

## Affinity Travel Update By Gerald Soon

The travel benefit and website has changed to better meet the needs of our members.

Trip Merchant has negotiated special membership savings directly with travel suppliers. Members can save as much as 30% on travel experiences. The offers available on this site are extended to your friends and family.

The new URL for the website is: <https://bcrpvpa.tripmerchant.ca/>

**The site is now password protected.** Once you enter the password, it also can be saved so you always have access to the site, designed by Trip Merchant. Our logo is at the top left of the page.

The password that you must enter: **BCRPVPATM18**

Explore the site! You will see a number of headers: Member benefits, Deals, Travel Styles, Destinations, Travel Tips & News, and Newsletter Sign Up. To the far right is a “search” function.

If you have previously signed up for the travel newsletter, you need to do nothing, it will automatically come to you twice a month. If you have not yet signed up, do so directly on the site. You will then be notified of group departures, new deals, live online travel presentations, and last - minute offers.

Travel styles include ocean cruises, river cruises, guided tours, adventure and active travel, African Safaris, Rail journeys, Solo travel, Long Stay Vacations, and more.

Solo travelers will be pleased to know that there is no single supplement for single travel!

At present there are 120 travel products available to our members. If you travel using one of these products through the website you are eligible for the Loyalty program. 2% Cash rewards for each trip you take go is put into a Loyalty account. The money accumulates and can be applied to a future trip that you take. You decide when you want to use the Loyalty funds! Hotels offered have member benefits attached as well.

To make a booking request, click on the travel product you are interested in, and a summary of the product you are interested in opens. If you are interested in a quote based on your departure dates and air gateway, you can call the number if provided or simply click on “request a quote.” Please note that the offers on the site can only be accessed through the site and the supplier partners featured, otherwise the savings and loyalty travel dollars will not apply.

Explore the website and see what savings you might benefit from for being a member of the BCRPVPA!

The BCRPVPA is pleased that our Affinity Travel Benefit has improved! Happy travelling!