

#### Hello to you all near and far!

Well, well...how many have completely forgotten about that L O N G, dry summer? Or the fact that 1 month ago it was still still nearly 30 degrees?



It is definitely time for soups and tea!.... and while many of you know I LOVE Halloween, (this was the "Haunted Hubbard Hill" from last year) I am definitely excited at the remaining months of the year and looking forward to the next one!

I am not at all trying to rush these weeks past, although a bit of holiday spirit is always welcomed around here,

especially since the mornings are so dreary.

For those of you that made it to the Travel Expo a couple weeks ago......I hope you managed with the crowds! It was a busier day than any of us could have anticipated, and for that reason, we consider it a success! Thank you to all who came out, who popped by to say hello and I enjoyed it thoroughly.

My feet say otherwise.

What I value the most from these events is the opportunity to get *up-fron*t and chat *in-person* with the reps, especially those I have not met.

I shared a lot about the Flying Solo Travel Club and so many were very excited to discuss how they could *fit* with the club.

Not all travel styles work for all of you, and I keep that in mind.

BUT! I keep digging and working behind the scenes to make sure I keep up to date with what is suitable for the club or opportunities not to be missed!

I am happy to share a few things with you all for consideration, but keep in mind.....

just like traffic signs in Italy, they are only suggestions

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First and very importantly, I have arranged for another meet up evening, with a special, Flying Solo Travel Club presentation



# Monday, November 21st, 530 pm Tap & Barrell Olympic Village registration <u>HERE</u> through Eventbrite

Fiona (the rep for the Globus, Avalon & Cosmos) and I met for coffee on Wednesday and ironed out some really great itineraries for next year that I think many of you will find appealing.

With that said, in the meantime I encourage you to check out the Globus site directly, <u>HERE</u> for some great tour options. They have a very user-friendly site where you can search based on destination, or travel style, and many of their small group departures have (legitimately) waived supplements for the first 5 solos on tour!

Their marketing team deserves special margarita with their fitting tag to promote their <u>Escapes by Globus off Season Tours</u>.

"Thinner crowds, Thicker Wallets"

These tours run from October to the beginning of April, with some promotions working out to 40% of the normal tour price.

A couple of the most popular that I would like to throw out there for folks looking for a potential getaway sooner than later:



Egyptian Escape with Nile Cruise prices starting from \$2639 CA

North of Ireland Escape

prices starting from \$1169 for January 
April departures



There will be a few others that we will look at during the presentation at the Tap & Barrel including:

<u>Independant South Africa & Victoria</u> in October/November <u>Northern Italy's Highlights Including Cinque Terre</u> -May/June

I am also excited to share that I have arranged with Fiona to secure 5 cabins with Avalon for their <u>Danube Dreams</u> including 2 nights in Prague next September!

Pricing for a Category E Cabin would be \$5040 CAD including taxes, and there are also few cabins available with NO SOLO supplement!

We all know River Cruising can be pricy for solos, and I feel September would give plenty of time for those interested to get together, see if there are some compatible personalities and if sharing is an option. I will be joining on this sailing as well so really excited to put together a fun group to sail along the Danube!

Message me directly if you are interested-

Having just mentioned that significantly reduced/waived supplements are not that common for river cruises, the same can be said in the past for those luxury cruise lines. However, COVID has in some ways been a blessing for the solo travel industry as many operators have altered their business and marketing strategies business strategies to maximize now on the solo market.

ALWAYS read between the lines and the fine print, but there

are some deals that I know will be exciting for some of you.



#### PAUL GAUGUIN

These ships are smaller (yachts or under 700 guests) typically all inclusive, and provide above and beyond service for the duration of your trip.

If this is the type of experience you are looking for....

Has window/porthole cabins with no supplement for the sailings below:

Tahiti & the Society Islands | 7-night

June 17, 2023 | June 24, 2023 | May 6, 2023

Cook Islands & Society Islands | 11-night

May 20, 2023

The links will take you to itinerary details and pricing, and please let me know if you have any questions, would like to confirm availability....or ask me to try and find someone else interested!

#### **PONANT**

A French cruiseline backed by large wallets, that took significant advantage of the COVID break to renovate and refurbish their entire fleet! I have mentioned them in the past, as they have a comfortable luxury to make you feel right at home on their ships, unique itineraries and absolutely AMAZING food.



WELCOME OFFER

All their butter on board for their rolls come pre-wrapped and are prepared in small lots at a family owned dairy outside of Paris. Not that you would choose a cruiseline because of butter of course....

...but waived supplements may just be enough

Yes. PONANT has a number of waived supplement cabins on ALL of their sailings...an



PONANT YACHT CLUB®

I have handpicked a couple really neat sailings and secured 3 cabins, with waived supplements on the sailings listed below:

Secrets of the Yucatan- aboard Le Bellot December 16th, 2022- \$5467 USD solo Antique Wonders of the Aegean- aboard Le Lyerial July 24th, 2023-\$6730 USD Solo Gloucester to Belize City- aboard Le Dumont-D'Urville November 6th, 2023-\$2450 USD Solo

I also had a couple local ladies reach out with interest in a Trafalgar Trip for next Spring....they are curious to know if anyone else may be interested?





## 12 <u>Day Singapore and Malaysia</u> Currently \$4185 dbl occupancy, solo pricing \$5215

### Saving the best for last...

many of you have mentioned you would be interested in an experience that was focused on food and cooking.

Well, I am finally ready to share something *PERFECT* for you!

I have started a partnership with a company called

<u>The International Kitchen</u>

that specializes in culinary vacations and private cooking classes.

Ranging anywhere from a day or 2, to a week and above, these amazing itineraries can be customized specifically for the solo travel club, or they have a number of tour dates that are already guaranteed where solos are welcome to join. ANYTHING is possible.

So, curious to know if a few of you would like to explore a custom trip to Paris, that includes the 6-night <u>Cuisine and Culture of Provence</u>?

Thinking June 2023....but open to working with those interested of course.

So, a bit to think about for the next few weeks, and of course I am always here for your questions or to assist with anything else you may want to explore.

Hope to see you at the Tap and Barrel!