

Hello John, If you are home, can you pass this to Peter Jarvis or one of the PERTH members (like Kirkie or Dutchy) I do not have their address book here.

Hello Wally.

Do you have any contacts with the PERTH and BRISBANE Associations?

May I ask this is passed on please for due consideration.

Follows is a bit of a breakdown on this trip to Jacksonville FLORIDA.

The respective Associations may wish to take these notes into consideration for when and if they wish to travel to FLORIDA for the pending reunion and Opening of the USS Charles F Adams as a museum ship, hopefully in late 2011 or early 2012. AS you are aware through previous correspondence, this date has not been formalized due to restrictions within the Jacksonville City Council.

These are my notes with recommendations and information contained noting that they are subject to change through Government taxes and charges. Hotels providing this information will advise of changes, as a courtesy, to the Adams Class Boys, JHNSA and ACVA. Both of these Hotels are sponsors to the Associations mentioned. Both Hotels are highly recommended and rate near the 4 star level.

I have requested that all Hotel Charges be simplified of all charges and Local taxes.

For Example:

OMNI Hotel's room charge is currently \$79 plus 6% Tax and 7% state Tax plus Gratuity.
Crowne Plaza's room charge currently stands at \$88 plus 6% plus 7% plus etc etc.

When I receive all Hotel Bids, I will convey them to you along with the relevant brochure for consideration. I have requested the Hotels outline one single price, inclusive of all taxes and charges, as is the case in Australia. Charges may also include a free Breakfast pending our Calendar in the Social events.

Pat Stroud is our events co-ord in Jacksonville at stroud1@tds.net

I have found that when bookings are made, it is suggested we book through the JHNSA as some commissions may be handed back to the Adams Class Boys rather than the Federal Tax Dept. This can be done under the Non Profit Organization (501 (c)). This would, if done correctly, reap several thousand dollars to the cause.

OMNI Hotel have very nice rooms similar to the Crowne Plaza.

OMNI has a business Centre for personnel to check their respective emails or browse the web. This is at a cost of (currently) \$6.00 US for 15 minutes.

(A rich price that equates to 40 cents per minute) CROWNE have a business center with limited access (unable to download photos etc) that is Free.

Internet is free from your rooms and is highly recommended people to bring their own laptops or buy one now to be familiar with them before they arrive here.
OMNI have parking available but charges do apply. Crowne have parking but remains free.

Australian Beers

I have requested, and subject to numbers that two/three types of Australian Beers be made available for purchase. A good Local drop is ?Landshark? which is a Jimmy Buffet made drop under license (highly recommended) or MGD known as Millers Genuine Draft, very smooth. Beers currently go for about \$5.00 a bottle.

Bar Fridges have been requested for the Australian Contingent but will only hold about 12 bottles. That?s good enough.

LAUNDRY

A laundry pickup for Bag washes is being arranged with costs being about \$8-\$10 per bag. This service is for Jocks, socks, singlets T shirts etc.

Not Jeans/Trousers. OMNI provide two free articles to be pressed at NO COST, perfect for that suit or sports jacket after the long journey. Nothing similar from CROWNE at this stage.

Telephones.

Current charges are \$1.00 plus Tax of 15% from within Hotels.

OMNI are considering a waiver on charges after 7.00pm local to tie in with Australian Time Zones. Nothing from CROWNE at this stage on their offer.

May I suggest personnel obtain a reverse number (1800 REVERSE) from Telstra before departing home to reduce costs? International roaming is available from respective carriers but costs are high. You will be liable for most costs and charges with International Roaming.

? The Crowne Plaza will be the closest to the ship when the ship arrives as a museum piece, approx 400 metres.

? Crowne is Located about 1 km from Downtown JACKSONVILLE.

? The OMNI is Located approx 200 metres from Downtown.

? The OMNI is Located approx 1.5 Kms from ship when berthed

? The OMNI and CROWNE are approx 1.3-1.5 kms apart if either has a function.

? OMNI is located on the NORTH Bank while CROWNE is on the SOUTH Bank of the River.

? It is recommended the Australian Contingent arrive 2 days before the events commence due to travel. This will enable you to have a rest.

TRAVEL

My recommendations are as follows and are a guide only:

Stops should include HAWAII for three days/three nights to see Pearl Harbor, a must.

A shuttle from the Airport to Waikiki is approx \$12 compared to \$42 for Taxi.

Tour of Pearl Harbor is \$35 per person (does not include lunch) Departs approx 8.30am from Hotel and may go through to close to 7.00pm pending volumes on the day

Next stop at SAN FRANCISCO or LA for same period, UNIVERSAL/ DISNEYLAND.

A shuttle from LA to City is \$18 compared to \$48 -\$52 for Taxi.

A tour of DISNEY is \$110 with Shuttle and entry and rides A tour of UNIVERSAL was about \$52 with all rides Recommended you pay for a VIP Ticket at UNIVERSAL(about \$89) for the best results

Overnight at Dallas/Fort Worth- Suggest Fort Worth as a Stopover as Dallas is Dead.

A shuttle from Airport to DALLAS is \$18 compared to \$52 for Taxi

Catch a flight to Jacksonville at 1100 and arriving at 3.30pm A shuttle to Town from Airport is \$32 (pending if less than 3-5 persons) compared to \$42 for Taxi. The JHNSA will endeavor to organize a shuttle for us Australians as a courtesy due to the distance we have already traveled.

Alternative Route is from LA to ORLANDO then a three hour bus shuttle (at your expense) to JACKSONVILLE. DISNEYWORLD, Harry Potter Land, Richard Petty's Driving school (NASCAR Nuts) along with DAYTONA BEACH and the KENNEDY Space Centre. All recommended.

The USO and IT&T information desks at the JACKSONVILLE Naval Air Station and MAYPORT Naval Depot can offer reductions in ticketing. Worth the savings if you have an ID card regardless of being reserves. SERVICE PERSONNEL here in this country are respected big time.

Suggest personnel bring medals and or miniatures for the dinner. This is to be confirmed.

Richard Marek