



PURSUe YOUR PASSION WHILE MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2017

Peace Stamps Newsletter



Breaking Down Barriers

A story of how traveling brings you closer to strangers.

As an avid traveler, sharing my experiences and stories is so exciting to me! The ultimate story experience is when you can connect with someone from that country and build a relationship because you understand their culture and have seen their country.

In this edition of the Peace Stamps newsletter, I want to share with you an interaction that really resonated with me. At the end of August, I took a cruise to hit four Caribbean island countries, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Antigua & Barbuda, Saint Lucia, and Barbados. My father was lucky enough to join me on this cruise! On the

The Impact



14

Organizations Helped



50

Children Impacted



3

Beaches Cleaned

9

COUNTRIES VISITED THIS MONTH

Dominica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, St. Kitts & Nevis, Antigua & Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Cuba, Canada

9

COUNTRIES NEXT MONTH

Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Germany, Belgium, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom, France

Visit
www.peacestamps.org/the-impact for full details



Due to Hurricane Irma, Katelyn evacuated Cuba and returned home for ten days. During that time, she spoke to dozens of classrooms across Cincinnati. She is pictured here with a group of middle schoolers at Mason Middle School.

cruise ship, my father and I sat with two couples at dinner. One of the couples lived in California and were Vietnamese. Over the next seven days, we spent a lot of time talking at dinner and getting to know each other. My love of traveling became a topic of discussion one evening and through our discussion the most amazing thing happened!

The couple opened up to me and the dinner table about how they immigrated to the United States. It is an amazing story about how they escaped from communist Vietnam and lived on a remote island in Indonesia for an extended period of time! They had to live off of canned food and had no electricity. The only belongings to their name were what they could fit in a backpack! They also shared their experiences after they immigrated into the United States and about how hard it was for them

to assimilate. People would make fun of their accents and inability to speak English. I was really touched by how they opened up about their experiences and I don't believe this would have happened had I not been to Vietnam and started talking about their culture with them.

I realize that not everyone has the means to travel the world, but it is experiences like this that make me truly believe that if people put in an effort to understand other cultures, we would be heading in the right direction towards a peaceful world!

-Katelyn

TRAVEL TIP OF THE MONTH

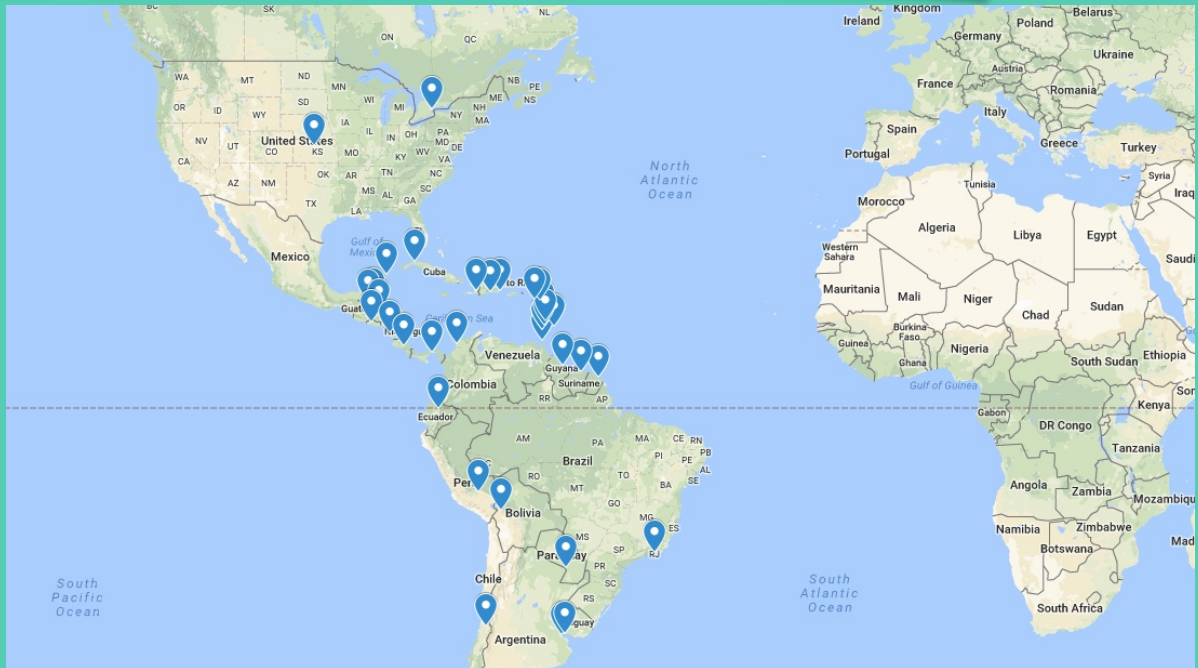
Don't get taken advantage of as a tourist! Do your research and stick to your guns!

This may seem like an obvious tip, but when you are in a situation where you think someone is trying to charge you more than you think you should be charged, it can be awkward and uncomfortable to address the issue. This is why doing your research is very important. I always research taxi fare, local transportation, and other common service prices before I get to a country. The more you know; the more confident you can be in addressing the issue!

Bonus Tip: I always ask taxi drivers what the price should be before I get in the car, that way you know the cost in advance, which saves you from having any uncomfortable conversations once you have already arrived at your destination.



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