



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

### *Crossing over: checking things out*

The more things change the more they stay the same. A boat is crucial, yet, it's not. An itinerary is crucial, yet it's not. Molding a trip comes from investigation. It comes from knowing yourself. What are you really wanting to see? Do you have a bucket list? My Australia cruise in December is a great test. I have dug into the city websites. Most cities also have a travel page. Sometimes great deals are found in these websites. What's really critical is that you dig deep.

Our first trip to Hawaii had some hick ups. I took an excursion to a luau. It was fine except it happened right off the plane. To be fair, we had so little time in Hawaii. I rented a limo to get us to the hotel. It was nice but not needed. My wife planned a ghost tour. It was an interesting disaster. She still complains about it. Probably the best thing we did was the trolley ride around the island. It was cheap and a tour all rolled into one.

We are going to skip most of the excursions on this Aussie cruise. They are way overpriced. Further to that is the city tourist websites. I have realized that Melbourne and Sidney have great bus, boat, and train connections from the dock. It's cheap and like the Hawaii trolley tour. In Puerto Rico we took a bus tour. In the end, we should have walked near the boat. It's

hard to tell sometimes. Recently, I have checked out reviews on Trip advisor. It's really helpful. What are the majority saying? Scroll down and read many reviews. Don't just look at the first few. look at the dates too. Old reviews are sometimes fixed and outdated. Dig deep.

I am digging into this 2021 cruise deep. What does Santorini have to offer. Apparently, their wine is outstanding. I'm thinking of a private tour of the coliseum in Rome. A friend says the flights and trains are cheap in Europe. What does that mean? My wife has been digging into Sicily. I never thought of that. The Euro dollar will be a factor. In Australia it's par. In Europe it's half. That is a concern.

We will probably be picking a cruise line and boat in September. There is still work to do. I guess this is a tour trip and we will not be on the boat that much as other cruises. So, good boat but not great boat? Skip some excursions and tour ourselves? These are serious questions. I need to dig deeper. It's not just about saving money, yet, every penny will help. I need help digging too. Give me things to look at. The work to make this a great trip is not over.