





**Trip Quest Travel Services** 

## **Dear Traveling Friends,**

It is with much excitement that we celebrate the home of the brave and the land of the free. How wonderful to live in the U.S.A. where we have diverse opinions on almost everything but in most cases can figure out how to live together fairly well! The optimist in me thinks that the virus is mostly behind us and the fun planning of the rest of our lives is in front of us.

Happy July, Lauren



When I decided to embark on this second career, I wanted to transfer what had made me successful in managing schools and students for over thirty years to planning and managing clients' travel experiences. My clients can always rely on the following attributes:

Ability: When I was an educator, I wanted to be the most knowledgeable teacher I could be. I wanted to learn "why Johnny couldn't read" and provide a solution. So I continued a lifetime of learning. Likewise, in becoming a travel advisor, my personal travel experiences helped, but I worked hard to get industry certifications in many destinations that my target clients would want to visit.....Alaska, Europe, Hawaii, and beyond! By hard, that also meant investing in traveling to those destinations as well as "book learning!" I always keep a list of what destinations I want to learn more about and a specific timeline for doing just that. To be an effective travel advisor, I share what I know and continue learning what I do not.

Reliability: As an educator I had to be reliable...every day and every minute! My main job as a principal at the school carnival was to be sure the trash was emptied. I say that to let you know that I am reliable in the big areas of your trip as well as the little details. Being punctual, consistent, and responsive are qualities appreciated by both the novice and experienced traveler.

Integrity: This word is important in every aspect of my life and is one that I have "hung my hat on" ever since my dad told me to always tell the truth so that you will remember what you said! As a follower of Jesus Christ, I try to treat people with kindness, empathy, and compassion and possess a strong moral compass. I keep confidences and am truthful and sincere. I appreciated the same in my students, parents, and teachers; and now appreciate this in my clients!

When you are ready to travel again, I will be here with ability, reliability, and integrity. I appreciate the trust many of you have put in me to guide your vacation plans in the past and look forward to planning many new adventures for you in the future!

I flew to Sarasota on June 7 and wanted to share the experience with my traveling friends. The Atlanta airport was very quiet with just a few restaurants and shops open. All were asked to wear their masks when close to other passengers boarding the plane and on the plane. You could, of course, remove your mask to enjoy the quart-sized bag



that you were given complete with sanitizer, a bottled water, a Kind Bar, and a small bag of almonds. The plane was about a third full...my kind of a plane trip!

# **Trip Quest Travelers**

Clients have spent this past month staying close to home with retreats to the mountains or the ocean. But...we have spent the past week with our four children and 13 grandchildren plus some wonderful bonus family in Sanibel!









# **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 24 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 as this one will likely fill up in the next couple of months.

Iconic Adriatic Antiquitie



# The Holy Land

Our Israel and Egypt trip this year had to be postponed! I think we could have traveled until the Augusta National rescheduled their tournament for the very week we would be away. While that was fine with some of our travelers, others either work at the tournament or are already traveling or have house guests that week. So...we were fortunate enough to move the date to next November with more than twenty going. Of course, this does give us lots of time if you are reading this and want to join us on  $% \left\{ 1,2,\ldots ,n\right\}$ November 1, 2021.

#### **Fun Fact:**

Getting food to rural and long distance areas can be the difference between life and death. Israelis have invented a drone that delivers medical supplies in Rwanda.





### 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!

