

Travel

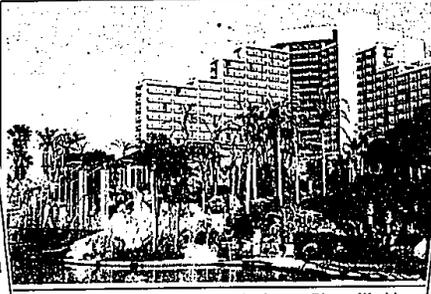


O&E Thursday, February 20, 1988

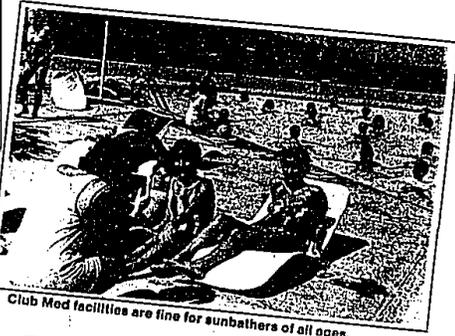
12C(BXT, Ro-7C, 8, L-12A, F-14C, P, C-8C, W, G-5B)



Nicklaus golf course at the Grand Cypress, Orlando, Fla.



Grand Cypress Hotel, Orlando, Fla., is near Disney World.



Club Med facilities are fine for sunbathers of all ages.

Adult vacations

Take the kids but pick the right place to go - here's 3 examples

YOU HAVE BEEN working hard at the office. Your spouse, if you have one, has been slogging away just as hard at a nine-to-five job. You would love to get away for a few days without the kids, but you have little enough time together as a family as it is.

If you travel with the children you won't really be able to fill your own needs. If you go without them, it will be one more guilt trip.

There is an alternative. Doing your own thing while traveling with kids is possible if you pick the right kind of vacation.



Iris Jones
contributing travel writer

THAT DOESN'T mean one more cross-country driving trip with Billy and Susie killing each other in the back seat. It means picking a single place with the right facilities, settling down for a week and letting everybody do their own thing.

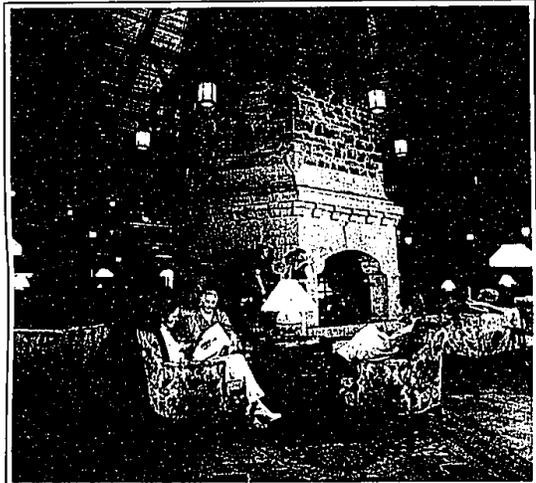
There are three kinds of vacations worth exploring: a specific kind of resort, a hotel near a kid place like Disney World, and packaged fun like Club Med.

Resorts are perfect for families if there is enough planned activity to keep the kids busy, as well as enough of those things that make working parents happy: an environment where you can crash by day and live it up at night.

CHATEAU MONTEBELLO, on the north side of the Ottawa River between the Canadian cities of Ottawa and Montreal, is a perfect example. The "chateau" is a great sprawling log lodge with a six-story stone fireplace in the lobby on 105 square miles of land.

No that's not a misprint. Montebello was a seignior, a plot of land given in 1674 by the Bourbon kings of France to a citizen of the new world, who used the king's authority to develop and colonize the area. The Seignior of La Pette Nation, named after the Algonquin tribe that lived there, was given to Bishop LaSalle of Quebec and later sold to the Papthau family.

The giant log cabin was built in the 1920s as an exclusive private club. Canadian Pacific Hotels converted it to a public hotel in 1971. In winter the great lobby fireplace is surrounded by snow lovers fresh from the skating rinks, snow shoe trails, toboggan runs, sleigh rides and cross country ski trails.



In the lobby of the Chateau Montebello, a six-story fireplace.

LESS HARDY souls can skate outdoors, take a lesson from the sports director at the curling rink, swim in the indoor pool or just toll in the sauna. Hardier visitors are probably hunting in the rugged interior of the property, popular among certain kinds of individualists year round. There are 70 stocked lakes for fisherfolk, and small private cabins for wilderness lovers.

If all that sounds a little to active for you, remember that there is no law against staying in your comfortable bed until noon or curling up around the fireplace with a book.

When day is done, there are lots of indoor games to keep the children happy

while you make new friends at the bar or get dressed up for a gourmet dinner in the dining room. The children can eat separately or you can all eat together; there are two seatings.

THE ADVANTAGE of this kind of resort is in the variety. You are just as much a family there as you are at home, but even at home you don't spend every minute together. At Chateau Montebello you can be together when it's convenient but you can also be alone. And if mom and dad would like a little dressed-up romance in the evening, they don't have to worry about the kids.

Montebello can be reached by car or

rail from Ottawa, Canada's capital city, 40 miles to the west, or from Montreal, Canada's French metropolis, 80 miles to the east. Rates are in Canadian dollars. With the present exchange rate, you can buy \$1.40 Canadian with one American dollar.

Rates through May 16: \$94.50 room-only for two, \$155.50 including two meals, \$182.50 including three meals. One child under 14 stays free, add \$21 for his meals; with two kids you need two rooms or a bed sitting room for four. For more information, call toll-free 1-800-828-7447.

Chateau Montebello is only one example of active resorts that split two ways for families. There are lots of others. Use your imagination.

SO CLOSE and yet so far away is the theme of a family vacation at a resort like Hyatt's Grand Cypress just outside the boundaries of Disney World in Orlando, Fla. This classy resort hotel has everything you need to pamper you: tennis, designer golf course, a putt putt course for kids, swimming pool, spa, a small lake for windsurfing and fine bars and restaurants.

It also has daily buses that run the few miles to Disney World where children of reasonable age can be let loose all day in the Magic Kingdom or EPCOT Center.

Your buses also run to Sea World. If you don't want to give your children quite that much freedom, stay in one of

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the villas inside the World; you'll have your own relaxing condo and Mickey Mouse won't be far away. You might also consider renting an Immobile mobile home at Fort Wilderness in the World.

CLUB MED as a family vacation site may startle you. Many people still think of Club Med as a place only for single swingers. The truth is that the baby boomers are approaching 40, most of them have children and Club has grown up with them.

Children of a certain age may feel outnumbered by adults in many Club Meds, but not at the children's villages found in places like Eleuthera, Bahamas, and Fort Royal, Guadeloupe. The kids have their own mini club and are so busy all day that you needn't join their activities unless you want to.

For information, contact your travel agent or call toll-free 1-800-528-3100.

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