





Martha Good

BESPOKĖ LUXURY TRAVEL

RA Rodgers & Associates

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Introduction

- Travel advisor specializing in curated, luxury travel
- Extensive travel around the US and internationally
- Departure Lounge is based in Austin, TX.
- Approximately 90 advisors, part of the Virtuoso network





Overview

- Selecting the destination
 - Are US visitors allowed?
 - What is required to enter the country?
- Selecting the property and operators
 - Changes at the property
 - Tour operator precautions
- Traveling safely
 - Airplane safety
 - Precautions once in your destination
- Other considerations
 - Cruise precautions
 - Expectations
- Ideas of places to go



Are you ready to travel?

- Deciding when you are ready to travel is a personal decision
- It should be stress and guilt free
- Everyone has a different threshold for risk
- Different factors, high-risk, elderly parents, ability to quarantine



Selecting your destination

- What is the purpose of your trip?
 - Wellness, relaxation, active, etc.
- Domestic or international?
 - Are there domestic restrictions?
 - Quarantine requirements once back in home state



- Are US visitors allowed in country? Are there specific state-restrictions?
- Does the destination require a negative Covid-test prior to arrival?
 - How recent does the test need to be?
 - Get the test requirements directly from the country's government (tourism board, department of health).
 - What tests are accepted? Example: PCR test (not an antibody test, not a rapid test).
 - Check with your local physician in advance to confirm availability, schedule and test result waittime

Selecting your destination

- Is insurance required, and if so, what coverage is needed?
- Stay up-to-date as changes to regulations and requirements are regularly occurring
- Are there follow-up testing requirements once in-country?



Selecting the property and tour operators

- What is their cancellation and refund policy?
 - Is there flexible booking available?
- What is the financial commitment?
 - What deposit is required?
 - What is the payment plan?
- Looking for deals
 - Using caution when selecting based on price
 - Financial solvency of the property/operator
- Does the property or cruise line require a Covid-test?
- What precautions are they taking due to Covid?
 - Room vacancies
 - Limited capacity
 - Cleaning protocols
 - Regulations of staff wearing masks and testing



Selecting the property and tour operators

- What is the lay-out of the property
 - Stand-alone units, private villas
 - The pathway to your room
- What amenities are currently unavailable?
 - Spa, restaurants, fitness, etc.
 - Adjustments to house-keeping and room amenities
- How is food being prepared and served?
 - Are reservations required, limited capacity?
- Private tours and transfers
 - Size of vehicles?
 - How are they sanitizing the vehicles?
 - Regulations of staff wearing masks and testing



Traveling Safely: Airplane safety

- Compare flying private
- Check with airline for policies on middle/empty seats
- Try to get nonstop
- Change in boarding protocol
- Mask requirements
 - Most airlines will not allow an N-95 mask or bandana
 - Eye-wear or full face mask
- Check the seat map the day prior to departure
- Bring hand sanitizer, up to 12 ounces, and disinfectant wipes for your seat and tray table.
- Disposable gloves
- Allow extra time to get through TSA



Traveling Safely: Airplane safety

- Keep small items (cell phone, wallet, passport) in your carry-on during screening to avoid putting them in the bin.
- Is your airport lounge operating? What vendors are open?
- Bring your own food, and keep food items in a clear plastic bag to avoid having to open them during a screening.
- Bring an empty water bottle
- Recheck your flight schedule regularly, sign up for alerts
- Avoid checking if possible. If not, keep spare clothes and medicine in carry-on.



Traveling Safely: Precautions at destination

- Arrive rested and healthy
 - Extra sleep prior to travel
 - Vitamin and supplements if you take them
 - Well-hydrated
- Check with property prior to reserving about social distancing and cleaning protocol
- Use disinfectant wipes at room upon arrival, especially on high-touch surfaces (light switches, remote controls)
- Have extra masks on-hand



Road Trip Safety

- Plan your route and stops
 - Check what is open
 - Gas stations, restaurants, hotels
 - Rest stops
- What are the local restrictions?
 - Indoor dining, weather conditions
- Any environmental issues?
 - Fires in the west, hurricane season
- Double check vehicle safety and condition
 - May not be driving as often as normal
 - \circ Not the time you want to break down



Cruising in the future

- What precautions are they taking?
- What entertainment is available on ship?
- How is food being served?
- Flexibility in deposits and payment timeline
- Choosing a cabin that is off the "beaten path"
- Smaller ships
- Look for refurbished ships
- Covid-testing requirements
- How are itinerary changes handled?
- Understand the guidelines and severity of breaking the rules



Expectations

- Understanding that things will be different than they were pre-pandemic
 - Properties continue to adjust as needed
 - Make reservations
- Changes in regulations and requirements for entry
- Flights may change last minute
- Be cautious with financial commitments
- Be flexible, relaxed attitude
- Use a travel professional to help navigate the process
- Buy travel insurance and check the coverage and fine print prior to purchase
 - Check for CFAR coverage



Places to go: Domestic Wellness Retreats

Miraval Arizona Resort and Spa

- Situated on 400 acres in the Santa Catalina Mountains in northern Tucson, AZ
- 145 Rooms and Suites
- Over 120 complimentary wellness activities, lectures and fitness classes weekly
- No-tipping resort







Miraval Arizona Resort and Spa





Miraval Arizona Resort and Spa





Places to go: Domestic Wellness Retreats

The Ranch Malibu

- Historic working ranch 3 miles above the Pacific Ocean, spanning 200 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains
- Luxury boot camp with a 45% return rate
- Each day features 8 hours of exercise including daily hikes, core and ab workouts, body toning and sculpting, restorative yoga sessions, nap time and deep tissue massage







The Ranch Malibu





The Ranch Malibu





Places to go: Turks and Caicos

Current requirements to enter (subject to change)

- Valid travel insurance and mandated medical coverage for all passengers which includes Covid-19 coverage
- A negative PCR Covid-test within 5 days of arrival
- Apply for travel authorization before arrival date to the island by completing the form via the TCI Assured Portal. All documents including test results, travel/medical insurance must be uploaded electronically to the portal in order to be granted entry.



Places to go: Turks and Caicos

The Shore Club

- Long Beach Bay, One of Condé Nast Traveler "10 Best Island Beaches around the World,"
- 32 suites and villas
- Three restaurants, Four pools including one adults-only







The Shore Club





The Shore Club





Places to go: Turks and Caicos

Grace Bay Club

- Situated on 11 acres of immaculate beach of Grace Bay
- 88 suites and villas
- Gorgeous villas from 2-9 bedrooms
- Leading Hotel of the World



Grace Bay Club





Grace Bay Club





Places to go: Mexico

One&Only Mandarina

- Brand new build, opened November 1, 2020
- 45 minutes from Puerto Vallarta, close to Punta Mita
- 104 Luxury treehouses and villas built in the jungles along the Pacific Coast



OneColy Mandarina





OneColy Mandarina





Places to go: Mexico

Grand Velas Riviera Maya

- Upscale, all-inclusive resort
- Family-friendly with an adults-only area
- 89,000 sq ft spa with 40 treatment rooms including a clay room, ice room, polar pool and color showers



Grand Velas Riviera Maya



Grand Velas Riviera Maya





Places to go: Costa Rica

El Silencio Lodge and Spa

- 500-acre private reserve nestled deep in the cloud forest
- Eco-lodge with 20 freestanding accommodations, suites and villas
- Hiking, waterfalls, hummingbird gardens, horseback riding



El Silencio Lodge and Spa





El Silencio Lodge and Spa





Places to go: Costa Rica

Andaz Papagayo

- 1,400-acre natural playground, mountain biking, zip lining, hiking
- 153 deluxe rooms, 3 restaurants, 2 cascading infinity pools
- Soak in hot-springs or charter a yacht and explore the ocean



Andaz Papagayo



Croatia







Ecuador





Egypt









St. Lucia









Questions or comments?

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