

Dear Colleague,

We hope our American friends had a terrific July 4th holiday and or Canadian neighbors had a super Canada Day. I (Jane) spent the long weekend at our home in the Low Country of South Carolina with family and friends. Before that, I spent a week in Eastern Canada with my husband. My weather karma held, and we didn't have to endure any wildfire smoke.

Last month, Ana and Judy Hurst visited Iceland with Iceland ProTravel and Iceland ProCruises. Look for a trip report next month! Iceland ProCruises 2024 rates and dates are out and we expect our new brochure to be out in early August.

We're excited to announce that, through our partnership with Re•think Travel Marketing, we are now representing Porto & The North (of Portugal). Please see the announcement below — and let us know if you'd like to schedule an appointment with someone from the tourism board to discuss marketing. And me sure to catch our August webinar with Porto and Portugal's awesome north.

Read on for the latest updates from Pax More Greece, Iceland ProCruises and Iceland ProTravel. As always, feel free to use any of our blogs for your own marketing!



The Emerging Destinations team Jane, Jenna & Ana

News at a Glance

Pax More Greece

- The Archaeological Museum of Messara, in the region of Gortyna, Crete was
 recently inaugurated. The museum spans an area of 2,900 sqm and includes
 exhibition spaces with more than 900 artifacts. It is a short distance from the
 famous archeological site of Phaistos, the place of discovery of one of the puzzles of
 the Minoan civilization Phiastos Disk. Both fascinating places
 can be combined in one tour.
- Greece is among the world's top 10 luxury destinations this summer according to the "Holiday Habits Luxury Travelers Guide 2023" released by Condé Nast Johansens. The annual study placed Greece among the world's leading destinations for luxury travelers
- Athens International Airport (AIA) is among the winners of ACI Europe's Best
 Airport Awards 2023. According to ACI Europe, Athens Airport received strong
 praise from the judges for its focus on operational resilience and its bold
 corporate sustainability strategy.
- For four consecutive years, Greece is in Europe's Top 3 countries for the exceptional
 quality of its swimming waters, according to the European Bathing Water
 Quality Report released this week for 2022 by the European Environment Agency
 (EEA) in cooperation with the European Commission.

Iceland ProTravel

- Icelandair has big plans to introduce **New US Destinations** in the coming year as well as increase the it's capacities from existing destinations!
- A sanctuary in the heart of Iceland's Golden Circle, <u>Torfus Retreat</u>, was a major hit on our Emerging Destinations most recent Iceland trip - they even labelled it a must see!
- Our new tour <u>Highland Adventure Guided 4x4 self drive</u> has become an instant hit. Explore the highlands of Iceland in a self driven modified 4*4 truck that takes you through the back roads to Iceland's most famous must-see sites.
- The fabulous <u>Moss Restaurant</u> at The Blue Lagoon has recently recieved it's first Michelin star. Moss is the third Icelandic restaurant to achieve the prestigious award with Dill and ÓX already having one.

Iceland ProCruises

• As the 2023 season is officially underway, we wanted to share some updates with you! Check out the story **here**.

- Do you have clients who want a last minute trip to Iceland this season? Check out Iceland ProCruises here last minute special offers <u>here</u>.
- Early Bird Rates are now available for 2024! Save up to 20% on regular cruise prices with our early bird rates for 2024 cruises. The early bird offer is available until 31st December 2023.

Upcoming Travel! Emerging Destinations On The Road

We will be in the following places over the next few months, and would love to see you! If we will be in your area, click on the link below to request an event invitation or schedule an appointment with us:

Denver, CO: Friday, September 15th (appointments only, no event) **Boston, MA**: Thursday, September 20th (appointments only, no event)

Toronto, Canada: September 25 - 29th

Iceland ProTravel: Meet the Team!



The people behind the scenes: We are pleased to introduce you to the Iceland ProTravel team!

Porto & North Portugal

As a Re•think Travel Marketing Partner Company, Emerging Destinations is pleased to welcome the Porto & North Portugal to our portfolio of cool companies in cool places.

Founded in 1995 to develop tourism in Porto and northern Portugal, the organization is tasked with promoting the diverse, vibrant region as a tourist destination in international markets.

The territory includes the Porto metropolitan area (Portugal's second largest), the Douro Valley wine country, Minho Province along the country's far northern Atlantic coast, and the Trás-os-Montes ("Behind the Mountains") region in the northeast.

Porto and northern Portugal have long been



famous for their incredible food and wine. But the region also boasts water activities and adventure sports; castles, cathedrals, and other cultural icons; parks, gardens and many other green spaces; and intriguing places to spend the night that range from luxurious vineyard estates and seaside boutique hotels to treehouses, converted grain silos and national park glamping.

The organization also promotes unique adventures like Filigree Route through workshops where skilled artisans work with gold and silver thread, the Romanesque route with its distinctive architecture, a Jewish Heritage Walking Tour in Porto, and a Jeep Tour of Castles and Granaries in Milho. *Photo by Porto Convention & Visitors Bureau

Let's Make A Deal..On Iceland and Greenland Cruises



the travel date this summer. Read More

It's still not too late to book a cruise around Iceland or Greenland this year or plan ahead for 2024. Especially when you take advantage of the special deals currently being offered by Iceland ProCruises for bookings between now and the start of

Vacay in Evergreen Halkidiki

Halkidiki is a beautiful peninsula located in northern Greece known for its crystal-clear waters, stunning beaches and picturesque villages. With

a rich history, cultural heritage and a wide range of activities, it is a popular destination for travelers from all over the world. It is divided into three "fingers" or peninsulas, Kassandra, Sithonia, and Athos, each with its own unique charm and character. Continue Reading



Celebrate Icelandic National Day in June!



On the Icelandic National Day, locals celebrate the foundation of the Republic of Iceland on the 17th of June in 1944. The date also marks the island's independence from Denmark, which happened that same year. In addition, June 17th is the birthday of national hero Jón Sigurðsson, who fought for his country's freedom as leader of the 19th-century Icelandic independence movement. Icelanders love to celebrate their national day by spending time with their families and friends and attending various public

events. More Here

Greece. More than the Eye Can See

To paint a picture of **Greece**, you need every shade of blue. An everevolving sustainable destination, accessible all year round.



Iceland and Greenland Aboard the Seaventure

Discover the "Land of Ice and Fire" with Iceland ProCruises aboard the Seaventure during authentic soft expedition-style voyages around Iceland. IPC's cruise team provides deep insight into local culture and traditions. With a maximum capacity of only 164 passengers, the ship ensures both a comfortable cruise and personal atmosphere.











































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