



Item: Fast Lane News #38 in 2023 (#185 since 2020) for Sat., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 2023  
From: Peter in our office in Oldsmar, FL  
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: 2023 PORSCHE Trips Status; 2024 Comments; My Final Thoughts: How to Stay Young.



- I. The 2023 Fall PCA TREFFEN to Stuttgart: **SOLD OUT.**  
The 2023 Interlpen PORSCHE Fest: **SOLD OUT.**  
The 2023 Tuscany PORSCHE Fest: **SOLD OUT.**

**Let me clarify: “SOLD OUT”** doesn’t necessarily mean we could not accept more participants. We gladly would like to get more customers, but the post-pandemic constraints we operate under diminish that because:

- A. Customers’ Booking Patterns: We have noticed a bi-modal pattern in that eager travelers are reserving their space immediately to secure participation. Then there is a booking gap. Some folks are waiting to book later for various reasons, but then we can’t get the space. This is why I try to instill **a sense of urgency** – please secure your trip space ASAP – don’t wait. So the moment we publish our 2024 tours, in the next couple of weeks – don’t delay, go ahead, please go to our website, make your reservation and get your deposit in of \$2,500 per person so we can confirm your reservation. It is easier to call us and we’ll take your information over the phone.
- B. Availability of Hotel Rooms: The world’s pent-up travel demand has expanded exponentially. New hotels in key locations have not been added. The good news: we can get all the hotel rooms in prime locations we need, provided customers book ASAP . . . see A.
- C. Hotel Prices and Terms & Conditions: In the pre-pandemic days it was reasonable in that we booked key venues, based on our reputation with forecast participation; we then used to pay a modest deposit on check-in and the final bill within 30 days after the end of the trip. Many hotels have tightened these still-reasonable requirements. Not a problem, provided . . . see A.
- D. Availability of PORSCHEs: In the pre-pandemic days, rentals were available from a pool of 180 AVIS PORSCHEs per year in Germany. With pandemic Factory closures, ship disasters and increased demand by new-car-buyers, understandably, the PORSCHE Company is

channeling their production towards the Neuwagenkäufer – which is smart business.

- E. Logistics: In order to strive for the perfect travel experience we have some tight preparation deadlines for all the trip materials like: polo-denim- and, sometimes, t-shirts (all in the correct sizes); caps; decals; patches; flight bags; The pre-trip Who's Who; all NAVI-road books; the good night note cards on the customers' pillows; with a nightly gift; the pocket itineraries; language cards; Photo Rally Books; Photo Rally Prizes; dashboard tent cards, and the essential flight arrival/departure-, hotel-, bus-, PORSCHE model & license plates-; luggage-; allergies-; dining-, gift-, staff schedules-, and, special request-matrixes – yes, there are ten matrices, i.e., documents that must precisely mesh, match and coordinate all activities. We cannot afford any mistakes.
- F. Responsiveness: Every evening at dinner we give a presentation about the plans for the next day and, what, if any, changes we are making to the planned itineraries. Occasionally we must adapt to local events, circumstances, and conditions, like weather, traffic, construction or local events.

Thus, in a staff meeting this week we decided that in all 2024 ads and itineraries, we will include a **booking deadline** after which we cannot accept any more reservations, or like some other businesses, we must charge a “late” or “change” fee. While we welcome late bookings, they are a logistical and very costly nightmare for our team. **Please don't delay, make the decision and secure your space immediately.**

**II. I am leaving for Europe Monday**, September 18<sup>th</sup> on DL 116 non-stop from ATL to STR (Stuttgart). It's a relaxing, about nine-hour flight and, by far, THE most practical and easiest way to get to Stuttgart. I'll be in Europe until October 30<sup>th</sup>. In Stuttgart, thankfully, our logistics manager **Johny**, along with **Tilman**, **Dawid**, **Volker** and **Ilse** will make all preparations for all the fall trips. **Fabian** and I will be conducting the **PCA TREFFEN PLUS**, which is the more popular one and overlaps for the first five days with the **Traditional PCA TREFFEN**. **Mark** and **Eileen Fisher** are returning with their nephews, **Brian** and **Daniel Shanahan** for their 9<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> PORSCHE trips, respectively. **Fabian Hoeflerlin**, Thomas' son, will be my guide.





Then I'll spend a few days in Vienna with **Mark** and **Eileen Fischer**, who have been on ten of our PORSCHE Trips and have become part of our Fast Lane Family. I was born in Vienna and **Mark & Eileen** will receive my exclusive **private tour** of Vienna to venues that tourists normally would not get to see, like a private tour in English of Castle Kreuzenstein. I then will conduct the **Interalpen PORSCHE Fest**, where we will enjoy the magnificent



5-Star Interalpen Hotel as our base and do excursions from there on several spectacular drives through the Alps. We have included a trip on an 1864 cog-wheel steam train up a mountain to a clear Alpine lake which we will cross with a ship to the little Alpine Village of Pertisau.



I am also offering an optional excursion across the **Grossglockner** High Alpine Road to **Gmünd, Austria**, to the site of the original 1948 post-war PORSCHE 356



Factory and the **Pfeifhofer PORSCHE Museum**. We'll also be crossing the 3 ominous **Timmelsjoch, Jaufen** and **Brenner** Passes.

On this trip we have 5 multi-trip Fast Lane Travel Family repeat customers including the **Fischers, McDonalds, Rauchs, Muellers** who are bringing several friends and suggested this repeat of the 2019 Inter-alpen PORSCHE Fest; and **Robby Zakar**, who suggested the optional tour to Gmünd on Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, i.e., the “free day,” at the Inter-alpen Resort Hotel. Most importantly, my good friend and Fast Lane Travel Family Member **John Horne** is returning for his 9<sup>th</sup> PORSCHE trip with us. Why did I say “most importantly?” Because John is sharing my PORSCHE with me and, thankfully, he will be driving. We are the lead team, and, with John's driving skills (and they are awesome) I will be able to focus on navigating and working the walkie talkie, so that I can point out local scenery, tell you some indigenous ancient history back to the Romans and also what happened here in WW II. **Gerald**, our Austrian Police Sergeant, from my mother's hometown, Mürzzuschlag (you get 2 points if you can pronounce it) whom many of you have met previously, will also be leading as a guide. **Miro**, as always, will be driving the luggage van. What a team!



Lastly, this year, Gerald, Miro and I will conduct our **13<sup>th</sup> Tuscany PORSCHE Fest**. In 2022 we had to conduct **two Tuscany** trips because they were so popular. This year we have 25 participants in 13 PORSCHEs. One couple is a Euro Delivery Couple picking up a 911 Targa GTS. Two couples have been on multiple Fast Lane PORSCHE trips previously. It'll be a fun group.

**NOTE:** We will be offering our unequalled Tuscany again next year – don't miss it: **Tuesday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> to Monday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Our 14<sup>th</sup> will be the same success formula as this year's delightful Tuscany experience.

**III. After this fall's four trips, I'll be flying back on October 30<sup>th</sup> 2023, just in time to hand out candy the next day.** Thomas, Dana, Christina, Catherine, Wendy, Kasey and Susan are working feverishly to get all the materials ready for this year's four fall trips. We are on deck 24/7 and simply have not had time to focus on 2024. Although about 2/3 of the 24 trip outlines are complete. Once I'm on the plane to Stuttgart, I'll have time to work on the completion of the remaining outlines & pricing and forward them to Catherine for the creation of the itineraries of the 2024 trips.

**IV. Fast Lane's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PORSCHE Fest**, I may have to do this twice. A couple of weeks ago, when I announced our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary plans, I had a flood of "We are coming, please hold a space for us." It'll be another couple three weeks before the details are finalized. **It will be spectacular – still working on the details – save the date! Our plans for all PORSCHE trips next year look like this:**

2024 Fast Lane PORSCHE Trips in Planning V-35					
Day	Date	To	Date	PORSCHE Tour	Highlight
Tue	16-Apr	Sat	20-Apr	Mini PCA Spring <b>TREFFEN</b>	Factory & Museum & Frühlingsfest . . .
Tue	16-Apr	Mon	22-Apr	Original PCA Spring <b>TREFFEN</b>	. . . and 2 days' driving, Autobahn . . .
Tue	16-Apr	Thu	25-Apr	Original PCA Spring <b>TREFFEN PLUS</b>	. . . and 3 more days' driving, Black Forest
Sun	28-Apr	Mon	6-May	Seven-Country Adventure - <b>V. POPULAR</b>	<b>NEW:</b> D, L, B, F, CH, FL & A
Mon	3-Jun	Thu	13-Jun	Best of Fast Lane	Zeppelin, Helicopter Glacier, Black Forest
Sun	9-Jun	Mon	17-Jun	101st Le Mans Race	Chateau near track, paddock, grid walk
Mon	17-Jun	Wed	26-Jun	Twelve Alpine Passes	An annual favorite: Austria, Switzerland
Sun	30-Jun	Sat	6-Jul	US Celebration of Freedom	<b>NEW:</b> Milwaukee to Mt. Rushmore - Denver
Wed	10-Jul	Fri	19-Jul	US COLORADO Rocky Mountain High	5th: Pikes P, Nat'l Monument, Ritz Carlton
Sun	1-Sep	Thu	12-Sep	50th Anniversary <b>PORSCHE Tour #1</b>	<b>NEW:</b> Salzburg, Zell a See, Müzz., Vienna,
Sun	29-Sep	Sat	12-Oct	Tuscany PORSCHE Fest - <b>Private Estate</b>	14th Florence, Siena, Montepulciano, Cooking
Wed	16-Oct	Sun	20-Oct	Mini PCA Fall <b>TREFFEN</b>	Factory & Museum & Oktoberfest . . .
Wed	16-Oct	Tue	22-Oct	Original PCA Fall <b>TREFFEN</b>	. . . and 2 days' driving, Autobahn . . .
Wed	16-Oct	Fri	25-Oct	Original PCA Fall <b>TREFFEN PLUS</b>	. . . and 3 more days' driving, Black Forest
Sun	20-Oct	Sun	27-Oct	US Southern Moonshine Festival Rally	<b>NEW:</b> Dragon, Cherolhala, Moonsh.Festival

I'll be discussing more details and our thinking for offering these 2024 PORSCHE tours in my next Petergram. It reminds me: If you want to know how to run your business, ask your customers . . .

## V. My Final Thoughts: HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. Try everything twice. On Madam's tombstone (of Whelan's and Madam) she said she wanted this epitaph: Tried everything twice...loved it both times!

2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down. (keep this in mind if you are one of those grouches;).
3. Keep learning: Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain get idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's!
4. Enjoy the simple things. **My Comment:** like snoozing in the hammock at my brother Dave's house in Sturgeon Bay, WI, or sitting on the swing on the front porch of my family home in Steubenville, OH.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. And if you have a friend who makes you laugh, spend lots and lots of time with HIM/HER. **My Comment:** Especially friends who have an endless supply of "True Stories" like Dave Hatch and Peter Sontag.
6. The tears happen: Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. LIVE while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love: Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is. **My Comment:** This one is the hardest one for me personally.
10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.
11. Forgive now those who made you cry. You might not get a second time.
12. **My Comment:** Do right the first time; trust your instinct; there are no second chances.



13. **Christina Richardson**, our fabulous Operations Manager and CFO added: “Don’t work in the travel business.” **My Comment:** Do I detect a nuance of sarcasm?

## **VI. My After Thoughts: Villa Oleandra - George Clooney is selling his Lake Como estate for \$107 million.**

Source: New York Post, Fri. Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, p.18.

When I saw this article in the **New York Post**, it reminded me of a wonderful trip we organized at Lake Como not that long ago. We chartered a yacht to take us from our hotel dock in Tremezzo, down the western leg of Lake Como to the City of Como itself, sailing leisurely by Villa Oleandra. Once in Como, we docked and walked across the street to the restaurant where we had dinner reservations. Suddenly, the women on the trip exclaimed: “OMG there is George Clooney!” All of them wanted their picture taken with him. How exciting. Afterwards I had to tell them that it was Clooney’s Doppelgänger, i.e., the restaurant manager was Clooney’s spitting image. I’m sure none of the ladies told their friends back home that it wasn’t really him.

**VII. Please CALL US for ALL your TRAVEL Planning.** Just like you are using a financial advisor or a CPA to handle your financial affairs, taking advantage of their knowledge – call our advisors to handle your travel: Flights, Cruises, Tours, Custom Trips & Your Private Jet Charter Flights. **For our coveted professional travel service: Susan Sheridan is here for you at Fast Lane Luxury Travel, LLC: +1 813 475 5989.**



After you have registered [www.fastlanetravel.com](http://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.



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**

## VIII. I am just Sharing Some Fond Random Memories With You.









