

Making Travel Easy with

We all love to travel. It is in our blood to explore and to find new places and different cultures. I have created this newsletter to help you plan your holiday or adventure. So whether it is your first time travelling or you are ready for that first journey, it is probably time to make that dream become a reality.

I'm told I'm a lucky person being paid to tell people where to go! I'm looking forward to helping you.

October 2011

I have just returned from visiting Scotland to catch up with family and friends and of course to renew my accent. I sometimes forget what a beautiful country it is. There wasn't much of a summer this year but in September we had what we call, an Indian summer with temperatures soaring to 24 degrees and the hottest autumn in 26 years.

I stopped off in Hong Kong on the way there and on the journey home rode the Iron Horse across Siberia from Moscow to Vladivostok stopping in Irkutsk to visit Lake Baikal.



Hong Kong Airport from above

Siberia in autumn

The last time I travelled across Siberia it was minus 30 degrees. Christmas day was spent in Mongolia while Hogmanay was spent on the shores of a frozen Lake Baikal. If you love the cold, enjoy

the outdoors and appreciate wintry landscapes like I do then travel from December until April.



One of our chalets at Lake Baikal

This time I travelled in September which is my favourite month for the northern hemisphere. The autumn colours were at their best and the temperature was just perfect. And the northern hemisphere tourists have all gone back home after their school holidays!!



Goods for sale at a Siberian station

I took train #6 from Moscow which departed at 1930 and arrived Irkutsk 0200 5 days later. This is

four nights on board. A long time you may think but one is never bored. From Irkutsk I took a lift down the 80km to Listvyanka on the shores of Lake Baikal. Then it was onto train #8 for the three night trip to Vladivostok, a beautiful harbour city with lots to offer.

[Read](#) here for more about the various ways to travel across Siberia. I may even write a story on the autumn trip.



Autumn colours in Siberia

London Olympics

Remember next year the Olympics are in London from 27 July until 12 Aug 2012. Already I have had a number of people planning their next trip around these dates. Most people leave the bookings until early in the New Year but already we are busy with planning itineraries.

Many airlines have their Early-Bird fares with some fares less than

\$2000 including taxes. Of course many accommodation providers will be hiking up their prices and places will be filling faster than normal. Think and plan early so be warned!!



Walking in the Scottish Highlands

Even if you are not an Olympic fan then you should start your planning and booking earlier than in previous years.

Walking in Scotland

Whether you are going to the Olympics or not, why not do a walk or cycle in Scotland? You can walk the West Highland Way or ride along the Great Glen! Your baggage is carried for you, hotels are all pre-booked and we give you route notes and maps.



A typical day in the Scottish Highlands

Cruising

Princess Cruises has a sale on ending at 1159 on 28th October for cruises in 2012. Depart Melbourne on the Dawn Princess (cruise D119) starting 14th December 2012 or the Sea Princess out of Sydney on the

12th November (cruise C127) and 25th November (cruise C128). All cruises are 13 nights on board.

Travel insurance

To make it easier for you I have added a link on my [website](#). Here you can get a quote and pay for a policy. You can take out cover even if you have not booked your trip with me. If you prefer a brochure [email me](#).

House for rent in Turkey

A friend of mine has a house for rent in Olympos, Turkey. [Website](#).



My companions in Siberia

A good book

Forbidden Lessons in a Kabul Guesthouse by Suraya Sadeed. The true story of one woman who risked everything to bring hope to Afghanistan. It is as unconventional as the woman who has lived it; it is an adventure story with a heart!

My websites

www.makingtraveleasy.com.au
www.hikebiketours.com.au

An airfare

Singapore Airlines has launched its earlybird fares for 2012, which for the first time offers seamless connections from 23 Virgin Australia ports including a complimentary in-flight meal. The fares have a 30kg baggage

allowance to Europe, a guarantee that fares won't be cheaper to destinations in Europe and the Americas, plus a \$1 stopover deal.

Thanks

Thanks again for all your support. If you do not wish to receive my newsletters please write the words "Please take me off your newsletter list" in the subject line of an email.

Please feel free to pass on to friends, family and colleagues.

US airport goes solar

HERE'S an interesting use for all that buffer zone vacant land around airports. Indianapolis International Airport has announced a deal with three energy companies which will see it become a major solar power generator. 41,000 solar panels will be installed on 60 acres of airport land, with estimates that the energy generated will power about 1200 homes for the next 30 years.

An interesting read

THERE will be around two billion more middle-class consumers around the world by 2030, with the expansion set to significantly boost global tourism. That's one of the predictions of the London-based World Travel & Tourism Council, which says Australia is well-placed to benefit from the boom, much of which will come from China and India.

And in the end...

To enquire about any trips here or if you want help with your travel plans just [email](#) or call me. I am told I am a lucky person getting paid for telling people where to go. Let me help you!