

# Live Idea-to-Pitch Walkthrough #4: Ruthlessly Auditing Idea Fit

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## Today, we're going to talk about...

1. What we're doing and how to follow along at home

2. Where we are with our ideas now

3. What fit checks we've done and what is left

4. Attacking the matches!

Before we get this train moving...

What is going on in this very unusual series?

# Pitching should not and <u>cannot</u> take you that long if you are going to succeed as a freelance writer

### How to Follow Along at Home

- 1. Watch me do a piece of the pitching puzzle.
- 2. Try it yourself at home with your (included) subscription to the Travel Magazine Database while the process is still fresh in your mind.
- 3. Dig into our <u>past webinars</u> and 500+-question-and-answer-strong <u>On-Demand Coaching Concierge</u> (exclusive to Dream Buffet and coaching program members) for help with anything you're stuck on.
- 4. Come back the next week to let us know how it's going and share your successes.
- 5. Use our monthly Ask Me Anything call to get specific guidance live on wherever you're stuck.

# Where are we at now with "our" ideas?

#### What we did last call:

- Checked whether the airline magazines' airlines service the area we are looking at (particularly an issue in this geographic area)
- Looked on the page at the magazines we're considering to see if the idea might actually work in that section given what they're publishing

#### What's next:

- Check remaining ideas/magazines we didn't get to
- Do a deeper dive on the 9-step fitcheck process
- Make notes on the sections and how to translate our ideas in the upcoming pitch webinars

Do I have a topic rather than an article idea? Is it encyclopedic or is there a story to tell with a point at the end? Have I done research to make sure this idea is 100% valid? No businesses closing or going up for renovation?

Does this idea exactly fit one section of the magazine? Have I explained how in my pitch?

Does this idea have an attention grabbing hook that makes people want to know more...even if they're not already interested in the topic. Is this idea too topically or regionally specific for the size of the magazine? Should it be a basket of kittens?

Am I shoehorning the idea into the section? How can I make it a perfect fit?

Double check: Is this idea interesting to someone besides me? (The "tell a friend" test")

Is there something timely about this idea? If not, dig something up.
Openings, anniversaries, major upcoming events.

Congrats!
Now you
have an
idea that
can't fail to
sell.

Let's talk fit!

## Thanks so much for joining us today!

## It was a pleasure chatting travel writing with you ©

Have a follow up question on this webinar? Email <a href="mailto:questions@dreamoftravelwriting.com">questions@dreamoftravelwriting.com</a> and we'll cover it in an upcoming webinar or in our Monday reader mailbag post on the Six-Figure Travel Writer blog.

