



Item: Fast Lane #32 in 2022 Petergram (#127 since 2020)
Date: **Saturday, August 6th 2022**
From: Peter 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: **Austria Trip Guest Post, Update from Europe, and the
1% Age Group**

I. Julie Sonenberg's Guest Post. Readers of the Petergram know that my dad, Peter, has an acute skill for planning a scintillating itinerary. My family had the opportunity to benefit from this talent when he planned an **“Opa's Austria”** vacation for our family: my husband David, my daughter Billie, my sister Alicia, and her son Lukas.

As you know, my father hails from war-torn Austria and had a very difficult childhood which involved hunger, illness, poverty, and turmoil. He made the incredibly brave decision to come to the United States alone when he was 17 years old – to start a new life. Through grit and sheer determination, he has had a very successful career and, if I may say so, raised a lovely family.

Our trip started in Vienna where we stayed at the Hotel Europa where my father was “discovered” by an American businessman who told him “You seem like the type of person who would do well in America.” The generosity by the Vaughan family who sponsored my father to come to America in 1962 has been paid forward exponentially by all the people whose lives my dad has touched, who have befriended and whom he mentored and supported in the course of his life.

My dad carefully considered which activities the children would enjoy when planning our trip, accounting for jet lag and early dinner times. in Vienna, we saw St. Stephen's Cathedral, Schönbrunn Palace, the Medieval Kreuzenstein Fortress, and had the opportunity for shopping as well as the spectacular view from the Donauturm. We also got to take a tour around the city in a convertible antique electric car as well as a visit to the Prater (the Viennese amusement park, a highlight for the kids!).



We drove through the mountains to Mürzzuschlag where my dad's grandparents lived. We stopped on the way in Semmering, a mountain village where my dad and his mother worked during the post-war Russian Occupation, at the resort Hotel Panhans in the summertime. Mürzzuschlag is a small village with gorgeous landscape views. We walked in the forest where my dad used to go berry and mushroom

picking with his grandfather and visited a magical forest which was a favorite for the children.

To break up the drive to Salzburg, we stopped in Erzberg to have the very unique experience of a tour of an iron ore strip mine in a huge monstrous mining truck. In Salzburg, we enjoyed the beautiful views from our terrace at the Sheraton Grand Hotel; shopping on the Getreidegasse; and we had the opportunity to visit the international language school where Alicia and I spent two summers thirty years ago learning German, i.e., Austrian.

In each city, dad had arranged for a dear friend to be our special guide. Hans in Vienna, Paul on the Donauturm, Gerald in Mürzzuschlag and Richard in Salzburg. All a testament to the kindness my dad spreads wherever he goes. Of course, there were history lessons galore as well as several of his famous “true stories.”

Thank you, dad, for your generosity as well as the care and love you put into planning the trip of a lifetime! We love you and are so grateful we had the privilege to take this trip with you! Five Stars all the way: Highly Recommended!

Julie, David, Billie, Alicia and Lukas.

P.S.: Dad is planning a **PORSCHE trip next year: Sunday August 28th to Thursday, September 7th 2023** – “Come Home to Two Peters’ Austria” hosted by my dad and his friend Peter Kreuziger, the owner of the renowned **Bon Appetit Restaurant** in **Dunedin, Florida**. Based on our trip, my dad was able to add some exciting features to next year’s Austria trip.

2022 Fast Lane Luxury PORSCHE Trips Still Available V-130					
From	Date	To	Date	PORSCHE Tour	Highlights & Status
Sun	11-Sep	Sat	17-Sep	Original PCA Fall PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	6 Spaces still Available
Tue	20-Sep	Thu	29-Sep	USA Carolinas Fall Colors - Tail of the Dragon	4 Spaces still Available
Mon	3-Oct	Sat	15-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen #1	SOLD OUT
Wed	12-Oct	Sun	23-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interlpen #2	Register ASAP, selling out
Sat	29-Oct	Tue	8-Nov	Romantic Wild West - THE VERY best of the USA	Don't miss out on this trip

II. Update from Europe for this Fall. We’ve had some very encouraging conversations with our friends and colleagues in Stuttgart regarding the availability of PORSCHEs for our **Fall PORSCHE Tours Program**. I have e-mailed all registered participants on the Fall Treffen and both Tuscany PORSCHE Fest trips. For the Fall TREFFEN the car selection is a little more limited, but everyone is guaranteed a PORSCHE. On the Tuscany trips we have been able to secure a bevy of 911’s. It’ll be awesome.

The traditional **PCA FALL TREFFEN to Stuttgart is better than ever**. We have completed all arrangements for this exhilarating experience to enjoy a day in Zuffenhausen at the awesome **PORSCHE Museum** and be able to get a very rare tour of the **PORSCHE Factory**. In addition, we spent a couple days driving a PORSCHE on

the **Autobahn**, lunch in the **Bavarian Mountains**, and enjoying the 5-Star Hotel, Bayerischer Hof In Lindau, directly on **Lake Constance**. Furthermore, it's a very rare treat to get invited by **PORSCHE**. **Get a group together from your local PCA Region** and enjoy unequalled hospitality and an amazing **PORSCHE Experience**. **Come on, check it off your bucket list! LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!! GOOD NEWS:** The City of Stuttgart is forecasting that the long COVID-induced closure of the **Cannstatter Volksfest will finally be lifted this fall!** I predict that it'll be THE wildest Oktoberfest party ever. We have reservations in a private Loge in THE most famous beer tent in Stuttgart. **NOTE:** I'll work out something special for a group of 12 from any PCA Region!!

Of our US PORSCHE Fest trips I highly recommend the Carolinas – it's a very attractive option for you to get that car out of your garage. 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 and you can't beat the sunset of the Romantic Wild West.** If you don't want to bring your own car, we will assist you to rent one from PORSCHE Drive Atlanta or the Phoenix or Tucson PORSCHE Dealers. Please check out these links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=coKJcvb0nII> and this one

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8tGOBhxkdQ> Let's get started in America with us.

2023 Planned Fast Lane PORSCHE Tours:					
From	Date	To	Date	PORSCHE Tour	Highlights
Fri	21-Apr	Wed	26-Apr	Original PCA Spring PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	Factory & Museum
Sun	23-Apr	Thu	4-May	NEW: From Munich to Amazing Croatia	Alps, Gmünd & Adriatic Coast
Sat	3-Jun	Mon	12-Jun	HUGE: The 100th 24-Hours of Le Mans Luxury Tour	Paddock, Pit Pass, Tribune
Wed	7-Jun	Fri	16-Jun	REPEAT: Twelve Alpine Passes PORSCHE Fest	Awesome Scenery & Fun
Sat	8-Jul	Mon	17-Jul	Our 5th: Colorado Rocky Mountain High	The BEST of the Rockies
Sun	28-Aug	Thu	7-Sep	NEW: Come Home to Two Peters' Austria	An unequalled private tour
Mon	11-Sep	Sun	17-Sep	Original PCA Fall PORSCHE TREFFEN Stuttgart	Factory & Museum
Wed	20-Sep	Sun	1-Oct	Our 3rd: Fast Lane Alpine Adventure	Repeated by Popular Requ.
Tue	3-Oct	Sun	15-Oct	Our 12th: Tuscany PORSCHE Fest & Interalpen	Our Annual Favorite
in planning - early December				NEW: Christmas Markets in Germany & Austria	Starting in Stuttgart to Vienna

III. 2023 Fast Lane PORSCHE Tours Forecast Dates and Destinations



We have received lots of interest in our 2023 PORSCHE Tours. The top three count so far are: **Twelve Alpine Passes, Austria and Tuscany**. The Executives at the PORSCHE Factory in Zuffenhausen are looking for more PCA participation in the traditional PCA PORSCHE TREFFEN – come on folks – let's show them the PCA cares. 😊

IV. A Personal Comment:

I am recovering from **two skin surgeries** in the last two weeks – Mohs Surgery to remove a basil cell skin cancer from my nose plus shoulder surgery to remove a potential melanoma from my right shoulder. I'll spare you the pictures – I look grotesque, so I was working from home this week. The stitches came out on August 1st. I also plowed through a brief bout with COVID - I'm happily negative. I've had tremendous support from my customer medical teams, especially Laurie, Bonnie and Samara. I've nothing but good news this week from our regular repeat customers. Thank you all for your awesome kindness and support!

Then, A few days ago, I had a call from an alumnus who wanted to know what our **Plans are for 2023?** I told him that he is living proof that I am wasting my time writing the Petergram, because nobody reads it. He replied, on the contrary, but he only reads the "Final Thoughts!" **So, what do I do?** Do I intersperse the final thoughts throughout? Any suggestions? ☺ OK, OK here are my final thoughts.

V. My Final Thoughts: Are you in the 1% Age Group?

A feel-good message for many of us in this age group. Feeling bad today? Read this and feel happy and blessed. This special group was born between 1930 & 1946 = 16 years. In 2022, the age range is between 76 & 92. Are you, or do you know, someone "still here?" Interesting Facts for You:

- You are the smallest group of children born since the early 1900s.
- You are the last generation, climbing out of the depression, who can remember the winds of war and the impact of a world at war that rattled the structure of our daily lives for years.
- You are the last to remember ration books for everything from gas to sugar to shoes to stoves.
- You saved tin foil and poured fried meat fat into tin cans.
- You can remember milk being delivered to your house early in the morning and placed in the "milk box" on the porch.
- You are the last generation who spent childhood without television; instead, you "imagined" what you heard on the radio.
- With no TV until the 1950s, you spent your childhood "playing outside."
- There was no Little League. There was no city playground for kids.
- The lack of television in your early years meant that you had little real understanding of what the world was like.
- Telephones were one to a house, often shared (party lines), and hung on the wall in the kitchen (no cares about privacy).
- Computers were called calculators; they were hand cranked.
- Typewriters were driven by pounding fingers, throwing the carriage, and changing the ribbon.
- 'INTERNET' and 'GOOGLE' were words that did not exist.
- Newspapers and magazines were written for adults and the news was broadcast on your radio in the evening.

- New highways would bring jobs and mobility.
- The radio network expanded from 3 stations to thousands.
- Your parents were suddenly free from the confines of the depression and the war and they threw themselves into working hard to make a living for their families.
- You weren't neglected, but you weren't today's all-consuming family focus. They were glad you played by yourselves. They were busy discovering the postwar world.
- You entered a world of overflowing plenty and opportunity; a world where you were welcomed, enjoyed ourselves and felt secure in your future although the depression poverty was deeply remembered.
- Polio was still acrippler.
- You came of age in the '50s and '60s.
- You are the last generation to experience an interlude when there were no threats to our homeland.
- The second world war was over, and the cold war, terrorism, global warming and perpetual economic insecurity had yet to haunt life with unease.
- Only your generation can remember both a time of great war and a time when our world was secure and full of bright promise and plenty.
- You grew up at the best possible time, a time when the world was getting better...
- You are "The Last Ones."
- More than 99% of you are retired, and you feel privileged to have "lived in the best of times!"
- Amen! It's great being part of the 1% Special Group!

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

