

# Seniors hit the road, waters for final 'hoorah,' bonding

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Senior trips aren't just for high schoolers anymore.

This year, some seniors are sealing their undergraduate careers with one last hoorah before hitting the road of claustrophobic cubicles or higher learning.

Rosanna Almonte, an English and textual studies and information management and technologies major, and seven of her friends are planning a final get-together, via jammed-packed cars and road maps, before they splinter off across the country in search of jobs and graduate degrees. "It's a good way to end four years together," Almonte said.

Almonte's friend Nora Lee, a finance and accounting major, plans on joining the festivities, adding "It will be hard for eight of us to get together again."

The eight women have known

one another since the Summer Start program, but they never hung out freshman year, said Magdalena Dworniczak, an international relations and political science major. Their friendship gathered speed during sophomore year, and since then, the women have always roomed together.

The idea for the post-graduation road trip surfaced over dinner in the dining hall, Lee recalled. Working from an \$800 per person budget, the friends have tossed around places to go and things to see. At the top of their list, the women are currently considering renting a house in upstate New York for a week.

While upstate New York may open doors for wild parties and relaxation, some seniors are choosing to venture ever farther. Maggie Huang, an information management and technologies major, plans to visit Asia with her best friend from high school. "We have to map geog-

raphy, because we want to travel all of Asia," Huang said.

Kristin Smith, a senior psychology major, is planning a road trip to Tampa, Fla., with her three best friends. They plan to stay in her parent's summer home, which is conveniently located near Busch Gardens, Universal Studios and Walt Disney World.

Joshua Darland, the branch manager at STA Travel on Marshall Street, said that many seniors have wandered into his shop in search of vacation destinations with their friends.

"Some are putting off the real world, and I am putting them on trips around the world," Darland said, adding that the most popular travel destinations have been Europe, Australia, India, Aruba and China. Cruises are also popular.

Dan Zuniga, a biochemistry major, and his girlfriend Andrea Hurwitz, a public relations and sociology

## Post-graduation Travel Tips

### TRAVEL IN MAY

Travel accommodations are far cheaper throughout May since most people save their vacations for the high summer months.

### PLAN AHEAD

By doing a bit of early research on fares for flights, cruises and hotels, your budget will be more flexible and realistic. Pre-book hotel rooms.

### DON'T FORGET FOOD

Budget extra dough in for meals. And booze.

### CHECK THE WHEELS

Get your car checked by a mechanic before you hit the on-ramp. Unexpected breakdowns hurt budgets.

### STOCK UP

Buy extra film, bottled water, maps, an emergency kit, umbrella and anything else that you may wish you had when the unthinkable happens.

major, have planned a seven-day Royal Caribbean cruise together. "I've been on four cruises before, and she's never been on one," Zuniga said.

The couple has been together since January and decided a cruise would be most fun. They are flying to San Juan, and from there cruising

around the Caribbean for a little more than \$1000 each.

Of course they know the rest and relaxation won't last forever though.

Once the luxurious cruise comes to a close, both Zuniga and Hurwitz are headed off to Boston to work in their respective fields.