

How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

# HOW TO HAVE AN UNFORGETTABLE **CRUISE VACATION**

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## How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

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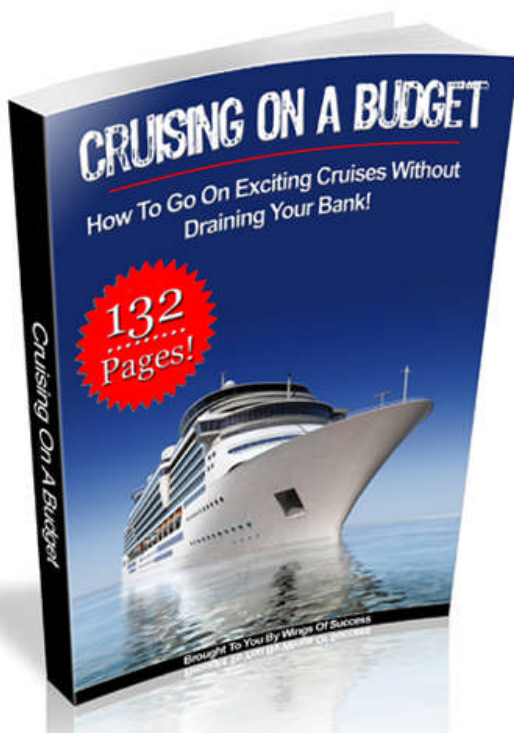
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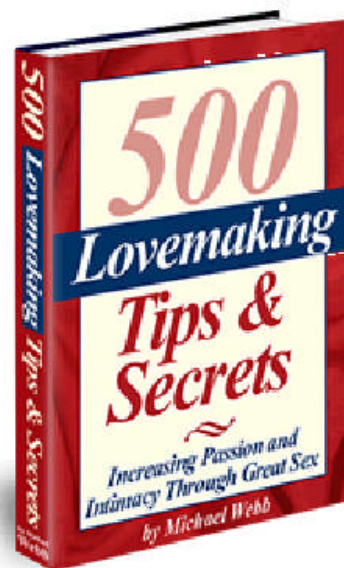
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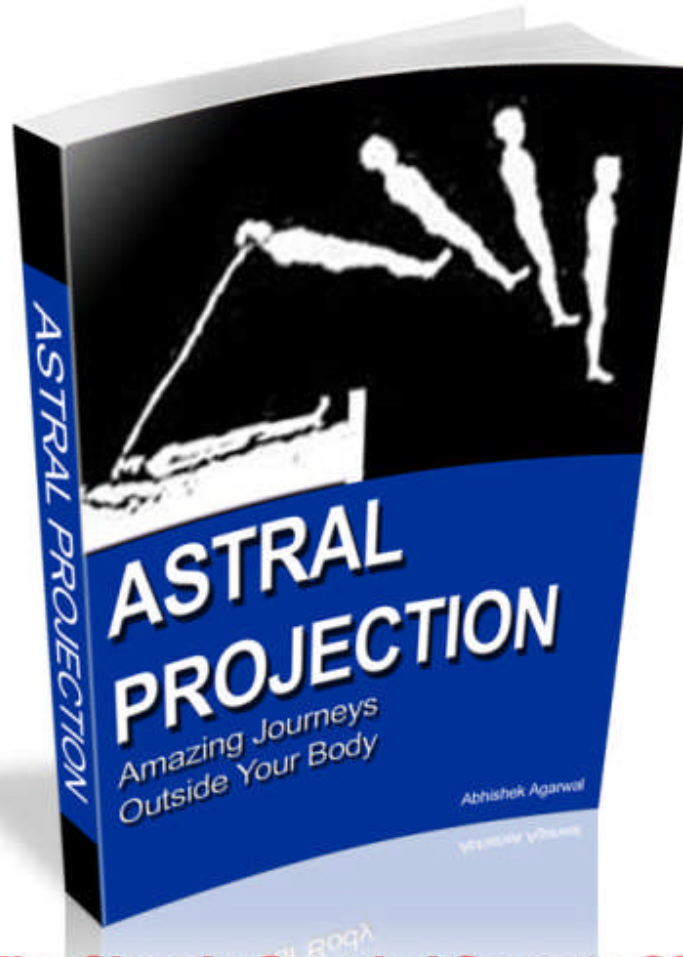


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## Why Take A Cruise?

There are plenty of reasons why you should take a cruise. If you are like most people, you will enjoy getting away from it all. A cruise will allow you to do just that. In fact, you do not have to worry about getting to all the sites you want to visit in time. There is no rushing around. There are few if any problems with missing your arrival times. There are plenty of reasons to use cruise travel as your main way to spend your vacation. Here are some other reasons why you may want to consider this type of travel.

- **It is affordable.** There are plenty of deals happening each and every day, virtually all times of the year. You can find a wide range of discounts available in the off seasons, but there are plenty to go around any time of the year otherwise. Most of the time, you will spend less on a cruise than you will on a big vacation.
- **There is plenty to see.** When you take a cruise, you can travel to a wide range of places around the world. In many cases, you can visit some of the most remote ports out there far less than it would cost to fly to these locations. You can experience a wide range of different cultures and various lands. There is plenty for you to experience on the actual ship too.
- **You can meet lots of new people.** A cruise is a great place to meet a wide range of people. You do not even need to get off the boat to do so either. There are many people that are ready and waiting for you to meet them. You can meet people your own age or meet someone else. In fact, if you are single, there are plenty of cruises for you out there.
- **You can do new things.** On the ship and off, there are many things that you can do to enjoy the time that you have. You can learn to rock climb or go scuba diving. You can learn to water ski or go fishing in the ocean. There is no limit to the options that you have.

Cruise travel has many rewards to offer those that are looking for something a little more relaxed or something that is different than another amusement park. Check out the various options that are available because not only can you do the things that you would like to do, but you can find a wide range of options to choose from to fit your needs and lifestyles.

## What Is There To Do On A Cruise?

If you are worried about what there is to do on your cruise ship, you may not have anything to worry about at all. Unlike your boring flight on an airplane to your destination, you are going to find many things to do on your ship. In fact, some say that the best part of their vacation is the ship itself and not the destination at all. One thing is for sure. If you book a great cruise, you will enjoy all the relaxation that you can get in on these ships.

There are plenty of things to keep you busy on board the ship. If you are looking for something to do, consider the options that are available to you. Here are just a few.

- If you are traveling with children, this may be one of your biggest worries. Will the kids have something to do? First off, make sure that you book a cruise that is geared towards kids and families as this will allow for more to do in the long run. Nevertheless, there are plenty of options. Many of the cruises will offer all sorts of activities from games and swimming to learning adventures and lots of play time. Most have plenty of activities to keep the kids happy.
- If you are into sports, there are plenty of options here as well. Your cruise may be ideal for swimming and working out as most of them feature a wide range of options here. They generally will have many things set up for you including a swimming pool, exercise room, games on deck, events and then when you get to your destination, you have more. You can often go snorkeling and deep sea diving. You can go water skiing and even consider going rock climbing. Look at what your cruise has to offer.
- Entertainment is the key to a great cruise. But there is plenty of this available as well. If you are going to enjoy your cruise, make sure that the types of entertainment that you enjoy are there. This will include shows, musicals, comedy, movies and parties. Dining options are always amazing including elegant balls as well.

To know just what your cruise offers, make sure to check the itinerary that is provided to you. You can find out what the ship has to offer long before you book your trip and you can even choose a trip that is ideal for you.

## **Where To Go On A Cruise**

When it comes to the cruise, there are plenty of places that you can travel. When you are choosing, you should pay close attention to the various things that are available to you to do on the cruise. With so many options out there, you are sure to find more than a few that will fit your needs to a T. The goal is to choose the right ones for your needs. Take your time to insure that you get the ones that will offer you the very best that is available. Research is the key to finding the option that is ideal for you.

### **Going Tropic?**

One of the most common types of cruises is that of the tropical cruise. If you are going to enjoy yourself on the beaches in Hawaii or any other tropical location, make sure that you choose the ideal location for you. There are many cruises that are designed for passengers that want to feel the heat. Look at all of your options. To get a great deal on these vacations, consider looking for those that are offered during the off season. This can be the ideal time to go because temperatures are just cool enough for you to really enjoy them and you can save a great deal of money too.

### **Go North**

If you are not looking forward to the heat of a cruise, then you should consider going north instead of heading to the tropics. Believe it or not, these can be some of the best cruises out there. If you want to see the most beautiful of locations, this is the place to go. In one cruise in particular, the Alaskan cruises, you will be able to see amazing scenery that is just incomparable to anything that you may have seen before. You can also catch a glimpse of hump back whales if you are really lucky.

### **Go For Cultures**

There are plenty of other locations that you can visit as well. You can go to Mexico or to South America. You can visit Asia or even Europe and Africa. The world is your possibilities when it comes to a cruise. You should be able to discover many of the things that you would like to on these cruises as well. Some will make several stops at various ports to allow you to get the

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most for your money. You can see the foods and wares that are offered to you near the ports as well.

You can go virtually any place that you would like to on a cruise. Go ahead and enjoy all that is out there and waiting for you.

## Cruises With Themes

One thing that you should consider when it comes to the cruise is that you have the ability to find ones that offer a wide range of themes. These could be specific things or they just could be something that helps to limit the types of people that will be on board with you. Finding others that share the same things that you do is a great way for you to really enjoy your vacation on your cruise. With these themed options, you can make sure that happens for you.

Some of the most common types of themed cruises are those that are geared to the kids. You will find a wide range of them offering many of the things that kids enjoy doing from playing all day to swimming to learning and crafts. There are many things to keep them busy including babysitting to allow parents to enjoy their time alone too.

But, that is far from the only things that you have to consider. Consider senior or adult only cruises where children will not be on board. Consider the cruise that features just singles that are looking for their soul mate. Or, consider those tours that are themed with an adventure such as an adventure to see the Alaskan wilderness. There are many more for you to consider as well.

Take some time now and find the cruises that interest you and your family. Look for those that offer activities that you would like to do and things that will inspire your family to spend time together. You may want to book a cruise for your entire family and enjoy each others company. Still, there are plenty of options for you. You can explore most of them right here on the web. Then make your choice based on the things that you like the very best. Get out there and find a few that fit your bill.

## Taking A Cruise: A Checklist

When it comes to taking a cruise, you may be a little worried that you do not have it all together. You may be wondering what you should be doing first and then what to do after that. But, the good news is that when it comes to booking a cruise, some of the best information that you need is available right at your finger tips on the web. You are going to find several options to choose from, but here is a great breakdown of all that you need to consider when taking a cruise.

- **Where would you like to go?** Of course, if you have someplace that you would like to go in particular, nothing else should matter. But, if you are open to suggestions, you may be able to find a wider range of options to consider.
- **Will you go out of the country?** If any of your stops in your cruise are to destinations that are outside of your country, you may need to have a passport with you. The cruise will provide you with the details of what is needed though.
- **What would you like to do on your cruise?** You should know what types of things that you would like to do. If you are a sports person, rock climbing and water skiing may be options to consider. But, if you are more interested in the shows, choose a cruise that offers this too.
- **Who will go with you?** If you have children, make sure that the cruise you choose is going to have things for them to do. Take into consideration the various things that the others in your party would like to do as well.
- **Where will you leave from?** You should plan on how you will get to these locations as well. This may be an extra cost.

Booking the perfect cruise is ideal for many people. **Are you ready to go?**

## Choosing The Best Cruise Lines

Cruise is fun and exciting. It is the best getaway that probably money can buy. Cruise means a travel of a lifetime enjoying both water and land activities.

If you are a newlywed couple, cruise probably is the best way of spending your honeymoon.

Most of the people think that cruise is a costly recreation. It needs thousands of dollars to get a ticket. On the other hand, there are great alternatives to reach the dream of going on cruises.

The very first consideration is the cruise plan. You can save a lot if you will plan wisely your cruise trip. By doing this, you can manage to research more about the greatest deals and cruise trip discounts.

Vacation cruise planning can also give you a wise method to have a step-by-step cruise destination and the vacation of a lifetime.

Aside from that, another great thing to do is to look for the best cruise lines. The best cruise lines must be able to give the client a cheap fare and fees. Aside from that, cruise lines must have good customer service.

Speaking of cruise lines, there are many dazzling ranges of cruise lines available to choose from. Each and every one of them promises to get you to many different destinations.

But not only that, a great cruise is not just all about the destination at all. One of the best characteristics of cruise lines is to have a large variety of cruise services. For example, the best cruise lines must have the capacity to shift from one place to another.

The most particular place for cruise trips are Alaska, Hawaii Island, Mexico Canal, The Panama Channel, and Caribbean Sea. The best cruise must bring you to those places. Aside from that, great cruises must have a possibly reasonable cruise price.

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The tagline is also very important. But you must be careful of them also. Some taglines are only intended only to catch your attention.

The best cruise lines must be affordable but luxurious. They must try to give the customer a taste of a fantastic experience without costing too much. Another important thing is cruise lines must give many amenities and services not found in other types of vacations.

Proper customer services must also be given to customers. For example, services like spa treatments, evening recreation, dance classes, sporting activities, casinos, entertainment and plenty of other recreational activities to perform inside the ship.

Best cruise lines must also be very particular with the food they serve. They must offer both new and traditional way of dining. The process of dining must also be closely observed. For example, if you want to eat, you can eat what you want, where you want to and when you want to.

In order to find the best cruise lines, the best thing to do is to research well. By doing this, you can find the lowest price possible. You can also find the best type of cruise lines that can fit what you are looking for and how much you can afford.

You can do reliable researching for the best cruise lines over the net. There are many websites that offers the best types of cruise lines. Aside from that, there are also websites that offers suggestions regarding how to choose the best type of cruise ships. The best ship must have a lot of factors.

Having enough information is also great. For example, if the room is in the lower part of the ship, the rooms are normally low price. On the other hand, suite is in deed the most luxurious choice for space.

Booking as early as possible can also be the best way for choosing cruise lines. Most of the cruise lines offer good discounts and deals when booked as early as possible.

As an advice, choosing the best cruise must tell you the cruise destination place. Most of the shipping line will definitely tell the ports of description.



## How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

Always remember that the best cruise lines must have the interest to give you the best services as possible at the lowest possible prices.

Cruise programs are also one of the factors in deciding which the best cruise lines are. Programs must be very entertaining and recreational. Programs like snorkeling, fishing, diving, onboard movie watching, discos, ball room dancing and lots more are what you need to look out for.

To make the cruise more recreational and enjoyable, choosing the best cruise lines is indeed important. Book with the shipping lines as early as possible to grab this great opportunity.

## Making Your Cruise Plans

There is a lot more to planning your cruise vacation than you may realize, until you get into it. You may know where you want to go on your cruise, but do you know when you want to go? Would you rather go in the off season, so the ship won't be crowded? Can you look at the calendar and pick a date as far ahead as a year from now, and definitely say you can take your vacation starting on that day? Would you be able to get a better rate if you waited later, or would the prices rise? All of these questions can be frustrating to answer, and are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to planning your cruise vacation.

In all honesty, there are too many variables involved to be able to definitively answer any of those questions. You never know what may come up at work that may require you to change your vacation plans, you have no way to know when other passengers will be planning their vacations, and you never really know about prices, because they often vary from cruise to cruise, day to day. There are a few things that you can do that might make this initial planning easier for you, so keep reading.

The first thing you want to do is some comparison shopping. Look at the prices of similar cruises with different cruise lines, compare the rates and what benefits are include in the price. This research should be fairly easy to pull off if you use the Internet, or you can go through a travel agent, whichever you prefer.

When you have narrowed it down to one or two cruise companies, you will want to get quotes for you specific dates and destination that you have in mind, which will really narrow it down for you.

If you can be flexible about when you take your cruise vacation, you may be able to secure a better price. If you have to go at a certain time, it really is essential to make your reservations as soon as possible, to not only ensure you get a good rate, but to make certain you get a cruise that you can go on. Since they start filling up early, if you wait until the last minute, you may be out of luck!

## How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

Booking early may not give you the discount that you are looking for, but it will save your spot. Keep in mind, that even if you do book early, you are not guaranteed to get the date that you ask for, although cruise lines will try their best to accommodate you.

Sometimes, if there are extra spaces on a cruise, the cruise line will run special deals to fill up the ship. If you are able to go at these times, you may be able to really save some money on your cruise vacation, so keep that in mind. If you do it this way, you will need to be ready to go at anytime, with your passport and all paperwork completed.

If you decide to travel outside of the peak season, you will have many more choices available, and odds are you will be able to get a much lower rate as well.

## How Do You Book A Cruise?

If you are ready to get out there on the big ocean, you may not know just how you can go about booking your cruise vacation. Many individuals find that the cruise is an ideal place to sit and mingle and to enjoy all that life has to offer. But, not everyone's options are what will fit your needs. You may not want to go rock climbing, but you would like the opportunity to see some hump back whales. When you book a cruise, you will want to make sure that you book one that fits your needs the very best.

The first thing to do is to do some research. You really need to know what is out there and what interests you. You should consider these things.

- Where the cruise will leave from as well as where it is traveling to. Remember, you will need to get to the port in order to get onto the ship which means an additional cost of flying to the port or driving there.
- What is there to do on the cruise? Each of the ships that do cruises will likely offer you a wide range of choice. But, some will have more of a variety than others will. You should insure that you know what the cruise is offering. This is easy to find out just from looking at your options.
- Who will be on the cruise with you? Some cruises are designed with special themes while others are not. A cruise that is designed for children may not be the one you want to take if you do not have children. Or, if you are single looking to find your soul mate, consider a singles cruise.
- Where will the cruise stop on the way? Many cruises will allow you to stop and enjoy the attractions of several ports. Perhaps you would like to do some sight seeing? Or, maybe you would like to find just the right location to do some whale watching. There are many options including things like water skiing, rock climbing and beautiful scenery.

Once you find the right cruise for you, you can usually book them right on the web. You should note that there are plenty of options out there but many of the best cruises fill up long before they are to set sail. Look for ones that offer the things that you want but don't waste too much time.

## **Booking A Cruise For Less**

There are several things that you can do to book your next cruise for less. This will include many of the things that make your day amazing. Of course, if you would like to not worry about the cost of your next cruise, there are more than a few things that will help you to enjoy your cruise without worrying about the expense of it all. Here are some tips that will help you with doing just that.

- Take your time to shop around. Not only are there plenty of cruises available, but many of them are out there offering discounted rates too. If you shop around, you may find one website offering the same cruise as another website for much less.
- Go in the off season. There is probably no single better way for you to save money than for you to book your cruise in the off season. Usually, you will still have a wide range of choices in cruise ships and you will still be able to go to most locations. The difference here is that you will be able to save quite a bit while doing it.
- Look for deals on getting to your port. You will likely need to fly to the port where your ship is leaving from. If that is the case, you should really consider looking for deals on airfare. There are plenty of these available to you as well. Take some time to compare your options so that you can find the airline that offers the best rates when you need to be there.

All of these things will help you to save money on your next cruise. Take some time right now to find the best rates available to you. If you plan to go on your cruise anytime soon, though, you may not want to wait too long because many cruises fill up rather quickly.

## **Booking Your Cruise Online**

One way to save money on your next cruise is to use an online travel service. It used to be that the only way for you to find the right price for your travel experience was to work with a travel agent. Today, though, you can easily find the best cruise options for you right on the web rather than through a travel agent with their mark up added to it. The good news is that there are many options that you can consider here. There is not just one online service to use, but several. This is where you are likely to save yourself a good amount of money.

When you are using the online travel services to book your next cruise, make sure that you do one very important thing. That is that you should spend your time comparison shopping for the best rates that are available. You are likely to find many options to consider here. But, compare apples to apples. That means you should compare the same cruise and cruise line from one online travel service to the next. This is the ideal way for you to save money in the long run on your service. You are going to find that some offer a lower rate than others do.

One thing to note about these online travel services, though, is that not all of them offer the same cruises. Some will not offer others. And, this can make comparisons difficult. Yet, you should still be able to see the difference in prices that are available. Another benefit that many offer you is that you can find the right cruise for you in a package. These packages may include things like your transportation to the port, your meals, your expenses and many other perks. Depending on the online travel service and the cruise that you take, there may be a way for you to save money.

## The Best Times To Take A Cruise

Booking a cruise is a really magical experience. You may feel that the amusement park vacations are just too boring. Or, you may be tired of exploring the same old cities and locations. Instead, why not take a cruise? There are plenty of things to do and to see on these cruises. Most of the time, you will be unlimited in where you want to go and the things that you would like to enjoy. But, one thing that you will need to decide about the cruise is the right time for you to go on it.

Let's face it, not everyone gets a choice as to when they can take their vacations. Many have to worry about school schedules and work ones as well. But, the more options that you have in the times that you can travel, the better your options are going to be. There are plenty of them too. But, to break it down, we'll put it quite simply as traveling in the off season, which is generally the winter months, or traveling in the travel season which includes summer and holidays from school.

### **Off Season Travel Versus In Season**

There are many benefits to each of these choices. Really, it is up to you to decide which the right choice for our needs is. But, if you do have the options to consider, then look at what is available. First in the season of travel, you usually can find more people to travel with. You can get your group together and go as a family which can help you to get lower rates. You can also find a wide range of options in where to travel as most cruises run during this time period.

But, if you travel in the off season, you may be able to save quite a bit of money. Many cruise lines will offer outstanding packages for this time period. You usually do not need as much time to book these trips either. You can usually find the right location to go to within a small amount of time. And, there are fewer crowds as well. Of course, there may be a limit to the locations that you travel to due to winter weather, but you may find that some areas, like the tropics are more enjoyable in slightly cooler weather.

With all of that said, you need to carefully consider the options that you have. Finding the right deal and the right cruise are also important to you. Yet, with the world as your destination, you may be able to find just what you would like to have.

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### A Simple Plan

Knowing what type of information you'll need to have before you board and what to pack isn't an exact science. However, it does help to know in advance what to expect and how to plan your cruise.

### Paper Work

Your ticket packet information will give you specific instructions, but most cruise lines will require at least a state issued picture I.D., even if your cruise will stay in U.S. territorial waters. If your ship is going to another country, you'll probably need to bring a passport or a birth certificate with a raised seal and a governmentally issued I.D. such as a driver's license.

Whether you need a passport or not depends on where you are going. Foreign travel often requires a passport. However, you may be able to enter some countries with just a notarized birth certificate with a raised seal and your driver's license. Although, some countries may not require much to enter, you'll still need proof of citizenship when you re-enter the United States. You'll need to find out if any of the foreign travel you are planning will require a passport or visa.

If you don't have a passport, apply for one at least 3 months before travel. If you already have a passport, make sure it will still be valid for your entire trip. If your passport will be within six months of expiration while you're traveling, you may want to get a new passport since some countries now require that your passport must be valid six months after your return to the U.S.

You can get a passport at a State Department Passport Agency, a clerk of any Federal or State Court of record, designated municipal or county official or a designated U.S. Post Office. They usually run around \$100 for an adult, so be sure and figure this expense into your cruise budget.

To get your passport, you will, most likely, need to appear in person at the issuing facility. If you are a first time applicant, you'll need to appear in person at one of the official locations listed above. You will also need to appear in person if it has been more than 12 years since your last passport was issued or you were under 16 years of age when your last passport was issued. Applicants under 13 are not always required to appear in person since a parent or guardian may execute the application on the child's behalf.



## Cruise Lines At Your Service

When you plan to get yourself and your family a cruise vacation, where you get quotes that you use in comparing different cruise packages available? Whom are the ones arranging your pre-departure tours?

Whom you deal with when you are already on-board, providing all of your needs and ensuring your safety for the rest of your vacation?

It is all about cruise lines.

### **What is a Cruise Line?**

A company or corporation operates the cruise ships. Cruise lines are considered to carry two purposes. First is for transportation business, and second, in the leisure entertainment business.

Aside from the administration officers and headquartered employees, cruise line personnel extends on the cruise ship, which is headed by the ship's captain and his crew, and a hospitality staff, which is headed by the equivalent of a hotel manager.

Among the cruise lines presently operating, some of them are direct descendants of the traditional passenger shipping lines. Others were among the original cruising companies established in the early 1960's.

Having a cruising business before is just like placing your investment on a great risk. A slight dip in cruise bookings can cause the loss of your business, since you need to recover all the expenses you have incurred from building the cruise ship.

### **List of Popular Cruise Lines**

Currently, there are 52 cruise lines operating in the United States, Europe, Asia, and other places. Most of these cruise lines have headquarters based at the United States, and the rest to different European countries.

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The following are the list of some of the cruise lines

### **Birka Line**

An Aldanian cruise line concentrates on cruising activities at the Baltic Sea with Stockholm as the starting point. It was founded in 1971 after the acquisition of the ship M/S Princessan which is turned later to Prinsessan. It made its first cruise between Stockholm and Mariehamn.

In 1972, the Birka Line bought the M/S Olav and renamed her Baronessan. The preceding years, they have acquired few more ships. They have also car and passenger ferries on the Stockholm-Helsinki route. One of the additions is the M/S Drottningen, which is a train ferry servicing the Stockholm-Helsinki/Leningrad route.

### **Carnival Cruise Lines**

It is now one of the subsidiaries of the Carnival Corporation, which operates different cruise lines and has become the largest corporation in the cruise industry.

Carnival Cruise Lines were the pioneer of the cheaper and shorter cruise concept. They have been able to produce larger ships, one of which is the Carnival Destiny, which is 101,000 tons and became the largest passenger ship in the world.

Currently, the company announced in the first quarter of 2006 the latest two new ships to be incorporated in their fleet. These are the carnival Freedom, which sets its debut in 2007, and the Carnival Splendor, to be launched in the spring of 2008.

### **Crystal Cruise Lines**

Most commonly known as Crystal Cruises, Crystal Cruise Lines debuted in 1988 with its three medium-sized, high-end ships. A large Japanese shipping company Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line owns it. Their ships are regularly placed in the list of Conde Nast Traveler magazine as one of the best cruise liners. Most guidebooks also score the three ships among the top 20 of all cruise ships presently running.

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### **Disney Cruise Lines**

As the name suggests, it is owned by the famous Walt Disney Company and headquartered in Celebration, Florida. It operates two cruise ships: the Disney Magic and the Disney Wonder, along with Castaway Cay, an island in the Bahamas designed as an exclusive port of call for Disney's ships.

The first ship, the Disney Magic, started its operation on July 30, 1998. The other one, the Disney Wonder, debuted in August 15, 1999. Each of the ship has 875 staterooms and a crew of 945.

It is relatively identical in their design, with some variations in restaurants and in entertainment sections. Both ships have areas designed for different group ages, which include toddlers, young children, teens, and adults.

### **Norwegian Cruise Lines**

The company is based in Miami, Florida and founded as the Norwegian Caribbean Lines in 1966. It started offering cruises in the Caribbean at a low cost.

The acquisition of the cruise ship France in 1979 that is later rebuilt and named Norway, paved the way for the new era of giant cruise ships.

There are other cruise lines out there, offering different travel packages to make your cruise vacation an experience to remember.

## To Insure Proper Service

Let the controversy begin. Tipping has become a hot topic among cruisers. Some cruise lines have pulled away from tipping, but they seem to have done so just enough to confuse the issue. Tipping is a traditional part of cruising and just like the restaurants you frequent at home, it is an important part of the income of those that will help you on your cruise.

The people that will be assisting you are in the service industry, and it is the passenger tips that will make up the largest percentage of their income. Some of these employees make as little as \$25 a week, so they rely heavily on their tips and are willing to reward generous tipping with outstanding service.

Each cruise line will provide their own guide to tipping; in fact some even provide all the envelopes for you to pass them out in.

For some general guidelines to help you know who and how much to tip.

Airport skycaps generally are rewarded \$1.00 for each bag if they carry them.

Porters at the loading area of the Cruise ship also look forward to \$1.00 for each bag

Cabin Stewards and Waiters \$3.00/3.50 each per passenger, per day

Servers or Busboys \$1.50/2.50 per passenger, per day

Maitre d' \$2.00 to 10.00 per passenger for the entire cruise depending on how helpful they have been.

Many bar and lounge tips are included on your bill at a standard 15% which you can generally adjust for poor or excellent service. Check your individual bills to see if a tip has already been included. You can expect to spend about \$10-\$15 a day in tips, so be sure to budget for that.

Often, cruise ships will automatically tack on tips to your on board account. It's a good idea to ask for this to be removed and then take care of tipping yourself. Experienced cruisers say they like to have control over who gets what based on the service provided, etc.

Cruising offers a lot of experiences you won't get anywhere else. Take advantage of them, but be mindful of what you spend. Unless you have a limitless amount of cash to spend, some general tips and tricks could help. Read on!

## Getting Your Drink On

For those of you who enjoy a little nip here and there, drinking on board the ship can be an expensive proposition. Don't expect to get plowed on \$20 like you might be able to do at home. Drinks are expensive, but you can save here as well.

In this section, we'll address both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Both can be quite expensive on board, and many people report this is where they spend the bulk of their money, especially if you like your wine and beer.

Whether or not to BYOB (Bring Your Own Beverages) is a hot cruise passenger topic. Many cruise lines look the other way at soft drinks and bottled water toted by embarking passengers, but they are increasingly intolerant of allowing them to bring alcoholic beverages on board.

A bottle of wine or champagne for a special occasion is usually okay, but don't even think of carting on a case of beer. If you must BYOB to save money, stick to soft drinks.

DO NOT accept the umbrella drink of the day as you board. If you are a newbie, you think this is a nice gesture on the part of the cruise line. And then they ask for your stateroom number so they can post the \$8-\$9 charge.

Probably the best tip I've seen for getting your own liquor on board the ship is coming now. TAKE HEED - THIS IS A STELLAR SUGGESTION! Send yourself a cost-effective bon voyage gift of your favorite spirits to be delivered to your stateroom, either from the cruise line or an independent service. Since it's a gift, they probably won't restrict the possession of it in your cabin! There are many places online that will put these together for you at a reasonable cost.

Bar drinks and wine typically cost about what patrons would expect to pay at a nice lounge or restaurant in a resort or at home (depending on where you live). Keep in mind, unless you really want a souvenir glass to take home, order your umbrella drinks in regular glasses-you will pay extra for the keepsake glass.

## Doing It On Your Own

Start with research. We're assuming you don't have a particular cruise line in mind, but if you do, start with their web site. If you don't care whether you cruise on Carnival or Ambassador, do a quick web search for cruise deals and you'll find tons of places that will give you information on what they have to offer. There are three web sites we have found that might help guide you:

cruise-addicts.com,  
cruisestateroom.com,  
cruisecritic.com

You will have a lot of options to consider when deciding on your cruise, which we will outline in this chapter.

One such option is taking a theme cruise. What exactly is a theme cruise, you ask? It is a cruise booked around a certain theme that could focus on a particular interest such as murder mystery, sports, music styles, etc. The cruise line may provide special events and lectures for you to attend revolving around the theme. Some theme cruises have celebrities along for the ride giving you the chance to rub elbows with the rich and famous. If you can think of a theme that interests people, they probably have a cruise to match it.

A theme cruise can be great fun if you pick the right theme for you. Check to see if a cruise line offers a theme cruise that matches your interest. You'll also want to see if the cruise you are going to book has a theme or possibly a large group joining your cruise. You might not want to spend your vacation being the odd man out because you don't like the theme or because you're not part of the large group.

You may want to check out a group cruise. This isn't necessarily you getting together a bunch of people and planning a cruise with them. There are some groups out there that have secured special, low rates for large groups of people. You don't even have to know the people you're cruising with.

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You can find these group cruises in various places. Try looking at an Internet chat board for cruisers. They often have postings on there for groups who have secured such rates, and you can save a lot of money by booking with them instead of on your own.

## **Best Ways Of Planning Your Best Cruises**

Most people fantasize about having a cruise vacation. It is not stressed enough that you should not only base on the price when choosing a cruise. Besides, you're going on a vacation to get maximum enjoyment and fun.

To make your cruise vacation a success, you must have a plan before deciding on a particular cruise. First of all, most cruises provide amenities and services such as meals, state rooms, airfare, day and night entertainment and other boarding packages.

Aside from that, a cruise must provide a stress free and relaxing vacation in the part of the cruise liner's clients. It should give you a pleasant experience. Remember, people consider spending their valuable vacation time in cruises because of the offers of maximum comfort, relaxation and entertainment.

To help you plan your cruise, here are some basic steps and important factors that you need to know to make cruises more enjoyable and get what you paid for.

- One of the most important things to consider is the destination of the cruises. Deciding on a particular destination can help a lot to ensure you maximum enjoyment. Cruise liners offer different location in their cruise package. Here are examples of the most popular destination people consider when they go to cruises: Alaska, Mexico Channel, Panama Island, and Caribbean Sea.
- Another important factor you should consider is who you are going to take with you. Cruise lines have different ships for different purposes. For example, there are ships that are family oriented where the whole family, kids and adults alike, can enjoy the cruise or there are also cruise ships that have a romantic theme where you and your significant other can enjoy romantic dinners, dances and other activities that both of you can do.
- Choose the best cruise lines. Remember that do not just choose a cruise vacation basing on your budget alone. Consider the best cruise lines that you can afford and you will surely get



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what you paid for. There are many cruise lines available for every type of people that will offer maximum fun and excitement.

- The vacationer must also decide how long the cruises will take. You don't want to exceed your vacation time where you should be at work instead of in an island worrying about what will happen after you arrive. Cruise lines offer different length of sailing schedules. There are offers of three to five days cruises, others will start at day number eight and can be extend up to a month or more. There are also available cruises that offer a four month trip around the world.
- You should also consider the number of activities inside a particular cruise ship. There should be basic amenities included in a cruise ship, like good accommodation with a bathroom. There should also be activities that offer the vacationer a variety of recreational activities. For example, rock climbing, ice skating, scuba diving, gambling facilities, swimming pools, gyms and spas. Activities in cruise lines vary from company to company. Choose the cruising lines that tailor your needs.
- You should also consider the ship of a particular cruise line company. Find out how old the ship is by looking at inauguration dates or asking the company about a particular ship. If it is possible, ask for a tour around the ship. Observe how the staff works and also consider if cleanliness is being practiced by the staff.
- Getting an early booking. Early booking means cheaper packages and less trouble getting a cruise. Most cruising lines companies offer a large amount of discounts when you book several months or more in advance ahead of the cruise schedule. To find out about a cruise schedule, visit a cruise liner's website. Cruise lines usually post their schedules on their websites and offer online booking. You can also visit your local travel agent specializing in cruise vacations and inquire about the cruise line schedule.
- If you want to experience shore excursions, always make a reservation to avoid frustration and disappointment. Shore excursions are a great way to visit other countries and learn about their culture. It is also where the best bargain shopping is available.

## How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

These are just some of the tips when planning a cruise. If you want to book a cruise, it is wise that you should hire a travel agent specializing in cruise vacations to get you the best deal possible.

Travel agents can also act as an advisor. Do not be afraid to ask about a particular cruise and what to expect from it.

## How To Find Cruise Travel Deals On The Web

One of the best ways to save money on your next cruise is to look for deals that are available on the web. Like many of those out there, you would love to take a cruise to get away from it all. It is like one of the most sought after types of vacations but it can be one of the most expensive ones, right? It really does not have to be this way. In fact, many people are able to find a cruise for a really great deal. But, you need to know how to do this and where to look to find it. Then, you can enjoy a cruise without worrying about your pocket book the whole time.

A cruise is a destination and a journey. But, to get there, you need to find the right amount of options to consider. Here are some things that you can take your time looking and considering to find that perfect cruise for much less.

- **Consider the time frame.** If you have the ability to travel at any time, always consider the off season for the cruise. You may not realize it, but many cruise lines operate all year round. When you consider the time frame that is not the hurricane season and not a time period that is busy with tourists, such as the summer months and the holiday time frames, you can actually save quite a bit. Consider pulling the kids out of school for a week and going during these off times to save yourself quite a bit.
- **Look for cruise packages.** Some cruise lines will offer a package as an incentive to get passengers. These may include some of the fees removed from the trip or may offer you an additional length of time for much less. There are many package options to consider including those that offer free meals, free gifts and much more. Definitely consider these if they are to the locations that you want to travel to anyway.
- **Look for ways to save on your airline tickets.** If you need to fly to the port that the cruise is leaving from, consider your options for lowering prices this way. The web is the ideal location to do this because you can compare various airlines within seconds and you can book your tickets within a minute. You should consider tickets for the middle of the night, the middle of the week and multiple stops to save.

The web is full of some of the most amazing deals on cruises. Get out there and use the services that are set up. You are sure to find more than one option in a cruise that is ideal for you.

## **Your Cruise: Do You Use A Travel Agent Or The Web?**

For any of your travel needs, you may face the problem of knowing whether to use a travel agent for your cruise or if you should book the trip yourself online. This is something that you will ultimately need to decide on yourself, but if you would like to compare your options, read on. There are many advantages to both sides of this coin. In all actuality, it depends on what is more important to you. What is true is that the cruises that are offered by your agent are the same cruises that are available through the online services on the web.

### **Using The Travel Agent**

If you do use a travel agent to book your next cruise, you will have some benefits. Sometimes, they are able to get you into a cruise that is booked. Some agents, especially the larger ones, will have their own amount of rooms to sell. That means that the online agents may run out but some of the travel agents still may have some available. This little bit of leg work in calling them may be tiring but it also may be well worth it. Also, the travel agent offers that personal touch that the online agencies do not. You can ask questions at both, but you can do it in person with your travel agent and have immediate results.

### **Using the Online Travel Services**

There are plenty of online travel services available to you on the web to use. These services will provide you with the best rates that are possible. Because there are several of them, you can easily go from one to the next to find the best rates that are available. You can even compare the various cruises that are available to find the very best option for you. Again, the largest benefit of using these services is that you can usually get a better rate for the packages and cruises that you would like to have. But, you do not have to use them at all. In fact, you can get a good idea of the price of every aspect of your cruise and then go somewhere else to see who has the best rates.

The ultimate decision is up to you. You are going to find a wide range of options no matter what you do, but the best way to find the ones that are right for you is to take the time to look at several. Comparison shop the cruise and the rates to find out what best fit for your budget and your dreams for your cruise.

## A Word About Travel Agents

If you decide to use a travel agent, know whom you are dealing with! Some cruise agents are very competent; others may have been selling stereos or aluminum siding over the telephone six months ago. The problem is, for the most part, you will have no real way of discerning which is which.

Local travel agents or otherwise self-appointed cruise experts frequently read the cruise ship line PR veneer right out of the catalog. Often this turns out to be nothing more than selling you the standard discount for booking that is available to virtually anyone off the so-called brochure rate.

The result is that you think you're getting one of Kathie Lee's fantasy cruises. What you find yourself on is a garish neon nightmare of a ship filled with people whose idea of a good time is drinking, partying, and then waking you up at 3AM as they boisterously announce their arrival back to their room--all right outside of your cabin.

For sure, this is the idea of a roaring good time for some--but the point is **KNOW WHAT YOU ARE REALLY BUYING!** There are many significant points and nuances that can differentiate between an OK trip, and one that falls short for the money you spend.

Many travel or cruise agencies often offer "special discounts". This is a common travel agency ploy to offer promotional deals that frequently focus on a special "cruise night." You may get a mailing or perhaps there is an ad in the local newspaper. You go in, are met and greeted, enjoy punch and free cookies, and view a dreamy cruise video.

Keep in mind that this is intended to appeal to a strong emotional purchase decision. Experts about the Psychology of selling relate this experience to what any top car salesperson knows. In the dealer's showroom, if you can get the potential customer behind the wheel to experience the "smell of the new car" and the fantasy of pulling it into the driveway--you've likely already made a sale!

## **A Great Cruise Deals Waiting On The Last Minute**

Making sudden decisions is normal to most people. Though it is not planned properly the way it should be, it has still advantages that gives benefits to many people. One of which is being able to stop what would be worrying them, escape from the troubles and additional expenses a last minute cruise can pack in.

Therefore, the next time you come up with a plan of taking a vacation, be sure to have an open mind and sign up on the great cruise deals found online that is being offered, even if your vacation dates is already getting closer.

You might notice that as the vacations date approaches, the deals are also getting to their advantage. Obviously, you should not let the this chances take advantages of you.

At a first look of it, it may seem that there is already a reduction on the cruise's price, but you will still spend more money just to be on the cruise than what you would normally pay if you took your tickets at an earlier date. This is all so true, but there are already some last minute discounts that are really a huge bargain since they are all-inclusive depending on the last minute cruise deal that you make. This means that you will be saving money from amusements in the cruise down to the meals you will take.

The cruise deal usually comprises your whole trip, accommodation or the lodging, your meals (from breakfast down to dinner, plus midnight snacks for some cruises) and the entire amusements offered in the cruise.

Comparing the cruise deals to an ordinary vacation, the cruise is still much better. Do you want to know why? Read the following:

- **Fine and casual/formal dining**
- **A great service for 24-hours**
- **Swimming pool**
- **Gym and spa services**
- **Day spa and beauty care centers**
- **A great selection of lounges and theaters with first-class entertainment**

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- **Casinos**
- **Duty-free gift houses**

Now, can you tell any other vacation deals that offers all of these services in one setting? Everything is accessible by just walking around, with attractive views of the water and moonlight included.

Just with these facilities found on a cruise ship and available with last minute cruise deals, it is surely will surpass all the other vacation types you know.

### **How will you look for great cruise deals?**

You just have to be flexible, remember that there are many reasons why phrases of “last minute” exist on cruise ships. Usually, cruises do provided all of the rooms because they allotted some empty rooms for discounts and for last minute clients. The kind of services and facilities are just similar with the travelers who paid the full price.

Sometimes, there are also clients who would cancel their trip the last minute thus, making other rooms unoccupied. Usually, the cruise company used it for last minute travelers who would like to join the trip.

### **How will you really get the best cruise deals on the last minute?**

You can possibly multiple your cruise savings by booking on the last minute deal during off-peak seasons when the prices are lowered to start with or you can cruise to places that you think are fascinating but have irregular departure dates.

### **Here are a few tips when searching for the great last minute cruise deals.**

- You can start inquiring two months before your vacation date and have a regular monitor of it since special promos and price reduction are grabbed immediately.
- Be flexible – if you can change you vacation dates by a couple of days, this will help you save more money.

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- Be adventurous – if there are great deals offered by an unusual cruise to a place you have not been to, grab it! This way, you are not only saving your money but also you are giving yourself a chance to go to a place new to you. They are usually offered introductory prices that are relatively cheap.
- To keep you informed of the latest deals of the cruises, try to look for them on the internet. The internet always updates information on cruise deals when cruise lines advertise for available openings.
- Be determined. Know the cruise you really want. There are many types of cruises available offering a variety of themes. You should be certain about choosing the kind of cruise to assure of your total satisfaction.

Therefore, when you want to have a last minute vacation on cruise, do not be hesitant about it. Instead, follow the tips and the pleasure is just right on the next cruise waiting for you.



## Mediterranean Cruises: Soak In The Sun

To experience the 'brilliance of the seas' the Mediterranean is an excellent option as far as cruising is concerned. Because of the growing demand to travel across the Mediterranean among the people, a lot of new cruises and packages are being introduced. These are available in all kinds of specifications and rates. Most of them generally offer a good bargain as per your requirements. Apart from the ordinary cruising facilities many of these ships have on board them spas and fitness centers, movie theatres and other recreation areas.

Cruises that are a part of Seabourn and Silver Seas are luxurious where one can just sit back and pamper oneself to the fullest. Taking anything between 6-19 days the Mediterranean cruise is indeed a great way to get away from the hustle and bustle of daily activities and cares. Most of these cruises take place between the months of May and October which is indeed the ideal time to travel across the Mediterranean Sea.

Disney is another cruising company whose unique feature is to create an ambience that is warm and closest to the likeness of a family. They replicate this ideal in all the facilities they offer. Moreover, Disney takes care to route the cruise via historically rich cities such as Naples, Rome, Florence, Pisa, Marseilles, Monte Carlo, and Cannes for an overall fulfilling experience. This cruise starts off from the Port of Barcelona on the eastern coast of Spain touring about ten to twelve games.

Cruises across the Mediterranean have a number of attractions to boast of. No matter what one's interest area is, one can not possibly find himself out of place on such a cruise. Whether you are interested in art and architecture, or history and ruins, or entertainment and recreations, you will find it all on board one of these cruises. If nothing, a mere glance at the list of the places and spots that these cruises visit as their destinations will be enough to convince you that there is something surely for you on that cruise. Mount Aetna, Monte Carlo, Chateau d'If, Pompeii, Pisa, etc are only some such attractions.

Cruises are not fun if you do not have some 'beach time' on your itinerary. For one such satisfactory experience you must not miss Olbia in Sardinia and Cefalu Beach in Palermo which are famous for their pristine beauty and calm water. Moreover, they are unpopulated and therefore ideal to spend some quiet time.

## Mediterranean Cruises: Finding The Deals

Cruises across the Mediterranean are fast becoming popular ways to get away from the hectic everyday lives of several individuals and families. Because of this increasing demand companies are coming up with new and interesting cruising packages which ensure you a fun filled experience of cruising across the Mediterranean.

However, one needs to find out how to get good bargains so that you do not end up spending much more than you wanted to. If your travel plans are flexible it is advisable to avoid the peak season, which in cruising happens to be from June to Mid August. These summer months are crowded because of holidays that kids get from schools. Therefore, off-peak seasons such as May and any time after the second half of August is a good time.

Apart from avoiding the rush and getting the much wanted peace of mind another advantage to cruise in the off season is that you get good bargains as pricing is lower in the off season. This is primarily because in the off season very few people travel so the business of the cruising companies is as it is on the lower side. They need to attract passengers in this season. Therefore they generally lower their prices so that people who have relatively flexible travel plans or do not have to worry about their kids having to go back to school can avail of these offers.

But since the Mediterranean cruise is so popular this season you will have to look really hard for a good and satisfactory bargain in addition to keeping your travel plans flexible. Another requirement is the passport. Do not apply to any of these cruises unless you have your passport in hand. Passport generally takes six weeks to come after your application for it, but you can never count on it. You do not want to book a cruise and then end up wasting money and losing enthusiasm just because your passport has not arrived.

The thumb rule for getting a good bargain is to be as flexible as possible. Consider several cruise lines. You can always take your pick later. In your expenses don't forget to count airfare out. You can collaborate with the shipping company to get your air booking at comparable prices. They will ensure you get the right flight and reach on time because their aim is to get you on board the ship.

## Mediterranean Cruises: Carnival Cruises

2008 brings the following cruises across Europe and the Mediterranean on board the Carnival Freedom and the Carnival Splendor. Take your pick.

*The twelve days' Grand Mediterranean Cruise:* this ensures 12 days packed full of visits new places and excitement. Covering a vast span as far as cities are concerned, this cruise takes you to Nice, Monaco and Monte Carlo in Cannes and France among other places. These include Florence, Pisa, Dubrovnik, Barcelona and Spain. Beginning from Rome the cruise would take you from Mt. Etna to the Grand Canal covering various parts of Italy such as Naples, Venice, Messina and Livorno.

*The twelve days' Mediterranean and Greek Isle Cruise:* if you are interested in history of a civilization that was once glorious and flourishing, this cruise is what you must go on board with. Dabbling in the ruins is just one of the attractions that await you. Epheses, Istanbul, Izmir Turkey and Marmaris are just some of places that you will be visiting. Besides, you get a chance to also visit the Olympian cities of Athens and the specific Olympics site at Katakolon.

*The twelve days' Northern European Cruise:* this cruise is marked by its choice of cities. Most of the cities that you will be visiting as a part of this cruise are historically very important, as well as contemporarily too are the sites of the world's most famous art, architecture and letters. As the package is named, the cruise takes you across Northern Europe to Dover, England, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Russia, Estonia, The Netherlands, etc.

*Fourteen and sixteen days' Trans Atlantic Cruise:* this cruise takes you to some off beat destinations. You can choose between a long 14-day cruise from Miami to Rome or can choose a couple of six days each cruise from Rome to Ft. Lauderdale visiting interesting spots en route like St. Maarten, Italy, Spain, Portugal and the Canary Islands.

Here's a look at all the facilities and ways to pamper yourself you can find on board the Carnival Freedom and the Carnival Splendor as you go on any one of the above mentioned four cruises. State-of-the-art ocean-viewing spas with a salon in three-leveled building on board the vessels. Booking in advance will give you priority reservations

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Evenings are fun filled with privacy bookings and attentive service topped of with live music, waltzing, starry skies or sunsets and of course seafood! The Sliding Sky Dome screens movies as a part of the Carnival Seaside theatre. Screenings include movies, cartoons and sports match.

Kids can have their share of fun under supervision from cruise staff. Diving them in groups of 2-11, 12-14 and 15-17 years can ensure them a wide range of experience.

## Mediterranean Cruises: Places To Visit

The Mediterranean has emerged as one of the most popular cruising destinations in the recent times. Interestingly, many of the world historical cities as well as cities rich in the sights and sounds are dotted around this inland sea. Going around and across the Mediterranean can, therefore, is an experience paced with excitement and fun.

First let us look at the four cities on the west coast of Italy namely Florence, Pisa, Naples and Costa Smeralda. Apart from that are the eastern Spanish Barcelona and the southern French Marseilles, equally rich in culture and heritage. The best part is that you can go through these cities on foot, on bicycle, a car, a bus, basically, almost on anything!

*Florence*: this city proves to be one of the most awaited destinations well known for its cathedrals and canals. The bridge across the Arno River is another attraction especially made so due to an array of shops and stalls that dots it. The Fountain of Neptune in the Piazza della Signoria is another site to look out for.

*The Leaning Tower of Pisa*: this is one monument that has managed to be popular in spite of the glitch in its foundation because of which it leans towards one side. With a height of 57 meters and weighing 14,500 tons, many a traveler has paid to visit this site ever since its construction in 1173 in spite of its lopsided stature.

*Naples*: this is another city famous for its chapels and castles. Once a site of flourishing art and literature, Naples is not famous for its monuments, The San Francesco di Paola church, situated in the middle of Piazza Plebiscito and Castel Nuovo to name a few.

*Costa Smeralda*: this long coast sees a true conflation of two cultures, the European and the Arabic. It is a common site for influential VIPs from both sides to meet for political, business and entertainment purposes. This coast is 55 km long developed by Prince Karim Aga Khan along the Mediterranean.

*Barcelona*: this city on the eastern coast of Spain is most famous for the football club named after it. Apart from that this city promises to be one which is always buzzing with activity in its

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cafes and shops. The pedestrian mall is lined with trees which make the tourist transport himself to another world all together.

*Marseilles*: the belfry of the Notre-Dame de la Garde basilica hosts the statue of the Virgin and the Child. This church is interesting in that it is built on the highest point in the city, being both an important tourist as well as pilgrimage destination.

## Mediterranean Cruises: Making The Most Out Of Your Cruise

Mediterranean cruise trips are gradually becoming quite renowned among tourists. The principle reason is that this kind of a trip gives the tourist the opportunity to travel to many nations and observe varied traditions within a small period. Also there is no need to shift from one space to another or even carry your luggage as you would if you were traveling by land. All you need to do in a cruise trip is to be at ease and rest as the onboard staff provides you with all the plush and comfort. You get to meet different kinds of people, traditions as well as dialects. Carrying out expeditions to the different islands, checking out the seaports, visiting the wonderful churches, strolling down the museums or even getting to the famous tourist locations are few of the things that the tourists can indulge in.

From May to October is the best time to go for Mediterranean cruise trips. However, the cruise trips are available all through the year due to the lovely weather of that region. Well it is not advisable to visit places during the peak time as there is a huge rush and prices are higher too. It is better to go for trips during the off hour as then the tourist can check out the chief locations without having to tolerate a stampede. Balearic Islands lie on the eastern section of the Spanish coastline. The islands of Majorca, [Minorca](#), Ibiza and Formentera are also located in that region. You can visit the taverns, beaches as well as the high rises overlooking the inlets of water in case your cruise liner drops anchor at the Balearic Islands.

The Port of Mahon, the capital as well the seaport of Minorca is a spot where the ships usually halt. A harbor formed geologically, it has long exquisite beaches. Huge yachts, stone structures, grooves, beautiful and calm motels as well as wonderful towns lie by this seaport. The very presence of English culture in this region reveals a great deal about the influences of the British regime in Minorca as well the history of the British settlers. If you ponder for a while, you will realize that in all likelihood, the very notion of sailing through the beautiful cities of Barcelona, Cairo, Paris, Rome, Athens and Venice attracts you. Well, most people would feel delighted to go to all these cities in just one vacation! This sort of a cruise trip attracts all kinds of tourists- couples with varying choices, families as well as those who cannot afford to go on long vacations.

Your cruise liner will halt at different locations and each one will give you the chance to breath in a new tradition and a new history of the place and the people. The Balearic Islands are

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especially exotic as they have not yet been touched upon by the technological advancements and the reconstruction that the rest of the world has undergone. Majorca and Minorca are islands that are extremely calm, quiet and serene. The local inhabitants are all so relaxed and you will be at peace among them. The British have started taking a fancy for the Mediterranean cruise trips. They opt for the 7-14 days cruise travel type and this trip is preferred to visiting any other travel destination. The British have contributed much to the tradition and history of the Balearic Islands. The British generally love visiting the Mediterranean region as it is quiet close to their homeland. But the Mediterranean is not a favorite just among them. Cruise trips that visit France, Italy, Greece, Egypt as well as the Mediterranean islands are gradually becoming famous among tourists in different parts of the world.



## Alaska Cruise: Cold Place, Warm Nature Loving Person

If you are planning for a vacation then the best place would be to take an Alaska Cruise. If you want to make it to the great wonders and majestic place come for an Alaska Cruise. It is one of the most recent members of the United States of the America.

There may be doubts in most of the minds whether Alaska Cruise exists or not. This is due to the fact that whenever one talks about the cruise the people think that they are talking about the exotic and beautiful beaches of the tropical heaven like the Caribbean islands. The Alaska Cruise also exists for that matter and you can spend your holidays there also and relax with all the comfort and services. So it's similar to that enjoyed in the Caribbean.

Alaska Cruise differs to that of the Caribbean in the sense that they provide a lot many different things to the vacationers than that provided in the Caribbean. So if you like enjoying something different then try the Alaska Cruise.

One of the wonderful features of the Alaska Cruise is that it allows you to experience each pleasurable moment onboard and it also gives the kids opportunity to have fun and visit the exotic places of Alaska. Thus this type of vacation is perfect for the entire family members.

The forty ninth American state is Alaska and it is famous for the excessive cold. There are whole lots of things that can be enjoyed in the state of Alaska. In view of many people the beauty and the experience it gives while traveling and knowing different places in Alaska cannot be experienced any where else. Alaska is the biggest state with area extending up to 586,000 square miles. It is beyond the imagination which can be found in such a state.

There is a list of things you should look out for when traveling to Alaska.

- a. Helicopter Trip
- b. Wildlife
- c. Train Rides
- d. King Salmon Fishing
- e. The Bus Journey to Denali State Park

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In normal circumstances it will probably take 2 lives to discover all these beauties of Alaska. But worry not; the Alaska cruise will help to experience all these thrills within a week.

Alaska has huge Wilderness and with such varied wildlife you can have chance to look to the Mother Nature both from closeness and from a distance. A large population eagles can be seen in this part of the world. It will simply be breath taking when you see them doesn't matter whether you are a nature lover or just a simple person. Every one has got something for them.

Across the United States the one of the largest tropical forest is found in Alaska. You would be fascinated to know and learn about these. Apart from these dense forest the Alaska also houses huge snow covered mountains and large glaciers.

Thus if you have decided to go for an Alaska cruise you are sure to witness all these. Seeing the formation of the glacier and wonderful waterfront city and town will definitely invite every nature lover to explore the place unique beauty. You can enjoying climbing a glacier and can take a trip on port of call towns.

The one of the best chances to witness these is to go for Alaska cruise and take the path called Inner Passage. Thus if you happen to go for Alaska Cruise then it is the best way to explore and discover the beauty of the Alaska cruise in its wholeness and completeness and that too in style and comfort.

The vacationers are taken special care in terms of good food, accommodation and transportation. It is being beautifully handled and you can choose to pursue your activity of choice.

If you wish you can have the chance to go the helicopter tour and climb over a glacier or you may watch a whale; the sea queen . You can also enjoy taking a ride to the Pass Railroad which is simply amazing. You can break free while taking a jeep trip on various road trail and roads.

Each town of Alaska which you will visit has their own unique culture and beauty and has a great history. Thus you will surely not want to miss all these. The Museums are the best place where you can know about the history of the towns in greater details.

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Thus it is believed that Alaska has got all the beauty and wonder that nature can bestow to any place.

The fantastic display of light of Aurora Borealis can be witnessed in Alaska which will make you fall in love with the place.

With all of this on table, it is expected that Alaska will soon become one of the most famous and favorite cruise vacation destination of every traveler.

## Have A Break, Have Thrill And Excitement With Alaska Cruise

World is moving fast and everyone has got their own set of jobs to complete. Why people are like this? It is because everyone wants to keep pace with the current modern lifestyle. No one is bothered to sit and relax for sometime. They are always on the move till body is tired and feel dizzy.

I've personally seen so many of my friends who either skip their meals or hurriedly gobble up something before they start off to work. These people doesn't seem to understand a simple but very important message that this kind of lifestyle is finally going to take them to hospital beds or to graveyard. To do work, it is essential that one is mentally and physically healthy. Healthy body and mind can only think of innovative and useful suggestions.

Take a break....feel relaxed and then start with your work again. Try to take a break at least once in a year. This will make you feel rejuvenated and you can start your work afresh.

Enjoy life, spend some time with your family and friends. Now start your work. You will find that you are doing a better job as your mind is now relaxed and therefore, will be able to think out-of-the-box. What do you think you can do when you are at leisure? Listen to some sweet music, play with your kids or help your better half in the kitchen.

Why not go for Alaska and spend time with your dear family? Have fun. Plan accordingly and you definitely will want to get more breaks.

Alaska Cruise has got three different types of packages and each one is definitely exciting. Choose any of the following packages according to your needs or requirement:

a) **Alaska Inland Cruise** : How about taking a look at the inland wonders of Alaska? Feeling excited! You will be enthralled and mesmerized with the beauty of glaciers and icebergs.

b) **Alaska Day Cruise** : Get a full view of the whole of Alaska with this package.

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c) **Alaska Celebrity Cruise** : One of the posh and expensive cruise among the three packages. It is nicknamed as the first-class cruise. Experience a regal and royal treatment with this cruise.

Few attractions would include sailing Fjords, humpback whales, etc. How about seeing wildlife and ice at one place? How about sailing in the ice? Does it sound exciting? If yes, don't miss the chance to choose Alaska Cruise packages.

Depending upon the package, your length of stay would vary; however, in general, it would range between seven days to fourteen days. You definitely can explore Alaska and your body and mind too will feel refreshed.

You may choose the ship size based on your needs, requirement and comfort. I would suggest choosing a small ship. Do you know why? You can get a closer view and can enjoy privacy as there will be less number of passengers. Touch the glaciers, play with whales, what excited? Major disadvantage of choosing a large cruise is you tend to get lost in the crowd and can be deprived of the happiness of getting a better look at the water, glaciers, wild life and much more.

Choose a package that is inline with your requirements as well as exciting. Few Alaska cruises also offer helicopter trips. How about landing on glaciers? Walk leisurely on the glaciers and enjoy life to the maximum.

You will never repent for choosing Alaska cruise. It will definitely be an unforgettable, enthralled, and excited experience on the whole.

Wait...where are you going so fast? To grab a place in Alaska cruise! Okay...get a cruise for yourself in a jiffy and then come back for your work fully rejuvenated.

## **Carnival Cruise Lines: Traveling In Style**

Traveling in cruise ships can be real fun and experience. People should know that when they are traveling by cruise they will visit some of the most exotic location on earth and they will enjoy different cuisines. It will give them the much needed relaxation. So all the people should think of having at least one cruise experience.

It is always wonderful to imagine being waken up by a fresh coffee. The morning in cruise will start exactly like this. Apart from morning coffee you will also be served the breakfast in your breakfast table. After the breakfast you can just come out and enjoy the sun or look around the glory of nature while you reach your destination. Then you may decide its time to bath. The onboard swimming pool or the Jacuzzi is waiting for you! After the bath its time for you to enjoy the massages in one of the onboard massage parlours. When the night comes then you can get further enjoyment by attending one of the parties or get into one of the Las Vegas type of casinos. The luxurious dinner is also served to you. After this wonderful day go and relax and thing what other activity you will do the next day. How does it sound? Great, isn't it?

Thus all like these cruise services offer many activities which will make your trip fun filled and relaxing. Thus you will want to spend day and weeks in the same cruise doing nothing and relaxing.

Talking of the famous cruises one of the most sought after is the Carnival Cruise Lines. They offer the exotic and wonderful floating resorts in the vacation packages nowadays. They fun part in this Cruise include the Fun Ships and a Floating Resort full of thrills which people of any age can enjoy.

The Carnival Cruise covers various destinations and you can choose any of these. The Cruises are available for Europe and Americas. The lists of cruise destinations are:

**Alaska**

**Europe**

**Hawaii**

**Mexico**

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**Panama Canal**

**Caribbean**

**Bermuda**

**Transatlantic**

**Canada/New England**

Thus there are many destinations you can choose and have the best vacation of your life.

There are a lot of activities that the carnival ships have and you will certainly enjoy all of them. The all night parties having different themes are just one among the countless activities of Cruise. These parties may have classic music which will surely attract the old and they have party themes for 14 years also.

Some of the activities and services which you can enjoy in the Carnival Fun Ship are:

1. **DayTime Activities:** Golf Instructions, Swimming pool and Jacuzzis Casinos are some of the day time things which you can enjoy. If you are not in the mood to do any of these things you can simply enjoy yourself under the sun and enjoy the nature's beauty.
2. **Dining:** The dining experience of Carnival fun ship is wonderful. They serve variety of dishes which includes first class wines, fresh lobsters, and other exquisite meals. You will surely like all these. Buffets are also served and other stuffs include the sushi bars, pizzas, European style cafés, and many other dishes that you like.
3. **Spas:** The specialty of these Carnival fun ships is that they also have gyms and Spas that are onboard. If you feel like exercising after relaxing for a lot of time then this Carnival Ships also have professional trainers with all the world class gym facilities. The equipments of the gym include the weights and weights machines. Apart from all they also have aerobics class and have jogging track. The Spa having professional masseuse gives you the ultimate relaxation. These Spas also give beauty treatment to men and women. These will make you look the best when you are around the ship.
4. **Casinos:** If you consider yourself lucky then you can try your luck in these onboard casinos. All the facilities that you can find in a world class casino are available here. These casinos have

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slot machines, pokers, roulettes, blackjacks and craps. You can try your luck in all these. If you are lucky enough you can win whatever you have spend for the cruise!

5. **Camp Carnival:** These are also on offer in Carnival Fun Ships. The activities which the toddlers can enjoy very much like bingo, face painting, playtime drawing contests are also offer. Juniors can enjoy games like puppet shoes, t-shirt painting, outdoor games and more.

For the little grown-ups games like dance classes, ping pong, talent shows, video games, and more are on offer. The teens can enjoy the parties, dinners, movies and game. For older ones they have the Club O2 where they can enjoy great movies, hip music, teen shore excursions video games, teens-only lounges and other great ways to hang out.

If you are planning a cruise vacation, booking in Carnival Cruise Ships will ensure you fun and enjoyment.



## **Carnival Cruise: Experiencing A Cruise Vacation With The Most Popular Cruises On Earth**

Are you tired of working eight hours a day, seven days a week? Are you getting bored of your everyday routine and want something new to satisfy your craving for adventure?

Then perhaps, all you need is a three-day or even a week worth of vacation in a Carnival Cruise. This trip is an ideal way to treat yourself, even for a few days. While on the trip, you do not need to worry too much about paying additional charges for your meals, amusement and other special activities. All you just have to do is to relax and charge everything to the ship.

While on the ship, you will also experience being pampered by the staff since they will give you soothing massage services, sauna baths in spas, hair treatment and other beauty care services. All of these are available in one location; you just have to walk to each shop to get the services.

Carnival cruise is regarded as one of the most famous cruise lines in the world. Most of the travelers waiting to reach their destinations simply eat, dream and dance the day and night away.

Carnival cruises are popular to first time travelers, from children to teenagers, from young singles to the older singles, from couples to adults. The best things to experience at the Carnival cruise includes informal dinner at the Sea View Bistro, a suitable 24-hour pizza restaurant, the Captain's party, fine dining, and the room services which are available 24 hours a day.

Not only that, you will also get the chance watch movies everyday, play at the Las Vegas style casinos, swim at onboard pools, shop at the duty free shopping and join parties every now and then.

Carnival cruise is an entertainment oriented cruise ship for all traveling singles, couples and families, it brings many travelers from all ages, and lifestyles on the ship is comparable to any other cruise line available. You will also be given the chance to enjoy a sumptuous evening in cafes and restaurants onboard such as the Paris Lounge, Café des Artistes, and the casino of Monte Carlo.

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Carnival cruise also offers complete comfort with large spaces and calming accommodations inside one of their staterooms. The cabins and rooms are fully carpeted with cabinets and amenities like sink, bathtubs, and showers. Each room also has a color television. You will find all the amenities you will find in the comforts of your own home in a Carnival cruise liner cabin.

The rooms of Carnival cruise are 50 percent bigger than other average cruise lines wherein you can have a hundred percent private space.

If there are instances that you are not contented with the services offered by Carnival cruises, you can inform the cruise liner about this. The cruise will be willing to compensate for the unused part of your cruise charges and will reimburse your return flight fare.

Now, how will you be able to get the lowest rate in the carnival Cruise?

Simply get a cruise expert.

With the help of a cruise expert, you will be able to remove or at least minimize all the doubts and hesitations when employing a travel agent. Since the expert knows on how cruise lines work, they will know the best date to have a vacation on a specific place. Cruise experts are also knowledgeable about the cruise promotions, cruise information and cruise destinations.

When looking for a cruise expert, meet them face to face if possible. This is one way to make sure that the expert you are employing has already been in a cruise and knows exactly what you want to know. In addition, when choosing the right cruise expert, be sure that the expert will guide you on the whole booking procedure.

To make sure that the expert will not deceive you, call the cruise line then make a comparison on how he or she has charged you to the actual rate that the cruise line is giving. Just make sure that the rate is already covering all port charges and taxes.

For most cruise vacationers, it does not matter how much it will cost them to have the cruise vacation. However, for some, it really is important to save money. So, if you are one of those people, you now know what to do to lessen your expenses.

## All-In-One Vacation Getaway Through Celebrity Cruise Line

If you want to have all Fun in One Vacation Choose Celebrity Cruise Line!

If suppose you are granted a week off from your work, then how will want to spend that week? Of course you will want to relax and will want to have something different in terms of experience. You will want to enjoy to ease the pressure of work.

So what comes in your mind? Mountain climbing or Scuba diving or Backpacking. You can take any activities but be sure that you get value for money. You should go for the holiday that is efficient as well as efficient.

When you opt for scuba diving you will have to locate the best diving sites in US and that will take a lot of time. The same holds true for the mountain climbing. Its all wastage of time since you cannot reach the mountain a single day.

Similarly in backpacking you will waste quite a lot of time in packing and un-packing in each and every hotel. Also you will need to look for hotels by the help of travel maps. All of these will be quite time consuming.

So considering the time and money the best of to get the good deal is to try a Cruise. You will not have to locate everything in cruising unlike the above activities. All the facilities of your liking which you want like fitness center, swimming pools restaurants and casinos - all are available in cruise ships.

Also luggage can also be taken care of by the cruise. Once you check in your stuffs are automatically placed in the required place. The things don't stop here. You can enjoy the best foods of the world with different dishes available on the cruise dining rooms.

The finest chefs of the world administer the restaurants of these cruise. You enjoy eating without worrying about the charges. They are all covered in the cost of the cruise.

The local site seeing at the port is assisted by the travel guides which makes you acquainted with the place. The children also enjoy and keep themselves busy while indulging in several

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activities of their choice which are available there. This keeps them pre occupied and you also can enjoy your activity.

Thus the Cruise Vacation makes sure that you enjoy each and every minute of your travel and makes you free of all traveling related worries.

Though all cruise line offers all the mentioned services but this article will give you reasons for selecting the Celebrity Cruise Line.

Celebrity Cruise Line is one of the most famous cruise lines available across the globe. They not only provide the most cheap packages but also have informative forums where you can ask for your preferred location. The on-board upscale boutiques and Casinos like in Las Vegas are few of the offers available. They have been designed exclusively by Cirque du Soleil.

If you consider lucky you can play in casinos and even have one of the fine art masterpieces in the on-board auction taking place. If you are sleepless in the evenings you can try the Bar at the Earth's Edge which is an exotic lounge given by the Celebrity.

Elemis is the famous Aqua-Spa that can give you relaxation. There, you will have a deluxe facial treatments, manicure, and a relaxing massage. The on-board acupuncture facility center can make you feel rejuvenated and invigorated.

kids can also have enjoyable time in the Celebrity Cruise. X-Club Youth program are exclusively for the children. It has all the activities and enjoyment for a particular age group.

These activities are administered by the group of professionals. The activities include treasure hunts, science and Mother Nature exploration, talents shows and all other activities and games. Some of the areas in Celebrity are exclusively reserved for younger ones like shipmates Fun Factory, pools and teen center. Thus you and your kids can enjoy their respective activity without bothering each other.

These cruises are not only perfect for children, adults but it also suited for the persons having disability. Celebrity has taken special care that these impaired passengers are easily

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accommodated in the Celebrity Cruise. The medical needs and other needs of these passengers are specially attended to by the staff.

On board clinic staffs are also employed by the Celebrity. These medicos and nurses are well trained licensed professionals who speak different foreign languages. They look after the passenger's health when they are on-board.

Foods are always available 24 hrs a day in dinning areas and cafeterias. You can also order your food to delivered at your time if want to spend time, a romantic one, with your spouse. Those who want to show their attire and latest jewelry can also attend the formal dinner where other co passengers gather.

The itineraries are also provided for the destination. You can either stay offshore or board the ship at your choice. You have freedom to have a check every destination as long as you return quickly to the ship in time of departure.

So what are you waiting for? Come to Celebrity Cruise Lines and Enjoy cruising!

## **Have Fun On-Board With Carnival Cruise Line**

For instance, you are given a week by your boss to unwind yourself, how will you spend it? Are you going to bring your wife and your kids to have a family excursion in the beach? Do you want to travel, rather, on to the beautiful island of Grand Cayman and go scuba diving on the finest locations?

These are just two of the unlimited options you can take in spending your weeklong vacation. You may consider an all-in-one vacation that is all in the price of one. Aside from it, your vacation should free you from any worries while you are relaxing.

In this case, you can have your first cruise vacation. Book a cruise, embark the ship, and the rest of your vacation week is a good old history. If you are looking for a cruise line, you can sail with, by all means, avail the services of the Carnival Cruise Lines.

### **History of Carnival Cruise Lines**

It was originally an independent company established in 1972 by Ted Arisen. Currently, it is a subsidiary of Carnival Corporation, which operates a number of different cruise lines and eventually became the largest corporation in the cruise industry.

CCL were the first cruise line to introduce the concept of cheaper and shorter cruises. Although its ships fall short of the luxurious fleets of Celebrity Cruises or the Silver sea vessels, CCL are popular and profitable.

Because of this concept, they have been able to produce larger ships, which started from the launch of the Carnival Destiny in 1996. It displaces an estimate of 101,000 tons, making it the largest passenger ship in the world, rivaling aircraft carriers for size.

CCL are also known among their passengers for their towel animals. Their trademark is a funnel with the combination of red, white, and blue colors and shaped like a whale's tail.

CCL's mascot is named as Fun Ship Freddy, a character in the shape of the Carnival funnel.

## **Carnival Cruise Ships**

CCL's fleets of cruise ships are as follows:

### **1. The Destiny Class**, which includes:

- Carnival Destiny
- Carnival Triumph
- Carnival Victory

### **2. The Conquest Class**, which includes:

- Carnival Conquest
- Carnival Glory
- Carnival Valor
- Carnival Liberty
- Carnival Freedom

### **3. The Spirit Class**, which includes:

- Carnival Spirit
- Carnival Pride
- Carnival Legend
- Carnival Miracle

### **4. The Fantasy Class**, which includes:

- Ecstasy
- Elation
- Fantasy
- Fascination
- Imagination
- Inspiration
- Paradise
- Sensation

### **5. The First Generation**, which includes:

- Holiday
- Celebration
- Jubilee
- Festivale
- Tropicale

## Vacation With Carnival Cruise Lines

A cruise with CCL is an excellent way to treat yourself. After unpacking your stuffs inside your cabin, you can now take a tour inside the cruise ship.

There are fitness and beauty experts on-board that offers massages, saunas, hair care and style, and facial treatments. There are also complete relaxation and fitness program for your regular workout while aboard the cruise ship.

If you are a music-loving person, then a Carnival cruise is perfect for you. Aside from its digital sound system in public areas inside the ship that plays different genres of music, there is also a sing-along piano for you to hum with. You can also find sing-along machines in bars and lounges in case you want to show your prowess in singing.

CCL also offers different dining experiences on-board. Highlights include a casual dinner at Sea View Bistro, a round-the-clock pizza parlor, Captain's cocktail party, and formal evening meals at the main dining hall.

If you are looking for some entertainment, there is also a Las Vegas styled casino, gaming center where you and your kids can enjoy playing video games. There is also an on-board theater featuring different movie genres—from classical to the modern Hollywood. There are also cultural and musical shows scheduled every other night.

CCL also provides activities with your kids. It is just as if they are having fun during Easter Egg Hunt holiday. CCL on-board counselors supervise the Camp Carnival Kids Program with all kinds of games, parties, movies, and educational activities.

You do not have to worry about your kids—the counselors having professional childcare experience handle them.

With the vast amenities and more ships to choose from, are you going to sail with Carnival Cruise Lines?



## Disney Cruise Line- Serving Your Child's Satisfaction

Spending your time with your children is more than an opportunity. As parents, you always want the best for them

Money does not matter at all as long as you have given them an unforgettable experience. Passing their childhood is only one in a lifetime experience so make the most of it.

It was night time, the sky is so clear. The stars are also shimmering; the seawater is flowing smoothly, the ambiance is serene. You can hear the loud laughter of the children. Can you imagine yourself in a cruise vacation like this? Isn't it self-gratifying?

Cruising is one of the best alternatives if you want to spend a quality time for your children. Let them experience the wonders of the world through a cruising experience. It will give your family the fun and excitement that they never had before.

The pleasure of cruising is not only exclusive for the professionals and the adult individuals who take their vacation during the cruising season. However, the cruising lines also offer opportunity for the youngster who also wants to explore the delight of being a part of the activity.

The cruising line that specifically has programs for the children is the Disney cruise line. It has been noted as the most preferable cruising lines for the parents whenever they want to bring their children along with them.

The fantasies that you can see in the Disneyland can also be found here. They provide entertainment for children by using mascots often seen in Disneyland. They will surely have fun time chasing with these cartoon characters.

In addition, the program, games and the activities are open for children with all ages. The adventure will not be boring to them because they can expect for all forms of entertainment that can be offer to them by the Disney cruising line. It is more than the bringing laughter to them but also making them satisfied with the trip.

## How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

Usually, vacation time is considered the peak for the Disney cruising line. This is the time when there are so many reservations for boarding.

Sometimes, parents getting reservations even reach up to millions in number. Probably for them, this is the best way to give their children a break after a long month of stressful school activities.

For youngsters they provide them with activities such as storytelling, painting and sometimes merely fun playing. This is usually suited for children aging below 7 years old and mostly for the toddlers.

On the other hand, they also provide special activities for nearly teens. They offer them games such as arcades games, mini parties with parlor games and more. This is when they can socialize with their fellow youngsters onboard.

The Disney Company presents two major ships for the parents who want their children to enjoy cruising. First, is the Disney Magic and second is the Disney Wonder. Like any other cruising ships, you can also find here most of the amenities that the cruising lines have.

They also provide the guests with the best delicacies that they are serving in their restaurants. Sometimes, there are also entertainment shows that you can watch while enjoying the foods they serve in the restaurants.

Disney Magic and Disney Wonder cruise lines vary in the concept of their design. However, the services that they have are incomparable because both can offer you satisfaction that you long for not only for your children but as well as for your whole family.

The cruising line also has isolated areas that are suitable for all the people on board. There are the areas for young and adults. This is one way to maximize the enjoyment for these people, games for children and social life for the parents.

## How To Have An Unforgettable Cruise Vacation

Nevertheless, you should not expect that everything you can find in Disneyland could also be available in the Disney cruise line although the ambiance and enjoyment that you will feel are almost the same.

What are you waiting for? This is the perfect moment for you to enjoy your spare time with your children.

Make this a lasting experience that they can tell their playmates when they go back to your towns!

Enjoy your Cruising adventure with Disney Cruise line!

## Cruises Designed For Kids

Do you want to go on a cruise but worry because there may not be enough kids on board or activities on board to keep your family happy? Many people do just that. Of course, not all cruises are the best places for children, but many of them are just that and so much more. You will find a wide range of cruises that are designed just for families and these are the ideal vacations for children. Most of them will offer plenty for your children to do to stay busy and happy while on their vacation.

### **What To Do?**

There are many cruises that are booked for children. These cruises are designed for children of all ages. Here are just some of the things that you can find to do on these cruises.

- Cruises that are designed for children (or at least the ones that will accommodate them on board) will likely have a wide range of amenities designed for these younger guests. Many will have lots of toys and games for children to use. They are full of some of the best things to do and the things that children will like to do. These rooms will provide for fun just like at home. Some will not even miss the television!
- Projects and learning. There are also many activities planned for children as well. Generally they will be based on the age and interests of the children. These may include things like painting and crafts. They may also include learning projects geared to the locations that they will be visiting. They may have time to talk and share with other kids in the hopes of meeting others that they will like. In fact, most of these activities are done without parents so that the parents will have ample time to do the things that they would like to do too.
- Lots of fun sports too. Most cruises will offer you the ability to take your kids into pools designed just for them. Or, there will be room for them to run and play too. The locations that they stop at may also be fun filled for the kids on board. You may even want to book a trip with a cruise line featuring some of their favorite characters too.

When you are planning a trip with children, make sure to book a trip that is full of the fun that kids offer. You are going to find a wide range of activities offered to them but enough to keep you busy as well. Many cruises will offer a mixture of adult and kid oriented activities.

## Single Cruises: The Best Place For Singles To Find A Companion

Since there is a great demand for cruise lines, there is also a rapid increase for single travelers who would want to spend some of their precious time in the cruise. Usually, single travelers are on its peak during Valentine seasons.

During this time, single cruises will give their customers a special singles prices, exclusive singles activities and other valentine related events. Single Cruises are the best way to complete your single adventures.

It is already been a common knowledge to everyone that many singles get disappointed during the V-day. In addition, most of these people find it hard to go out every year and search for their Valentine's Day date.

Usually, their reason is that they are too shy or do not have enough time to go out and look for a date. So, for all the singles out there who are on the verge of giving up in looking for a date, it would be better if you just save all your money and join the Single cruises.

When you are alone you are a total stranger to everyone on the single cruise, so usually other people who knows what the single cruise is for, would tend to be more comfortable and relaxed even when being surrounded by other strangers. This way, you are allowing yourself to get acquainted with other people and become more flexible and comfortable around them.

Who knows, perhaps while you are busy meeting new friends your future partner is just around the corner or he or she is just in front of you. This can be brought upon by the many activities single cruises offers for their guests.

Single cruising has already become very famous and an inexpensive way to meet new people, and many single people do vacations by themselves since it gives them the choice, privacy and provides them special and thrilling adventures with other people who could potentially be mates or at least great friends.

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If you want to enjoy the hot sun, beautiful resorts and the limited rum punch, a Caribbean Single Cruise will be a great option for you. But, if you opt to being a hopeless romantic, and want to taste a glass of red wine, with the full moon beckoning you, then a European Single Cruise will be better for you. Whatever it is that you want, there will always be a Single cruise that will suit you best.

All you just have to do is make some research about the cruise line that provides the best single special and that will definitely suit your taste and preferences.

Here are extensive tips that can help you decide which to choose:

1. Travelers who are alone will be charged of a single rate. This is because most cabins are designed for double occupancy, so what most cruises do is just to add for an extra charge to one person in a room. Obviously, you are not paying for a 150 - 200% additional charge, but expect it to be a bit of a pricy.
2. There are cruises that give up the additional fee during promos but will give you a room with another person. If you do not like your privacy to be invaded or if you do not want to share a room with someone, it will be good if you choose to have an additional price to have a single room only for you.

However, if you are a person that finds it more interesting to be with someone in a room, then you can always grab the promo.

3. Try to look at the broadsheet or in the internet to know if there are still available single cruises in which you could join. There are instances that a cruise is pre-booked by a Singles Organization that allows only their members to join the cruise. However, most of these organizations are also allowing non-member singles to join with them, but with a pricier tag than those who are members of the organization.

Though you will be able to join such groups, you will still be traveling as a single. The good thing about joining them is that you would be able to meet other single persons. You do not have to be doubtful when joining such group, since they are just like you – single cruisers, who are in deep search for companionship and love.

## Cruises For Everyone

Cruise travel is much more than just a way to get from one location to the next. It used to be that the only reason to get on board of boat was to get from one place to the next. Yet, today, there is nothing about these ships that qualifies them as just transportation. They offer much more to you than that. In fact, today, these cruises that are available are designed just for you and others like you. With so many ships and destinations to choose from, you may actually have more difficulty choosing just one rather than finding any that fit your needs.

One of the best benefits of the cruises that are available today is that many of them offer you the ability to find the right location and the right group of people to travel with. Here are a few of the various cruise themes that you can tap into.

- **Families and children.** In an effort to get more young families to travel on a cruise vacation, many of the kid's favorite theme parks and characters now sponsor cruises. You can find a wide range of Disney themed cruises as well as those for Nickelodeon and many others. Of course, many of the luxury liners also offer kids specific activities, but when you are a young family, a themed kid's vacation may be the ideal way to go.
- **Singles.** Here is another option for those that are looking to get something out of their cruise. If you would love to take a cruise but do not have someone to go with, why not go alone? You may meet a soul mate on board or at least you can have lots of fun looking for them.
- **Seniors.** For those that would rather leave the grand kids at home, there are plenty of options for older folks in cruises. These are more laid back and much less kid oriented cruise. They are designed for those that would like to try something new or visit another culture. You'll find a wide range of choice in them.

There are many more cruise options for you. Consider any and all of them to find the one that fits your needs the very best. You are sure to see the various options when you are searching and doing your research online. Look for themes that make you interested and then enjoy them.

## Common Myths About Cruises

A lot of people who have never set foot on a cruise ship think that they know a lot about cruises. The truth is if you have never been on a cruise then probably the only thing you know about them is what you have seen on movies. If this is true for you, then you have quite a few misconceptions about what a cruise really is and what is available.

One of the more popular misconceptions about cruises is that the only people who take a cruise are the elderly and retired. This is simply not true. You will find older adults on almost any cruise that you may take, but you'll also find that they do not make up the majority of the vacationers. Of course if you happen to be on a cruise which is sponsored for retirees, then you will definitely see a lot of gray.

A lot of families have added cruises as one of their vacation getaways. Cruises are a great way to expose children to different cultures as well as allowing them to see different parts of the world at an early age. Cruises as a family trip are growing more popular and are spawning more children friendly activities as well as facilities targeted to children.

Another myth about cruises is that they are set upon a very rigid schedule for dining entertainment and recreation. At one time this was true however it is not the fact at all today. Although you will find meals served at what is considered the proper times you will also find but they meals which are available in between regular mealtimes. You may also be quite surprised to find more than one restaurant on board.

As for the entertainment, certainly a schedule must be maintained. The main difference today is that there are more entertainment choices then there were several years ago. This allows vacationers to find some activity which they will enjoy at almost any time be it day or night.

Quite possibly one of the biggest myths about cruises is that some point it will get boring before the vacationers over. Some individuals even feel as if they will be cooped up on the ship with nothing to do but watch the waves of the ocean. The last thing that the cruise line wants you to do is for you to get bored. This is why they pack as many



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activities as humanly possible into each cruise. It is however, up to you as the vacationer to seek out and choose your activities you would like to participate in.

Some cruises have regular on shore excursions at certain destinations which will allow you to mingle with the locals and engage in activities such as snorkeling and fishing and in some areas even kayaking. The possibilities are endless on a cruise, and if you're looking for a good time you are bound to find it.

## Cruise Ship Jobs- Cater Great Opportunity

Almost all the people who have unstable job want to seek for employment. They look for work that can offer them greener pasture. The standard of living today is very expensive. Your earning on a particular company may not suffice for your everyday needs and worse if you are feeding a family.

Actually, if you are just persistent to look for the most suitable job you can find various job openings. It needs a lot of determination on your part if you want to succeed. It is also more advantageous if you have the right skills to compete with your fellows.

Due to millions of people who are seeking for employment, you need to be equipped with all the requirements and skills needed if you want to be hired. You will be encountering several competitive applicants.

Make a positive outlook about this, rather than bringing with you the fear you can make your competitors as the greatest challenge for you to strive harder. Life works this way, you have some edge over them and likewise they are.

Now, if you have an existing job and you think it does not meet your expectations financially and socially, you can make a change. Divert your attention into something new, a career that will surely hit a bigger fish than your old boring work.

Cruise ship jobs cater you a different flavor. You will experience the thrill working in various notable cruises all over the world. Grab the chance of enjoying the fun as you sail over the deepest and the largest oceans in the continents. You will be earning money at the same time you will love your job because of the enthusiasm it can give you.

According to surveys by the end of this year, about 250 ocean-going cruises will open service. Some reports also said that every year almost 8.5 Americans cruise in the different parts of the world especially if it is cruising seasons.

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In other words, this will provide many opportunities for those who want to work on ships. You need to grasp chances like this.

The more cruising lines that you are about to apply, the higher the chance that you will have the job. If you know that, you have the qualifications that they look for then why not try applying in any of the said cruising lines.

Cruise companies do not make it an attitude of sending rejection letters unlike the crew agencies. Applying in crew agency will just be a waste of money.

Prior to your application for a cruise ship jobs, here are the things that you should do:

1. **Know the available positions-** If you get the chance to read in publications or some posted announcements regarding available slots for ships jobs, try to know the available positions first.
2. **Assess whether the position fits your qualifications-** Before the company will advise you to undergo trainings and series of interviews have personal gauging first regarding your skills. If you are confident enough that you will pass, then push through with your application.

On the other hand, if you think that you will fail, it is better that you accept your flaws. Maybe there is some offer available that can suit your qualifications.

3. **Inquire about the exact address to send your resume-** After you gauge your qualifications, you can now send it to the address posted on the print ads.

Here are the possible positions offered for cruise ship jobs:

- People who can work on front desk, boutique, casino, salon and spa.
- Photographers
- Youth Counselors
- Positions in the galley
- Serving crew in restaurants
- Bar tenders
- Technical assistants

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You can send your resume directly to the address of the cruise line. Avoid sending your application through your e-mail, although some cruising line companies allow this but it is more formal and appreciative if you are going to send it through a professional package.

When sending all your requisites, make sure that it is complete. Include all your credentials and the certification coming from the companies where you have work.

Your application should be comprise of papers such as a resume, cover letter, at least two reference letters, citations and awards and a picture.

Good luck to your new career!

## How To Save Money On Your Cruise

You would like to go on a cruise this year for your vacation. But, just looking at some of the costs that are out there is a sure enough way to worry that you may not be able to afford to do that. Yet, there are many ways that you can save money on the cruise that you plan to purchase. If you are like many of the people out there, you should carefully consider your options. First of all, you should do a little research before you commit to one cruise or the other. There is much to be learned before you do that.

Cruises can be affordable if you know what and when to do it. Depending on where you would like to go, what you would like to see, and what you would like to do, your options may be a little limited. So, what you should do to save money is to be as open as possible about the cruise. If you are able to go at any time of the year, it is best to go in the off season. You can often find the best deals on packages during the winter months. But, the good news is that it doesn't have to be winter where you are headed. If you live in the north, a winter cruise to the tropical is ideal and it feels like summer there!

Another way to save on your cruise is to comparison shop. Not all of the various options that are out there to be booked are offered for the same price. You may find that the same cruise will cost less on one website than it will cost on another. This is heartbreaking if you choose the wrong one. Take a few minutes to compare your prices.

Also, consider how you will get to your cruise. A sure way to drive up the cost of a cruise is to need to take a flight to get to the cruise in the first place. You may want to consider driving. Or, if you can, consider boarding your cruise ship as close to home as possible. By cutting off a few miles this way, you may be able to actually save quite a bit in airline fees.

There is no reason why you can not save money on the cruises that you plan to take. In fact, if you are one that can pick up and go, some cruises will actually offer very good rates in the off season when they do not have a lot of guests. This is ideally the best time to go!

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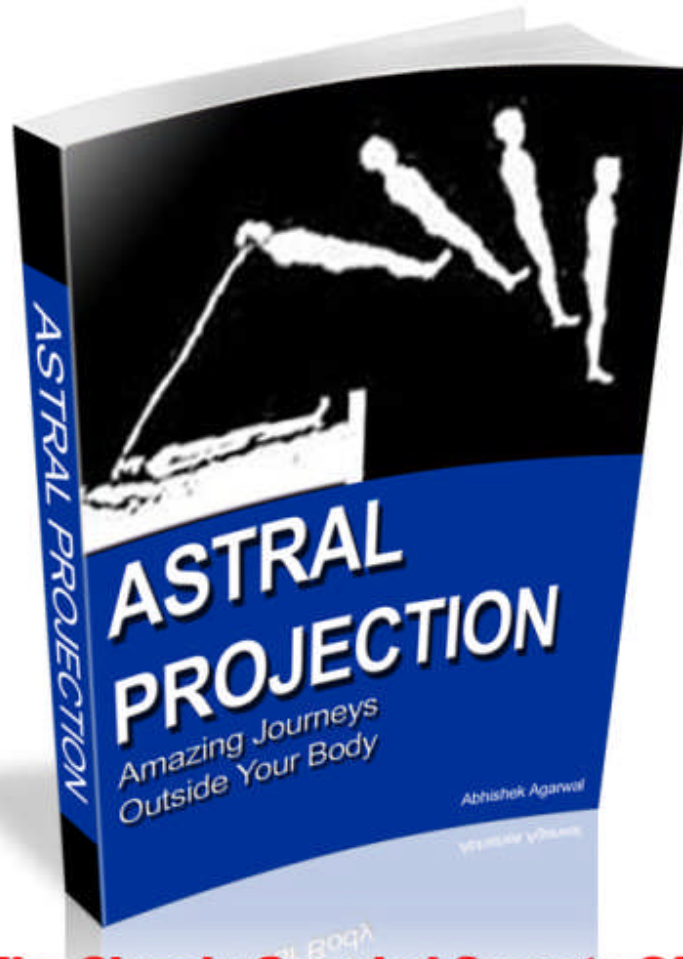
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