

Trip 2 – Episode #31 – Palm Springs & Other Desert Cities



Jim has a friend in Palm Springs, and that seemed like a good reason to go there. However, if you're in an RV, the place to be is outside Palm Springs in one of the other Desert Cities.

Specifically, the place to be is at one of the RV resorts in the Desert Hot Springs area. We chose this one, Sam's Family Spa.



On the way, we drove through a kind of wind tunnel. Miles and miles of wind turbines. That's a lot of energy!



Our RV "resort" really was quite an oasis, with lush palms, ponds, waterfowl and several hot pools to choose from.







Nice to be surrounded by palm trees, and we were able to use the pools a fair bit during our stay. It was quite hot, and we were happy to be able to finally use our awning.



What seemed especially odd was spotting snow-covered peaks in the distance.



We were lucky enough to be invited to Jeffery Huard & Alan Craig's stunning home, but I stupidly left my camera in the van. So I have no photos of their home, just this photo Jeffrey and us.



They drove us around town a bit and we had a lovely dinner together. We rate this tour **** .

The next day, we went into town again to do some exploring. There are definitely a lot of palms in Palm Springs.





Of course, when in (or near) Palm Springs, one must visit Marilyn. We found a place to park Charles, near where Google Maps told us we'd find Marilyn.

But we couldn't see her. So we asked a couple of men who were standing nearby. And they laughed at us. With good reason. We turned around and there she was, right behind us!



It really is a fabulous statue, outside the museum.



In case you missed her, Jim is pointing her out.





FOREVER MARILYN
By Seward Johnson

Welcome to the site of Forever Marilyn, the 26-foot tall, 24,000 pound monumental sculpture created by sculptor Seward Johnson with stainless steel and aluminum. This dramatic sculpture is extremely realistic, especially in the skin tones. Her unique patina involves ten layers of hues with a matte finish, except for the glossy elements of her lips, toe nails and the pearlized glaze on her earrings. A passion for detail and an uncanny realism of pose are qualities often associated with the works of sculptor Seward Johnson. Well-known for recreating life in our times in vivid realism, with this series titled "Icons Revisited," the artist explores in three dimensions why some visual images so captivate us that they become larger than life. These subjects outlive their own time periods and come to stand for something metaphoric and universal.

PALM MARILYN

Marilyn Monroe is the only actress to appear on the cover of Time magazine. In the 1950s, she was the most popular woman in America.

There was other interesting art outside the museum. (We didn't go inside, partly because of time, and partly because, you know, COVID.)



And more art around town.



Look who
Jim found!
(She's gonna
have some
'splainin' to
do.)



And there were other sightings...



We had a delicious lunch at Tommy Bahama Marlin Bar & Store (which both Jim and I read as Marilyn!)



And then we headed back to our spa to get ready for our next adventure.

We're on our way to see the sea! The Salton Sea.

