

WALKABOUT TRAVEL GEAR ONLINE NEWSLETTER ++++++

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com>

We're not glossy but neither is the way we travel.

Volume 22

Hello. You're on this e-mail list because you requested to be on it or some mysterious Internet entity added you to it.

As always, if you prefer not to receive our newsletter (or if you receive duplicates) just let us know. Please type the term "C6" in your reply.

WALKABOUT NEWS+++++

RETAIL STORE

Our first retail outlet is in Moab, Utah. Moab is the center of Red Rock country, next to Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. Come visit if you are in town. Aside from travel gear, we have a used paperback exchange and free email access for travelers.

It's at 88 E. Center, behind the Moab Information Center. For a map:

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/store.htm>

WE NOW MATCH PRICES

Since we support the independent traveler who is often operating on limited currency, we have decided to implement a policy of matching prices on the products we sell. (We always have on backpacks, actually, as they are the most expensive yet essential gear.) If you see a product we stock somewhere else for less, let us know where and we'll match the price. (If you're ordering online, enter the information in the comments box.)

TRAVEL SMOKE DETECTOR SALE ++++++

In conjunction with American Express's Travel and Leisure magazine, we are offering a special on the Travel Smoke Detector: \$15.00. Visit:

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/axsmoke.htm>

MORE INFORMATION PRETENDING TO BE USEFUL
BUT ACTUALLY PROPAGANDA ++++++

Diner's Club has been added to the credit cards we accept.
(American Express, Discover, Visa, and MasterCard.)

International customers: Please note that our area code has been
changed from 801 to 435. (Our 800 and 888 toll-free numbers
for North America remain the same.)

Global Priority mail is inexpensive and very fast. For a list of
nations eligible, see:

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/shipping.htm>

Small Global Priority orders receive free shipping; see above.

NEW PRODUCTS ++++++

We actually added several new items, but favorites include:

CHUMS

Chums are those eyeglass retainers that keep your glasses on
your face. Important tools occasionally, on a run through
the rapids, bungee jumping, or on one of those 30 hour train
rides where you wake up with a sore head and are not sure
what country you are in, let alone where your glasses are.
Ours are emblazoned with the Walkabout Travel Gear logo.
Very tasteful, yet convey something. At:

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/misc.com>

PLATYPUS WATER PRODUCTS

We've added several Platypus products because of your
input, including larger sizes and insulated sleeves.

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/health.htm>

All new products can be found at:

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/new.htm>

TRAVEL TIP ++++++

The volume's travel tip comes from Carol:

When packing for a trip lay out the stuff you plan to pack including your money. Take half the stuff and twice the money. This will insure a successful trip.

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/tips.htm>

TRAVEL TALES ++++++

JACQUES RIPPED OFF AND POISONED IN VIETNAM

(Also a hidden lesson on bottled water and why we recommend a filter.)

I have made quite a few trips to Vietnam in the last few years from Halong Bay, Hanoi, Haiphong, Da Nang, Nha Trang, Saigon and Can Tho. I am a training manager at the Canadian Coast Guard College and my duties have taken me to many places and I always returned with some "anecdotes". I would like to share this one from Vietnam as it can easily happen to someone else.

By the time we got to Nha Trang, I had run out of scotch and was looking for a place to buy a bottle. In Nha Trang, there are very few stores but lots of open air markets. That is where I saw a bottle of Johnny Walker. In Vietnam, just about everything is negotiable and I started to negotiate for the bottle. From the original price of \$20.00, I was able to go down to \$12.00. Not bad for a bottle of Johnny Walker. That should have set off the alarms just then but it didn't. Back to the room I broke the seal on the cap and poured myself a drink...it's not scotch. It is colored rice wine. OK, so I got ripped off (wouldn't be the first time). I like rice wine so I finished off the glass. Mistake. A few hours later, I am both praying at the ivory altar and sitting on it. It took 3 days to feel better again and stop visiting Vietnam's WCs. I found out in Haiphong when I told my story to the people I was training. They told me that the practice of switching bottle contents even extended to bottled water. They drill a small hole at the bottom of the bottle (that's why the seal was not broken), empty it and replace it (in my case) with colored rice wine. That's the rip-off part. But they also told me that the bottle had probably been sitting on that shelf for weeks. Outside. In the sun. Average temperature 35 degrees Celsius. Instant alcohol poison. Buyer beware.

Jacques, Canada

Jacques's story and others can be found on our Hall of Fame page, located at:

<http://www.walkabouttravelgear.com/records.htm>

Submit yours.

TRAVEL NEWS ONLY USEFUL IF YOU CARE ++++++

Zimbabwe repelled its 17.5% tourism tax quickly after the tax was declared, fearing a reduction in tourism. Not many travelers, and only those with Zimbabwe in their itinerary during the period when the tax was enforced, were affected. Thanks to Holbrook Travel for the info:

<http://www.holbrooktravel.com>

Please email us if you have travel information of use.

INTERNET RECOMMENDATION ++++++

Hotelguide.com has the most complete worldwide index of hotels on the Internet:

<http://www.hotelguide.com>

OTHER STUFF ++++++

As always, explore the world now.

Walkabout Travel Gear

Supplying the Independent Traveler with Essential Gear and Information

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