



Item: Fast Lane #13 in 2022 Petergram (#107 since 2020)
Date: **Saturday, March 26th 2022**
From: Peter Sontag writing from our office in Oldsmar, Florida
To: Our Fast Lane Travel Customer Family and Friends at home in **Australia, Canada, Europe, Iceland, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa** and in the **USA!**
Subject: **Dreams trips are back “In”**

I. **2022 Carolinas PORSCHE Fest update: PORSCHE Track Atlanta NEWS:** This week I signed the contract to secure our space on the PORSCHE Experience Center Track in Atlanta. On Thursday, September 22nd we will enjoy the following:

- A. **Hot Laps** (what we call them in Germany) in the US they are now called Corporate Demonstration Laps at \$550/per lap – I have included it in the trip price.
- B. I have been able to secure **16 Optional GT3 self-drive time slots** of 2 hours each. Taycans will also be available. I’m told. These “self-drive track experiences” are optional – not included in the trip price – but I have committed to 16 participants in order to get the use of the track. Details to follow to all those who have signed up for the Carolinas.
- C. Despite the very tight/sold out hotel space in the Carolinas this year, we have been able to secure the rare Biltmore Inn in Asheville NC **and** then to Highlands, to drive the challenging Tail of the Dragon, and Cherohala Skyway. An awesome luxury and beautiful driving experience. Allyn did an awesome job securing the space and Wendy excelled in coordinating the fall arrangements. We got it done and you’ll love it.



II. **Let’s focus on another of our great USA Tours.** Back by popular demand we are offering the wonderful and hugely successful **Romantic Wild West PORSCHE Fest – check it out on our website www.fastlanetravel.com** or just call us at 813-343-3001 or e-mail us at info@fastlanetravel.com. **You must** experience John Wayne’s Wild West and be awed by THE amazing scenery – so join us on the **Romantic Wild West PORSCHE Fest** from Sat. Oct. 29th to Tue. Nov. 8th – It was by far THE most fun and successful PORSCHE Fest last year – **DON’T MISS THIS** wonderful Experience. I’d like six more couples to sign up for this trip.



Registering is easy, just go to our website: <https://fastlanetravel.com/make-reservation/>

III. **Travel NEWS: Travel Hesitation Is ‘Out’; Family and Dream Trips Are ‘In’ Survey:**
Plus, Over Half Of Travelers Say They’re Interested In The Services Of A Travel Agent
Source: 22.03.22 Lynn Elmhirst, from the openjaw.com/newsroom reports.

The results of a **new travel survey** should make everyone in the travel industry – and every travel advisor – feel a little bit more optimistic today. The **American Express Travel: Global Travel Trends** report surveyed leisure travelers in Canada, the U.S., U.K., Australia, Mexico, Japan and India. The survey was conducted just before the war in Ukraine broke out, undoubtedly affecting some travel plans and intentions. Still, many of the findings still ring true – and are timely for travel advisors ramping up marketing and rebuilding their businesses. Here are some key findings that should put a smile on your face and new ‘spring’ in your step.

- A. **Dream On** Travelers want to seize the moment now. Bucket list travel tops the list of trends revealed in the survey. 86% of respondents report a willingness to spend more on travel this year than in the past. Others indicate they’ll use points to upgrade their travel experiences. Themes for dream trips include attending festivals, cultural and sporting events (**and fun PORSCHE driving experiences**).
- B. **Family Groups** Also top of mind for travelers in 2022 is family. 79% report they are “most looking forward to travelling with family” this year. “Not surprisingly, this is shaping up to be a big year for family travel, and all these things come together, but availability of vaccines for younger people, and families are just relishing the opportunity to travel together,” said president of global travel and lifestyle services at American Express, Audrey Hendley. Three-quarters of the respondents say they plan to travel with family more this year than last year. And a whopping 70% of those surveyed with children say: they plan to take their kids on trips abroad this year for the first time since the pandemic.
- C. **Mind Your Trip.** Another significant trend the survey uncovered was the desire not to just do the same old, same old when it comes to travel. Travelers want their trips to be meaningful, with 81% saying they want their travel dollars helping the local community, and to be able to immerse themselves in local culture. Many have learned from the pandemic not to take travel for granted. 79% say they have realized travel may not always be possible, so they want to put more thought, care, and planning into booking future travel.

- D. **Timing is Everything.** Longer trips, and shorter planning timelines. With the evolution of remote work, over half of travelers surveyed – 55% – said they are planning on taking longer trips.
- E. **No Regrets.** Travelers may have learned to embrace uncertainty. Three-quarters of respondents reveal they're willing to book a long-awaited trip now even if they have to cancel or change it later. "The world is ready to travel," Hendley said, "People know it's uncertain, and they're willing to go for it, because there's a lot of flexibility now."
- F. **Opting into Travel Advisors.** 53% of travelers surveyed say they are interested in using a travel agent to help plan an upcoming trip. A number of previous surveys by different organizations have noted that the value of a travel advisor has been highlighted by pandemic travel challenges, and if so, that new awareness seems to be holding even as the pandemic is reaching its end phase.

IV. **PCA Spring TREFFEN update:** Accordingly, for the 2022 PCA Spring TREFFEN we had to add a modest German gas increase surcharge. **GOOD NEWS: We were able to get PORSCHEs for all participants, including 992 Cabs.** Furthermore, PORSCHE HQ in Zuffenhausen also confirmed our Museum and Factory visits on Friday, May 6th, 2022. The Executives at PORSCHE are very much looking forward to having the "Amerikaner" (that's who we proudly are) return with enthusiasm and aplomb. The last time we were at the Factory was 2019! It'll be wonderful to be back again. On this **PCA Spring TREFFEN** we also have a very special guest: Louise Swartzwald. She is an amazing lady who attended the **first Fast Lane PCA PORSCHE TREFFEN in 1976!** She wrote a fabulous article which was published in the December 1976 PANO. I have attached it as my **"Final Thoughts."** Great reading . . . then and now. Louise is planning to write another article on our trip this spring. Welcome back, Louise!

V. **UPDATE: The Other 2022 European PORSCHE Tours**

It looks like European travel is getting back to normal. Thankfully, folks are eager and ready to get out and enjoy life again. On the **Twelve Alpine Passes** we have two groups of 6 couples each, but we have space for more. Don't forget about **Le Mans** – it's the **90th** running of the race. It's expensive, but as they say, worth it. It's THE most inclusive and luxurious Le Mans Race trip you can imagine. We include the Normandy Beaches, wine tasting, a drive around the track with a curve-by-curve description by Robin Donovan who drove the race 14 times. You are in the paddock with the drivers; pit passes; helicopter over the track during the race; Mulsanne night visit; luxurious chateau 15 minutes from the track. There is no other experience like it.

2022 Fast Lane PORSCHE Trips in Current Planning V-107						
From	Date	To	Date	PORSCHE Tour	Highlight	pp Dble
Mon	2-May	Sat	7-May	PCA Spring PORSCHE TREFFEN in Stuttgart	Autobahn & Factory	\$ 5,998
Tue	31-May	Thu	9-Jun	Twelve Alpine Passes PORSCHE Fest	Awesome Alpine Driving	\$ 12,998
Sun	5-Jun	Mon	13-Jun	The 90th 24-Hours of Le Mans Luxury Tour	Pit Pass, "50-yard line"	\$ 18,498
Sun	11-Sep	Sat	17-Sep	Original PCA Fall PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	Factory & Museum	\$ 6,498
Tue	20-Sep	Thu	29-Sep	USA Carolinas Fall Colors - Tail of the Dragon	62% SOLD - SIGN UP NOW	\$ 11,998
Tue	20-Sep	Sat	1-Oct	Swiss Alps & the Italian Dolomites Adventure	in design	\$ 15,698
Wed	21-Sep	Sat	1-Oct	Come Home to two Peters' Austria	NEW Luxury Experience	in design
Mon	3-Oct	Sat	15-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
Wed	12-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen #2	Register ASAP, selling out	\$ 15,498
Sat	29-Oct	Tue	8-Nov	USA Romantic Wild West - fabulous sunsets	Don't miss out on this trip	\$ 11,998
Fri	2-Dec	Mon	12-Dec	Stuttgart X-Mas Market & Cruise to Vienna/Budapest	10 Christmas Markets	from \$5,200

Please don't miss our spectacular and successful USA PORSCHE Tours this FALL!

- VI. Gasoline Information from California:** Dr. Samara Cardenas, a 10-PORSCHE Trips Alumni, sent us a copy of her receipt for about a \$100's worth of gas for her 911 Turbo. I'm quoting from a conversation with another customer, something to the effect of "Thank you Joe Biden for cancelling the Keystone Pipeline, cancelling Federal land drilling leases and making us buy oil from the folks who really don't like us." I omitted the expletives. In the meanwhile gas is up to close \$7.00/gallon in California.
- VII. My Final Thought: Louise Swartzwalder's December 1976 TREFFEN Article in the 1976 PORSCHE PANORAMA:**

TREFFEN TO STUTTGART

by Louise Swartzwalder
Schönes Land Region



If 39 Porsche enthusiasts have their way, a modern "treffen" to Stuttgart that started as a result of a conversation over coffee will become a new tradition.

Thirty-nine Porsche owners from all over the United States met in Stuttgart for a week in late September, and spent two days of that time touring the Porsche factory at Zuffenhausen and getting a glimpse at research and testing procedures at the Porsche research center at Weissach.

We were wine and dined, fed on schnitzel

und rostbraten, and treated to two intensive days of gazing at and conversing about what one tour member terms "funny little cars."

The idea for the tour grew out of a conversation between Dr. Steven Alexander of Syracuse, N.Y., a member of the Central New York region of the Porsche Club of America, and a friend who works in the travel industry.

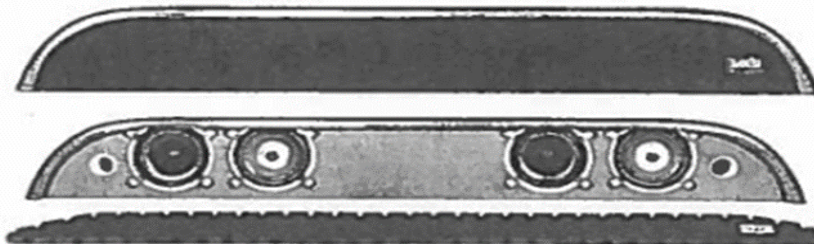
Members of the tour have already discussed making the trip an annual event, and representatives of Porsche in Stuttgart have indicated we Americans would be welcomed.

At a welcoming Monday night cocktail party, and through a Tuesday tour of the factory and



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Wednesday trip to Weissach, the conversation centered around the future of the 911 and plans for the super-secret V-8 engine car, the 928.

To an initial question about the 928, Ed Peter, Porsche Export Manager, smiled and responded: "What 928?"

But later we were told the 928 will soon go into production.

The 928 will be test marketed to determine public response in Europe this spring, according to E. Hirsch, the former Porsche export manager.

We 911 devotees were assured the car will remain in production and will not be replaced unless sales of the 928 are successful enough to make that car the staple of the Porsche car line.

Although we didn't see a 928, there was evidence of its existence at the factory and at the research center.

At the factory at Zuffenhausen we were allowed tours of the engine assembly area and one of two final assembly lines. But one line had been closed for re-design.

Current production at the factory is 60 cars a day. Fifty per cent of the cars produced are exported to the United States.

The tour at Zuffenhausen included a trip through the newly opened museum, where the history of the company can be traced through

the first Porsches to the present, and lunch at the canteen.

At Weissach, we snapped pictures of shrouded cars outside the research buildings where pictures are allowed. But the real clues to the 928 were inside.

Detectives in the group spotted a V-8 engine in an area where the transmission of the car was being tested, and logs of testing schedules contained notations that a 928 was undergoing some scrutiny.

The visit at Weissach included rides in 924s around the test track, a trip that even the heartiest drivers admitted left them weak in the knees.

Porsche again provided lunch, and entertained the group at a banquet that evening.

Representatives of the Porsche marketing division were responsible for the tours, and were on hand to answer questions.

Jerry Mosselman, European sales manager, acted as a tour guide, and took the extra responsibility of rounding up red, available-only-in-Europe Porsche jackets for purchasers.

Ingrid Mall, of the marketing division, arranged the tours, lunches and banquet.

A private travel agency made air and land arrangements for the trip. The 39 people who went were the first 39 persons to answer advertisements in spring issues of *Panorama*.

In three days of free time on the tour, some rented cars and scouted for Porsche parts, and others joined tours to Munich and the Oktoberfest.

Another trip to Stuttgart has already been discussed, and the date could be as soon as May. PCA representatives have discussed the possibility of helping to sponsor the event, according to Alexander.

Porsche representatives said another group of Americans would be welcome, although some portions of the tour might not be available again.

IX-XI


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Please stay safe, healthy, and look forward to the great times we will have together again on the MANY fabulous PORSCHE tours in 2022. Please register for one of our **USA PORSCHE Tours** – we all need to get out now and have some fun!

All the best to you, Peter