



The do everything vacation Blog:

So, it begins: The point

I have some good friends that kept our high school alumni alive. They organized many great functions to meet. After the 30-yr. reunion it was time to move on so we thought. Yet, a group of us are still friends. Why stop being friends? I agree. So, a group of ladies and a few of us guys decided to meet every so often for drinks or dinner. From that point on we roller-skated, attended concerts and sports games together. We are quite the group of 50 somethings.

Then I got it in my head that I wanted to go on a big trip to Europe. Who knows if it's a one-time deal. Then it occurred to me and some others in our group could go. Make it a 55-year kind of retirement vacation. Call it what you want. Some are retiring while others are still working. It's a chance to do something most high schoolers don't do: do life together forever.

I was asked to make a Facebook page. I did. This would become a 5-year plan. Why on earth 5 years! I felt some could afford it right away. Others needed time to save. I wanted enough time to save a big amount. A really big amount. I felt that together we could organize and plan a trip. A cruise trip through the Mediterranean. People were receptive. So here we are planning a high school field trip.

Five years is a long time to plan a trip. Won't it peter out? It has not. Many have inquired. This trip has been planned the whole time. Some of us have attended seminars for cruise lines. Others have tested cruise boats to see what they like. We have studied this as a group. There are just less than three years to go.

For the last two years we have studied what we could do. The time has now come to plan the trip. Yes, we have three years to go but the plan is not an easy one. Each person wants different things. Some can afford different things. There are tastes and desires in a vacation. Try and plan a common cruise vacation with different people in different lives. The good news is the people. We are different but this group is also the same. We desire to do life together. We want our friendship. I have gained more friends from high school because of it.

That's the point. We are doing a vacation within different lives together. That will be a challenge. Yet, knowing these people it won't be all that hard. Over the next 35 months I will blog how we pulled it off. There is a ton to do. We will probably be booking this trip within a year from now. All the study work is done: mostly. It's time to sit down and hammer out a great vacation traveling to such places as London, Rome, Athens, and more by possibly cruise, train, ferry, plane, and maybe even river cruise.

The first two years of the plan was not about waiting. We have talked and talked about what it could look like. I asked everyone to save. Recently one girl not from our high school wanted to join. I say yes come along. She saw the plan and was excited. Others have taken the idea and gone on their own. That is cool. This trip is not for everyone, but the idea is. Dream of Europe. Save for Greece. Think about the places you want to see. That is where we are right now.