

LET'S GET TO TRAVELING!

BY FRAN RIETVELD VP, CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIP MANAGER



Hello, 2021! Have you gotten used to writing 2021? It always takes me a bit to get in the swing of it. I am excited about the new year and look forward to the many positives it will bring. One thing 2020 has taught me is to appreciate the little things and move on with great anticipation! I enjoy my surroundings when walking and just taking a deep cleansing breath to smell the air. I look at the sunset and sunrise with more appreciation and wonder, and cherish the time spent with my loved ones even more than in the past.

With positive news of recent developments, we have never looked forward to travel more. Yes, we will have to live with new norms, such as continuing to wear masks, practicing social distancing, and receiving the vaccine. When the time is right for you, join with many other optimistic travelers and the wanderlust of discovering new and special sights, experiences, food and friendships. That is why our tours and our travel experiences are unique. We pride ourselves on this.

As we forge ahead with a new sense of optimism, excitement, and craving for adventure, there is such a variety of exciting places just waiting to be discovered. We have collaborated with partners from around the travel scene to bring you exciting tours.

I'm ready to go on exciting adventures with all of you! First Dakota Travel is committed to making sure our travelers are safe. To promote safe social distancing, we will limit group sizes to 25-30 people. Our tours will fill up quickly, so I recommend you sign up and send in your deposit right away. You will find many exciting tours planned for 2021 and 2022. Go to [FirstDakota.com/about/travel-with-us](https://www.FirstDakota.com/about/travel-with-us) for more details regarding each tour. Be assured First Dakota Travel will continue to monitor the situation and adjust or cancel tours as needed.

Hugs to all of you! ❤️ - Fran



FEBRUARY 2021

First Partners

FIRST DAKOTA TRAVEL

Here are just a few great get-aways we have planned.

JULY 2021: ALASKA

This cruise and land tour provides you a complete experience of Alaska and its beauty.

AUGUST 2021: EAST GERMANY

We will see sights that most haven't seen on other tours. A terrific 11-night journey.

SEPTEMBER 2021: WACO, TEXAS AND COWBOY COUNTRY

Don't just watch television... live it! This tour has so much to offer above & beyond the destinations.

OCTOBER 2021: CANADIAN ROCKIES - Wait List Only

Join us for a wonder that will last a lifetime. See the Canadian Rockies by train.

NOVEMBER 2021: CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK

The holidays are a great time to take in the "Big Apple."

Go to [FirstDakota.com/about/travel-with-us](https://www.FirstDakota.com/about/travel-with-us) for details on these tours.



WHAT IS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

Start your bucket list now. We have ours started. Find a planter, pail or bucket. In various colored markers, write your bucket list items individually on clothespins and attach around the top opening of your “bucket.”

Our bucket list items include:

- Dog sled ride
- Learn a German ballroom dance
- See the Magnolia Market at the Silos
- Eat at Blake Shelton’s Ole Red Restaurant
- Panoramic helicopter tour of the Rocky Mountains
- See a Broadway Musical and the Rockettes

Once you complete a bucket list item, remove the clothespin and put it in your “bucket.” By the end of the year, you should have a “bucket” full of your accomplishments.

We look forward to hearing from you on how your bucket list is progressing and what adventures you would like to go on. Crossing our fingers and staying very optimistic, we will start adventuring soon!

DID YOU KNOW?

With Digital Banking you can monitor your Bank accounts and Debit Card usage while traveling. Download our Mobile Banking app today. 🐻

FIRSTPARTNERS AND FIRST DAKOTA TRAVEL

Here it is the beginning of the year, so it is a good time to review our FirstPartners Checking Account and First Dakota Travel policies. Our FirstPartners checking account is our premier relationship account, which offers many benefits. We do ask our FirstPartners account holders to meet one of the following requirements to qualify for the account:

- \$25,000 in aggregate deposits and loans at First Dakota made up of checking, savings, Certificate of Deposits, real estate loans, or auto loans
- An account relationship with the First Dakota Wealth & Trust Department
- An account relationship with First Dakota Investments, Inc.

Eligibility: Accounts are reviewed periodically, so we ask that you take a few minutes to check your FirstPartners account and make sure you meet one of the requirements above to qualify. Or you can pay the \$25 per month service charge if you do not meet the above requirements.

Travel and Registration: Anyone may travel with First Dakota Travel. Deposit or full payment is required upon reservation to guarantee your place on our tours. We are happy to accept telephone reservations and can debit your First Dakota account. We will email you the registration form to complete and return to us. Please make checks payable to First Dakota Travel and indicate which tour it is for on the memo line.

Travel Tips: Why travel with First Dakota Travel? Because we select our destinations with you in mind. We work hard to offer a mix of day trips and overnight trips from 1-3 days up to 25 days. We include most expenses, such as meals, tipping, and insurance. Once you are on a First Dakota trip, our aim is to not nickel and dime you. We deal with well-established, financially sound tour providers with great guides so you can enjoy every minute of your trip. Travelers who choose to tour with us enjoy a key element for a world-class adventure: PEACE OF MIND! – there is a guardian angel looking out for you! When the unexpected happens, we’re there to see there’s a positive outcome in spite of the circumstances! We make a “good time” a “great time!” If you haven’t taken advantage of our offerings, I urge you to do so!

FIRST DAKOTA TRAVEL Q & A

We often get questions about our travel program and would like to give you some answers. If you still have questions, please call me at 605-995-7910.

Why does First Dakota have a travel program?

We implemented the First Dakota Travel program as an additional service to our First Dakota customers. We feel it is a win-win for our customers and a way for us to get to know you better and build deeper relationships. Group travel is a great way to meet new people and those who have traveled with us can tell you—we take care of everything! It is not our primary business, but those who travel with us are happy we offer this service.

Why is the cost for First Dakota's trips different from others?

We have said many times, compare apples to apples. How many meals are included? Is a cancellation insurance policy included? Are the gratuities included? What kind of hotels are you staying in? There are low-cost tours (with less included) and there are all-inclusive tours which we offer. People who travel with us tell us they appreciate no hidden surprises. Not owning our own motorcoach, and picking up passengers in more than one location, adds to the expense. However, we think if you added the total cost of each of the trips (including what you spend along the way), the costs would be about the same.

How come you only take long trips?

We have a diverse group of people wanting to travel with us, and they have many different needs and wants. Therefore, we try to include something for everyone. We offer everything from 1-day tours to international tours. As we get back to traveling, we will be working on a few shorter tours for 2022. However, we do need 25 people to sign up for motorcoach tours, so we need you to participate. For extended tours, we usually need 15 people. When we can partner with other Bank Clubs, it is easier to fill a trip. It is always fun to meet new people.

Why has First Dakota Travel been to Kenya 8 times?

As long as people are interested in going, we will be happy to take them. Everyone First Dakota Travel has taken to Kenya tells us, "It was a life-changing experience." Some have been back multiple times. There is a peace found on Safari that has not been experienced anywhere else in the world. Let us know where you want to go and we will do our best to make your bucket list dreams come true.

Upcoming tours:

2021

July 12 - 23, 2021

August 22 - September 2, 2021

September 13 - 19, 2021

September 28 - October 7, 2021

November 11 - 16, 2021

[Alaska](#)

[Germany](#)

[Pioneer Woman & Waco, Texas](#)

[Canadian Rockies](#) - Wait list only

[Christmas in New York City](#)

2022

January 30 - February 22, 2022

April 26 - 30, 2022

May 11 - 23, 2022

June 10 - 19, 2022

July 18 - 26, 2022

October 2 - 6, 2022

December 9 - 13, 2022

[Australia and New Zealand](#)

[Washington State Tulip Time](#)

[Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland](#)

[Hawaii Cruise](#)

[Mississippi River Cruise](#) - Red Wing, MN to Alton, MO

[New Mexico Balloon Festival](#)

[Boston Pops Concert](#)

Go to [FirstDakota.com/About/Travel-with-us](https://www.FirstDakota.com/About/Travel-with-us) or your nearest First Dakota location for full details.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL?

If International travel is in your future, read on. The CDC has issued a COVID-19 order that may impact your plans for reentering the United States. Effective January 26, 2021 travelers arriving in the U.S. must: 1) Get tested for COVID-19 no more than 3 days before traveling to the United States and show a negative test result to the airline before boarding OR 2) show documentation of recent recovery from COVID-19 before boarding. This new order applies to all air passengers — including U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents — aged 2 years and older. It also applies regardless of the length of time spent outside of the United States. Acceptable documentation of recovery from COVID-19 includes both a positive viral test result within 3 months of travel (or the time period specified in current CDC guidance) AND a letter from a healthcare provider or public health official stating that the passenger is cleared to end isolation. Passengers who have tested positive for COVID-19 will need to delay their travel until they meet the criteria to end isolation. Learn more at [CDC.GOV](https://www.cdc.gov).



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SENSATIONAL WASHINGTON

APRIL 26 - 30, 2022



This tour is full of beauty, nature, and landscapes. We will enjoy the beauty of the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival and also visit Tulip Town. We will jump aboard San Juan Cruises *Salish*, a splendid private motor yacht, for an exclusive cruise through the magnificent San Juan Islands. Our cruise route will take us through Swinomish Channel and under Deception Pass Bridge, as we search for orca,

humpback, and minke whales, bald eagles, harbor seals, Dall's porpoise and sea birds. We will spend an evening in Friday Harbor, a charming, historic, walkable seaport. Our second day of cruising aboard *Salish* will take us to Roche Harbor, then to Victoria, British Columbia. We will tour Victoria, as well as enjoy 55 acres of floral splendor at one of the world's most magnificent gardens, Butchart Gardens. We will enjoy the British tradition of an authentic Victorian High Tea. Then we board Victoria Clipper, a high-speed catamaran, for our trip back to Seattle.

Go to [FirstDakota.com/About/Travel-with-us](https://www.FirstDakota.com/About/Travel-with-us) or your nearest First Dakota location for full details. Space is limited. Call Fran at 605-995-7910 or email frietveld@firstdakota.com, if interested.