breakfast at Disney's Wilderness lodge, pizza and funnel cakes on the boardwalk, and an exotic evening of entertainment at the Royal Pacific Resort Luau! If you love Florida, you will love this trip to Orlando. Don't miss out!!

APRIL 2010

Memphis/Nashville, TN

Date: April 10-15

Cost: \$1300

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Come walk the grounds Elvis Presley Walked as we tour through the halls of Graceland and then enjoy some famous Memphis BBQ. Visit the Rock and Soul Museum, with lunch at the Hard Rock Café, followed by a Dinner and Dancing Cruise down the Mississippi River. In Nashville, Take the Nash Trash Tour, the hilarious and much loved tour of Country Music's Capital city. Finish the trip off with an evening at the Grand Ole Opry. Elvis and Country Music fans can not miss out on this musical adventure!

MAY 2010

WASHINGTON D.C.

Date: May 1-5

Cost: \$1200

Pace: Fast

Everyone should visit the US Capital at least once, especially during the spring when the Cherry blossoms are in bloom! Enjoy all of the sights, including tours of the White House, the Holocaust Museum, and the Smithsonian Museum. See the rest of the sights on the Old Town Trolley Tour, including the Washington and Lincoln Monuments, the Capital Building and more. You have seen these historic buildings on the news, now visit them in person!

Weekend Getaway: A Taste of the South (Lexington, KY)

Date: May 21-23

Cost: \$575

Pace: Slow/Moderate

Taste a bit of the South for a weekend in Lexington, KY. Visit a horse park where you can try your hand at horseback riding. Eat dinner at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill – a living historical museum-and then try Kentucky's famous hot shot sandwiches with a tall glass of sweet tea. Take in a show at Lexington's beautiful Kentucky Theatre, an historic landmark since 1921. Finish the trip with a ride down the Kentucky River Palisades on Lexington's Dixie Belle Riverboat!

JUNE 2010

Weekend Getaway: Cincinnati Reds Weekend

Date: June 11-13

Cost: \$575

Pace: Moderate

Enjoy the weekend in Cincinnati and all that it has to offer. Explore the Cincinnati Zoo and the new 4-D theater, one of only a few in the country! Cheer on the Cincinnati Reds and enjoy peanuts, popcorn or Cracker jacks with lunch at the stadium. Eat great German food at the Hofbrau Haus at Newport on the Levee, while dancing to the German band! Finish off the weekend with a breakfast buffet on board a Riverboat cruising Down the Ohio River. A trip not only for Reds fans, but for anyone who want to have great time in Cincinnati!

Weekend Getaway: Ladies Only "Pamper the Soul" Weekend

Date: June 25-27

Cost: \$600

Pace: Slow/Moderate

Enjoy a "Ladies Only" weekend of shopping and pampering! Start out the trip with dinner and shopping at the Easton Mall before settling into your relaxing accommodations. Pamper yourself with a manicure and massage at a luxurious Spa before enjoying a "Chick Flick" at one of the giant movie theaters Columbus has to offer. Finish the trip off with a sumptuous Sunday Brunch buffet. Ladies, this weekend was made just for you. Enjoy!

JULY 2010

Kings Island Getaway

Date: July 7-9

Cost: \$525

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Enjoy two fun-filled days at Paramount Kings Island Amusement Park and Water Park. Dare yourself to go on the Beast Roller Coaster, or relax and enjoy some shows and rides throughout the park. Then experience the thrills of a day at the Kings Island's Water Park, Boomerang Bay. With rides like the Awesome Aussie Twister and the Down Under Thunder, you are sure to have a good time! Of course, there will be lots of good food, friends and fun. Don't miss out!

AUGUST 2010

Ireland

Date: TBA

Cost: Approx. \$2,500-\$3,000

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Enjoy the trip of a lifetime to the beautiful Emerald Isle!! People who have traveled there say it is more beautiful than one can describe. From the big city of Dublin to the Cliffs of Moher, towering 700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean, Ireland is a country unique for its attractions. You will tour ancient castles and ruins, tour the Waterford Crystal factory and even have an opportunity to kiss the Blarney Stone! Because prices vary per tour, the exact cost and date of this trip will be determined based on the number of people who have turned in their deposits. Remember—we will always find the best for less for our travelers—while creating memories they will never forget!

SEPTEMBER 2010

Cleveland Browns Weekend

Date: September 3-5

Cost: \$600

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Calling all Browns fans!! This weekend will be a tour of the bustling city of Cleveland, finishing off the trip on Sunday with an exciting football game with your favorite team—The Cleveland Browns! While we are there we will explore the city, visit the Rock-and-Roll Hall of Fame, eat Pizza in Little Italy, and enjoy some rockin' food at the Hard Rock Café. This is a must for all you Brownies out there!!

Fall in the Hocking Hills

Date: September 29-October 1

Cost: \$450

Pace: Slow/Moderate

Relax and enjoy the beauty of fall in Ohio with a cabin in the Hocking Hills. Our group will enjoy some fishing, hiking (as abilities allow), plus lots of good fun and friends as we bring in autumn. We will also enjoy the outdoor drama, *Tecumseh!*, and do some shopping. Come celebrate the beginning of fall with your friends at the Open Road Travel Companion!!

OCTOBER 2010

New York City

Date: October 11-15

Cost: \$1500

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Experience the city that never sleeps! We will go on a New York City tour and see the sights most of us have only seen in the movies. We will go to a Broadway show, enjoy a City of Lights tour at night, and ride the subway to the Staten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty and the New York Skyline, as well as many of the other NYC landmarks. We will eat at a New York Deli, enjoy the best pizza pie in the world, and experience the excitement of a city like no other!! We have scheduled a pizza tour of Brooklyn that is the best in the city! You won't want to miss this trip!!

NOVEMBER 2010

Walt Disney World Cruise and Resort

Date: TBA

Cost: \$2,550

Pace: Moderate/Fast

Some consider this the best trip in the world—time at the “Happiest Place on Earth” (Walt Disney World) and a Caribbean cruise!! Let Mickey Mouse and friends take you on a three-day cruise of the Caribbean and enjoy all the excellent service that Disney has to offer. Spend time on Disney's own private island. Follow the cruise with a two-night stay at a Disney Resort and enjoy at day at the Magic Kingdom. Nobody does vacations like Disney—come join Mickey Mouse and the gang with an adventure on both land and sea!! You won't be disappointed!!!

DECEMBER 2010

Christmas in Gatlinburg/Dollywood

Date: December 1-5, 2009

Cost: \$1050

Pace: Slow/Moderate

Enjoy Christmas at the foot of the Great Smokey Mountains in a beautiful resort with an indoor pool and great views of the mountains. Spend an entire day at Dollywood enjoying the shows and the Christmas lights, followed the next day by some great shopping in Gatlinburg. We will visit the Elvis Presley Museum and spend an evening at the hilarious Comedy Barn. And of course, with restaurants like the Corky's BBQ, The Pancake Pantry, and Bubba Gump Shrimp House, we will eat some of the best food in the South! Come join us for a down-home Christmas in Gatlinburg!

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The Open Road Travel Companion

FAQs

Who is eligible to travel with The Open Road Companion?

All individuals, 18 years or older, who have developmental disabilities or other developmental delays. Family members and/or caregivers are also eligible to accompany their individuals with special needs. Other eligibility considerations include:

- Able to travel with a traveler/staff ratio of 3:1 or 4:1
- Demonstrate proper social behavior (cooperative and considerate of others)
- Is free of major medical or medically fragile conditions
- Able to complete personal care needs with reminders or minimal assistance
- Flexible as needed to adjust to changes in itinerary as they may arise
- If in a wheelchair, must be able to transfer with minimal assistance

Any traveler who exceeds the above requirements may still attend our vacations, but will be asked to provide their own travel assistant or pay an additional fee for the Open Road Companion to provide one, if one is available. Anyone with questions about an individual's eligibility should contact our office.

When do I have to pay for my trips?

At the time of the initial request for a trip, a deposit must be given to hold the traveler's spot on the trip. The required deposits are as follows:

- \$400 for all domestic trips, except
- \$800 for trips to Hawaii, cruises, and international destinations

The remainder of the payment for the trip (except for cruises) must be received no later than 45 days before the departure date. Cruise ships require full payment 60 days before the sailing date, so total payment for any cruise must be received at least 65 days in advance. Payment plans and "spend down" options prior to any trip are available upon request.

What is the refund policy?

If a traveler cancels a trip up to 30 days prior to the departure date, the deposit will be refunded in full, less an office administration fee of \$75 and any portion of the trip requiring non-refundable purchases made in advance (such as airline tickets, cruise packages, attraction admissions, hotel accommodations, etc.). If a traveler cancels a vacation 15-29 days before the departure date, 50% of the vacation cost will be assessed less an office administration fee of

\$75 and any portion of the trip requiring non-refundable purchases made in advance. The Open Road Companion can make no refunds for travelers who are late on the date of departure, do not show up, refuse to board a flight or cancel a vacation within 14 days of the departure date. No refunds for delays or cancellations due to weather. Trip itineraries are subject to change. All requests for a refund must be in writing, preferably by FAX, to expedite the refund process.

What if the traveler takes medication?

At least one companion traveler on each vacation will be a nurse or will be certified to administer medication through the State of Ohio Department of DD. They can administer most medications, but cannot administer injections of any type (If a person is diabetic, our companion travelers can monitor blood sugar, but traveler will need to be able to inject own insulin if needed). If the traveler will administer their own medication, The Open Road Companion cannot take responsibility for monitoring same, unless such monitoring is specifically requested. Likewise, if companion travelers are expected to administer medication, it is required that the traveler pack the proper dosage and quantity of medications for the duration of the trip, plus one or two additional days in case of an emergency. Prescribed medications must be properly labeled in an original container or bubble pack from the pharmacy. Any non-prescription, over-the-counter vitamin or supplement must include written instructions and dosage information. The Travel companions cannot administer PRN (as needed) medications without a prescription.

What will the sleeping arrangements be?

Travelers will need to be able to sleep in a room by themselves or with other travelers. The travel companions will not be sleeping in the room with them, so they will need to be able to manage themselves appropriately during that time, which will be limited. The travel companions will be available in an adjacent room at all times and may check on them periodically. When possible, The Open Road Companion will stay in resorts or suites with multiple bedrooms to facilitate more available supervision. Depending on the size of the room, travelers may sleep up to four in a room, and may have to share a bed (queen-size or larger only). If you would like to request a private room or specific sleeping arrangements, that should be discussed in advance as it may or may not be possible due to pre-made reservations. Any special changes in sleeping arrangements will result in a higher vacation package price.

Does each traveler need any special ID cards?

Yes! Due to much stricter security measures in most vacation areas and airports, each traveler must have a state-issued ID card to travel. If it is an international trip (and some cruises) a passport will also be required. Please do not wait until the last minute to get these identification cards. A passport can take 2-3 months to obtain. ***The Open Road Companion will not be able to issue refunds to travelers who are denied boarding on a flight or admission into a destination due to not having the required identification.***

How can I get on one of these great Vacations?

Feel free to contact Lisa Bailey at 937-207-1915, or email her at lbailey@tacind.com. She can answer all of the questions you may have. If one of the trips sounds right for you or your loved one, send in the application along with the deposit for the trip. Assuming your loved one is a good match for the trip, we will send you additional forms which need to be filled out and sent back. As soon as we receive your paperwork and deposit, your place on the trip will be held for you. Make sure the final payment for the trips are sent in by the due dates. Remember, we are providing small travel trips to provide more intimate vacations, so space is limited and trips may fill up fast. Don't put off registering for one of our many trips!

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