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The Ultimate Ocean Destination Guide 2023

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Editor's Letter

WELCOME TO THE 2023 ULTIMATE OCEAN DESTINATION GUIDE



Once again, it's the time of the year to refresh, take a step back and prepare for it all again. For me, it feels, quite literally, that it has been a click of the fingers and, like that, another year disappears into the rear-view mirror.

My expectations upon entering 2022 were optimistic, if tinged with a hint of pessimism. However, sitting back and analysing everything as a whole, I'd say the industry can be pretty chuffed with what has occurred. And now, we enter 2023, which we are delighted to say for us starts with the annual Ultimate Destination Guide.

Spanning the globe, this publication puts the power in your hands, giving you need-to-know information on a range of destinations, as well as ideal pre and post-cruise ideas you can discuss with clients.

There is also a run-down of the new ocean ships launching in 2023 – and, no doubt, there are some exciting ones that are sure to attract regular and, hopefully, new-to-cruise clients.

We also speak to Fred Olsen Cruise Lines account manager Kerry Eades, who discusses the line's new experiences. As Eades explains, this is all about bringing the destination closer and enabling guests to create deeper connections. In addition, 2023 is set to be another busy one for Fred Olsen, as in January *Balmoral* will set sail on an exploration of South America, and will offer scenic sailings of Antarctica for the first time.

Gary Peters

Editor, Cruise Trade News

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Beyond the Caribbean's beautiful beaches lie little known island secrets and off the beaten track surprises. Holland America Line's carefully crafted itineraries blend the region's most popular ports with dozens of fascinating but less-visited gems.

Visitors may discover these tropical gems in greater depth through inside stories, regional cuisine and authentic experiences. Privileged guests will also enjoy a visit to the cruise line's own private island, Half Moon Cay - a 2,400-acre island where guests can enjoy miles of pristine white-sand beach and activities such as horseback riding in the surf, snorkeling, sailing, paddle boarding, kayaking, bicycling, a children's water park, private cabanas and villas, and more.



Cruise roundtrip from Ft. Lauderdale to sun-swept isles and the Panama Canal. Guests can take a dip in Half Moon Cay's crystal lagoon; unwind on white-sand beaches of Curaçao and Aruba; hike the tropical jungles of Costa Rica.

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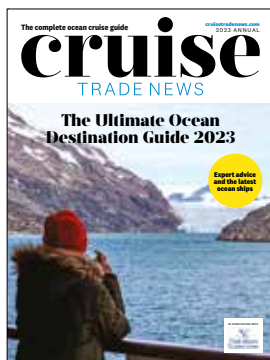
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What launches to expect in 2023



SIGNATURE MOVES

Fred Olsen Cruise Lines account manager **Kerry Eades** provides more insights into the line's new experiences and what's to come in 2023

What makes Fred Olsen Cruise Lines different from other cruise lines?

We are really proud of the smaller size of our ships and the opportunities they allow us to offer for our guests. We have a team of dedicated Journey Planners, who craft every itinerary from scratch, with our smaller ships and guest experience always at the heart of that.

This means that we don't simply run 'bus route' or A to B cruises, but are always showing our guests the very best of each destination that we can, whether it's scenic sailing in the heart of the size-restricted Norwegian fjords or coinciding a port call with a special event ashore.

Our smaller ships also allow us to offer a warm, more personal service for our guests. By sailing with hundreds rather than thousands of people, our crew can get to know our guests by name, remember their favourite tipple or how they like their breakfast. It's all about the attention to detail for us, and our crew always go above and beyond to make every guest feel special.

How has the brand been evolving in recent times?

Our wonderful new ships, new flagship *Bolette* and sister ship *Borealis*, have been with us for over a year now. They brought a host of new facilities to the fleet, from grand two-tiered theatres and restaurants to thermal suites in our spas and culinary demonstration theatres, and it has been great to share them with so many guests and agents throughout 2022.

But it's not just the hardware of our fleet that has evolved. Last year we unveiled The Olsen Way, which includes our new manifesto, and 10 guiding principles that set out clearly who we are, what makes us special and what sets us apart in the market. Particularly poignant ones for me are #2: Smaller is Better; #3: Hand-crafted, not mass produced; #4: It's All About the People. All of It. Everything; #5: We are Travellers More than Tourists; and #6: We Believe in the Joy of the Journey.

You recently unveiled five new Signature Experiences. Can you tell us more about these?

This is where 'We Believe in the Joy of the Journey' really shines through. We truly feel that a cruise holiday is different to other forms of holiday, and as such we want to celebrate everything that makes a cruise special.

Our new Signature Experiences really help to bring this to life for our guests. We have 'Itinerary Insights', which include lively lectures and smaller, more informative talks on cultural, artistic and historical highlights to give guests a deeper understanding of destinations. 'The Sky at Sea' will include open air sunrise, sunset or stargazing events. In 'Scenic Discoveries' there'll be chances



Smaller ships mean crew can offer a warm, more personal service for guests

"We are really proud to sail away from the well-travelled route and offer off-the-beaten-track experiences"



Kerry Eades says new flagship *Bolette* has brought a host of new facilities to the fleet



Balmoral will venture into pastures new in January when it sets sail for South America



Open deck spaces are a perfect place to relax on board and enjoy the scenery



Chefs will showcase local delicacies in live cookery demonstrations

when they travel with us. They don't want mass market tours or to have to battle large crowds but instead are looking to immerse themselves in the culture, history and beauty of each destination, and this is something we're proud to offer.

A great example of this in Isafjordur, Iceland, where guests can meet with local farmers to gain an insight into what it's like living in one of the most remote parts of Iceland and hear about the challenges of the winter and the history of the farm and the generations before them.

What's on the agenda for 2023?

It is going to be an incredibly exciting year for us. On 5 January, *Balmoral* is setting sail on an exploration of South America, and will offer scenic sailings of Antarctica for the first time in our history.

In February, *Borealis* departs on our Around the World in 80 Days cruise, following as closely as possible in the footsteps of fictional explorer Phileas Fogg. It's also the first time we have offered a world cruise departure from Liverpool.

More recently, we unveiled two shorter Grand Voyages for this cruise too. Still following the footsteps of the explorer, but with the choice of either a 26- or 53-night option. We are also pleased to be welcoming cruise conservationists from marine wildlife charity ORCA back on board the fleet in 2023, helping guests to spot wildlife out on deck and giving them the chance to feed into vital research on marine populations. Of course, we will continue to run lots of agent events, ship visits and incentives – it really is set to be a fantastic year. ①

to join a guide on deck to spot wildlife, flora and fauna as we sail through some of the world's most beautiful waterways. Finally, 'the Ship and the Sea' will shine a spotlight on Fred Olsen's five generations of maritime traditions, and include 'an Audience With' programme with captains and crew.

Meanwhile, our chefs will showcase the Treats of the Region with live cookery demonstrations of local delicacies, giving guests the chance to sample dishes famous in the places they'll be visiting and learning how to recreate them at home. We've designed these new experiences to showcase what we think is special about the way we cruise, and to help our guests to get the most out of their time on board and the places they are visiting with us.

And for experiences ashore?

We are really proud to sail away from the well-travelled route, and to offer off-the-beaten-track experiences in the places we visit. That doesn't mean we don't visit destinations we all know and love, but we show them to our guests in a different way.

We understand that our guests want to enjoy real and authentic experiences





Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines

THE JOY OF THE JOURNEY

At Fred. Olsen, we believe the purpose of a cruise is to experience the wonders of the world, by always looking out, not facing in. Seeing the world from the water is the best way to fully appreciate it and the observation lounges on our ships are designed especially as places to sit, watch the world go by, and enjoy the wonderful views.

Our small team of Journey Planners ensure our guests can always experience the joy of the journey itself as well as the destination.



CRUISE THE OLSEN WAY

To learn more, visit our Travel Agent Centre
at fredolsencruises.com/agent

Trade Marketing
trade.marketing@fredolsen.co.uk

Sales Support
cruise.sales@fredolsen.co.uk

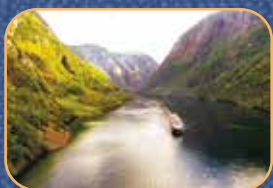
Our five new Signature Experiences

We have designed five new Signature Experiences which your guests will find on every sailing. Each has been created to ensure those who love to travel get the most out of their journey and the destinations on their cruise.



ITINERARY INSIGHTS

On our Itinerary Insights programme, our friendly speakers will give guests a deeper understanding of the history and culture of the places they are visiting.



SCENIC DISCOVERIES

Rather than sailing the fastest routes, we prefer to sail the most fascinating way. That's why we plan Scenic Discoveries into our cruises. They are designed to take in all the islands, ports, waterways, locks and lakes, fjords and interesting seascapes that are out there.



TREATS OF THE REGION

Our guests can come and enjoy our Treats of the Region sessions where they can meet our chefs who will show them how to prepare local dishes from the destinations we are visiting.



THE SKY AT SEA

Our Sky at Sea experience is held on our wide open decks where we host sunrise, sunset and star-gazing events. On special itineraries we seek out the natural beauty of the Northern Lights, Midnight Sun and Solar Eclipse.



THE SHIP AND THE SEA

Our Ship and the Sea Signature Experience reflects that maritime is in our DNA at Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines. Guests can join us for our 'audience with' interviews with key members of our crew, and find out what it takes to sail a cruise ship.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR YOU?

We know there are a lot of cruise experiences and ships for your customers to choose from so the 'Joy of the Journey' principle will help you explain why our on board experience is different to other cruise lines. Our 5 new Signature Experiences allow your customers to get beyond the standard tourist perspective, so they can discover real insights about the culture and nature of the places they are visiting.



Scan this code with your mobile device to learn more



Visitors to the County Donegal coastline can take time to enjoy the lush landscapes and the sheer immensity of the Atlantic Ocean

DON'T MISS...

From Cork in Ireland, passengers can take an excursion to Blarney Castle. This 600-year-old castle is home to the Blarney Stone, which – according to legend – you can kiss to gain the gift of eloquence.

BRITISH ISLES

Open clients' eyes to the jaw-dropping scenery, centuries-deep history and powerhouse cities that lie in their own backyard

Departing from a choice of ports including Tilbury, Southampton, Portsmouth, Belfast, Dover and Liverpool, British Isles cruises give passengers the ruby-shoe-heel-clicking realisation that there's no place like home. Itineraries convey guests to UNESCO world heritage sites, spirited cities and some of the world's most unadulterated natural landscapes, all within a week or two.

EDINBURGH

Set at the foot of the 140-metre Castle Rock with its historic castle top, Edinburgh is known as the Athens of the North. Like its Greek twin, the city is dense with historical, literary, philosophical, scientific and artistic sights. Every few paces, visitors pass a museum, gallery, monument, palace or religious site. In a day, cruise passengers can comfortably fit in a visit to the castle, a stroll along the Royal Mile in the Old Town and a visit to the National Museum of Scotland.



“It’s all too easy to overlook the treasures we have right here on our doorstep”

EXPERT VIEW

As a proud British company, we feel it’s important for Ambassador’s

British Isles sailings to shine a light onto the most fascinating corners of our great nation. With a whole world to discover, it’s all too easy to overlook the treasures we have right here on our doorstep. Ambassador’s carefully curated cruises have been designed to offer our guests the opportunity to experience the diverse wonders of the British Isles in one itinerary and on one holiday, courtesy of our wide range of destination experiences.

BOB MCGOWAN

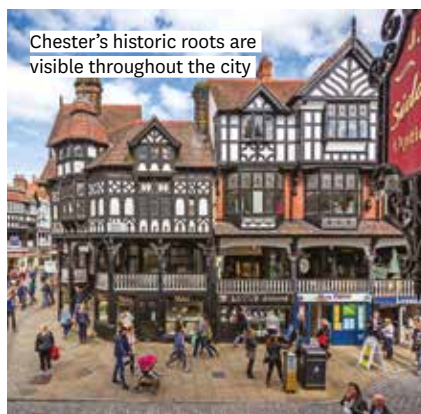
Head of guest experience
Ambassador Cruise Line

KILLYBEGS

From this bonny fishing village, cruise passengers can take excursions to one of the most remote areas of County Donegal – the Sliabh Liag cliffs. Surging up out of the Atlantic Ocean to heights of more than 600 metres, they’re some of the highest sea cliffs in Europe. Excursions take cruise passengers to the top of these rocky giants, from where they can watch the waves of the Atlantic rough and tumble with each other and, on clear days, see the Mayo Mountains in the distance.

LIVERPOOL

There’s enough to do in Liverpool to fill The Beatles’ famous eight-day week. The city region is home to more museums and galleries than any other outside London. It’s got two cathedrals and is one of UNESCO’s rare Cities of Music. Plus, it’s got an A to Z of shops and restaurants. One of the newest attractions is the Royal Liver Building 360. Opened in 2019, the immersive experience and tour ends at the top of the iconic Royal Liver Building where visitors can take in 360-degree views of the city. 📍



Chester’s historic roots are visible throughout the city



Edinburgh’s Royal Mile has stunning sculptures and amazing architecture

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

CHESTER

A 40-minute drive from Liverpool cruise terminal, Chester’s timeline stretches back to the Roman era and visitors can see evidence of this in its walkable city walls and in its atmospheric amphitheatre – the largest amphitheatre in Britain.

GREENWICH

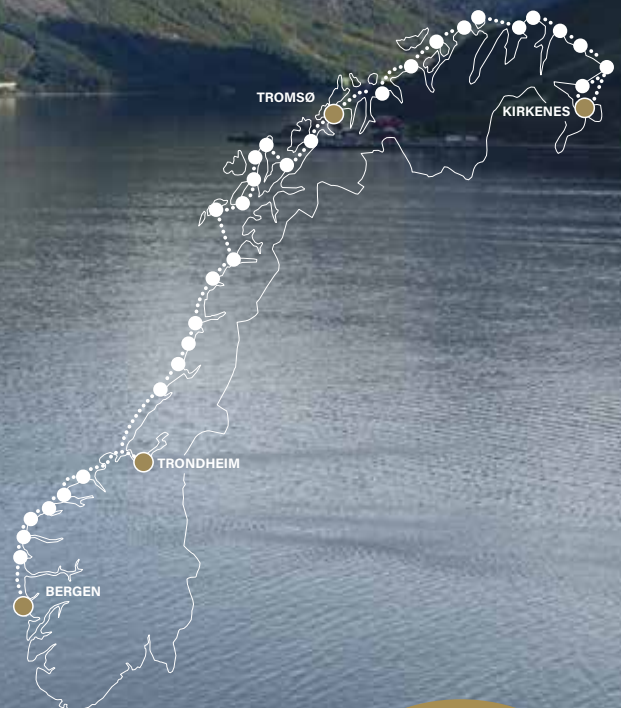
Standing on the Meridian Line at the Royal Observatory, walking the creaking deck boards of the 19th-century tall ship the Cutty Sark or mooching around the artisan, craft and street food stalls at Greenwich Market are just a few of the highlights of a visit to this south east London borough.

BERGEN

The occasional British Isles cruise begins in this southwestern Norwegian city and cruise passengers should definitely arrive a couple of days in advance to make the most of everything it has to offer. Taking in the autumn-coloured wooden wharf buildings of the UNESCO-listed Bryggen area tops the to-do list here.

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VOYAGES

*January 2023, 2 guests, Interior Cabin, Round Voyage (12 days Bergen - Kirkenes - Bergen)

CARIBBEAN



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Marella covers classic Caribbean favourites and is constantly adding new islands to its voyages

CARIBBEAN

There are more than 700 islands in the Caribbean, and cruises in this region spirit passengers between the best – from lush Saint Lucia to jammin’ Jamaica

Camera-worthy scenery and culture that captures the heart is what the Caribbean is all about. The name alone is deeply emotive. It conjures images of flawless beaches, tropical rainforests and pastel-painted old quarters.

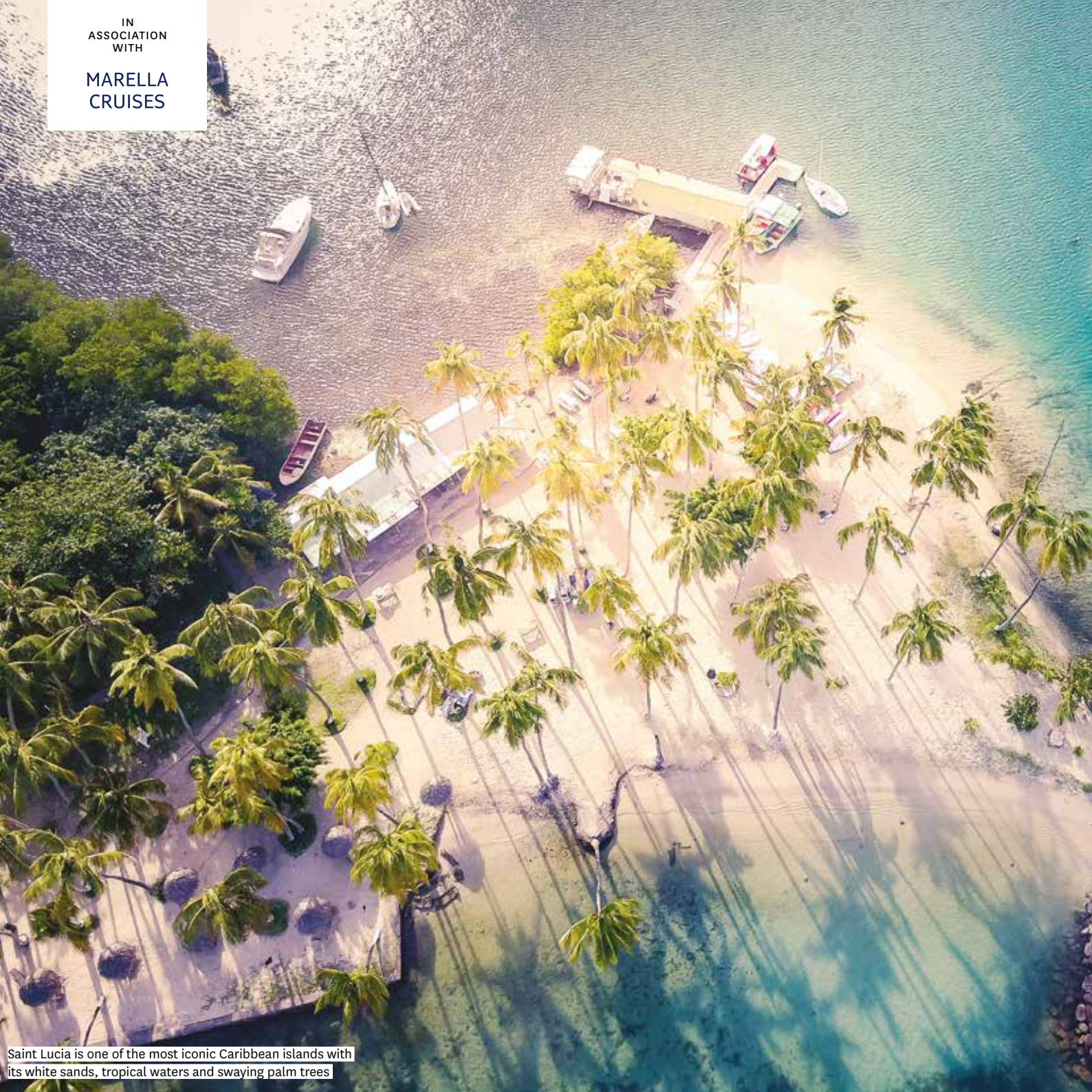
At Marella Cruises, we pride ourselves on making sure our guests have as much time to explore the Caribbean as possible. We spend fewer days at sea, focusing on getting to the places they love to visit as early as possible and leaving as late as we can. We also stay overnight in places like Havana, so they can enjoy the nightlife as well. We sail from Jamaica, visiting places like Costa Rica, Cuba, Colombia and Mexico’s

Cozumel. We even do a partial transit of the Panama Canal. From Barbados, we take in classic Caribbean favourites like St Lucia, Antigua, St Maarten and Aruba. And we’re constantly adding new islands to our menu – Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands are two of our more recent additions.

The best part is that we’re all inclusive as standard, which means at least four dining venues, drinks, flights, entertainment, tips, transfers and service charges are all part of the package. And speciality dining and shore excursions can be booked before departure too. Customers really can tailor-make their time away when they sail the Caribbean with us.

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Saint Lucia is one of the most iconic Caribbean islands with its white sands, tropical waters and swaying palm trees



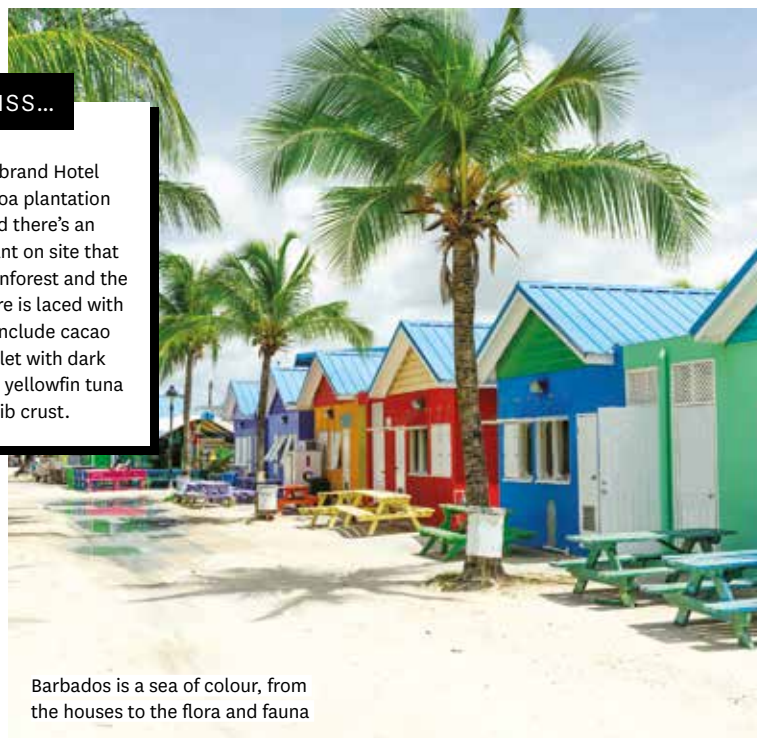
Tori McCrindle

Marella Cruises senior
marketing manager

“We have an unbeatable range of hotels available to tag onto our cruises. Add a seven-night stay, either before or after your cruise, to get the best of both worlds – a week on board and a week in either Jamaica or Barbados.”

DON'T MISS...

Luxury chocolate brand Hotel Chocolat has a cocoa plantation on Saint Lucia and there's an open-sided restaurant on site that looks out over the rainforest and the Pitons. The menu here is laced with chocolate. Dishes include cacao cannelloni, beef fillet with dark chocolate gravy, and yellowfin tuna with a cacao nib crust.



Barbados is a sea of colour, from the houses to the flora and fauna

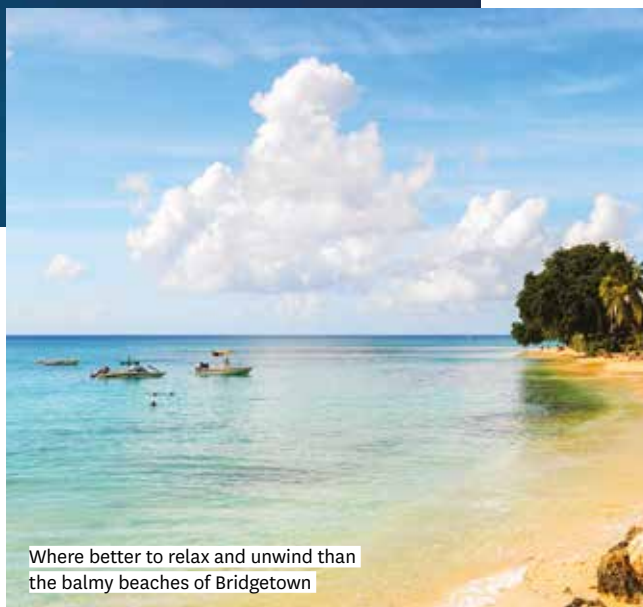
Oyster-white sands, tilting palms and bath-warm waters are the calling cards of the Caribbean islands, but each one has its own quirks, too, such as Saint Lucia with its fang-shaped Pitons and hot springs, or Grenada with its spice-scented interiors. Itineraries in this region vary, but common embarkation ports include Miami and Fort Lauderdale in Florida, Montego Bay in Jamaica and Bridgetown in Barbados.

BRIDGETOWN

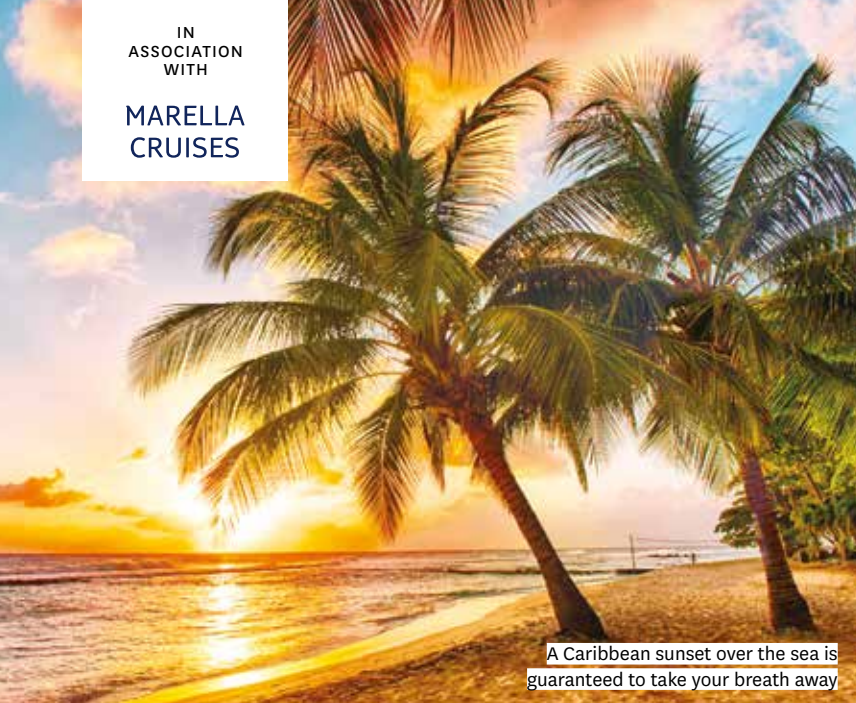
Exploring the UNESCO world heritage-recognised buildings in Bridgetown's historic centre, sunbathing on the beaches of the Platinum Coast, sipping rum punches to the sound of reggae in St Lawrence Gap, spotting turtles on a boat trip, and taking 4x4 excursions into the island's interior to catch a glimpse of green monkeys are just a few of the options open to cruise passengers visiting Barbados.

FALMOUTH

The Jamaican capital puts cruise passengers within easy reach of two of the country's top sights – the Martha Brae River and Dunn's River Falls. At the former, visitors can board bamboo rafts and be punted through the mangroves by Jamaica's answer to Venice's gondoliers. At the latter, they can climb to the top of a 50-metre waterfall – tell clients it's easier than it sounds, as the falls are shaped like a staircase.



Where better to relax and unwind than the balmy beaches of Bridgetown



A Caribbean sunset over the sea is guaranteed to take your breath away



Getting into the groove in Falmouth

NASSAU

The capital of the 700-plus Bahamian islands is one of the most popular ports in the Caribbean. It is situated on the 21-mile long New Providence, one of the 30 inhabited islands that was a British colony from 1718 to 1973, and it was this legacy – along with piracy – that shaped what is there today, with islanders driving on the left and familiar red letter boxes dotted around the streets. Ships dock in the central Prince George Wharf, which is within easy walking distance of

“We have three ships based in the Caribbean each winter, sailing from Cuba to Colombia, Puerto Rico to the Panama Canal.”

Tori McCrindle

Marella Cruises senior marketing manager

the bustling shops of Bay Street and the Straw Market, the swashbuckling Pirates of Nassau attraction, and Parliament Square, where pastel pink buildings are fronted by a statue of Queen Victoria.

SAINT LUCIA

Thanks to the Pitons, Saint Lucia is one of the most iconic Caribbean islands. These incisor-shaped mountains bite up out of the earth on the island's west coast and one of the best ways to see them is on a catamaran trip. Boat trip itineraries usually include a stop off in the fishing village of Soufrière, too, from where passengers are taken to the island's hot springs and mud baths for a dip. 🌊

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

BARBADOS

As many Caribbean cruises sail round trip from Bridgetown, Barbados is an obvious choice for a pre or post-cruise stay. A few overnights on the island will give clients the opportunity to visit Oistins Fish Fry. During this Friday night institution, dozens of grills are set up in Oistins Bay Gardens and chefs cook everything from flying fish to jerk chicken over flames.

JAMAICA

Caribbean cruises often sail round trip from Jamaica, so it's an ideal place for a pre or post-cruise stay. Visitors can use the extra time on the island to visit Negril. This west coast resort is renowned for its four-mile beach, its cliff jumping and sunsets that set the sky ablaze.

CAPE VERDE

Cruise passengers who want to break up the long journey home can book a stay in Cape Verde. This archipelago is the place for wound-down holidays that revolve around the beach. The longest strip of sand can be found on the island of Boa Vista – Lacacao Beach is a 14-kilometre leash of crème brûlée-coloured sand.



Tori McCrindle

Marella Cruises senior marketing manager

“TUI Airways flights are included with a Marella cruise holiday, and customers can fly to the Caribbean from closer to home with eight different airports to choose from.”

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the dramatic landscapes of Alaska

ALASKA

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forests and whale-rich waters

Regent Seven Seas Cruises' top included excursions

KETCHIKAN, EAGLE ISLAND SEA KAYAK

Paddle a kayak through the sheltered waters off Clover Pass, taking in the natural beauty of Tongass National Forest.

JUNEAU, WHALE WATCHING & WILDLIFE QUEST

Cruise into the pristine waters off Juneau, an ideal area to spot humpback whales voraciously feeding to fatten up for their winter migration south.

SKAGWAY, WHITE PASS SCENIC RAILROAD

Hop aboard the vintage White Pass & Yukon Route Railway for an immensely picturesque train ride high into the mountains, following a path blasted out of the rocks in 1898 during the height of the Klondike Gold Rush.

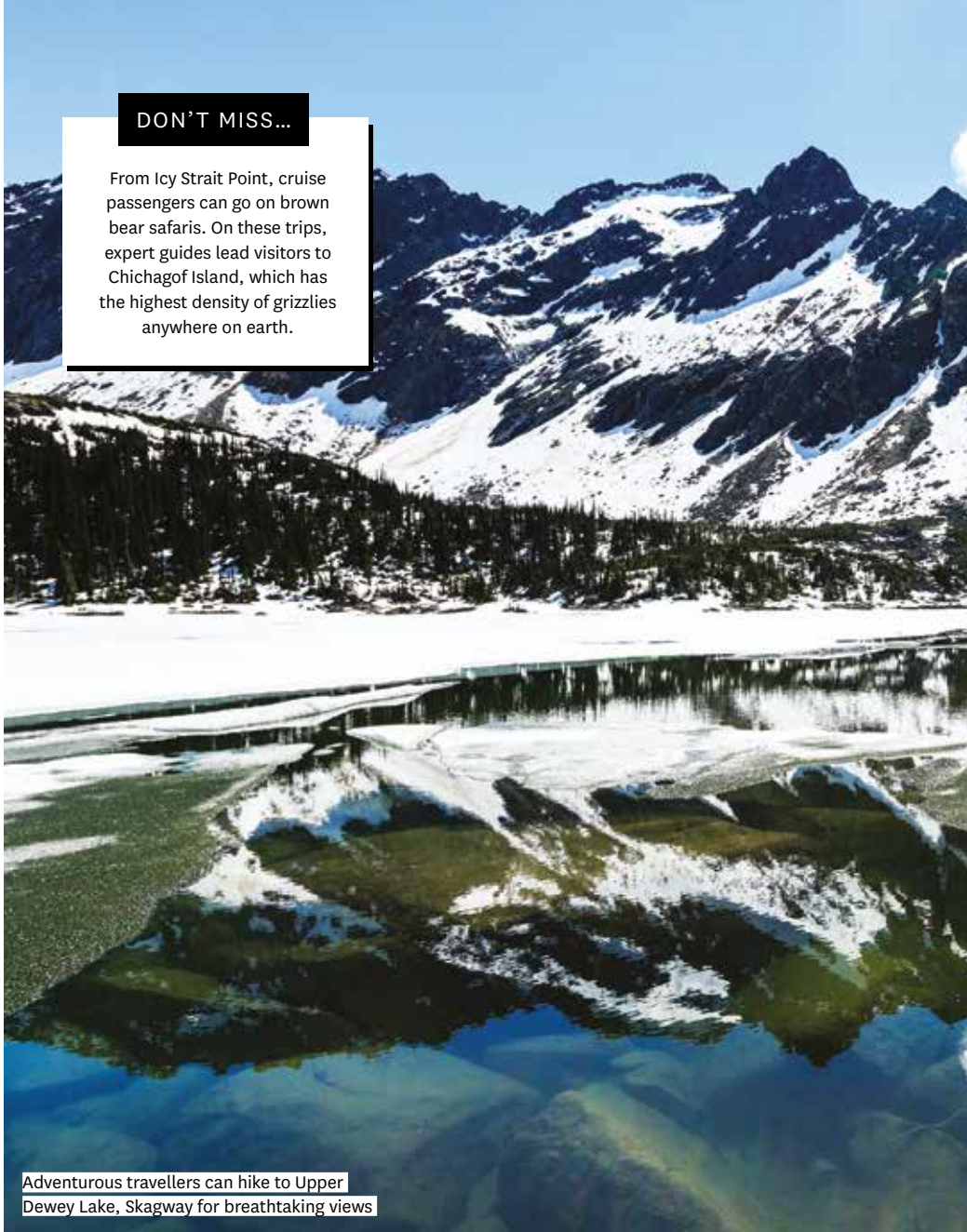
Once nicknamed The Last Frontier due to its remoteness, the US state of Alaska has become more and more accessible over the years thanks to cruising. Commonly sailing round trip from Vancouver, or from Vancouver to Seward and vice versa, Alaskan cruises give passengers the chance to see glaciers, tundras and mountains that look more like well-whipped meringues than land. Visitors to this region will also have the opportunity to glimpse orcas, humpback whales, brown bears and sea eagles in their natural habitats.

JUNEAU

As Alaska's capital city, positioned at the base of Mount Juneau and at the midpoint of the inside passage, guests are spoiled for choice for ways to explore this city. It is the perfect destination to be introduced to Alaska's stunning scenery, as guests can take a ride on Mount Roberts Tramway,

DON'T MISS...

From Icy Strait Point, cruise passengers can go on brown bear safaris. On these trips, expert guides lead visitors to Chichagof Island, which has the highest density of grizzlies anywhere on earth.



Adventurous travellers can hike to Upper Dewey Lake, Skagway for breathtaking views



“To experience the dramatic landscapes of Alaska, Regent Seven Seas Cruises is the only choice. Our intimate voyages allow for deep exploration of the untamed wilderness. Our vast included shore excursion programme means that guests can curate unique adventures with varied experiences”

Georgia Lewis

Regent Seven Seas Cruises UK
sales manager

conveniently located at the port. Guests can absorb endless mountain views from 1,800 feet in the air as well as the Gastineau Channel, Stephens Passage and the Silver Bow Basin, take in views like no other with a helicopter ride landing on the bright blue Mendenhall Glacier, or marvel at the natural landscapes such as impressive glacial formations.

KETCHIKAN

Located at the southern tip of Alaska, Ketchikan has several claims to fame. The city sports the largest national forest in the USA, it's known as the tinned salmon capital of the world, and it's home to more totem poles than anywhere else in the world. The latter honour the indigenous Tlingit population that once used the Ketchikan area as a summer fishing base and visitors to the city can



Alaska

The remarkable Hubbard Glacier, 76 miles long and still growing

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

SEWARD

This Alaskan city looks out over the waters of the Resurrection Bay fjord and, as a popular embarkation and disembarkation port for Alaskan cruises, it lends itself easily to pre and post cruise stays.

VANCOUVER

In this Canadian city and popular Alaskan cruise embarkation port, skyscrapers give way to mountains. The to-do list here is topped by visits to the 1,000 acre Stanley Park, tucking into seafood on Granville Island and hiking the Grouse Grind – a 1.8 mile trail up Grouse Mountain.

OKANAGAN VALLEY

A 50-minute flight from Vancouver will get cruise passengers to Canada's Okanagan Valley where 185 wineries are dotted across the banks of the Okanagan Lake producing Chardonnays, Rieslings and Pinot Gris.



Brown bear safaris give a glimpse of grizzlies in their natural habit



“Alaska itineraries are perfect for guests to tap into their inner adventurer”

Georgia Lewis

Regent Seven Seas Cruises UK
sales manager

see them at their most concentrated in the Saxman Totem Park, Totem Bight State Park and in the Totem Heritage Center.

THE HUBBARD GLACIER

At 76 miles long and 365 metres deep, the Hubbard Glacier is the largest tidewater glacier in North America. The ice giant is also known as The Galloping Glacier because it's continuing to grow and advance. Some cruise itineraries take passengers right past it, through waters filled with harbour seas and beneath skies filled with more than 200 species of birds.

SKAGWAY

Skagway is a movie set of a city. During the gold rush of the late 18th century, prospectors used it as a springboard to the goldfields of Canada's Yukon area and many of the buildings from this time still remain, from saloons and cigar stores to mission buildings. Visitors can simply stroll the streets imagining the gun fights and bar brawls that once unfolded there or they can take a sightseeing trip on the narrow-gauge railway that opened in 1900 to hasten gold hunters into the Yukon. 📍



Georgia Lewis

Regent Seven Seas
Cruises UK
sales manager

“There is no better way to experience an Alaskan adventure than from the comfort of the world’s most luxurious ship, *Seven Seas Explorer*. Every luxury is included, so after a day of exploring, guests can relax knowing everything is taken care of”

Passengers can taste some of La Palma's finest tipples and learn about the region's unique wine-making processes

DON'T MISS...

La Palma has been producing wine since the 16th century and today's cruise passengers can take wine-tasting excursions that allow them to find out more about this history and to taste a few tipples. These trips usually centre around Fuencaliente, where a volcanic ash called picón helps to give the white grapes their taste.



Atlantic ISLANDS

Soaking in the sea off the west coast of Africa, the Atlantic Islands offer cruise passengers hiking opportunities, beach time and volcanic vistas

The islands of the Atlantic are as different to each other as night and day. There are islands with lava-crusted interiors and there are others filled with forests. Some islands have volcanic black beaches while some have platinum sands. There are options with dusk 'til dawn nightlife and there are places that par it down. Taking a cruise in this region allows passengers to really see the contrast, introducing guests to the very best Madeira, the Canaries, Cape Verde and co have to offer.

FUERTEVENTURA

The sand in Corralejo Natural Park, on the northeast coast of Fuerteventura, spreads out for more than 18 square kilometres and is blonder than a Barbie doll's hair.

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

WINCHESTER

Just a 25-minute drive from Southampton, where some Atlantic Island itineraries depart or end, Winchester was once the medieval capital of Britain. Evidence for this can be found at The Great Hall, which is one of the finest surviving Medieval aisled halls in the country. This hall is also home to a 13th-century replica of King Arthur's round table.

LA GOMERA

An hour's ferry journey will take cruise passengers from Tenerife, where many Atlantic Island cruises depart and end, to La Gomera. One of the quieter Canaries, the island's colour scheme is green. Its interiors are filled with forests, including the 66 million-year-old UNESCO-recognised laurel forest in Garajonay National Park.

COSTA ADEJE

Located on the south coast of Tenerife, Costa Adeje is one of the island's more reserved resorts. Its beaches have Blue Flags, its seaside promenade is sprinkled with boutiques and its restaurants serve Spanish specialities like paella and are candle-lit at night.

There are multiple ways visitors can experience the brilliance of this protected area of coast: they can drive into it on a 4x4 excursion, sail past it on a boat trip, or pack a picnic and visit the more traditional beach area near Corralejo.

LANZAROTE

With its volcanic soils, lava fields and black sand beaches, Lanzarote has an extraterrestrial look to it. Nowhere is this more pronounced than in Timanfaya National Park, where centuries of volcanic eruptions have left behind a crater scape that mimics the moon. There hasn't been an eruption in the park since the 19th century, but there's still geothermal activity in the area, and visitors can watch cookery demonstrations that use the earth's heat to cook everything from sausages to potatoes.

MADEIRA

Ascending 560 metres in the cable car to the hilltop suburb of Monte tops to the to-do list in Funchal, Madeira's capital. Once at the top, cruise passengers can visit Monte Palace Tropical Garden with its worldwide plant collection and desert oasis looks. When it comes to getting back down to sea-level, game guests can hop in a traditional 'basket car' – Madeira's answer to the toboggan 'driven' by two expert 'carreiros' dressed in straw hats. ❶

“The Atlantic Islands’ diverse landscapes make them ideal for a rich and varied cruise”

EXPERT VIEW

The Atlantic Islands remain a perennial favourite with guests seeking some winter sunshine a little closer to home. These islands are just off the coast of north Africa and offer almost year-round rays. While the good weather is the main attraction, the islands' diverse landscapes make them ideal for a rich and varied cruise. There's cobbled city streets in Gran Canaria, Tenerife's famous volcano Mount Teide, lunar landscapes in Lanzarote, botanical wonders in Madeira, or tiny green islands like La Gomera.

TORI MCCRINDLE

Senior marketing manager
Marella Cruises



Lanzarote's picturesque Papagayo Beach, framed by the island's volcanic rocks



Arctic CIRCLE

From seeing the Northern Lights to experiencing the Midnight Sun, Arctic cruises open up a world of one-of-a-kind experiences and sights

Cruises to the Arctic Circle take passengers to the top of the world. The rules of nature don't seem to apply out here. This is a part of the world where the sun still shines at midnight, where the sky flashes pink, green and purple instead of blue, and where the landscapes are white more often than they are green. Arctic Circle itineraries depart from a wide range of ports, from Tilbury and Dover in the UK to Reykjavik in Iceland, Amsterdam in Holland and Bergen in Norway.

ALTA

Located on the north coast of Norway, Alta is said to be one of the best places in the country to see the elusive Northern

DON'T MISS...

In winter, from ports such as Tromsø, cruise passengers can go on dog sledding excursions. Pulled by a team of huskies, guests will sled through a white wilderness of frozen lakes and snow-frosted forests and even get the opportunity to mush their dogs themselves.



Lights and some cruise itineraries feature an overnight in the city, so passengers have even more of a chance to see the sky strobing pink and green. In winter, Alta is also home to an igloo hotel, which is built afresh from ice every year. Visitors can take guided tours even if they're not staying over.

NANORTALIK

Greenland's most southern town is also known as 'the place of the polar bears' and visitors can sometimes catch a glimpse of these animals hunting on the sea ice from the shore of the town. Close encounters with nature don't end here, either. Cruise passengers can also take whale and seal watching trips in the waters that surround the remote settlement.



On Norway's north coast, Alta is beautiful by day, while by night it is one of the best places to catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights

EXPERT VIEW

The Arctic is such an incredible place to visit by cruise. With natural phenomena such as the Northern Lights and Midnight Sun, this region offers so many breathtaking experiences best viewed from the water. It's a region blessed with natural beauty, but there are some exceptional experiences to be had ashore too, perfect for those looking for adventure and to explore a lesser travelled part of the world.

MARTIN LISTER

Head of itinerary planning
and destination experience
Fred Olsen Cruise Lines

TROMSØ

In summer, Tromsø basks in the glow of the midnight sun. One of the best ways to appreciate the light is to take the cable car to the top of Mount Storsteinen, 421 metres above sea level. From the viewing platform, visitors get panoramic views of the city and the fjords that surround it. There's a cafe there, too, with floor-to-ceiling windows and a menu that goes heavy on local specialties like reindeer stew and bacalao – a Norwegian fish stew. 📍

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

BERGEN

Located on the lower east coast of Norway, Bergen is the starting point for some Arctic Circle cruises, so it lends itself nicely to pre and post-cruise stays. Visitors can explore the UNESCO-listed wharf buildings on the Bryggen waterfront and take the cable car up to the top of the city's highest mountain for panoramic views.

REYKJAVIK

Reykjavik's cultural cup flows over. The world's most northern capital city is full of museums, galleries, concert venues, bars and restaurants and it's also home to the second-take-inducing Hallgrímskirkja Church, which looks like it could launch into space at any second.

AMSTERDAM

If your clients are looking for something a little different to do in the Dutch capital, point them in the direction of the A'Dam Lookout. This 100-metre-tall tower has a 360-degree observation platform and panoramic restaurant on the top.

Delight in the bright colours and soothing sounds of Copenhagen's 17th-century Nyhavn waterfront

DON'T MISS...

From Aarhus, passengers can take an excursion to Jelling to see the UNESCO-listed Jelling Stones. Dating back to the 10th century, these huge runestones bear inscriptions that include the first ever documented use of the word 'Denmark', earning them the reputation for being the 'birth certificate' of the nation.

Baltic & SCANDINAVIA

Explore Denmark, Sweden, Finland,
Poland and beyond on a Baltic and
Scandinavia cruise

Scandinavia is the land of *hygge* – the Danish term for creating a warm atmosphere and enjoying good times with good people – making it an ideal destination for a cruise. In this part of the world, sharing the local food and drink with travel companions is just as important as seeing the sights. Here memories are made of steaming coffees, topling *Smørrebrøds* and plates of silky herring as much as they are of old town ambles, museum mooches and forest hikes.

Prior to 2022, some of the most popular Baltic and Scandinavian cruise



Visitors to Oslo can dig into the fascinating story of Alfred Nobel, the man behind the renowned prize

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

MALMO

Just across the Øresund Bridge from Copenhagen, Malmö once belonged to Denmark, but it's now Sweden's third largest city. Its Old Town belies the city's actual size, however. This patchwork of cobbled streets, fountain-topped squares and gabled buildings is easily walkable, especially if visitors keep taking pit stops in its many coffee shops and restaurants.

LONDON

Some of the longer Baltic and Scandinavia cruise itineraries begin in London. New in the capital for 2023 will be Lift 109 at Battersea Power Station. This experience will see visitors ascending to the top of the power station's 109-metre northwest chimney in a glass elevator where they can take in views of the city.

STOCKHOLM

Built across 14 islands, connected by more than 57 bridges, Stockholm is a city of first-class museums, yawning green spaces and what's known as 'the world's largest art gallery' – the art-filled metro network.

"A Scandinavia and Baltic cruise holiday is a playground of cultural riches"

itineraries called in at Russian ports like St Petersburg, but the war between Russia and Ukraine has suspended these sailings. Many cruise lines have also paused itineraries that sail into countries that border Russia, such as Latvia and Estonia. For 2023, the most common cruises in this region will sail from either Copenhagen in Denmark or Stockholm in Sweden.

AARHUS

Denmark's second-largest city is also one of its oldest, so it's crammed with historical sites. A simple walking tour excursion will introduce passengers to sights like the medieval cathedral with its wizard's hat tower, a neoclassical monastery, and the Latin Quarter where the streets are cobbled and the oldest buildings have timber frames and crooked walls.

COPENHAGEN

The Dutch capital more than lives up to the 'wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen' title that was bestowed on it by the 1950s song. This is a city of bicycles, brightly coloured buildings and fairy tales. Highlights of a visit for cruise passengers include an amble around the 17th-century Nyhaven waterfront, a spin on the retro rides at Tivoli Gardens, a taste of an open top Smørrebrød sandwich, and a walk to see the Little Mermaid statue inspired by the Danish story writer Hans Christian Andersen.

GDANSK

Set on the northern coast of Poland, the pretty riverside city of Gdansk was the birthplace of the Solidarity movement, which played a key role in bringing an end to Communism in Poland and – eventually – the entire Eastern Bloc. You can find out all about it at the European Solidarity Centre, where the exhibitions are immersive and as powerful as an uppercut. Cocktail lovers shouldn't miss the quirky Flisak '76 cocktail bar where they serve drinks in things like toothpaste tubes and on artist pallets as well as in conventional glassware.

OSLO

The Norwegian capital is the birthplace of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize, and cruise passengers can take excursions that burrow deeper into the life and legacy of the man behind the prizes. Trips usually take guests to Oslo City Hall, where the hallowed awards are still presented, and the Nobel Peace Centre, where visitors can brush up on the history of Alfred Nobel himself, learn about the laureates and view temporary exhibitions on themes like compassion and freedom of expression. 📍

EXPERT VIEW

A

Scandinavia and Baltic cruise holiday is a playground of cultural riches in some of Europe's prettiest places. Whether guests want to explore fairy-tale castles steeped in folklore, kayak through capital cities or discover the Viking way of life, a P&O Cruises holiday to the region offers a fantastic blend of scenery, culture and cuisine. Many of the cities can be easily explored on foot, bicycle or via intricate waterways.

RUTH VENN

Director of sales
P&O Cruises



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The MEDITERRANEAN

Offering a variety of itineraries and featuring ports of call in both history-steeped cities and beach-fringed islands, the Mediterranean is a real crowd pleaser of a cruising region

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the Seas sailing from Rome? Or many of our other ships gracing the European shores. Whichever guests choose, they'll enter a world of excitement as they sail to Europe's hottest destinations, taking in everything these incredible ships have to offer along the way.





DON'T MISS...

From Monte Carlo, some cruise lines offer an excursion to Grasse, a town that's often called the world's perfume capital. On these trips, cruise passengers will get to see the vivid fields where the flowers grow before visiting a factory to find out how perfume is made and to discover what it takes to become a 'nose' – an expert who has been trained to distinguish more than 2,000 different scents.

Pooling out for more than 970,000 square miles, the Mediterranean laps the coasts of 21 countries, so itineraries in this area are diverse. Some of the most common cruises, however, sail from Barcelona or Rome, giving passengers the opportunity to explore Spain, Italy, France and sometimes beyond to Malta, the countries that line the Adriatic and Aegean arms of the Med, and even Istanbul.

CIVITAVECCHIA (FOR ROME)

Walking amongst the ghosts of gladiators in the Colosseum; throwing three coins in the Trevi Fountain; scaling the Spanish steps; padding around the ruins of temples in the Roman Forum; straining a neck



Florence's exquisite architecture is sure to leave a lasting impression



Stuart Byron

Royal Caribbean
director of sales UK,
Ireland and Spain

“Cue the music and welcome *Symphony of the Seas* to Europe in 2023. Guests are spoilt for choice when it comes to entertainment on board, when they're not busy ashore exploring bucket-list destinations. For thrill seekers, the glow-in-the-dark laser tag and the 10-storey Ultimate Abyss are sure to get the adrenaline pumping.”

“The Mediterranean laps the coasts of 21 countries, so itineraries are diverse”

to get the best view of Michelangelo's The Last Judgment in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel; gingerly sticking a hand into the Mouth of Truth; braving a tour of the Catacombs – these are just a fraction of the things cruise passengers can do in the Eternal City.

LIVORNO

With its rouged-roofed and marble-walled buildings that blush at dusk, Florence is a bella donna of a city. One of the city's biggest beauty spots is its UNESCO-listed Gothic cathedral. More delicate looking than any of the others in Italy, it's dressed in panels of sage green and nude pink stone. Repeat cruisers can take day trips to Pisa or venture into the vine-lined countryside that surrounds the city for a wine-tasting excursion.

MONTE CARLO

One of the best things to do in the playground of the rich and famous is to pull up a seat on the terrace of the Café de Paris, order a flute of Kir (white wine topped with cassis) and spend half an hour on a seated supercar safari, watching the Lamborghinis, Aston Martins and Rolls Royces pulling in and out of the turning circle in front of



Enjoy an idyllic stroll around the streets of Monte Carlo

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

BOLOGNA

Just a two-hour train journey from Rome, this northern Italian city has two leaning towers, not just one like Pisa. At heights of 97 metres and 48 metres, the twin towers lean tipsily towards each other in the centre of the town and visitors can climb to the top of the tallest one. A post-cruise stay here is a great option for foodies. The city's food market and food hall is one of the best in the country.

COSTA BRAVA

Clients cruising round-trip from Barcelona can top or tail their cruises with a beach break on the Costa Brava. Less than a two-hour drive from the Catalan capital, the Costa Brava is home to Blue Flag beaches, quiet coves, sleepy fishing villages and classic flog and drop holiday resorts.

SORRENTO

Cruisers who want to end their experience in style can make the three-hour journey down the coast to Sorrento, where the confetti-coloured buildings spill down the hillside to meet the sea. Days here are best spent mooching around the old town and sinking into the al fresco seating of the town's traditional Italian restaurants.



Foodies will savour Bologna's highly rated food market and hall



“Anthem of the Seas is playing the hits for summer 2023, setting sail from Southampton and cruising to unmissable destinations. With deck-loads of on-board activities for all ages, from dodgems to RipCord by iFly and the North Star viewing pod, award-winning entertainment and world-class dining options, there's something for everyone.”

Stuart Byron

Royal Caribbean director of sales UK, Ireland and Spain

the Monte Carlo Casino. Other options include taking a tour of sites linked to Grace Kelly, exploring the Prince's Palace, and venturing over to Nice for the day.

PALMA

With its maze of narrow cobbled streets, striking boulevards, shaded squares and medieval architecture, Palma de Mallorca is a fascinating port of call. The majestic 14th-century La Seu Gothic cathedral is a highlight. It has decorative 20th-century additions by Spanish architect Gaudí, more famously known for his influences on Barcelona, and a modern chapel by Miquel Barceló. Palma is renowned for leather goods and Mediterranean pearls and visitors can get their shopping fix in the streets around Passeig des Born. There are also lovely beaches if clients fancy a dip. 🌊

The iconic sugar cube buildings and blue-domed churches of Oia are a must-see for passengers visiting the island of Santorini

DON'T MISS...

Some cruise lines offer the opportunity to travel from Dubrovnik to Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The two sides of this pretty town are joined by the 20-metre-tall Stari Most bridge and, if visitors hang around here for long enough, they might catch one of the town's brave bridge jumpers hurling themselves off the top into the perilously shallow waters below.

Adriatic & AEGEAN

Brioche-coloured beaches, history-rich cities and some of the world's tastiest cuisines are all in store for passengers on an Adriatic and Aegean cruise

As two arms of the Mediterranean, the Adriatic and the Aegean lap the shores of Greece, east Italy, Turkey and The Balkans, including Croatia and Montenegro. This is a region where islands poach in kingfisher-blue waters, where some of history's most important cities can be found wrapped up in the wombs of city walls, and where legends and myths were made – and it's all for a cruise passenger's taking.

DUBROVNIK

Walking the city walls tops the to-do list in Dubrovnik. Rising to heights of 25 metres, these sturdy stone fortifications encase the city and visitors

There's lots to enjoy in Mykonos Town, from hilltop windmills and boutiques to waterside cocktail bars



The Aegean has it all, from stunning scenery to legendary historic sites

EXPERT VIEW

There are very few places that can say they have it all, but the Aegean really does: stunning islands, sheltered bays, beautiful beaches, coastal coves, crystal clear waters, tranquil villages and ancient monasteries. How many other places can boast all this? Plus, there is so much history, including the Palace of Knossos in Crete which was the ceremonial centre of the Minoan Civilisation during the Bronze Age and is considered Europe's oldest city. Not forgetting The Acropolis of Athens, the most complete surviving ancient Greek monumental complex which is simply breathtaking from any angle.

JO REID

UK country manager
Celestyal Cruises

can follow an almost two-kilometre-long trail along the top of them, looking down on a sea of red roofs in one direction and the Adriatic in the other. Advise guests that there's a bar and restaurant halfway around where they can take a break – the homemade lemonade here comes highly recommended.

SANTORINI

Most cruise passengers make a beeline for Oia when they visit Santorini. This clifftop town – with its sugar cube buildings, blue-domed churches, caldera views and boutique cave accommodation – is one of Greece's most iconic sights. It's not the only place worth visiting on the island, though. As an alternative, guests can try Pyrgos. As the highest town on Santorini, it serves up grandstand views and it has its own share of salt-white buildings and cobalt domes. Advise passengers to seek out Penelope's restaurant, which serves authentic mezze with a jaw-dropping view.

SPLIT

Back in the 4th century, a huge palace occupied the site of Split on Croatia's Dalmatian coast. Belonging to the Roman Emperor Diocletian, the expansive structure featured a military camp and religious buildings as well as private dwellings for the emperor himself, and much of the complex is still standing today. Visitors can walk through four of the city's ancient gates and see the ruins of places of worship such as The Temple of Jupiter. 📍

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

VERONA

Just a hop away from Venice, where many Adriatic and Aegean cruises embark, Verona is the fabled home of Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet. In the centre of the city, visitors can duck into Juliet's house and gaze out of her balcony to the spot where Romeo would have stood. There's a statue of Juliet nearby, too, which travellers can rub for luck.

LAKE GARDA

Like Verona, Lake Garda is just a short journey from Venice. Italy's largest lake pools out for more than 370 square kilometres and its shores are lined with fjord-like cliffs, olive groves, wellness resorts and historic towns like Sirmione with its toothy-towered 13th-century castle and its ruined Roman villa.

MYKONOS

Guests can get from Athens to Mykonos by ferry in as little as two and a half hours. Once there, they can base themselves in Mykonos Town with its hilltop windmills, boutiques and waterside cocktail bars, which are lantern-lit at night.



Mykonos Town is a delight to explore, with its whiter-than-white houses and beautiful bougainvilleas



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Savour the vibrant colours and scintillating scents of Doha's enchanting Umbrella Garden

Middle EAST

Cruises to the Middle East take passengers to a world of mosques, gravity-defying skyscrapers, and one-of-a-kind adventures

Space-age buildings sparkle on the horizon. The smell of pistachio ice cream fills the air. Someone provides a cup of sweet karak tea, as the striking organic shapes of the National Museum of Qatar – mimicking the natural architectural structure of desert rose crystals – sparkle in the background.

It's an experience that guests will treasure forever. With more than 563km of spectacular coastline, warm waters, year-round sunshine, and a choice of adventures, it's no wonder Qatar is becoming the go-to place for unforgettable beach experiences.



“In 2023, Qatar’s cruise offering moves to the next level, with the opening of a multimillion-dollar cruise terminal, hosting twin halls, capable of handling up to 14,000 passengers a day.”

Craig Upshall

Qatar Tourism

In the Middle East, incense-scented souqs and dome-topped mosques sit side by side with physics-defying skyscrapers and seismic-sized shopping malls. In the countryside, meanwhile, deserts spill out like seas and mountains uppercut out of the ground. Some of the most popular cruise itineraries in this region sail round trip from Dubai or Muscat, but sailings are also available that cruise in from European cities such as Athens or Genoa.

DOHA

The capital of small and wealthy Qatar, Doha’s head-turning sights include the Aspire Tower, dubbed The Torch, which stands 300m high and is the country’s tallest building, and the Museum of Islamic Art, which houses the world’s largest collection of Islamic art. The Waqif, a bazaar that stands on the site where Bedouins once traded livestock and wool, is not to be missed for those who appreciate a true, local atmosphere.



Doha’s Souq Waqif is the place to be for an array of authentic goods



Craig Upshall
Qatar Tourism

“Visitors are spoiled for choice, with a range of attractions from museums and galleries, markets, sports, desert safaris by the spectacular Inland Sea or the UNESCO-listed Al Zubarah Fort.”

DON'T MISS...

Many cruise lines offer excursions that take passengers into the desert to have lunch or dinner in the dunes. These meals can take place in the open air or in Bedouin tents and are usually accompanied by traditional entertainment like belly dancing.



The falcon, an Emirati icon, is celebrated in one of Fujairah's many magnificent sculptures dotted around the city



“Highlights include the Souq Waqif, a traditional working souq, while guests can discover the history of Qatar with a visit to the architecturally acclaimed National Museum of Qatar.”

Craig Upshall

Qatar Tourism

FUJAIRAH

Whereas Dubai and Abu Dhabi are famous for their skyscrapers, it's what lies beneath the surface rather than above it that makes Fujairah stand out. This lesser-known Emirate is said to have some of the best snorkelling waters in the UAE. One of the most popular spots is Snoopy Island, which stews in the sea just a few metres from the coast. Visitors can snorkel alongside turtles and parrot fish here.

MUSCAT

Sandwiched between the Hajar Mountains and the Arabian Sea, Muscat is a town of reedy minarets, buxom domes and a thousand low-rise white buildings with arabesque windows and arched doorways. The city's traditional architecture is best appreciated at the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque – the largest mosque in Oman – where visitors can also see intricate mosaics, carvings, and an eye-widening chandelier that weighs 8.5 tonnes and features more than 600,000 crystals. 🕯

DUBAI

From the observation deck of the Burj Khalifa, the rest of Dubai looks like a toy town. Visitors have to ride an elevator up through 160 storeys to reach the At the Top viewing platform inside the world's tallest building. Once there, they can look down on the city from both indoor and outdoor lookout areas. Elsewhere in this Emirate, visitors have cinnamon-scented souqs to haggle in and village-sized shopping malls to explore.

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

RAS AL KHAIMAH

Just an hour's drive from Dubai, Ras Al Khaimah is the Emirate for those who love the outdoors. Visitors can trek through wadis, take buggy excursions into the desert, and explore 65 kilometres of mangrove-lined coastline. For thrill-seekers, the country is also home to one of the longest zip lines in the world – a 2.83 kilometre wire that flies the brave over ravines and canyons.

EMIRATE OF SHARJAH

Less than an hour's drive from Dubai, Sharjah is recognised by UNESCO as the 'Cultural Capital of the Arab World'. Visitors here can discover the work of Arab artists in the three-floor art museum, learn about the roots of Arab culture at the Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization, and discover the ancient art of calligraphy in the Calligraphy Museum.

ATHENS

Some Middle East cruise itineraries start in Piraeus, making nearby Athens an ideal spot for a pre-cruise stay. Crowning a rocky outcrop above the city, the UNESCO-listed Acropolis is not to be missed.



A camel ride along the golden sands of Jumeirah beach offers a lofty view of Dubai Marina



With its warm turquoise waters and abundance of marine wildlife, Mauritius is a perfect spot for diving

DON'T MISS...

Sugar has played a huge role in the history of Mauritius and many cruise lines offer excursions that allow passengers to delve deeper into the island's sweet and, in some cases, not so sweet past. These trips can sometimes include a sugar cane cutting demo and a cane crushing experience that ends with a cocktail.

Indian OCEAN

Welcome clients to a world of Crusoe-esque islands, unruly rainforests and Big Five safari sights on an Indian Ocean cruise

Untamed game reserves, neatly vined wine lands, lemur-filled rainforests and beaches whiter than a superstar's smile are all on the cards during an Indian Ocean cruise. Sailings in this part of the world take passengers to the southern coast of Africa with its safari sites and wine-producing regions and the island countries of the Maldives, Seychelles, Mauritius, Reunion and more. There's a huge range of itineraries out there – including cruises that sail from Southampton in the UK and Perth in Australia – but the most common sailings tend to cruise in and out of Cape Town in South Africa or Mahé in Seychelles.

CAPE TOWN

This South African city has one of the world's most famous wine regions in its backyard. Stellenbosch is less than an hour's drive from Cape Town and most cruise lines offer excursions to the area's wine estates for estate safaris, cellar tours and tastings of the area's rich reds. Foodies should look out for excursions that pair wine with chocolate or tasting menus.

The fantastically colourful Bo-Kaap is a must-see for visitors to Cape Town



Enjoy Zanzibar's beautiful beaches or take a sensory tour of its celebrated spice farms



EXPERT VIEW

The Indian Ocean is like nowhere else with its thriving kaleidoscopic underwater life, crystal clear waters and skies ablaze with deep pinks and reds at sunset. Silversea's voyages to this special part of the world offer fresh discoveries and evocative encounters on every journey. Recognising the splendour the destination has to offer, we recently announced a brand-new 18-day *Silver Cloud* voyage set for April 2024, which will explore East Africa's Indian Ocean islands, offering the chance to discover the fascinating coastal fishing culture of Madagascar's semi-nomadic Vezo people, marvel at the rich biodiversity of Madagascar's Kirindy Forest Reserve, and explore the ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani in Tanzania.

PETER SHANKS

Managing director UK & Ireland, Silversea

Malé

The pint-sized capital of the Maldives is a densely crowded and fascinating place, notable mainly for its stark contrast to the laid-back pace of island life found elsewhere. It offers the best chance to see what might be called the 'real' Maldives, away from the resort buffet and infinity pool. It may not have a huge number of sights, but Malé offers a chance to get a true feel for the Maldivian way of life.

Mauritius

At the Seven Coloured Earth Geopark in the southwest corner of Mauritius, the dunes are as colourful as a Pride flag. Visitors can see sands in shades of red, purple, green, blue, pink, orange and yellow. There's a waterfall near the site, too, which at 100 metres tall is the highest in Mauritius. Visitors can trek through the jungle to see it and reward themselves with a dip in its pool once they're there.

Zanzibar

Dough-soft beaches and parade lines of palms are what first spring to mind when people think of Zanzibar. However, one of the island's greatest attractions lies away from the coast. Nicknamed the Spice Isle, Zanzibar has an interior that's a patchwork of clove, nutmeg, cardamon, chilli and black pepper plantations. Most cruise lines offer excursions that take passengers to spice farms to learn how these ingredients make their way from plant to plate. 🌱

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

Stellenbosch

Stellenbosch deserves more than a sip-and-run visit. There are more than 100 wine estates in this part of South Africa and all of them offer something slightly different to visitors. Many of them have accommodation offerings, too, and the standard is high – think free-standing baths, wood-burning fires and vineyard views.

Safari

There are a number of safari destinations within a three- or four-hour drive of Cape Town.

Aquila Game Reserve and Inverdoorn Game Reserve are both home to the big five and at Sanbona Wildlife Reserve visitors have a chance to see rare white lions, too.

La Digue

The Seychelles island of La Digue is home to what's thought to be one of the most photographed beaches in the world. The sand at Anse Source d'Argent is white as freshly laundered sheets, backed by tightly packed palms, and topped with huge boulders that give it a look that's unlike any other beach in the world.



Cruise passengers can tour Beppu's intriguing geysers and hot springs, which range from cobalt blue to blood-red

Far East & **SOUTHEAST ASIA**

Cruising is the hassle-free way to see the Far East and Southeast Asia with its temples, paddy fields, jungles and shrines

Due to elements like the stark language barrier and the sheer size of the region, travelling around the Far East and Southeast Asia independently can be challenging. Cruising makes it easy, effortlessly taking passengers through Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, China, Malaysia and the Philippines, where they can explore fast-paced cities, temple-flecked countrysides and coastlines of unblemished beaches. Itineraries in this region vary wildly, but common embarkation ports include Tokyo, Bangkok, Hong Kong and Singapore.

BALI

Palm-backed beaches with sand-white sands are what Bali is best known for, but there's so much more to the island. Cruise passengers can go on excursions that show off its cultural side, visiting the workshops of local silversmiths, batik artists and potters and catching a

DON'T MISS...

Beppu is the hot spring capital of Japan. Cruise passengers can either take a tour of the city's most famous geysers and springs, including the blood-red 'boiling pools of hell' that were once used for torture, or they can opt for a more relaxing bathing experience in the thermal pools of one of the city's more modern hillside spas.

traditional dance display. For something unforgettable, they can also take a trip to Uluwatu Temple, a clifftop pagoda-style temple that looks out over the sea.

BANGKOK

Buzzing Bangkok is unforgettable and, quite literally, crammed with amazing sights and contrasts. More than 400 temples are sandwiched between teeming markets, skyscrapers and some surprisingly green open spaces like Lumpini Park. The fabulous buildings at the Grand Palace, once a city within a city and last bastion of the Chakri dynasty, include Wat Phra Kaew, the holiest shrine in Thailand. Wat Pho temple, south of the Grand Palace, is famous for its giant reclining Buddha covered in gold.

HO CHI MINH CITY

Like many major cities in Vietnam's Mekong Delta region, Ho Chi Minh offers two distinct experiences – there are colonial structures and war relics from the Vietnam War contrasting with shiny skyscrapers, chic sports clubs and extensive shopping malls. It is often said that no two districts are the same.

HONG KONG

Hong Kong is a beehive of a city. From its tightly packed markets and steamy street food areas to its incense-foggy temples and the party streets that are lined with restaurants and karaoke bars, there's activity everywhere. Visitors who want a bit of a breather should book a junk boat ride through Victoria Harbour or hop over to Lantau Island to take the cable car into the tree-furred hills to see the 250-tonne Big Buddha Statue.

Far East & Southeast Asia



The 60-metre Hong Kong Observation Wheel provides extensive views of the vibrant Victoria Harbour

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

MACAU

Macau is known as the Last Vegas of the East, but there's much more to this place than casinos. The city was once a Portuguese colony, and its UNESCO-listed historic centre is still full of architectural reminders of the past.

MOUNT FUJI

A two-hour drive from Tokyo will take clients to the foothills of Mount Fuji. Japan's tallest mountain looks at its reflection in five different lakes. All of these lakes have accommodation offerings on their shores, including ryokans – traditional Japanese inns where visitors can stay in mat-lined tatami rooms, sleep on futon beds and take hot spring baths.

PHUKET

Clients who want to end their cruise with a beach break can fly from Bangkok to Phuket, where daytimes revolve around sunbathing and night times are all about unwinding with a beer or two and a bowl of pad thai.

TAIPEI

Some itineraries that sail from Hong Kong to Tokyo give passengers the rare opportunity to see Taiwan. Visitors to Taipei can see the soaring Taipei 101 tower, which is one of the world's tallest buildings, muscle around the city's busy markets, and do the rounds of the temples and shrines. Those who want to explore further can take excursions to the mountain town of Jiufen to take part in a sky lantern ceremony or head to Yangmingshan National Park to bathe in the hot springs. 📍

EXPERT VIEW

Travelling to the Far East and Southeast Asia from the UK requires a large amount of planning no matter how or where you plan to travel in this area of the world. Cruising around these destinations does significantly reduce this requirement for intense planning as the itinerary is taken care of. Travellers who make the trip to this part of the world often see it as a once-in-a-lifetime trip and they want to tick off as many destinations as possible when they are there.

NEIL BARCLAY

Head of sales
Viking UK



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Australasia & **PACIFIC**

Discover New Zealand, Australia and hard-to-reach island chains like Vanuatu and New Caledonia on an Australasia and Pacific cruise

The observation deck of Auckland's 326-metre Sky Tower gives visitors sweeping views of the city



DON'T MISS...

For an experience they'll remember for life, clients can book a helicopter trip from Melbourne that takes them past The Twelve Apostles. These limestone stacks punch up out of the sea to heights of 50 metres, giving the surrounding Shipwreck Coast a look that's different to anywhere else on earth.

As well as spiriting passengers to cosmopolitan cities like Sydney and Auckland, cruises around Australasia and the Pacific often give clients the opportunity to go island hopping, to Fiji, the lily pad islands of Vanuatu and the archipelago of New Caledonia. Sea days can be pretty special in this part of the world too, as ships cruise through the Doubtful, Dusky and Milford Sounds – New Zealand's answer to Norway's fjords.



AUCKLAND

For first-time visitors to Auckland, there's often no better itinerary than a visit to the observation deck at the city's 326-metre Sky Tower followed by a lunch of lobster rolls or freshly shucked oysters at the Fish Market. Repeat cruisers, meanwhile, can take excursions to the forests, vineyards and beaches that surround the city or pop into the nearby Stardome Observatory and Planetarium to learn about the stars that shine above Auckland and their significance to the Māori.

EASTER ISLAND

The easternmost outpost of the Polynesian island world, the remote volcanic Easter Island is known the

world over for its distinctive Moai statues, carved from rock and averaging 4m tall and shaped like a giant head and torso. The island is actually a Chilean territory, also known as Rapa Nui, and covers approximately 64 square miles. Since its re-discovery by Europeans in 1722, the island's economy is based largely on tourism where guests can hire cars, motorcycles and mountain bikes for any exploration desires.

FIJI

One hundred of the 333 tropical islands in the heart of the South Pacific that make up Fiji are inhabited and are a melting pot of East Indian, Polynesian, Melanesian, Chinese and European influences. Ports of call include



Visitors to Mystery Island are sure of an extra special welcome



Many of Fiji's islands are unspoiled, with meringue-white sands and coral-filled waters perfect for snorkelling

“This is a region of beautiful scenery, majestic fjords, fine wine, friendly people and exotic wildlife”

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

MARLBOROUGH

Set in the northeast corner of the South Island, Marlborough is the biggest wine-producing region in New Zealand, specialising in fruity sauvignon blancs. The countryside here is quilted with vineyards and wine estates and many of them offer tours and tastings and have onsite restaurants and accommodation that lends itself ideally to a pre or post-cruise stay.

SYDNEY

It's impossible to shoehorn all of Sydney's sights into a couple of days. Clients who extend their time in the city with a pre or post-cruise stay will have the opportunity to visit the Blue Mountains, spend time on Bondi Beach, venture into the Hunter Valley wine region and really immerse themselves in the Australian capital's nightlife.

WAITOMO

A two-hour drive south from Auckland will get cruise passengers to Waitomo and its subterranean glow-worm caves. Visitors can take boat trips into this honeycomb of caverns to see the natural light show put on by thousands of glow-worms. More adventurous clients, meanwhile, can see the illuminations during a black water rafting trip.

EXPERT VIEW

This is a region of beautiful scenery, majestic fjords, fine wine, friendly people and exotic wildlife. From sailing through three of New Zealand's most breathtaking places in one day – Milford, Dusky, and Doubtful Sounds – to exploring the infamous Great Barrier Reef from above and below the surface – the excitement that comes from visiting these great natural wonders is undeniable and something to remember forever. The options for cuisine in the region are both diverse and delicious, with access to world-class wineries and breweries, the freshest seafood, legendary New Zealand lamb or French cuisine in Nouméa.

TIM JONES

Vice-president and MD
Australia & APAC, Celebrity Cruises

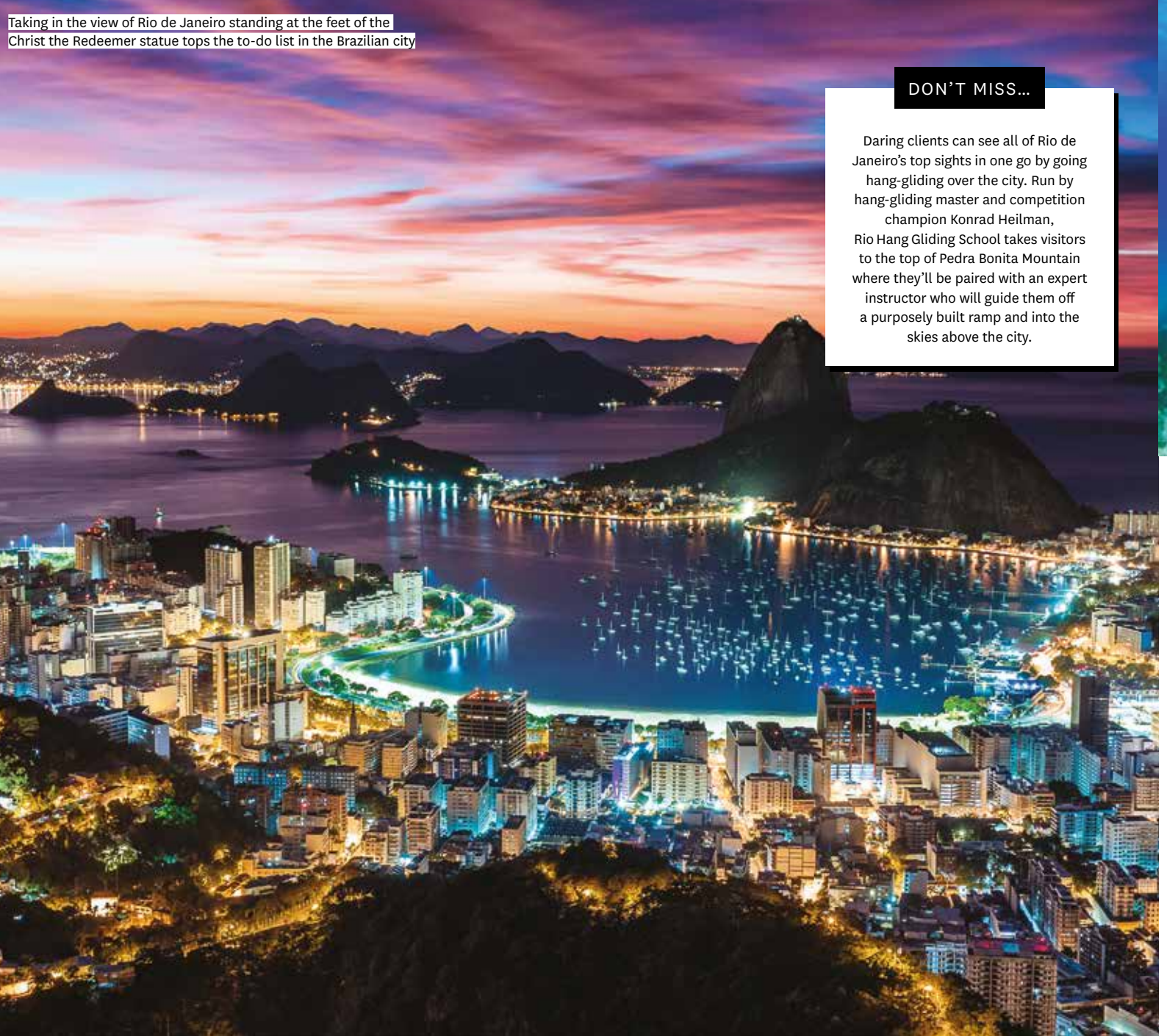
Denarau Island, with its shopping outlets, friendly locals and natural thermal mud pools. Suva has a lively municipal market and an unforgettable opportunity to join a chief on a village tour. Dravuni Island is totally unspoiled, with only 200 inhabitants.

MYSTERY ISLAND

Only accessible by cruise ship, Mystery Island is completely uninhabited. There are no roads, no electricity and no telephones on this lozenge of land, just meringue-white sands, tilting palms and coral-filled waters made for snorkelling. When cruise ships are in, locals from neighbouring Aneityum bring freshly boiled lobster over to the island and serve it up on palm leaf plates.

SYDNEY

Brave clients can book to climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge. At 134 metres tall, it's the tallest steel arch bridge in the world and visitors can climb all the way to its summit via 1,332 steps. Climbs can be timed to coincide with both sunrise and sunset or they can be scheduled at night. Once at the top, climbers can enjoy 360-degree views of Sydney Harbour and its sail-shaped Opera House. 📍



Taking in the view of Rio de Janeiro standing at the feet of the Christ the Redeemer statue tops the to-do list in the Brazilian city

DON'T MISS...

Daring clients can see all of Rio de Janeiro's top sights in one go by going hang-gliding over the city. Run by hang-gliding master and competition champion Konrad Heilman, Rio Hang Gliding School takes visitors to the top of Pedra Bonita Mountain where they'll be paired with an expert instructor who will guide them off a purposely built ramp and into the skies above the city.

South America & **ANTARCTICA**

Everything from high-octane cities to the place known as 'The End of the World' awaits clients on South America and Antarctica cruises

albatross on Española and flamingos on Rábida, or swimming with sea lions and other creatures off Champion Islet, few places do it better.

RIO DE JANEIRO

Standing at the feet of the 30-metre Christ the Redeemer statue tops the to-do list in Rio de Janeiro, followed closely by taking the cable car to the top of the 391-metre Sugar Loaf Mountain to take in wide-screen worthy views of the city and Guanabara Bay. If they have time, cruise passengers should also try and make it to one of the city's two famous beaches – Copacabana and Ipanema – with their almond-coloured sands.

USHUAIA

Located in the Tierra del Fuego archipelago at the very southern tip of Chile, Ushuaia is nicknamed The End of the World because it's the earth's most southern city. Set against a backdrop of snow-capped mountains and fronted by The Beagle Channel – named after the ship that brought Darwin to the region in the early 19th century – the city is the springboard to Antarctica and its untameable ice lands. 🌐

EXPERT VIEW

South America really is a continent of contrasts, meaning guests will feel compelled to return time after time. A Princess cruise around Antarctica is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, as this vast and isolated continent is truly magical. Here guests can sail along glacial waters with views of Elephant Island, Antarctic Sound and Gerlache Strait, as well as marvel at glaciers, plus keep an eye out for extraordinary wildlife including whales, seals and penguins.

SUZANNE KORFF

Marketing and communications director, Princess Cruises

The Galápagos Islands are the ultimate destination for seeing wildlife up close in their natural habitats

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

MAIPO VALLEY

The Maipo Valley wine region is less than an hour's drive from Santiago in Chile and many of the region's wine estates welcome guests for tours and tastings of rich reds like carmenere and merlot. There are plenty of accommodation options in the area, too, making it a great choice for a pre or post-cruise stay.

BUZIOS

A three-hour drive east of Rio de Janeiro, Búzios was a favourite holiday destination of Brigitte Bardot. It's easy to see why. The resort has 23 beaches where the sand is blonder than Bardot's bouffant. Since the 1960s, a roll call of famous singers and screen stars have holidayed in Búzios, earning it the nickname of Brazil's St Tropez.

CARNIVAL

Passengers who time their cruise just right can end their trip at Rio's legendary carnival. Held just before Lent every year, it's the biggest carnival in the world and Rio doesn't sleep for a week during it. Advise your clients to pre-book tickets to the Sambadrome to catch the major samba school parade.

South America cruises that include Antarctica give passengers the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit one of the most remote parts of the world. Commonly sailing along the west edge of Chile from Santiago or Valparaíso or the east coast of Argentina from Buenos Aires, itineraries take clients to Ushuaia – the city at the end of the earth – and across to the Antarctic Peninsula, an unpeopled place that's almost entirely encased in ice. South America cruises that don't feature Antarctica, meanwhile, introduce passengers to some of Latin America's most spirited cities – places like Rio de Janeiro, home of the world's largest carnival, and Montevideo, the city that's sometimes called the Miami of Latin America.

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

Reaching up from the northwest coast of Antarctica, the Antarctic Peninsula is slicked in an ice sheet that's almost four kilometres deep in places. This is a place where icebergs shard up out of the sea, where glaciers glint in the sun and where penguins outnumber people at a rate of almost a thousand to one. Cruise companies tend to spend a few days sailing around these ice lands, giving passengers the chance to get closer to the natural wonders on zodiac rides and kayaking excursions.

GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Quite possibly the ultimate favourite on any expedition cruise, the Galápagos Islands need little introduction. When operators talk about seeing wildlife in natural habitats, it is here that such a statement rings true. From getting up close to iguanas on Fernandina Island,



Panama City is the perfect launch pad for whale-watching trips and nearby tours including the legendary Panama Canal

DON'T MISS...

From Panama City, visitors can take whale-watching trips that head out into Panama Bay. More than 30 different types of whale have been documented in Panama's waters and there are two whale watching seasons, between December and April and July to October.

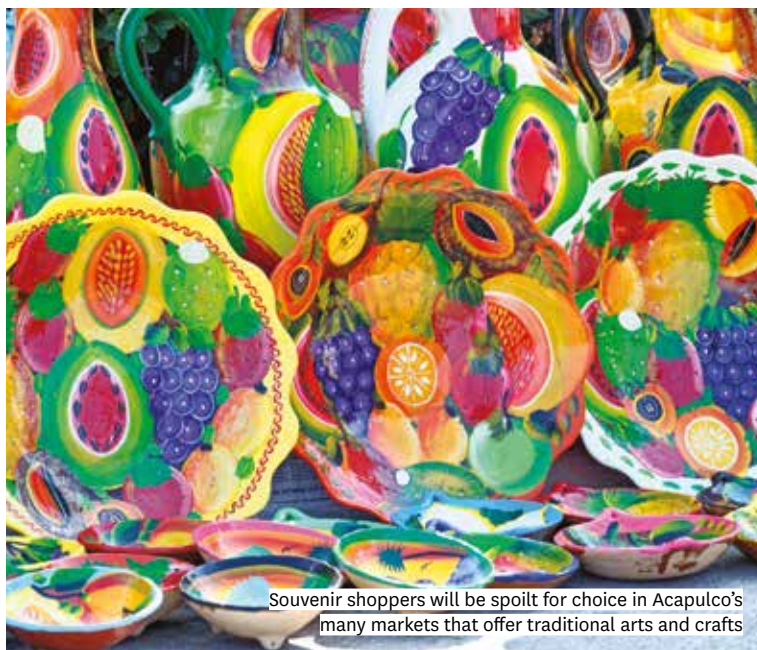
Central AMERICA

Adventures in the rainforest, trailing whales in Panama Bay and cruising through the Panama Canal are just a few highlights of a Central American cruise

Unblemished beaches, unruly rainforests, and UNESCO-listed cities all factor in a cruise around Central America. Itineraries tend to depart from US ports like Miami or Caribbean destinations such as Montego Bay in Jamaica. Most commonly, cruises take passengers to Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Colombia, but a handful of itineraries include visits to Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua too.

ACAPULCO

Mexico's most famous resort was dubbed the Pearl of the Pacific when it attracted the rich and famous in the 1950s, including Elizabeth Taylor, Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland. Today, remnants of



Souvenir shoppers will be spoilt for choice in Acapulco's many markets that offer traditional arts and crafts

this glamour can still be found in the Hotel Los Flamingos. Elsewhere, the daredevil cliff divers, or clavadistas, thrill visitors by day and after dark there is a dazzling nightlife. The old town square is an atmospheric spot to listen to live music and wander markets.

PANAMA

Slicing through the midriff of Panama for 51 miles, the Panama Canal connects the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. Taking a decade to build and costing thousands of workers' lives, it was one of the most ambitious and challenging engineering projects the world had ever undertaken. The best way to appreciate the size of the man-made marvel is to traverse it. The full journey – that passes through the Gatun Lake and the Gatun Locks – takes a whole day, but partial transitions are available too.

PUERTO LIMÓN

Puerto Limón on Costa Rica's east coast is a sea of green cocoons. The landscape that surrounds the city is a patchwork of rainforests, wildlife reserves and national parks like Braulio Carrillo where visitors can take a tour of the treetops on an aerial tram. There's a good chance of spotting monkeys here, including howlers with their wraith-like calls, as well as toucans, hummingbirds and quetzals.

SAN JUAN DEL SUR

The fishing village of San Juan del Sur hugs a smile of cookie-coloured sand on Nicaragua's west coast. Cruise

EXPERT VIEW

Cruising in Central America has so much to offer, and on board *Scenic Eclipse* we take guests further than they have been before, visiting small, unique destinations. Be guided through Costa Rica's Curú National Park to witness the remarkable conservation efforts and discover the rare opportunity to venture through Darién National Park by kayak or paddleboard before meeting the indigenous Emberá people. Our voyages that visit the Sea of Cortez are also unique – we'll spend several days exploring 'The Aquarium of the World' with 244 islands to explore.

EMMA BEARDSALL

Brand and marketing manager
Scenic Ocean

passengers who don't mind venturing away from the beach can take an excursion to Ometepe, an hourglass-shaped island in the centre of Lake Nicaragua to visit the tropical forests of the Charco Verde ecological reserve and to take a dip in natural springs. ❶

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

MIAMI

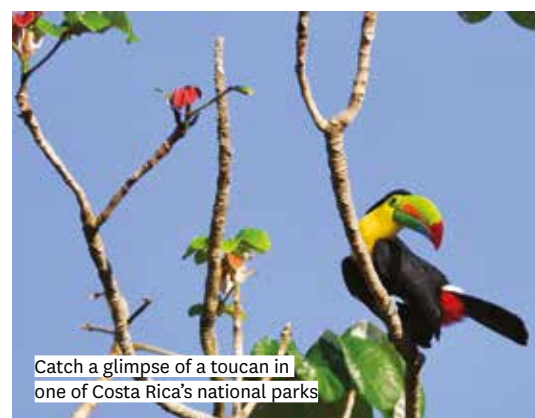
Quite a few Central American cruise itineraries depart from American ports like Miami, so it makes sense for passengers to plan a pre or post-cruise stay in the city. With this extra time, clients can hit the beach, take a walking tour of Ocean Drive with its milkshake-coloured Art Deco Buildings and mooch around the city's many museums.

MONTEGO BAY

Some Central American cruise itineraries sail round trip from Caribbean destinations like Montego Bay, where pre or post-cruise stays can be spent relaxing on the pillow-soft beach, leapfrogging between the bars of the Hip Strip and floating down the nearby Martha Brae River on bamboo rafts.

BOCA DEL TORO ISLANDS

Just off the coast, near the Costa Rica-Panama border, are the tiny islands called the Bocas del Toro. Some of them are uninhabited but others, like the Isla Bastimentos and the Isla Solarte, have retreats on them where guests can get off the grid, wash in rainwater showers and take part in daily yoga classes.



Catch a glimpse of a toucan in one of Costa Rica's national parks



Los Angeles is a major embarkation port, but there's also plenty to see and do in the city, from a stroll along Venice Beach to a hike in the Hollywood Hills

DON'T MISS...

In Montreal, cruise passengers can take excursions to visit sugar shacks – cabins in the woods where Canada's famous maple syrup is made. On the trips, visitors learn about the production process before a tasting of the sticky stuff.

North AMERICA

North American cruises make exploring
the behemoth countries of the USA
and Canada child's play

Spreading out for more than 9,540,000 square miles, the continent of North America is home to two of the world's most colossal countries – the United States of America and Canada. Cruising in this region makes exploring these geographical giants easy. Sell east coast itineraries to clients who want to tick off America's Sunshine State, the Big Apple and the untamed capes and bays of Canada's Nova Scotia. Pitch west coast sailings to customers who want to experience Hollywood, see San Francisco and visit the whale-stalked waters of British Columbia.

BOSTON

Founded in 1630, Boston is one of the oldest cities in North America and those who want to dive deeper into its history can follow the Freedom Trail – a two-and-a-half-mile trail that links 16 museums, churches, burial grounds and

EXPERT VIEW

The North America cruise market is once again coming back to the fore with the lifting of many restrictions. This past year, cruises from Seattle as well as Vancouver to Alaska have started to return and there is a pent-up demand for summer 2023. Flights from the UK are expanding with more direct services to US cities from London and Manchester and clients are increasingly opting for premium economy or business seats.

KEN GARRITY

Ken Garrity Travel

parks linked to the American Revolution. Send clients here in Autumn and they'll get to see the city's fiery fall foliage.

HALIFAX

The provincial capital of Nova Scotia has come a long way since its founding in 1749 as a naval base. Today it's not so much about warships but rather a trendy urban spot that has more pubs and clubs than almost any other city in Canada. Guests can spend the day exploring the city's many museums and learning about its history, or wander on the waterfront and busy downtown area to take in the sights and sounds.

PRE/POST-CRUISE STAY IDEAS

THE JERSEY SHORE

A two-and-a-half-hour drive south of New York, The Jersey Shore is a 141-mile stretch of beaches, boardwalks and seaside towns. A favourite weekend spot for New Yorkers is Cape May, with its clotted cream-coloured beaches.

PALM SPRINGS

Set within the Colorado Desert, 100 miles from Los Angeles, Palm Springs is best known for its boutique hotels, spas and its aerial tramway, with its rotating cars, that lifts visitors 1,768 metres into the mountains.

ORLANDO

An hour's drive from the popular Port Canaveral embarkation port, Orlando is the theme park capital of the world. There's more to this city than rollercoasters though.

It's also dotted with lakes, botanical gardens and parks where visitors can walk, bike and horse ride.

LOS ANGELES

The City of Angels is a popular embarkation port for North American cruises. From here, ships sail north to Canada and south to Mexico and some itineraries take in destinations at both compass points. In the city itself, must-sees include Venice Beach, where passengers can stroll the Ocean Front Walk, Santa Monica Pier, where they can ride the 130 foot Ferris wheel and take a photo in front of the Route 66 sign, and Hollywood, where active guests can hike up to the city's famous sign.

NEW YORK

Ascending the Empire State Building for city-sweeping views, buying a pretzel from a Central Park vendor, standing in the neon glow of Times Square, climbing into the crown of the Statue of Liberty, shopping in Macy's, walking the Highline, taking some time to remember and reflect at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum – the to-do list is a mile long in the City that Never Sleeps, which is why many cruise lines include overnights there.

VANCOUVER

Surrounded by a picture-perfect panorama of ocean, mountains and green space, Vancouver is consistently lauded as one of the world's most liveable cities. From March to October, thousands of whales migrate through the waters near Vancouver, making it one of the world's finest whale watching locations. 🐋



Experience the unique buzz of Times Square in New York with its wall-to-wall neon displays



Emerald Sakara's size means it can visit smaller ports in bespoke destinations

COMING SOON

It's fair to say that 2023 could be a revolutionary year for ocean cruise ships. **Lucy Abbott** reveals all



Seven Seas Grandeur will boast one of the highest staff-to-guest ratios



Clients can lavish in the extra focus on wellness on Explora I

Emerald Sakara

LAUNCHING EARLY 2023

As was the case with Emerald Cruises' first superyacht *Azzurra*, *Emerald Sakara*'s small size will allow it to visit smaller ports in a range of destinations, giving guests immersive and authentic experiences.

Guests will be able to hit the waters in the water sports boat or admire what's gliding beneath at the marina platform. In terms of dining, the Aqua Café, Amici Bar & Lounge and La Cucina Dining all offer something to please every type of guest.

Emerald Sakara's maiden voyage will be an eight-day Tropical Charms of the Seychelles voyage, departing in early 2023.

Explora I's spa facility will take up more than 700 square metres of the ship

Seven Seas Grandeur

LAUNCHING NOVEMBER 2023

The ultra-luxurious *Seven Seas Grandeur* will host just 732 guests and have one of the highest staff-to-guest ratios in the industry when it launches. The ship is the sixth in the Regent Seven Seas Cruises fleet and the third built for the Explorer class. *Seven Seas Grandeur* will cruise 17 itineraries in the Caribbean and the Mediterranean, as well as two

transatlantic crossings spanning seven to 16 nights in length.

Guests will have the choice of 15 different suite categories – from the Regent Suite to the Veranda Suite. What's more, food offerings on board will include Prime 7, a reimagined Compass Rose, Chartreuse and Pacific Rim. *Seven Seas Grandeur* will set sail for its inaugural cruise on 25 November 2023, from Barcelona to Miami.

Vista

LAUNCHING APRIL 2023

Vista, from Oceania Cruises, will take guests on a culinary journey, the likes of which has never been seen before at sea. The new addition of Ember will add a range of wellness-focused dishes and classic Oceania favourites such as the Grand Dining Room and Polo Grill will return.

The ship, the first in the line's new Allura class, will also feature the latest cocktail-crafting trends and techniques, such as flavoured smoke bubbles, an extensive selection of low and no-sugar wines and zero-proof cocktails, plus Negronis aged in wooden barrels and specialty beverage carts like the Bubbly Bar and Ultimate Bloody Mary Bar.

Accommodation will include the Owner's Suite, measuring in at 2,400 square feet and styled by Ralph Lauren Home, as well as the Penthouse Suite, which features 24-hour butler service, complimentary laundry service and priority noon ship embarkation.

Explora I

LAUNCHING SUMMER 2023

As the first ship for new luxury line Explora Journeys, *Explora I* is all set to provide an elevated and memorable on-board experience, with wellness a



Vista will feature the very latest in cocktail-crafting trends and techniques



particular focus. On board there will be nine culinary venues, as well as a spa thermal suite. The spa facility will take up more than 700 square metres of the ship, and include nine treatment rooms, a panoramic running track and beauty salon. *Explora I* will depart for its maiden voyage on 17 July 2023 from Southampton.

MSC Euribia

LAUNCHING JUNE 2023

MSC Euribia, from MSC Cruises, will have a wastewater treatment system on board to improve environmental performance, and will be powered by liquefied natural gas.

MSC Euribia will feature an extensive collection of art in the new gallery

The trendy artwork exterior of the ship is only a glimpse into the extensive collection of art that *MSC Euribia* will feature in the new gallery.

On board, the ship will have five pools, including a waterpark, the Galleria Euribia, the MSC Aurea Spa, including thermal area, as well as plenty of fun for the whole family. *MSC Euribia* will set sail 10 June 2023 around Northern Europe roundtrip from Kiel, with prices starting from £889pp.

Viking Saturn

LAUNCHING MAY 2023

When it launches in May next year, *Viking Saturn* will become the latest addition to the Viking ocean fleet. While all accommodation on board will delight guests, there's no doubt that the Owner's Suite, with a separate bedroom suite, dining area and library, floor-to ceiling glass door and veranda, will wow at every turn.

Other perks will be found in the Nordic Spa, with a wide range of treatments, and some guests may be tempted to then head to the hair salon to get ready for an evening in Manfredi's Italian Restaurant. *Viking Saturn* will sail from Barcelona to Reykjavik on 9 May 2023 for 15 days, with prices starting from £4,690pp.

Resilient Lady and Brilliant Lady

LAUNCHING MAY 2023 / LATE 2023

It is certainly a big year for Virgin Voyages, with two new ships for 2023 – both to hold 2,700 guests.

Resilient Lady will include intelligent, luxury spaces such as The Perch and The Athletic Club as well as plenty of foodie options such as the Korean BBQ – Gunbae. *Brilliant Lady* will also feature the elements that are now synonymous with Virgin Voyages – think plenty of food venues, prioritisation for ocean views and an edgy style throughout. *Resilient Lady* will set sail in May 2023 and *Brilliant Lady* will launch in late 2023. 📍





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