

Experts Forecast Less Sargassum This Summer for Mexico's Top Beaches

Officials in cities along the Mexican Caribbean revealed that distance, speed of travel and currents have resulted in experts forecasting a non-existent flow of sargassum seaweed this summer.

According to the Riviera Maya News, Director of the Quintana Roo Sargassum Monitoring Network, Esteban Jesus Amaro Mauricio, said Cancun, the Riviera Maya and other key travel destinations will be sargassum-free this summer vacation season.

Amaro Mauricio revealed that daily monitoring of the stinky seaweed showed a lack of arrival for the next three months, due to the distance, speed of travel and currents of the sargassum coming from Africa.

"From what we have been observing through the satellite it is very clean," Amaro Mauricio told the Riviera Maya News. "There is almost no sargassum between Jamaica and the Yucatan Peninsula. As the sargassum continues to move north like it has been, we will have lean months, that is, we are not going to have a significant presence."

Officials in cities along the Mexican Caribbean revealed that distance, speed of travel and currents have resulted in experts forecasting a non-existent flow of sargassum seaweed this summer.

While there will be small patches of the seaweed that make it to beaches of Quintana Roo and the surrounding areas, officials said municipal workers are immediately removing it before it begins to stink.

Curaçao

A BEAUTIFUL
DUTCH-INSPIRED ISLAND



Sandals

ROYAL CURAÇAO

Santa Barbara, Curaçao

Rhythm & Blues SALE

Get Up To \$500 Air Credit + \$150 Spa Credit

Where Natural And Cultural Wonders
Connect To Create A Beautiful Mélange

Curaçao is more than a destination. It is a living breathing culture, vibrant and ever-changing. The rich and colorful tradition shaped by Dutch, Caribbean, Latin, and Creole influences shape every moment here. Come experience this magical place where the desert meets the ocean.



Groups 2023-2024

SEPTEMBER 15-24, 2023—SIX NIGHT BERMUDA CRUISE ABOARD MSC'S MERAVIGLIA

Sail from New York (Brooklyn) and spend three days at King's Wharf Bermuda enjoying the idyllic, pink sand beaches while imbibing a delicious rum swizzle. Experience everything the Meraviglia has to offer. Our special balcony rate includes accommodations, all current government and port taxes, gratuities, wi-fi for two devices, an upgraded beverage package for \$1,299.00 per person double. Upgrade to Aurea features for \$1,529.00.

OCTOBER 4-15, 2023 –11 NIGHT NEW ENGLAND AND CANADA CRUISE ABOARD MSC'S MERAVIGLIA

Sail from New York (Brooklyn) and visit Newport, RI, Boston, MA, St. John, NB, Halifax and Sydney, NS Charlottetown, PEI returning to New York by way of Portland, ME. The Meraviglia is packed with extraordinary features for the perfect experience at sea. Enjoy gourmet dining, out of this world entertainment with new panoramic areas, an innovative ocean lounge, a two-deck high inside promenade with an LED dome and spectacular amusement area connected to an outdoor water park. Rates include cabin accommodations as selected, all current port and government taxes, beverage package for drinks up to \$9, wi-fi for two devices and gratuities. Ocean view \$1,277.00, Premium Balcony \$1,487.00 and Aurea Balcony \$1,877.00 (includes additional amenities, room service and more).

NOVEMBER 28-DECEMBER 3, 2023—HOLIDAY SHOPPING IN DUBLIN AND GALWAY'S CHRISTMAS MARKETS

Enjoy this unique getaway visiting the Christmas Markets in Dublin and Galway. Included in this package is round trip airfare from Newark, a professional tour director for the duration of the trip, four breakfasts (including morning of arrival), two hotel dinners and one traditional Pub dinner, a walking tour of Galway, tour of Connemara, Kylemore Abbey, Clonmacnoise, Newbridge Silver Factory, St. Patrick's Cathedral and Guinness Storehouse. Rate \$2,249.00 per person double occupancy. Minimum participation of 15 is required. Call Tara for more info and reservations.

FEBRUARY 7-12, 2024—TENTH ANNUAL ICELAND WEEKEND GETAWAY

Explore the 'Land of Fire and Ice' witnessing spectacular waterfalls, boiling geysers and spend a few hours relaxing with a cocktail while watching the sunrise in the Blue Lagoon. A visit to Thingvillar National Park is not to be missed; called the Grand Canyon of Iceland because it is where the tectonic plates of North America and Europe merge creating an awesome sight. There is always the opportunity of seeing the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights. Our package includes round trip air from Newark on Icelandair, four nights hotel with a full buffet breakfast daily and a continental breakfast at Viking World Museum on the morning of arrival, all current taxes. Optional tours will be available. Rate is \$1,998.00 per person double. A valid passport is required and insurance is highly recommended. **Only 10 seats left!!**

NOVEMBER 23-DECEMBER 3, 2024—ICONIC CHRISTMAS MARKETS CRUISE ABOARD AMA WATERWAYS AMA LEA

Depart USA on the evening of November 23rd flying to Prague where you will board the AMA LEA for your seven night Christmas Market cruise. The intimate AMA LEA was built in 2018 and sails with a maximum of 156 passengers. Sail the Continental Divide and visit Passau, Melk and Vienna enroute to Budapest. Cruise only rates start at \$3,799.00 per person double including port taxes. Single cabins surcharge range from 125 to 150%. Pre and post nights along with airfare will be available at the end of this year. Call Nancy for information and reservations.

DECEMBER 7-14, 2024—SAIL THE CARIBBEAN ON STAR CLIPPERS ROYAL CLIPPER

Would you like to climb the mast to the crow's nest 75 feet above the deck or visit the open bridge where you can help sail the vessel? If so, a tall ship adventure might just be the ticket. Life on board is casual and relaxed with top notch dining and less than 250 passengers. Have a tropical drink while you relax in the bowsprit netting listening to the steel drum band on deck. Enjoy complimentary water sports, yoga and wellness classes. The shore excursions on board the Star Clipper are designed to highlight the best of the ports visited. Enjoy a beach BBQ. Ports of call are the Grenadines; including St. George's, Grenada, Tobago Cays, Kingstown, St. Vincent, Bequia, Fort de France, Martinique with beach stop, Marigot Bay, St. Lucia, and Soufriere, St. Lucia. The rate per person (cruise only for an outside cabin with port taxes) is \$2,399.00 including a \$200.00 onboard credit and pre-paid gratuities. Air rates and pre-night information will be available in January 2024. A passport is required and insurance is highly recommended.





THE BOLDEST WAY TO SEE THE EAST

Royal Caribbean is back and bolder than ever in 2024 with adventures from China. Our groundbreaking Spectrum of the Seas® returns to send you on unforgettable immersive journeys to Japan! This thrill-filled Quantum Class favorite unlocks 4 to 7-night itineraries to ports like cosmopolitan Nagasaki, laid-back Fukuoka and scenic Okinawa. And with departures from Shanghai and Hong Kong, you can explore every corner, diving into each destination with Royal Caribbean®.



The Best Slow-Cooker Little Smokies

Ingredients:

- 1 cup ketchup
- 1/2 cup apple jelly
- 1/3 cup bourbon
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 chipotle chile in adobo, chopped, plus 2 tablespoons adobo sauce
- Two 14-ounce packages smoked cocktail sausages



Directions:

- 1** Add the ketchup, apple jelly, bourbon, maple syrup, cider vinegar, smoked paprika and chipotle and adobo sauce to a 6-quart slow cooker and whisk to make a smooth sauce. Add the sausages and toss to coat in the sauce.
- 2** Cover with the lid and cook on high for 3 hours, then uncover and continue to cook on high until the sauce is bubbling and has thickened slightly, about 30 minutes. Set the slow cooker to warm for serving.

We took this quick and easy slow-cooker classic and gave it a little update. Gone is the grape jelly; it's been replaced with apple jelly, and it pairs perfectly with the maple syrup and cider vinegar. A splash of bourbon adds a grown-up note to this party favorite.

This New App Feature Ensures That You Won't Miss Your Flight



United is the first airline to integrate Apple's new Live Activities feature, which provides constant access to real-time flight information. Here's how it works.

For those who chronically misjudge how long they have until boarding starts for their flight or who feel the need to constantly check the airport's flight information display systems to see if there have been any gate changes or delays, a new app feature could put your mind at ease.

United Airlines recently announced that it has enabled Live Activities, an Apple feature that gives travelers real-time notifications on their lock screen. (The tech isn't currently available on Android.) Travelers with the United app who have checked into a United flight can see up-to-the-second information about their departure gate and a running countdown to boarding (and then departure) without opening the United app. And from the Live Activity widget, customers can also open their boarding pass with a swipe for quick access.

Once in flight, the Live Activity feature switches to counting down the time until landing. And after the wheels are down, it lists baggage carousel information.

Live Activity software has been available since the iOS 16.1 update on October 24, 2022. So far, travel-related companies like Uber and Lyft, two ride-share companies, have incorporated it into their apps to show pick-up countdowns, and Park Mobile, a parking meter app, has used it to send notifications to remind users when their meter will expire. United, however, is the first airline to start using the iPhone feature.

Design details revealed for the Celebrity Ascent



Celebrity Cruises has unveiled new designs, culinary offerings and entertainment for its fourth Edge-class ship, the Celebrity Ascent.

The 3,260-passenger ship is expected to launch in November and be based in Port Everglades, Fla., for the 2023-2024 Caribbean season, from December 2023 to April 2024. The ship will then pivot to sail European itineraries in the Mediterranean.

Although the ship is very much like its sister vessels, the Ascent will feature tweaks and new additions, including a redesign of Le Voyage by Daniel Boulud restaurant by KTG Y Simeone Deary Design Group.

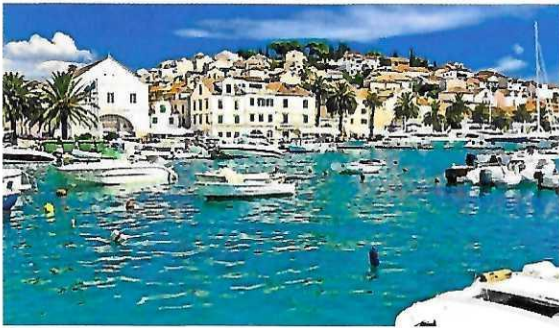
Other new elements include a plant-based tasting menu at Eden Restaurant, a new animation and menu at Le Petit Chef and new high-end bourbon tastings and new tasting seminars at Craft Social. Martini Bar will include an expanded menu of the cocktails, including low-sugar drinks and new creations using lychee and passion fruit, according to Celebrity.

The ship will also include a new nightly entertainment program on the Resort Deck with live performances, live music and a DJ set. The Theatre will host a trio of new production shows, The Club will feature new interactive digital experiences and shows and the Eden Bar and Restaurant will feature immersive shows, according to the line.

Celebrity has also given a makeover to the casino on the Ascent with a new layout, design and slot machines. I expect to visit the Ascent at the beginning of December and tell you all about her. Bon Voyage!

Mediterranean Islands You Need To Visit

The Mediterranean will captivate you with turquoise coastlines, age-old cultures, stunning landscapes, and delicious culinary experiences. There is a magic to this region which lies in its diversity. Whether they're interested in Croatia's medieval cities and azure waters, Sicily's baroque architecture and incredible hikes, Greece's prehistoric ruins and natural wonders, or Corsica's hiking adventures and gastronomic delights, the Mediterranean has something for everyone.



Hvar, Croatia

Hvar is often considered Croatia's most happening island. Famous among jet setters, it oozes five-star luxury and boasts a modern, cosmopolitan lifestyle that appeals to even the most discerning travelers. Hvar can either be discovered by sea, on board a luxury private yacht that promises optimum privacy and comfort as well as VIP service, or by land by taking private boat trips to and from the island while staying at luxury accommodation we hand-pick for your travelers. The pristine Adriatic Sea that serves as a backdrop and the endless lavender flowers that paint the island lilac are just a few examples of Hvar's natural beauty; travelers can also enjoy idyllic beaches, hiking trails, historic villages, chic galleries and boutiques, and incredible local cuisine.



Santorini, Greece

Indescribable sunsets, charming architecture and deliciously fresh seafood are just some of Santorini's highlights. There is plenty to enjoy here for everyone, from private sailing excursions through the caldera and hikes with incredible views of the Aegean Sea, to private volcanic wine tastings and culinary awakenings with expert chefs. We have a selection of luxury Greece tours which include stops to Santorini, including private yacht charters that tour the breathtaking Cyclades Islands and land-based tours with private sailing excursions to this famous island. However your travelers decide to visit Santorini, we're certain they'll be captured by its rugged cliffs, blinding-white villages and bright blue waters.



Crete, Greece

Greece's largest island, Crete, will whisk your travelers back to the Bronze Age. They can visit the magnificent Heraklion Archeological Museum, explore the ancient Palace of Knossos, and tour Europe's oldest city.

Beyond its rich history, Crete has beautiful turquoise waters, spectacular uninhabited islets, charming cobblestone villages and impressive gorges. Whether they want to lose themselves in cultural wonders, relax in complete tranquility or explore the various outdoor adventures, Crete is a wonderful destination for a private, luxury tour.