

An American Actors Journey: Traveling through Europe and the UK during Covid

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By Dendy Media

Today we'd like to introduce you to Bob Tapper.

It's an honor to speak with you today. Why don't you give us some details about you and your story. How did you get to where you are today?

I'm an American actor traveling through Europe and the UK during Covid. I started my journey in January 2020 just before Covid hit and barely made it to Zagreb, Croatia before the world shut down.

By May, things somewhat returned to normal in Zagreb, but not enough to network or meet any other industry people. But, I was asked to be interviewed by Goran Milic, a well-known Croatian journalist with a career spanning over 40 years! We discussed my experience as an actor in Croatia during Covid for his TV show called Destination Croatia. That was a really fun experience!

By June 1, 2020, I was able to travel to London where I spent almost six months. The UK was somewhat locked down when I arrived, but by July most things started to open up. During that time I was able to complete a month-long course in screen acting at Pinewood Studios and shoot a couple of short films.

I left the UK in early November and went to Lisbon, Portugal where I am today. Everything was open when I arrived, but we were locked down for almost three months this past winter.

Since re-opening in April, I've been very involved with a filmmaking group here in Lisbon and was cast in a short film. There is a lot of creative energy here and some really good opportunities for an actor.

I've had the opportunity to travel quite a bit throughout Portugal and it is a beautiful country!

I'm sure your success has not come easily. What challenges have you had to overcome along the way?

My original plan was to experience Europe and the UK as a traveler, but also pursue my acting career by meeting others in the industry through workshops and classes. It was exciting to think what could come out of that.

Obviously, my plans did not work out as I thought. But, like all of us during this pandemic, we had to adjust. I think we've all had to step back a bit and slow up.

I'll never forget late March 2020 after arriving in Zagreb, Croatia only to have the city shut down days after I arrived. I was sent an email by the US Embassy in Croatia that flights were being canceled and leave immediately if I wanted to get back to the states. The decision wasn't easy, but I decided to stay.

To make matters even worse, on March 22, 2020, Zagreb experienced its worst earthquake since 1880. Coming from California, I've experienced many earthquakes, but this one scared me more than any I'd been through!

I really try and count my blessings. I've actually been really fortunate. So many people have had their lives turned upside down and experienced pain and sorrow.

We've been affected financially, physically, emotionally and we're all changed forever in certain ways. I've just taken Covid in stride and incorporated it into my journey.

My motto through all of this has been to just do what you can every day and just make the most of each day.

Let's talk about the work you do. What do you specialize in and why should someone work with you over the competition?

As an actor and traveler, I've had the opportunity to meet some really wonderful, talented, and nice people. Hopefully I've made some lifelong friends.

I was able to work on my acting by completing the Master Class in Screen Acting through the Actors Studio UK at Pinewood Studios in London. I've been able to work with actors, directors, and others from all around the world!

The fact that I've been able to continue with my travels and experience Austria, Croatia, Portugal, and the UK during Covid has only expanded my worldview and life experiences.

I'd like to be able to bring those experiences to my craft and make me a better actor or whatever path the universe has in store for me.

What's your best piece of advice for readers who desire to find success in their life?

I can honestly say that meditation has changed my life. I've been meditating daily for 20 minutes every morning since 2014.

For me, meditation comes easy but I know that for many it's hard. I get that. But meditation can take many forms. Even a walk in the park can be enough to still your mind and become calmer and more focused even for a few minutes.

But there are apps and so many resources now to help people get started. I highly encourage people to work on their minds before trying to tackle the world. It's about working smarter, not necessarily harder.

Speaking of success, what does the word mean to you?

To me, success begins with peace of mind. And from that place, going out into the world and using your God given talents to make it a better place.

What's next for you?

I plan to continue my travels in Europe and the UK, and meet people in the acting and entertainment world. I'm not quite sure yet what settling down means to me, but I'll know it when I'm ready.

Because of Covid, I wasn't able to spend Christmas 2020 with my family and friends, so I'm really hoping travel is safe this year. But I'm back to traveling in 2022 (fingers crossed anyway!)

Finally, how can people connect with you if they want to learn more.

My website is www.bobtapper.com and I publish a monthly blog that people can sign up for! You can also search for me on Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

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