

**State to State Visit  
Panama  
February 18-27, 2013**

Get away from the snow and cold and visit Panama with its rich history and the Canal, one of the man-made wonders of engineering along with the natural beauty of the country.

Join your Lambda State sisters as we travel to a country listed on the 100 top travel destinations list in the world - Panama. We will visit the capital, Panama City, and view the oldest Spanish settlement on the Pacific where we will explore the Old Quarter, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and walk along the cobblestoned streets to the Plaza de la Independencia, the Presidential Palace and the National Theater. We will pass through the Miraflores Locks Visitor Center and view the Panama Canal. We will visit the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute Marine Laboratory. Later we will take a ride on the historic Panama Canal Railway to the Gamboa Rainforest Resort, our home for a few nights.

While in the Gamboa Rainforest, we will board the Pacific Queen for a partial transit through the Panama Canal as we pass through two locks and learn about the construction and operation of the Canal. We will visit a local handicraft market to buy artisan souvenirs including the "mola" embroidery of the Kuna Yala Indians. We will visit a settlement of Emberá Indians "Keepers of the Rainforest" to see their traditional techniques of homebuilding and handicrafts. Participants will cruise to Monkey Island to spot iguanas, toucans, sloths and more.

There will be an opportunity to visit with some of our Delta Kappa Gamma sisters and if time permits a visit to a children's hospital or daycare center. The tour offers optional tours which include visits to Gatún Locks to view the mules (electric locomotives) which guide ships through the Canal along with a visit to Portobelo, founded in 1597, which played an important role in the silver trade routes of Panama's past along with a visit to San Felipe Church, home to Panama's most venerated religious figure, the Black Christ. More optional tours are available depending on your sense of adventure or need for rest and relaxation.

The basic cost of this Collette Tour is \$3,139 per person (double occupancy) including round-trip airfare from Chicago O'Hare to Panama. Optional tours vary in price. **The deposit is \$250 per person without travel insurance or \$425 with travel insurance (in case there is an emergency and you need to cancel for ANY reason). The deposit and reservation must be postmarked by June 20, 2012. Please send reservation form and check for deposit made payable to AAA Travel Agency in care of Irene Farsalas, AAA Travel Agency, 1840 S. Arlington Heights Rd., Arlington Heights, IL 60005.** For more detailed information or reservation form, please contact Ursula Sihocky, International Projects Chair via e-mail at [usihocky21@comcast.net](mailto:usihocky21@comcast.net). We have reserved 20 spaces and the sooner you sign up, the sooner you will be among the lucky travelers to make this trip.