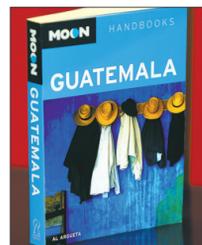


CHICAGO
Travel



ADVENTURE | 6C
Going green in Oregon

The state holds numerous outdoor treasures that can be explored and savored in a week by car. A writer shares the sights on her roadtrip.



WORD TRAVELS FAST
Celebrating Guatemala

Author Al Argueta, who has traveled extensively, gives a first-hand look at what makes the country special in Moon Handbooks' *Guatemala* (\$19.95).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2007 | EDITOR: LISA LENOIR | (312) 321-2228

Let's get into it.



A man entertains the crowd at Wurstfest 2006 in New Braunfels, Texas. | K. JESSIE SLATEN-AP

Texas fest is the wurst

SALUTE TO SAUSAGE | Event is similar to Oktoberfest, but 'not a beer fest'

BY ELIZABETH WHITE

NEW BRAUNFELS, Texas — Any old town can have its own Oktoberfest. The beer stein-hoisting events pop up all over in late September and early October.

But New Braunfels, a central Texas town with strong ties to its German heritage, waits till a little later in the fall to honor a specific piece of Deutschland tradition: sausage.

The city has been holding "Wurstfest: The 10-day salute to sausage," for the last 46 years, drawing curious, and hungry, visitors from the world over. A large, lush park near a spring-fed river transforms every fall into the international center of Gemutlichkeit — "fun and fellowship, German style."

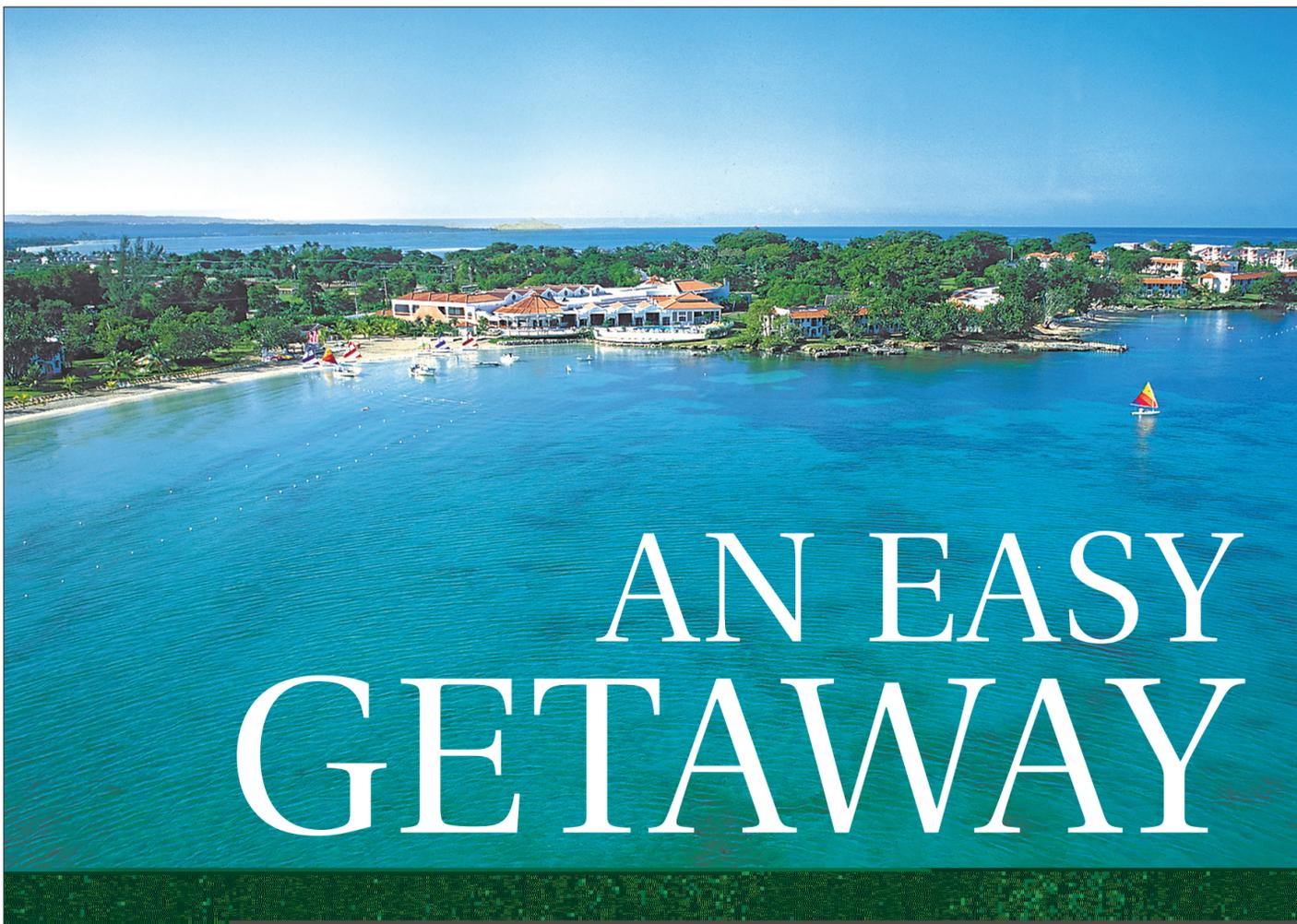
The fest kicks off with the traditional "biting of the sausage" and always begins on the Friday before the first Monday in November. This year that's Nov. 2.

But why wurst — the German word for sausage?

The town began the event in 1961 to drum up business for local restaurants, markets and sausage makers and extend the tourist season later into the fall, when Texas weather becomes bearable, even pleasant. Originally the one-day "Sausage Festival," it has evolved into the longer event it is now. Estimates say the fest will get more than 125,000 visitors this go-around. In the past it's pulled in as many as 200,000.

Set along Interstate 35 between Austin and San Antonio,

SEE FESTIVAL, PAGE 4C



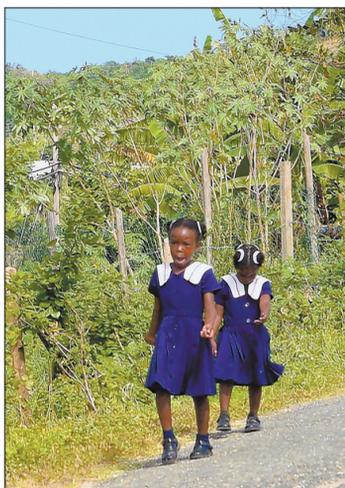
AN EASY GETAWAY



Dancers perform on the beach at the Grand Lio Negril resort. The all-inclusive resort (top photo) is nestled along the island's shoreline. | DENTON MORRIS-FOR THE SUN-TIMES (ABOVE PHOTO)



Jamaica's efforts to preserve its coral reefs have been successful.



Schoolgirls walk along the side of the road in Jamaica. | DENTON MORRIS-FOR THE SUN-TIMES

JAMAICA | Indulging in an all-inclusive resort on Caribbean island makes for an enjoyable vacation

BY JAE-HA KIM AND DENTON MORRIS

NEGRI, Jamaica — Jamaica. It's where Stella got her groove back. It's where Errol Flynn entertained guests during his heyday. And it's where we went to celebrate our wedding anniversary.

Technically we had been to Jamaica several times already, but it was only for layovers at Sangster International Airport in Montego Bay, before boarding on connecting flights to other Caribbean destinations such as St. Lucia, Grand Cayman and Bonaire. Once we experienced Jamaica, we couldn't believe it had taken us this long to actually visit for real. The beaches and mountains were breathtaking. The Jamaican jerk chicken (just called jerk chicken here for obvious reasons) was that good. And as for the wonderfully laidback people, they really did say "Yah, mon."

It took about an hour to get from the airport to our hotel, and we took that opportunity to gaze out the window and grill our cab driver for information. A friendly man who easily could make a good living working as a tour guide if he opted to do so, he warmed up to us even more when we recognized that the CD he was playing was by Jamaica's own reggae star Shaggy.

He pointed out a villa owned by former heavyweight boxing champion Lennox Lewis, whose mother is from Jamaica. Many of the resorts and grander homes were built where sugar cane plantations used to thrive. Lewis' home is in Hanover, a small parish on the northwestern tip of the island. The house wasn't the only lavish one in the area. But what was surprising was that huge, grand estates were built next door to small, run-down shacks with farm animals grazing in the yard — something not seen in say, Winnetka.

We couldn't help but notice that the streets were dotted with goats. Goats at corners. Goats in yards. Goats that appeared to be doing a little window shopping even. Some were tied to their owners' homes. Others roamed free. With this plenitude of the little rascals, it didn't come as much of a surprise that one of the island's specialty dishes is curry goat, a spicy and fragrant treat that's less gamey tasting than you'd imagine.

Another local favorite is the cod with ackee, the national

SEE JAMAICA, PAGE 5C

APPLE VACATIONS.com

	Fall	Holiday	Winter
H/O Nacidos May 9 Riverside 7 nights ALL-INCLUSIVE SA, Oct 27-Nov 10, 24	from \$699 ^{99*}	Grand Sunset Pinkies All- Star Beach & Spa Riverside 7 nights ALL-INCLUSIVE SA, Dec 22-Jan 8/11	Grand Palm Beach 4 Cancun 7 nights ALL-INCLUSIVE SA, Jan 5, 12, 25, 4/9, 12 & Under Stay & Eat FREE!
H/O Cancun 5 7 nights ALL-INCLUSIVE SA, Oct 27-Nov 10, 24-Dec 15	from \$949 ^{99*}	Sun Palace 6 Cancun 7 nights ALL-INCLUSIVE SA, Dec 22-Jan 8/11 resort! Includes a Palace Resort for unlimited select hours and discount-waivers for golf, spa & car rental!	Blue Bay Grand Española 5 Riverside 7 nights ALL-INCLUSIVE SA, Jan 5, 12, 20

*Prices per person and all-inclusive round-trip airfare from MDW unless otherwise stated on flight. All-inclusive air carriers, round-trip airport transfers, hotel taxes and baggage handling, fuel surcharges and the services of an Apple Representative. Hotel accommodations are based on double occupancy unless otherwise stated. Prices do not include \$2.50 per segment September 11 Security Fee, other governmental taxes/fees (max. \$1.20 per person). "All-inclusive" resorts include all meals, drinks, watersports and more. Included watersports at all-inclusive resorts may be non-motorized. For bookings within 14 days of departure, add \$10 per person. Prices apply to select departure dates within a specified range. Restrictions/blackout dates may apply. Prices may be capacity controlled, are based on the lowest airfare at the time of printing, and are subject to availability and change without notice. Promotional pricing may only be available for a limited time. Apple Vacations not responsible for errors or omissions. See the Fair Trade Contract #2007.