



The do everything vacation Blog:

A new world: holding hope

I want to write about how we're looking at Paris and London hotels. Should we go on an excursion or have fun on the hop on/hop off busses. In Paris it's a boat! Yet, the past few years have spooked me. Why do I get the feeling that this Russian war is going to ruin my vacation? To further this thought, it's already ruining some Ukrainians vacation. I went to Disneyland on the day that the USA went to war against Saddam Husain. It was a mix of wild emotions as we played with Mickey Mouse while bombs dropped. Yet, we did indeed eat, drink, and be merry.

I don't want to down play having fun. Every hour someone dies. I get it. If I sat here and did nothing in honor of Ukraine then that's that. How can I end this war? All this little tiny Canadian can do is pray that God has a way through this. So, I have been praying and planning. Will we go on this cruise? Right now, I think we will. It's been a smooth planning adventure. Yet, that little voice says what if? Ukraine is not that far from my trip.

Ok, let's talk planning. Part of my plan is to take an excursion that will pick us up from the boat and drop us off at the airport in Barcelona. Haven't found it yet, but I'm looking. My Travel

agent gave me the heads up that there are a ton of baggage storage in Barcelona. A lot really! That will work as long as I can remember where we left them. I really want to see the Picasso Museum. I have never laid eyes on a real famous painting. We will do the same in Paris. To see the Mona Lisa will be surreal. I did not think the hotel prices in London and Paris were that bad. I kind of expected the 200-dollar mark more or less.

I do like trips that take time. Just relax and get to know a new area. Maybe even understand the people and culture. This trip will not be that way. At the Olive Garden restaurant, they have a dish called Tour of Italy. Just a taste of something much deeper. That is what this trip will be. We will taste Italy (Barley) in Naples and Pompeii. There will be just a snack of Sicily. I will try and consume Santorini Greece as best as we can. We will get just a little helping of Athens, Paris, and London.

I mentioned before that I plan to run in some of these places. I just finished a grueling climb/run of the Kotor stairs on my treadmill. I will do this in Kotor on our first stop. I have every intention of running right past the Eiffel Tower and Buckingham palace. Yes, this will be a mildly relaxing and sometimes physically challenging trip. A taste of Europe more or less. That does not include running on the boat. Trust me, running will be relaxing to me.

