

ICELAND—THE LAND OF FIRE AND ICE

FEBRUARY 26 TO MARCH 3, 2025



OUR ANNUAL ICELAND ADVENTURE BEGINS WITH OUR FLIGHTS FROM NEWARK LIBERTY TO REYKJAVIK ON ICELANDAIR. ON ARRIVAL WE WILL START OUR HOLIDAY WITH A HEAVY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AT VIKING WORLD MUSEUM BEFORE HEADING OVER TO THE BLUE LAGOON FOR A SUNRISE COCKTAIL AND A MUD FACIAL BEFORE A SHORT CITY OVERVIEW TOUR ENROUTE TO OUR HOTEL, CENTERHOTEL MIDGARDUR WHERE WE WILL SPEND THE NEXT FOUR NIGHTS. OUR PACKAGE WILL INCLUDE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS INCLUDING ALL CURRENT GOVERNMENT TAXES, A BUFFET BREAKFAST DAILY, FULL DAY PRIVATE GOLDEN CIRCLE TOUR INCLUDING A STOP AT THE KERID CRATER AND ADMISSION TO SKALHOLT ALONG WITH A TOMATO SOUP LUNCH AT THE FRIDHEIMAR GREENHOUSE WITH A VISIT TO THE STABLES TO MARVEL AT THE ICELANDIC HORSES AND THEIR ABILITIES. WE WILL VENTURE OUT IN A SHARED NORTHERN LIGHTS TOUR HUNTING FOR THE ELUSIVE NORTHERN LIGHTS. ALTHOUGH NEVER GUARANTEED, WE WILL TRY TWO EVENINGS. THERE WILL BE OPTIONAL TOURS TO THE SKY LAGOON, INTO THE GLACIER AND SOUTH SHORE (WITH BLACK SAND BEACHES AND A STOP AT VIK).

MIDGARÐUR BY CENTER HOTELS IS POSITIONED AT ONE END OF THE CITY'S MAIN SHOPPING STREET AND IDEALLY LOCATED IN SHORT WALKING DISTANCE FROM ALL THE MAIN ATTRACTIONS IN THE CITY CENTER. THE HOTEL OFFERS 170 COMFORTABLE AND MODERN ROOMS, A LIVELY RESTAURANT, BAR, MEETING ROOMS AND A SPA. THE LOBBY LOUNGE IS YOUR CASUAL PLACE TO HANG OUT AND OFFERS MINIMALIST LIGHTING AND PLANTS THAT CREATES A SOFT AND COZY AMBIANCE. THE MODERN U-SHAPED DESIGN OF THE HOTEL FEATURES A TASTEFULLY DECORATED SECLUDED GARDEN, ACCESSIBLE FOR GUESTS BOTH FROM THE LOBBY AS WELL AS FROM THE RESTAURANT. THE GARDEN INCLUDES AN OUTDOOR HOT TUB WHICH IS A PART OF THE EXQUISITE SPA LOCATED ON THE BOTTOM LEVEL OF THE HOTEL. GET A TASTE OF TRADITIONAL ICELANDIC COOKING MIXED WITH INTERNATIONAL FLAIR AT THE RESTAURANT; JÖRGENSEN KITCHEN & BAR, LOCATED AT THE HOTEL. GUESTS AND LOCALS ARE OFFERED A VARIETY OF DISHES PREPARED WITH FRESH, LOCAL, AND ORGANIC INGREDIENTS THROUGHOUT BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND DINNER. THE RESTAURANT HAS A COOL AND MODERN VIBE BUT AT THE SAME TIME IS COZY AND COMFORTABLE.

PRICE: \$2,100.00 PER PERSON DOUBLE (SINGLES +\$650.00 ADDITIONAL)*

A PASSPORT WITH SIX MONTHS VALIDITY IS REQUIRED AND INSURANCE (\$157.00-191.00) IS SUGGESTED AND MUST BE TAKEN OUT WITH DEPOSIT. OUR PACKAGE INCLUDES ROUND TRIP AIRFARE FROM NEWARK LIBERTY (INC. ALL CURRENT TAXES AND FEES), FOUR NIGHT HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS, FOUR FULL BREAKFASTS AND ONE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST ON ARRIVAL, ADMISSION TO THE BLUE LAGOON WITH COCKTAIL, GOLDEN CIRCLE TOUR, NORTHERN LIGHTS EXCURSION, TRANSFERS ON ALL INCLUDED FEATURES, ONE LUNCH,

*PRICE IS BASED ON MINIMUM PARTICIPATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS CALL NANCY AT HOME TOWN TRAVEL

128 BARTLETT AVENUE, WEST CREEK, NJ 08092

EMAIL ME AT WWW.HOMETOWNTRAVEL@COMCAST.NET OR CALL 609-597-51090

"UPDATED"

GROUP DEPARTURES 2024, 2025 AND 2026

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

SOLD OUT

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 relaxed 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

FOUR SEATS LEFT

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 \$2,100.00 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

TWO CABINS LEFT

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.

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.

ONE CABIN LEFT

NOVEMBER 25, 2025-ICONIC CHRISTMAS MARKETS ABOARD AMA REINA (Nuremberg 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 AND PRICES ARE NOT GUARANTEED UNTIL DEPOSITED.**

DISCOVER THE NATIONAL PARKS BY RAIL

AMTRAK
Vacations

Rails to the Grand Canyon



5 DAYS FROM
\$899*

Los Angeles > Williams
Grand Canyon National Park > Los Angeles

HIGHLIGHTS

- Roundtrip in Coach accommodations on the Grand Canyon Railway
- Grand Canyon Freedom Tour
- Roundtrip Amtrak® in Coach accommodations from Los Angeles to Williams on the Southwest Chief®
- 2 nights' hotel accommodations; 2 nights' onboard Amtrak
- 2 meals (1 breakfast, 1 dinner)

San Francisco and Yosemite Getaway



4 DAYS FROM
\$779*

San Francisco > Yosemite National Park
San Francisco

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sightseeing tour of Yosemite National Park
- Hop-on, hop-off sightseeing tour of San Francisco
- Bay Cruise in San Francisco
- 3 nights' hotel accommodations

Glacier National Park and Seattle



6 DAYS FROM
\$1599*

Glacier National Park > Seattle

HIGHLIGHTS

- Two Medicine Valley Boat Cruise of Glacier National Park
- Big Sky Circle Tour of Glacier National Park
- Overnight journey on Amtrak's Empire Builder train
- Seattle CityPASS® including: Space Needle, Seattle Aquarium, Argosy Harbor Cruise, Museum of Pop Culture OR Woodland Park Zoo, Pacific Science Center OR Chihuly Garden and Glass Exhibit

Grand National Parks

With Yellowstone, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon



13 DAYS FROM
\$3,049*

Chicago > Salt Lake City > Yellowstone National Park
San Francisco > Yosemite National Park > Los Angeles
Williams > Grand Canyon National Park > Chicago

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sightseeing tour of Yellowstone's Lower Loop
- Dinner at The Roof Restaurant in Salt Lake City
- Sightseeing tour of Yosemite National Park
- Sightseeing city tour of Los Angeles
- Roundtrip service in Coach accommodations on the Grand Canyon Railway
- Motorcoach Freedom Tour of the Grand Canyon's South Rim

COME SEEK

THE ROYAL CARIBBEAN

Your next-level Caribbean getaway awaits, promising unforgettable moments with unbeatable offers. Discover the secluded beaches and hidden waterfalls of Tortola. Feel the rhythm of the island come alive as you explore the jungles of Jamaica.

Or find endless ways to thrill and chill on private island Perfect Day at CocoCay. Book right now for big savings — like up to \$450 off instantly and 60% off your second guest. Bring the whole family too — because kids sail free!*

Princess Ships Will Now Feature Drinks by Blake Lively



“Love Line Premium Liquors,” the exclusive collection of wine and spirits from Princess Cruises, created and curated by creative celebrity partners, is adding a little more sparkle to the line-up with drinks from Betty Booze and Betty Buzz, founded by actor and entrepreneur Blake Lively.

Paired with the freshest fruits, spices, herbs and more, with just the right number of bubbles to create unmatched, unmistakably delicious drinks, Lively created Betty Buzz (non-alcoholic) and Betty Booze with the simple idea that drinks should be held to the same standard as the food we eat. The brand is committed to making beverages that are real, uncomplicated and delicious, taking the time to create homemade recipes from only the highest quality ingredients. Betty Buzz is an assortment of premium gluten-free, non-alcoholic sparkling sodas and mixers made from clean ingredients. Betty Booze is a line of premium low ABV ready to drink canned cocktails.

Rolling out on all 16 ships in the Princess fleet over the next several months and included in Princess Plus and Princess Premier packages, guests can sip on a wide variety of great tasting, lower calorie Betty Booze and Betty Buzz beverages, including: Betty Booze Sparkling Bourbon with Peach Honey Mint, Betty Booze Sparkling Tequila with Lime Shiso, Betty Booze Sparkling Tequila with Smoky Pineapple, Betty Buzz Sparkling Lemon Lime, Betty Buzz Meyer Lemon, Betty Buzz Sparkling Grapefruit, Betty Buzz Ginger Beer

“Blake’s commitment to delivering high quality drinks with the cleanest ingredients matches our passion to delivering our guests the highest quality experiences grounded in passion, creativity and authenticity,” said John Padgett, president of Princess. “With the addition of Betty Booze and Betty Buzz to our exclusive ‘Love Line Liquors Collection,’ we are giving our guests something exciting and new while also expanding drink options to better serve modern, healthy and active lifestyle preferences.”

Lively’s Betty Booze and Betty Buzz join the impressive collection of renowned celebrities in the “Love Line Premium Liquors” collection including Pantalones Organic Tequila by Camila and Matthew McConaughey; Sláinte Irish Whiskey by Liev Schreiber; Voli 305 Vodka by Pitbull; Melarosa Sauvignon Blanc, Red Blend and Cabernet Sauvignon by Jason Aldean; and Love Prosecco by Artist Romero Britto.

Pork Chops Pizzaiola

Level: Easy
Total: 1 hr 35 min
Active: 45 min
Yield: 6 to 8 servings

Ingredients:

- 4 to 5 spicy Italian pork sausages (about 1 pound total)
- 1 cup dry white wine
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 4 bone-in pork chops (about 2 1/2 pounds total)
- Kosher salt
- 2 medium yellow onions, halved and thinly sliced
- 4 large cloves garlic, thinly sliced
- One 28-ounce can plus one 15-ounce can whole, peeled tomatoes
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, stemmed
- 1/2 cup finely grated Parmesan
- 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup fresh basil leaves
- 1 pound bucatini pasta

Directions:

- 1 Cook the sausages:** Heat a large cast-iron or stainless steel skillet over high heat. When the skillet is hot, use a pair of metal tongs to arrange the sausages in a single layer. (There is no need for oil as the sausages will soon start to render their grease.) Turn the heat to medium and brown the sausages on all sides, taking care that they are cooked through, 8 to 10 minutes total. Remove the sausages to a medium bowl. Pour off the grease and add the wine, simmering over medium heat to reduce to about 1/4 cup liquid, 2 to 3 minutes. Pour the reduced wine over the sausages and wipe the skillet clean.
- 2 Cook the pork chops:** Add the canola oil to the same skillet. Sprinkle the pork chops on all sides with salt. When the oil begins to smoke lightly, add the pork chops in a single layer and brown on all sides over medium heat, 5 to 8 minutes total. Remove the pork chops to the bowl with the sausages. Leave the grease in the skillet.
- 3 Make the sauce:** Stir the onions and garlic into the same skillet and cook over medium-low heat until translucent, 8 to 10 minutes. Sprinkle with salt. Stir in the canned and cherry tomatoes with 1/2 cup water and simmer gently until the sauce is somewhat thick and tasty, 20 to 25 minutes. Stir the sausages and pork (and any meat juices) back into the sauce and bring to a simmer over medium heat. Simmer 2 to 3 minutes. Turn off the heat, then stir in the cheese, red wine vinegar and basil leaves. Taste for seasoning.
- 4 Cook the pasta:** Bring 6 quarts of water to a rolling boil in a large pot. Add a generous handful of salt and bring the water back to a boil. Taste the water. It should be salty like seawater. Add the pasta and stir with a large slotted spoon to ensure the pasta does not stick as it cooks. Cook until still quite firm, 8 to 10 minutes. Drain.
- 5 Finish the dish:** Spoon the meat over the pasta in individual bowls or serve in a large bowl, family style. You can also just leave the pot of meat and sauce and the pasta separate and let people serve themselves.



The Prettiest Place for Public Art? Your Local Amtrak Station

Waiting for your train just got a whole lot more artsy thanks to Amtrak's new program.

Waiting for the train in the endless din of loud conversations, footsteps running to catch a closing door, and perhaps a crying child or two isn't exactly pleasant. Amtrak, whose trains run all over the nation from San Francisco to Boston and back, is improving the overall quality of waiting experiences with art in their stations.

A rotating cast of artists have been participating in Art at Amtrak, a temporary public art program, since June 2022 when it launched at New York City's Penn Station. The newest edition to the bunch is artwork found at Chicago's Union Station. Three contemporary artists—Carolina Kent, Chad Kouri, and POSE (Jordan Nickel)—will be on display until mid-2025.

A mural by Kent, whose work specializes in areas such as language, translation, and abstraction, entitled *Daydreaming*, is now on 40 panels throughout the station. Layering blocks of color invite the viewer to interpret and spend time with what these abstracted shapes represent and communicate.



Kouri, who is known for his multidisciplinary practice playing with improvisation, color, and abstraction which mirrors his mixed-race identity, has his work across the vacant retail spaces inside the station. Metallic, mirrored orbs sit atop colored squares. His work is entitled *Reflection Pools Monument* and strikes a balance between a playful experience and sophisticated aesthetic.

POSE's mural, *Accord*, draws inspiration from a wedding photo shoot he saw during his first visit to the station. An oversized comic strip almost bursts forth from the walls of the station, with characters connecting to passengers as they each depart on their own journeys. POSE's work began as a graffiti practice and has since evolved into vibrant illustrations and lettering that can be seen on the station's walls.

The Fall 2024 season of these temporary art installations can be found in several places along a train journey. Another installation location includes the windows of the Cira Skybridge at William H Gray III 30th Street Station. Colorful shapes and lines bend along the windows, highlighting how plant life can thrive even in challenging circumstances, according to a statement.

Brooklyn-based artist Chitra Ganesh and Eirini Linardaki, who is tied to transit through her father's career as a bus driver in Greece, have their work featured in Penn Station this fall. Another Brooklyn-based artist named Chitra Ganesh also has her work splashed across Moynihan Train Hall.

