



Celebrity **X** Cruises®
Designed for you™

After being banned from sailing in the U.S. since March 2020, the first large ocean ships have been given the green light by the CDC to start sailing again.

The Great Pause in U.S. cruising looks to be coming to an end. On June 26, Celebrity Cruises plans to be the first major ocean cruise line to sail from a U.S. port in more than a year when the 2,918-passenger *Celebrity Edge* departs from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, for a seven-night Caribbean cruise.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has given the go-ahead to Celebrity on the basis that all crew members will be vaccinated for COVID-19 and all U.S. passengers age 16 and older will be fully vaccinated as well. (All vaccine doses must be administered at least 14 days prior to sailing.) Starting August 1, 2021, all U.S. guests age 12 and older on Celebrity vessels must be fully vaccinated, too.

In late April, the CDC sent a letter to cruise lines clarifying **its rules for the restart of sailings from the United States** amid the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The agency stated that ships must show that 95 percent of crew and guests are vaccinated to avoid a rigorous test cruise process. The 5 percent leeway for vaccinated passengers would mean only a very limited number of unvaccinated youngsters could sail onboard.

There is one small (OK, potentially major) problem—just as Celebrity announced its CDC-approved plans to restart sailings, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis stated that cruise lines operating out of Florida can't make being vaccinated a requirement for passengers.

"What the CDC has done by closing the cruise industry for over a year, they do not have the authority to do it. You cannot have just some bureaucracy that doesn't have the legal authority to do this . . . shut down commerce," Governor DeSantis said during a May 28 press conference.

He added that he is confident that Florida will win its case against the CDC and said that whatever the outcome, "We are going to enforce Florida law. We have laws to protect the people and the privacy of our citizens and we are going to enforce them."

Following the relaunch of sailings on the *Celebrity Edge*, Celebrity plans to bring the *Celebrity Equinox* back to U.S. waters on July 18, with CDC-approved departures from Ft. Lauderdale. The two vessels will sail a seven-night western Caribbean itinerary that includes the Bahamas, Grand Cayman, and Costa Maya and Cozumel in Mexico. They will also sail a seven-night eastern Caribbean cruise making stops in the British Virgin Islands, St. Maarten, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic.

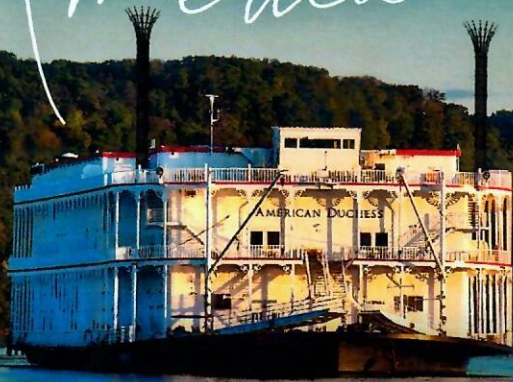
Those relaunches follow the reintroduction of the *Celebrity Millennium*, which returned to service in the Caribbean island of St. Maarten on June 5 with seven-night cruises that include Aruba, Curaçao, and Barbados

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to America

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 **AMERICAN QUEEN®**
STEAMBOAT COMPANY

Risk-Free Offer: Expires 6/30/21. With our Risk-Free Booking policy, administrative fees, and cancellation penalties for bookings made on 2021 sailings will be waived and a full refund will be provided if cancellation is made at least 61 days prior to departure. Final payment is due 60 days prior to the sailing. Guests may also move a 2021 booking to a later voyage date in 2021 or 2022 penalty-free when change is made 60 to 31 days from the original booked voyage departure date. Guest is responsible for any increase in fare. Remainder of Cancellation Policy remains in full force, and insurance penalties are applicable and not refundable. If booking has a Future Cruise Credit, the credit is forfeited but any monies paid are refunded. Additional terms regarding payment, cancellation, travel protection, exclusions, hotels, travel requirements, documentation, health, safety, and other important matters will apply. 2022 and 2023 voyages will return to our standard deposit, final payment and cancellation policies.

2021 Come Home Offer: Expires 6/30/21. Offer is valid only on new bookings. Payment in full is due at the time of booking to redeem this offer. Offer is open to U.S. and Canada residents only. Offer is based on stateroom availability, and only while inventory lasts. Not valid on existing group bookings or existing reservations; cannot be combined with other promotions or discounts. Promotional fares and amenities are capacity-controlled, may vary by sailing and may be withdrawn or modified at any time without notice. Itineraries are subject to change. Cruise fares quoted are in U.S. dollars, are per person and do not include government taxes and fees, port charges, airfare, insurance, personal expenditures or transportation costs incurred while traveling to and from embarkation ports. Gratuities not included in cruise fares. Not responsible for errors or omissions. Additional terms and conditions may apply. Call for details and mention Offer Code 2021 COME HOME!



COME WITH US, THE WORLD HASN'T BEEN THE SAME WITHOUT YOU!

American Queen Charms of the South

October 3-11, 2021

See the USA—This cruise starts with a pre-night in New Orleans and ends in Memphis visiting Nottoway Plantation., St. Francisville, Natchez and Vicksburg, MS. Outside staterooms with verandah start at \$3,599.00 per person double. Rate includes, pre-night hotel, beer and wine with lunch and dinner, hop on, hop off shore excursions, internet and 24 hour room service.

St. Francis Ireland with Father Kevin

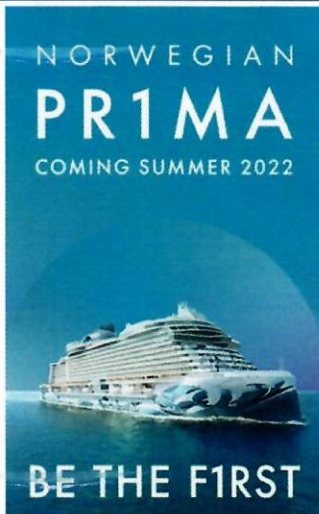
October 21-29, 2021

Father Kevin will escort a private journey to Ireland with Belfast and Giants Causeway. Round trip airfare on United from Newark (including all current government fees and taxes), seven hotel nights (2-Westport, 1-Donnegal, 2-Belfast & 2-Dublin) with private facilities and full Irish breakfast; including day of arrival. Six dinners including Taste n' Tour Belfast and a dinner show at Taylors Three Rock. Highlights include: Cliffs of Moher, Achill Island, Mass at Knock Shrine, Giants Causeway, Guinness Brewery, and Titanic Belfast along with a city tour there, Dublin, and Derry. **We still have six seats left. Please call for more information.**

Royal Caribbean on Anthem of the Seas Thanksgiving Cruise

November 21st-28th, 2021

Set sail on a seven-night Thanksgiving cruise from Cape Liberty, with a full day stop on Coco Cay. Conquer the tallest waterslide in North America or snap a shoot from a height of 450 ft. in a helium balloon. Grab a drink at the swim-up bar, grab a bite at five new dining venues through the island (no extra charge) or find a spot in the shade at Chill Island. Other ports include Orlando (Port Canaveral) and Nassau. A rate of \$1179.00 per person double occupancy includes: all current taxes and port fees, plus a \$50.00 on board credit per cabin. Additional room categories available. Please call Nancy with more information.



Start thinking about 2023. We have two new groups on Norwegian Cruise Line on the Brand new Norwegian Prima and the Norwegian Getaway, doing a Transatlantic from NYC to Iceland and a 9 night Copenhagen doing Russia, Germany and Scandinavia. Last week's newsletter went into depth on both cruises. Remember, to get those spectacular deals, you must book and deposit by July 1, 2021.

Grilled Salad Pizza



Pizza:

- 1 cup fresh ricotta
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 2 to 3 tablespoons heavy cream or whole milk
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Extra-virgin olive oil, for brushing
- 1 pound prepared pizza dough, at room temperature
- 1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan
- 1/4 cup grated pecorino
- Crushed red pepper flakes, for garnish
- Dried oregano, for garnish

Ingredients:

Salad:

- 2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan
- 1 clove garlic, crushed and peeled
- 1/2 cup halved cherry tomatoes
- 1 Persian cucumber, sliced
- 1/4 small red onion, sliced
- 1/2 cup drained gardenia, chopped
- 1/2 cup drained marinated artichoke quarters, chopped
- 1/4 cup pitted black Italian olives, such as Gaeta, halved
- 2 ounces thickly sliced provolone, cut into strips
- 1 ounce sliced Genoa salami, cut into strips
- 2 hearts of romaine, chopped

Directions:

- 1 Prepare a grill for medium heat.
- 2 For the salad: Whisk the vinegar, 1/2 teaspoon salt, several grinds of pepper and the oregano together in a large salad bowl. Slowly whisk in the oil to make a smooth dressing. Whisk in the Parmesan. Add the garlic clove and let sit for about 30 minutes to infuse (about as long as it takes to prepare the pizza).
- 3 Just before serving, discard the garlic clove. Add the tomatoes, cucumber, red onion, gardenia, artichokes, olives, provolone and salami to the bowl and toss to coat. Add the romaine and toss again.
- 4 Meanwhile, for the pizza: Stir together the ricotta and chopped garlic in a small bowl. Stir in heavy cream or milk to make a spreadable mixture. Season with salt and pepper. Brush a 14-inch or larger pizza pan with oil. Form the pizza dough into a ball and place on the pan. Brush the dough with oil. Use your fingers to gently stretch the dough to a 12- to 13-inch round. Brush the top of the dough once more with oil.
- 5 Quickly flip the pizza over the grill and remove the pan, leaving the dough round on the grill. Grill, covered, until the bottom of the dough is golden, has distinct grill marks and the top is set, about 3 minutes. Flip the dough so the grilled side is up. Brush the crust with olive oil. Spread the ricotta mixture almost to the edges. Sprinkle with the mozzarella, Parmesan and pecorino. Cover the grill and cook until the cheese is melted and the bottom crust is crisp and golden, 6 to 7 minutes.
- 6 Remove the pizza from the grill and cut into 8 slices. Sprinkle the pizza with red pepper flakes and oregano. Pile the salad on top and serve.

There is great news for American travelers, starting this Sunday June 20, 2021, travelers from the United States can once again travel to Germany. The official statement is as follows:

"The German Government is lifting all travel restrictions for persons residing in the United States, effective Sunday, June 20, 2021. So starting Sunday, travel to Germany for all purposes will be permitted again. However, a proof of vaccination, proof of recovery from COVID-19, or negative test result is still required for entry via air travel."

Destination Germany is excited to welcome back American tourists to explore everything it has to offer!

Hope to see you soon!



**Tauck Will Resume
Tours in Europe and
Africa this Summer**



**Globus Family of
Brands Will Now
Require All Guests to
Be Fully Vaccinated**

N.J. named best state to live in by national website

New Jersey was named the “best state to live in” overall, according to an analysis by the financial website WalletHub.

The state landed in first place on the website’s “2021 Best States to Live in” rankings and received high marks in the “Health and Education” category, coming in fifth place on the list.

It also ranked fourth in “lowest crime rate,” and ranked in the top 10 for “quality of life,” according to the survey.

It lagged in areas of affordability, where it ranked 49th on the list, and in economy, where it ranked toward the middle compared to other states.

WalletHub’s survey took into account 52 weighted metrics, including property taxes and cost of living as more important factors, as opposed to movie theaters per capita and low birth weights, which were deemed less important factors.

REAL ID Deadline Pushed Back to May 2023



The United States Department of Homeland Security announced that the DHS was extending the REAL ID full enforcement date by 19 months, from Oct. 1, 2021, until May 3, 2023, because of the impact of COVID-19 on the enforcement.

The news means that most Americans who want to travel domestically on an airplane without a passport or enhanced driver’s license will be able to do so until at least May 2023.

After that, every air traveler 18-years or older will need a REAL ID-compliant driver’s license, a state-issued enhanced driver’s license, or a passport in order to get through TSA security checkpoints for domestic travel.

According to the DHS, the pandemic “significantly impacted states’ ability to issue REAL ID-compliant driver’s licenses and identification cards, with many driver’s licensing agencies still operating at limited capacity.”

“Protecting the health, safety, and security of our communities is our top priority,” said Secretary Mayorkas. “As our country continues to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, extending the REAL ID full enforcement deadline will give states needed time to reopen their driver’s licensing operations and ensure their residents can obtain a REAL ID-compliant license or identification card.”

The REAL ID comes from legislation passed by Congress in 2005 aimed to unify security standards for the IDs across states.

Tuesday’s announcement is also not the first time the deadline has been pushed back. In fact, this is also not the first pandemic-induced delay in implementation—in March 2020, at the onset of the pandemic, the DHS pushed in back indefinitely because of COVID-19, eventually landing on Oct. 1, 2020, and then pushing it back again a full year to Oct. 1, 2021.

In a statement reacting to the news, U.S. Travel Association EVP of Public Affairs and Policy Tori Emerson Barnes called the delay “the right move.”

“Extending the REAL ID deadline is the right move, and we’re grateful to DHS for heeding the evidence and the calls from our industry. Getting to REAL ID compliance on time was already going to be a challenge before COVID shut down DMVs for extended periods. Significant travel disruption was likely if the deadline were allowed to hit, which the U.S. economy can’t afford after a \$500 billion decline in travel spending last year and millions of travel jobs lost to the pandemic.”