



Item: Fast Lane 11th in 2023 Petergram (#158 since 2020)
Date: **Saturday, March 11th 2023**
From: Peter writing from our Office in Oldsmar, Florida
To: Our Fast Lane Travel Customer Family and Friends at home in Australia, Canada, Europe, Iceland, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, South Africa and in the USA!
I. Subjects: Trip of last and this Week: **MORE DETAILS . . .** something **different . . .** A **Bordeaux River Cruise** in July 2023; PCA **Spring TREFFEN** to Stuttgart; Leisure Industry Claws Back Job Losses; My Final Thoughts: Why we loved George Burns.

II. **NEW Trip of the Week**, Memories of 2017 – a delightful **Bordeaux River Cruise**, Thursday, July 20th – Thursday, July 27th 2023



Enjoy the sweet life aboard AmaDolce. Your experience starts in your elegantly appointed stateroom, where Entertainment-On-Demand and soothing bath and body products bring you the ultimate in comfort before your cozy bed envelops you in sweet dreams. Warm caramel and honey-colored tones adorn the room while a French balcony—available in



most staterooms—allows you to indulge in scenic views. Follow your nose to the Main Restaurant or clink glasses in the bar, where rich, chocolate-hued woods bring beauty to the backdrop of your every craving. The Chef's Table specialty restaurant is the cherry on top of an already exquisite culinary experience on board that includes lunch and dinners paired with unlimited wine, beer and soft drinks. And should you wish to stay active, a Sun Deck walking track, fitness room and a fleet of onboard bicycles are ready and waiting to assist you on your wellness journey.



After close to 50 years of over 200 wonderful **PORSCHE** Tours many of our participants have made **lifelong friends**. Occasionally, I get the plea: “Peter let’s do something different.” So, in 2017 I organized a Sailing Ship from Athens all the way to Santorini. It was a wonderful experience for 14 of our die-hard loyal customers.

Well, **Dave Hatch**, who has been on over a dozen Fast Lane PORSCHE Tours, has become the brother I should have had. He is my best buddy to do crazy stuff with and is spearheading the “let’s do something different” charge.: “How about a river barge cruise in France?” As we say in German “gesagt getan” translation: “just say it and it’s done.”

Susan Sheridan, the manager of our **Fast Lane Luxury Travel Agency** did a remarkable job and organized a **Taste of Bordeaux**: We will travel to France’s legendary wine capital Bordeaux, visit iconic chateaux, stroll through timeless vineyards and will enjoy plentiful delicious wine tastings. This trip is a must for anyone interested in the best of French culture, lifestyle, wine, and food. Rates Include: Luxury French balcony cabin accommodations, immersive tours in every destination, unlimited fine wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner.

A deposit of \$800 per person is required to secure your cabin, half of which is nonrefundable. Final payment is due by April 21st 2023.

Suite: \$7,208 per person
 Category A: \$5,908 per person
 Category B: \$5,808 per person
 Category C: \$5,508 per person
 Category D: \$4,708 per person

1	Observation Deck
2	Navigation Bridge
3	Bicycles
4	Whirlpool
5	Sun Deck
6	Walking Track
7	Bow Seating Area
8	Main Lounge & Bar
9	Gift Shop
10	Reception
11	Massage & Hair Salon
12	The Chef's Table Restaurant
13	Fitness Room
14	Main Restaurant
15	Elevator
16	Crew Cabins



Only 6 cabins left – let’s make this a wonderfully cultural, culinary, epicurean and relaxing experience. You’ve been on several of our PORSCHE trips, made lifelong friends and If you book by March 30th, Susan has negotiated a **\$1,000 price reduction per person!**

Call **Susan Sheridan**, our Agency Manager, at **813 475 5989** – Check the deck plan: I will post that trip on our website with **day-by-day details** and pricing shortly and in my next Petergram. **Susan Sheridan**, our Agency Manager. Based on our experience, this fabulous River Cruise in France will sell out quickly – **so please register ASAP**.

III. PCA Spring TREFFEN to Stuttgart – LAST CALL! Please go to our website for details: <https://fastlanetravel.com/2023-pca-spring-treffen-plus/>

The “**PLUS**” Treffen, which takes us from Stuttgart to Lake Constance and then through Switzerland to Lake Como Italy, is by far THE more popular. The “traditional” Treffen will still give you an amazing tour of the PORSCHE Factory and Museum and the drive to Lake Constance and back to Stuttgart. This is the view from our hotel on Lake Constance for both the original “**Traditional**” and “Plus” PCA TREFFEN Trips in Europe



IV. Leisure Industry Claws Back Job Losses.

Bars, Hotels and Restaurants Become the Economy's Fastest-Growing Employers. Hospitality companies revive their hiring after pandemic cuts, offsetting slower growth in tech jobs. **By Nate Rattner, Danny Dougherty and Alana Pipe.**

Operators of hotels, bars and restaurants - hit hard as the Covid-19 pandemic took hold - are now among the country's fastest-growing employers, offsetting a slowdown in tech-related hiring.

The leisure-and-hospitality industry is rebuilding its workforce after cutting back during the pandemic's early days. In contrast, companies focused on providing business and tech-related services have slowed their growth in recent months.

Because the hospitality industry includes a larger number of private-sector jobs than the tech and information sectors, the shift in hiring patterns has helped keep the U.S. unemployment rate at a 53-year low and the overall job market tight.

Peter's Comment: I had my first summer job in the hospitality industry in, yes, 1953 at a resort Grand Hotel Panhans in the Austrian Mountains, renting chaise lounges at poolside to little old ladies. There were virtually no men – they were all killed on the Russian Front or with Rommel in Africa. My mother was the physical therapist and trainer in the hotel's fitness studio. Of course, in those days that term didn't exist. It was called descriptively a Leibesübungsanstalt – same thing, just more precise in German. Every Tuesday the pool was closed to customers so that the Russian occupational soldiers could use the pool. I used to teach an Austrian card game, Schnapsen, played with only 20 cards, to the Russian officers. They loved it. Today the hotel, has been reduced to a 4-star property and caters mostly to Eastern Europeans as illustrated by the languages spoken by the current hotel staff: Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Russian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Ukrainian https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hotel_Panhans

Let's move forward about 70 years. Today, after 45 years of creating "PORSCHE Happiness" for thousands of customers, Fast Lane is rapidly propelling its way back after THE most devastating pandemic in our lifetime. In the second quarter of 2020 our CPA and our attorney advised me "Shut it down, cut your losses, and go sit on the swing on your front porch of your family home in Ohio". I responded that I could never do that. Our multiple-trip customers understood our position on the precipice. My deepest heartfelt gratitude goes out to the three customers, here in Florida, no Fast Lane Travel Family Members, who stepped up to the plate with loans and outright six-figure grants, which enabled us to survive. Thank you so very much! In addition, I sold my beloved '64 356B to save Fast Lane Travel. It really hurt – still does.

We are still nowhere near the 2018 or 2019 PORSCHE trip participation level. At the meeting with key members of the PCA Executive Council in Jacksonville, I outlined the successful history of what we have accomplished for the Club since carrying the TREFFEN Torch since 1975. I underscored that their active support is essential to go forward. We need the enthusiastic support of the Regions and Zones. If the PCA can get 800 onto a cruise ship, surely the Club can get 50 or 60 Club Members to the PORSCHE Factory and Museum in Stuttgart?

Surely the largest PORSCHE Club in the world can "send" more participants than South Africa, Japan, even little Iceland last year sent twice as many participants than the US. I'll

be working with the PCA Executive Council to have more PCA Members enjoy the unequalled experience of driving the German Autobahn (before the "Greens" succeed in implementing speed limits); gasp at the amazing roads and vistas of the Austrian and Swiss Alps; and drive into restricted pedestrian zones with a police escort, something you could never ever do on your own.

More information about the other great 2023 trips such as the Interlpen; the Tuscany and perhaps a couple US trips like Colorado and the Carolinas next week. Please bear with me, at the moment, I'm trying to balance all requests for trips with the reality of Thomas' obtaining hotel space, restaurant reservations, PORSCHE rentals and access to key venue, like the Factory.

V. A note about Thomas: About a month ago he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. On Friday March 3rd he had the operation to remove the prostate by THE most renowned surgeon in Florida, who has performed 16,000 of these operations. The prognosis is that the cancer was fully removed and had not spread to the lymph system. Thomas is rapidly recovering at home, under the care of his loving wife, Paula, who is a RN. Not only that, but with his unbridled energetic self he is already back on the phone daily talking to various European hotels and vendors. Thank y'all who have sent prayers and encouragement to Thomas@fastlanetravel.com

Thomas, wir sind alle sehr sehr glücklich daß der Krebs weg ist und wünschen Dir die volle und rasche Genesung so daß wir die nächsten 20 Jahre weiterhin Kunden happy machen können!

VI. My Final Thoughts: My favorite quotes from George Burns:

- Sex after ninety is like trying to shoot pool with a rope.
- If I paid \$10 for a cigar, first I'd make love to it, then I'd smoke it.
- Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city.
- I'd rather be a failure at something I love than successful at something I hated.
- If I had taken my doctor's advice and quit smoking when he advised me to, I wouldn't have lived to go to his funeral.
- A good martini, a good meal, a good cigar and a good woman...or a bad woman, depending on how much happiness you can stand.
- When they saw me walking down the street smoking a cigar, they'd say, 'Hey, that 14-year-old kid may be going places.' Of course, it's also a good prop on the stage... When you can't think of what you are supposed to say next, you take a puff on your cigar until you do think of your next line.
- I look to the future because that's where I'm going to spend the rest of my life. -

- Smartness runs in my family. When I went to school, I was so smart my teacher was in my class for five years. - coolfunnyquotes.com
- "First you forget names, then you forget faces. Next you forget to pull your zipper up and finally, you forget to pull it down."
- "There's an old saying, 'Life begins at forty.' That's silly. Life begins every morning you wake up."
- "I honestly think it is better to be a failure at something you love than to be a success at something you hate."
- "And God said 'Let there be Satan, so people don't blame everything on me. And let there be lawyers, so people don't blame everything on Satan.'"
- "When you stop giving and offering something to the rest of the world, it's time to turn out the lights."
- "If you live to be one hundred, you've got it made. Very few people die past that age."
- "Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city."
- "I was brought up to respect my elders, so now I don't have to respect anybody."
- "Don't stay in bed, unless you can make money in bed."
- "When I was a boy, the Dead Sea was only sick."
- "There will always be a battle between the sexes because men and women want different things. Men want women and women want men."
- "Acting is all about honesty. If you can fake that, you've got it made."
- "I must be getting absent-minded. Whenever I complain that things aren't what they used to be, I always forget to include myself."
- "I'd rather be over the hill than under it."
- "I don't care what you do for a living. If you love it, you are a success."
- "Be quick to learn and wise to know."
- "As long as you're working, you stay young."
- "My best advice: Fall in love with what you do for a living." That's what we do!
- **My personal favorite: Johny Carson:** "George, you're 100 years old! You smoke, you drink, run around with women – what does your doctor say?"
George Burns: after taking a couple puffs from his cigar: "My doctor's dead!"



Please stay healthy, happy and take good care of yourself...Let's look forward to the great times we will have together again on one of our fabulous fun PORSCHE tours this year and help us plan for 2024. I hope to see you soon in Europe with me. Peter