



Date: July 2007
To: Utterly Sophisticated Travelers
From: Teresa Beall Expeditions
Re: We have a Winner!

Congratulations to Deb Barshafsky! By popular vote of our readers, she has won the first annual TBE Summer Blog-Off Contest along with an additional \$50 off coupon for a future TBE group expedition.

Deb is a food-obsessed leo living and writing in a 100+ year old craftsman-style bungalow in Augusta, Georgia. By day, she is vice president of decision support at a health sciences university and, by night, a freelance food writer. Her first TBE-orchestrated journey was to Chile in fall 2004. She has also traveled with TBE to India, Spain, Peru and the Amazon, and most recently Thailand. She will also be one of 22 world travelers joining TBE to Egypt and Jordan this fall. Among Deb's achievements are concocting the perfect key lime pie martini and teaching her recently adopted Chinese shar pei, Sooli, how to sword fight. Deb will be entering the Master of Arts in Gastronomy program offered by Le Cordon Bleu and the University of Adelaide this February. If you'd like another taste of her writing, visit her online at Bitegeist, the foodwriting web site she launched last August – www.bitegeist.com.

Congratulations also to Martha Brown, the winner of our “dedicated reader response team”. Her name was drawn from all of our readers who took the time to respond, comment and vote the blog winner. She has been awarded a \$50 off coupon for a future TBE group trip.

We applaud ALL of the bloggers who entered the contest. Besides our top three picks, there were several notable entries that we really enjoyed. Top marks go to “The Panties over Europe Tour” by Vivian Harper and “A Wedding Ring Lost” by Janice Battles. As a token of our appreciation for making this first annual contest such a success, every writer who submitted an entry will be receiving a special prize. We hope it will encourage you to try again next year in our second annual Blog-off contest. Thank you also to all of our readers who took the time to respond. Many of your comments were equally as humorous and inspiring and we have posted some of them for everyone’s review: www.teresabeall.com/blog-off.html

This winter, TBE will also be hosting a photography contest. Get ready – the challenge will be to submit a striking photograph that captures the essence of “traveling beyond borders” along with a caption (25 words or less) describing the moment in which it was captured and the location of where the photograph was snapped.

And, if we can help you orchestrate a trip between now and then (so you’ll have something to photograph or blog about), call us! We are pretty good at helping you make memories. Visit us at www.teresabeall.com.

NOTE - Each month (sometimes more often than that) we send out an e-newsletter containing timely announcements, notices and tips intended as useful, up-to-the-minute information for discriminating domestic and international travelers - you, our clients. The intent is NOT to send unwanted information to anyone. If you are not interested, please let us know and we will promptly remove you from our database!

Best, Teresa

“Travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.” – Miriam Beard

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