



Item: Fast Lane News #31 in 2023 (#178 since 2020 & published on Saturday, July 29th 2023)

From: Peter on the AMADolce on the Garonne River in Bordeaux and at the Hotel Cambon in Paris

To: Our Fast Lane Travel Family and Friends at home in Australia, Canada, Europe, Iceland, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, South Africa and in the USA!



Subject: A River Cruise in France; Paris in July; and My Final Thoughts: My 10 Rules for dating my daughters.

I. Still Floating on the Garonne:

Sunday, July 23rd 2023:

We spent the day docked in Blaye – of course, shops are closed except an antique mall, conveniently located right at the dock. But first we were whisked to a hokey “wine tasting” event where a couple of entertainers performed some French chansons, and we were treated to the obligatory local cheeses and local wines. We then had a brief sightseeing



tour of the little town and headed back to our home, the AMADolce. The meal service on board is exquisite. Breakfast service is available from a classic buffet, but one can also order a la carte. My favorite is Salmon Benedict. The lunch menu is delightful with a wide choice of American and French cuisine. Dinners are four course opulent. For example, last night the appetizers started with the

legendary French Foie Gras; followed by the obligatory French Onion Soup; then rack of lamb or another two choices. Bring your jogging shoes. It takes an enormous discipline not to gain a pound a day. The ship then got underway, very smoothly to Cussac Fort Medoc.

Monday, July 24th 2023: Today we were taken in a mini-van to the nearby Atlantic Ocean Beach to appreciate some history and local lore.



My older daughter, Alicia, and her son, Lukas, were able to catch up to our trip in Blaye and will be with us for the rest of the journey. The day in Soulac de Mer was delightful. Of course, it's a beach town so we had to have ice cream. The Malaga actually had real rum and raisins in it, the way it's supposed to be. Delightful.





Tuesday, July 25th, 2023: Today's port of call is Cadillac and touring The Castle of Roquetaillade, an amazingly preserved masterpiece of medieval military architecture. The name Roquetaillade means "carved out of rock" describing its natural defensive site. The castle was initially built in the 10th century by Charlemagne as his army advanced toward the Pyrenees. It was then rebuilt in the 14th century by the noble family who still lives there today after 700 years. As we made our way through the town, we saw old city fortifications as well as the L'Église de Cadillac, a stunning 15th- century baroque

style church. After our lovely dinner aboard the ship, we lounged on the deck enjoying and reminiscing about the day.

Wednesday, July 26th, 2023: Nothing beats an invigorating bike ride in the rain. Our excursion led us to the Old Wine Harbor, followed by historic sites and pedaling along the Sainte Catherine Shopping Street. We spent the latter part of the afternoon at the impressive La Cite Du Vin Wine museum. We decided to venture off the ship this evening to a recommended local steak house. Later in the evening we gazed at the iconic structures of Bordeaux glowing against the night sky.



Thursday, July 27th, 2023: Sadly, today we disembarked the wonderful

AMADolce. This trip is a must for anyone who is interested in the best of French culture, lifestyle, wine and food. On to Paris.



II . My Final Thoughts: Ten Simple Rules for Dating My Daughter(s):

Explanation: Yesterday I met a gentleman from Texas on the boat. We, of course, started to talk about Porsches. He just ordered a Targe – and we talked about teaching kids to drive. He has two daughters who will be driving in a couple years or so. I told him that both of my daughters learned to drive stick and both of their first cars were manual. Our conversation also drifted to daughters dating. Thus, I could not help myself, and had to share these rules with him.

Rule One: If you pull into my driveway and honk, you'd better be delivering a package, because you're sure not picking anything up.

Rule Two: You do not touch my daughter in front of me. You may glance at her, as long as you do not peer at anything below her neck. If you cannot keep your eyes or hands off of my daughter's body, I will remove them.

Rule Three: I am aware that it is considered fashionable for boys of your age to wear their trousers so loosely that they appear to be falling off their hips. Please don't take this as an insult, but you and all of your friends are complete idiots. Still, I want to be fair and open minded about this issue, so I propose this compromise: You may come to the door with your underwear showing and your pants ten sizes too big, and I will not object. However, In order to ensure that your clothes do not, in fact, come off during the course of

your date with my daughter, I will take my electric nail gun and fasten your trousers securely in place to your waist.

Rule Four: I'm sure you've been told that in today's world, sex without utilizing a "barrier method" of some kind can kill you. Let me elaborate: when it comes to sex, I am the barrier, and I will kill you.

Rule Five: For us to get to know each other, we should talk about sports, politics, and other issues of the day. Please do not do this. The only information I require from you is an indication of when you expect to have my daughter safely back at my house, and the only word I need from you on this subject is "early."

Rule Six: I have no doubt you are a popular fellow, with many opportunities to date other girls. This is fine with me as long as it is okay with my daughter. Otherwise, once you have gone out with my little girl, you will continue to date no one but her until she is finished with you. If you make her cry, I will make you cry.

Rule Seven: As you stand in my front hallway, waiting for my daughter to appear, and more than an hour goes by, do not sigh and fidget. If you want to be on time for the movie, you should not be dating. My daughter is putting on her makeup, a process that can take longer than painting the Golden Gate Bridge. Instead of just standing there, why don't you do something useful, like changing the oil in my car?

Rule Eight: The following places are not appropriate for a date with my daughter: Places where there are beds, sofas, or anything softer than a wooden stool. Places where there are no parents, policemen, or nuns within 20/20 eyesight. Places where there is darkness. Places where there is dancing, holding hands, or happiness. Places where the ambient temperature is warm enough to induce my daughter to wear shorts, tank tops, midriff T-shirts, or anything other than overalls, a sweater, and a goose down parka zipped up to her throat. Movies with a strong romantic or sexual theme are to be avoided; movies which feature chain saws are okay. Hockey games are okay. Old folks' homes are better.

Rule Nine: Do not lie to me. I may appear to be a pot-bellied, balding, middle-aged, dim-witted has-been. But on issues relating to my daughter, I am the all-knowing, merciless god of your universe. If I ask you where you are going and with whom, you have one chance to tell me the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. I have a shotgun, a shovel, and five acres behind the house. Do not trifle with me.

Rule Ten: Be afraid. Be very afraid. It takes very little for me to mistake the sound of your car in the driveway for a chopper coming in over a rice paddy outside of Hanoi. When my Agent Orange starts acting up, the voices in my head frequently tell me to clean the guns as I wait for you to bring my daughter home. As soon as you pull into the driveway you should exit your car with both hands in plain sight. Speak the perimeter password, announce in a clear voice that you have brought my daughter home safely and early, then

return to your car - there is no need for you to come inside. The camouflaged face at the window is mine.

III. For THE best peace-of-mind travel service: please call Susan at Fast Lane Luxury Travel, LLC: +1 813 475 5989.

After you have registered on www.fastlanetravel.com for one of our exciting tours, you will need to book your **flights** and **travel protection**. To assist you with these plans, please call our **Luxury Travel Manager, Susan Sheridan at 813-475-5989**. We strive to ensure THE best experience for our clients; our 24/7 emergency support desk is expertly serviced by in-house air specialists. Travel with ease as we have you covered in all locations, at all times. Susan can also counsel you on any pre-/post- private or small group tours, river, or Mediterranean cruises. Also, we highly recommend securing a travel insurance plan. Protecting your trip will give you peace of mind for any medical emergencies, cancellations, delays, or baggage issues.



IV. Wonderful Trip Memories:







Please stay healthy and stay young; be 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 PORSCHE Tours this year and let's look forward to 2024. **I will see you soon in Stuttgart. Can't wait. Peter**