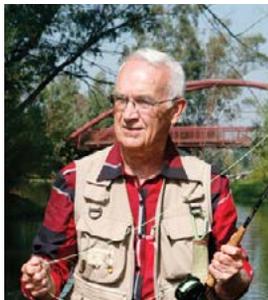


ASK LARRY

“Why Should I Use a Travel Agent?”

Q: *We’re planning a two week vacation this summer. It’s easy to book everything on the Internet so why should I use a travel agent?—PJ, Sunnyvale, CA.*



A: Why not use both? Use the Internet to do your basic research and the types of trips offered including costs. Then contact your local travel agent and see if they can offer a better deal. Chances are, they can. It’s also comforting to know that if something goes haywire on your trip, you can contact your travel agent for help. Not so on the Internet.

Q: *Why are cruises so popular with seniors?”—TE, San Francisco, CA.*

A: Easy question! Everything is done for you. Food. Lodging. Entertainment. There is always something fun and interesting going on but you also have the option to just “kick back” and do nothing.

Q: *What are some “must” things to bring on a trip?—LB, San Jose, CA.*

A: Travel Geezer Don Mankin advises everyone to pack earplugs and a headlamp along with the usual stuff trip operators suggest. A set of earplugs is a really good idea because several trips I have taken were ruined due to loud snoring by my friends in the same room. Packing a headlamp is good idea too, although a small flashlight works for me.

Q: *Is buying travel insurance worth it?—SB, New York, NY.*

A: When traveling overseas, travel insurance is definitely worth checking into, especially if you’re past 70 and not in the best of health. While on a recent European cruise, my wife’s brother became ill and nearly had to be flown home from Venice. Travel insurance can save you thousands. It’s always wise to prepare for the unexpected.

Got a question?

Ask me anything—email: ASKLARRY@activeover50.com. Or call 408.921.5806. “Ask Larry” is written by Larry Hayes, publisher of ActiveOver50 media.

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