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# The Concierse TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD



THE LIST

## ROAD RAGE IGNITION KEYS

s anything worse than someone tailgating you? According to a new survey conducted by Northstar Research on behalf of travel site Expedia, the answer is a resounding "Yes!" Texting tops the list of the 2014 Road Rage Report, a study that analyzes US attitudes toward driving habits and ranks the

most infuriating behaviors. Read the full analysis on Expedia's website: viewfinder .expedia.com/features/2014-expedia-road-rage-report. The least annoying driving behavior, according to survey respondents? That would be the "Red Light Racer." Here are the most annoying:

NECEE REGIS

THE TEXTER
Drivers who text,
e-mail, or talk on
the phone.

THE TAILGATER
Drivers who
follow others too
closely

THE MULTITASKER
Those who apply
makeup, read, eat,
or other nondriving-related

tasks.

THE DRIFTER
Drivers who
straddle lanes or
drift between them.

THE CRAWLER
Those who drive
well below the
speed limit.

THE TIP

#### PREHISTORIC POWERS BEHIND NEW STORY LAND RIDE

To celebrate its 60th anniversary, Story Land in Glen, N.H., debuts a new ride, Roar-O-Saurus, featuring Rory, "the little dinosaur with a big roar." Fans of wooden roller coasters will want to experience this one-of-a-kind ride specifically designed for Story Land's terrain. The 12-passenger coaster's lift height of 40 feet provides a spectacular view of the surrounding area before plummeting 39 feet. Featuring 1,250 feet of track length, the coaster is a major component of the new dinosaur-themed section of the park. Children must be 42 inches tall to ride. General admission ages 3 and up is \$30.99, including rides, shows, attractions, and parking.

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{STORY LAND} Glen, N.H.\ 603\text{-}383\text{-}4186, www.storylandnh.com} \\ \text{NECEE REGIS} \end{array}$ 



THE TIP

## FLIERS NOTE IMPROVEMENTS—REPEAT DISCOMFORTS

ripAdvisor announced the results of its annual air travel survey of more than 4,300 respondents. Thirty-eight percent count a more streamlined checkin among the top five biggest improvements in air travel. Other improvements: easier booking, 36 percent; more streamlined security process, 32 percent; more streamlined boarding process, 28 percent; and better in-flight entertainment options, 25 percent.

Travelers' greatest issues with air travel remain consistent year-to-year,

with a lack of seat comfort beating out costly airline fees and ticket prices as fliers' biggest frustration. When travelers were asked which amenities would most improve their in-flight experience, their answers reflected these frustrations: "more legroom" (35 percent) and "more comfortable seats" (32 percent).

As for those frustrated by loud and crying children, 42 percent of respondents would pay to sit in a child-free section.

GLOBE WIRE REPORTS

### **HERE**

### TOUR GIVES HARVARD VISITORS

THE INSIDE SCOOP
Harvard University students lead theatrical tours that highlight the university's history and notable sites, including

table sites, including the Johnston Gate, John Harvard statue, Widener Library, and Memorial Church. The 70-minute Hahvahd Tour, as it's called, starts at the Cambridge Information Booth on Massachusetts Avenue (outside the T station) and ends at The Harvard Shop on JFK Street, covering just under a mile on a wheelchair-accessible route. Learn about famous Harvardians, and what it's like to live and study on this storied campus. Tours run daily through November for up to seven people; group tours also available. Reserve online for \$9.95 adults, \$8.50 seniors and students, \$7 children age 12 and under, or pay \$10 for walk-up booking. 877-455-8747, Ext. 2. www.harvardtour.com

## EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS NANTUCKET'S LIFESAVING HERITAGE

Visit the Nantucket Shipwreck and Lifesaving Museum and you can hop aboard a replica surfboat, get a feel for rowing a boat, and learn about maritime lifesaving practices past and present. The museum has launched Throw Out the Lifeline, an interactive exhibit on view through Oct. 13. See a colorful mural (detail inset above) by local artist David Lazarus with images and descriptions of Nantucket's lifesaving practices and procedures. Also see historical lifesaving artifacts, test your knowledge of lifesaving and maritime trivia, and watch four related videos. Outside, children can play on

breeches buoys that have been turned into swings. Tickets: \$6 adults, \$4 ages 5-17, free under 5. 508-228-1885, www.eganmaritime.org

**THERE** 

### BOUTIQUE HOTEL IN

THE HEART OF VEGAS
Las Vegas's first standalone boutique hotel just
opened on The Strip. The
Cromwell has 188 rooms, a

casino, a restaurant run by Italian-born chef Giada De Laurentiis, who hosts a Food Network show, a rooftop day club and nightclub led by famed restaurateur and film producer Victor Drai, and one of the only indoor-outdoor rooftop venues on The Strip. The hotel, which underwent a \$185 million renovation this year, also offers 19 suites that range from 723 to 2,250 square feet, have views of The Strip, full-size fridges. wet bars, and, in some cases, come with a pool table or pinball machine. Pet-friendly rooms and suites are available. Rates start at \$179 for rooms, \$829 for suites. 844-426-2766, www.thecromwell.com

### WAIKIKI'S BIGGEST

WATER SPORTS FESTIVAL Pay tribute to one of Hawaii's greatest athletes, Duke Kahanamoku, during Duke's OceanFest, a nine-day ocean sports festival on Oahu, Aug. 16-24. The Waikiki event includes a one-mile ocean swim, beachfront luau, Wounded Warrior canoe regatta, and competitions in surfing, stand-up paddling (pictured below), surfboard water polo, and lifeguarding. Most competitions take place near Queen's Surf on Waikiki. Kahanamoku, a water sports legend, won six Olympic medals including three gold medals in swimming, is known as the father of surfing, was a champion paddler, and once rescued eight people on his surfboard. The festival supports a public nonprofit that offers athletic grants and college scholarships to Hawaii residents competing in water sports and volleyball. www.dukesoceanfest.com

## WASHINGTON STATE CONNECTS ITS NEW TRAVEL HOT LINE

Washington State has opened a new visitor call center to answer travelers' questions and better plan their trips to



the Evergreen State. Find out where to sleep in Seattle or how to hike Mount Rainier, access the San Juan Islands, or find some of the area's top wineries, for instance. The Experience WA Call Center, launched by the Washington Tourism Alliance, is open daily 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. yearround, except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Staff can answer questions, take orders for the Washington State Visitors' Guide, and refer travelers to specific travel resources and organizations for additional info. 800-544-1800, tourism info@watour is malliance.com

**EVERYWHERE** 

## A PORTABLE BLANKET FOR LAYING OUT ANYWHERE

Sling the LaunchPad over your shoulder and take it on your adventures. This 58-by-70-inch doublelayered ground cloth works great as a portable blanket for picnics, beach outings, festivals, and other travel stops. It has a waterproof rip-stop nylon bottom so you can lay it on wet grass or sand and stay dry, and a fleece top that's comfy to sprawl on. It works well as a blanket or wrap for your hammock and easily fits four people but packs up to a 14-by-18-inch size (pictured above). Comes with a detachable shoulder strap for easy portability. \$84.95. 828-252-7808, www .eaglesnestoutfittersinc.com

## PRACTICAL ITEMS FOR OUTDOOR DINING

Travelers who spend their summer days or holidays on outdoor adven-



tures may appreciate the Starboard Collection's new Carina tabletop line. Vermont-based Aimee Marti, an avid sailor, designed this clever collection of dinnerware for boaters and outdoor enthusiasts. The bowls, plates, serving bowl, tray, and appetizer set have nonslip bases and curved edges for reducing the likelihood of tipping and spilling, and the bowls and plates fit together to save space and for easy transport. Best of all, the products are made from BPA-free recycled materials and totally shatterproof. Sold at Blackstone's of Beacon Hill in Boston (www.blackstonesbeaconhill.com) or online. \$36-\$59. 802-503-1205, www . starboard collection. com

KARI BODNARCHUK