



Item: Fast Lane #23 in 2022 Petergram (#118 since 2020)
Date: **Monday, June 6th 2022**
From: Peter writing from DL 14 ATL-FRA and the magnificent 5-Star Interlpen Hotel perched high above Innsbruck, Austria.
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: **Report from the Twelve Alpine Passes & Forecast**

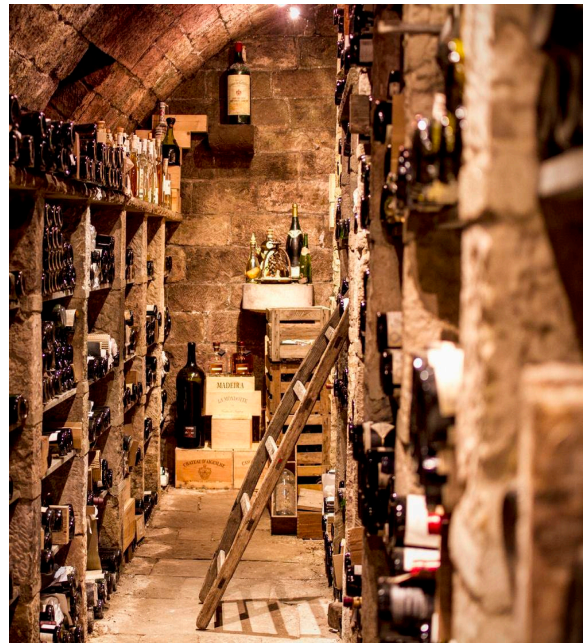
I. Germany, Austria, Switzerland & Italy here we come:

A. Sunday, May 29th – It took the usual 8 weeks of intensive preparation; confirmation of reservations; making sure that the relevant team members in Europe have received the Flight (arrivals & departures), Transfers, Rooms, Dining, Bus, Car, Gift, Key Contacts, Emergency Contacts, Menus, Wine Selection, and Special Occasions Matrices. The Suitcases and carry-ons (with irreplaceable items like name tags, NAVI Books etc. etc.) are packed. Today I'm flying TPA-ATL & ATL-FRA. Unfortunately, Delta has cancelled DL 116 which was the wonderful non-stop ATL-STR. I'm told they are re-instating it in October. I need to write a letter to XX Bastian, Delta CEO, supporting that decision. Checking in at TPA Delta, I was asked to show proof of my inoculation. I have had a total of 4 Moderna shots and I carry the proof-of-inoculation in a small plastic sleeve attached to a PORSCHE Lanyard, of course. No problem. In the terminal mask wearing is about half/half. Same in the Sky Club, although all service personnel are wearing masks. It's the same on DL 14 ATL – FRA, although all flight attendants are wearing mask. It's an 8 ½ hour relaxing flight to FRA.

B. Monday, May 30th – After the planned 8/12 hours we landed precisely in FRA. Great work Delta. We made it through passport control in a breeze – our luggage was already there, and Miro was waiting for us with a VW Tuareg to take us to Stuttgart and the Hotel Graf Zeppelin. It took about 2 hours coming down on the A-5 from FRA and then on the A-8 towards town. Check-in was smooth and Johnny has already my office set up. We had a staff meeting to go through the trip details; prepared the good-night-gifts sequence; made sure all welcome notecards were at the reception and met with the hotel staff to make sure we're in sync for the week's program. Believe me that it's not a slam dunk. All details have been meticulously reviewed and double checked. Had some issues at the office to deal with, but Wendy and Allyn handled everything with aplomb. Went to bed at 8:00 pm . . . promptly woke up at 4:00 am – not quite adjusted to the jet lag yet. This is why I insist that folks come at least a day early on the trip unless you already have been in Europe for a week or so.

C. Tuesday, May 31st – At 4:00 am I was awakened and notified that Bill and Marla, McAllister's United flight from IAD to MUC had a mechanical. They fixed it but it delayed their arrival into MUC by several hours, thus, missing the connection from MUC to STR. Lufthansa routed them from MUC to BER (Berlin) and from there to Stuttgart arriving at 4:20 pm instead of the original 9:20 am flight to Stuttgart. Despite all the schedule travails and only getting two of their three bags they checked, as experienced travelers and 6-time Fast Lane PORSCHE Trip Veterans they took the situation in stride. Our staff at Stuttgart's (STR) Airport met them, helped file the lost bag report for the one case; and whisked them to the hotel. They checked in, freshened up and met us in the lobby.

Everyone had a relaxing drink. We then took our shuttle bus to the renowned Stuttgarter Restaurant "Die Weinsteige." What a treat. The Micheline-rated cuisine is well deserved.



D. Wednesday, June 1st – Today was a beautiful sunny day in Stuttgart. Königsstrasse was crowded with pedestrians; McDonalds was selling their Hamburgers with "Pommes" and beer, of course. The bistros on the Schlossplatz were crowded and it was fun to sit there with a Cappuccino and watch the pedestrians stroll by. A visit to Stuttgart's amazing "**Markthalle**" is essential. The display of organic fresh "Lebensmittel" is overwhelming.





Today, also a group of six guests was supposed to arrive from DEN. But here is a new travel experience for you: Lufthansa flight #447 DEN-FRA apparently had a waterpipe burst in the aft section of the plane and they cancelled ½ of the flight, i.e., the entire economy section of the flight was cancelled. I've never heard of ½ a flight cancellation.

One couple from Virginia had a four hour “mechanical” delay from Washington IAD to MUC and, consequently, missed their connecting flight to STR (Stuttgart). They arrived safely after being re-routed MUC-BER-STR. Two of their checked bags are still waiting to catch up. But, having done this for close to 50 years we handled everything nicely. The folks that made it in from other parts of the US, arrived as planned. At 6:00 pm we met at the lobby bar for drinks and then had a wonderful dinner at Zeppelinos. The conversation revolved around tomorrow's scheduled tours of the PORSCHE Museum and the Factory. We are looking forward to the tour of the Taycan production line and a tour of the 911/718 production line – what an amazing experience. But the real anticipation focused around picking up our PORSCHEs tomorrow for our wonderful drive to the planned 12 Alpine Passes in Austria and Switzerland on Friday.

E. Thursday, June 2nd – Good News: the two lost Virginia pieces of luggage were delivered to the hotel today, much to the relief of Bill and Marla. Given the massive Lufthansa flight delays of the DEN flight it necessitated the complete, virtually impossible, revamping of the Factory and Museum Schedule, i.e., moving “everything” to the afternoon. To accommodate the participants who



were impact by the flight cancellation, this morning I sent two of our team members to FRA Airport, Johny, to pick up two of the Colorado team arriving at 9:20 am on UA 182 and escort them on an **ICE bullet train** to Stuttgart's Hauptbahnhof, drop off the luggage at the hotel and immediately bring them to the PORSCHE Factory and Museum in order to not miss that essential part of the trip. Then I sent another local team member, Miroslav, in a van I had to rent, to FRA to pick up the remaining four members of the Colorado team, arriving on today's LH 447 at 11:50 am. He will drive them straight to Zuffenhausen to join our planned 'PORSCHE Day' activities. They arrived at 3:00 pm missing the awesome Christophorus luncheon but were able to at least get the PORSCHE Factory Tour. Both the 911/718 and



Taycan production lines were opened to our guests. The key executive who managed and coordinated our Factory and Museum visit, underscored again **how privileged we were to be able to see the Factory!** For those of us who were here “on time” I can only say that a Filet Mignon luncheon at the renowned Christophorus is an amazing experience. Thank you so very much PORSCHE Club Coordination Team. It was wonderful. After the Factory Tour we picked up our PORSCHEs – what a beautiful sight it was to have them lined up in front of the Museum. Tonight, we took the Fast Lane Shuttle Bus to the legendary Stuttgarter Stäffele. What a treat.

F. Friday, June 3rd – This morning I conducted our mandatory drivers’ briefing

at 9:00 am. I couldn’t do it as planned a couple days ago due to the Lufthansa flight delays of the Denver Group. Everyone was there and had already loaded their luggage onto the luggage van. I had already called our lunch-stop mountain chalet that we’re running about an hour and change late. No problem they were ready for us. We then crossed the awesome Hahntennjoch Alpine Mountain Pass into Tirol, Austria. On the other side we stopped at our favorite Shell Station in Imst to gas up. **TO BE CONTINUED – NEXT PETERGRAM.** I am in Meran Italy at the moment and need to get with the 12 Alpine Passes Group.

2022 Fast Lane PORSCHE Trips Still Available V-118						
Code	From	Date	To	Date	PORSCHE Tour	Highlights
TAP	Tue	31-May	Thu	9-Jun	Twelve Alpine Passes PORSCHE Fest	RUNNING NOW!
LEM	Sun	5-Jun	Mon	13-Jun	The 99th 24-Hours of Le Mans Luxury Tour	CLOSED OUT
FTR	Sun	11-Sep	Sat	17-Sep	Original PCA Fall PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	Factory & Museum
CAR	Tue	20-Sep	Thu	29-Sep	USA Carolinas Fall Colors - Tail of the Dragon	Spaces still Available
TPF	Mon	3-Oct	Sat	15-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen #1	SOLD OUT
TPF2	Wed	12-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen #2	Register ASAP, selling out
RWW	Sat	29-Oct	Tue	8-Nov	Romantic Wild West - THE best of the USA	Don't miss out on this trip

- II. **Other Fast Lane Trip News: We have four more 2022 PORSCHE Tours for you.** I need a few more guests on the **Fall TREFFEN in Stuttgart.** The folks in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen are rolling out the red carpet for us – it’s an awesome privilege to be invited to visit the PORSCHE Factory which has been closed for months. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to see the source of our passion.

Space on the **2022 TUSCANY PORSCHE Fest #2** is still available. I have reserved our favorite Tuscan estate overlooking the Montalcino Valley. From our dining terrace you can see the renowned luxurious **Ferragamo Golf Course** . . . and, yes, you have the time, and we have the privilege for you to enjoy an optional round at Ferragamo. If you are an equestrian our estate has horses available for you. Of course, a pool, tennis court, a soccer field and hiking trails are yours to enjoy. This is by far **THE** most popular of our European trips each year. We

haven't been there since 2019 for obvious reasons and they are ready with the wine tasting, cooking class and open arms.

- III. Our **US PORSCHE Fest** trips are a very attractive option for you if Europe is not in the cards for you this year. So, drive your own PORSCHE, Corvette, '62 Cadillac, Lexus or whatever, to our superbly planned and organized **Carolinas** and **Romantic Wild West** tours. We conduct both US trips in THE most desirable time of the year in each location. The **Fall Colors of the Carolinas**. If you don't want to bring your own car, we will assist you to rent one from PORSCHE Drive Atlanta or the Phoenix PORSCHE Dealer. Please check out these links: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=coKJcvb0nII> and this one <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8tGOBhxkdQ>

- IV. **Travel Industry News: Americans Planning Summer Travel Face a New Hurdle: High Inflation.** Covid-19 made vacations more risky the prior two summers. Now higher gasoline, lodging, airline fares and other expenses are spoiling summer plans. By *Harriet Torry* May 10, 2022 5:30 am ET

Americans itching to travel this summer after navigating Covid-19 for the past two years face a new disruption to plans: the rising cost of travel. Inflation rose to 8.5% in March compared with the same month a year earlier, according to the Labor Department's consumer-price index—the highest rate in four decades. Gas prices are up about 50% from a year ago. Hotel costs jumped nearly 30%, and airline fares rose 24%, while vehicle-rental costs jumped nearly 14%. April figures set to be released on Wednesday aren't expected to show much relief. Vacation intended within six months Source: The Conference Board

While inflation hasn't stopped people from spending more so far this year, some Americans are rethinking summer vacation plans. That could dent the economic outlook this summer since spending on services such as entertainment, travel and dining makes up more than 40% of gross domestic product. A Bankrate survey in late March found nearly 70% of more than 2,600 respondents said they are changing their summer travel plans due to inflation.

"You could see pockets of weakness [due to inflation], but I think there is still good upside for the travel sector," said Aneta Markowska, chief economist at Jefferies LLC. "There is still a lot of pent-up demand, there's still a lot of firepower in terms of the ability to pay even though prices are higher."

Mr. Fearon, a stock-options trader, said he won't take a road trip to see cousins in New Jersey this summer because of higher prices for gas, food and hotel stays. He still plans to drive to visit family in Jacksonville, Fla., and drive for vacation trips to Ocean City, Md., and Muskogee, Okla.

How will higher gas prices impact your travel plans this year? Source: Bank of America Global Research survey of 1,055 people in U.S. in March will likely travel less. In April's consumer-confidence survey by the Conference Board, a private research group, the share of respondents who said they intended to take a vacation in the next six months dropped to its lowest level since last spring when vaccinations were just becoming widely available. The overall consumer-sentiment index decreased slightly in April, with concerns about inflation ranking high among people's worries.

Higher gas prices historically haven't stopped people from traveling altogether, said Ashley Schroeder, an assistant professor in tourism management at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, S.C.



Surveys suggest many Americans want to travel after more than two years of pandemic disruptions and restrictions. Testing requirements for international travel to a number of European countries have eased recently, and a federal judge in Florida last month threw out the Biden administration's requirement that travelers in the U.S. wear masks on airplanes, trains, taxis, buses and other forms of mass transit. A March poll by Bank of America found that 62% of respondents expect to travel more than usual in the

next 12 months, while 41% said they plan to make up for previously canceled travel in 2022 or 2023. Still, more than 40% of the 1,055 respondents said higher gas prices would cause them to travel less, while 28% said they could take shorter trips to offset higher prices.

Liz Covart, a historian in Boston, said the summer months are a busy period for academic conferences, but the cost of airfares has jumped significantly.

"I was shocked the airfare to New Orleans from Boston was going to be \$900 for a nonstop flight that didn't involve two or three stops," she said. Ms. Covart still booked the flight, "because of the pandemic these are the first in-person meetings, there's a lot of excitement around it."

V. 2022 Spring TREFFEN Memories: I must include a picture, with fond memories, from Louise Swartzwalder

In 1976 I revitalized the PCA TREFFEN which had laid dormant for over a dozen years. The first participant on that 1976 TREFFEN was Louise Swartzwalder who then wrote an article which was published in the December 1976 PORSCHE PANO. Thank you, Louise, for the pictures and the memories. You look fantastic as a Cop. 😊



VI. My Final Thoughts: You know you're living in 2022 when.....

1. You accidentally enter your work password on your laptop at home. You say a bad word.
2. Your favorite restaurant's menu is now a black square blotch.
3. You don't have a clue what QR, Wi-Fi or IT stand for.
4. Your handshake is replaced by a fist bump.

5. You have a list of 12 phone numbers to reach your family of 3.
6. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
7. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they're no longer on Facebook.
8. Your boss doesn't have the ability to do your job.
10. You sit at the same desk for four years and worked for three different companies.
11. You learn about your company being sold on the 11 o'clock news.
12. Every commercial on television has a promo code at the bottom of the screen.
13. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 30 to 50 years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go get it.
14. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
15. You no longer have a landline "home" phone.
16. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
17. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
18. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
19. You scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list.
20. AND NOW U R LAUGHING at yourself.

Please stay safe, healthy, and look forward to the great times we will have together again on the MANY great **PORSCHE tours in 2022 and 2023**. Please register for one of our **USA PORSCHE Tours** – we really must get out now and have some fun! All the best to you, Peter

