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Trekking to a Goal (virtually) while Remembering the Past

Friday, September 18, 2020



Reconnecting with Spark and maintaining hope during trying times, here is my plan

I am trekking the pathways of the world virtually (using worldwalking.org) in combination with a trip down memory lane.

In 2018 Joe and I took an "Overseas Adventure Tour" of the Baltic Countries.

Estonia:

One of the Czar's palaces, built in case he ever wanted to visit.



Latvia: There are many ruins and restored palaces



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Lithuania - They were celebrating the 100th anniversary of their independence from Russia. Unfortunately Russia occupied them again in 1944. They regained their independence in 1991.



This was an open air museum with original buildings and artifacts of 19th century Lithuania. It was also used as the site of Rasputin's village in the miniseries – "The Last Czars" I imagine my grandmother once dressed like this



and St Petersburg, Russia – The Hermitage



Lithuania was to be our summer destination this year, but we contented ourselves with an online course in Lithuanian Language and Culture (Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas)

This is how we saw each other every day in class. 4 continents represented here. I'm in the upper left hand corner and Joe is #3 in the row. We have grandchildren older than some of our classmates!



I am now on a longer virtual journey through the 9 countries on the Baltic Sea (using worldwalking.org)
Nice to remember the sites I've seen in person and add a few more not yet visited in real life.

This week I've been through Kaliningrad, Russia (once Konigsberg, Germany)
This is the cathedral



and Gdank, Poland – the well known site of the Solidarity movement protesting Soviet rule



One final note:

St Petersburg is a nice memory for us beyond its historical beauty.

In 2019 DD Jeanne (Hayburner1969) won 2nd place in their International Piano Competition.

Here were the finalists.



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CD4114015

Thank you so much for coming by my blog. It is SO good to have you back. How is daughter doing?



253 days ago



MTN_KITTEN



254 days ago



SPEDED2



260 days ago



JSTETSER

What a beautiful virtual tour! Thank you for your blog!

Jackie

260 days ago



NEBRASKANNIE

This looks awesome. I know I'll never travel again, but this looks like a great idea to learn about other places.

261 days ago



GRAMPIAN



Great pictures!

261 days ago



HEALTHYANDFIT27

A great post! Thank you for sharing!

261 days ago



RACHNACH



261 days ago



AZMOMXTWO

what a fantastic way to learn and remember thank you for sharing

261 days ago



OVERWORKEDJANET

It's nice to see you posting again and I've enjoyed your trips!

262 days ago



UPTOIT59



262 days ago





HAYBURNER1969

What a nice surprise to find my mom's post on the Featured section today, and what a nice trip down memory lane! I love that pic of me and the "Five Guys" backstage.
262 days ago



JAMER123

Thank you for sharing your tour with us. Beautiful pictures.
262 days ago



BONIFIANT

Thanks for the arm chair tour. I really enjoyed it.
262 days ago



DGRIFITH51

Thanks for sharing your pictures and information, nice to have those virtual tours these days. I have been using an app called, "Walking for fun." I have just started a trek along the Appalachian Trail, 2000+ miles.



262 days ago



ALIHIKES

Thank you for sharing your memories, photos and virtual tour
262 days ago



NOLAHORSERIDER

Wow.. That looks exciting. Thanks for sharing such wonderful memories.

SparkCheers,
R>Nola
262 days ago



JPPERSELL

Aww your trip looked wonderful! Glad that you were able to see the sites before all this covid mess.
262 days ago



JENJENN7

Thank you!
262 days ago



KEEPITUP4LIFE

So happy to see you back at Spark People and being active again. Sometimes time away awakens our sense of being "Sparked" when we return. I will never leave here as I vowed on my third return back in 2014. I have taken a couple short leaves of absence but I just love it here so much and it keeps me on the straight and narrow or should I say the short and slim LOL.

I am feeling so healthy as long as I am here working at staying in the best shape I can at my age. I am determined to keep myself as healthy as possible and you can too.



Hugs Susan

262 days ago



SHAKERATTLEROLL

THANK YOU!

for sharing your virtual trip

262 days ago



JEANKNEE

Nice to have the past memories to support your virtual trek.

Enjoy!
262 days ago





2DAWN4

Someday I hope to travel to many faraway places. But until, I do thanks for taking me along on your travels!
263 days ago



DARCY-B

I love, love, LOVE travel! Thank you for taking me with you!!
263 days ago



THOMS1

I am enjoying traveling through your pictures and your narrative. Thank You! Wonderful



Memories.
263 days ago



RHOOK20047

Sound like a fun addition to walking! Enjoy the virtual tour.
263 days ago



PLCHAPPELL

can't wait to travel again
263 days ago



MAREE1953

Wow, impressive!
263 days ago



KITTYHAWK1949

AWESOME
KEEP SPARKING!
263 days ago



DOVESEYES

AWESOME
journeys and memories :)
263 days ago



SUNNYCALIGIRL

I love European castles, thanks for posting.
263 days ago



SUNNYCALIGIRL

I love European castles, thanks for posting.
263 days ago



NASFKAB

Great of you to share your memories. Thank you
263 days ago



QUARTERMASTER3

Loved your tour.
263 days ago



MARYJEANSL

How fun to do the virtual tour! You and Joe are so blessed to have been able to visit so many wonderful places. For me, well, maybe someday. :-)
263 days ago



SUSIEMT

What a great idea traveling the world virtually! I may have to give it a go! Your pictures are great!



263 days ago





WATERMELLEN

Great idea -- for fitness, companionability and reviving good memories!!
263 days ago



HARRIETT14

Thank you for the wonderful tour through your pictures. I'm glad that you're back here in Spark.



When I was in college I, too was sitting with the young students in my classes. Education is with the students that wish to better themselves in different ways and for different reasons.
263 days ago



RAZZOOZLE



Thank you for sharing your journey.
263 days ago



PHEBESS

I think as you walked through Gdansk, you probably saw a few of my distant relatives!!!



Enjoy your continuing walking travels!
263 days ago



NANASUEH

Congrats to your DD!



Nice pics!



264 days ago



MADAMES

What wonderful memories! Thank you.
264 days ago



DSHONEYC

Hi- was planning this same OAT trip for last July and would love to hear your assessment of OAT. Currently that trip is planned to July 2021 now, but I am thinking of changing to Peru (Galapagos & Machu Pichu) as in it so much less cost and on my bucket list.
264 days ago



BJAEGER307

What an interesting time you have had! It's wonderful to be able to travel like you did and will again, once we get through this horrible virus situation that everyone is in.



Glad to see you back, but also glad you had a wonderful time doing what you truly love to do.
264 days ago



1DAY-ATA-TIME

Thanks for sharing your memories and virtual tour. Awesome!
264 days ago



KANSASROSE67

Glad you're back on Spark! Thanks for taking the time to visit my page. I am going to investigate the idea of walk/run intervals after I have my surgery. A second opinion never hurts.



Love hearing about your travels!
264 days ago



KANSASROSE67

Glad you're back on Spark! Thanks for taking the time to visit my page. I am going to investigate the idea of walk/run intervals after I have my surgery. A second opinion never hurts.



Love hearing about your travels!
264 days ago



ONEKIDSMOM

So good to have your voice back in the Spark bloggosphere! I look forward to the memory tours in "pandemic times"!



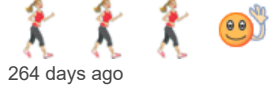
Stay safe and well!
264 days ago



SUNNYBEACHGIRL
Memories of lovely trips
264 days ago



WHILLSW
Enjoyed the pictures as brings back memories when 4 of us gals went to Russia & on to Estonia where a classmate was born. Thanks for sharing....



264 days ago

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