



Item: Fast Lane News #47 in 2024 (Issue #247 since 2020) On Saturday, November 23, 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, Hong Kong; Singapore, South Africa and in the USA!

Subjects: Colorado USA; Our 2025 trips; My Final Thoughts: My First Thanksgiving

I. We are back in Colorado from Thursday, July 10th – Saturday, 19th 2025 – Woohoo! – **Our 5th Trip!**

Discovering the Million Dollar Highway: A Scenic Adventure Through the San Juan Mountains, by April Pappas



Amidst the majestic grandeur of the San Juan Mountains in Colorado lies the iconic Million Dollar Highway, a road trip that tantalizes the senses with its breathtaking beauty and dramatic landscapes. This spectacular 25-mile stretch of U.S. Route 550 weaves between the charming towns of Ouray and Silverton, inviting adventurers to experience one of the most stimulating drives in America.

As you set off on this thrilling journey, the winding road beckons with promise. Each turn reveals an awe-inspiring panorama of towering, rugged peaks framed against a brilliant sky. The vivid greens of alpine forests mingle with the vibrant hues of wildflowers, creating a stunning contrast that captivates every traveler. It's easy to forget the outside world as the landscape unfolds in a breathtaking display of nature's artistry. Of course, we have a team along that washes the cars every day:

The origin of the Million Dollar Highway's name is a tale of intrigue, evoking images of wealth and splendor. Some believe it references the costly materials used to construct the road, while others contend that it symbolizes the priceless views that unfold with every mile. Indeed, as you traverse the highway, the sweeping vistas of the surrounding mountains and deep valley floors offer a visual feast that feels truly remarkable.



There are several scenic lookout points along the route, each offering a perfect stop to soak in the unparalleled views and capture the moment with photographs. The quaint town of Ouray, often referred to as the "Switzerland of America," greets visitors with its charming Victorian architecture nestled against towering cliffs. Take a stroll through its colorful streets, where local shops and inviting restaurants beckon.



As you continue towards Silverton, another historic gem, you'll be transported back in time. Once a thriving mining town, Silverton exudes a character all its own, with well-preserved buildings and a rich history that can be felt in the air. The town offers various opportunities for exploration, from antiques to art galleries, providing a glimpse into the area's storied past.

One of the standout features of the Million Dollar Highway is its impressive elevation. Reaching over 11,000 feet at Red Mountain Pass, the road demands respect. Drivers should be mindful of the altitude and fluctuations in weather, which can change rapidly, transforming the scenery from sun-drenched vistas to dramatic storm clouds in an instant.

Whether you are a passionate driver, an outdoor enthusiast, or simply seeking a picturesque escape, the Million Dollar Highway promises an unforgettable experience. Take the time to relish each moment along this magnificent route, for it is a journey that will remain etched in your memory, filled with the captivating beauty of Colorado's remarkable landscape.

Did this tickle your fancy? Check out our

2025 **USA** Colorado Rocky Mountain High Tour and save the date: **Thurs. July 10th – Sat. July 19th, 2025**



It's **THE best time of the year** to drive the magnificent roads of the Rockies. Of course, we have included some very special features, including our legendary **Colorado Photo Rally**, with “valuable prizes” that Peter brought back from the market in Stuttgart. Your link is below for you to **SIGN UP FOR COLORADO TODAY PLEASE – it's our most popular USA trip.**



[Rocky Mountain High - Colorado Porsche Tour | Fast Lane Travel](#)

II. **ONE MORE TIME:** the **Fast Lane Team** has designed more exhilarating **Porsche Tours for 2025**. I would love for you to come with me on the **Luxury Yacht Cruise in Croatia**; or join me for the truly once-in-a-lifetime trip to the **Hidden Austria Porsche Tour**; or come with me on my favorite USA trip, my **Rocky Mountain High in Colorado**.

****Croatian Yacht Cruise**** Experience the breathtaking Croatian coastline from the deck of our private, luxury yacht while relaxing and enjoying exclusive shopping and dining adventures along the way. **Friday, May 9th – Sunday, May 18th 2025** – **We have space for two more couples to register for this wonderful luxury cruise please. You'll love this NEW destination.** Please see the **cruise flyer** attached after My Final Thoughts! **Call Susan NOW please: +1 813 475 5989**

****Spring Porsche Fest PLUS**** This tour immediately follows the Croatian Yacht Cruise. Immerse yourself in an unforgettable driving experience through the breathtaking landscapes of Lakes Como, Lugano and Maggiore. The hilarious James Bond Photo Rally alone is worth this trip. We designed it to inspire and indulge your senses, leaving you longing for your next escapade. **Sunday, May 18th – Monday May 26th 2025**

****Amazing Hidden Austria**** Embark on an unforgettable journey through Peter's Austria. You'll drive hidden enchanting landscapes, unknown to tourists. You'll uncover hidden villages and encounter locals sharing their culture. Experience the thrill of adventure as you wind through picturesque valleys, serene lakes, and majestic mountains, all while surrounded by the beauty of the "Green Heart" of Austria.
Sunday, June 1st – Saturday, June 14th 2025



****Le Mans Race**** Immerse yourself in the excitement of the legendary Le Mans race, where the roar of powerful engines and the adrenaline of fiercely competitive racing create an unforgettable atmosphere. This iconic event is a thrilling spectacle for car enthusiasts, showcasing cutting-edge automotive engineering and the skill of world-class drivers as they navigate challenging turns and high-speed straights. Don't miss your chance to witness motorsport history in the making! **Sunday, June 8th – Monday, June 16th 2025**

****Twelve Alpine Passes**** For thrill-seekers, this adrenaline adventure promises heart-pounding excitement in breathtaking locales that will satisfy your need for speed. This tour will take you **over twelve of the most spectacular passes in the Alps**. Along the way, you will stay in luxurious hotels nestled in some amazing and scenic areas with views of mountains and Alpine lakes. This tour will take you to the Alpine areas of **Germany, Austria and Switzerland** plus the lovely **Black Forest**. You will enjoy delightful meals, and in the evenings, the beer and wine will flow. **Monday, June 16th – Wednesday, June 25th 2025**

****Colorado Rocky Mountain High**** Experience the awe-inspiring beauty of the Rockies as we navigate scenic routes that will leave you speechless. Colorado's scenery is a breathtaking blend of majestic mountains, expansive plains, and lush forests. The Rocky Mountains dominate the landscape, with their towering peaks often dusted with snow, providing a stunning backdrop to crystal-clear lakes and vibrant wildflower fields in summer. The high desert areas, with their red rock formations and rolling hills, add a unique contrast to the alpine beauty. Whether you're watching a sunset over the mountains or exploring the scenic byways, Colorado offers a captivating natural beauty that enchants every visitor. **Thursday, July 10th – Friday, July 18th 2025**

****Dolomites and Alps Porsche Tour**** Drive through stunning Dolomites and Alps landscapes, where every twist and turn reveals nature at its most spectacular. The Dolomites, a breathtaking mountain range in northern Italy, are renowned for their stunning landscapes and unique geological features. Characterized by dramatic limestone peaks that rise sharply from lush valleys, these mountains showcase an array of colors, particularly at sunrise and sunset when they glow with hues of pink and orange—a phenomenon known as "Enrosadira" the magic of the Dolomites at sunrise. **Sunday, Aug. 31st – Thursday, Sept. 11th 2025**

****Fast Lane Fall PORSCHE Fest**** Celebrate the season with fellow enthusiasts and enjoy stunning drives amidst the vibrant colors of fall. **Tuesday, Sept. 16th - Sunday, 21st 2025**

****Fall PORSCHE Fest PLUS**** Enjoy this wonderful driving experience through the breathtaking landscapes of Lakes Como, Lugano and Maggiore. The hilarious James Bond Photo Rally alone is worth this trip. We designed it to inspire and indulge your senses, leaving you longing for your next escapade. **Tuesday, Sept. 16th - Wednesday, Sept. 24th 2025**

****Tuscany**** Revel in the enchanting beauty of Tuscany's rolling hills, savor local cuisine, and immerse yourself in the rich culture while cruising in style. **Sunday, Oct. 12th – Friday, Oct. 24th 2025**

****Moonshine Festival in Dawsonville, GA**** Celebrate the unique culture of moonshine with a fun festival that brings together vintage cars and modern marvels. Drive awesome roads like the legendary **Tail of the Dragon** and the **Cherohala Skyway**. **Thursday, Oct. 23rd – Thursday, Oct. 30th 2025**

****Pre-Christmas in Vienna****: Christmas in Vienna is a magical experience that beautifully blends tradition with festive charm. The city transforms into a winter wonderland, adorned with twinkling lights and sparkling decorations that illuminate the historic streets and buildings. Experience the charm and magic of Vienna during the holiday season, complete with festive markets where you'll enjoy the delicious Glühwein and Jägertee. **Friday, Dec. 5th – Friday, Dec. 12th 2025**

2025 promises to be an extraordinary year for Porsche travel adventures, and we invite you to be part of these incredible moments. Each tour is designed not only for breathtaking drives and stunning landscapes but also to forge lasting friendships within a community that shares your passion.

We'd love for you to join us. Please reserve your spot today and get ready for another amazing adventure! For more info and to book your tour, just visit our website at www.FastLaneTravel.com or give our friendly team a call at our corporate office in Oldsmar, FL at **+1 813-343-3001**. We can't wait to hear from you!

III. My Final Thoughts: My First Thanksgiving in America

Introduction: When I was 17 years old, having just graduated from the Hotel Business School in Vienna, Austria, I had the wonderful opportunity to come to the US, invited by a very generous family in Ohio. In September 1960 I started as a Junior at Steubenville High School. To put things into perspective: Eisenhower was President; his VP Richard Nixon ran against John F. Kennedy, who ultimately won the nomination; Leonid Brezhnev was the Russian leader; The Russians launched Sputnik 3 years ago kicking off the space race; and Navy beat Army 17 – 12 on November 26th 1960.

Towards the end of football season, the leaves had turned into spectacular fall colors. We raked the leaves from the two huge oak trees in the front yard into big piles. Mark (my new American brother 7-years old) of course made a sport of diving into the leaf piles. We then burned the leaf mounds on the street in front of the house. An American Holiday was celebrated called Thanksgiving. Toodie (My new American mom) had been cooking since early morning – the house was filled the most inviting mouth-watering aroma. I was told that I should have a big breakfast, as in twice the normal cereal with a cut up banana on top because we're not having lunch, but instead we will have an early dinner. A Thanksgiving dinner!

Toodie's sister, Beverly, and her husband Frank Taylor, a U.S. mailman by profession, came over first. Beverly brought some covered dishes which were hurried into the kitchen. Then Toodie's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Peterson, arrived and Mr. Peterson had a high ball in the living room and his usual unlit Churchill-size cigar in his mouth. The dining room table was set with the best China, silver, and cloth napkins. Toodie was persnickety about every detail of this event. Then at about 3:45 pm, everyone helped carry bowls and trays of food into the dining room. At this point, I had been in the U.S. almost five months and had become familiar with the American way of food consumption. But I had never, in my life, seen so much food for so few people. There were eight of us – just the right amount for the small dining room.

There was a big empty space in the center of the oval table surrounded by mashed potatoes, noodles in gravy, orange-colored sweet potatoes bathed in their glaze, lima beans, mushy little rolls called "dinner rolls," butter, red jam, cranberries in a sauce and then round slices of jellied cranberry

sauce. Then there was more-green transparent Jell-O with bits of pineapple in it. Another bowl was called a Waldorf salad. Then more translucent Jell-O with white little balls in it they called marshmallows. Finally, two dispensers filled with this hot aromatic brown liquid called gravy.

Finally came the piece de resistance. Dick (my new American dad), to a deserved round of applause, brought in this huge platter with the biggest chicken I had ever seen. It was explained to me that this was not an overgrown chicken, but a bigger relative called a Turkey. WOW. Then Toodie ladled the “stuffing,” which looked like chopped up Semmelknödel, into another bowl, completing the array of carbohydrates. Dick then proceeded to carve this monster and separated the meat into light and dark meat, whatever that was.

When that was done, everyone bowed their heads and folded their hands, Mrs. Peterson said a short prayer along the lines of thanking the Lord for our blessings – she also included me in her prayer in that Peter is here with us etc. – very moving and unifying (they called it a grace). After the prayer plates were passed around and filled with food. Surely it must have been 10,000 calories per plate.

There was a very tall goblet of ice water placed at every plate. Ice water? I posed the question: “What kind of wine are going to have with this beautiful dinner?” Suddenly silence, except for the clanging sound of utensils dropped onto the plates. Mrs. Peterson’s eyes doubled in size; Mr. Peterson’s cigar, still in his mouth, angled downwards; Mark grinned from ear to ear as in “you’re in trouble now, buster;” Toodie smiled apologetically; Dick stood up and took me into the kitchen where I was admonished. “Our kind of people don’t drink wine. Only winos drink wine out of paper bags in the Bowery!” I apologized and made a mental note that someday I must go to this place called Bowery where wine is served in such a strange manner– I had never seen wine in paper bags.

After dinner, we had pumpkin pie with “Cool Whip” which tasted nothing like Schlagobers in Austria, or we also had a choice of apple pie “a la mode” with a glob of vanilla ice cream on the side and a slice of cheddar cheese on top – a very strange combination. The coffee was the worst – watery and no taste. There were no after-dinner drinks. I really wanted a Cognac.

After dinner, the men moved to the sunken living room, where Mr. Peterson smoked a Churchill size cigar, Dick a cigarette and Mark and I sat there just hitting each other – with the goal to get the last hit. This usually stopped when an adult exclaimed: “will you two stop horsing around . . . Peter you should know better.” This usually resulted in a one-minute break and then some secret hits from behind or taps with one’s elbow.

We watched the Steelers on the big black and white TV console in the living room – I still didn’t understand at all what was going on in this game, but I liked the shots of the cheerleaders. During advertisements Mark or I were dispatched to the console to change the channel with the big round knob to “see what else was on” the other three channels resulting in calls to “go back, go back” because presumably, the game had resumed. FYI, in 1960 the Steelers beat the Redskins 22 -10.

All in all, it was a festive day and the beginning of a half a pound a month weight gain for me for the balance of my 2-year high school stay in Ohio. God, I love this country, America.

IV. SOME OF MY HAPPY MEMORIES



I presented a very special award to commemorate Susie and



Eddy Yates' participation in their **20th Fast Lane Porsche Trip** at the Grand Hotel Tremzso on **Lake Como**. After receiving their well-deserved award Eddy gave a brief speech. He extolled the wonderful "I don't have to think" Fast Lane planning; the fabulous hotels; exquisite cuisine; great Porsche they were driving; the magnificent scenery; and all the new friends they made on the trip. He concluded: "We're going to keep coming back until Peter and Fast Lane gets it right!" Well, I'm still working on it.

FYI, don't forget that in 2025 we have both a spring and a fall PORSCHE Fest PLUS to the Italian Lake Region, including Lakes Maggiore, Lugano and, of course, Como. We are also crossing my favorite Splügen Pass from Switzerland into Italy.







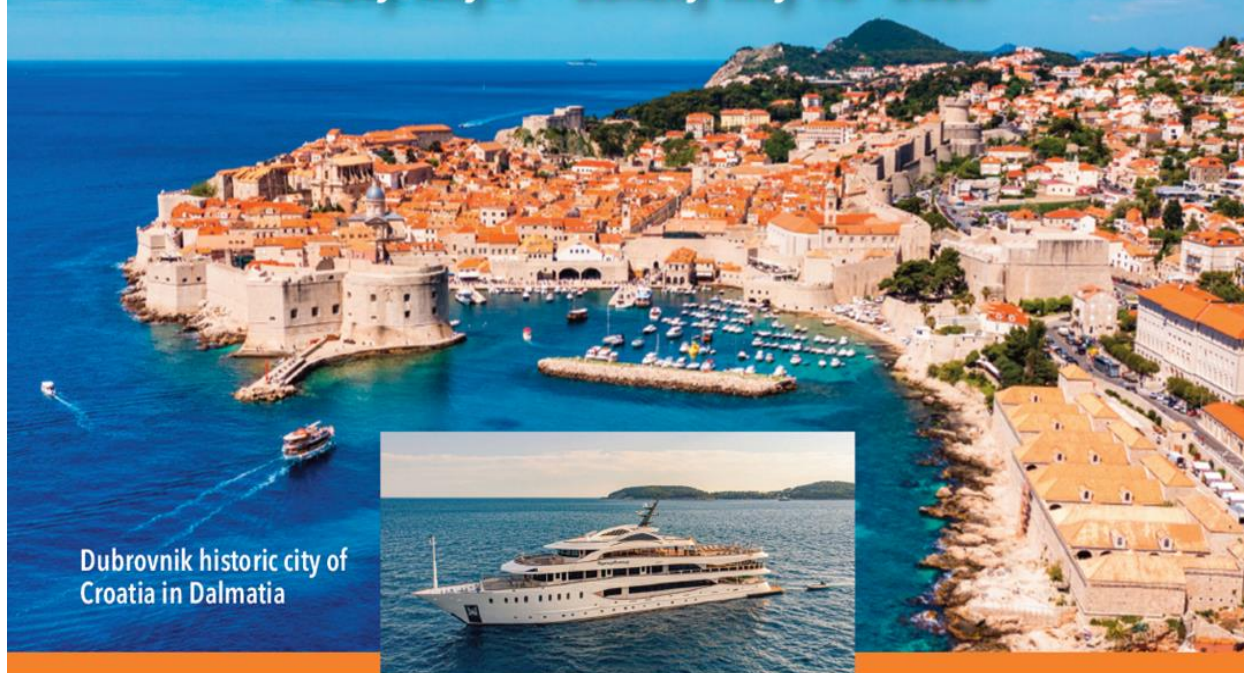


Who parks a dozen, or so, Porsches with a police escort in front of the Cathedral on “pedestrians ONLY – no cars allowed” Piazza Grande in Montepulciano? **FAST LANE TRAVEL DOES!!**



Come Join Us On This Exciting Cruise

Friday May 9th - Sunday May 18th, 2025



Dubrovnik historic city of Croatia in Dalmatia

The Symphony • A private, all Inclusive, exclusive luxury yacht cruise.

What is meant by all inclusive?

- Arrival – one-night stay in a 5-star hotel in Dubrovnik. We recommend at least a one-day early arrival to get over jet lag.
- All transfers, airport & ship.
- Exclusive accommodation on board.
- All meals, including scrumptious dining with local wines to complement the experience.
- All drinks (premium brands such as Grey Goose, for example).
- Seven (7) wonderful Shore excursions, local markets, great shopping, and amazing history back from the Romans to WW II.
- All water sports activities.
- Fuel, 19% taxes, port charges and fees, etc.
- 20% gratuities for the crew, included

AMENITIES, TENDER & WATER TOYS

- 5 x Stand-up Paddleboards
- 2 x Jacuzzi
- 5 x Kayaks
- 1 x Seapool
- 1 x Pool
- 1 x Jetski
- 1 x Banana
- 1 x Sauna
- 1 x Seabob
- 1 x Tube
- 1 x Outdoor Gym
- 1 x Water slide
- Waterski's
- 1 x Massage Salon

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