



5th Night Free  
*more fun in the sun*

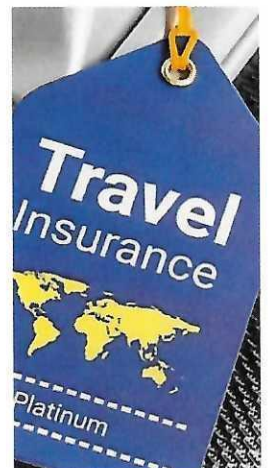
Book five or more nights in any 2- or 3-bedroom villa and get your fifth night free for stays between January 7 - November 18, 2023.

## Allianz adds 12 more covered events for travel insurance

Allianz Partners announced a number of enhancements to its travel insurance products, including higher benefit limits and new covered events for trip cancellation and trip interruption.

Allianz customers can now trigger trip cancellation or interruption benefits for 12 new reasons: first responder call to duty, school year extension, veterinary emergency, denied boarding due to a medical reason, inability to receive a vaccination, adoption, new employment, visa refusal, theft or mechanical breakdown, covered illness/injury of a business partner, illness/injury/death of a caregiver, and theft of travel documents.

Additionally, the company has introduced "significant extensions on maximum trip length and maximum policy length," Allianz said. Maximum trip length was 180 days but was increased to 366 days. A travel insurance policy can now be in effect from up to 1,095 days before the trip, up from 770. That will particularly benefit travelers who need to rebook a trip, Allianz said, as the policy's effective dates can now be moved up to three years in the future.





# When's the best time to book a flight?

Earlier this year Google debunked the **myth about Tuesdays being** the cheapest day to fly, but that doesn't mean that there's no rhyme or reason to booking a cheap flight.

Neither the day of the week nor the time you book will score you lower airfare. Airfare is dynamic and always fluctuating but the biggest driver of ticket prices is demand, which can be affected by a wide variety of things. To simplify things a bit, Here is a helpful round up of factors to help you determine the best time to book your next flight.

- **The flight route:** If you are flying a popular route or one with limited service, the ticket price will likely be higher.
- **The time of year:** If you're flying during school breaks, summer, or the holiday season, expect to pay more for tickets. Try building in some flexibility around travel dates or flying in the off-season.
- **Special events:** If you're flying for a special event, book your trip right away. Airlines know when there is a big event happening and prices will only go up.

Airfare has been at an all-time high this year as post-pandemic revenge travel raged on. Luckily, prices are expected to come down in 2023. Here are some more ways to score cheap flights:

- **Don't wait:** Though some people think booking at the last minute is a way to save on flights, in reality, that's very rare. Waiting until the last minute usually means you're paying more.
- **Domestic flights:** Generally, the best time to book is 1-2 months out.
- **International trips:** For the best deal, book 6 to 8 months out.
- **Fly mid-week:** Though there's not one day of the week that's the cheapest to fly, taking off mid-week tends to be cheaper.





# Shortbread Cookies

## Ingredients:

3/4 pound unsalted butter, at room temperature  
1 cup sugar, plus extra for sprinkling  
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract  
3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
6 to 7 ounces very good semisweet chocolate, finely chopped

## Directions:

**1** Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

**2** In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with a paddle attachment, mix together the butter and 1 cup of sugar until they are just combined. Add the vanilla. In a medium bowl, sift together the flour and salt, then add them to the butter-and-sugar mixture. Mix on low speed until the dough starts to come together. Dump onto a surface dusted with flour and shape into a flat disk. Wrap in plastic and chill for 30 minutes.

**3** Roll the dough 1/2-inch thick and cut with a 3 by 1-inch finger-shaped cutter. Place the cookies on an ungreased baking sheet and sprinkle with sugar. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until the edges begin to brown. Allow to cool to room temperature.

**4** When the cookies are cool, place them on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Put 3 ounces of the chocolate in a glass bowl and microwave on high power for 30 seconds. (Don't trust your microwave timer; time it with your watch.) Stir with a wooden spoon. Continue to heat and stir in 30-second increments until the chocolate is just melted. Add the remaining chocolate and allow it to sit at room temperature, stirring often, until it's completely smooth. Stir vigorously until the chocolate is smooth and slightly cooled; stirring makes it glossier.

**5** Drizzle 1/2 of each cookie with just enough chocolate to coat it.



# What's New at Disney in 2023?

There's always so much new at Disney, and 2023 promises to be a year of celebration.



Disney's EPCOT, a group favorite, is always evolving, and the next major milestone in its multi-year transformation will be the completion of the World Celebration neighborhood in late 2023. EPCOT has been undergoing a massive re-creation, as the former Future World and World Showcase are transformed into four neighborhoods: World Celebration, World Discovery, World Nature and World Showcase.

New theme park attractions coming in 2023 include Journey of Water, Inspired by Moana, an exploration of the story of water on our planet, which will open in late 2023, and TRON Lightcycle/Run in the spring of 2023.


January is the start of the Disney100 Celebration, which will kick off at Disneyland in Anaheim, where Walt Disney created the company and opened the first park, and then move around the world.



  
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RESORT & SPA



INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST  
DREAMS RESORT IN PUNTA CANA

  
Opening February 2023, Dreams Flora Resort & Spa showcases the natural beauty of the Dominican Republic while providing ample activities for the whole family, delectable dishes and stunning rooms all with a breathtaking backdrop.

Dreams Flora is located on the stunning Cabeza de Toro beach in Punta Cana. All 520 rooms and suites offer a private terrace or balcony that highlights striking views of the surrounding lush gardens, sparkling pools or shimmering ocean.

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TRAVEL DATES: 02/21/23 - 05/26/23

BOOKING DATES: 11/17/22 - 02/28/23

Blackout Dates: 3/31/23 - 4/15/23



  
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\*Based on a family of 4, limited availability. Sun-Thru leave only. Blackout dates and restrictions apply.



# Carnival names Emeril Lagasse chief culinary officer



Emeril Lagasse, known for his Creole cooking and his catchphrase "Bam!" on television cooking shows, is the new chief culinary officer at Carnival Cruise Line.

The celebrity restaurateur will provide Carnival chefs with guidance on food trends and techniques while advising on future menu items and dining concepts. Menus will include his favored entrees labeled "Emeril recommends."

The new title is the next step in Carnival's partnership with Lagasse. He owns restaurants in New Orleans, Las Vegas and Miramar Beach, Fla., and created the concept for Emeril's Bistro, a restaurant on the Mardi Gras, Carnival Celebration and the Carnival Jubilee when it debuts in December 2023.

Lagasse has created cooking products, written cookbooks and starred on television cooking shows, including his current program, "Emeril Cooks" which began streaming on Roku in 2022. He was a James Beard Award winner for best chef in 1991 and humanitarian of the year in 2013.

Carnival's partnership with Lagasse is one of two with Food Network celebrities. Carnival also works with Guy Fieri, who has hosted "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives" along with other programs on The Food Network. The line offers Guy's Burger Joint on several ships and Guy's Pig & Anchor Bar-B-Que Smokehouse on newer ships joining the fleet.

Lagasse will join Carnival president Christine Duffy in New York for New Year's Eve to flip the switch on the countdown clock to midnight. The event also serves to recognize the line's expansion to year-round departures from the Manhattan Cruise Terminal on the Carnival Venezia, beginning in June.



Following her star-studded Naming Ceremony in New York City recently, MSC Seascape has made her way to Miami to kick off an exciting maiden season sailing Eastern and Western Caribbean itineraries. You can look forward to new discoveries on shore, including at Ocean Cay, our award-winning private island marine reserve in The Bahamas, as they experience new horizons at sea.