FAST LANE TRAVEL®

Life in the FAST LANE

#7 / Issue #311 **Saturday, February 14th, 2026**

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50 YEARS 1974 - 2024

TO: Our Fast Lane Travel Family in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Dubai, Ecuador, all of Europe, Iceland, Iceland, Japan, Kuwait, New Zealand, South Africa, and the USA!

Featured Trip: “Twelve Alpine Passes”

If you’re going to indulge in one extraordinary adventure in 2026, let it be this one—our **Twelve Alpine Passes Driving Tour**, where **luxury isn’t an upgrade… it’s the foundation.** This is Europe at its most dramatic, its most refined, its most breathtaking—and you’re invited to experience it in a way very few ever do.

If you’ve ever dreamed of tracing ribbons of road through storybook mountains, breathing in crisp Alpine air, and savoring world-class hospitality at the end of every day, then I have the perfect adventure for you. Our **2026 Twelve Alpine Passes Tour** is not just a drive - it’s a celebration of beauty, confidence, camaraderie, and pure *joy* behind the wheel.

And gentlemen, let me say this clearly:

This trip is every bit as extraordinary for women as it is for men.

In fact, many of our women guests have told us they fell in love with the Alps even more deeply than their partners did—to them, the passes weren't just thrilling roads but moving landscapes… a place where the world feels bigger, calmer, and wonderfully alive. Whether you're driving, co navigating, or soaking up the scenery, this tour embraces every traveler.

Click here for the Twelve Alpine Passes Itinerary.

Over **twelve of Europe's most iconic mountain passes**, you'll carve through the Austrian, Swiss, German, and Italian Alps in a brand-new PORSCHE of your choosing. Stelvio, Grimsel, Furka, Jaufen, Livigno, Bernina—each one a masterpiece. Each one breathtaking in its own way.

But the magic of this tour isn't only the roads, It's:

- the welcoming warmth of **Hotel Chalet Mirabell** in Italy,
- the understated elegance of the **Kempinski Engelberg**,
- the legendary hospitality in St. Moritz,
- the laughter at dinner after a day of unforgettable driving,
- and the sense of togetherness that only travel can create.

This experience is curated for comfort, excitement, great conversations, exceptional meals—and yes—moments that become cherished stories.

Fairytales, Forest Trails & Frothy Beer

by Ellie Avery, Fast Lane Luxury Travel Advisor

If you've ever imagined wandering through a real-life fairytale — complete with half-timbered villages, misty pine forests, castle silhouettes, and long wooden tables overflowing with pretzels and beer — welcome to southern Germany.

The Black Forest and Bavaria are two of Germany's most enchanting regions, offering a blend of natural beauty, cultural richness, and that unmistakable Old-World charm. Together, they create an unforgettable journey that feels both magical and grounded in centuries of tradition.

Let's explore.

The Black Forest: Where Legends Come to Life

Tucked into Germany's southwest corner, the Black Forest (Schwarzwald) is exactly what its name suggests — deep, dark evergreen forests stretching over rolling hills and winding valleys. It's the kind of place where you half-expect to see Little Red Riding Hood skip past with a basket.

Why You'll Love It

1. Storybook Scenery
Charming villages like Triberg, Gengenbach, and Schiltach look like they were plucked straight from a Brothers Grimm tale. Think of flower-filled window boxes, cobblestone lanes, and traditional farmhouses with sweeping roofs.

2. Cuckoo Clocks & Craftsmanship
The Black Forest is the birthplace of the cuckoo clock. You'll find intricate, hand-carved masterpieces that are equal parts art and engineering. Even if you don't bring one home, visiting a local workshop is a cultural experience in itself.

3. Nature at Its Best
With miles of hiking and cycling trails, the region is ideal for travelers who love the outdoors. Don't miss:

- Triberg Waterfalls — among Germany's highest
- Lake Titisee — perfect for a relaxing lakeside afternoon
- Scenic drives through the Black Forest High Road

And yes, you absolutely must try a slice of **Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte** (Black Forest cake). Rich chocolate sponge, whipped cream, cherries, and a splash of kirsch — consider it a cultural obligation.

Bavaria: Castles, Culture & Alpine Charm

Head east and the landscape shifts dramatically. Bavaria is bold, colorful, and proudly traditional — with the Alps rising dramatically in the distance.

This is the Germany most people picture.

Neuschwanstein Castle: The Real-Life Fairytale

Perched high above the village of Hohenschwangau, Neuschwanstein Castle looks like it inspired every fairytale you've ever seen — because it did. Commissioned by King Ludwig II in the 19th century, it's pure romantic fantasy set against a dramatic Alpine backdrop.

Arrive early, take the scenic walk up, and don't forget to pause at Marienbrücke for the postcard-perfect view.

Munich: Tradition Meets Sophistication

Bavaria's capital blends royal history with modern energy.

Spend your days:

- Exploring Marienplatz and the Glockenspiel
- Touring Nymphenburg Palace
- Strolling through the English Garden

And your evenings?
At a traditional beer hall, of course.

The Hofbräuhaus is iconic, but smaller local beer gardens offer a more relaxed, authentic vibe. Order a Maß (liter of beer), share a giant pretzel, and embrace the communal tables — Bavaria is built on gemütlichkeit, a feeling of warmth, friendliness, and belonging.

Why Pair the Black Forest and Bavaria?

Together, these regions create the perfect balance:

- The Black Forest offers quiet charm, folklore, and forested tranquility.
- Bavaria delivers grandeur, Alpine drama, and lively cultural traditions.

It's an itinerary that moves from intimate villages to soaring castles, from peaceful woodland trails to clinking beer steins in bustling squares.

The Black Forest and Bavaria aren't just destinations — they're experiences. They invite you to slow down, savor tradition, and step into a world where nature and heritage intertwine beautifully. Whether you're hiking through pine-scented trails, admiring castle spires against the Alps, or raising a glass in a centuries-old beer hall, this enchanting region of Germany has a way of capturing your imagination — and keeping it.

Travel Tip

Bring one flawless outfit that makes *you* feel extraordinary. Alpine dinners in luxury hotels deserve a little glamour—and the photos you'll take against snow-capped peaks will thank you.

Pack a lightweight, stylish scarf. Not only is it perfect for breezy mountain viewpoints and al fresco lunches, but it also adds warmth on airplanes, folds neatly into your handbag or daypack, and looks great in photos. (The Alps are astonishing, trust me, you'll want pictures!)

Jokes of the Day

- *I told my suitcase we weren't going on vacation this year. Now I'm dealing with emotional baggage!*
- *Why don't mountains ever get cold? Because they wear snow caps!*

Final Thoughts

If you've been thinking about treating yourself—really treating yourself—to an experience that combines elegance, excitement, world-class accommodations, and the joy of European summer… this is the one.

This isn't just a drive.
This is the Alps at their finest, with the people who do travel best.
A once-in-a-lifetime adventure designed for everyone—women, men, couples, friends, and anyone ready to feel *alive* again.

Reserve early—PORSCHE allocations go quickly.
And as always, **we're here to make it effortless.**

Please visit www.fastlanetravel.com **for all our fabulous tours!**

My Fond Memories

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Please stay healthy and happy. I'm looking forward to the great times we will have together again with my Team on one of the fabulous PORSCHE tours we are planning for 2026. All the best to you, **Peter**