

Item: Fast Lane Petergram #03 (#97 since inception)
Date: **Saturday, January 15th 2022**
From: Peter Sontag writing from the Fast Lane 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: The latest **PORSCHE News** and **2022 Tours Status**



I. PORSCHE NEWS from GERMANY: This week I had extensive conversations with various executives at PORSCHE, our staff in Germany, Austria and Italy, several hotels and restaurants we plan on using and AVIS about the 2022 PORSCHE travel outlook.

As I had mentioned previously, in January 2020 we were high-fiving each other at the wonderful year we and our customers would have. Then by March COVID hit the fan. It was not to be. As you remember from my Petergram 2021 #47, we had 89% cancellations on our US Tours and all European PORSCHE Tours were cancelled due to the Pandemic. Not only was 2020 (and 2021 for the most part) a disaster for Fast Lane, it was equally, perhaps more so, catastrophic for companies like AVIS. Imagine that in pre-COVID 2019 you are the executive in Germany who has to commit to POSCHE Finance, AG, (which leases the annual PORSCHE Rental Fleet to AVIS) for a lease of close to 200 PORSCHEs for the anticipated great rental business in 2020. I don't know what it costs to lease 200 PORSCHEs for about a year in Germany, but my guess is at least \$40 million. So, now in 2020 you are committed to this investment, but no one is travelling – Europe was “closed.”. Can you imagine that write-off? I wouldn't want to be in a board room at the 2020 year-end P & L meeting. It looks like for 2022 they will try very hard to make up for the previous losses, so I'm hopeful that we will be approaching a level of normalcy, but I'm not sure when. **The good news:** is that we are getting very strong requests for trips in 2022 and the trips are filling up. Our Factory visit dates are planned and we can only hope there won't be another COVID variant that tosses a wrench into the works.

In all fairness, the PORSCHE Company itself has been facing huge challenges. At the Factory there is a new division: Die Nachbesserung Abteilung. What is it? It's the department, literally translated it means “Improvement after Completion Department.” There are hundreds of completed PORSCHEs, who's owners are eagerly waiting for them, carefully parked and covered with Styrofoam, waiting for a chip, some other part or missing component because . . . you know the story . . . the supply chain has become unreliable and sporadic at best. The vehicle demand is off the charts. I hear that story every week from our customers who meet with their respective Porsche Dealers to order a car, only to be told of longer than normal waiting periods. A couple things are for sure: **This is a great year for PORSCHE Euro Deliveries in Leipzig or Stuttgart if you get confirmation for a car delivery.**

II. Let's Focus on the Basics of our 2022 Fast Lane Travel PORSCHE and Luxury Car Tours News: In order to operate any of our tours successfully and cover at least the fixed costs, we ideally need at least a dozen cars participating in each trip. We have conducted our fantastic tours with many more and also with less. It's OK. So please review our programs and start registering for our USA trips. Plus a special thanks to the folks who so far have signed up for the **PCA Spring** and **Fall TREFFENs in Stuttgart**, despite several deferrals, and the always popular **Tuscany** private estate **PORSCHE Fest**. See item F below for information on a potential second Tuscany Tour.

A. **GOOD NEWS: 2022 FLORIDA Flamingo Luxury Tour** “Best of Florida” Tour:



Monday March 14th to Saturday, March 19th 2022. We have restructured the trip and were able to **substantially reduce the price!** By popular demand we have **re-designed** last year's Florida Luxury Tour to create this fun **Luxury driving tour**. Included are all automobile marques residing at **Wheel Base**, like antique beauties, Ferraris, Lambos, Porsches, perhaps even a couple original Cobras, in addition to some wonderful Fast Lane Alumni Porsches. **Please**

visit our website www.fastlanetravel.com or call for more information 813 343 3001. Your cars have been parked for too long.

- B. **2022 PCA Spring PORSCHE Treffen** to Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen Monday, May 2nd to Saturday, May 7th 2022. **ALMOST SOLD OUT.** We still have space for two more couples – register now please.

- C. **2022 PCA Fall PORSCHE Treffen** – we are getting lots of requests. I predict that by end of February it'll be sold out.

- D. **2022 Twelve Alpine Passes** is featured on our website, Tue. May 31st to Thu. Jun. 9th 2022 at \$12,998 per person, double occupancy. Pure luxury and adrenaline – don't miss this one.

- E. **2022 Tuscany PORSCHE Fest**, Mon. Oct. 3rd to Sat. Oct. 15th 2022 at \$15,498 per person, double occupancy **IS SOLD OUT** – **We have a waiting list.**

- F. **2022 Tuscany PORSCHE Fest #2**, planned dates are **Wed. Oct. 12th to Sun. Oct. 23rd 2022.** **Note:** We will only conduct the **Second Tuscany PORSCHE Fest** if we get 12 couples signed up for the trip! We're about half way there. Thus, if you would like to participate in Tuscany #2 please send me an e-mail to peter@fastlanetravel.com to let me know that you'll participate. Folks who are currently on the waiting list are guaranteed their space. You will be notified shortly when we'll bill you for your \$3,000 per person deposit. Once we have eight couples signed up, we will notify you and send out deposit invoices and the trip will be a GO. Below is a 2019 promo video – ignore the dates, but the substance of the video conveys the wonderful **Tuscany** Tour we have been conducting for over ten years now <https://youtu.be/QwhmeV1NB6M>

- G. **Not all trips are on** www.fastlanetravel.com **yet.** – we are working diligently on completing the 2022 itineraries and updating the website. **Call us to register for any of our trips.** FYI: the **Frühlingsfest** in Stuttgart is better than the **Oktoberfest** in Munich. It's THE best party after a long winter. You haven't lived until you have been in a beer hall with 5,000 Germans, dancing on tables, singing "Take me Home Country Road."

- H. I have now had several requests to include a **Classifieds Section** in the Petergram. I will include it on a test basis in the next couple of Petergrams. In the past we have had informal transactions of our customers selling a car to each other. Let's try it and see what we can do to keep it in the family.



		2022 Fast Lane PORSCHE Trips in Current Planning V-97					PP Dble
Code	From	From	To	To	PORSCHE Tour	Highlight	
WBT	Mon	14-Mar	Sat	19-Mar	USA Florida Flamingo Luxury Tour	Photo Rally	\$ 5,998
STR	Mon	2-May	Sat	7-May	Original PCA SprgPORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	+Spring Beerfest	\$ 5,998
TAP	Tue	31-May	Thu	9-Jun	Twelve Alpine Passes PORSCHE Fest	Alpine Driving	\$ 12,998
LEM	Sun	5-Jun	Mon	13-Jun	The 90th 24-Hours of Le Mans Luxury Tour	Pit Pass, 50-yard l.	\$ 18,498
GRC	Sat	27-Aug	Thu	8-Sep	German Romantic Castles - Baltic Sea	Huge Success in '21	\$ 16,598
FTR	Sun	11-Sep	Sat	17-Sep	Original PCA Fall PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	Factory & Museum	\$ 6,498
CAR	Tue	20-Sep	Sat	1-Oct	USA Carolinas Fall Colors - Tail of the Dragon	Huge Success in '20	\$ 12,498
SWI	Tue	20-Sep	Sat	1-Oct	Swiss Alps & a little - Alpine Adrenaline	in design	\$ 13,998
TPF	Mon	3-Oct	Sat	15-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen	SOLD OUT	\$ 15,498
TPF2	Wed	12-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest #2	Our 12th year	\$ 15,698
NEN	Mon	17-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	USA Fall Colors of New England	in design	in production
RWW	Sat	29-Oct	Tue	8-Nov	USA Romantic Wild West - fabulous tour	Huge Success in '21	\$ 11,998

III. My Final Thoughts: The Poem That Was Us. (Author unknown)

A little house with three bedrooms,
One bathroom and one car on the street,
A mower that you had to push,
To make the grass look neat.

In the kitchen on the wall
We only had one phone,
And no need for recording
Someone was always home.

We only had a living room
Where we would congregate,
Unless it was at mealtime
In the kitchen where we ate.

We had no need for family rooms
Or extra rooms to dine.
When meeting as a family
Those two rooms would work out fine.

We only had one TV set
And channels maybe two,
But always there was one of them
With something worth the view.

For snacks we had potato chips
That tasted like a chip.
And if you wanted flavor
There was Lipton's onion dip.

Store-bought snacks were rare because
My mother liked to cook
And nothing can compare to snacks
In Betty Crocker's book.

Weekends were for family trips
Or staying home to play
We all did things together
Even go to church to pray.

When we did our weekend trips
Depending on the weather,
No one stayed at home because
We liked to be together.

Sometimes we would separate
To do things on our own,
But we knew where the others were
Without our own cell phone.

Then there were the movies
With your favorite movie star,
And nothing can compare
To watching movies in your car.

Then there were the picnics
At the peak of summer season,
Pack a lunch and find some trees
And never need a reason.

Get a baseball game together
With all the friends you know,
Have real action playing ball
And no game video.

Remember when the doctor
Used to be the family friend,
And didn't need insurance
Or a lawyer to defend.

The way that he took care of you
Or what he had to do
Because he took an oath and strived
To do the best for you.

Remember going to the store
And shopping casually,
And when you went to pay for it
You used your own money?

Nothing that you had to swipe
Or punch in some amount,
And remember when the cashier person
Had to really count?

The milkman used to go
From door to door,
And it was just a few cents more
Than going to the store.

There was a time when mailed letters
Came right to your door,
Without a lot of junk mail ads
Sent out by every store.

The mailman knew each house by name
And knew where it was sent;
There were no loads of mail addressed
To "present occupant".

There was a time when just one glance
Was all that it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
The model and the make.

They didn't look like turtles
Trying to squeeze out every mile;
They were streamlined, white walls, fins
And really had some style.

One time the music that you played
Whenever you would jive,
Was from a vinyl, big-holed record
Called a forty-five.

The record player had a post
To keep them all in line
And then the records would drop down
And play one at a time.

Oh sure, we had our problems then,
Just like we do today
And always we were striving,
Trying for a better way.

Oh, the simple life we lived
Still seems like so much fun,
How can you explain a game?
Just kick the can and run?

And why would boys put baseball cards
Between bicycle spokes
And for a nickel, red machines
Had little bottled Cokes?

This life seemed so much easier
Slower in some ways.
I love the new technology
But I sure do miss those days.

So, time moves on and so do we
And nothing stays the same,
But I sure love to reminisce
And walk down memory lane.

With all today's technology
We grant that it's a plus!
But it's fun to look way back and say
HEY LOOK, GUYS, THAT WAS US!



Please stay safe, healthy, get both of your inoculations and booster shots, wear your masks in stores and don't hug strangers. Look forward to the great times we will have together again on the MANY fabulous PORSCHE tours in 2022. I can't wait to get back to Europe in May for the **Spring Treffen**. All the best to you, Peter