

Trip 2 – Episode #48 – There is Life after Sedona

When last we met, your intrepid adventurers were driving out of Sedona, wondering if they'd ever see anything to compare to the jaw-dropping sights in that magical place.

Well, thanks to our habit of staying away from the main highways, it wasn't too long before we found ourselves in an area with sheer red cliffs on one side and a creek on the other. It was a terrific drive.





Then we discovered we were in Coconino National Forest, and there was a picnic area by the river.

How could we resist a picnic area called **Banjo Bill**??

Neither of us had ever heard of Banjo Bill. Turns out he was a Kentucky musician and congressman who not only stood for Old Age Pension back in the 50s, he wrote and sang a song about it on the floor! Why there's a picnic site named after him in Arizona, we haven't been able to figure out. But it was a lovely stop.



Not only could
we sit at a
picnic table and
eat right beside
a rushing
river...

River rushing

... they actually
had a road that
went *through*
the rushing
river.



We decided not to try it with Charles. Maybe partly because of this:



It was a fun and picturesque place to picnic, but there was more for us to experience that day.

Once again, when we returned to the road, we started seeing telltale signs that indicated we had some adventures ahead of us.





And this glimpse into the future on our GPS...



So, soon we saw snow again.



But then we saw more and more spectacular scenery. Well, *I* saw it. Fortunately, Jim was watching the road.





It just got more and more magnificent.



So when we saw this, we knew we had to stop. If for no other reason than to give Jim a chance to actually look at what he'd just driven through (and what were going to continue to drive through).









After I offered to take a photo of a couple who were trying to capture everything in a selfie, they offered to take one of us. How nice is that? (Notice Jim is once again wearing shorts in snowy territory.)



Along with the spectacular vistas, they also had an outdoor market where Navajo people sold their beautiful crafts, which we were happy to support. They were very cool, and one of the women explained about how they're all registered Navajo artists who divide their time between creating and selling.



From there, we continued toward Flagstaff. Clearly they weren't done with winter yet.





There was even enough snow in our campground that our former neighbours had built a snow fort!



Despite that, we had a nice spot in the Flagstaff KOA. It was *very* chilly at night. But we were committed.



Because no matter how cold it was, no matter how much snow we had to get through, we were going to the Grand Canyon ... which will be covered in great detail, with several hundred photos, and some awesome Bettsian video, coming soon to a blog near you.

