



Item: Fast Lane #33 in 2022 Petergram (#128 since 2020)
Date: **Saturday, August 13th 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: **Guest Post Follow-up**

I. Julie Sonenberg's Guest Post Follow-up and Comments. My younger daughter's commentary in last week's Petergram **struck quite a chord** with several readers.

A. Joni Landon, an alumni of a memorable Fast Lane Travel Tuscany PORSCHE Fest, plus a couple more, comment on my daughter's tribute:

Dear Peter, thank you for sharing your family trip to Europe and your daughter's wonderful tribute to her father. I enjoyed it so much and really appreciate that she wrote it, and you shared the love. I grew up in Youngstown...rather just south of Youngstown, having been born there in 1940. My Dad died in 1949 of what then was called the BIG C, and no one talked about it. So many things we have seen change in our lifetimes.... God Bless you for all you do. Our trips were so much fun and such beautiful places, hotels, dinners....wonderful memories, along with the delightful people we met.... Joni

B. Tilman Brodbeck, a retired PORSCHE Company Executive and one of our wonderful staff members in Germany, writes: Dear Peter, I am overwhelmed because of this wonderful letter from Julie to YOU - I know how proud your children are making YOU - in this case especially Julie. Give her a kiss - even if she and I have never met personally. But I know her since long time because of your personal stories about your family, simply GREAT! And again, I belong to those who really love your FINAL THOUGHTS! I wish you all the best - stay healthy. I think you have very good people caring about your health. Best regards from Tilman.

C. Vincenzo Puntrella, one of our multi-lingual guides in Munich and Leipzig, writes: Hello Peter, Yes, we had multiple reservations for your customers, booked by Thomas in early 2020 and all tours were cancelled, as were all Tours booked by our Partners worldwide. We suffered the same as you did. But like you, we were confident our business and relationships would return. I always say, good times build confidence and bad times build character. I appreciate the sharing of your "Petergram " and am grateful for the information and your sense of humor. Thank you very much! Best! Vincenzo.

D. Frank Watkins, an alumni of 8 Fast Lane Travel PORSCHE Trips comments on my final thoughts: Your listing of things we in the 1% Age Group brought back many memories. Can't pick your parents or when and where you are born - we were lucky! Warm Regards, Frank Watkins.

II. Airline Industry News: New DOT Proposal Would Give Travelers Better Protection for Delayed or Canceled Flights by [Daniel McCarthy](#) / August 04, 2022 – Source: The Travel Market Report – Voice of the Travel Advisor.

The stress put on the travel ecosystem, and travelers since the spring is spurring moves to give consumers a little more protection when their plans are impacted. On Wednesday, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) proposed a new rule that would make it easier for travelers to be compensated for when a flight is canceled or heavily delayed. The DOT said the proposal was inspired by a “flood” of consumer complaints over mistreatment from airlines since early 2020. “When Americans buy an airline ticket, they should get to their destination safely, reliably, and affordably,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “This new proposed rule would protect the rights of travelers and help ensure they get the timely refunds they deserve from the airlines.”

Currently, the rule is that travelers can get some kind of compensation if there is a “significant delay” in their plans. However, the DOT has never specifically defined what a “significant delay” means. Instead, it determined whether a passenger was able to get a refund on a case-by-case basis, which led to inconsistency among carriers when it came to issuing refunds.

The proposal on Wednesday would finally define the rule—the DOT wants to define it as a departure or arrival time that’s off by at least three hours for a domestic flight or six hours for an international flight. Travelers who experience those kinds of delays, changes to their departure or arrival airport, changes that increase the number of connections on a flight, or changes to the type of aircraft flown that downgrades the travel experience, would be offered refunds or compensation under the new DOT proposal.

Wednesday’s proposal would go a step further and would codify “cancellation” as a “flight that was published in a carrier’s Computer Reservation System at the time of the ticket sale but was not operated by the carrier.” The DOT also wants airlines to provide flight credits or vouchers that are “valid indefinitely” when passengers have to change plans for “certain pandemic-related reasons, such as government-mandated bans on travel, closed borders, or passengers advised not to travel to protect their health.” That was a major pain point for so many consumers during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The DOT said that the proposal was made, in part because of the “flood of air travel service complaints from consumers with non-refundable tickets who did not travel because airlines cancelled or significantly changed their flights or because the consumers decided not to fly for pandemic-related reasons such as health concerns.” The next step for the DOT is an Aviation Consumer Protection Advisory Committee meeting scheduled on Aug. 22.

My Comment: For fourteen years I served on the board of directors of a listed airline, so I understand that industry certainly from the inside. We had a fleet of MD11’s, 747’s, 757’s and still had a couple DC-10’s left over mostly for freight. I served on various committees; we acquired another airline and ultimately sold the

company. We had board meetings in Washington DC, London, Kuala Lumpur and mostly in Peachtree City. It was an awesome experience. I think that holding the airlines' landing gears to the fire seems like a gratifying response, but we should be careful what we wish for. Of course, it is absolutely in any airline's best interest to be on time according to their published schedule. Please bear in mind there are several key elements that go into providing a safe flight – most not controlled by the airline:

- A. Weather – believe me, sometimes you don't want to fly - DL 191; AF 447; AA1420, on a foggy day on Tenerife on March 27, 1977; for example.
- B. Equipment – Airplane maintenance is already tightly controlled by the Government, nevertheless stuff breaks.
- C. Crews – humans are late, get sick or have an accident on the way to the airport.
- D. Unions – while crews might have good intentions, there are work rules in place that defy logic or sanity in some cases.
- E. Airports – security staffing; ground crews; air traffic control occasionally break down.
- F. Interdependence – if something happens to one of the cogs . . . there's a ripple effect.
- G. Various countries' flight rules.

My conclusion is that getting the government involved in the service industry is a **bad idea** because it will compromise safety, increase air fares, and will reduce competition because some airlines will go out of business, or the government will take them over . . . what do you think?

- III. **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 spend 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

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

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> You'll love our European-quality PORSCHE trips in America.

IV. 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. 😊

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

V. My Final Thoughts: If you have been wondering where to retire, here are some helpful hints:

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 ponytail.
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 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