



Media Advisory

BEYOND YOUR BACKYARD NOW - NEW EPISODE FEATURES WASHINGTON'S OLYMPIC PENINSULA, INFORMATION ON CRUISING, AND A VIRTUAL WINE TASTING

NEW YORK, NY, May 11, 2020 -- The Beyond Your Backyard franchise has posted the newest episode of [Beyond Your Backyard NOW](#) providing viewers with the information they need to know now about the entire vacation ecosystem. Each segment delivers up-to-date details about the travel industry as well as ideas for planning one's next trip. Highlights include:

5 Questions With: This week Erik interviews Cruise Blogger Don Buccolo (DB) from EatSleepCruise.com to discuss what the cruise industry will look like in the future. DB discusses steps the cruise lines will need to take to get people back on their boats; his top 3 predictions for how the industry will change post Covid-19; and why people should consider planning a cruise for their next vacation.

Where To Go: Erik takes viewers to Washington State and the Olympic Peninsula. In addition to exploring Mount Olympus and Olympic National Park, viewers will savor delights from the Peninsula's culinary loop and its cider route. And, Erik explains how to take a 2 nation vacation, visiting nearby Victoria, British Columbia and outlines his 'must dos' for the region.

Travel Q&A: With Erika Richter from the American Society of Travel Advisors (ASTA), one of the main organizations supporting travel advisors, the travel industry, and the traveling public in general. In this Q&A, Erika discusses the role travel advisors will play as consumers begin to navigate the post-Covid era of traveling. Erika also details the extraordinary steps travel advisors took to help get travelers back home safely in the beginning of the pandemic and why it's more important than ever to work with a trusted travel professional.

One Fun Idea: How to Take a Staycation. This week, Erik talks wine tasting and how to host a wine tasting party with Riverbench Vineyard and Winery CEO Laura Booras. Laura walks viewers through the process of choosing a wine, how to serve the wine and unique twists that can be added for some additional stay-at-home fun.

"While the country slowly opens back up and summer just around the corner, many people on lockdown are beginning to dream about their next vacation," commented host Erik Hastings, aka Erik the Travel Guy. "While consumers may not travel immediately, one part of the vacation ecosystem, the planning phase, is the perfect escape for those longing to travel. My goal with Beyond Your Backyard NOW is to inspire viewers to travel, when safe to do so, while providing them with the tools needed to make their own travel decisions."

Beyond Your Backyard Now host Erik Hastings, a.k.a. [Erik the Travel Guy](#), is an EMMY award-winning television personality who is the host and managing editor of the internationally syndicated television series "[Beyond Your Backyard](#)" for public broadcasting stations (PBS) and other networks and VOD platforms.

ABOUT THE SHOW:

Beyond Your Backyard NOW is the must-watch destination for all things travel, presented in a positive, informative and entertaining format. Emmy-award winning host Erik The Travel Guy inspires viewers to plan and safely embark on their next adventure. Each 30 minute episode reminds viewers that travel is rewarding and vital to a healthy lifestyle. Beyond Your Backyard NOW is an industry disruptor, breaking today's mold of conventional (and often boring) travel "infotainment". During the current pandemic, Beyond Your Backyard NOW (currently available on YouTube) includes relevant information pertaining to the health crisis and its impact on travel.

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