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TRAVEL

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Friday Travel Ticker: This festival really bites

By Chris Erskine

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And you think you have hairy legs? Check out the annual Tarantula Festival on Oct. 27 in Coarsegold Historic Village, about a half hour south of Yosemite. **The festival features a tarantula-themed baking contest, costume contest, tarantula races and more.** Details at the [Coarsegold website](#) Spirit Airlines **is charging customers \$100 for gate-checking their carry-on bags.** The higher charge begins Nov. 6. The fee has been \$45. Spirit and Allegiant are the only airlines charging for carry-on luggage Ventura's Scottish festival, the Seaside Highland Games, celebrates its 10th anniversary Oct. 13-14, with **bagpipes, Irish dancers and the Scottish Heavy Athletes (large men throwing stuff).** Info: www.seaside-games.com **More than 80 airplanes will taxi down the streets of Palm Springs for a "Parade of Planes" Oct. 10,** in advance of a trade show at the convention center, Oct. 11-13 . . . Temecula's [South Coast Winery Resort & Spa](#) hosts a **Haunted Behind-The-Scenes Wine Tour, Oct. 26-31.** Tickets are \$45; reservations required, (951) 587-9463 WWII buffs should check out the **11th annual Pearl Harbor Day Troop Train, running between Los Angeles and San Diego** on Dec 1. Fare: \$109.95, with discounts for vets; www.LARail.com or (714) 546-6923 The Four Seasons Hotel San Francisco has debuted a **new Runners' Concierge program that offers nutrition help, massages and free socks, just in time for the Nike Women's Marathon**.

A spooked-out maze and mansion tour, the Winchester Mystery House Fright Nights, **runs through the rambling and reportedly haunted home of Sarah Winchester in San Jose through Halloween.** For details, visit the [Fright Nights website](#) or call (408) 247-2101

Lunacy Music and Arts Festival, a **three-day celebration of the full moon and "transformational festival of the arts,"** takes place Oct. 26-28 at Live Oak Camp in Santa Ynez. It will feature electronic and live music with workshops and demonstrations by artists and guest speakers Returning to Las Vegas for its fourth year, **NASCAR After The Lap takes place Nov. 29 at PH Live at Planet Hollywood.** One of the biggest events associated with NASCAR's Sprint Cup Series Champion's Week, it gives fans a chance to interact with the top drivers. Tickets are \$20, at www.NASCARafterthelap.com Each year, **Yosemite National Park hosts nearly 9,300 volunteers** who donate over 172,000 hours of work, the park says **Travel quote of the day:** There is a harmony in autumn, and a luster in its sky, which through the summer is not heard or seen, as if it could not be, as if it had not been!" (Percy Bysshe Shelley)

<http://www.latimes.com/travel/deals/la-trb-tarantula-festival-near-yosemite-20121004,0,6847963.story>