



## CELEBRITY CRUISES WELCOMES SOLO TRAVELERS

Celebrity **X** Cruises®

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO SAIL ON AN AWARD-WINNING CELEBRITY CRUISE WITH NO ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT FOR TRAVELING AS A SINGLE.

SAIL BETWEEN NOW AND MARCH 30, 2023.

DESTINATIONS INCLUDE SELECT SAILINGS TO EUROPE, MEXICAN RIVIERA, ALASKA AND CARIBBEAN. CALL US TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS SPECTACULAR OFFER AS WE CHECK ON APPLICABLE SAILING DATES.

**L**  **VE** to **TRAVEL**

# Celebrity Celebrates Full Return of 15-Ship Fleet with Celebrity Infinity Sailing

Celebrity Cruises, a leader in relaxed luxury cruising, celebrated its complete 15-ship fleet comeback when Celebrity Infinity set sail for the Caribbean from Fort Lauderdale's Port Everglades on Saturday, June 25, 2022. The milestone sailing marks not only the ship's first sailing in 881 days, but the full return of all 63 ships in the parent-company Royal Caribbean Group fleet. In honor of this milestone, the entire fleet sounded their horns on Saturday in celebration and to honor their crew.



Celebrity's return to service began exactly one year ago to the day when the award-winning Celebrity Edge made history on June 26, 2021, as the first cruise ship to sail from a U.S. port in 15 months after being grounded due to the global pandemic. The line then systematically returned more ships to the water to feed peoples love of travel with sailings destinations from the Caribbean to Europe, Alaska, and the Galapagos.

In its first sailing in over two years, Celebrity Infinity is taking guests on a seven-night Eastern Caribbean sailing with stops in the Bahamas, Turks & Caicos, and the Dominican Republic. Following her return to sailing, the ship will embark on alternating seven-night Eastern and Western Caribbean itineraries. All seven-night itineraries will feature calls to Bimini or Nassau, Bahamas and Key West, Fla. In addition, Eastern Caribbean sailings will visit Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic; Western Caribbean sailings will also call on Belize City, Belize; and Cozumel, Mexico.



## Why Now Is the Best Time to Visit London

Between royal celebrations, the return of large-scale events and a flock of new hotels and restaurants, now is the time to hop the pond.

With this year marking the 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's reign, also known as the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, London is feeling extra festive. Add to all the royal celebrations the fact that the British capital is experiencing a renaissance as new hotels open their doors, buzz-worthy restaurants mark their debut,

and major events and celebrations return to the city after a pandemic pause and suddenly London is calling us to visit more so now than ever. (The strong dollar doesn't hurt either.)

# ULTIMATE NEW ORLEANS EVENT CALENDAR

The Crescent City is home to more than 130 unique festivals and events. Throughout the year, guests can join along in celebrating everything from food and culture to neighborhoods and holidays. Megafestivals like Jazz Fest, ESSENCE, French Quarter Festival and of course, Mardi Gras are world-renowned and highly attended. But there are also a number of more niche, quirky and off-the-beaten-path events like Bayou Boogaloo, White Linen Night, Luna Fête and Gentilly Fest that are worth checking out during your next visit.

07/08/2022 - [Running of the Bulls](#)

07/25/2022 - [Tales of the Cocktail](#)

08/01/2022 - [COOLinary New Orleans](#)

08/06/2022 - [Fidelity Bank White Linen Night](#)

08/06/2022 - [Satchmo SummerFest](#)

08/13/2022 - [Red Dress Run](#)

09/01/2022 - [Southern Decadence](#)

09/04/2022 - [Louisiana Kick-Off: Florida State Seminoles vs. LSU Tigers](#)

09/24/2022 - [Beignet Fest](#)

10/01/2022 - [National Fried Chicken Fest](#)

10/07/2022 - [Gentilly Fest](#)

10/07/2022 - [Oktoberfest](#)

10/12/2022 - [The NOLA Caribbean Experience](#)

10/31/2022 - [Halloween](#)

11/05/2022 - [Bayou Bacchanal](#)

11/06/2022 - [Oak Street Po-Boy Festival](#)

12/24/2022 - [Christmas Eve Bonfires on the Levee](#)

12/31/2022 - [Allstate Sugar Bowl](#)

# Beef and Broccoli

## Ingredients:

- 1 pound broccoli florets
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch, divided
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 pound flank steak
- 1/3 cup beef or chicken stock
- 2 teaspoons rice wine
- 1/4 cup oyster sauce
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced



## Directions:

Microwave the broccoli in a glass bowl covered with plastic wrap (holes poked for ventilation), about 1 to 2 minutes.

In a small bowl, whisk together the soy sauce, sesame oil, 1 teaspoon cornstarch and baking soda. Slice the beef against the grain into thin strips and add it to your marinade. Let it sit for at least 20 minutes, or as long as overnight in the refrigerator.

In a separate small bowl, stir together the stock, rice wine, oyster sauce and remaining 1 teaspoon cornstarch until the cornstarch is fully dissolved.

Heat a wok or large skillet on high heat and add the oil. When a wisp of white smoke appears, toss the marinated beef and garlic into the pan. Cook for about 1 minute, continually moving the beef so it browns on all sides but is still rare. Once the beef is seared, add the broccoli and cook for an additional minute. Stir in the sauce and keep it all moving. Don't be afraid to scrape any bits off the bottom of the pan before they start to burn. Once the sauce has turned into a nice thick glaze, about 1 minute, serve immediately.



## European Countries Will Soon Start Requiring Inbound Travelers Pay a Fee Prior to Travel

Starting next year, inbound travelers to EU countries will be required to pay a fee as part of the bloc's new visa waiver program called European Travel Informational and Authorization System (ETIAS).

The program, which had been floated as far back as 2016, will require all non-Europeans, including those in the United Kingdom, United States, and Canada, to obtain an electronic travel permit ahead of arrival. The requirement extends to all travelers who do not need a visa prior to travel.

The permit will cost seven euros (around \$7.40 US or \$9.55 CAD) and will be valid for travel to Europe for three years.

A website for ETIAS says that the process shouldn't take longer than 10 minutes and that 95% of applicants will get approved within minutes. Travelers will only need a passport in order to apply (along with a credit card or debit card to submit the payment) and no biometric data will be collected during the process.

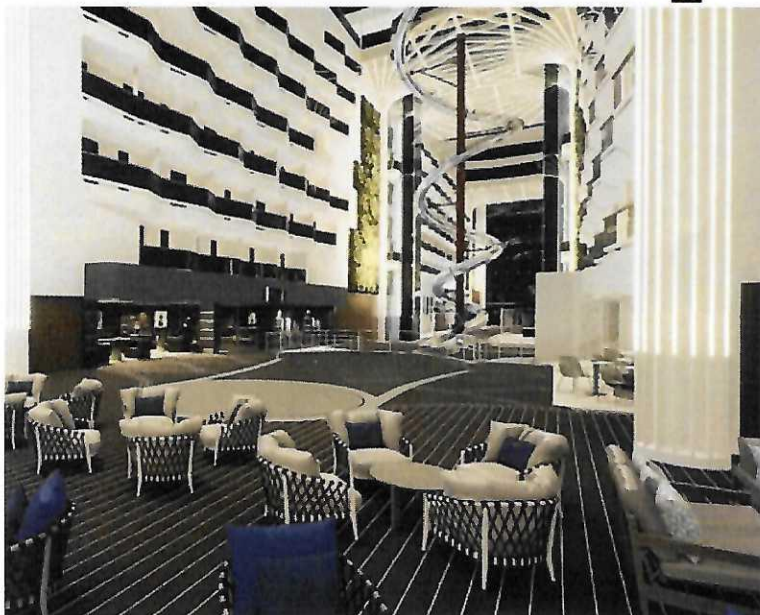
According to the ETIAS website, the program "will allow the European Union to determine the eligibility of citizens from the visa waiver countries or ETIAS eligible countries. Applicants will have to complete an ETIAS registration before traveling to Europe, and the information provided will be pre-screened to detect security, health, or migration risks."

If an application is refused, travelers may be asked to provide additional documentation, which they will have to do within 96 hours. In cases where an application is fully denied, they will have the right to appeal.

The U.S. requires a similar procedure to be completed as part of its Visa Waiver Program. The U.S. version, called Electronic System for Travel Authorization or ESTA, is required for anyone boarding a plane or vessel bound for the U.S. According to Homeland Security, "In most instances, ESTA applicants will receive real-time notification on the disposition of their application to travel to the United States."

The ESTA costs applicants \$21 US.

# MSC Cruises unveils details about the World Europa



MSC Cruises on Thursday unveiled details about its first World-class ship.

The 6,762-passenger MSC World Europa will have 22 decks and feature the longest dry slide at sea, the Venom Drop @ The Spiral. It will span 11 decks and plunge riders into a 250-foot drop.

The slide will be in the World Promenade, what MSC calls "the beating heart of the ship." Opening out to the aft with sea views, the World Promenade will offer entertainment and al fresco dining.

The Promenade continues indoors with the World Galleria, covering 3,200 square feet and topped with an LED and kinetic dome ceiling. The space will be lined with bars, restaurants, shops and boutiques.

The new class' first ship also is introducing the largest-in-class Aquapark, with a kids pool and slides for adults and children. Elsewhere, the main pool includes a 37,000-square-foot pool deck area and a botanic garden pool features a retractable roof, tropical bar and lounge area.

The adults-only Zen pool area at the aft includes two pools, a solarium, a shady lounge area and sea views, said MSC. Other pool spaces include the private pool, whirlpool and sundeck in the MSC Yacht Club.

In all, there will be seven swimming pools and 13 whirlpools on the ship.

A hydroponic garden at sea

The ship is introducing two new restaurant concepts, including the Chef's Garden Kitchen, a hydroponic garden at sea with herbs, greens and garnishes grown onboard. MSC is also introducing a signature Mediterranean fish restaurant, La Pescaderia. In total, the Europa will include 13 dining venues, including six specialty restaurants.

The World Europa's 20 bars and lounges will include the line's first onboard microbrewery, a new gin bar and a cocktail bar honoring the art of mixology.

The Yacht Club on the Europa will have a larger outdoor area and new suite designs.

The Europa will feature seven new cabin designs for a total of 19 cabin categories. The first World-class ship will feature balconies in 65% of cabins, more than any other vessel in the fleet, and more will have private whirlpools.

The Infinite Ocean View cabins will have a panoramic window that slides down to form a glass balustrade when open.

The World Europa will be powered by liquefied natural gas, having the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 21%, according to the line, as well as reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by 85% and sulfur oxide emissions by 99% compared to standard maritime fuels.

The Europa is scheduled to debut on Dec. 20 with a four-night sailing from Doha, Qatar, to Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The ship will then sail seven-night voyages from Dubai to Abu Dhabi. The ship will continue to Sir Bani Yas Island, which is exclusive to MSC Cruises on days the ships call. The ship will also call in Dammam, Saudi Arabia, as well as Doha.

The World Europa will head to the Mediterranean on March 25 and sail seven-night cruises to Italian ports of Genoa, Naples and Messina as well as Valletta, Malta; Barcelona, Spain; and Marseille, France.



### Do NOT travel if...

- You have [COVID-19 symptoms](#), even if you recovered from COVID-19 within the past 90 days or are up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines.
- You [tested positive](#) for COVID-19.
  - Do not travel until a full 10 days after your symptoms started or the date your positive test was taken if you had no [symptoms](#).
- You are waiting for results of a COVID-19 test.
  - If your test comes back positive while you are at your destination, you will need to [isolate](#) and postpone your return until it's safe for you to travel. Your travel companions may need to [quarantine](#).
- You had close contact with a person with COVID-19 and **are recommended to [quarantine](#)**.
  - Do not travel until a full 5 days after your last close contact with the person with COVID-19. It is best to avoid travel for a full 10 days after your last exposure.
  - If you must travel during days 6 through 10 after your last exposure:
    - [Get tested](#) at least 5 days after your last close contact. Make sure your test result is negative and you remain without [symptoms](#) before traveling. If you don't get tested, avoid travel until a full 10 days after your last close contact with a person with COVID-19.
    - Properly wear a [well-fitting mask](#) when you are around others for the entire duration of travel during days 6 through 10. If you are unable to wear a mask, you should not travel during days 6 through 10.

### If you had close contact with a person with COVID-19 but are NOT recommended to [quarantine](#)...

- [Get tested](#) at least 5 days after your last close contact. Make sure your test result is negative and you remain without [symptoms](#) before traveling.
  - If you had confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days, you do NOT need to get tested, but you should still follow all other recommendations (including getting tested if you develop COVID-19 symptoms).
- If you travel during the 10 days after your last exposure, properly wear a [well-fitting mask](#) when you are around others for the entire duration of travel during the 10 days. If you are unable to wear a mask, you should not travel during the 10 days.

## Safe, Easy, Free, and Nearby COVID-19 Vaccination

The federal government is providing the vaccine **free of charge** to all people living in the U.S., regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.