

# Travels with PPS

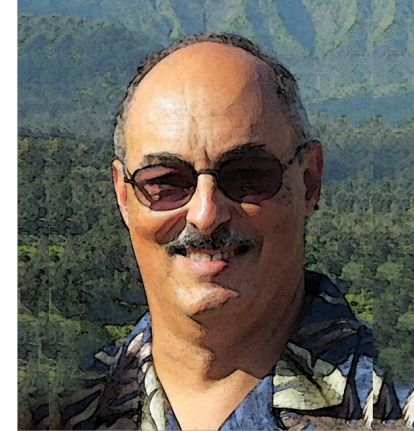
Peter Way

12-30-2023



# About Peter Way

- Born in Venezuela '55
- Polio in '57
- Leader of Northern Colorado PPS group.
- Primarily both legs. No quads, weakening glutes, arms getting tired.
- Several sports along the way:
  - Sailplane, biking, kayaking, sitski, sailboat racing, motorcycling, swimming. Now handcycle.
- Retired from engineering and marketing career.
- Speak Spanish, Portuguese, German, English (sort of)
- Maker hobbies: woodworking, metal
- Wife, 3 kids, 7 grandchildren. (4 in the UK)
- Enjoy travel. Mostly visits with some vacations.



Use your phone  
to link to QR codes

<https://bit.ly/3H66PeA>



▪ Kayaking Video

▪ Skiing Video



<https://bit.ly/47o6RsC>



# Travel since 2010

Destinations	+ Florida, Providence, NJ	
2010	**	
2011	**	
LA , Israel, Spain,		
2012 England 2x	**	
2013	**	
2014	**	
2015	**	
2016	**	
2017 Japan, Nicaragua	**	
2018 Paris, England	**	
2019	*	
2020	*	
2021	***	SCOOTER @ Christmas
2022 England	*	
2023 Nicaragua	****	



# The Tipping Point

**Nov 2021 trip disaster in FL**  
Bought TravelScoot, before  
returning Christmas 2021



- Struggled to walk from baggage claim to car at arrivals with bag
- Further decline in leg muscles since then
- Arms tired
- Scooter much better option than wheelchair service.



# Accessibility

**Accessibility is a convenience, not a mandate in most countries.**

- Learn about it before you go.

## **Pre-scooter & International Issues**

- Restrooms are often a flight up or down stairs.
- Paris is hard – lots of stairs to metro & other places, taxis recommended.
- Jerusalem – used taxis between gates
- England is pretty good – good accessibility. Just don't follow Google Maps when the sign says: "Not suitable for long vehicles"
- Spain – hit and miss. 4 steps up to an elevator.
- France (& Europe) – Make sure you know about any strikes before going to transportation.
- Ancient cities – challenging. Steps everywhere.
- Cities with a lot of post war rebuilding & veterans – good.
- Japan – good services, but the floor is way down there. Ramps that make locked wheels slide. Hillier than I thought.



# Accessibility



## Post-scooter

- Nicaragua – cities ok. Expect to lift scooter over obstacles.
- US airports are a breeze with a scooter– mostly, especially really nasty ones like Newark (Watch tram levels, onsite rental counters)

## International communication

- It's vital to have local phone and internet access. Check that your phone is unlocked before you go and can use local SIM cards. T-mobile has free access.
- Use WhatsApp or Signal for texting, video calling with friends, family, vendors.

## Verify battery limits for air travel

- <https://www.travelscoot.com/air-travel-with-an-electric-mobility-scooter/>
- You may bring in a big battery, only to have it confiscated or not get it back out on plane. Check each airline and country!





# Easier Travel

## General

- Spend more \$\$\$ to conserve energy
- Avoid holidays, peak travel.
- Fly direct, direct, direct.
- Buy flights at least a month in advance, or more.

## Ground

- (Rent mini automatic SUV, taxis, ride share, private car vs. bus to DIA)
- Rental cars inside airport. Quality is way down. No to Hertz, Avis, yes to Enterprise.
- TSA Pre is a MUST – often scoot through with casual check
- Airport – 2 hours ahead of flight. Get scooter tags at gate

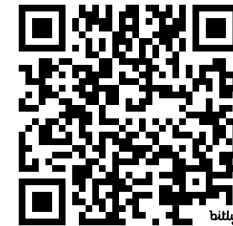
## Air

- On the plane comfort
  - Carryon that fits under seat.
  - Lightweight – weigh and remove unnecessary items at home
  - Bag under legs during flight
  - iPad instead of computer, phone instead of iPad if possible. Kindle app for reading.
  - I'm still masking up at airport/plane
- Inflatable pillows (under seat, neck pillow, lumbar)
- Sit by aisle, near restroom.
  - Upgrade legroom on international flights
  - Avoid seats in front of exit rows and back row that don't recline.
- Seat backs for walking support or folding cane under seat



# Using Travel Scoot

- Not a Travel Scoot promotion - lots of options
- Pros
  - Ultra light weight
  - Easy to assemble/disassemble
  - Outstanding in tight spaces
  - Excellent speed/range
- Cons
  - Expensive
  - Unstable compared with 4 wheel models
  - Needs comfortable seat – had to modify
  - Some fragile things



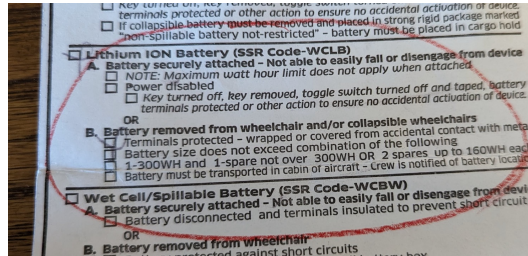
<https://bit.ly/4aEVgbH>





# Travel Scoot care & feeding

- Check on jetway without a bag – reduces rough handling.
- Batteries need special tags
- Made some mods for my situation.
- Looking at carrying some spares. Mods to make cables more resilient



# Questions?



Every journey ends with one step

