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**For more information contact
Lisa Scholin, bluefly PR
503-977-0483 (Office)
503-320-9379 (Mobile)
lisa@blueflypr.com**

Friends Who Tour Together Save Together

Grand European Tours offers a rewarding and new time-saving way for groups to travel worldwide

Lake Oswego, Ore., November 6, 2007 – The invite list for your 60th birthday bash. French Club. Your gal pals. You've got great friends, so why not take them along on your next vacation?

It's part of an ever-growing trend to get together with friends and share new experiences while traveling. And Grand European Tours, with over 29 years experience in escorted tour getaways for boomers and beyond, is offering a new simple and time-saving way for you and your friends to take off together.

Grand European Tours is introducing GET Connected, a free service for groups of six or more planning a trip together. It allows everyone traveling in your group to talk directly with the company's Group Coordinator via conference call to plan and book a trip at one time.

With everyone together, the Group Coordinator explains the specifics of your tour, including flight connections, costs and savings that may be available, and answers questions like what kind of weather to expect at your destination. No one in the group needs to manage the money, since the Coordinator handles all the bookings.

"Escorted tours offer one of the easiest and most enriching ways to get away these days with friends," says Hans Sohlstrom, president of Grand European Tours. "And we are proud to be the only tour operator to offer GET Connected service, one of the fastest, most headache-free ways to plan a group trip."

Grand European Tours rewards groups by offering a free land tour for the 10th passenger if nine paying passengers are booked. If you gather a group of 15 paying passengers, the 16th passenger will earn a free land tour plus airfare (air taxes and optional insurance are additional). More freebies are available for even larger groups.

"We can offer groups a tremendous value when they travel," says Sohlstrom. "We're able to offer a full-experience trip with all the bells and whistles for much less than it would cost to buy a similar trip on your own."

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Every tour is led by a seasoned Tour Director who will help you and your friends discover the history, culture and hidden gems of the places you visit. And you have more time to enjoy yourselves since things like hotel check-ins, luggage handling and restaurant reservations are handled for you. If your group has a special interest – from foodies to shopaholics – your Tour Director can help with personal recommendations to find the top attractions you'll love most.

Tour prices include airfare, lodging, meals, admissions, tour guides, the services of a full time Tour Director, and much more. And because you book directly with the tour operator, there is no middleman to filter questions through and your Group Coordinator is there to help along the way. You can just call and get a quick response.

All trips include the Grand European Tours Unconditional Price Guarantee so once you pay a deposit, your tour price remains the same even if costs go up. That can allow you to rest easy as currency and fuel rates fluctuate. Your group can also purchase the optional Peace of Mind Travel Protection Plan that allows members to cancel for any reason up to 24 hours before departure.

For more information on group tours with Grand European Tours or to request a free catalog containing a complete listing of all tours, departure dates and prices, call 1-800-522-5545 or visit www.getours.com.

Group Trip Planning Tips

If you're interested in planning your own group trip, Grand European Tours offers these planning tips:

- Elect a group leader that will round up tour members and act as a point person for your group. The leader may have an opportunity to enjoy the perks of free travel for their efforts.
- You should begin planning your trip six to nine months in advance of your departure. This allows time to contact your group members, send out information, and for individual bookings.
- Before deciding on a location, consider the interests of your group. Art lovers may want to concentrate on museums, history buffs could enjoy exploring ruins, and food lovers will want to taste the best local cuisine. Also, consider if you want your trip to be more active or allow extra time for relaxation.
- Decide on when you want to travel, the number of travelers you expect in your group, and the length of time you would like for your trip.

Most Popular Group Travel Destinations in Europe*

Can't decide on where to go? Here are some popular picks for groups:

- Italy
- Britain
- Ireland
- Russia
- Spain

*As reported by Grand European Tours, www.getours.com

Grand European Tours

For over 29 years, Grand European Tours has provided travelers with an easy and enriching way to travel through their escorted tours. With over 45 itineraries to Europe and beyond, every trip includes a team of travel experts to guide your journey and help you discover the gems of each destination. Grand European Tours even offers an unconditional price guarantee that keeps tour prices low, even if exchange rates and fuel costs change. For more information, visit www.getours.com or call 1-800-522-5545.