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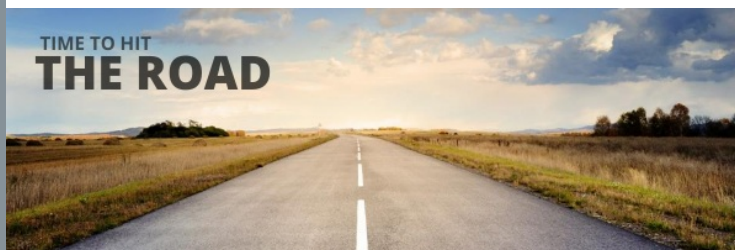


**Trip Quest Travel Services**

## Dear Traveling Friends,

You'd have to be crazy to not be totally "over" this tragic pandemic. As we have starts and stops along the way to opening up our country and having our kids and grandkids back in school, take heart that the future is always full of possibilities. Interested in a road trip or a train ride? Some ideas are below! Wondering about your return to river cruising or that long-awaited trip to Alaska or Hawaii? Beginning this month, I have again been planning adventures abroad for clients in 2021. Call and let's look at ideas together with an eye to the future!

Have a great month,  
Lauren



- **Do you even need a travel agent for road trips?**

With the virus still nipping at our heels, many of our clients have enjoyed planning road trips where they have a bit more control over their surroundings. From my friends' Facebook postings, many of these have been to the beaches and to the mountains. However, there are lots of other more extensive road trips that are fun to plan! Do you need a travel agent for trips like these? Sometimes.....but not often. What does it depend on? I believe that if you have a secure place already rented or owned where you are going and you will stay there, of course you can do this by yourself.

If you have a series of stops along a journey (like touring the West Coast, the National Parks, or New England), I am happy to call upon my experience and contacts to plan this for you for a modest fee.

- **What's the best way to plan for all the packing?**

After consideration of the where, when, and with whom, come the last minute packing preparations! Time, energy, and finances are valuable commodities when you are away and these pointers will help you make the most of all.

As you pack, leave your big suitcase in the car most of the time. Every few days, repack a duffel to carry into the motel at night with toiletries and clothes. This will save valuable time and energy and make that tense time repacking each day a little easier. A time-saving alternative I have discovered is to buy the "cubes" which are zippered, soft-sided, and come in many shapes, sizes, and colors.

Plan for layers and colors that coordinate and you will need fewer clothing pieces. Always bring at least two pairs of comfortable broken-in shoes. The best for me are a pair of walking/tennis shoes and the second should be a comfortable pair of shoes that fits the weather, such as sandals or a loafer-style closed shoe. This is not the time for anything fancy or "heelish." If this road trip is a summer one, bring that bathing suit. Some of my best adventures have been

improved by dangling toes in roadside brooks when the spirit beckons.

- Everyone loves a list - have one for me?

Consider the ages and interests of all when you decide what else to bring. Most people need the following as a basic list:

- Camera (or good cell phone for pictures!)
- Chargers for electronics
- Flashlight (or get an App for your phone light Maglight)
- First Aid Kit and jumper cables to handle potential people and car minor emergencies
- Medicines (headache, stomach, prescription, allergy, for example)
- Wet wipes, sanitizer, and spot removers (for the inevitable chocolate ice cream cone that loses its shape all over your new shirt)
- Mid-sized cooler with hard sides for healthy and cost-saving snacks and lunches as you travel

Next month, I will discuss finances, good apps to use, and how best to divide the labor that goes into excellent trip planning and execution!

## Ever Thought about a Great Train Ride?

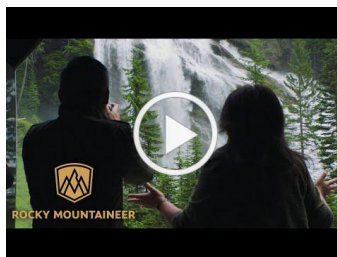


Many of you think of me for planning your land and cruise trips to other countries. Want to do something different for next summer that doesn't require a trip across the ocean? Consider a ride

on the Rocky Mountaineer railway in Western Canada. 2020 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the largest privately owned luxury tourist train company in the world. Aboard the domed train, clients take in scenery; spot wildlife; hear fascinating storytellers; and marvel at this feat of engineering as the train meanders through mountainous terrain.

Rocky Mountaineer hires executive chefs trained in Michelin-rated restaurants and five-star hotels to create fabulous on-board meals and snacks. The good news is that the train is the daytime vehicle and the night brings stops at some of Canada's prestigious hotel partners - all included!

Traveling eastbound is one of my favorite ways to experience the beauty and awe-inspiring scenery. Departing from Vancouver, the hills turn to mountains, and then to glaciers. The wildlife grows in so many numbers! At last you are rewarded with the fabulous cities of Jasper, Lake Louise, and Banff before flying home from Calgary.

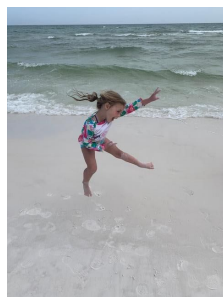


Above is a quick one minute video link - enjoy the ride! This trip is designed for all levels of fitness. All of your luggage and transfers are handled for you and the tours can be chosen to be more or less active. These sell out quickly and would be an opportunity you'd

want to call me about while they are still running specials for next summer.

## Trip Quest Travelers

July was a time for catching up with clients in Tennessee and Kentucky and spending time with grandchildren at "Lollie and Granddaddy" camp. My assistant, Liza Dozier, had a fabulous trip to Destin, Florida while her son headed to Oregon for a "first time alone" journey to see family and try out the local golf courses and hiking,



## Quick Links for Group Travel

With our other group cruise to the Douro being cancelled this May, several of our travelers have "jumped ship," and we now have 27 joining us next March on the ocean liner, Viking Star, a small ship with a great itinerary in the Mediterranean and in small Greek and Croatian ports. If you want to know more, click and then give me a call for pricing. I just added two more to this and there was still availability!

[Iconic Adriatic Antiquities](#)



## The Holy Land

Our Israel and Egypt trip this year had to be postponed! A November 1 departure in 2021 will be perfect. New brochures have been printed - email me and I will send you one! We have 20+ going and will have room for about 10 more.



[Bible Land Exploration Brochure](#)

### Fun Fact:

- Israel is the only country in the world that has more trees today than it had 50 years ago.
- Israel has more museums per capita than any other country, including the world's only underwater museum!



[Email me here!](#)

## About Me!

I am Lauren Williams, a partner in Trip Quest Travel Services for the past five years. Moving from three decades in education to becoming a travel consultant has caused me to shift from "The Doctor of Education" to "The Doctor of Travel." My clients are often just like me – they want a rejuvenating vacation that teaches them about the world and the cultures around them. I love beautiful scenery, exploring new places, and learning something new every day! Aside from travel, I stay busy with my husband, Steve, and our four children and twelve grandchildren. Staying active in the church and in our community feeds our soul as well. I love to play tennis, pickleball, and bridge when I am not helping clients plan that perfect trip! Because our world is so much smaller now, I am happy to work with clients wherever they might live...but by referral only! Hope you enjoy my monthly newsletter – let me know if there is something you'd like to know more about!

