



Grand Canyon Railway makes roundtrip runs between Williams, Ariz. and the Grand Canyon every day of the year except Christmas.



Ohio State Park Lodges feature indoor pools popular with families.



Myriad activities are available at Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg, Va.



## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release Photos Available

Xanterra Celebrates Military Family Appreciation Month with Savings for Veterans on VBT Bicycling and Walking Vacations and Discounts in Eight Xanterra Locations

DENVER, November 1, 2013 – November is <u>Military Family Appreciation Month</u>, and Xanterraoperated <u>VBT Bicycling and Walking Vacations</u> along with eight <u>Xanterra Parks & Resorts</u> destinations are celebrating with special discounts for active and retired service members.

"Travel is a great way to strengthen and celebrate family relationships, and we know that hardworking members of the military cherish the time they get to spend with their families," said Betsy O'Rourke, vice president of sales and marketing for Xanterra Parks & Resorts. "It gives us great pleasure to reward our military with these special offers."

**VBT Bicycling and Walking Vacations** – VBT is offering \$500 off the <u>Journey through Vietnam</u> bicycling trip for veterans who reserve during November. Additionally, all veterans will save \$200 on any international trip or \$100 on any domestic trip that is reserved on Veteran's Day, Monday, Nov. 11, 2013.

VBT offers deluxe small-group bicycling, walking, river barge and cross-country skiing tours worldwide with destinations in Europe, Costa Rica, New Zealand, Vietnam, Thailand, Peru, Argentina, Canada and the U.S. Each VBT vacation includes accommodations, many meals, two expert local trip leaders, sightseeing and cultural activities and tour support vehicle. VBT also includes roundtrip international airfare from more than 30 U.S. cities for all overseas vacations.

To receive the discounts, guests should use the promotional codes EMAL 170 for returning VBT travelers and EMAL 171 for new VBT travelers. Offers apply to new reservations only, and savings cannot be combined with any other offer, including VBT's Group program.

Reservations can be made at <a href="https://www.vbt.com">www.vbt.com</a> or by calling 1-800-245-3868.

**Furnace Creek Resort, Death Valley National Park** – Situated 120 miles from Las Vegas and 295 miles from Los Angeles, Furnace Creek Resort is comprised of the casual, family-friendly Ranch at Furnace Creek and historic AAA Four-Diamond Inn at Furnace Creek, and both lodges offer members of the military a 20 percent discount off the regular rate. The Ranch at Furnace Creek offers a sprawling kid-friendly playground with sport courts, a spring-fed pool and plenty of room to run. The Inn at Furnace Creek is surrounded by lush gardens and features a secluded spring-fed pool. There is an array of other activities including golf, horseback riding, cycling and hiking.

Reservations for accommodations at Furnace Creek Resort can be made online at <a href="https://www.furnacecreekresort.com">www.furnacecreekresort.com</a> or by calling toll free 1-800-236-7916 or 1-303-297-2757. Travelers should use the promotional code <a href="https://www.furnacecreekresort.com">MILITARY</a> when making reservations and present their military ID upon check-in.

**Grand Canyon Railway**, **Williams**, **Ariz.** – The historic Grand Canyon Railway offers a 15 percent discount off regular rates year-round for members of the military as well as all guests traveling in the party. Grand Canyon Railway travels 65 miles from the historic Williams Depot on Route 66 to the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park 364 days a year. Children and adults alike are entertained by the pre-departure Wild West Shootout and roving sheriff and musical entertainers aboard the train. The train travels through classic Old West territory including high desert plains with endless vistas, small arroyos and portions of the world's largest ponderosa pine forest. The discount is not valid with Grand Canyon Railway packages or the holiday-themed Polar

VBT Bicycling and Walking Vacations takes people all around the world.



Furnace Creek Resort features two lodging options that are perfect for couples or families.

Express or Pumpkin Patch trains.

Grand Canyon Railway reservations can be made online at <a href="www.thetrain.com">www.thetrain.com</a> or by calling 1-800-THE-TRAIN (1-800-843-8724). Travelers should use the promotional code ARMED15 and present their military ID upon check-in.

Kingsmill Resort, Williamsburg, Va. – Located on the scenic James River, the AAA Four-Diamond Kingsmill Resort is offering a 15 percent discount off the regular rate. The resort offers an array of indoor and outdoor activities including golf, fishing, biking, kayaking and games. Kingsmill Resort was voted one of the top 10 Fun Family Resorts by The Travel Channel. The resort is located minutes from Williamsburg's numerous destinations including Busch Gardens, Colonial Williamsburg, The College of William & Mary, Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center.

Kingsmill Resort reservations can be made at <a href="https://www.kingsmill.com">www.kingsmill.com</a> or by calling 1-800-832-5665.

Ohio State Park Lodges – Located in the central and northern parts of the state and featuring great indoor and outdoor activities for couples, seniors and families, Ohio State Park Lodges offer a 10 percent discount on rooms and packages. The five Ohio State Park Lodges operated by Xanterra are Salt Fork State Park Lodge in central Ohio near Cambridge, Mohican State Park Lodge in north central Ohio near Loudonville, Punderson Manor State Park Lodge in northeastern Ohio near Newbury, Maumee Bay State Park Lodge in northwestern Ohio near Toledo and Deer Creek State Park Lodge near Columbus. The lodges are perfect bases for travelers who want to explore the parks or nearby towns. For those who want to settle in at the lodges themselves, indoor pools, game rooms and spacious lobbies offer myriad relaxing activities.

To reserve rooms in these state parks or for more information, visit the individual web sites or <a href="https://www.ohiostateparklodges.com">www.ohiostateparklodges.com</a>. To receive the 10 percent military discount, use the promotional code <a href="https://www.ohiostateparklodges.com">MILITARY</a> and present their military ID upon check-in.

**Fee-Free Veterans Day Weekend in National Parks --** In addition to these discounts, all travelers – not just members of the military – can enjoy a fee-free entrance to national parks around the country during Veterans Day Weekend Nov. 9 –11. The National Park Service also offers members of the military a free Annual Pass good for year-round entrance to the parks. Xanterra operates lodges and other concessions in several parks around the country.

For information on all Xanterra Parks & Resorts go to www.xanterra.com.

###

Known for its "Legendary Hospitality with a Softer Footprint," <u>Xanterra Parks & Resorts</u>® entities include lodges, restaurants, tours and activities in national and state parks and resorts as well as a cruise line, railway and tour operator. Xanterra Parks & Resorts has operations in the <u>Grand Canyon</u>, including <u>Grand Canyon Railway</u> in Williams, Ariz., and <u>The Grand Hotel</u> in Tusayan, Ariz.; <u>Yellowstone</u>; <u>Zion</u>; <u>Crater Lake</u>; <u>Glacier</u>, <u>Rocky Mountain</u> and <u>Petrified Forest</u> National Parks; <u>Mount Rushmore</u> National Memorial; <u>Furnace Creek Resort</u> in Death Valley National Park and five <u>Ohio State Park Lodges</u> as well as the <u>Geneva Marina</u> at Ohio's Geneva State Park. Xanterra Parks & Resorts also operates <u>Kingsmill Resort</u> in Williamsburg, Va., <u>Windstar Cruises</u> and <u>VBT Bicycling and Walking Vacations</u>.

Xanterra Parks & Resorts 6312 S. Fiddlers Green Circle Suite 600 North Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Media contact: Mesereau Public Relations 1-720-842-5271 mona@mesereaupr.com tom@mesereaupr.com

<u>Unsubscribe</u>