

Travel

A Feature
by Roger Doris

Travel Talk with Roger Doris

Last week we mentioned that Kingsway Travel would be having a Presentation Night on Tuesday, January 8th at the Sherway Inn. Of course, January 8th is the wrong date. The evening will be held Tuesday, January 11th, at the Sherway Inn and there will be a slide presentation on Cuba and the Negri area of Jamaica.

SkyLark Holidays Ltd. have a holiday program to the sun, called SHAZAM Holidays. SHAZAM Holidays has been developed to capture the under 30 market — singles, married, couples.

SkyLark has aimed SHAZAM at the 18- to 30 market because it has proved to be travel oriented; has in many cases considerable dis-

posable income; has demonstrated in other merchandising fields a sense of discretion for good value and is prepared to pay a little extra for quality.

The prime features of a SHAZAM Holiday are that the passenger will be ensured of holidaying with other young people; he or she can choose to join the organized activities or not, and there is the freedom to explore the destination on their own, or with a companion or with a group. SHAZAM allows everything or nothing to happen. A number of people perhaps do not have the confidence to enter a restaurant, bar, or nightclub alone. A SHAZAM holiday would alleviate this problem, bringing young people together

from Toronto, Montreal, Buffalo, Ottawa and Quebec City.

No single supplement will be charged on a SHAZAM Holiday unless the passenger specifically requests a single room. When a Travel Agent calls SkyLark's SHAZAM reservation desk, SkyLark will automatically pair people of the same sex. While on Holiday, if the people are not compatible, the SHAZAM rep will arrange a switch in room companions or provide single accommodation at no charge.

Every SHAZAM Holiday will be accompanied by a bilingual SHAZAM tour director. Parallel departures will operate from Toronto and Montreal on existing SkyLark ITC flights, restricted to 40 passengers per departure.

Over the above the regular SkyLark features SHAZAM boasts a wide variety of activities such as tennis, waterskiing and scuba demonstrations; nightclub visits; cruises; beach parties; barbecues; dances;

shuffleboard, frisbee and tennis tournaments. A number of special breakfasts, lunches and dinners are also included. SHAZAM has been priced slightly higher than the regular SkyLark package to incorporate the many special features. This is not the cheapest holiday under the sun but one offering good quality, good value and good company.

Why SHAZAM? The name is an anachronism coined by 'Captain Marvel' and used as a word to effect all kinds of miracles and make possible super events. In certain promo pieces SkyLark also uses it as an acronym:

- S — sun
- H — happiness
- A — action
- Z — zest
- A — amour
- M — more

The hotels chosen for the SHAZAM holiday are especially suited for those desiring a lot of activity and nightlife.



Quiet relaxing spots like this are common in the Family Islands of the Bahamas. Most people call these Islands the Out Islands of Bahamas.

The Family Islands of Bahamas

The Department of Tourism has re-christened them 'The Family Islands'... but tradition dies hard. To millions of sun worshippers, that 100,000-square-mile ocean playground will always be the Out Islands of the Bahamas, serene little edens floating on a luscious sea, far out from the cares of a work-a-day world.

Day dreams aside, their new and official title really is more in keeping with the jet age. Physically, the 700 islands and 2,400 cays making up the Bahamian archipelago are far "in" these days, many of them within a 40-minute flight of Nassau or Miami by regularly-scheduled air service. Most of the 30 inhabited islands have adequate airports and those airports have opened a holiday escape route once reserved exclusively for yachtsmen and charter sailors.

The Family Islands are family-oriented, too, offering something for every member of a domestic team that likes playing together in relaxed, unpretentious surroundings. This vacationland offers all water sports, plus golf, tennis, riding and the casual social scene that bridges generation gaps.

The islands themselves, scattered like jig saw puzzle pieces for more than 500 miles south of the Florida peninsula, bear a strong family resemblance. They share common traits in their semi-tropical landscapes of bougainvillea and palm... in their uncluttered sand beaches, washed by water so clear swimmers can chase their shadows over the shallows, so pure the ocean floor seems close enough to touch under 60 feet of sun-filtered turquoise.

They're united by close historic ties as well. Once thej romantic hideout of pirate adventurers, the islands first were colonized by British settlers from the Bermudas,

later staked out by Loyalist planters fleeing the aftermath of the American Revolution. They have in common an easy-going life style, built around little pastel-painted settlements fringing blue harbors, and maintained by an easy-going people with a Trade Winds sense of time.

Now the era of the airborne island hopper has dawned, the islands are partners in a year-around tourist season, with most of the resorts open on a 12-month schedule. "The Isles of Perpetual June" share winter temperatures in the mid-seventies and daytime highs in the nineties during the summer.

Cooled by the northeast Trade Winds and air-conditioning, the islands are becoming as popular in June as they are in January. What used to be Hurricane Season only (June through November) now is considered prime vacation weather for budget-wise travellers who've discovered the big winds rarely blow their way. The islands are in close touch with the Hurricane Centre in Miami and holiday sailors have ample warning to head for harbor if storm warnings are posted.

For all their family ties, the dream islands and cays of the Bahamas are individualists with their own distinctive charms and the resort worlds they shelter offer visitors an infinite variety of vacation backgrounds. Some of the sunshine communities grew up by themselves over the years, like Harbour Island, that Cape Cod of the Bahamas with hibiscus blossom trimmings, or its unorthodox next-door neighbor, Spanish Wells, another New England fishing village hiding in the palm trees.

Other resorts were created, custom-tailored to a specific clientele. On the Abacos, Treasure Cay Inn and its villas were structured for

vacationers seeking tidy tranquility in a well-manicured garden suburb.

Part of a 1,400-acre development complex, this complete vacation paradise is equipped with all the island amenities, including golf, tennis, game fishing and mile upon mile of white sand beach curved around a protected bay.

Describing the individual members of the Family Islands group could be a lifetime career and atlases could be compiled on those off-beat little worlds specializing in the sweet life.

But holiday explorers can

discover their own ocean kingdoms if they're willing to island hop out of Nassau, where Air Canada schedules direct daily flights.

Most of the resort islands are linked to the Bahamian capital by at least one connecting flight a day, via Out Island Airways or Flamingo Airlines and inter-island air fares are reasonable. Air Canada has Friday and Saturday "Nighthawk" service from Toronto to Freeport. The Toronto/Freeport Nighthawk fare is \$139.00 (\$169.00 peak — Dec. 18-24, Mar. 17-23, and Apr. 6-12).

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A fabulous two-week, 3-centre, holiday that lets you explore Mexico City for five days, spend a day shopping in Taxco (the Silver City), and ends with one whole week in Acapulco. Choose from three hotel combinations in Mexico City and Acapulco (Taxco is the Holiday Inn). Single and triple rates available. Aeromexico scheduled jet flight.

Fort Lauderdale is a favourite vacation spot for Canadians. Slower paced than Miami (but not too far from the action), you can relax or live it up as you please. Sunflight Fort Lauderdale is the modern Galt Ocean Mile Hotel, right on the beach and offering complimentary tennis on championship courts. Rooms for 7 or 14 nights, Transair charter flight.

Cuba \$349 to \$719	Miami Cruise \$369 to \$539	Oh, what a choice!
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One of the best holiday values — anywhere. And beautiful. All holidays include breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily — plus soft drinks or beer with lunch and dinner. 7 and 14 night holidays and a choice of 3 hotels, two on popular Varadero Beach, one a mere 45 minutes away from fabled Havana. Child reductions available at all hotels; triple reductions in two. Air Canada scheduled jet flight.

Think of it! Island hopping and Miami shopping all in one 7 night Sunflight vacation. Holiday includes one night in the Holiday Inn in Miami, then four nights cruising to Nassau and Freeport, and a final two nights in Miami. All meals and entertainment included on board ship. Triple and child reductions available. Transair charter flight.

Prices shown are from Toronto, per person, based on two persons sharing a twin room unless otherwise shown and include air transportation, and hotel. Other features included, and terms and conditions governing these holidays are shown in the Sunflight Winter Holiday Magazine. Service charges, airport and hotel taxes, and meals extra except where shown. Prices vary with hotel and departure date chosen.

What to do now? See us.

Freeport from \$319		Ft. Lauderdale from \$359
Nassau from \$359		Acapulco from \$429

The new way for under thirty's to travel!

SkyLark Holidays
8 jet parties to the sun to April 24

Action Packed Holidays Under The Sun

Each holiday package includes: • round trip jet transportation from Toronto including complimentary inflight meals and drinks • transfers between the airport and your hotel, including baggage handling • accommodation for seven nights at first class hotels (double occupancy) • welcome Shazam cocktail party • continental breakfast (coffee and rolls) daily • beach parties, cruises, special selected dinners, sports activities, nightclub tour, disco dancing • Shazam beach bag • Shazam tour director • and much more!

Not included: hotel service charge and tax, approximately \$10 - \$14 per person, Canadian departure tax of \$8 per person and destination departure tax.

No mandatory single supplement — We guarantee shared accommodation for those travelling on their own.

Join us on a jet party to the sun!
Ask your travel agent for a free copy of the Shazam Holiday brochure for complete details.

for those who feel under thirty

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