

Dating 101 on the Road

Are men the same wherever you go? Being female, I can only talk from a female perspective. Of course men are alike in some ways, but they also tend to be different depending on the location. After years of dating on the road, I began to notice similarities and differences in courting from state to state

Just like everything else, every state tends to have its own subtle cultural differences when it comes to what behaviors are acceptable for a given area. For example, have you ever noticed how people drive in certain areas of the country versus others? Speaking in very general terms, I believe people in different areas not only drive different, but they date different.

For instance, I find men in Texas to mostly be up front and assertive in initiating dates. Yet, this behavior seems to be contrary to Arizona men are more subtle and indirect. Interestingly, Arizona is the only place I worked where practically the entire surgical staff were dating each other. Married nurses were getting pregnant with Anesthesiologist's babies, and the head nurse (also married) was dating the head surgeon in the department. The list went on. I am not sure what that was all about. I would hate to jump to conclusions at this point. Many men in Arizona are Mormon which may also affect their dating rituals.

After observing these differences, I decided to do an informal survey of travelers to find out if they were experiencing similar dating rituals. What is it really like to date on the road? Are dating rituals different?

Stacy a traveler in Philadelphia describes the men there as charming, colorful, boisterous, and somewhat traditional in their values. According to Stacy, "Phili men can be hotheaded and gentlemen at the same time". Often, they are hopeless romantics and can be loads of fun. However, a good number of the men in Philadelphia are Jews.

Stacy's friend Linda warns travelers to "stay away" from dating Jews unless you are one yourself. She says, "more often than not...you will fall head over heels for them (charming Jews) and then they will want to hold out to marry another Jew." It can be so heartbreaking.

Other fellow travelers report, the men in Florida to be very unpredictable. Yet Gina, a traveler in California says men in California are the most unpredictable. California is the only place Gina has ever been stood up on second dates. "The guys would ask me out, take time to make plans and then pull a no show. I don't get it", she says.

Have you noticed any differences in dating from place to place? After traveling worldwide, John has decided to stop traveling and move to Brazil to find his bride. He says the women there are so different from American women. He can't really put it into words though. Another male traveler, Richard, is seriously thinking of moving to Florida

for the women there. He has a hard time getting dates in California, but not in Florida. He says women in Florida are more outgoing and fun.

Thank goodness people and places are different. It adds such a spice to life. Dating on the road can be very fun and extremely interesting if you are willing to accept the differences for what they are.....just differences. Although it is believed, by some, that the dating rituals are slightly different from place to place, some things remain the same. You may still attract the same kind of person and you may find basic gender characteristics to be the same. Most of all, you are the same person no matter where you go.