



Item: Fast Lane News #17 in 2024 (Issue #217 since 2020) on April 27th 2024, I'm writing from our offices in beautiful Oldsmar, Florida along the shores of Tampa Bay & the Gulf of Mexico

To: Our Fast Lane Travel Family in Australia, Canada, Dubai, Europe, Iceland, Israel, Japan, New Zealand,

Singapore, South Africa and in the USA!

Subjects: Spring Treffen Report; The ominous Grossglockner; Trip of the Week: TUSCANY; Reflections: Where did the time go? My Final Thoughts: Dating my Daughter



I. The 2024 PCA Spring TREFFEN to Stuttgart Report:

April 16th to 22nd 2024 (contributed by Fabian Höferlin, one of our dedicated European Tour and Driving Guides, who managed and guided this tour)

Wednesday, April 17th 2024

By midday, everyone had arrived in Stuttgart. The Stuttgart Airport (STR) welcomes went smoothly and folks were whisked away to the renowned 5-star Graf Zeppelin in the heart of Stuttgart. The key element of jet lag management is not to go to sleep after your arrival. If you do, your internal clock is confused for three days.

The group met at 5:30 pm in the lobby and walked down Königsstrasse (King's Boulevard) to the beautiful Schlossplatz (Castle Square) to a renowned Stuttgart Brewery: Carl's Bauhaus, for the arrival dinner, where everybody got to know each other.

Thursday, April 18th 2024

The Graf Zeppelin serves a wonderful breakfast buffet with American, German, and Asian fare. Of course, you may also order a la carte – it's all included. Then everyone had a chance to stroll around the various shops and department stores near the hotel, about the size of Harrods in London.

Everyone met for lunch at the Graf Zeppelin Stüble. The local Maul Taschen dish was everyone's favorite. Lunch was followed by our mandatory PowerPoint Safety Drivers' Briefing. The key element of the entertaining briefing is that we teach you what NOT to do. The briefing is

followed by everyone signing the various releases required by the PCA, Porsche, and Fast Lane.

After the briefing, it's off to the amazing Mercedes Museum. It's patterned after the Guggenheim in New York. You take an elevator up to the top floor and spiral your way down past some wonderful exhibits and histograms. The refrain was that one could spend two days there and still not see everything.

This evening, the group dined at the trendy new restaurant Plenum in Stuttgart.



<https://www.restaurant-plenum-stuttgart.de/> expensive . . . but worth it.

After a delightful dinner, we strolled back through the Schlosspark to our hotel for a good night's rest.

Friday, April 19th 2024

The factory, on the **911 assembly line, was a prototype**, so the whole hall was closed to visitors, but the guide showed us great other departments, engine, leather, and assembly line of the Taycan & we had a fabulous tour in the Museum. Christophorus, thank you for the invitation, the cuisine was amazing and compliments to the Chef!

Dinner at the Stäffele, as usual, was great quality and service, and we had the cellar vault all to ourselves. Of course, the Stäffele is famous for its delicious onion soup served in an actual onion. Of course, the Stuttgarter Pfännle as the main course is mandatory. A tour of the wine cellar crowns a great evening.

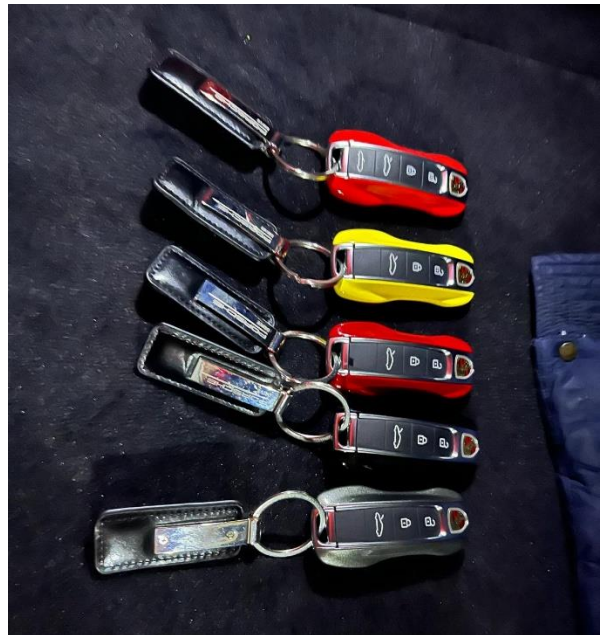


Saturday, April 20th 2024

Today we took the legendary A-8 to the A-7 where we turned south towards the Bavarian Alps. Our itinerary called for our traditional lunch stop high up the mountain at a beautiful Bavarian Chalet.

On the way to lunch, most of the group had already reached their **desired speed**. Then it started to snow, and the highway was completely covered!!

The 911's were sporting regular tires, and we made sure that everyone drove safely. At the base of the lunch stop, the owner had to pick us up with the shuttle, because we didn't want to take any chances on the last part up



the mountain in the snow. We then enjoyed our lunch and the cuisine, service, and location were, as always, fabulous! We then continued to beautiful Lindau without any problems and arrived at the Grand Hotel

Bayerischer Hof, all rooms with a magnificent lake view across to Switzerland's Alps. All the guests were delighted. Dinner and service were also, as usual, excellent. No snow in Lindau.

Sunday, April 21st, 2024

From Lindau we headed back to Stuttgart on the renowned German Autobahn. There were several sections with good speeds. We

returned the cars to the wonderful team at the Porsche Drive counter at the Porsche Museum.



Our dinner tonight was not just a dinner, but we had fabulous, reserved seating in the VIP section at the best spring "Oktoberfest" in Germany: the Cannstatter Frühlingsfest. It's actually better than the fall Oktoberfest, because after a long winter of darkness and working, the locals really know how to party. The food was „Volksfest“ and the atmosphere was exuberant. Great friendships have been formed; many will

come back! The guests really appreciated that they didn't have to worry about anything because everything was so well organized.



Monday, April 22nd, 2024 Sadly, today was Departure Day at the end of an amazing tour. I look forward to seeing you next time, auf Wiedersehen, Fabian Höferlin.

II. Großglockner Hochalpenstrasse! (translated: Big Bell High Alpine Road & contributed by Catherine Moore, our dedicated staff itinerary creator)



One of the many reasons our customers love our PORSCHE tours is that they get to drive a new model PORSCHE on the no-speed-limit German



Autobahn and over breath taking Alpine passes. **THE most spectacular road** over any Alpine pass in Austria is the **Grossglockner**

Hochalpenstrasse. This mountain road has something to offer everyone with its challenging drive, breathtaking views, and variety of attractions.

The **Grossglockner** is the **highest mountain** in Austria at 12,460 feet. The idea for building a road over the mountain began in 1922, but it wasn't until 1935 that the road officially opened. The original idea was to create a picturesque high road to increase tourism and its resulting incoming tourism money. However, because Austria was broke following WWI, the road was started and stalled many times due to the lack of funds. Ironically, it was the Great Depression that brought a breakthrough in the road's construction. The Glockner Road **created 3,200 desirable and much-needed jobs** and after five years of great hardship for the workers, the road was **completed in 1935**.

During construction, the workers uncovered **numerous relics** including coins, a dagger, Celtic gold jewelry, fragments of statues, nails, horseshoes, and other findings that proved that there had been traffic over this high mountain for centuries. **Built on ancient Celtic and Roman trails**, the goods that passed through, however, were carried by horses on dangerously narrow paths winding up and over the mountain.



In the 1700s and 1800s, naturalists and scientists began to explore the mountain, measuring its geographical height, length and width, and the rate

at which the **Pasterze (glacier)** moved. Interest in the mountain and mountaineering grew and one of the dignitaries interested in the Glockner was **Emperor Franz Josef**. At age 26 in 1856, he hiked up to a point that is now known as the Kaiser-Franz-Josefs-Höhe. However, the development of the Glockner as a tourist area was not without controversy.

While the plan to build the road was met with resistance from conservationists, the need for jobs was greater. Hoping to appease the conservationists, the engineer responsible for the design, **Franz Wallach**, considered it a “presumptuous wish to outdo the status of nature by means of technology.” Thus, he designed the Glockner road to follow the undulations of the alpine terrain – a feat that still impresses today. The road was officially opened in 1935, and a day later the first **International Glockner Race** for automobiles was held. The race was won by the Italian **Mario Tadini** driving an **Alfa Romeo P3**, averaging 49 mph for 12 miles over 5,250 feet of altitude ascent in 14.42 minutes.

The road was a modest 20 feet wide when it opened in 1935 and the surface was rolled sand. Today, the serpentine, paved road is **49 feet wide and 29.8 miles long**. It is a toll road and is open from early-mid May until early November, depending on snowfall. With **36 hairpin turns climbing over 3,000 feet**, the road bends around the Austrian Alps into the heart of the Hohe Tauern National Park. With meadows of colorful flowers, rugged mountain vistas, snow-clad peaks, cascading waterfalls, intriguing flora and fauna, and numerous activities and attractions to explore along the way, it's spectacular. It was the favorite test road for 356's in the 1950's & 60's.

The Grossglockner High Alpine Road, with more than 900,000 visitors every year, is the **second-most visited destination in Austria** after Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna. It's a favorite of Fast Lane Travel and is a feature on its years 50th Anniversary Tours in September. It is an exhilarating experience for anyone lucky enough to drive the **Grossglockner Hochalpenstrasse!**

III. TRIP of the Week – Register now for this beautiful trip to TUSCANY – Private Estate & Winery – Don't miss out! Only a

limited number of spots are still available. Please respond fast and secure your spot now.

Imagine staying on a luxurious private estate in Tuscany, surrounded by picturesque landscapes and just a stone's throw away from the iconic cities of Florence, Siena, and Montepulciano. Experience the local culture during wine harvest time with exciting activities like wine tastings, a cooking class, and planned excursions to Florence and Siena. But that's not all - you'll also get to drive on parts of the legendary Mille Miglia road and participate in our fun photo rally. And, as a Fast Lane Advantage, you'll even get to park with a police escort in Tuscan towns' Pedestrian ONLY Zones, a unique experience you won't find anywhere else. All of this, plus gourmet meals, cocktails and beverages, luggage van, car washes (dependent on water restrictions), gasoline, taxes, and gratuities are included in your itinerary. Don't miss out on this unforgettable adventure!







IV. Thinking about where the time went? Growing old is mandatory, but growing up is optional. - Walt Disney



On Thursday, my team surprised me with a birthday lunch to celebrate my "50th with 31 years of experience" birthday. We had a wonderful time together, sharing laughs and "True Stories". It was a truly special day, and I am excited for the year ahead. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to wish me a happy birthday. Your wishes mean a lot to me. See you soon on our next PORSCHE tour!

We have space on the Tuscany PORSCHE Fest and I need to fill it up! We are also working on finalizing 2025 for you.

IV. MY FINAL THOUGHTS: Ten Simple Rules for Dating My Daughter (Author Anonymous)

I've been getting messages from some of our friends and alumni that it's graduation season, proms and spring break in Florida. Thus, I thought it only appropriate for me to share with you important and helpful rules that you might want to post on your refrigerator.

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, 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: In order 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.

VI. SOME More HAPPY MEMORIES

Reflections of Happiness at the Porsche Museum.



The 2019 PCA TREFFEN Group in Stuttgart.



The 2024 PCA Spring TREFFEN participants, last week were very appreciative of the remarkable PORSCHE Factory hosts' hospitality. However, the PORSCHE Factory Executives in Stuttgart were musing why the largest Porsche Club in the world is only "sending" 9 people, when PCJapan showed up with 62 and even the PC Iceland showed their enthusiasm with 24 eager participants. Good question.





Lookig back at the last 50 Years of Fast Lane Travel, I am grateful for the many loyal customers who have returned multiple times for our carefully planned and delivered PORSCHE Tours.



Furthermore, I am so very thankful for the three exemplary friends and customers who, in 2020, during the disasterous Covid-19 Crisis, have stepped up with their financial support to save our company from certain catastrophic demise. Thank you so very very much! Yours gratefully, Peter