

Travaasa Austin: Overcoming Obstacles For Our Anniversary

Description

[The trip to the Travaasa Resort in Austin, TX](#) with my lovely wife sans kid was a much needed break from parenting to better focus on just us. We love Avery more than life itself, but couples need that time alone to hold a real conversation and enjoy each other's presence.

We had plenty of wonderful, unbroken conversations on the way down and all weekend. But that's not all, we also indulged in quality drinks, for starters.

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Going Mom and I rarely have alcohol these days, but champagne is her favorite. As for Going Dad, I prefer sipping on scotch or vodka. I just happened to bring along a nice [18 Year Macallan](#) for our 9 year anniversary celebration weekend so I didn't take any of the precious bubbly. Happy wife is top

priority!



We had dinner reservations for both nights we stayed at Travaasa and that first night found us eagerly awaiting for a good meal. Being ones who go out to eat maybe once every two months, the first obstacle would be inspecting the menu for food worthy of our bodies and playing 20 question with the server on how everything is prepared.

This is usually a difficult task (for me, Going Mom isn't as bad), but they had taken notes prior to our arrival and expected our special requests. Turns out Travaasa sources most of their produce right from their own organic gardens on the premises and obtains meat/fish from local, sustainably raised farms/practices. I was in foodie heaven!



The fresh produce was my favorite part of the dining experience at the Experiential Resort, their okra, in particular, was wonderful! Crisp, fresh, and delicious; I couldn't get enough. And for breakfast, I just asked for a giant plate of mixed veggies which is exactly what they provided.



I can't say eating just veggies can get you very far, but I made up for it with a healthy dose of protein from avocado (thanks to Kelley for having me bring it along), wild-caught anchovies, and some [Mary's Gone Crackers Super Seed Crackers](#).



With food and drink obstacles out of the way, we had a few physical obstacles to tackle during our stay. Hey, get your mind out of the gutter, Iâ€™m talking about Travaasaâ€™s [Prickly Pear Challenge Obstacle Course](#).



From the site:

At 35 feet in the air, youâ€™ll discover your inner strength as you walk across the cables and telephone poles of our high ropes course. Begin at the Cob Web, then progress over Raider Bridge and through the Flying V to navigate Double Trouble. The linear progression of the course culminates with a fantastic reward: a 250-foot zipline flight soaring over the tree tops of Texas Hill Country.

Iâ€™m no super adventurer mountain man, but I enjoy these things and really donâ€™t let heights get to me too much. My wife, on the other hand, sheâ€™s not a fan of testing gravity, and although she was adamant about completing the course, she didnâ€™t try to bottle up her fear.



Donâ€™t look down, donâ€™t look down, donâ€™t lookâ€¦..CRAP!

But my fearless bride made her way through all of the obstacles and we met at the end to zipline down together. We met another couple enjoying time away from their little one who took a few pics for us.



And then down we went.



After the shaking wore offâ€¦, a littleâ€¦, I wasnâ€™t sure if sheâ€™d be up for the other Experience we signed up for, The Giant Swing, but just like [Tom Petty](#), she too, [Wonâ€™t Back Down](#). They werenâ€™t kidding about it being a *Giant Swing*!



[Photo Credit](#)

We could choose how high to go (all the way, duh!) and pulling the string had to be done by one of the swingers (ha ha). Without hesitation, Kelley let me know I would do the pulling which was fine with me.



We were up and down in about three minutes, including the back and forth swinging, but it felt longer. I'm sure my wife would agree. But she still wore that pretty smile on her face, so all was good in the world.

There are several experiences always going on at Travaasa, but we had done the ones on the top of our list and rainy weather put a damper on the others. I was eager to satisfy my need to move for the day, but that rain killed my plans for the bike pump course I was considering.

Just as I was ready to accept keeping the activity level low, we ran into the couple that took our picture earlier. They were both drenched in sweat so I had to ask for the details. Apparently, there's a Travaasa Challenge where you run six times around the paved road of the resort which equates to a 10k or 6.2 miles. Once complete, you get a shirt.

I havenâ€™t run in a long time due to a lingering stress fracture, but when it comes to free shirts, I *must* do it! Going Mom agreed to walk one loop as I ran and then she cheered me on as I passed each time. I needed to see her with each completion of the loop, the hills in Hill Country are no joke. A steep grade down to 730 ft and a steep grade up to 980 ft all within half a mile. Quadzilla!

Rain came down as I completed my last lap and entered the lobby, dripping sweat on their floor, requesting my FREE shirt. They handed it to me with a smile.

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That night we dined on more fresh

produce and delicious fish and meat while enjoying another beautiful view outside. Thankfully the rain stopped to allow us the opportunity.



More rain poured over night into the

morning on the day we were to return home. But we held on until the last minute for checkout. You can even stay longer for more experiences, but we did have to drive back and see our little girl. With no planned events for the day, I finally talked Kelley into doing the Travaasa challenge with me. “Just walking” I agreed.

Walking turned into a few strides here and there and eventually into finishing with all running. It took us a while, but the view was spectacular and the company couldn’t get any better.



There was just enough time to collect our prize shirts (I got another for Avery), clean off, and pack up to head home.



Go Team!

The time at Travaasa with my wife of 9 years was more than needed. We were able to reconnect in so many ways and both agree our relationship has grown even stronger. We will definitely return to this

adult only resort whether for a celebration or just a quick getaway. Everyone has daily obstacles, some big, some small, but when you have a wonderful partner, it's™ easy to overcome them all.

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