# GROUP DEPARTURES 2024, 2025 AND 2026

## **DECEMBER 7, 2024-ROYAL CLIPPER (round trip Barbados)**

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, this tall ship adventure is your ticket. Casual and relaxes with top notch dining and less than 250 passengers. Have a tropical drink while you relax in the bowsprit netting while listening to a steel drum band on deck. Visit Grenada, St. Vincent, Bequia, Martinique and St. Lucia. Rate per person for an outside cabin, including current taxes, is \$2,475.00. Our special pricing also includes pre-paid gratuities and an on-board credit of \$200.00 per person.

### FEBRUARY 26 to MARCH 4, 2025-ICELAND

Our annual Iceland adventure begins with flights on Icelandair round trip from Newark Liberty Airport to Keflavik. We will begin with a stop at the Viking World Museum for a heavy continental breakfast before heading to the Blue Lagoon for a sunrise cocktail. Our package includes four nights at Midgardur Center Hotel with a buffet breakfast daily, full day Golden Circle tour with a tomato soup lunch at Fridheimar Greenhouse, shared Northern Lights tour, optional tours will be available to the glacier and South shore black sand beaches and Sky Lagoon. Price per person double \$1,998.00 included all current air and government taxes. A few singles are available at a surcharge of \$650.00. Insurance is recommended and a valid passport is required.

## MARCH 24-30, 2025, SOUTHERN CHARM (with Collette Vacations)

Explore warm southern hospitality in America's southeast. Come to know its rich history and deep traditions on this tour highlighted by stays in Charleston, Savannah and Jekyll Island. Included are round trip transfers from Home Town Travel to Newark airport, six breakfasts and three dinners, professional escort for the duration of the trip, all accommodations and entrance fees. The rate per person, based on double occupancy is \$3,799.00. Cancel for any reason insurance is optional at the rate of \$429.00

#### MAY 18 to 25, 2025, BERMUDA CRUISE ABOARD THE CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE

Start next summer off right; especially if you missed this year's Bermuda group. Enjoy all that Bermuda has to offer while enjoying your beverage package and wi-fi relaxing on your balcony as you sail from Cape Liberty (Bayonne, NJ) passing the Statue of Liberty enroute to the beautiful pink sand beaches this beautiful island has to offer. Your special group rate includes your balcony accommodation, all current port and government taxes, beverage package and wi-fi for \$1,859.00 per person double. BOOK BY JULY 15th and RECEIVE A \$100. PER PERSON ON BOARD CREDIT.

NOVEMBER 5-16, 2025, OLD WORLD SICILY AND MALTA (with Collette Vacations). This is a small group departure for Home Town Travel with a maximum of 24 passengers on this adventure. These legendary isles are nestled amongst the deep blue water of the Mediterranean. Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society as you travel along timeless Italian Maltese and Sicilian towns. This eleven-night tour begins with a four-night stay in Malta with a ferry to Sicily where you will stay three nights in Ragusa and three nights in Taormina. This package includes round trip transportation to Newark airport from our office, round trip air from Newark airport with an overnight flight to Malta, 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 4 dinners, professional escort throughout the trip and all accommodations and entrance fees. The rate per person based on double occupancy is \$5,399.00. Cancel for any reason insurance is optional and at a rate of \$549.00. Please call for more information.

### NOVEMBER 25, 2025-ICONIC CHRISTMAS MARKETS ABOARD AMA REINA (Nuremburg to Budapest)

Travel back through centuries as you walk along cobblestone streets through grand cities and historic towns bedecked with twinkling Christmas trees and lined with wooden huts gleaming with handcrafted treasures. Nuremberg's festive Christkindlemarkt, the largest and oldest Christmas market in Germany, Regensburg's Artisan Christmas Market, one of Bavaria's most beautiful and romantic, Vienna with its impressive Christmas Market and Budapest where most products are handmade. Revel in a feast for the senses: sparkling lights, festive sounds of children dressed as angels singing carols and the enticing smells of hot-mulled wine, roasted chestnuts, sausages, and sweet treats of every kind. Rates start at \$3,699.00 per person double occupancy. Air fare and pre and post stays are optional and will be available in January 2025.

#### MARCH 13-26,2026—TWELVE NIGHT VIETNAM & THAILAND CRUISE ABOARD THE CELEBRITY SOLSTICE

This bucket list trip starts in Hong Kong and visits Hanoi (Halong Bay), Hue/Danang, Ho Chi Minh (Phu My), Bangkok/Laemchabang and Ko Samui Thailand, and disembarking in Singapore. Pre and post land packages will be available. Cruise includes balcony accommodations (V1), all current port and government taxes, beverage package, gratuities, and Wi-Fi. SAVE OVER \$1,500 PER CABIN. Rate per person based on double \$3,350.00. A deposit of \$900/cabin is required to reserve your cabin. Final payment is not due until December 1, 2025.

REMEMBER-IF YOU FIND SOMETHING THAT INTERESTS YOU, BOOK EARLY SO YOU WILL NOT TO BE DISAPPOINTED.

OUR SPECIAL RATES TEND TO SELL OUT.

# Some of the best thing to do in Milan

Magnificent, marvelous Milan. Milano has an intangible quality that cannot be faked, an undeniable sense of style that permeates almost every neighborhood and flows through the veins of those from here. Beautiful buildings and hotels are everywhere, the food is a triumph. Shopping? Oh, baby, get ready to splash the cash and flash the plastic because Milan is where people go to be seen. The best thing to do in Milan is to look your best and feel more stylish than ever before, but the city also packs in a fabulous number of more traditional tourist activities to sink your teeth into.

<u>VISIT THE DUOMO</u>—Milan's Duomo is not just another church. It is the city's most important landmark located smack-dab in the centre of it all. Building on this magnificent Gothic cathedral began in the late 14th century and lasted hundreds of years (even today, it isn't unusual to see scaffolding on the façade

or the back of the church as restoration is often underway). While there is plenty to see inside the cathedral, visiting the top - via stairs or an elevator - is an absolute must to see Milan's ever-changing skyline.

ENJOY SOME CANALSIDE DRINKS IN THE NAVIGLI DISTRICT—Constructed over

hundreds of years with input from da Vinci himself, Milan's system of navigable and interconnected canals granted the landlocked city more access to the outside world. Today, the Naviglio Grande and Naviglio Pavese are some of the only canals still visible, and around them have sprung up a

only canals still visible, and around them have sprung up a torrent of bars, restaurants and cafés that thrum with activity on weekend nights.

MARVEL AT 'THE LAST SUPPER—Perhaps one of the most famous paintings in the world, da Vinci's 'The Last Supper' has been reproduced to death, but no tote bag or mouse pad or even large-scale reproduction can adequately capture the artist's emotionally charged mural. Visit this incredible piece of history – even though Jesus's feet were lost in 1652 given some ill-thought-out renovations.

WATCH A PERFORMANCE AT THE TEATRO DELLA SCALA—Since its founding by Archduchess Maria Theresa in the late 18th century, the Teatro alla Scala has remained one of the finest opera theatres in Europe. We'd highly recommend a night out at this grand auditorium, it's truly an experience like no other. But if you're not feeling like sitting through an entire night of opera, you can visit the museum instead. You'll at least lay eyes on the glorious red and gold interior.

CHECK OUT THE SPOOKY TREASURES AT THE AMBROSIAN LIBRARY—Stacked with masterpieces of Renaissance artists, including the most extraordinary collection of Leonardo da Vinci's folios, Milan's

Biblioteca Ambrosiana is well worth a visit. And while Da Vinci is great and all, there's one strange treasure here that outshines them all: a glass-cased reliquary containing a red-golden hair lock and two pendants. Both belonged to Lucrezia Borgia, the illegitimate daughter of the lascivious Pope Alexander VI. She was infamous for supposedly poisoning her lovers and for committing incest with both her brother and father. The lock bewitched men for centuries – the Romantic poets were known to pilgrim to Milan to worship the relic – and the fascination remains today. It's said the library is haunted by Lucrezia's crying ghost, who at night returns to brush her lost lock of hair.



# Garlic Butter Shrimp and Corn Sheet Pan Dinner

This sheet pan dinner is loaded with summer corn, tomatoes, fennel and shrimp. The whole thing is broiled together, so you can have it on the table in a flash. Top with feta, fresh basil and a squeeze of lemon juice for the perfect summer weeknight meal.

# Ingredients:

4 ears of corn, shucked and kemels removed

1 bulb fennel, cored and thinly sliced, plus 1/4 cup fennel frends

1 tablespoon ofive oil

Koshov salt

1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

5 tablespoors unsalted butter melted

4 cloves gartie, minoed

Zest of 1 lemon, plus wedges for serving 1.1/4 pounds large peeled and develoed shrimp.

tails removed

1 pint cherry terratees (about 10 ounces)

1/2 cup crumbled feta

1/2 cup lightly packed fresh basil leaves, torn



Preheat the oven to broil and line a rimmed baking sheet with aluminum foil. Toss the corn, fennel, olive oil, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon of the red pepper flakes on the prepared baking sheet until evenly coated and combined. Spread into an even layer. Broil until crisp-tender and starting to brown in spots, tossing halfway through, about 8 minutes. Remove from the oven. Meanwhile, stir the melted butter, garlic, lemon zest, 1/4 teaspoon salt and remaining 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes together in a medium bowl until combined. Add the shrimp and tomatoes and toss to combine. Spread the shrimp mixture on top of the corn and fennel, then broil until the shrimp are opaque throughout and the tomatoes start to burst, about 6 minutes. Top with the reserved fennel fronds, feta and basil. Serve with lemon wedges for squeezing.



# ITINERARY SPOTLIGHT PARIS TO THE SWISS ALPS

SAIL THROUGH PICTURESQUE FRANCE, GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND ON THIS UNFORGETTABLE 12-DAY RIVER VOYAGE FROM PARIS TO ZÜRICH. WITH THE EIFFEL TOWER ONLY A SHORT WALK FROM OUR EXCLUSIVE PARISIAN DOCKING LOCATION, YOU CAN EASILY EXPLORE THE "CITY OF LIGHT." IN THE HEART OF FRANCE'S RENOWNED CHAMPAGNE REGION, MARVEL AT STUNNING MEDIEVAL LANDMARKS, INCLUDING REIMS CATHEDRAL, WHERE 25 FRENCH KINGS WERE CORONATED. AND DISCOVER STRASBOURG, THE CULTURAL CENTER OF FRANCE'S ALSACE REGION, KNOWN FOR ITS PICTURESQUE CANALS AND COBBLESTONE STREETS LINED WITH CHARMING WOODEN HOUSES.



# BEST PLACES TO EAT POKE IN HAWAII

It's not unreasonable to describe the current state of poke in the US as a "craze." Poke places are popping up every day all sashimi rice bowl." Lots of colors and flavors can get creatively mixed in to excite your palate and often be remarkably nutritious for something so delicious. Pineapple or mango, fresh ahi, and savory sauce all in the same bite? You won't believe how fantastic it is; seriously. There's a reason this stuff is so explosively popular. Hawaii is the homeland of poke and the best place on Earth to get it.

"For those unfamiliar, the crudest description of this dish would be a "sashimi salad," but it could also be a "sashimi rice bowl." Lots of colors and flavors can get creatively mixed in to excite your palate and often be remarkably nutritious for something so delicious. Pineapple or mango, fresh ahi, and savory sauce all in the same bite? You won't believe how fantastic it is; seriously. There's a reason this stuff is so explosively popular. Hawaii is the homeland of poke and the best place on Earth to get it.

## Oahu

If you're visiting the most popular island, you've got plenty of great options.

One very special spot is Maguro Brothers. If you're a poke fan, their Instagram will make you drool - and as you'll see, they also do regular sushi. The original location in Chinatown was started by two brothers and has since expanded to a second location in Waikiki.

Hawaii Magazine readers voted this the best poke in the state. The Chinatown location, located inside the market at 1039 Kekaulike Street, is open Monday through Saturday 9 am to 2:30 pm. Current temporary hours at the Pearl Waikiki Hotel on 415 Nahua Street are 5 pm to 8 pm, Monday through Saturday.

# The Big Island

Most in the loop seem to agree that the freshest seafood on The Island Of Hawaii can be found at Suisan Fish Market at 93 Lihiwai Street in Hilo. In addition to being a source for your own cuts of fresh fish, the market also sells takeout poke meals. Not only are they delicious, you will also have an easy time finding a great spot to chow down, since the market is right by the water in Hilo Bay.

The history of Suisan goes way, way back. It was originally founded by two Japanese fisherman and business partners on September 7th, 1907, making this one of the rare local food stops you can visit on the islands that is over a century old.

Suisan has seen and survived much of modern Hawaiian history, including WWII, tsunamis, and fire. This fish market is a testament to the human spirit as much as it is a place to get ridiculously tasty fresh fish. After all these years, they're still open today - from 9 am to 3 pm every day except Sundays and Wednesdays.

# Maui

Oftentimes, the best food on the islands is tucked away in an unexpected corner. Such is arguably the case on the island of Maui, since one of the most beloved and locally-recommended poke places is the elusive Takamiya Market.

Located in Happy Valley in Wailuku, this little market is open from 5 am to 6:30 pm every weekday, 5 am to 6 pm Saturdays, and closed Sundays. The catering, which of course includes shockingly delectable poke dishes, is only part of what is available here. It also serves as a charming grocery store and one that you may be surprised to learn has been there since 1946.

## Kauai

The most authentic local food often comes out of the side of a truck.

On the island of Kauai, in the small beach town of Lawai, you'll find the Kauai Poke Company Food Truck. Here is a source for super fresh and beautifully prepared poke bowls and dishes. Scroll around their Instagram if you want to see some examples for yourself!

The truck is open for business every weekday for lunch, from 11 am to 2 pm. You'll find it at 3540 Koloa Road.



# The Treasures of Latin America Await



Latin America is alive with vibrant cultures, wondrous wildlife, rich history, and diverse landscapes – from sunsoaked beaches to towering glaciers – waiting to be explored. On these journeys with Tauck, your clients dive deep into the spirit of Latin America, discovering its heart and soul through carefully crafted itineraries that transform every trip to this incredible region into an unforgettable adventure.





