



## **The do everything vacation Blog:**

### *Creating a trip: An interesting twist*

Like I had reported in previous blogs, I never saw cancer coming. The plan was to get through treatment and go to Australia in December. I never saw another surgery coming and three trips to the hospital. That bombed Australia. What does all this have to do with an Italy trip 21 months away? What happens if you have to move a vacation?

This is interesting and frustrating all at the same time. I am fascinated by the process of a vacation. Do you pick a flight early? Sometimes you get a great deal. Yet, if sickness strikes you're locked into the flight. Many airlines will let you move the flight but it's a pain. There could be extra fees too. This leads me to think that paying a little bit closer to the vacation is safer, smarter, and you save almost nothing. The trip insurance or flight cancellation insurance seem to add up to the same thing. Book closer than earlier.

But Patrick, I will be going. Cancer or cancellation is rare. It could be. In 53 years, I have only moved a flight once. That was fun. They moved my flight time and cut my trip time. So, I was able to move the flight. This time I need to move the flight because of illness. Further to that, we are having some trouble moving the cruise. I guess the deposit is the deposit with some

cruise deals. Yes, I was warned I could lose it if I cancelled. Do I lose it if I need to move the cruise date? It's tricky. Princess cruises has placed my deposit on a certain boat at a certain date. They are not that keen on moving it to another boat and time.

This is why I'm interested. The deposit is 400 dollars. I am scheduled to pay 4000 more soon. This cruise line is stubborn to keep 400. Yet, they are willing to lose the 4000 on a different cruise. Oh, I will never use them again if I can't move 400. They don't want my other 4000, fine! Yes, the illness is my problem. However, where is customer service? We want to stay with them.

Like I said, I am learning. I love booking and planning over a period of time. I think next trip I will plan it all in advance. Then when I have the time off, I will look for the best fit of a flight and cruise. Were working on Scotland. We want to stay there a month or more house sitting. It would be awesome. I am shy of booking too soon. I really never thought illness was a factor. How naive, eh?

Try and have avenues out of a trip. Maybe book the flights as late as possible. Same with rooms if you can. We were able to cancel Airbnb. I quite possibly can get the money back from our Opera tickets in Sydney. That one is just unfortunate. Thank goodness I did not buy the bridge climbing tickets at 800 bucks. There are times you have to buy early like Christmas. What I'm saying is have fun but be mindful that we're only frail humans prone to accidents and sickness.