

# Around the World

with  
Stan Delaplane

Lago di Como, Italy, is the warm and sunny blue sky, blue lake country where Italians come in the summer. (Leaving sweltering Rome to the North American tourists.) The green hills rise steeply, antique brown villages tucked in the crevices. On the northern skyline you can see the Alps, snow-capped and shining in the sun.

Only five in a hundred tourists are American, but plenty are French. (Proving that the food is good and the price is right.) Good hotels. Modest pensions. Dozens of lakefront camp sites where you pay a small fee.

Every village has a terrace fronting on the lake. And in the fine evenings—(it's shirt sleeve weather)—you sit with coffee expresso. Watching the boats, all strung with colored lights, skim slowly by.

The elegant hotel is the Valla d'Este, built in 1568 by an Italian Cardinal. An English Queen improved it—a great stone and marble palace. The bedrooms are hung with chandeliers from 15-foot ceilings, and great French windows open on the lake. It has the grandest grounds and gardens I have ever seen.

Expensive. (And by that I mean New York prices—\$25 double is about minimum, and the dry martini is \$1.60 a smash.) They have the best food brochure in Europe and they send it airmail. Address Jean Salvadore, Villa d'Este, Cernobbio, Lago de Como, Italy.

"We hear so much about drinking water in Europe, we have some misgivings."

You can get bottled water all over Europe. Evian in France. Solares in Spain. Fuggi in Italy—the label carries a recommendation from Michelangelo.

Americans who live in Europe drink tap water. Possibly avoiding it in very small villages where they don't know the source. The water here comes from the mountains, and I've been drinking it.

It isn't the custom in Europe for restaurants to serve water as we do. You order water as you do wine. But it's custom, not hygiene. The European who

orders bottled water at the table goes to his room and drinks from the tap.

"We have read that you are sometimes charged a fee called 'corkage' if you have your own liquor and have drinks in your room."

Maybe so, but so far I've never run into it. Drinks in Europe are expensive. Scotch and water always seem to go for \$1 to \$2 a pop.

I don't know why. I buy my own bottle in grocery stores. The price is lower than the U.S. or England—\$4 for Scotch in Germany, \$5 in Switzerland, \$3.70 in Italy.

There's a wide range on American cigarettes—70 cents in England, 50 cents in France, 80 cents in Italy, \$1 in Greece. Good place to load up is Switzerland. I had cartons across the frontier.

"We hope at last we can make a trip to Europe, and it MUST be on a budget."

The prime rule is to move as SELDOM as possible. Each move is a killer—I'm an example. Two adults, three children. Six pieces of baggage, typewriter, cosmetic case, three flight bags.

Now—it's a minimum \$1.50 each time they move those six bags. Out of a hotel. Into a train or plane. Out of train or plane. Into another hotel. That's \$6 going against me for a starter.

Besides this, you have maids to tip. Concierges gets a little. Taxis get you. You lose a little each time for the next country.

You can save money on the package tour. You buy it in one payment, and your tour director does the tipping, pays the taxi, moves the baggage. It ties you to a schedule, but it is cheaper than going it on your own.

European restaurants have fixed price menus—cheaper than a la carte. Colal wines and brandies are much less expensive than imported liquors. You have to experiment, but there are local cigarettes like your expensive American brands. Example: Sintras or Estorils in Portugal. I can't ell the types.

## Elderly Veterans May Qualify for Pensions

Needy veterans with wartime service who are 65 years of age or older may qualify for a Veterans Administration disability pension without proving a specific disability, Mort Webster, manager of the VA regional office in Los Angeles, said today.

For pension purposes, wartime veterans are considered by law to be totally and permanently disabled at age 65.

This makes such veterans eligible for pensions at the rates authorized for other needy veterans who are totally and permanently disabled from causes unrelated to military service.

## Employees Honored

Four local employees of the McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics Co. have been honored for outstanding service under the firm's Value in Performance (VIP) program. They are Helen Barge, 20111 Donora Ave.; J. M. Neill, 3410 W. 227th St.; W. H. Harvey, 20623 Vista Drive; and C. B. Schlerf, 2855 Monerey St.

At a special quarterly ceremonies, the employees were congratulated for their performances and were presented citations by C. R. Able, chairman and chief officer for McDonnell-Douglas Astronautics. They also received gold pen and pencil sets and special "C" for citation pins.

CURRENTLY, a veteran without dependents must have an annual income of less than \$1,800 to be eligible for a pension, Webster said. The limit for veterans with dependents is \$3,000.

However, under a law signed recently by President Johnson, beginning Jan. 1, 1969, all income limits are to be increased \$200 a year and most payments will be increased under a scale computed by \$100 income increments.

Today, veterans without dependents receive monthly pensions ranging from \$104 a month (for incomes under \$600 annually) to \$45 a month (for incomes ranging between \$1,200 and \$1,800).

FOR VETERANS with one or more dependents, pensions are from \$119 a month (for an annual income under \$1,000) to \$50 a month (for incomes between \$2,000 and \$2,000).

Under a law signed by President Johnson last summer, the Vietnam era (after Aug. 4, 1964) is considered wartime service for non-service-connected disability pension purposes.

Veterans interested in more information should contact their nearest VA office. Webster said they should keep in mind that pension benefits are not related in any way to compensation to which a veteran may be entitled for disability relating to his military service.

No income limits apply to compensation payments, Webster said.



7 DAY AD — THURS. THRU WED., AUGUST 1-7, 1968



REGULAR OR LOW CAL  
**SHASTA SODA POP**  
14 12-oz. cans \$1

FRESH, SLICED  
**GOLDEN CREME RANCH BREAD**  
5 15-oz. loaves \$1

GOLDEN DELICIOUS  
**BLUE RIBBON APPLE SAUCE**  
5 tall 300 can \$1

HAWAIIAN  
**LIBBY'S PINEAPPLE JUICE**  
4 JUMBO 46-OZ. CANS \$1

GOLDEN NUGGETT—SMOOTH OR CHUNKY  
**PEANUT BUTTER** 2 1/2-lb. jars 9c

FRESH KIST  
**FRUIT COCKTAIL** tall 300 can 3c

PETER PIPER—CRISP, DELICIOUS  
**SWEET PICKLES** 22-oz. jar 9c

VITA PAKT—GRAPE, ORANGE, PUNCH  
**FRUIT DRINKS** 1/2-gal. bot. 9c

FRESH KIST—IN RICH SAUCE  
**PORK & BEANS** 5 no. 2 1/2 can \$1

KITTY KARE  
**CAT LITTER** 25-lb. bag 99c

TUNA, TUNA & CHIC., TUNA & LIVER  
**9-Lives Cat Food** 8 6-oz. cans \$1

MAGIC CHEF COMPLETE MIX  
**PANCAKE FLOUR** 2-lb. pkg. 39c

MAGIC CHEF—PLASTIC COATED  
**150 PAPER PLATES** 50-7-OZ. PAPER CUPS 55c

**98c**

MAGIC CHEF  
**CHARCOAL BRIQUETS** 10 lb. bag. 59c

DETERGENT  
**WHITE KING 'D'**  
GIANT SIZE 49c (incl. 10c off)

WELCH'S  
**GRAPE JUICE** 5 6-oz. cans \$1

Frozen Foods  
FLAV-R-PAC  
**SLICED STRAWBERRIES** REAL WHIP TOPPING pint size 29c 4 10-oz. pkgs. \$1

Health & Beauty Aids  
26-GALLON, WITH LID  
**TRASH CANS** heavy duty galvanized steel \$2 59

ASSORTED PRINTS & SOLID COLORS  
**BATH TOWELS** 22"x44" \$1.29 value 99c

JUMBO  
**ICE CUBE TRAYS** 37c

11 QUART DISH PAN  
BUSHEL LAUNDRY BASKET  
11 QUART PAIL  
12 QUART WASTE BASKET  
NEWEST COLORS  
**HOUSEHOLD PLASTICS** 2 for 88c

TONI—ALL SHADES—\$2.25 SIZE  
**INNOCENT COLOR** \$1 99

HAIR CONDITIONER—TWIN PACK \$1.25 SIZE 99c  
**CLAIROL KINDNESS** 99c

REG., SUPER, UNSCENTED  
**MISS BRECK SPRAY** 13-OZ. CAN 79c

FOR FASTEST PAIN RELIEF—\$1.59 SIZE  
**EXCEDRIN** BTL. OF 100 \$1 19

GREASELESS OINTMENT  
**BEN-GAY** 98c SIZE 79c

DEODORANT—REG. \$1.00 SIZE 4-OZ. SIZE 71c  
**5 DAY SPRAY**

SKIN BRACER \$1.10 SIZE 91c  
**MENNEN LOTION**

Liquor  
EARLY TIMES  
**STRAIGHT KENTUCKY BOURBON** \$11 49

reg. \$12.99 NOW FULL HALF GALLON

J. W. DANT  
**LIQUEURS** \$3 99

CREME DE MENTHE  
CREME DE CACAO  
TRIPLE SEC FULL QUART

100% GRAIN SPIRITS  
**RASNOFF VODKA** \$3 89

Full Quart

MELLOW, RIPE  
**HONEY MELONS**

GARDEN FRESH  
**TENDER BELL PEPPERS**

FRESH, STUFFING SIZE  
**BELL PEPPERS**

SWEET, MILD  
**YELLOW CORN**

MAGIC CHEF—MILD & CREAMY  
**LONGHORN CHEESE**

OSCAR MAYER  
**ALL MEAT SALADS** 3 99c

XLNT—ASSORTED FRUIT  
**GELATIN SALADS** 3 99c