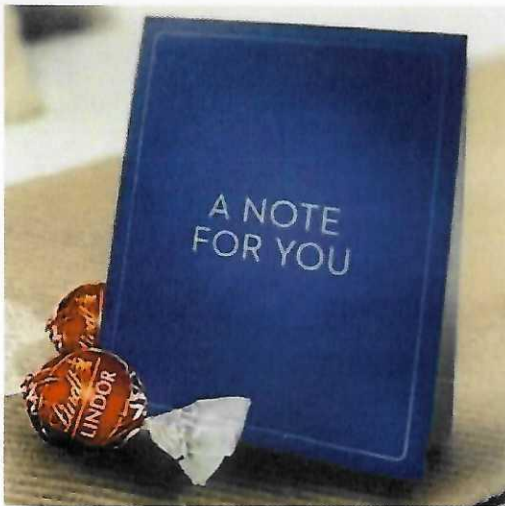




Americans are most likely to associate Spirit Airlines with naughty travel behaviors.

Holland America Line entices chocolate lovers with Lindt partnership



Holland America Line is partnering with Lindt to offer sweets to guests at various points during their cruise.

Under the partnership, guests will find Lindt Lindor milk chocolate truffles or sea salt milk chocolate truffles in their stateroom after returning from their once-a-cruise Gala Night activities.

Guests will also see Lindt chocolate desserts on their dinner menu, such as a tulip-shaped chocolate mousse cake in homage to the iconic Dutch flower, referring to Holland America Line's founding in the Netherlands. The tulip-shaped cake is currently served on the Rotterdam on its Dutch Day dinner menu in the dining room and will be available fleetwide beginning in August.

Other desserts are available earlier this summer. Beginning in July, guests can order a Lindt sundae -- vanilla ice cream served with a Lindt chocolate sauce. Another option is Lindt chocolate tulips. Both will be available one night per cruise in the dining room on the Dutch Day dinner menu.

Holland America will also serve a Lindt flourless chocolate cake made in partnership with Lindt's master chocolatier, Ann Czaja. The cake will be on the dining room menu for cruises longer than seven days. It will also be featured during the line's "Cake Me Away" program in the Lido market, a new onboard dessert program with more than 22 five-layer cakes in 16 flavors on display. The program occurs once on a seven-day cruise and may occur multiple times on longer sailings.

The partnership comes as HAL invests in its culinary offerings. The line launched a fresh-fish initiative last fall and in 2022 earned a certificate verifying it serves 100% of its fish on Alaska sailings from responsibly managed and sustainably-sourced Alaskan fisheries.



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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. Nuremburg'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.**

OMG, LOL: How Airports Get Their 3-Letter Codes

Even though some airport codes seem random, they're not. Here's the method to the madness of the International Air Transport Association's official three-letter system.

Amid the departure gates, terminals, Hudson News stores, and airline lounges at airports lies a hidden language, recognizable to frequent travelers and aviation enthusiasts alike: the three-letter airport code.

From the familiar JFK and DFW to the more obscure ORY and AKL, these codes are more than random letters—they hold the key to identifying airports worldwide. But what do they mean and how exactly do airports acquire these unique identifiers?



In the early days of aviation, pilots in the United States referred to airports using the same two-letter city identification system as the National Weather Service. However, as the number of airports grew, it was necessary to expand to a three-letter code system that would allow for more options. (The three-letter combination gives 17,576 possible codes, whereas two letters only allow for 676.) To make it easier, in some cases, an X was added to existing airports, which is why LA became LAX.

It wasn't until the 1960s that the Montreal-based International Air Transport Association (IATA), a trade association for the global airline industry, took on the task of assigning these codes, aiming to create a simple and uniform method for identifying airports across different countries and languages. When a new airport is planned or an existing one undergoes significant changes, the relevant authorities submit a request to IATA for an official three-letter code. This request typically includes details such as the airport's location, name, historical background on the area, and some suggestions of codes that officials at the airport would like to have considered.

The first choice of IATA is to create an airport code using the first three letters of the city's name, such as LAS for Las Vegas or BOS for Boston. Alternatively, especially if there is more than one airport in a city, it chooses an abbreviation for the airport, like JFK for John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York. The second choice is to use a combination of letters from the name, preferably starting with the same first letter as the city, such as AHN for the airport in Athens, Georgia.

Occasionally, this leads to some fairly humorous codes like LOL for Derby Field Airport near Lovelock, Nevada, and SUX for Sioux Gateway Airport in Sioux City, Iowa. (Another fun code is OMG for Namibia's Omega Airport.)

No two airports can share the same three-digit code. So if an identifier can't be created for a new airport using those methods, occasionally the code will be a nod to the history of the area. For example, present-day Orlando International sits on the land that was once McCoy Air Force Base, hence why its airport code is MCO. Similarly, Hawai'i's Kahului Airport in Maui has an airport code of OGG—it's a tribute to a former Hawaiian Airlines pilot, Captain Jimmy Hogg, who operated the company's first trans-Pacific flight.

IATA also gives codes to ferry, bus, train, and helicopter terminals that share ticketing and baggage transfers with airlines—it helps keep baggage handling and bookings running smoothly. Currently, about 11,300 codes are assigned; according to the IATA, roughly 40 to 50 new codes are doled out each year. Once a code is assigned, it is almost never changed. For example, even though the airport in Oakland, California, recently voted to rename itself San Francisco Bay Oakland International Airport, it will keep its OAK three-letter code. However, according to IATA, if there's a concern over air safety, they may choose something else. That's what happened when Washington Dulles International Airport was changed from DIA to IAD to avoid confusion with the nearby Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA).

To make matters slightly confusing, there's also a competing four-letter code used internationally—but you might never come in contact with it. In addition to IATA, the International Civil Aviation Organization also issues airports a four-letter code. ICAO simplifies the code even more by making sure the first letter always corresponds to what region the airport is in, so all U.S. airports start with a K and all Chinese airports start with a Z. However, you're unlikely to come across these longer codes—they're primarily used by air traffic controllers and air navigation service providers, whereas the IATA code is for the general public's use.

Peanut Butter Broccolini

Ingredients:

2 bunches broccolini
2 tablespoons olive oil
3 tablespoons peanut butter
3 tablespoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons honey
1 tablespoon sesame oil
2 cloves garlic, minced
Pinch crushed red pepper
2 tablespoons crushed peanuts
Sriracha, for serving
1/4 cup fresh cilantro, roughly chopped
Lime wedges, for serving



Directions: Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

Lay out the broccolini on a baking sheet and drizzle with the olive oil. Roast until tender and beginning to brown, about 15 minutes.

Meanwhile, add the peanut butter, soy sauce, honey, sesame oil, garlic and crushed red pepper to a small bowl and whisk to combine.

Transfer the broccolini to a serving platter and drizzle with the sauce. Top with the crushed peanuts, sriracha and cilantro. Serve with lime wedges.



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Cruise Ships Set to Return to Baltimore

When Royal Caribbean's Vision of the Seas departs from the Port of Baltimore on May 25 it will become the first cruise ship to do so since the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge this past March. The next day, Carnival's first ship to use the port is expected to be the Carnival Pride, which departs Norfolk on May 19, but plans to return to the Port of Baltimore on May 26.

Both cruise lines had moved their Baltimore operations to Norfolk in the aftermath of the bridge collapse.

Vision of the Seas will set sail on a five-night itinerary as planned on Saturday, May 25 after completing its previously scheduled drydock in The Bahamas."

Carnival cruisers scheduled to sail on the May 19 sailing can take advantage of the line's complimentary bus service that runs between Baltimore and Norfolk on embarkation day.

Princess Diana's Revenge Dress Lives in a Silverware Store in Ireland

Some of the world's most famous dresses can be found among a collection in unassuming Kildare.

Tucked right next to the year-round Christmas section of the Newbridge Silverware store, in Kildare, Ireland, sits a wide carpet-covered stairwell to the building's second floor. As you climb the burgundy steps, an elegant dress begins to come into view. It has a wide neckline in dandelion yellow, adorned with colorful poppies, and it is instantly recognizable to any film buff—it is, in fact, the Givenchy dress that was worn by Audrey Hepburn in the 1957 film *Funny Face*.



This is one of many historic dresses housed in the Museum of Style Icons, a slice of archive history that's free to enter to anyone who stops by the silverware store—which has been in business for 90 years—downstairs. Walking around the museum, you'll see Princess Diana's infamous revenge dress—a sleek, form-fitting silk number designed by Christina Stambolian and worn in 1994 by the late princess.

Each dress is housed in a bubble shaped window—Tippi Hedren's iconic green dress from *The Birds*, Liza Minnelli's sequined outfit from *Cabaret*, one of Elizabeth Taylor's voluminous dresses from *Raintree County*, even one of the only complete collections of costumes worn by all four members of the Beatles live on the second floor of this warehouse-style building.

It's an entirely unexpected discovery. If you didn't know the museum was there, it would be easy to miss entirely. Kildare is a 40-minute drive outside of Dublin and it's a town perhaps most famous for its castle accommodations or being home to the Irish National Stud. But for anyone who is an enthusiast of archival fashion, royal history, or pop culture, this museum is worth the drive from Ireland's capital city.

Unlike the popular fashion exhibits on display at the Met Museum in New York, you won't have to wade through hundreds of people in order to admire the clothes here, either. While the Museum of Style Icons does average about 350,000 visitors per year, a visit on the average rainy afternoon might only host a few other people.

The museum was founded "almost by accident," O'Brien says. William Doyle, the silverware store's owner, and his wife Monica were on vacation in 2006, when Monica Doyle read a magazine article about Hepburn's black dress from *Breakfast at Tiffany's* going up for auction. Deciding it might be a good attraction for the showroom on suggestion from his wife, Mr. Doyle went to the Sotheby's auction to try and purchase it, only to end up in a bidding war with an anonymous buyer—when the price of the little number hit \$600,000, Doyle had to back out. He later learned that he was in a bidding war with Hubert de Givenchy himself. Instead, at the same auction, Doyle purchased another little black dress designed by Givenchy for Hepburn—the peplum beaded one Hepburn wore for 1963 film *Charade*, in which she starred across from Cary Grant.

The dress quickly became an attraction in and of itself—and Newbridge Silver, which had previously struggled to survive pivots from only producing silverware to also producing jewelry and other fine silver items, had finally found a way to bring more foot traffic into the store.

Over time, the relevancy of Newbridge in the fashion and archive world has only grown. Fashion icon Naomi Campbell became the face of the brand in 2015 and she was the subject of an exhibition showcasing her clothing and costumes through the years. Olivia Newton-John came to visit in 2019. At one point, the infamous dress worn by Marilyn Monroe for JFK's birthday, and then later by Kim Kardashian at the Met Gala in 2022, was housed at the museum.

