Springtime Travel is Blooming

If you like tulips right now is the season to visit the Keukenhof Garden in Holland where over seven million of them are in full bloom. If you can't get to Holland, you can always go to Holland, Michigan, although they only have five million tulips to see.

Besides flowers, March-May travel has many advantages, such as milder temperatures (spring or fall depending on which hemisphere), smaller crowds (greater availability of hotels and restaurants), and off-season prices (more money for shopping). There are still places to enjoy skiing and on the opposite end, hurricane season doesn't start for weeks.

No matter the destination or time of year one can shop, compare, plan, and book all in just a few clicks. Vacation travelers can find just the place and lodging they've dreamed of and even tour it before they go, view ratings and firsthand accounts from other travelers.

Planning the perfect vacation should end with making sure its protected with Travel Insurance. The typical plan will cover emergency medical expenses and baggage loss and delay, and recover at least some of the cost of the trip if the vacation had to be canceled or cut short.

As a Big "I" Markets agent you can offer your clients travel insurance through our partner carrier Travel Insured International. Opt-in for Cancel for Any Reason Coverage, and your clients may cancel their plans and get up to 75% of their total trip cost for any reason they choose. They just have to have purchased within 21 days of deposit (other eligibility conditions must also be met) and cancel 48 or more hours prior to scheduled departure in order to be eligible.

The TII travel blog covers a myriad of travel related subjects, including travel agent myths, air travel tips, picking the right hotel, using a cellphone abroad, navigating hurricane season, and more. Don't know how to account for miles or rewards points in the cost of the trip? There may be a points rebanking fee if a trip is cancelled and that cost, up to $250, can be covered.

Travel Insurance can cover accident and sickness medical expense, emergency medical evacuation/repatriation, trip delays, cancellation, interruption, missed connections due to severe weather or many other reasons outside the traveler's control.

Obtaining coverage is easy:

- Review the product guide with your client®. Use the Quick Quote Feature on the Travel Insured International Site to calculate premium and add optional coverage if desired.
- Contact the Carrier's Help Desk with any coverage or underwriting questions.
- When you are ready for coverage to be issued, you MUST click on Request a Quote to access the applications and enter client information. Then scan and attach the completed application as a "New Message" or email to kyle.yoder@iiaba.net. A credit card number is required to issue coverage.
- Travel Insurance is currently available to members in all states.

Travel Insurance International help desk can be reached at (800) 243-3174.

Rates, waiting periods, and coverages can vary in FL, IA, KS, NY & WA.