

Travel Journalists Familiarization Tour

Chris Ryall, *Travel Life*

Tim Johnson, *Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail*



Dates: May 11-14, 2023 (3 nights)

Number in Group: Two adults

Name: Chris Ryall and Tim Johnson

Topics: food & beverage, spa, history, quirky tours

Participation Deadline: April 14, 2023

Description of the Journalists:

Tim Johnson has visited 147 countries on all seven continents, always in search of a good story. He's taken the Trans-Siberian across frozen landscapes during the coldest winter in a decade, cruised on a submarine below the Antarctic Circle, tipped back fermented camel's milk in a Mongolian tent, and heli-hiked in Greenland. He contributes regularly to the *Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Reader's Digest* and the *Vancouver Sun*, and also writes for CNN Travel, *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic*, Bloomberg, BBC Travel, The Daily Beast, *The Telegraph* (London) and many others.

Chris Ryall is a Burlington, Ontario-based travel and spa/wellness writer who has traveled to more than 85 countries while experiencing hundreds of treatments from caviar facials to temazcal ceremonies. A Spa & Wellness Management graduate, Chris enjoys holistic and spa practices that incorporate local culture and indigenous ingredients and is a judge for the Canadian Spa & Wellness Awards. He has previously judged other international spa award competitions. Chris writes for numerous travel and spa publications in Canada and abroad. He formerly ran a successful tourism and marketing firm representing clients from Kenya to the Galapagos Islands.

Description of the coverage:

Tim and Chris's stories will focus on culture, quirky tours, off-the-wall, any new emerging neighborhoods, culinary, and any microbreweries or distilleries, plus special culinary spots reflecting culture/local ingredients from area, and spa/wellness.



Media Outlet(s):

Travel Life (50,000 UMV), *Toronto Star* (941,672 UMV), *The Globe and Mail* (1,368,514 UMV)

NOTE ON LODGING, RESTAURANTS, and ATTRACTIONS:

Visit Williamsburg chooses particular lodging, restaurants, and attractions for specific reasons. Each familiarization tour (FAM) is different, and we ask that our partners are sensitive to the criteria that led us to these requests. While each FAM tour content has a different angle, there may not be coverage of the lodging facility if it is not in alignment with the story or blog post. If you have any suggestions in line with the criteria, please contact us with your ideas.

Names of Traveler(s): Chris Ryall and Tim Johnson

Room Information: Two separate hotel rooms

Dietary Restrictions: N/A

Transportation: Personal car

Day 1: Overnight hotel accommodations, dinner

Day 2: Overnight hotel accommodations, breakfast, lunch, dinner, history, culture, tour, nautical

Day 3: Overnight hotel accommodations, breakfast, lunch, dinner, spa, wellness, history, culture, phantom, tour

Day 4: Breakfast, early departure

DRAFT ITINERARY:

Dates: May 11-14, 2023 (3 nights)

Thursday, May 11:

- Dinner in Williamsburg – locally-owned

Friday, May 12:

- Breakfast in Yorktown – historic, unique
- Morning activity in Yorktown – history, tour
- Lunch in Yorktown – seafood
- Afternoon activity in Jamestown – historic, tour
- Afternoon activity in Jamestown – nautical, tour
- Dinner in Williamsburg – locally-owned

Saturday, May 13:

- Breakfast in Williamsburg – French fare
- Morning activity in Williamsburg – history, culture
- Lunch in Williamsburg – unique to the area
- Afternoon activity in Williamsburg – spa, wellness
- Dinner in Williamsburg – American fare
- Evening activity in Williamsburg – phantom, tour

Sunday, May 14:

- Breakfast in Williamsburg – family-owned
- Departure

Please forward offers to [Daniela Owen](#).