



Item: Fast Lane News #16 in 2024 (Issue #216 since 2020) on April 20th 2024, I'm writing from our offices in beautiful Oldsmar, and the Ritz Carlton in Coral Gables, Florida
To: Our Fast Lane Travel Family in Australia, Canada, Dubai, Europe, Iceland, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, and the USA!



Subjects: Hotel of the week: Castle Prielau; Our 50th Anniversary Trips; My Final Thoughts: Some Dog Thinking.

I. Another favorite Fast Lane Travel Austrian hotel with a fascinating history is **Schloss Prielau** (contributed by Catherine Moore, our dedicated staff itinerary creator)

Located about 50 miles southwest of Salzburg, this hotel has an important connection to our automobile passion – the hotel is owned by the Porsche Family.



Schloss Prielau is a former prince bishop's hunting lodge on the shores of Lake Zell by the town of **Zell am See, Austria**. The castle was first documented in 1425 as owned by Christian Glaser zu Prielau. Over the following centuries, Schloss Prielau changed owners many times. In the 16th century, the castle was rebuilt and gained the design it retains today. The last prince bishop to use the castle was Sigmund Christoph von Zeil and Trauchburg, whose coat of arms is still displayed at the castle gate.

In 1932, Gerti von Hofmannsthal, the widow of Austrian writer Hugo von Hofmannsthal, bought the estate and began restoring the castle. She lived



there with her son and his wife until the family was dispossessed by the Nazi's in the Second World War due to the family's Jewish heritage. The sculptor Josef Thorak was then able to acquire the castle, which at the time was described as a "small fifteenth-century residence, beautifully

furnished and immaculately maintained." After the war in 1947, the Hofmannsthal family was able to have their estate restituted and returned to the family.

In 1987 the Porsche family bought the property and converted the castle into a country hotel for "lovers of Austrian hospitality and cuisine." The hotel consists of several guest rooms and suites, a beautiful park, a red deer farm, a private beach on the northern shore of the lake, a golf course, a helicopter landing pad and a wellness area with sauna, steam bath and massage services. There is a baroque chapel on the site where 30 to 40 marriages are held each year. Since 2004, the castle has been managed by Anette and Andreas Mayer, who treat customers as honored guests at the hotel and at Andreas Mayer's Michelin 2-star gourmet restaurant.

The rooms are furnished in a luxurious rural style yet possess all the comforts of a modern boutique hotel. Fires and tiled stoves create plenty of opportunity to snuggle up in a romantic atmosphere. Delicious breakfasts are served in the cozy castle kitchen, where you can also enjoy lunch. On the



terrace, with its view of the castle grounds, you can enjoy the sun and the tranquility while you watch the deer roaming the grounds. In the rustic bathhouse you can relax with a visit to the sauna and steam bath or treat yourself to a massage.

The setting is picturesque. It's quiet, near the lake promenade, surrounded by mountain peaks and offers all the amenities one could hope for. The village of Zell am See is close by with lovely shops to explore. Set in large and beautiful grounds, peaceful and lush with greenery, this old castle just at the north point of Lake Zell also offers easy accessibility to nearby quaint villages, hiking trails and ice caves. The hotel is magical and romantic, and you will feel like you are in a fairy tale while being pampered by the Mayers and their wonderful staff.



The Good NEWS: You'll be staying at this romantic castle on both 50th Anniversary Trips.

II. Of Course TRIP of the Week –

Please register ASAP – Our two 50th

Anniversary Tours. **NOTE:** I'd like to get two more couples on the 1st Anniversary trip. You'll enjoy THE very best time of the year in Austria: From Sunday, Sept. 1st to Thursday, Sept. 12th 2024. This trip is the crowning achievement of our 50-year track record. **Please don't miss this**



fantastic trip. Please go to: <https://fastlanetravel.com/flt-50th-anniversary-trip-1/>

I am personally inviting you, my dear friends and customers, **to join me in Germany and Austria** this September to help me **celebrate my 50th year** of designing exciting tours for PORSCHE enthusiasts. As you know, I grew up in Austria and have many fond memories of my life there before coming to the United States as a teenager. Not only will this trip allow me to take you to the places I love, but it will also **give me great joy**



to **share this experience with you.** I will lead this very special tour to provide insights into the countries I love, including some very personal post-WW II perspectives. Of course, **all** luxury accommodations, gourmet meals, cocktails



and beverages, luggage van, planned nightly car wash, gasoline, taxes, tolls and gratuities are included, per the itinerary. **I hope you will join me on this very special celebratory tour!**

Question: Can you guess where this young lady works?

No peeking ahead

Answer: She is a server at an **Austrian McDonalds**

III. My Final Thoughts: Some dog thinking

About a month ago, my 15-year-old Yellow Lab, Maddie, died. I miss her very much on my morning bike ride up to the lake by my house. I miss the lick and the tail wags she gave me getting ready to do the run up to the dock where she could bark at the little 4' alligator and the long-neck water



turtles. I just thought you would enjoy some dog thinking.

On the left is Nov. 22nd 2010, the day I adopted 1-year old Maddie at the "dog pound" in Steubenville, Ohio. She was advertised as the "dog of the week" up for adoption.

Some dog musings:

"A dog teaches a boy fidelity, perseverance, and to turn around three times before lying down." -- Robert Benchley

"Ever consider what they must think of us? I mean, here we come back from a grocery store with the most amazing haul-chicken, pork, half a

cow. They must think we're the greatest hunters on earth!" -- Anne Tyler

"I wonder if other dogs think poodles are members of a weird religious cult." -- Rita Rudner

"My dog is worried about the economy because Alpo is up to \$1.99 a can. That's almost \$14.00 in dog money." -- Joe Weinstein

"If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very, very few persons." -- James Thurber

"Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful." -- Ann Landers

"There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face."
-- Ben Williams

"When a man's best friend is his dog, that dog has a problem."
-- Edward Abbey

"Cat's Motto: No matter what you've done wrong, always try to make it look like the dog did it." -- Unknown

"Money will buy you a pretty good dog, but it won't buy the wag of his tail." -- Unknown

"No one appreciates the very special genius of your conversation as the dog does." -- Christopher Morley

"A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself." -- Josh Billings

"The average dog is a nicer person than the average person."
-- Andrew A. Rooney

"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion" -- Unknown

"Heaven goes by favor. If it went by merit, you would stay out and your dog would go in." -- Mark Twain

"I care not for a man's religion whose dog and cat are not the better for it." -- Abraham Lincoln

"If there are no dogs in Heaven, then when I die I want to go where they went." -- Unknown

"Things that upset a terrier may pass virtually unnoticed by a Great Dane."
-- Smiley Blanton

"I've seen a look in dogs' eyes, a quickly vanishing look of amazed contempt, and I am convinced that basically dogs think humans are nuts."
- John Steinbeck

"If you pick up a starving dog and make him prosperous, he will not bite you; that is the principal difference between a dog and a man."
-- Mark Twain

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. **I will see you soon in Stuttgart. Can't wait. Peter**



IV. Some more fond memories of our over 200 trips









This is what you get after you have been on **20 Fast Lane Travel Porsche Trips**. The record holders are Eddy and Susie Yates from Bristol, VA. At the farewell dinner Eddy stood up and praised the flawless organization; the luxurious hotels and cuisine; the fabulous PORSCHEs; but above all the many new friends they made. He then concluded: “We’re going to keep coming back until Peter and his team get it right”.

