

Bob Showalter, Showalter Flying Service Begins Epic Trip.

For those of you have not heard about Bob's trip, here is the e-mail he sent out to chronicle his trip. It is a great undertaking and when Bob was at the Hall of Fame dedication, he was ready to take to the skies. See the link to follow his progress.

We have created a blog that will enable you to follow our trip, which will begin May 2nd, take a three week hiatus and end on June 25th. The good news for you is that if you don't want to follow it, this will probably be the last email on the subject you will get :-).

The blog's address is: <http://jpatw.blogspot.com> You can click on this link or cut it and paste it into your browser. If you save it as a favorite, you can visit us from time to time to see the progress. Several of us will endeavor to add posts each day to the blog allowing those interested to get a feel for the journey. At least for now, anyone that views our blog may post a question or comment and all will be able to see anyone's comments.

For those of you still interested, I'll set the framework for the trip below:

Mr. Jim Pugh owns a year old Citation CJ3, whose aircraft registration is N565JP. On aircraft transmissions, the initials JP are pronounced Juliet Papa. Thus the name of the blog "Juliet Papa around the world." Jim has led an adventurous life, but felt that adding a trip around the world to his pilot's logbook would be a wonderful thing, so he asked that the planning begin, which it did some 4 months ago. He was most interested in flying places he either hadn't been to before or wanted to see again, so the following itinerary was created:

N565JP Around the World Trip 2008

LEG ONE Friday May 2nd begins Orlando (GMT-4)

All departures are scheduled for 10:00 A.M Local Time

May 02 Orlando to Bangor (fuel) to St. John's (5.5 total flying) 1 night GMT-2.5

May 03 St. John's to Reykjavik (3.9 flight) 2 nights GMT+/-0

May 04 Iceland tour

May 05 Reykjavik to Helsinki (3.7 flight) 2 nights GMT+2

May 06 Helsinki tour

May 07 Helsinki to Budapest (2.4 flight) 2 nights GMT+1

May 08 Budapest tour

May 09 Budapest to Athens (1.8 flight) 2 nights GMT+2

May 10 Athens Tour

May 11 Athens to Istanbul (1.0 flight) 2 nights GMT+2

May 12 Istanbul tour

May 13 Istanbul to Cairo (1.7 flight) 2 nights GMT+2

May 14 Cairo tour

May 15 Cairo to Dubai (2.9 hour) GMT+4 leaving for U.S. the same day

11:35 PM departure from Dubai to ATL (15.5 flight) to MCO on Delta

May 16 Home at MCO From Dubai 10AM Eastern Friday GMT-4

LEG TWO Sunday June 8th

June 08 6:00 pm departure MCO Delta to ATL to Dubai overnight (14.6 flight)

June 09 Arrive Dubai 7 PM 3 nights GMT+4

June 10 Dubai jet lag recovery and tour

June 11 Dubai tour continues

June 12 Dubai to New Delhi (3.2 flight) (2 nights GMT+5:30

June 13 India Tour

June 14 New Delhi to Calcutta (fuel only) to Hanoi (4.3 total flying) 3 nights?? GMT+7

June 15 Hanoi Tour

June 16 Hanoi Tour continues or contingency catch up day
June 17 Hanoi to Shanghai (2.9 flight) 2 nights GMT+8
June 18 Shanghai Tour
June 19 Shanghai to Beijing (2.7 flight) GMT+8
June 20 Beijing
June 21 Beijing to Seoul (1.4 flight) 2 nights GMT+9
June 22 Seoul
June 23 Seoul to Sapporo (2.1 flight) 1 night GMT+9
June 24/23* Sapporo to Petropavlovsk to Nome to Anchorage (6.5 total flying)
GMT-9
June 24* Anchorage to Seattle GMT-7. 3.4 Flight (pick up a day crossing
date line)
June 25 Seattle to Little Rock (fuel) to Orlando (5.4 flying) HOME!
5:00 PM Arrival Party at Showalter-limo home for Chris Hall! GMT-4

Total Expected Flight Time 51.9 hours

The trip looks like this on a Mercator projection of the Earth:

A few words about the aircraft for those who don't live in aviation.

The Citation CJ3 is a ten passenger business jet. It has a range of 2150 statute miles and cruises at 480 miles per hour at altitudes up to 45,000 feet. It is equipped with the state of the art glass digital cockpit and flight management system, truly a wonderful machine that is one of the best selling turbine aircraft in the World today.

Our itinerary has been designed around these capabilities, but has been kept conservative on purpose. As an example, our longest non-stop leg for the trip will be about 1550 statute miles, 600 fewer than the aircraft is capable of. That leaves good margins of safety in every respect for the trip.

There will be five of us on the trip: Owner and Captain Jim Pugh, Captain Chris Hall, an experienced international pilot, Earl Downs, the retired partner of Jim and a former pilot himself; Mercer Dye, Jr., an aviation facilities designer, former FBO and current private pilot and helicopter owner and Bob Showalter, who will act as the Pilot in Command of record for the trip. Although I haven't asked for the totals, my guess is that the total flight experience of the 5 of us exceeds 35,000 hours!

Mercer has been designated as the chief scribe of the trip and both he and Bob have advanced digital cameras and promise to upload some photos of the adventure on to the blog. The blog displays the last entry first and the first entry last, so when you've been gone a few days you might want to scroll down and then read up to catch up with us if you are so inclined. You may post questions or comments on the blog and we will try to answer as many as we can. You can see we will seldom be still for long and the internet connection quality is yet to be known.

We appreciate your interest and kind thoughts as we begin what should be the trip of a lifetime in Juliet Papa!

Remember that when you view the blog for the first time, you should start at the bottom and work your way back to the top.

Best Regards to each of you!

Bob Showalter