Hey!

Come on in!

Come come come - here, take a seat.

So glad to meet you!

In person!

It’s so rare these days, you know?

Most people plan and book their own vacations online. That’s the problem with the internet, it makes everyone think they’re a fucking expert on everything - sorry, pardon my language. It’s just that us, travel agents, hate seeing people waste their precious time off on pointless destinations where, even though you’re away from home, all you see is people that look and talk like you. Herds of tourists being funneled by HotWire or Travelocity into resorts for a sterile vacation experience. All because of the quote-unquote DEAL. What happened? You know? It used to be about the experience, about the spiritual growth that comes with being exposed to different cultures. Why go to Colombia if you’re going to be sucking on Starbuck’s coffee - am I right?

Here - have a chocolate.

You taste that? Doesn’t it taste better than any Kit-Kat, Frerrero Rocher, Toblerone, or any of those grocery check-out chocolates? That’s because it’s straight from the fields of Brazil. I saw the whole process - from when they choose the cocoa beans, all the way to my mouth - and now to yours. Now, every bite triggers a slew of memories, which are followed by vivid emotions that transport me back - so when I close my eyes, I’m there again; in the hot sun, appreciating the work and craftsmanship that goes into making what you’re currently eating. It’s not chocolate; it’s more than that. You get what I mean? Of course you do! You are here after all! So let’s get started in designing your next world experience.

Let me see here…..let me pull up your file….[as if reading the file] uh huh. Ok. Ok. I see. Yup! Right. Cool! So, based on your preferences and budget, I’m going to give you three options. I will make them as different from each other as possible so that you have real choice. Ok? Are you ready? Let’s get started! Do you want another piece of chocolate? No? Ok.

Alright! Let’s begin with the farthest destination: Delhi, India!

Now, if you’re not excited yet, you will be. This is a phenomenal place. Delhi is a city that will transform you. First off, there are no beaches around. I find that beaches can be a major distraction for tourists. Nothing original happens on a beach - people just lay there reading a book or a magazine they could have easily read at home; or they just lay there like seals with earphones jammed into their ears, listening to songs that are aligned with their own cultural taste. Unless you’re a surfer, a beach is a beach is a beach. A cocktail of sand, salt water, and skin cancer. So, no beaches around to distract you. However, the weather is fantastic! I see here that you’ve specified May as your preferred month for this vacation. This is great, because that is one of the nicest months, weather-wise, to visit. Temperatures can reach a high of 47.2 degrees Celcius, or, if you prefer, 117 degrees Fahrenheit. So, pack light! The added bonus is that while you’re enjoying the hot weather, you don’t have to stress too much about getting burnt by the sun. The pollution in the city keeps a lot of the rays out. It is thick! I mean, it has been estimated that over 10,000 people die in Delhi every year due to air pollution, but in comparison, stats for skin cancer in the area are really really low. So enjoy the sights worry-free. There’s a lot to see in the city- from ruins to monuments and, let’s not forget: the tomb of Mahatma Ghandi!

But hey, let’s not oversell it - wait until you hear the other two options.

Next on the list: Honduras!

Man, this destination was made for thrillseekers on a budget. Look, in 2016, it was estimated that over 66% of the population was living below the poverty line. What that means for you is that you will get very far over there on a very modest budget. And better yet, unemployment rates are as high as 28%, so there will be a lot of people with free time on their hands to show you around and with whom you can practice your Spanish!

And if you’re a real thrillseeker, this is the place to be. I find that a lot of those quote-unquote thrillseekers you hear about nowadays are nothing but phonies and fakes. Take skydiving, for example. The thrill, in skydiving, comes from the fear that you might actually die. Am I right? Yet, in 2015, skydiving related deaths were between 1 to 2 for every 100,000 jumps. In Honduras, that same year, there were 60 documented homicides per 100,000 people. Now, if the thrill is extracted from the fear that you might actually die, you can get way more of a thrill in Honduras - for very cheap, my friend! With way stronger bragging rights.

But, before you make your choice, let me tell you about your third option.

This next destination is not too far from home. I wanted to give you the choice of a domestic trip. So I’ve picked for you: Detroit City aka Motor City!

Man, Detroit has had the most dramatic decline in population of the past 60 years. This resulted in large numbers of abandoned homes. That means that it will be relatively easy for you to find somewhere to stay! And when you go out, places won’t be too crowded - making it easy and relaxing to walk around.

But don’t get too relaxed! Detroit, just like Honduras, offers its fair share of excitement! Ranked as the most dangerous city in the US, with more than 2,000 violent crimes per 100,000 people, you never know what you will get to experience. Isn’t that exciting?

Anyway, just talking about these options makes me want to go on a vacation of my own! Here’s the cool thing - you can’t go wrong with any of these destinations. I guarantee that once you return from this vacation, you will be a changed man. You will see things differently, and you will appreciate things like you have never appreciated them before when you return home.

You can thank me later.

So….what do you think? what’s your choice?