



PING FAMILY AT BLARNEY CASTLE, IRELAND

Our trip to Ireland was amazing! Thank you so much for planning and arranging such a spectacular experience for our family. Here we are in front of the Blarney Castle, and yes, we all kissed the Blarney Stone!

Christina, Michael and the boys!

Zucchini-Feta Fritters with Yogurt Dipping Sauce

Traditional Greek kolokithokeftedes (zucchini meatballs) are the inspiration for these vegetable fritters. We pack ours with grated zucchini, tangy feta and bright mint, then shallow-fry them for a super crisp exterior to complement the rich and creamy texture inside. A final dunk in the cucumber-yogurt dipping sauce makes the perfect bite.



Zucchini Fritters:

- 2 pounds zucchini (about 2 large)
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup crumbled feta (about 5 ounces)
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup packed fresh mint leaves, finely chopped
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- Pinch crushed red pepper flakes
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 clove garlic, grated
- Juice of 1/2 lemon
- 1/2 cup olive oil

Yogurt Sauce:

- 1 Persian cucumber (about 2 ounces)
- 1/2 cup full-fat Greek yogurt
- 1/4 cup fresh dill, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, grated
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

- Turn the zucchini out on top of 2 clean dish towels, squeeze out as much liquid as possible and transfer to a large bowl. Toss with the feta, flour, mint, oregano, red pepper flakes, eggs, garlic, lemon juice, 1 1/2 teaspoons salt and a few grinds of black pepper until well combined. Scoop a heaping 1/4 cup of the zucchini mixture, form into a 2 1/2-inch patty and place on a baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining zucchini mixture (you should have 12 patties). Refrigerate until firm, at least 30 minutes and up to 1 hour.

Directions:

- For the zucchini fritters: Grate the zucchini on the large holes of a box grater, transfer to a large colander set over a large bowl and toss with 2 teaspoons salt. Set another large, heavy bowl on top of the zucchini to press out as much moisture as possible, at least 30 minutes and up to 1 hour.
- For the yogurt sauce: Meanwhile, grate the cucumber on the large holes of a box grater and add to a medium bowl. Add the yogurt, dill, garlic, lemon juice, 1/2 teaspoon salt and a few grinds of black pepper and stir to combine. Refrigerate until ready to use.
- Line a baking sheet with paper towels. Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat until shimmering. Add 6 of the patties to the skillet and cook, untouched, until deep golden brown on the bottom (you can check the edges of the patties or gently lift with a spatula to check the bottoms),

Groups 2023-2024

FEBRUARY 7-12, 2024—TENTH ANNUAL ICELAND WEEKEND GETAWAY

Explore the 'Land of Fire and Ice' witnessing spectacular waterfalls, boiling geysers and spend a few hours relaxing with a cocktail while watching the sunrise in the Blue Lagoon. A visit to Thingvillar National Park is not to be missed; called the Grand Canyon of Iceland because it is where the tectonic plates of North America and Europe merge creating an awesome sight. There is always the opportunity of seeing the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights. Our package includes round trip air from Newark on Icelandair, four nights hotel with a full buffet breakfast daily and a continental breakfast at Viking World Museum on the morning of arrival, all current taxes. Optional tours will be available. Rate is \$1,998.00 per person double. A valid passport is required and insurance is highly recommended. **Only 6 seats left!!**

APRIL 28, 2024—GREAT TRAINS and GRAND CANYON

Highlights: Two rail journeys, Grand Canyon, Sedona, trolley tour and the Chapel of the Holy Cross. Five nights at the Hilton Sedona, five breakfasts and three dinners, all sightseeing and round trip air fare. Rate \$3,399.00 per person double occupancy.

JUNE 9, 2024—UTAH'S MIGHTY NATIONAL PARKS

Highlights: Arches, Capital and Canyonlands National Parks, Monument Valley, Canyonlands by night and wine tasting. Six nights hotel, six breakfasts, one lunch and three dinners, all sightseeing and round trip air fare. Rate \$3,625.00 per person double.

JUNE 9-16, 2024—SAIL CELEBRITY ECLIPSE TO BERMUDA

Sail on the revolutionized Celebrity Eclipse from Cape Liberty (Bayonne) and spend three glorious days in Bermuda. Sail past the Statue of Liberty enroute to the Royal Naval Dockyard. Your balcony cabin will include your accommodations, all meals (except for restaurants), beverage package, wi-fi, gratuities and all current port and government taxes. **Book by August 9, 2023 and receive a \$100 per person on board credit. Proof of citizenship is required (NO PASSPORT). Rate is \$1,859.00 per person double.**

SEPTEMBER 4, 2024—BLACK HILLS, BADLANDS and MT. RUSHMORE

Highlights: Mt. Rushmore day and night, Devil's Tower, Crazy Horse Memorial, Custer State Park and Buffalo Jeep Safari. Six nights hotel, six breakfasts and four dinners, all sightseeing and round trip air fare. Rate per person \$3,395.00 double occupancy.

OCTOBER 13, 2024—NATIONAL PARKS and CANYONS of the SOUTHWEST

Highlights: Grand Canyon and Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park, Zion Park Tram and Hoover Dam. Two nights in Las Vegas and three nights in Mesquite, five breakfasts, one lunch and two dinners, all sightseeing and round trip air fare. Rate \$3,395.00 per person double occupancy.

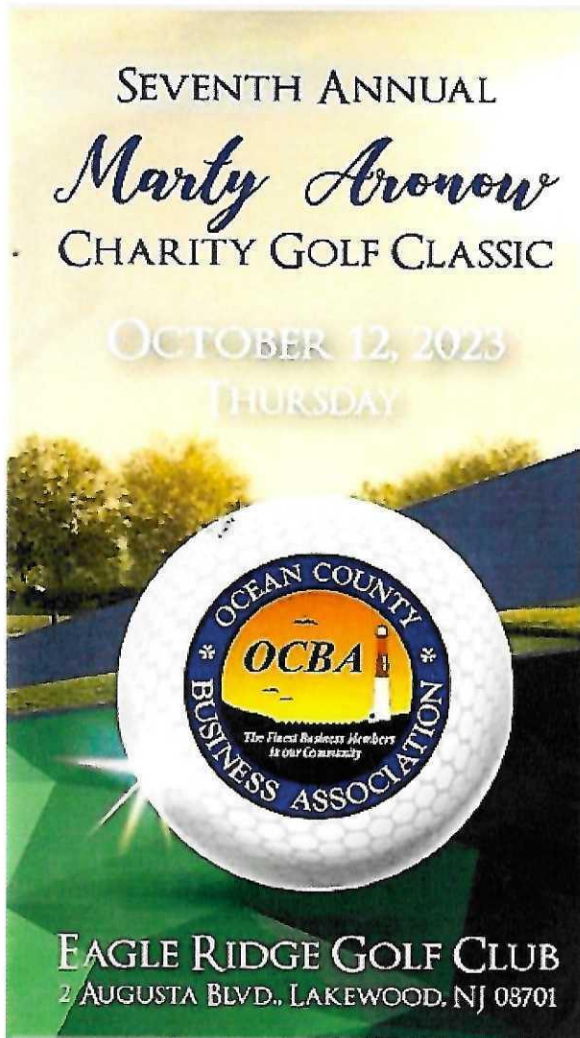
NOVEMBER 23-DECEMBER 3, 2024—ICONIC CHRISTMAS MARKETS CRUISE ABOARD AMA WATERWAYS AMA LEA

Depart USA on the evening of November 23rd flying to Prague where you will board the AMA LEA for your seven night Christmas Market cruise. The intimate AMA LEA was built in 2018 and sails with a maximum of 156 passengers. Sail the Continental Divide and visit Passau, Melk and Vienna enroute to Budapest. Cruise only rates start at \$3,799.00 per person double including port taxes. Single cabins surcharge range from 125 to 150%. Pre and post nights along with airfare will be available at the end of this year. Call Nancy for information and reservations.

DECEMBER 7-14, 2024—SAIL THE CARIBBEAN ON STAR CLIPPERS ROYAL CLIPPER

Would you like to climb the mast to the crow's nest 75 feet above the deck or visit the open bridge where you can help sail the vessel? If so, a tall ship adventure might just be the ticket. Life on board is casual and relaxed with top notch dining and less than 250 passengers. Have a tropical drink while you relax in the bowsprit netting listening to the steel drum band on deck. Enjoy complimentary water sports, yoga and wellness classes. The shore excursions on board the Star Clipper are designed to highlight the best of the ports visited. Enjoy a beach BBQ. Ports of call are the Grenadines; including St. George's, Grenada, Tobago Cays, Kingstown, St. Vincent, Bequia, Fort de France, Martinique with beach stop, Marigot Bay, St. Lucia, and Soufriere, St. Lucia. The rate per person (cruise only for an outside cabin with port taxes) is \$2,399.00 including a \$200.00 onboard credit and pre-paid gratuities. Air rates and pre-night information will be available in January 2024. A passport is required and insurance is highly recommended.





**OCEAN COUNTY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
SEVENTH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC
benefiting**

CAREing For Children—a 501(c) 3 charity

Over the first six years of this event, we have donated over \$116,000 worth of food and gifts to under-privileged children and families in the community. These gifts have been typically distributed to organizations such as Providence House, Faith Community Church Food Pantry, United Methodist Church Food Pantry, Salvation Army and over a dozen more.

Please consider playing or making a donation.

CFC runs strictly on volunteer power, there are no overhead costs and 100% of all donations go to those in need.

For more information, please contact Nancy or Jen Lorentzen at 732-349-9898

Join us for a day of fun while helping others.

EVERYONE LOVES RANCH BUT WHAT IS IT?

When it comes to all-American foods to which people are hopelessly devoted, ranch dressing is usually near the top of the list. There's a good reason the ranch dressing industry reached a \$1 billion value.



And it's probably no accident that 40% of people who took a 2017 survey by the Association for Dressings and Sauces picked ranch as their favorite condiment (via Money). Some folks love the stuff so much, they've invested in ranch fountains at their weddings. It has become so widespread that several innovations might cause even the most devout ranch enthusiasts to scratch their heads — soda, ice cream, breath mints, and dental floss.

Ranch's herbaceous, punchy flavor and smooth, viscous character add an entirely new dimension to any dish it touches, no matter how unorthodox. The beloved ivory-hued food-topper is a medley of elements that, when combined, form a true icon. And as it turns out, it doesn't take much magic to create a batch. A traditional ranch dressing recipe features a handful of simple ingredients, including buttermilk, mayonnaise, salt, vinegar, fragrant green herbs such as dill and parsley, piquant spices such as pepper and paprika, and the allium all-stars garlic, chives, and onion. These ingredients come together to form a stable, creamy emulsion, thanks to the use of mayo. And its origin story is as humble as it gets.

Ranch has the unique power to kick things up a notch while simultaneously adding a cooling effect, whether it's used for dampening the intensity of spicy wings, adding zest to an otherwise bland salad, or amplifying the flavor of a baked potato. So, who is the mind behind the legendary dairy product that has garnered staunch loyalty

It all started in 1954 when a plumber named Steve Henson moved from Alaska to Santa Barbara, California, where he whipped up a humble salad dressing that, little did he know, would one day be appointed as a cult classic — perhaps to a point beyond his wildest dreams. Henson owned and lived on a farm called Sweetwater Ranch, which became the birthplace of the Hidden Valley brand. His buttermilk-forward recipe became so popular, visitors from far and wide would stop by the dude ranch to stock up on ranch spice packets to take home. Over the years, countless others have followed in Henson's footsteps, developing their own lip-smacking formulas. When the '90s rolled around, ranch was embedded into snack foods, appetizers, and entrées galore.

The dressing-meets-dip has proven itself to be a darling of the culinary world. In fact, nearly a decade ago, it was estimated that the average American indulged in the stuff 15 times a year. Ranch forever, y'all.





Memories worth sharing come naturally throughout Fort Myers' islands, beaches and neighborhoods. Feel the soft Gulf breeze from a kayak, explore downtown art galleries, savor fresh local seafood or enjoy world-class theater. While our landscape may look different right now, there are plenty of ways to create lasting memories.

What makes Fort Myers' islands, beaches and neighborhoods so spectacular is that around every corner is an entirely new and absolutely extraordinary panorama.

All senses will be engaged while visitors explore 120,000 acres of parks and nature preserves. Exploration possibilities can also include 100-plus coastal and barrier islands, an intracoastal waterway, mangroves, the turquoise waters of the Gulf of Mexico, cypress forests and so much more. Add in the wildlife that calls these habitats home — manatees and 245 species of birds; bottlenose dolphins and butterflies — and you've got one vacation spot that is a never-ending source of nature-induced awe.

There are miles of white-sand beaches in the greater Fort Myers area, and visitors could easily — and enjoyably — choose to spend their entire stay near the Gulf. The best part? A day at the beach can be exactly what every vacationer wants it to be: shell-seeking for some of the 400 varieties that wash ashore at Bowman's Beach on Sanibel Island; paddling the Great Calusa Blueway Paddling Trail through remote mangrove forests; or a romantic evening retreat to watch the sun dip below the horizon on Boca Grande. Guests practice yoga on paddleboards or propel off the water's surface on a hydro-flying fly board. Others may choose to reel in a catch on a deep-sea fishing excursion. Whatever the case, the appetite for activity is always well satisfied.

Located in Southeast Florida, The Palm Beaches are a summer paradise made up of 39 cities and towns each with its own charm. The region has nearly 30 tropical beach parks that span 47 miles along the Atlantic Ocean with gently swaying palm trees, blue waters and warm golden sand. From tranquil beaches with a quiet personality to buzzing beaches steps away from bars and restaurants, we have a beach to fit every mood.



The Palm Beaches are the perfect destination for families who want to make memories for a lifetime on the sunny beaches. From beach parks with canopy-covered walkways and playgrounds to beaches with man-made barrier of natural rock to protect little swimmer, Palm Beach County boasts plenty of waterfront areas that will entertain kids and keep grownups happy.

Beaches aside, The Palm Beaches offer many other kid-friendly attractions. Your clients can bring the entire family to the Jupiter Lighthouse and take in views from the top. They can take a safari adventure at Lion Country Safari. They can visit a sea turtle rehabilitation facility at Loggerhead Marinelife Center. Or they can cool off and make a splash at Rapids Water Park, South Florida's largest water park.

The Palm Beaches are abundant in fresh culinary concepts and countless other offerings for the perfect romantic getaway in the sunny beauty of Southeast Florida. Couples can opt for an intimate hotel stay, book a rejuvenating spa treatment, and enjoy decadent oceanfront dinners for two.

The Palm Beaches' first-class spas are perfect for all couples who want to unwind and de-stress together. And after a day of pampering, your clients can indulge in local fare overlooking the azure waters of the Atlantic Ocean at one of our waterfront restaurants.

No matter what you are looking for, The Palm Beaches have the most suitable, romance-filled offerings perfect for a Florida getaway.

The Palm Beaches are where some of the finest oceanfront properties sit on splendid white beaches with cool ocean water lapping at the shores. Your clients will wake up to stunning sunrises, spend the day sunbathing in a cabana, enjoy an oceanfront dinner, and most importantly, relax and let go.



Visit Spain

We can't wait to see you!

There are so many new ideas and activities we'd like to share with you. From UNESCO World-Heritage sites to beautiful little towns perched on the mountains, the vacation of your dreams is right here in Spain. Start planning your trip to Spain today.



Come on board the luxury tourist trains: exciting destinations, exciting journeys

Eleven unforgettable train trips offer a luxurious way to discover Spain. Trains like the Transcantabrico or Al Andalus preserve the romanticism of trains in the early 20th century or trains running through dreamy routes such as the routes of the Lighthouses of the Galician's railway. Incredible day or week-long trips like the Cervantes train from Madrid to the historical Alcala de Henares. Traveling by train is one of the great pleasures of a traveler, where one can enjoy an exquisite dinner while looking at the most stunning landscapes and listening to piano music in the background.

Málaga: the city that shaped the genius of Picasso

To understand Picasso's art, we have to look at the early years of the artist in his hometown Malaga. The places of his childhood shaped his character, influenced and inspired his greatest works. Visitors interested in the history of this Malaga-born artist, are encouraged to visit these Picasso-related places that begin with the Birthplace Museum and Picasso Foundation, the nearby Church of Santiago where Picasso was baptized, the old Convent of Saint Agustín, the School of Fine Arts, now known as Malaga Athenaeum, the Colegio de San Rafael where he studied and the Malagueta Bullring where he attended many times with his father and it would inspire later his iconic themes of bullfighting and flamenco. Malaga-Picasso's relationship was always very close and the Spanish artist wanted to have his work in his hometown, and in 2003, Picasso Museum, a must-see, opened with more than 230 works, adding to the extensive cultural offer of Malaga.



El Rocío: the most unusual festival that combines religion and fiesta

Set on horseback, horse-drawn carts or by foot and dressed in traditional flamenco dress, more than a million people join this unique festival. Pilgrims to El Rocío camp out at night around bonfires, dancing and singing flamenco. Every year, 50 days after Easter, brotherhoods from Seville, Huelva, Cadiz and abroad come together through 4 main routes at the village of El Rocío. The celebration of this vibrant festival lasts from Saturday until Monday.