

## NEW YORK, NEW YORK! NEW HOME. NEW DISCOVERIES.

Cruise to Bermuda, The Bahamas & Florida or Canada & New England

We're in a New York state of mind! MSC Cruises is thrilled to announce that for the first time we will sail year-round from New York City starting April 2023. From the picture-perfect beaches of Bermuda, and The Bahamas and Florida (with late-night stays in Miami and Port Canaveral), to the breathtaking fall foliage of Canada and New England, brand-new itineraries aboard MSC Meraviglia are now open for sale. Get ready to breathe in the sea air as you take in the new views.



#### MSC MERAVIGLIA









# Italy and Greece relax Covid-19 restrictions



For travelers heading to Europe, summer vacations just got a whole lot easier.

Italy and Greece relaxed some Covid-19 restrictions on Sunday before Europe's peak summer tourist season, in a sign that life was increasingly returning to normal.

Greece's civil aviation authority announced that it was lifting all Covid-19 rules for international and domestic flights except for the wearing of face masks during flights and at airports. Previously, air travelers were required to show proof of vaccination, a negative test or a recent recovery from the disease.

As of Sunday, visitors to Italy no longer have to fill out the EU passenger locator form, a complicated online ordeal required at airport check-in.

Italy also did away with the health pass that had been required to enter restaurants, cinemas, gyms and other venues. The green pass, which showed proof of vaccination, recovery from the virus or a recent negative test, is still required to access hospitals and nursing homes.

Vaccination certificates in Greece were abolished, not permanently, but from May 1 to August 31 and it will be determined in August whether to bring them back. Also suspended were restrictions on the number of customers in indoor spaces. But masks are still required indoors and in vehicles in Greece, and experts recommend using them outdoors in crowded situations like concerts.

Some indoor mask mandates in Italy also ended, including inside supermarkets, workplaces and stores. Masks are still required on public transport, in cinemas and in all health care facilities and nursing homes.

Like Italy, Greece saw tourism revenues plunge in 2020 and only partially rebound in 2021. Greece is now hoping for a record tourism year in 2022 -- and so does neighboring Albania, where restrictions were also lifted Sunday.

#### United to offer refunds to some afraid to fly

United Airlines will be flexible on refunds for passengers who no longer wish to fly now that masks are optional, CEO Scott Kirby said, predicting that the federal mandate will not return and the government is appealing a ruling against it for "jurisdictional" reasons. "For customers like that, that are immunocompromised or that have other concerns or issues, we are working with those customers if they don't want to fly," he said.

## 10 Ways to Make Trip Planning Less Stressful

- 1. Book your trip at least two to three months in advance (more if you're going abroad).
- 2. Set your expectations: Flights are expensive right now, but deals still exist.
- 3. Use a travel agent
- 4. Make that national park/museum/dinner reservation ASAP.
- 5. Pack a COVID test—or several—and talk through your "what if I get COVID abroad" plan.
- 6. Check your passport expiration date (and make sure you have a <u>vaccine passport</u>, too).
- 7. Buy travel insurance.
- 8. Pack added patience: staffing shortages remain an issue.
- 9. Get TSA PreCheck, Global Entry, or Clear.
- 10. If you're nervous about the <u>fluctuating mask mandates</u>, play it safe and just wear a mask.



Making waves from our homeport in Miami all year long, Scarlet
Lady is set to explore the mysteries, legends, and tropical beauty of
Costa Maya — dotted with quaint beaches, tiny restaurants, and
unique Mayan Ruins.



### 2023 CHRISTMAS MARKETS ON THE DANUBE (AMX)

13 DAYS  $\cdot$  TRAVEL TO BUDAPEST, HUNGARY AND RETURN FROM PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC (OR REVERSE)

#### 2 NIGHTS BUDAPEST, 7-NIGHT BUDAPEST TO VILSHOFEN CRUISE AND 3 NIGHTS IN PRAGUE (OR REVERSE)

Experience timeless holiday traditions and elegant pageantry in five countries—Hungary, Slovakia, Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic. Let iconic capital cities—Budapest, Bratislava, Vienna and Prague—decked in holiday finery with glittering Christmas trees illuminated by thousands of lights, bells pealing from cathedral towers and children dressed as angels singing Christmas carols, dazzle you. Wander the stalls of Europe's most traditional and enchanting Christmas Markets, including Regensburg (as part of the motorcoach transfer journey to Prague) and Salzburg, shopping for handcrafted toys and gifts, sipping hot mulled wine and inhaling the fragrance of gingerbread and roasted chestnuts. Cherish all the glory and magic of the season in grand European style as you cruise along the Danube during this festive time of the year.

DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES
1	Budapest	Hotel check-in
2	Budapest	"Hidden Budapest" tour
3	Budapest	EMBARKATION
4	Budapest	"Queen of the Danube" tour and Vörösmarty Square Christmas Market OR Castle Hill hike
5	Bratislava	Coronation city walking tour with Christmas Market visit OR Tastes of Slovakia
		OR Bratislava Castle hike
6	Vienna	"Imperial Vienna" tour with Maria Theresa Platz Christmas Market OR Vienna bike tour
		Schönbrunn illuminated Christmas Markets
		Rathaus Christmas Markets
8	Weissenkirchen	Dürnstein walking tour and wine tasting
		OR Dürnstein excursion with apricot and sweets tastings
		OR Weissenkirchen to Melk bike tour
	Melk	Benedictine Abbey visit
	Linz	"UNESCO City of Media Arts" walking tour and Christmas Market
		OR "Cultural Mile" bike tour
		OR Full-day Salzburg excursion with Hellbrunn Palace Christmas Markets
		Cesky Krumlov excursion
9	Passau	"City of Three Rivers" walking tour and Christmas Markets
		OR Passau hike
		OR River Inn bike tour
	Vilshofen	Exclusive Oktoberfest celebration
10	Vilshofen	DISEMBARKATION
		Transfer to Prague via Regensburg
	Regensburg	UNESCO city walking tour and Christmas Market
	Prague	Hotel check-in
11	Prague	"Golden City of a Hundred Spires" tour
		OR Prague Castle hike
		Christmas Markets
12	Prague	Czech beer tasting
13	Prague	Return flight home