



**Live Your
Road Trip Dream**
Travel for a year for
the cost of staying home

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Sound Bites from the Book

Traveling for a year? It is either one of your fondest dreams — or your worst nightmare! It's something many baby boomers have long thought of doing after we are through with the family-raising stage of life and before we succumb to old age!

The difference between whether you can make it happen or whether you can't is not how many obstacles you have, it is how badly to you want to do something totally life-changing — totally for yourself.

When we first told people we were thinking about doing this, no one believed us, especially the kids. "Parents don't just run away for a year!" they exclaimed.

We guarantee that your positive attitude will go a long way toward encouraging others to support you. Build a good plan, communicate it early and lovingly, keep a problem-solving can-do attitude, and never lose sight of your goal.

When we first began fantasizing about our trip, we mused, "Gee, we can stop anywhere we want, anytime we want — we've got a whole year!" Well, that is true, but you can't stop everywhere you want, every time you want.

There is never the perfect time to take this trip. Life does go on around you.

Once we got the rhythm of being on the road, we could feel our curiosity begin to creep out of someplace deep inside us.

If you try to plan your every move, you will begin to feel like you are on a forced march to that next commitment, not on a trip of joy and exploration.

Get it out of your mind right now that this will be a "perfect" year. It won't be. Emergencies happen at home, and they will happen on the road. The real question is what emergency situations will happen to you — and how will you handle them?

You actually need to get mentally prepared for re-entry. The tendency as you get close to home is to rush through your last few days or weeks. Resist!

Once you have settled back into your routine, be sure to take some time to reflect on what you've accomplished. You have done something that not many people can say they've actually made happen. Congratulations!

So, would we do it again? You bet! We will never have another experience in our lifetimes as awesome and memorable as our road trip dream.