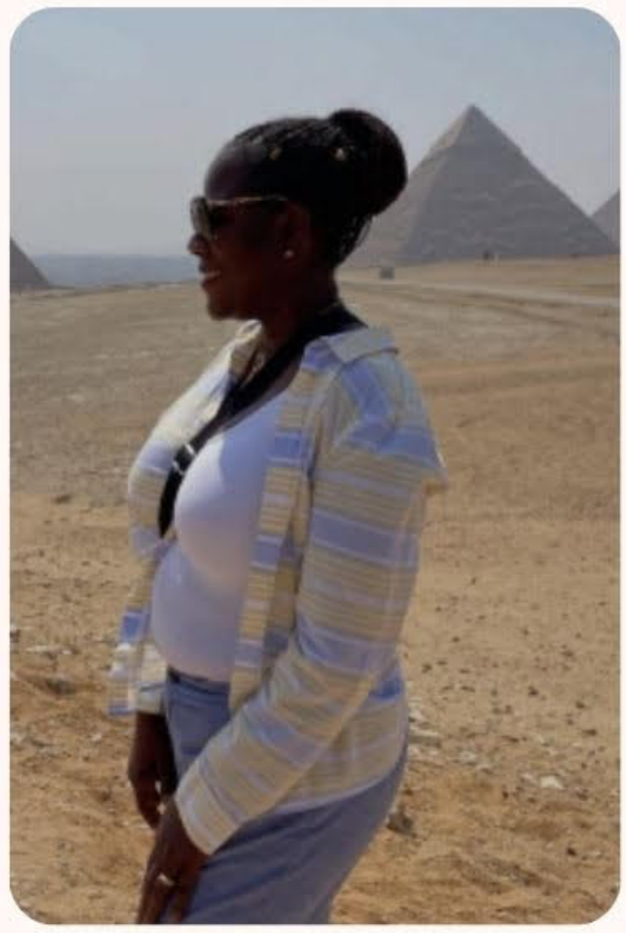
July 2026

Travel Thoughtfully...Experience Joy
The Getaway With Joy Insider

Every month brings a new reason to explore.
Let's see where joy is calling us now.

A Note From Your Experience Designer

Hey Fellow Travelers,



As we step into July, our country marks a remarkable milestone — the 250th anniversary of the United States. Moments like this invite us to pause and reflect on the stories, sacrifices, and triumphs that have shaped our nation. They remind us that legacy is not only something we inherit, but something we continue to build, honor, and carry forward.

Travel has a beautiful way of helping us connect with that legacy. It allows us to stand in the places where history unfolded, to learn from the communities who shaped it, and to create memories that become part of our own story. Some journeys take us across oceans, while others bring us closer to understanding who we are and where we come from.

That spirit of reflection and connection is at the heart of an upcoming 2027 Juneteenth Heritage Journey: Chicago, Hyde Park & the Obama Presidential Center. Juneteenth is a celebration of freedom, resilience, and progress — and the Obama Presidential Center represents another chapter in that ongoing story: a place rooted in leadership, service, and the belief that each of us has the power to shape the future. Together, they create a meaningful backdrop for a journey centered on legacy, community, and purpose.

The idea of legacy also came to life recently in a conversation with one of my travelers, Angela. She and her closest friends spent two years planning a retirement celebration through Bangkok, Singapore, and Bali. What stood out most wasn't simply where they traveled — it was why they traveled. They wanted to honor a milestone, celebrate years of hard work, and create memories they would carry into the next chapter of their lives.

Their journey was a reminder that legacy isn't only about history. It's also about the moments we choose to celebrate, the people we share them with, and the memories we intentionally create along the way.

As we honor this historic anniversary and look ahead to the journeys unfolding in the year ahead, I hope you're reminded that travel has the power to connect us — to our past, to each other, and to the stories we're still writing.

With Joy and Intention,
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Founder & Experience Designer

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TRAVELER SPOTLIGHT - STORIES OF JOY

CELEBRATING RETIREMENT. FRIENDSHPS AND NEW BEGINNINGS

This month, I am honored to highlight a traveler whose journey reflects the heart of this theme - Angela's Retirement Journey

Some journeys stay with us long after the suitcase is unpacked, and Angela's retirement celebration is one of them. After decades of dedication to her career, she and her closest friends spent two years planning a journey that would honor their accomplishments and celebrate the beginning of a new chapter.

Their travels took them through Bangkok, Singapore, and Bali — three destinations none of them had experienced before. They hoped to immerse themselves in beauty, culture, cuisine, and connection while creating memories they would carry for a lifetime.

What stayed with Angela most were the moments that couldn't be planned.

She remembers arriving in Bangkok and immediately feeling the city's energy and warmth. She still smiles thinking about the authentic Thai cuisine at the local restaurant, exploring Singapore's vibrant neighborhoods during a walking tour from Arab Street to Little India and Chinatown, and discovering that Bali's beauty, private villa, and personal driver brought "more joy than we could imagine."

Perhaps the greatest lesson from their journey came when they realized that some of their carefully planned excursions were getting in the way of what they truly wanted most: time together. They cancelled activities in both Bangkok and Bali so they could simply relax, roam, enjoy their beautiful hotels, and savor being present with one another. "We have no regrets."

Angela's story is a reminder that meaningful travel isn't simply about seeing more. Sometimes, it's about giving ourselves permission to slow down, celebrate life's milestones, and create memories with the people who matter most.

ON THE HORIZON - UPCOMING JOURNEYS

A Journey of Wonders (Egypt & The Nile) ~ December 27, 2026–January 5, 2027
Ring in the New Year surrounded by timeless wonders. From the majestic pyramids to sunset sailings along the Nile. This journey invites you to experience one of the world's greatest civilizations while welcoming a new chapter of your own.

Juneteenth Heritage Journey: Chicago, Hyde Park & the Obama Presidential Center ~ June 17–22, 2027
Experience a journey of legacy, resilience, and inspiration as we explore Chicago's rich cultural history, the significance of Juneteenth, and the enduring impact of leadership, community and service.

Serengeti Sunsets & Zanzibar Shores (Tanzania & Zanzibar) ~ July 1–14, 2027
Witness breathtaking wildlife migrations, golden African sunsets, and the tranquil beauty of Zanzibar's turquoise shores on a journey designed to awaken wonder and nourish the soul.

Jewels of the Adriatic (Croatia & Montenegro) ~ September 1–10, 2027
Discover medieval towns, hidden coves, luxurious yacht experiences and some of Europe's most stunning coastlines on an unforgettable Adriatic escape.

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION - BEFORE YOU GO...

What journey has been quietly calling your name?

We often wait for the perfect season of life before saying yes to meaningful experiences. More time. More money. More certainty.

But perhaps the moments that shape us most are the ones we choose before everything feels perfectly aligned. As you move through this month, I invite you to consider:

What destination has been living quietly in your heart?
And what has kept you from saying yes?

I would truly love to hear your answer.
Simply reply to this newsletter and share the destination that's been calling your name. As a small thank you for sharing your story, one reader will be selected to receive a $50 Travel Inspiration Gift Card this month.

Because sometimes the first step toward a meaningful journey is simply speaking the dream out loud. And perhaps that's where every great travel story begins.

NEXT MONTH'S REFLECTION

What place changed the way you see the world?

CLOSING MESSAGE

As we honor this historic anniversary and look toward the journeys ahead, I hope you're reminded that legacy is shaped not only by the past, but also by the moments we choose to create today.

Whether it's standing in the heart of Chicago's South Side, sailing the Nile beneath ancient skies, witnessing a Serengeti sunset, or finally saying yes to a destination that's been quietly calling your name, travel has a remarkable way of connecting us — to our history, to one another, and to the stories we're still writing.

May this season inspire you to celebrate the milestones that deserve to be honored, create memories that matter, and embrace the experiences that speak to your heart.

And perhaps most importantly, may it remind you that there is no perfect time to begin creating your legacy — there is only the decision to begin.

Until next month, keep choosing joy, connection and the journeys that become a part of your story.