

Item: Fast Lane Petergram #04 (#98 since inception)
Date: **Saturday, January 22nd 2022**
From: Peter Sontag writing from the Wheel Base Garage Condos in Sarasota, Florida: <https://wheelbasegaragecondos.com/location/>
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: Travel News and 2022 Exciting Tours Update



I. Travel Industry News: Crystal Suspending All Operations After Parent Company Files for Liquidation - by [Daniel McCarthy](#) / January 20, 2022



Crystal Cruises is suspending all operations until at least the Spring. In a letter to advisors sent on Wednesday, Crystal, which is owned by Genting Hong Kong, announced that it has suspended all its ocean and expedition operations through April 29, 2022, and river operations through the end of May 2022.

The company said that the suspension is an "opportunity to evaluate the current state of business" and "examine various options moving forward." All of the ships currently sailing—Crystal Serenity, Crystal Symphony, and Crystal Endeavor—will finish their current journeys, the last of which will end on Feb. 4. After that, Crystal will enter an indefinite suspension and an unclear future. Crystal president Jack Anderson called the move "an extremely difficult decision but a prudent one given the current business environment and recent developments with our parent company, Genting Hong Kong." "Crystal has been synonymous with luxury cruising for more than 30 years and we look forward to welcoming back our valued guests when we resume operations. We wish to thank our guests and travel advisors for their incredible support during these ongoing challenging times," he added.

Genting said it could face potential cross-defaults on some \$2.8 billion of financing agreements stemming from the insolvency of MV Werften, a German shipbuilding subsidiary that was part of its portfolio. On Wednesday, those issues came to a head when Genting, in a filing to the Hong Kong exchange, said it would "imminently be unable to pay its debts" and filed an application to wind up the company at the Supreme Court of Bermuda.

While the future for Crystal remains unclear, in that filing Genting said that it expects the majority of its operations—Star Cruises, Dream Cruises, Resorts World theme park in

Manila, and Crystal—to “cease to operate.” **Peter’s Comment:** My guess is that the company’s remaining assets will be acquired by one of the other cruise lines. Everyone in the hospitality industry has felt the impact of the COVID Pandemic. I am just **very grateful** for our loyal and determined customers and I am happy to report that Fast Lane is getting inquiries and registrations for our wonderful tours primarily in the US and in Europe for 2022. Folks want to get out to travel and enjoy life again.

II. Fast Lane Travel 2022 PORSCHE Trip News: In all of 2020 and most of 2021 Europe was “closed” and cruise lines had to cancel their operations. But customers, understandably, still wanted to get out and travel, thus, all focus has been on the remaining logical alternative, i.e., travelling within the US. We responded to this inevitable trend by offering the **Carolinas** in **2020**. In **2021** we featured the **Florida Snowbird Rally**; the **Colorado Rocky Mountain High**; and the **SOLD OUT Romantic Wild West PORSCHE Tours**. Given this demand shift, I had to make some decisions regarding the **2022 USA Tours**.

A. I **cancelled** the planned **Fall Colors of New England** for **this year**. It’s not for lack of interest or participation – No, it’s because all premium hotels are already sold out in MA, VT, RI and ME. So, the “it’s a new world” realization we have come to regarding the planning of trips in the US is that we need to book venues at least 18 to 24 months in advance to secure the parking, luxury accommodations, and restaurant confirmations. Due to the COVID-driven shift in desirable destinations the rules have changed. Thus, I am moving the **Fall Colors of New England** to **2023** and we have started to select trip dates for 2024.

B. Therefore, I urge you to **select** one (or two) of our fun **2022 USA Tours ASAP** so we don’t lose the luxury hotel spaces we currently have blocked! Your **choices are:**

- 1. The Florida Flamingo Rally:** Mon. Mar. 14th – Sat, Mar. 19th - beat the winter blahs.
- 2. The Fall Colors of the Carolinas:** Tue, Sep. 20th – Thu, Sep. 29th – unforgettable.
- 3. The Romantic Wild West:** Sat. Oct. 29th – Tue. Nov. 8th - it’ll fill up quickly.

C. Fast Lane Website: We are currently re-designing our website, so not all trips may be posted yet – please be patient. By next week we should be finished with the revisions. In the meanwhile, just shoot me an e-mail as to which trip you are planning to choose to enjoy some luxury and fun driving? Thank you very much.

D. Europe: We look forward to the PCA Spring PORSCHE TREFFEN, Mon. May 2nd to Sat. May 7th. We currently have 18 customers under deposit and still have space for 6 more participants. While there is still uncertainty about the Omicron situation in Germany, we are fully committed to conducting this trip. There is still uncertainty as to the availability of Porsches as I mentioned in last Saturday’s Petergram. I’ll keep all y’all (that’s plural) in the loop.

E. The **German Romantic Castles PORSCHE FEST** is a repeat of last year’s Tour. We are again including Berlin, Hamburg, the PORSCHE Factory and legendary Racetrack. The **12 Alpine Passes**, **PCA Fall TREFFEN**, and **Beautiful Swiss Alps** and the **Dolomites** (Italy) all look good. I’ll be following up with everybody this week.

F. The **Tuscany PORSCHE Fest**, Mon. Oct. 3rd to Sat. Oct. 15th is **SOLD OUT**. Consequently, I have planned a **second Tuscany PORSCHE Fest**, Wed. Oct. 12th to Sun. Oct. 23rd – this second Tour will **ONLY be conducted** if we get **at least 10 couples** (we can take a maximum of 14) registered and committed by no later than (my birthday) April 25th 2022. 😊

Lastly, we are planning another luxurious AMA River Cruise from Nuremberg to Vienna, plus Budapest, if you'd like to extend it, from Sat. Dec. 3rd to Sun. Dec. 11th. I am starting this trip with a couple days first in Stuttgart to experience the Christmas Markets, especially the Schlossplatz market. Then a bullet train ride to Nuremberg. All in all, we are planning to visit 10 Christmas markets, including Nuremberg, Passau, Salzburg (Austria), Český Krumlov (Czech Republic), the monastery city of Melk, Vienna and Budapest (Hungary).

2022 Fast Lane PORSCHE Trips in Current Planning V-98						PP Dble
From	From	To	To	PORSCHE Tour	Highlight	
Mon	14-Mar	Sat	19-Mar	USA Florida Flamingo Luxury Tour	Photo Rally	\$ 5,998
Mon	2-May	Sat	7-May	Original PCA Spring PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	+ Spring Beerfest	\$ 5,998
Tue	31-May	Thu	9-Jun	Twelve Alpine Passes PORSCHE Fest	Alpine Driving	\$ 12,998
Sun	5-Jun	Mon	13-Jun	The 90th 24-Hours of Le Mans Luxury Tour	Pit Pass, 50-yard I.	\$ 18,498
Sat	27-Aug	Wed	7-Sep	German Romantic Castles - Baltic Sea	Huge Success in '21	\$ 16,598
Mon	12-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	Huge Success in '20	\$ 11,668
Tue	20-Sep	Sat	1-Oct	Swiss Alps & the Italian Dolomites	in design	\$ 15,698
Mon	3-Oct	Sat	15-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen	SOLD OUT	\$ 15,498
Wed	12-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest #2 & Interlpen	Our 12th year	\$ 15,498
Sat	29-Oct	Tue	8-Nov	USA Romantic Wild West - fabulous sunsets	Huge Success in '21	\$ 11,998
Sat	3-Dec	Sun	11-Dec	Stuttgart X-Mas Market & Cruise to Vienna/Budapest	10 Christmas Markets	starting \$4,500

III. My Final Thoughts: Why Teachers Drink!

The following questions were part of last year's GED examination. These are actual answers from 18-year-olds taking the exam. Worse yet, they vote 😊.

Q. Name the four seasons

A.. Salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar

Q. How is dew formed

A.. The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire

Q. What guarantees may a mortgage company insist on

A.. If you are buying a house, they will insist that you are well endowed

Q. In a democratic society, how important are elections

A.. Very important. Sex can only happen when a male gets an election

Q. What are steroids

A. Things for keeping carpets still on the stairs (Shoot yourself now, there is little hope)

Q... What happens to your body as you age

A.. When you get old, so do your bowels and you get intercontinental

Q. What happens to a boy when he reaches puberty

A.. He says goodbye to his boyhood and looks forward to his adultery (So true)

Q. Name a major disease associated with cigarettes

A.. Premature death (I'd accept that answer)

Q. What is artificial insemination?

A... When the farmer does it to the bull instead of the cow

Q. How can you delay milk turning sour?

A.. Keep it in the cow (Simple, but brilliant)

Q. How are the main 20 parts of the body categorized (e.g. The abdomen)?

A.. The body is consisted into 3 parts - the brainium, the borax and the abdominal cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs and the abdominal cavity contains the five bowels: A,E,I,O,U (OK?)

Q. What is the fibula?

A.. A small lie (clever)

Q. What does 'varicose' mean?

A.. Nearby

Q. What is the most common form of birth control

A.. Most people prevent contraception by wearing a condominium. (That would work)

Q. What is a seizure?

A.. A Roman Emperor. (Julius Seizure, I came, I saw, I had a fit)

Q. What is a terminal illness

A. When you are sick at the airport. (Irrefutable)

Q. What does the word 'benign' mean?

A.. Benign is what you will be after you be eight (brilliant)

AND THE BEST IS LAST:

Q. What is a turbine?

A.. Something an Arab or Sheik wears on his head. Once an Arab boy reaches puberty, he removes his diaper and wraps it around his head. (now, we're getting somewhere)



Please stay safe, healthy, get both of your inoculations and booster shots, wear your masks inside in public and don't hug strangers. 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