

All About Jonathan Smith, Executive Director at Travel Blue

By **Jas Ryat** on July, 23 2018 | People



In our "All About" segment, we pick prominent executives and ask them some fun questions to help the industry get to know them a little better

Q: Where were you born and raised?

A: Born in a small village near Birmingham and raised in Ruislip, near northern Greater London

Q: If you attended post-secondary school, what did you study?

A: Law & then Marketing

Q: Are you married? Do you have children?

A: Married yes 2 daughters & a Son

Q: What is your favorite movie?

A: The Bucket List, A funny story, with 3 important rules as a senior adult male!!

Brilliant acting with Morgan Freeman and Jack Nicholson

Q: What is the last book you read?

A: Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus, for those that don't know the book, is about fundamental psychological differences between the sexes. A fascinating read! We can ALL learn!

Q: What would you choose as your last meal?

A: Fabada, a Spanish dish from the region of Asturias, is a rich bean stew, with chorizo

Q: What is your favourite drink?

A: Bourbon & Ginger, tried it over 30 years ago on my first business flight to the US

Q: Do you have a passion in your life (or more than one)?

A: One passion is business to succeed and never give up. Another is classic and sports cars

Q: Do you prefer country or city?

A: The country, having traveled to many wonderful cities all over the world. To chill & relax is the countryside

Q: What is your favourite place to vacation?

A: There is no favorite, I have been privileged to travel so much for both business and pleasure.

There are still so many places still to see

Q: What's the first thing you do in a new place?

A: If visiting a city on business, then the hop on/hop off buses. A whistle stop tour!

Q: If you could choose any place in the world to live, where would it be?

A: Probably Singapore. It is the hub to one of the most fascinating regions, the Far East

Q: Which living person do you most admire?

A: There are many. In social media we read about individuals struggle, through injury, impediment or terminal illness and their personal story, they are to be admired

Q: Which historical figure do you most admire?

A: Nelson Mandela and how he struggled most of his life for freedom & justice

Q: Where and when were you happiest in your life?

A: A lot of soul searching to answer, but honestly, here and now. Like all of us, life has its many up's and down's, I have seen a lot & learned a lot, in my 30+ years in Travel Retail. My life, so far, has been very rewarding. I have met & continue to meet some amazing people. I consider myself very lucky.

Q: What in the world would you most like to change?

A: Like most of us more peace and harmony in the World and more respect for each other as fellow human beings

Q: What about yourself would you most like to change?

A: Nothing, be thankful for what you were born with, there are always people less able, be confident in yourself and enjoy other people's company

Q: What is the most important piece of advice anyone ever gave you?

A: A previous boss said, 'you are only as good as the success you are making now, not the success you achieved in the past'

My late Father said 'if you can live with your conscience, then make that decision, if you can't then don't.

Q: What is something about you that most people would find surprising?

A: A man of principle who hates injustice. That beneath these sometimes rather austere and serious facial expressions