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Trip Quest Travel Services

Dear Traveling Friends,

September has arrived – I think I even felt a breath of cooler air once this week! Even though football season is not exactly how we envisioned it and the Masters will be strangely different from previous years, I am so glad to see that most of our children and grandchildren are back in school in some semblance of normalcy. What do these changes

mean for me in the travel business? While 2020 has been a bust in terms of fulfilling our bucket list adventures, 2021 looks like a renewed possibility. Many of you have rolled your trips over to 2021 – let's stay optimistic that we are a "go" for those! Enjoy some ideas below of a Galapagos Bucket list trip for 2022, and for those who want to stay closer to home and enjoy the fall temperatures, read below for some more road trips planning ideas!



Have a great month!

Lauren



Last month we explored some of the best ways to prepare for a road trip since traveling out of the country has been sidelined for now. We talked about destinations, lists, and packing tips. This month, let's look at finances, division of labor, and free apps you might want to download!

How much cash should you carry? Although cash is the easiest to use and often makes splurge purchases not so attractive, it is not advisable to carry more than a few hundred dollars or more than you can afford to lose. Locking all but the needed cash in the glove compartment is another strategy to keep your money safe.

Tend to the division of labor that works in your family. Discuss ahead of time which of you will pack the car, plan snacks, and navigate. The "planner" of the group might also want to assemble a short list of interesting restaurants at overnight location before you depart.

As you begin the journey, several free or nearly free apps can help make the most of your time. When it comes to planning and taking a vacation on the road, travelers are relying on their smartphones more than ever. Travel apps are not only a source of inspiration but also extremely useful for booking and managing logistics – even making restaurant reservations or finding a great fitness class! Apps can help you navigate a new city; currency conversions, or provide on-the-ground local expertise.

Here are some favorites for you to Google and learn more about:

- Although it does not work on secondary roads, **iExit** shows services at upcoming interstate exits. There are ways you can even make notes for the future and get more details about each business.
- **TripIt** de-clutters your itineraries and documents by keeping them organized in one place.
- **Roadtrippers** allows you to plan out your driving route while also being useful for finding interesting and off-the-beaten path roadside attractions as well as cool restaurants and can't-miss landmarks you can bookmark. There is a free version as well as one with offline maps and live traffic info and more for \$29 per year.
- **Waze** is a great app to help you navigate around accidents, road construction, and even lets you know if police are nearby (just in case you like to press that accelerator a little too hard!).

Enjoy the journey as well as the destination!

An Amazing Bucket List Trip Who wants to go with us?



On my bucket list for the past two years has been the Islands of the Galapagos. We are thinking of 2022 for this amazing journey of 11-16 days with a small group. Located 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador, the Galapagos archipelago of unspoiled, isolated islands will welcome you with its rugged charms and evolutionary wonders. Consisting of 19 islands and 42 islets that all rose from the sea as the product of volcanic eruptions, these islands are between three million and four million years old.

Completely oceanic – meaning they've never been connected to the mainland – the Galapagos Islands are truly a world apart. The history of the Galapagos is rich and diverse, with tales of basic survival and extraordinary discovery. For any modern adventurer, a journey through time to the Galapagos is a dream vacation. You will see each step of the way with the assistance of world-renowned marine biologists.

The animals of the Galapagos are unlike any others on Earth. Apart from having no natural fear of humans, they evolved in entirely unique manners, which are on full display daily for you to see. This includes enormous 100-year-old Galapagos giant tortoises, free-diving marine iguanas, the beautiful and animated blue-footed boobies, and a host of other exotic fauna found nowhere else.

Click Below for 2 Sample Galapagos Itineraries

10 & 11 NIGHT - INNER LOOP
CRUISE WITH QUITO,
ECUADOR



10&11-Night Northern Loop cruise
with Quito, Ecuador

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

Fun Facts About Israel:

- Voicemail technology was developed in Israel.
- Israel is home to the world's only theater company comprised entirely of deaf and blind actors.
- Life expectancy in Israel is among the highest in the world at 82 years.



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 thirteen 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!

