



Cruise Groups

JUNE 16-23, 2023—SEVEN NIGHT PERFECT DAY BAHAMAS CRUISE ABOARD RCCL'S OASIS OF THE SEAS

When school is out for the summer, the thrills are in full session aboard Royal Caribbean's Amplified Oasis of the Seas. Set sail from Cape Liberty and visit Port Canaveral (Orlando), Nassau and their private island Perfect Day at Coco Casy. This Oasis Class favorite will introduce even more thrills for couples and kids of all ages with upgraded ways to soak up the sun or enjoy the shade, more delicious dining options to elevate date night and buzzworthy new spots to light up the evening. The Broadway hit *Cats*, the high diving AquaTheater show and the *Frozen In Time* ice skating show are just some of the excitement available on board while Up, Up and Away helium balloon ride, Daredevil's Tower waterslide and Thrill Waterpark await you at Perfect Day at Coco Cay. Sail in a balcony cabin, including all current port and government taxes and gratuities for \$1,179.00 per person double.

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

Sail from New York (Brooklyn) and spend three days at King's Wharf 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 port and government taxes, gratuities, wi-fi for two devices, and an upgraded beverage package for \$1,299.00 per person. Upgrade to Aurea features for \$1,529.00 each.

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

Sail from New York (Brooklyn) and visit Newport, Rhode Island, Boston, Massachusetts, St. John, New Brunswick, Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia, Charlottetown, PEI, returning to New York by way of Portland, Maine. 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 a spectacular amusement area connected to an outdoor water park. Rates include cabin accommodations 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 (additional amenities including the solarium, spa discounts, 24 hour room service and more).

OCTOBER 11-19, 2023—EGYPT AND NILE CRUISE ABOARD THE BRAND NEW H/S NEBU

Have you always wanted to take a camel ride by the Pyramids or hot air balloon over the Nile while cruising and visiting these ancient sights? Spend two nights in Cairo visiting the new and exciting National Museum, the Great Pyramids of Giza, the enigmatic Sphinx along with a camel ride. Visit Old Cairo. Fly to Luxor and board the H/S Nebu for a four night Nile cruise visiting Karnak & Luxor Temple, Valley of the Kings, Hatshepsut, Edfu, Kom Obo and more. Return to Cairo for a farewell dinner and your return to the US. Breakfast daily and full board while cruising, lunch while on Old Cairo tour. Airfare will be available soon. Rate per person, based on a minimum of 15 passengers is \$3,988.00 per person double. A limited number of singles will be available at a surcharge of \$985.00

NOVEMBER 2-12, 2023—10 NIGHT ULTIMATE SOUTHERN CARIBBEAN ABOARD THE CELEBRITY REFLECTION

Cruise round trip from Ft. Lauderdale in a balcony cabin visiting Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, Martinique, St. Kitts & Nevis. Our special, always included package incorporates accommodations, all current taxes, all meals (except specialty restaurants), beverage package, wi-fi, gratuities, spectacular entertainment and a \$300 on board credit. The special rate of \$1,850.00 per person is subject to availability and must be booked by November 30, 2022. There are a limited number of cabins at this rate. Call before they are gone!

Visitors to BERMUDA

Effective November 14 2022, travel authorizations will no longer be required to enter Bermuda. Visitors (arriving by air or yacht) travelling to Bermuda from November 14 onwards do not need to apply for a travel authorization. In its place, the Bermuda Tourism Authority (BTA) will reinstate the Bermuda Arrival Card, a digital form for visitors only, which was in place before the onset of the pandemic. Cruise visitors are not required to complete any entry form.

The online visitor arrivals process can be completed in three easy steps.

Go to www.BermudaArrivalCard.com

Complete the form accurately and completely with visitor details

Download the form and present it to immigration officials for inspection

There is no approval process, no fee, and once the required fields have been completed, the form is available as a downloadable link or by email. All non-residents who travel to Bermuda as of November 14 must complete the Bermuda Arrival Card even if they have previously completed a travel authorization form. Hard copy 'Pink Forms' will be available for non-resident travelers who have not completed the digital Bermuda Arrival Card. There is no need to accept a 'Pink Form' if you have completed the digital form.



Experience Europe's most famous sites by train with the Eurail Global Pass



Experience Europe's most famous sites by train with the [Eurail Global Pass](#). Breathe in the romance of Paris from the top of the Eiffel Tower and be amazed by Gaudí's masterpiece the Sagrada Familia church in Barcelona. Discover Venice by gondola and stand within the walls of Rome's ancient Colosseum.

Visit all of Europe's top highlights with the flexible Eurail Pass. Get around on Europe's comfortable trains, arrive in the heart of each city and have the freedom to choose where and when you go.

Some of the trains that are mentioned in this itinerary require reservations. These are not included in your Eurail Pass but we can help you book your seats for 95% of the trains in Europe. It's also possible to avoid reservations by traveling with regional trains instead of high-speed trains.

New Royal Caribbean Terminal Opens in Galveston, Texas



Royal Caribbean International's new \$125 million cruise terminal in Galveston, Texas, recently opened its doors and welcomed the state's largest cruise ship, *Allure of the Seas*. The cruise line held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the **Port of Galveston** to mark the facility's opening and the Texas debut of its revolutionary Oasis Class.

Allure set sail from the new homeport on its first cruise on Sunday, November 13. The Oasis Class ship has in store a lineup of thrills, restaurants, nightlife, entertainment and more across seven signature neighborhoods, including the open-air **Central Park** with thousands of real plants and the **Boardwalk** neighborhood filled with ways to play and the one-of-a-kind **AquaTheater** entertainment venue that comes alive with high divers, acrobats, aerialists and more. From a nine-story-high zip line and two **FlowRider** surf simulators to rock climbing, ice skating, and original productions that span four stages—air, ice, water and theater—there's adventure from end to end.

When it comes to refueling in between the action, the 30-plus restaurants, bars and lounges on board serve up a range of flavors like family-style Italian classics at **Giovanni's Table**, American steakhouse favorites at **Chops Grille** and fresh sushi and sizzling hibachi at **Izumi**. New concepts and dishes are coming to *Allure* as well, including **Wipeout Cafe** featuring **El Loco Fresh**. Fitting for the ship's new home in Texas, the venue will serve up El Loco Fresh's popular, grab-and-go Mexican delights like made-to-order quesadillas, tacos, nachos and more. Plus, joining the staples guests know and love at Giovanni's Table will be menu items such as crispy calamari, eggplant parmigiana and caprese salad.

MY VACATION STARTED ABOARD

UNITED AIRLINE'S FLIGHT 40 FROM NEWARK TO ROME



HALLOWEEN FUN

SPECTACULAR DECORATIONS



Perfect Potato Soup

Ingredients:

6 slices thin bacon, cut into 1-inch pieces
3 carrots, scrubbed clean and diced
3 stalks celery, diced
1 medium onion, diced
6 small russet potatoes, peeled and diced
1/2 teaspoon Cajun spice mix, plus more if needed
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
8 cups low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
1 cup milk
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1/2 cup heavy cream
1 teaspoon minced fresh parsley
1 cup grated Cheddar

Directions:

1 Add the bacon pieces to a soup pot over medium heat and cook until crisp and the fat is rendered. Remove the bacon from the pot and set it aside. Pour off most of the grease, but do not clean the pot.

2 Return the pot to medium-high heat and add the carrots, celery and onions. Stir and cook for 2 minutes or so, then add the diced potatoes. Cook for 5 minutes, seasoning with the Cajun spice, 1/2 teaspoon salt and some pepper. Pour in the broth and bring it to a gentle boil. Cook until the potatoes are starting to get tender, about 10 minutes. Whisk together the milk and flour, then pour the mixture into the soup and allow the soup to cook for another 5 minutes.



3 Remove about half of the soup and blend in a blender or food processor until completely smooth. Pour it back into the soup pot and stir to combine. Let it heat back up as you taste for seasoning, adding more of what it needs. Stir in the cream, then the parsley.

4 Serve in bowls garnished with the grated cheese and crisp bacon pieces. The soup can also be frozen.

Ciabatta Stuffing with Chestnuts and Pancetta

Ingredients:

6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) butter
8 ounces pancetta, cut into 1/4-inch dice
2 large onions, finely chopped
2 carrots, peeled and finely chopped
3 celery stalks, finely chopped
2 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary leaves
3 garlic cloves, chopped
2 (7.4-ounce) jars roasted peeled whole chestnuts, coarsely broken
1/4 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley leaves
1 pound day-old ciabatta bread, cut into 3/4-inch cubes
2/3 cup freshly grated Parmesan
1 cup (or more) canned low-salt chicken broth
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 large eggs, beaten to blend

Directions:

1 Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

2 Butter a 15 by 10 by 2-inch glass baking dish. Melt 2 tablespoons of butter in a heavy large skillet over medium heat. Add the pancetta and saute until crisp and golden, about 10 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the pancetta to a large bowl. Melt the remaining butter in the same skillet over medium-high heat. Add the onions, carrots, celery, rosemary, and garlic. Saute until the onions are very tender, about 12 minutes. Gently stir in the chestnuts and parsley. Transfer the onion mixture to the large bowl with the pancetta. Add the bread and Parmesan and toss to coat. Add enough broth to the stuffing mixture to moisten. Season the stuffing, to taste, with salt and pepper. Mix in the eggs.



3 Transfer the stuffing to the prepared dish. Cover with buttered foil, buttered side down, and bake until the stuffing is heated through, about 30 minutes. Uncover and continue baking until the top is crisp and golden, about 15 minutes longer.



MSC Expanding in U.S. With Five Ships For Winter 2023-24



As part of its **U.S.** expansion plans **MSC Cruises** has announced that five ships will sail from American homeports in the region by the end of 2023. The brand will offer a range of itineraries in the **Caribbean**, the **Bahamas**, **Bermuda**, the **Northeast** and **Canada** starting winter 2023-2024.

The new **MSC Seascape** will lead the way with **Eastern** and **Western Caribbean** seven-night cruises following its inaugural voyage from **PortMiami** later this year. The ship will be joined in **Miami** by **MSC Divina**, which will offer everything from three-night cruises to the Bahamas, to 11-night journeys through **Central** and **South America**. **MSC Magnifica** will join the U.S. fleet and sail short cruises to the Bahamas and **Key West**.

MSC Seashore will sail from **Port Canaveral** with a mix of short cruises to the Bahamas and seven-night Western Caribbean sailings. This will be the first time one of MSC Cruises' **Seaside EVO** ships sails from Port Canaveral.

From **New York**, **MSC Meraviglia** will sail to Bermuda, **Florida** and the Bahamas after completing its inaugural summer season in the Northeast with a series of voyages to both Florida and the Bahamas, and to Canada and **New England**. Like every ship in the cruise line's U.S. fleet, its trips to the Bahamas will include stops at **Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve**—the company's island destination focused on sustainability.

Rubén A. Rodríguez, president, MSC Cruises USA, said: "Bringing more ships to the U.S. allows us to offer a wide variety of itineraries, adding new destinations and providing more opportunities for travelers to discover our unique international flavor. It's especially exciting to know how many of those guests will experience Ocean Cay MSC Marine Reserve and see firsthand how we've embraced the island's natural beauty, and how committed we are to sustainability."

Father Steve with the St. Francis group at St. Damiano, Italy



A group photo of all the Saints of God at San Damiano Church in Assisi, Italy. This is the church in which St. Francis heard the voice of Christ speak to him from the crucifix, "Francis, rebuild my church which is falling into ruins." He took those words literally, but gradually understood the words to mean the relationship between all people and creation. This is also where St. Clare began her life of following St. Francis. Today it is houses some local friars. As you can tell by the smiles, it was a moving experience for all. As always, Home Town did a wonderful job and our guide Michele made our pilgrimage unforgettable.