

## "The Getaway Girl®"

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## Travel Expert Recommends "Spooktacular" Getaways

ORLANDO, Fla.— (Oct. 21, 2009) Travel expert and Daytime TV Travel Correspondent Casey Wohl foresees some big Halloween parties this year with Oct. 31 falling on a Saturday. After some bewitching research, The Getaway Girl® provides her top picks for some "Spooktacular" getaways.

**Key West, FL**: For 30 years, no other island has celebrated Halloween like Key West has with its annual Fantasy Fest. This year themed "Villains, Vixens and Vampires," Fantasy Fest offers 10 days of masquerade balls, quirky costume contests and other delights climaxing in a glittering grand parade set for Halloween night that draws 70,000 per year. Some of the event highlights include: the Pet Masquerade & Parade, where pets dress as people and people as pets; Toga Party; Annual Headdress Ball, with elaborate head pieces; Celebrity Look-A-Like Contest; Halos & Horns Pool Party and of course....the infamous body costume painting.

<u>Salem, MA</u>: Located 16 miles north of Boston, Salem's long history with witches make it an obvious choice for Halloween revelers as hundreds of thousands of people visit this town each October. As home to the Salem Witch Trials more than 300 years ago, the city is now home to the Festival of the Dead, which helps visitors explore death from various perspectives. The cornerstone is the Annual Psychic Fair and Witchcraft Expo, featuring a range of colorful personalities. They also host Séances and Mourning Teas, a series of Balls including the Retro Zombie Ball and Vampires Masquerade, and the internationally known Official Salem Witches Halloween Ball. You can also visit the numerous witches museums, ghost tours and cemetery tours.

<u>Tucson, AZ</u>: Día de los Muertos (or Day of the Dead) is a religious holiday that dates before both the European arrival in the New World and Christianity. Like Halloween, Día de los Muertos is closely associated with All Saints and All Souls days which are major holy days in the Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican Churches. In recent years Día de los Muertos has been becoming a more common celebration in Tucson. While still celebrating the traditional Halloween festivities, Dia de los Muertos also honors and remembers the deceased with graveside gifts and a parade. This is much about the fun aspects of Halloween, as well as the spiritual side of death and grieving.

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West Hollywood, CA: The annual West Hollywood Halloween Costume Carnaval is returning for its 22nd year on October 31, 2009. Described as the "World's Largest Street Party" by local Los Angeles media, the West Hollywood Halloween Costume Carnaval is a truly unique experience where nearly half a million costumed revelers and spectators are the focus in a street fair-type of scene. With live entertainment, celebrity appearances and "let your hair down" revelry, West Hollywood, as always, is THE place to be on Halloween night. The Carnaval takes place from 6PM to Midnight on Saturday, October 31 between La Cienega Boulevard and La Peer Drive on Santa Monica Boulevard, "Route 66" in West Hollywood. Free week-long events lead up to the West Hollywood Halloween Costume Carnaval, including a youth carnival, a pet costume contest, "Drag Races," featuring competitive relay races for people dressed in drag and stiletto heels, pumpkin carving contests and more.

To see more on these haunting destinations, watch Casey's Daytime TV interview at http://tinyurl.com/yl2sn76.

Casey is available for on-camera, on-air and print interviews about this and other travel topics. To schedule an interview, contact <a href="mailto:Info@GirlsGetawayGuide.net">Info@GirlsGetawayGuide.net</a> or (863) 224-6326.

Casey Wohl, known as The Getaway Girl®, is passionate about two things: her girlfriends and traveling the world. By combining these two loves, Wohl has created a unique and helpful city-specific travel guide series for women worldwide. Born and raised in Central Florida, Wohl has traveled to 19 foreign countries and has organized many girls' getaways to more than 20 different cities. She is a travel correspondent for the nationally-syndicated Daytime TV show and has been featured in *Woman's Day* and *Parenting* magazines as well as on CBS Radio. For more information, visit www.GirlsGetawayGuide.net.