



## Welcome Paws & Claws

PETS NOW WELCOME AT  
THE ALL-INCLUSIVE HARD ROCK HOTELS

## With No Mardi Gras Parades, Houses Become the New Floats in New Orleans

What started off as a joke on Twitter has now become a movement spreading throughout neighborhoods in New Orleans.

## MSC Cruises Takes Delivery of Latest Ship Virtuosa

MSC Cruises on Monday announced that it had officially taken delivery of the latest ship in its expanding fleet, MSC Virtuosa, the second of MSC's Meraviglia-Plus class of ships after MSC Grandiosa.

MSC took delivery of the ship during a ceremony at Chantiers de l'Atlantique in Saint Nazaire on Monday. The ship is currently scheduled to welcome guests starting on April 16 with four Mediterranean sailings before moving to Kiel in North Europe where it will start a series of sailings starting on May 8.

As a sister ship to Grandiosa, and a Meraviglia-Plus ship, Virtuosa will feature the signature MSC two-deck promenade under a LED sky dome; the MSC for Me experience, and MSC Yacht Club. Other features include 5 pools, a top-deck rope course, 21 bars, 4 main restaurants, 5 specialty restaurants, and more. All of the 19 decks onboard will also be named after famous composers.

Even with COVID-19 continuing to impact the cruise industry, the ship is the first of two ships that MSC plans to launch this year—Virtuosa will be joined by MSC Seashore later this summer. Once Seashore debuts, MSC's fleet will feature 19 different ships with another four expected to come by 2025.



Several mansions along a short stretch of St. Charles Avenue had elaborate displays with signs noting their creation by one of the city's biggest float-making studios.





# No Mask While Traveling? You Could Be Fined up to \$1,500

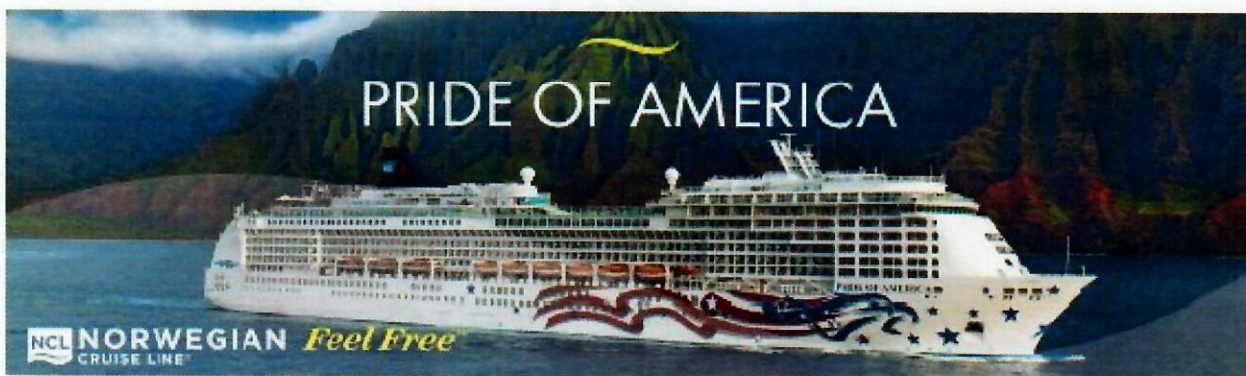
Rules and regulations are arguably ineffective without consequences. Now, there are some very real consequences for violating a federal order requiring masks in all transportation hubs and public modes of transportation—those who don't comply with the order could face a fine of up to \$1,500, according to TSA. Effective February 2, the CDC now requires that people wear masks while in or on airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, buses, taxis, rideshares, airports, seaports, and train, bus, and subway stations. The order makes official a mask mandate that was signed by President Joe Biden on January 21.

But what may really make it hit home is that now TSA can issue financial penalties to those who refuse to wear a mask, ranging from \$250 for a first offense up to \$1,500 for repeat offenders. In some cases, TSA could even seek a fine beyond \$1,500 “based on substantial aggravating or mitigating factors,” according to the agency (which didn't elaborate on said aggravating or mitigating factors).

The executive order on Promoting COVID-19 Safety in Domestic and International Travel makes it obligatory to wear a mask while traveling through the country's airports and on airplanes, trains, and public transportation. TSA said it will require individuals to wear a mask at TSA checkpoints and throughout commercial and public transportation systems until May 11, 2021. Passengers without a mask may also be denied entry, boarding, or continued transport, the agency stated. Masks must be worn over the mouth and nose, according to the CDC order. For those wearing cloth masks, the masks “should be made with two or more layers of a breathable fabric that is tightly woven (i.e., fabrics that do not let light pass through when held up to a light source)” —that goes for gaiters, too, which should have two layers of fabric or be folded into two layers, according to the agency. Medical masks, such as surgical or N95 respirator masks, also pass muster.

Masks that don't qualify as proper face coverings include face shields, scarves, ski masks, balaclavas, bandanas, turtleneck collars pulled up over the mouth and nose, and masks containing slits, valves, or punctures.

Children under the age of two, as well as those with a disability that prohibits them from wearing a mask, are exempt. Masks can be briefly removed while eating, drinking, or taking medication; to verify someone's identity such as during TSA screenings; and when oxygen masks are required on an aircraft.



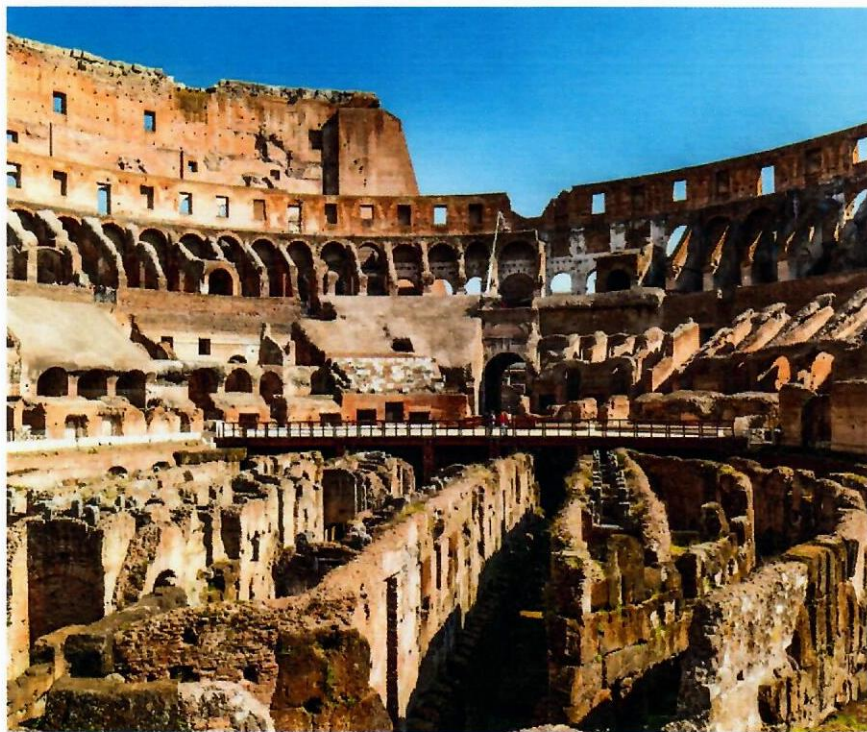
OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 6, 2021

Aloha! Come aboard Pride of America, our only cruise ship that sails round trip from Honolulu year-round so you can vacation on your schedule. As you journey from one exotic island to the next, learn about the Hawaiian culture through the eyes of native ambassadors on board. Island hop Hawaii in style, with more than 15 restaurants and 12 bars and lounges, excellent family accommodations, spacious suites and balconies — perfect for whale watching, witnessing Kilauea Volcano or taking in the dramatic views of the Napali Coast.



# Rome to Rebuild Colosseum's Ancient Retractable Floor

Italian officials have plans to restore a key element of the ancient amphitheater, a floor devised by the Romans to conceal an underground network of tunnels and cages during the gladiator era.



Ancient Rome's Colosseum hosted grisly gladiator clashes, battle re-enactments, and other (often violent) public spectacles for crowds of more than 50,000 onlookers. To facilitate a suspenseful show, the Romans devised a network of tunnels, ramps, and lifts hidden beneath the amphitheater's wooden, sand-covered floor. This underground labyrinth, called the hypogeum, allowed for competing fighters, performers, and caged animals to emerge by surprise onto the expansive arena floor.

Once the landmark's retractable floor is installed, the Roman arena will also be used to stage concerts and theater, Colosseum officials say. Now history buffs, live performance lovers, and overall Italy enthusiasts alike will have something major to look forward to in a postpandemic world.

One pound jumbo shrimp, shelled and deveined

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

2 teaspoons minced garlic

1/4 cup dry white vermouth

1/4 teaspoon grated lemon zest plus 1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lemon juice

2 teaspoons finely chopped flat-leaf parsley leaves

## Shrimp Scampi

1. Put the shrimp on a large disposable pie pan or paper plate and pat them completely dry with a paper towel. Arrange the shrimp so they lay flat and are evenly spaced.
2. Heat a large skillet over medium heat. Season the shrimp with salt and pepper. Add the butter to the skillet. When the foaming subsides, raise the heat to high and invert the plate of shrimp over the skillet so the shrimp fall into the pan all at once. Cook the shrimp, without moving them, for 1 minute. Add the garlic and cook for 1 minute. Turn the shrimp over and cook for 2 minutes more. Transfer the shrimp to a bowl.
3. Return the skillet to the heat and pour in the vermouth and lemon juice. Boil the liquid until slightly thickened, about 30 seconds. Scrape up any browned bits from the bottom of the pan with a wooden spoon. Stir the lemon zest and parsley into the sauce. Pour the sauce over the shrimp, season with salt and pepper to taste and toss to combine.

Divide the shrimp among plates or arrange on a platter and serve. Can be served over rice or pasta.





# THE NEW FLYING EXPERIENCE



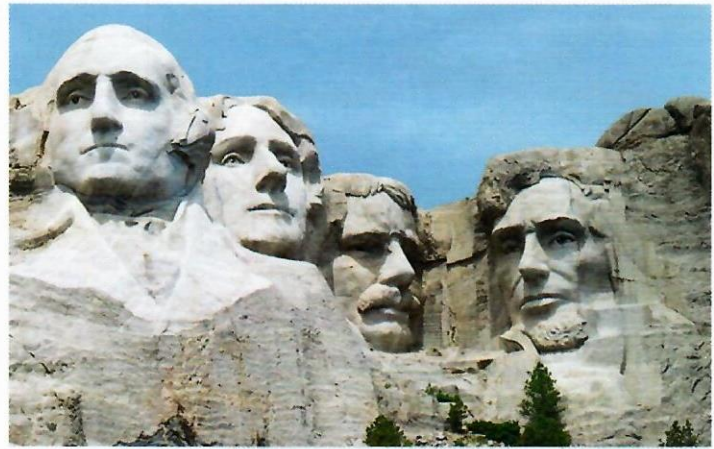
With the new Travel-Ready Center, guests can review COVID-19 entry requirements, find local testing options, and upload any required testing and vaccination records for domestic and international travel, all in one place. [TRAVEL CENTER](#)



All passengers flying to the U.S., including U.S. citizens, must show proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 3 days of departure, or documentation of recovery. This does not apply to children under 2 years old.



All customers ages 2 and above traveling to or connecting through the United States must present proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 3 days before departure and sign an attestation form confirming a negative result.



SEPTEMBER 24-30, 2021

## SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH DAKOTA

Discover the spirit of the America West and come to know the legends of the past. Discover the stories of the Lakota and Sioux through a Native American chronicler. See the Crazy Horse Memorial, the world's largest mountain sculpture still in progress. Visit iconic Mt. Rushmore. Journey through the natural beauty of Badlands National Park and stop to browse at Wall Drug. Explore historic Deadwood, the former home of Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane. Choose how you delve into the local history with a tour of Adams House in Deadwood or at the exhibit Totonko: Story of the Bison. Travel the backcountry of Custer State Park on a jeep safari. Marvel at Devils Tower, the country's first National Monument. Rapid City is your gateway into wild landscapes and historical landmarks.

Single hotel stays. Tour at a very leisurely pace. Unpack once. Package includes six breakfasts and three dinners, air, hotel accommodations and sightseeing as indicated. Must book by April 24th. Insurance of \$299 is recommended.

DOUBLE RATE: \$2,749.00 per person





A COOL (NO KIDDING) OVER WATER BUNGALOW OR UNDERWATER, IF YOU LIKE

## Arctic Bath—Sweden

The Lule River in Swedish Lapland may not be bath-warm like the Indian Ocean, but to experience a floating hotel here is like nothing else. Arctic Bath, a member of Small Luxury Hotels, offers a standout experience with six overwater cabin options. It's remote and cozy, outfitted with contemporary Scandinavian textiles and architecture, and it offers a special base for experiencing the Northern Lights—and the healing ritual of a cold bath and sauna at the spa.



## Raffles Maldives Meradhoo



Conrad hotels, a boutique extension of Hilton, went all out with the overwater—and underwater—Muraka Villa at Conrad Maldives. Sixteen feet below the water's surface is a bedroom with its own bathroom and television—though you'd probably spend most of your time staring at the fish surrounding you. Plus, there are three other bedrooms, a suite for in-laws or friends, and a private kitchen, gym, and personal butler.