

Item: Fast Lane #16 in 2022 Petergram (#110 since 2020)

Date: Saturday, April 16th 2022

From: Peter Sontag writing from our office in Oldsmar, FL

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: Fast Lane Spring Update, Fall Outlook, Jet Fuel Prices and

Where to Retire?

I. UPDATE: The wonderful PCA Spring TREFFEN in Stuttgart:

A. Spring TREFFEN CANCELLATIONS: As I had mentioned previously, we have had unfortunately 18 participants cancel. Nevertheless, the executives at the PORSCHE Company in Stuttgart and we at Fast Lane are thrilled to get the TREFFEN back on track after a 2-year absence due to the Pandemic. It'll be a wonderful welcome at the PORSCHE Factory, the NEW Museum, and The PORSCHE Zentrum. To put your minds at ease for the folks who are, thankfully, coming on the trip, I want to share with you an e-mail I received yesterday from a good friend and customer who just returned from Germany. I advised him on his tour for a relaxing week in Italy and then a trip across the Austrian Alps to Germany. He read my Petergrams while on the trip. Here is what he writes:

"All I can say is, those people don't know what they're missing. Europe is open for business and embracing tourism with open arms. In Italy most businesses asked for Green Pass or equivalent vaccination proof and everything was open. In Austria, Germany, France, Switzerland, and Lichtenstein everything is open, however, vaccination is needed to enter the country. There is the minor inconvenience of wearing a mask at some indoor places, but in Germany masks aren't even required indoors anymore. Daffodils and tulips are blooming, rapeseed fields are bright yellow, horse chestnuts are snow white, storks are on rooftops, temps are in the 70s, and life is happening! It's a great time for US visitors and if there is inflation, I can't see it based on food prices and museum fees. Yes, gas is much more expensive, compared to California, LOL. Really, those people don't know what they're missing! Sigh.

B. Pre-Trip TREFFEN goodies: This past Tuesday we sent out our "goodie trip box" via UPS to all participants on the trip. Please open it immediately as it contains materials for every person on this trip: a flight bag, luggage tags, a denim shirt of the size you had requested, German/US electrical adapter plugs which fit into German sockets, and some Fast Lane stuff, like pens etc. **NOTE:** In addition to your normal luggage tags, please put the completed Fast Lane Luggage tags on all your luggage for easier identification in Europe. Secondly, the electric adapter plugs **DO NOT** convert 220 volt to 110 volt!! They enable you to plug your US plug into the German



electrical socket. But whatever you plug in **must be able to handle 220 volts!** Most laptops, cellphones, i-pad chargers or CPAPs are dual voltage. Make sure you double check your device. Make sure also that your cell phone allows you to make calls in and from Europe. If you are not sure, then please call your cell phone provider.

C. Last Mailing: We will send you, via US Priority Mail, an envelope with: The final detailed **Abbreviated Pocket Itinerary**; the **Who's Who** so you'll meet your fellow travelers before the trip; The **NAVI book** for the trip; a new publication we designed: Driving in Europe is Different. Please review these materials before you leave and bring them with you. Bring the NAVI to the Driver's Briefing on Tuesday, May 3rd. You should have already received the FAQ's to get ready for the TREFFEN experience. We included advice and lots of information on: Language; Jet Lag: Weather; Hotels; Porsche rentals (we got awesome 992's, Macans and a Panamera) pick-ups and returns; currency exchange; packing, medical advice, dress code (it's all casual); passport; carry-on luggage you get from us; flights information and advice; arrival in Germany logistics; ATMs in Germany; photography, the PORSCHE Factory visit (photography in the Factory is prohibited); the PORSCHE Museum (take all the pictures you want); the Mercedes Museum; what to do and what NOT to do; Drivers' Briefing; on-the-road connectivity (walkie talkies); gasoline topics; emergency procedures plus we are publishing a booklet "Driving in Europe is Different." In fact, our Advertising Director, **Dana Carlson**, suggested that we should expand the booklet



According to the theory of downforce ($F=\varrho:2\cdot v^2\cdot A\cdot c_a$), when this Porsche 956 reaches a speed of 321.4 km/h, it could theoretically drive on ceilings.

by including specific instructions as to how to use the S-Bahn to get to the Porsche Museum and Factory; recommend specific restaurants and venues in Stuttgart, and sell it on our website - why not share our close-to 50-

years' experience and over 200 trips to Stuttgart with folks who have never been? We have completed the **NAVI Roadbook** with detailed information. I have selected THE best Autobahn, where, based on years of experience, on a Wednesday there will be the least traffic and virtually no trucks, for a full enjoyable Autobahn experience. The chateau up in the foothills of the Austrian Alps alone is worth the trip. As always, our goal is for you "not to have to think" because **your job is just to enjoy**.



II. Summary of all Other PORSCHE Tours:

A. UPDATE: The Twelve Alpine Passes:

Thomas has done an outstanding job enhancing this awesome experience by extending the drive in Austria to the Interalpen and in Switzerland now including the renowned town of St. Moritz. It gets better every time we conduct this trip. More information in the next Petergram.

B. All Other PORSCHE Tours:

2022 Fast Lane PORSCHE Trips in Current Planning V-110						
From	Date	То	Date	PORSCHE Tour	Highlight	pp Dble
Mon	2-May	Sat	7-May	PCA SpringPORSCHE 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	68% SOLD - SIGN UP NOW	\$ 11,998
Tue	20-Sep	Sat	1-Oct	Alpine Adventure: Beautiful Switzerland & Italy	NEW in design	\$ 15,498
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 & Interalpen	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
Wed	12-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interalpen #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 note the highlighted trip in yellow. I am pleased to announce that Thomas is also completing the itinerary for our all-time favorite **Fast Lane Alpine Adventure**. We were able to conduct that PORSCHE Fest in 2021 successfully, albeit we had substantial cancellations, on that trip also. It'll be wonderful to get back to "normal."

III. 2023 Forecast: We have started the planning process for 2023 and 2024. It'll takes another three weeks or so to get all the dates coordinated considering the European holidays, key events, hotel availability and seasonality. Yesterday, I spoke to our Le Mans key event organizer. The big news of course is that in 2023 it'll be the 100th anniversary of the 24-hour Race at Le Mans. I'll have more details as we get closer, but one thing we expect for sure is that PORSCHE will field a factory team. Not only that but NASCAR is slated to run a Next Gen Chevrolet Camaro as Garage 56 entry. This will be THE biggest event in Le Mans history they already call "A Legend in the Making." While the dates have not yet been announced it the race is usually run as close as possible to the longest day in the year at La Sarthe – my guess is that we'll schedule the Le Mans trip from Monday, June 20th to Tuesday, June 28th 2023, assuming the race will run on June 25th and 26th 2023. These dates are not confirmed, but it's my guess at the moment.

IV. Oil prices: Expect 'spectacularly' higher airfares, says analyst INES FERRÉ April 4, 2022, 10:14 AM – YAHOO Finance

Jet fuel prices, already strikingly higher than last year, are exceptionally high in the Northeast. The upward price movement could threaten a further spike in airfares. Jet fuel on the New York spot market was trading at a record high of \$6.76 per gallon on Monday morning, more than triple compared to last year. "I've never seen that kind of a [jet fuel] price," Tom Kloza, co-founder of Oil Price Information Service, told Yahoo Finance. "This is spectacularly high." Prices for rest of the U.S. are currently sitting under \$4 per gallon, noted Kloza. "As far as the number that we're seeing on the East Coast right now, something is going on. Somebody must be caught with a large short

position, or somebody is in arrears in delivering," said Kloza. The analyst says during COVID-19, oil refiners have been more focused on "maximizing their production of diesel at the expense of making a lot of jet fuel, because we didn't need a lot of jet fuel." That trend continued during the Russian invasion of Ukraine amid a shortage of diesel. He said the price action is not demand driven. "This is driven by supply, and the lack of supply." The higher jet fuel prices could trigger a massive spike in airfares, which have already been trending higher.

V. My Final Thoughts: This is the time of year when folks up North are thinking about retiring in a warmer winter climate. If you are planning a move to retire, here are some suggestions:

You can retire to Arizona where...

- 1. You are willing to park three blocks away from your house because you found shade.
- 2. You've experienced condensation on your rear-end from the hot water in the toilet bowl
- 3. You can drive for four hours in one direction and never leave town.
- 4. You have over 100 recipes for Mexican food.
- 5. You know that "dry heat" is comparable to what hits you in the face when you open your oven door at 500 degrees.
- 6. The four seasons are: tolerable, hot, really hot, and ARE YOU KIDDING ME??

-OR-

You can retire to California where...

- 1. You make over \$450,000 and you still can't afford to buy a house.
- 2. The fastest part of your commute is going down your driveway.
- 3. You know how to eat an artichoke.
- 4. When someone asks you how far something is, you tell them how long it will take to get there rather than how many miles away it is.
- 5. The four seasons are: Fire, Flood, Mud and Drought.

-OR-

You can retire to New York City where...

- 1 You say "the city" and expect everyone to know you mean Manhattan.
- 2. You can get into a four-hour argument about how to get from Columbus Circle to Battery Park, but can't find Wisconsin on a map.
- 3. You think Central Park is "nature."
- 4. You believe that being able to swear at people in their own language makes you multilingual.
- 5. You've worn out a car horn. (IF you have a car.)
- 6. You think eye contact is an act of aggression

-OR-

You can retire to Minnesota where...

- 1. You only have three spices: salt, pepper and ketchup
- 2. Halloween costumes have to fit over parkas.
- 3. You have seventeen recipes for casserole.
- 4. Sexy lingerie is anything flannel with less than eight buttons.
- 5. The four seasons are: almost winter, winter, still winter, and road repair.

-OR-

You can retire to The Deep South where....

- 1. You can rent a movie and buy fish bait in the same store.
- 2. "Y'all" is singular and "all y'all" is plural.
- 3. "He needed killin" is a valid defense.
- 4. Everyone has two first names: Billy Bob, Jimmy Bob, Joe Bob, Betty Jean, Mary Beth, etc.
- 5. Everything is either: "in yonder," "over yonder" or "out yonder."
- 6. You can say anything about anyone, as long as you say "Bless his heart" at the end!

-OR-

You can move to Colorado where...

- 1. You carry your \$3,000 mountain bike atop your \$500 car.
- 2. You tell your husband to pick up Granola on his way home, so he stops at the day care center.
- 3. A pass does not involve a football or dating.
- 4. The top of your head is bald, but you still have a pony tail.
- 5. You've forgotten what oxygen feels like.

-OR-

You can retire to Nebraska or Kansas where...

- 1. You've never met any celebrities, but the mayor knows your name.
- 2. Your idea of a traffic jam is three cars waiting to pass a tractor.
- 3. You have had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" on the same day.
- 4. You end every sentence with a preposition; "Where's my coat at?"
- 5. You have a fully stocked tornado shelter.

-OR-

FINALLY, you can retire to Florida where...

- 1. You eat dinner at 3:15 in the afternoon.
- 2. All purchases include a coupon of some kind even houses and cars.
- 3. Everyone can recommend an excellent cardiologist, dermatologist, proctologist, podiatrist, or orthopedist.
- 4. Road construction never ends anywhere in the state.
- 5. Cars in front of you often appear to be driven by headless people.

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 realty should get out now and have some fun!



All the best to you, Peter