



Item: Fast Lane News #45 in 2023 (#192 since 2020) for Sat., Nov. 4th writing on DL #15 FRA – ATL connecting to DL 1594 to TPA.
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!
Subjects: The last 2023 PORSCHE FEST; Coming Home; Final Thoughts: Actual Newspaper Headlines...



I. The last trip in 2023 has now been successfully completed: Tuscany is best described by a letter, dated October 11th, 2011 and **featured on the next page**, I received from our supporter and dear friend Dr. Peter Byeff, MD., after his first trip to Tuscany with us in **2011**. Since then, Peter and Gail have been on 14 Fast Lane Travel PORSCHE Trips including the Dave Hatch inspired



July 2023 Bordeaux River Boat Cruise cruising on the Garonne. Below are more images from Tuscany –

DON'T MISS, Tuscany in 2024 from Saturday, October 5th to Saturday, October 19th 2024.

Of course, you must have your picture taken at the legendary Via Dell' Amore in Pienza! It's one of those Tuscan gems that are a MUST to visit – not only because of our delicious lunch at La Piazzetta; the quaint medieval streets; the wonderful shops with local art and grappa, but most

importantly, for us PARKING. I have mentioned previously that my priorities on a trip through Tuscany are parking, peeing and dining. After about 50 years we know where to take care of those three key elements.

October 11th, 2011

Hi Peter,

Gail and I are practically back to reality in Connecticut. I don't think that before the tour, I appreciated how wonderful it would be. We had a great time on the tour last year and I think that I had a better expectation of what that tour would provide. I was not ready for how wonderful Tuscany would be. One of my older colleagues tells me that I secretly want to be Italian. I don't think that is true, but my stepmother was Italian so it may have some basis in fact. I will send you some pictures that I took on the tour and please feel free to use them in any advertising or publication that you chose. The weather was wonderful and the company was excellent. Gail and I will never forget some of the scenery we saw.

Gail and I would very much like to return on another Treffen. Last year's Treffen was much more about urban areas, and this year's Treffen included smaller cities and towns, and unbelievable road trips and scenery. If you have another Treffen to Italy, I would suggest a bus trip, or train trip to Rome with a 2 day stay in Rome. I would still like to consider a Treffen to Southern France.

If you would like me to send you any other pictures, please let me know as I have plenty more that I haven't sent you. I am still waiting for you to send me the rental bill from Avis. This Saturday, Gail and my younger son, Steve, are going to the Met to see Anna Bolena with Anna Netrebko. I was supposed to go, but it turns out that this is the date of my 45th reunion from high school and I think that my friends and I will appreciate that even more than the Met. Please let us know if you are planning to be in New York and we will have to get together again.

I also sent you a picture of our place in New Hampshire along with a picture of me and the biggest large mouth bass I have ever landed as well as some other pictures from Lake Winnepesaukee. I don't know if you have ever been to New Hampshire or Vermont, but there is some resemblance to Germany and Austria.

With best regards,

The other Peter



Exceeding Expectations Since 1976.

Fast Lane Travel tours are the definition of unique, luxurious and exciting.

II. More 2023 Tuscany memories:



Our favorite in Stuttgart – the legendary Stäffele Onion Soup served in a real onion! And ice water on the table . . . in Germany!? Must be the exquisite Fast Lane Travel planning.

Does anybody remember the **Rettungsgasse** from the **Drivers' Briefing**? Here it is in real life!





What is Gerald holding in his hands? Why are these items essential on any Fast Lane PORSCHE Fest in Europe? This is why:



In order to use the restrooms on the Autobahn you need to insert one €uro to activate the turnstile. In exchange, you also receive a 50 cent “Wertbon” that you can apply to any purchase in the restaurant or “Tankshop”. Accordingly, the German & Austrian Autobahn have the cleanest rest rooms. At every stop our guides give you the necessary coins so you have immediate access.

Of course, we have arranged for privileged parking inside the Abbazia di Monte Oliveto Maggiore, Asciano – the Abbey where the Order of the Benedictine Monks was founded.





III. Wall Street Journal: Fliers Treat Themselves To Premium Seating.

Airlines expand their cabin sections between business class and coach.

Fliers Can't Get Enough of the Upper-Middle Class Section of the Plane. Premium-economy seats are one notch below business class, one above the best parts of coach.

By [Allison Pohle](#)

Oct. 30, 2023 5:30 am ET

Write to Allison Pohle at allison.pohle@wsj.com

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Appeared in the November 1, 2023, print edition as 'Fliers Treat Themselves To Premium Seating'.

The new hot section on the plane isn't at the very front.



Not quite business class and definitely not coach, premium-economy cabins are hooking travelers willing to treat themselves to extra comfort for about double the price of a coach seat on some flights.

United Airlines says its Premium Plus cabin, which averages 21 seats on long-haul international flights, is the carrier's most profitable. PHOTO: UNITED AIRLINES

With offerings labeled Premium Plus, Premium Select or Premium Economy, airlines are expanding these sections, which typically come with roomy seats, early boarding, free alcohol and better meals. Airlines say they appeal to travelers with [more disposable income](#), especially on long-haul flights where business-class seats can run thousands of dollars more.

"I refer to it as an upper-middle cabin for the upper-middle class," says Jay Sorensen, an industry consultant and president of IdeaWorksCompany. These sections appeal to travelers on work trips with budget-conscious employers, and vacationers who want some comforts without shelling out for business class.

Unlike with [Delta Air Lines](#) Comfort Plus or other sections with extra legroom, major U.S. carriers don't give their loyalty members complimentary upgrades into these cabins on trans-Atlantic routes. Travelers upgrade with cash or miles, use upgrade certificates or buy the tickets outright.

For flights to Europe from the U.S., round-trip tickets in the premium-economy cabin average about double the cost of main-cabin tickets, according to a fare analysis

conducted by IdeaWorksCompany. Business-class seats on those routes are roughly double the cost of premium-economy seats, the analysis found.

Premium-economy cabins are part of airlines' broader push toward deluxe offerings. They also play into carriers' loyalty strategies: Higher-tiered members get special upgrade points or certificates they can apply toward the seats.

Travelers who do the math on upgrades say the decision depends on the costs, which can vary depending on demand and time of purchase. Customers also factor in flight length, whom they are traveling with and how much legroom they need. (Taller travelers who spoke to The Wall Street Journal say they are more likely to pony up for the extra space.)

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Scott Jameson, a 68-year-old retiree from the Houston area, takes three to four international trips a year with his wife. They recently flew in United Airlines' Premium Plus seats to Europe. Jameson says his wife managed to sleep in Premium Plus, which she typically can't do in coach.

Because upgrades are now harder to come by and depend on status, Jameson says he pays for the seats on overnight trans-Atlantic flights.

"Once you've had a taste of it, there's typically no going back," he says.

Premium growth

U.S.-based airlines are equipping more planes with premium cabins to compete with international carriers' longstanding premium-economy service, analysts say.

American Airlines introduced long-haul premium-economy seating in 2016, the first domestic carrier to do so. It plans to increase the number across its fleet in the coming years, says Kimberly Cisek, the company's vice president of customer experience.



American Airlines started offering customers long-haul premium-economy seats in 2016. PHOTO: AMERICAN AIRLINES

Andrew Nocella, United's chief commercial officer, said in the airline's recent earnings call that the Premium Plus cabin, which averages 21 seats on long-haul international flights, is the [carrier's most profitable](#).

German carrier

[Lufthansa](#)

, which introduced premium economy nearly a decade ago, now has 52 premium-economy seats on its Airbus A380-800 wide-body airliners.

[Qantas Airways](#)

plans to add 40-seat premium-economy cabins to its A350s arriving in the 2026 fiscal year. The planes will fly direct to New York from Australia's east coast.

With ever more sections and options on planes, travelers say it can be hard to figure out whether upgrading is worth it. One way: dividing the cost of the upgrade by the number of hours in flight.

Hannah Norcini took this approach on a recent Delta flight from Atlanta to Tokyo. The 32-year-old, who works for the state of Florida, is a self-described "normal Joe Schmo" who spends cautiously. She considered an upgrade to treat herself on the birthday trip. After consulting forums on Reddit, she learned that \$50 an hour is considered a standard rate for an upgrade.

An upgrade from economy to Premium Select cost \$800 in the days before her flight. But when she checked in at the airport, she saw an upgrade offer for \$375—roughly \$29 for an hour of flying.

The flight attendants served her food with dishware, but it seemed to be the same food as the main cabin. She received noise-canceling headphones, a blanket and pillow. As a bonus, the seat beside her was empty. She rates the service an eight out of 10, somewhat less than the treatment she expected for the extra money spent.

A Delta spokesman says about 70% of customers who book premium seats with the airline repurchase them on future flights. Delta plans to increase the number of Premium Select cabins on future routes.

Class competition The deals and upgrades that leisure travelers scored on first, business and premium seats during the pandemic business-travel drought are harder to get as [work-related travel](#) picks up.

United's Premium Plus seats are similar to domestic first-class seats in terms of seat size and pitch, Nocella, the United executive, said. The distance between seats, or pitch, of Premium Plus is between 38 and 40 inches long, compared with 31 inches in the main cabin on wide-body planes.

One of the most popular markets for those seats is on routes to and from London's Heathrow Airport, Nocella says.

Some travelers complain that airlines have no incentive to improve the main-cabin experience as long as they continue to introduce new classes of better seats.

Emre Orbay, a 29-year-old software engineer who lives in San Francisco, says he regularly pays to upgrade to premium economy on trans-Atlantic flights so he [can avoid rubbing shoulders](#) with the person next to him.

It doesn't hurt that the food is also better, he says. To him, premium economy is the difference between feeling like part of a herd of cattle and what he considers to be a tolerable experience. "It's the little dignities," he says.

Sign up for the new [WSJ Travel newsletter](#) for more tips and insights from the Journal's travel team.

Write to Allison Pohle at allison.pohle@wsj.com

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IV. Reminder: Fast Lane Luxury Travel, LLC: You are using a financial advisor or a CPA to handle your financial affairs, taking advantage of their knowledge – then please call our travel 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.**



Once you have registered for one of our exciting tours, you will need to book your **flights** and **travel protection**. 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 in Stuttgart in 2024. It'll be our fabulous 50th anniversary year.**

Invitations, confirmations and details will go out soon, we working on the finishing touches. Can't wait. Peter

My Final Thoughts: ACTUAL NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

1. Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
2. Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
3. Safety Experts Say School Bus Passengers Should Be Belted
4. Drunk Gets Nine Months in Violin Case
5. Survivor of Siamese Twins Joins Parents
6. Farmer Bill Dies in House
7. Iraqi Head Seeks Arms

8. Is There a Ring of Debris Around Uranus?
9. Stud Tires Out
10. British Left Waffles on Falkland Islands
12. Lung Cancer in Women Mushrooms
13. Eye Drops Off Shelf
14. Teacher Strikes Idle Kids
15. Reagan Wins On Budget, But More Lies Ahead
16. Squad Helps Dog Bite Victim
17. Shot Off Woman's Leg Helps Nicklaus to 66
18. Plane Too Close to Ground, Crash Probe Told
19. Miners Refuse to Work After Death
20. Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
21. Stolen Painting Found by Tree
22. Two Soviet Ships Collide, One Dies
23. Two Sisters Reunited after 18 Years in Checkout Counter
24. Killer Sentenced to Die for Second Time in 10 Years
25. Never Withhold Herpes Infection from Loved One
26. Drunken Drivers Paid \$1000 in '84
27. War Dims Hope for Peace
28. If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last a While
29. Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
30. Enfields Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide
31. Red Tape Holds Up New Bridge
32. Deer Kill 17,000
33. Typhoon Rips Through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead

34. Man Struck By Lightning Faces Battery Charge
35. New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
36. Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
37. Chef Throws His Heart into Helping Feed Needy
38. Arson Suspect is Held in Massachusetts Fire
39. British Union Finds Dwarfs in Short Supply
40. Ban on Soliciting Dead in Trotwood
41. Lansing Residents Can Drop Off Trees
42. Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half
43. New Vaccine May Contain Rabies
44. Man Minus Ear Waives Hearing
45. Deaf College Opens Doors to Hearing
46. Air Head Fired
47. Steals Clock, Faces Time
48. Prosecutor Releases Probe into Undersheriff
49. Old School Pillars are Replaced by Alumni
50. Bank Drive-In Window Blocked by Board
51. Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors
52. Some Pieces of Rock Hudson Sold at Auction
53. Include Your Children When Baking Cookies

V. I am just Sharing A Few More Fond Random Memories With You.







2024 will be a very special celebration year. Porsche will be rolling out the red carpet. I am including some amazing driving, events and life-time memory venues.



Invitations will go out soon! Yours, Peter