

# What Are Your 3 Most Interesting Life Experiences?

---

**Lindsay:** All right. So... So Georgia what would you say are three of the most interesting experiences you **have had** in your life? You are about...? How old are you now? You are 60...?

**Georgia:** Um, 65.

**Lindsay:** 5. So, you know, you **have lived** a bit. You would say.

**Georgia:** I would say so.

**Lindsay:** So what are the other interesting things that you **have done**? You **have seen**? You **have experienced**?

**Georgia:** Right. Um... I would say that all of the experiences that I am going to tell you about have to do with travel and...

**Lindsay:** Yeah. Adventure.

**Georgia:** Adventure being in different cultures.

**Lindsay:** Uh-hm.

**Georgia:** Meeting different people.

**Lindsay:** Hmm...

**Georgia:** Um, so...

**Lindsay:** What have you done?

**Georgia:** Well, I think that one... which I was not going to include would be going to college.

**Lindsay:** 'K (okay), you **have gone** to college.

**Georgia:** Yes, but being in Boston in the city...

**Lindsay:** Yeah, that must have been interesting.

**Georgia:** Um... I hadn't ever lived in a city before when I went to college, so meeting so many people that were very different than the people I grew up with.

**Lindsay:** Right. Yeah.

**Georgia:** People from different cultures. People from different socio-economic backgrounds.

**Lindsay:** Yeah... that is...

**Georgia:** People from um... different races.

**Lindsay:** Yeah. That is a good education in itself, is it not? Sort of a...?

**Georgia:** It certainly is. I learned a lot about music appreciation... um... symphonies and so on... went to symphony hall a lot. I would say... just such a well-rounded experience.

**Lindsay:** Yeah. So you **have had** a chance to study in another... in a very different city from where you grew up?

**Georgia:** That is right.

**Lindsay:** Yeah. Okay.

**Georgia:** With all that goes along with that.

**Lindsay:** Yeah. And what else? What... What else would you say that you **have experienced** in terms of adventure?

**Georgia:** I would say... um... two or three different trips that I **have taken** or... or stays. One was staying in Rome... living in Rome for six weeks the summer after I graduated from college.

**Lindsay:** Hmm. You have been to Rome? Wow! Sounds good.

**Georgia:** Yeah. I lived with a family there that was not from Rome, but they had been living in Rome for a while. The dad was working there for the United Nations and I found that um... living with a Latin American

family while living in Rome and meeting all of their friends who were, um, Italian, um was... and traveling around Italy...

**Lindsay:** Yeah, that must have been...

**Georgia:** Throughout Rome on my own actually, um, was -- part of the time -- was a fabulous, oh, you know, life uh... life changing experience.

**Lindsay:** Yeah, it must have been enlightening. Did you have any sense of culture shock or did you experience any sense of culture shock when you were there?

**Georgia:** I experienced culture shock when I came back to the United States.

**Lindsay:** Reverse culture shock, what they call that.

**Georgia:** Exactly. I did not have culture shock going there...

**Lindsay:** Hmm.

**Georgia:** ...or being there.

**Lindsay:** Did you feel like you belonged in Italy more than the US?

**Georgia:** I did. I was... I was dressed with... in the latest styles and... and I wore a... a long silk scarf around my hair like a turban and hanging... I sat on my suitcase and people thought I was from another country. I was all tanned up because it is very warm there.

**Lindsay:** What year was this in again?

**Georgia:** 1970.

**Lindsay:** Okay. Hmm. Okay. So, how... and...

**Georgia:** Yeah, the other couple of experiences that I had, I will just briefly tell you what they were... were also traveling experiences. Um, one had to do... Oh, one was, uh... walking around uh... I would say the British Isles with a girlfriend and... somewhat... We were in England for a while too.

**Lindsay:** Oh, wow, so you have walked around...

**Georgia:** In Paris.

**Lindsay:** Oh wow.

**Georgia:** And we were in Paris for a little while I guess um...

**Lindsay:** But...

**Georgia:** That experience of walking around Ireland and just meeting Irish people while they were on vacation. Like we were... or just regular people on... on... and our travels was absolutely, just enormously... um... wonderful. We never knew there were so many wonderfully, nice people...

**Lindsay:** Right.

**Georgia:** ...in this world...

**Lindsay:** Yeah.

**Georgia:** ...that were so giving and...

**Lindsay:** So you **have had** a chance to meet some really wonderful people.

**Georgia:** Very. Irish people were just fantastic.

**Lindsay:** Hah.

**Georgia:** So friendly and warm and inviting.

**Lindsay:** Yeah. That is what I love about traveling. Just having a chance to just meet the people and connect with them.

**Georgia:** That is exactly right.

**Lindsay:** Yeah. If you can go through life and say that you **have met** people from all over the world and you **have learned** about perspectives from different parts of the world, it seems like you **have lived** a good life.

**Georgia:** And then the last uh, place that I would like to say that made um, my life more meaningful, I think was going to Japan...

**Lindsay:** Uh-huh.

**Georgia:** ...when my daughter was there.

**Lindsay:** Uh-huh.

**Georgia:** She was working there and uh... we went to visit, so, um... I just found, uh... the Japanese culture um... almost... I felt like it was like I was standing on my head. Everything that we knew about United States and our culture and the way we think seemed to be the opposite in the Japanese cult... culture.

**Lindsay:** Um. Yeah.

**Georgia:** Um, I... and it was so unusually foreign from my perspective.

**Lindsay:** Right.

**Georgia;** That I just had, you know, to really think about everything in terms of, you know, the United... the United States and as well as I have in the past from my other trips, certainly is not the center of the World. Um, and I... I learned to try to think from their perspective and tried to understand why they would not say no, why did they...

**Lindsay:** Yeah, so it must have been interesting. Sounds like a... another... again another enlightening experience but in a different way.

**Georgia:** Oh yes. Actually... actually very much so.