

Chicago Times Celebrity Traveler: Mary Steenburgen

http://www.chicagotribune.com/travel/chi-tc-trav-celeb-0609-0614jun14,0,5455538.story

Chicago Tribune
chicagotribune.com

Get **\$75** when you open online a select new **PNC PERSONAL CHECKING ACCOUNT** with qualifying direct deposit.



June 22, 2009

Search Go

Cars | Jobs | Real Estate



Home > Travel

Text size:

Celebrity Traveler: Mary Steenburgen

▶ HOME DELIVERY

▶ ADVERTISE WITH US



▼ WEATHER/COMMUTE

▶ CHICAGOPOINTS

▶ NEWS

▶ SPORTS

▶ BUSINESS

▶ DEATHS

▶ OPINION/BLOGS

▶ ENTERTAINMENT

▶ LIVING/TRAVEL

▶ HEALTH / FITNESS

▶ QUICK LINKS

▶ NEWSLETTER/ALERTS

▶ SHOPPING

▶ CARS

▶ JOBS

▶ REAL ESTATE

▶ APARTMENTS

▶ MORE CLASSIFIEDS

▶ CONNECT WITH US

Busy actress' favorite spots: Paris, Maui, Little Rock (really)

By Jae-Ha Kim | Tribune Media Services
June 14, 2009

Academy Award-winning actress [Mary Steenburgen](#) has a lot on her plate these days. Besides co-starring in [Sandra Bullock's](#) romantic comedy "[The Proposal](#)," which opens in theaters June 19, she's the co-owner of the [California](#) home design store Rooms & Gardens ([roomsandgardens.com](#)) and the candle company Nell's Compass ([nellscompass.com](#)), which she owns with her daughter Lilly McDowell. She's also married to [Ted Danson](#). The 56-year-old [Arkansas](#) native phoned from her hotel room in Santa Fe, where she was shooting "Did You Hear About the Morgans?" co-starring [Sarah Jessica Parker](#) and [Hugh Grant](#).

Q What is your favorite vacation destination?

A My husband and I love to go to Paris and just walk and roam around, go to little cafes and check out the museums and things like that. Maui is one of my favorite places. And, actually, a place that most people would be surprised about is [Little Rock](#), Ark. I love what's happened to it in the last few years. The [William J. Clinton](#) Presidential Library adds a kind of wonderful, sophisticated feel to it. We have trolley cars with teak interior, and the city has just gotten more charming and green.

Digg

submit



Actress Mary Steenburgen (CBS Handout file photo)

Q What are your favorite hotels?

Ads by Google

Cookie Dough Recall
Get Facts on the Voluntary Recall Of Toll House®
Cookie Dough.
VeryBestBaking.com/TollHouse

Maui Resort
Ritz-Carlton Club® Offers Exquisite Deeded
Fractional Club Residences
www.RitzCarltonClub.com

Apple Vacations® Big Sale
Save Up to 70% on Maui Vacations. Book Now &
Enjoy Prices From \$799!
www.AppleVacations.com

K Cayre Hotel
Find great deals and special offers Find it cheaper
we'll match it!
www.hotelconnect.co.uk

Paris 35€ per night
Cool hotels, hostels, apartments Always
35€/night. Always central
www.paris35.com

A The Hotel Hana-Maui and Honua Spa (hotelhanamaui.com) in [Hawaii](#) is a favorite. I love the Covent Garden Hotel in London (firmdale.com), which is a wonderful hotel. The staff is nurturing and lovely. I also really like the Huntington Hotel in San Francisco (huntingtonhotel.com). It's one of the most wonderful hotels. It's an old hotel that they've kept beautiful and historical and yet very up to date at the same time. I a Posada de Santa Fe Resort & Spa (aposada.rockresorts.com) in [New Mexico](#) has beautiful grounds. Right now, I'm staying in a little adobe bungalow with a log ceiling.

Q When you go away, what are some of your must-have items?

A I'm kind of a gypsy who stays in hotels a lot for work, so I like to bring things that are hard to find. I bring my tea with me, 'cause a lot of places don't have what I like. I always have

my dark chocolate, which I'm addicted to. My oldest stepdaughter gave me a little medicine pouch, and I travel with that for good luck. And I bring my cowboy boots everywhere, even to Paris!

Q What kind of research do you do before you go away on a trip?

A Whenever I go to Paris, I check out this wonderful Web site called chezvous.com. It's a fantastic company that has amazing apartments and, in some cases, even historic homes that they rent out. I've stayed in quite a few apartments, and each one was impeccable. You have the sense of living in Paris, as opposed to being a tourist.

Q What is your best and worst vacation memory?

A My best and worst is kind of the same. Ted and I went on one of our first vacations together to the Hotel Hana-Maui. I've been to Hawaii tons of times when there was gorgeous weather, but we happened to go there at the end of a hurricane. The entire time we were there it rained. I have to say, though, that it was one of our best vacations. The staff understood we had spent a lot of money to come there, so they went out of their way to make sure all the guests had a wonderful time, by putting little treats in our room, providing books and movies. We just had fun with each other and relaxed.

CHICAGO
top jobs

Auto Sales
JOE RIZZA ACURA

Service Advisor
Land Rover Chicago

Sales Rep
**CHICAGO TRIBUNE
MEDIA GROUP**