

Kate McCue will captain Four Seasons Yachts' first ship

Longtime Celebrity Cruises captain and social media star Kate McCue, the first American woman to command a major cruise ship, will captain Four Seasons Yachts' first ship.

McCue announced her departure from Celebrity Cruises in late February.

The 95-suite Four Seasons I is expected to begin sailing in January 2026. The ship will sail in the Caribbean and the Mediterranean.



McCue said it would be an honor to shape the Four Seasons Yachts experience, adding that she is looking forward to connecting with guests, leading the crew and engaging with local communities.

Four Seasons president of global hotel operations Rainer Stampfer called McCue "the ideal leader to helm Four Seasons I as we embark on this exciting new chapter in luxury yachting. Her passion for hospitality, commitment to excellence and trailblazing leadership align perfectly with our vision to reimagine the yachting experience."

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DEADLINE: MAY 7, 2025

What's New in New Orleans

SPECIAL EVENTS

Bocuse d'Or and Pastry World Cup to be held in the United States for the first time in 2024- New Orleans & Company will host the two continental selections, North and South Americas, of the most prestigious international culinary and pastry competitions June 11-13 2024, at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center showcasing the best pastry chefs and cooks from all over the American continent.

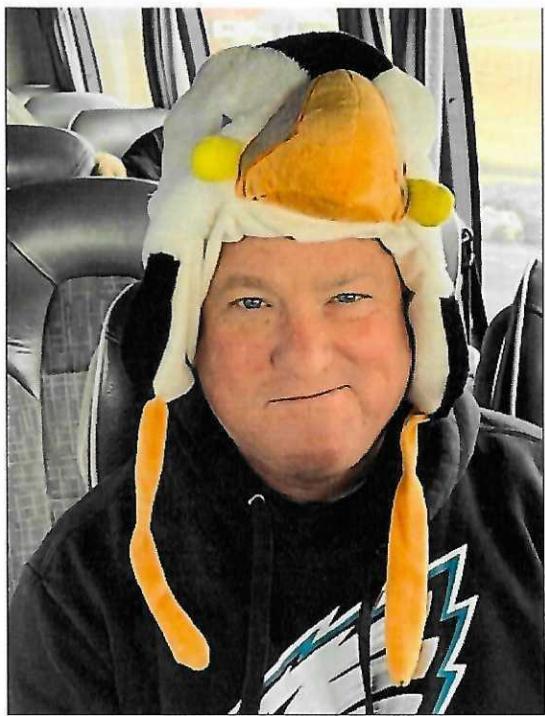
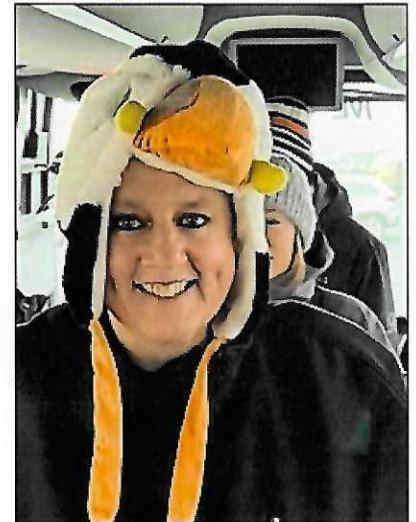
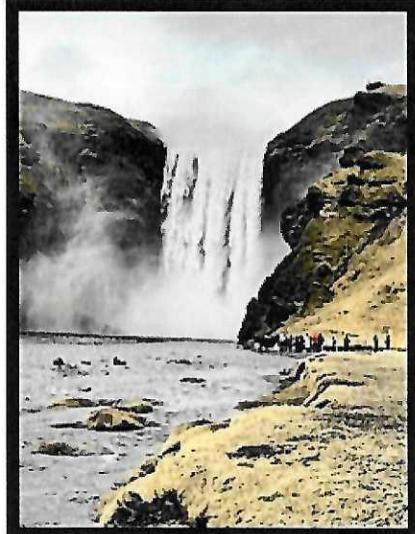
Jazz Fest Expands to Eight Days —The 2024 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, New Orleans' biggest annual music event, plans to expand to eight days and is now slated to open at the Fair Grounds on Thursday, April 25, instead of Friday, April 26. The 2024 fest will consist of two four-day, Thursday to Sunday weekends: April 25-28 and May 2-5.

The Rolling Stones are set to headline Jazz Fest on Thursday, May 2 – the band's only festival appearance on their 2024 tour.

Restaurant R'evolution at the Royal Sonesta Restaurant R'evolution is in a new season of vitality after 10 years. Sonesta International invested \$1.5 million to refresh Restaurant R'evolution, including final kitchen touches coming in 2024. With the refresh also came a return of many tenured team members as well as new talent in the restaurant brigade: chefs, waitstaff, sommeliers, bartenders, and management. The team brims with vitality, fresh ideas, and exceptional creativity.

ICELAND PHOTOS—WATERFALLS< BLUE LAGOON AND HIDING BEHIND THE OFFICIAL PUFFIN HAT!!

MORE PHOTOS TO FOLLOW.



Join the Manahawkin Elks Lodge

To San Juan and a seven-night all-inclusive cruise to the Southern Caribbean on the Grand Princess.

October 25th-November 2, 2025

Your vacation will start in San Juan where we will transfer as a group for a pre night at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Casino before the cruise. The Embassy Suites is located 2 miles from the airport in the beautiful area of Isla Verde and two blocks from the beach.

Included for your one-night stay is a complimentary cocktail reception from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, cooked to order breakfast buffet, portage service for one bag and use of beach chairs, umbrellas and towels. The next morning, we will transfer as a group to the cruise terminal to start your southern Caribbean adventure.

Visit the ports of call of: Tortola, BVI, St. Kitts, Dominica, Grenada, Barbados and one day at sea to experience cruise ship life. This eight night package includes: Round trip non stop air on American Airlines out of Philadelphia, transportation in San Juan to hotel, cruise ship and back to the airport, one night pre hotel at the Embassy Suites, cruise accommodations as selected, **Princess Plus** covers all drinks alcoholic and non-alcoholic, all meals except specialty dining (surcharge), pre-paid gratuities, two casual dining meals, two premium desserts, two fitness classes, room service, WI-FI, all government and port taxes plus some Home Town perks. Not included is optional travel insurance, which will be provided. Transportation locally will be provided for nominal fee to the airport.

You will need a valid US passport with a validity date of more than 6 months to the date of return. A deposit of \$250.00 per person would be required to book by **April 25th**. **You do not have to be a member of the ELKS to travel.**

Rates per person based on double occupancy start at **\$2239.00 for an Ocean View cabin** (partial obstructed) and **\$2639.00 for a balcony cabin**. Single rates available upon request.

Tara Bihlmier at Home Town Travel,

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One-Pot Homemade O's

Level: Easy
Total: 30 min
Active: 25 min
Yield: 4 to 6 servings

Ingredients:

3 tablespoons olive oil
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 large onion, diced small
1 tablespoon rosemary, minced
6 tablespoons tomato paste
3 cups chicken or vegetable stock
1/2 cup half-and-half
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
1 teaspoon paprika
1/2 teaspoon chili powder
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
12 ounces anelletti pasta
1/3 cup grated Parmesan, plus extra for garnish
1/4 cup chopped parsley, for garnish

Directions:

- 1 Heat the olive oil in a Dutch oven or high-sided skillet over medium-high heat. Add the garlic, onion and rosemary, then cook for 2 minutes to soften.
- 2 Add the tomato paste and stir until the paste has coated the vegetables. Continue stirring then add the chicken stock and half-and-half. Add a pinch of salt and a pinch of pepper, along with the paprika, chili powder and cayenne pepper. Bring to a boil before adding the pasta. Cook according to the package directions, stirring frequently so the pasta doesn't stick to the bottom of the pan, until the pasta is al dente.
- 3 Remove from the heat and stir the Parmesan. Serve immediately, topped with more Parmesan and the chopped parsley.



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STAR CLIPPERS
Unique Sailing Adventures

Immerse yourself in vibrant cultures, ancient history, and breathtaking landscapes in the Mediterranean, visiting both iconic destinations and lesser-known islands and villages. Or, island-hop through the Caribbean and discover hidden beaches, vibrant towns, and unspoiled nature at every stop.

Our tall ships
provide the best of both worlds:

a welcoming atmosphere to forge connections with fellow travelers, along with plenty of space for privacy. Choose from various onboard activities like climbing the ships rigging for stunning views, assisting the crew with hoisting sails, or unwinding with a cocktail at the Tropical Bar as live music fills the air. Whether you seek adventure, relaxation, or new connections, you have the freedom to travel your way with Star Clippers.

GROUPS FOR 2025-2026

UTAH'S MIGHTY FIVE AND THE ROCKIES, SEPTEMBER 9-17, 2025, with Collette Vacations, Highlights include Rocky Mountaineer, Glenwood Springs, Moab, Arches National Park, Canyonlands National Park, Dead Horse Point State Park, Capitol Reef National Park, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Bryce Canyon National Park, Zion National Park ending our tour at Paris Hotel Las Vegas. The tour includes round trip transfers to/from Newark, airfare, air taxes, fees and surcharges. Insurance is available at \$429.00. Book now and save \$200 per person. Rates \$6,549.00 (double), \$7,749.00 (single) and \$6,449.00 (triple) and must be booked by January 20, 2025.

OLD WORLD SICILY AND MALTA, NOVEMBER 5-16, 2025, 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 (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 Christkindlmarkt, 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 op 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. **ONE CABIN LEFT.**

MARCH 8, 2026 to APRIL 8, 2026—31 DAY PANAMA CANAL, INCA & SOUTH AMERICAN DISCOVERY ABOARD

HOLLAND AMERICA'S OOSTERDAM. Holland America's first Vista-class ship, the Oosterdam recently emerged from dry dock with exciting updates including completely refurbished suites and new lounge, dining and entertainment venues, such as Music Walk with Lincoln Center Stage, B.B. King's Blues Club and Billboard on board. Guests can choose from delectable specialty restaurants, hone culinary Skillswith America's Test Kitchen and thrill to BBC Earth experiences. Embark in cosmopolitan Buenos Aires where pre-cruise packages will be available soon. Visit the penguins in Patagonia as you get ready to sailpast Cape Horn and the Straits of Magellan. We then sail from Ushuaia and cruise the dramatic coast of Chilewith stops in Puerto Montt and Punta Arenas. Sail through Glacier Alley enroute to a full transit of the Panama Canal. Inside cabins start at \$4,999.00 per person double. Available additions include Holland America's "Have It All" package which includes beverage package, three specialty dining venues, \$300 per person shore excursion credit, wi-fi and \$250 per person on board credit. This package is available for \$55 per person/per day. Prepaid gratuities are available at \$17/day. Other categories are available. Call for other rates and more information.

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

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Cultural Treasures of Japan with Collette Vacations April 2026

Welcome to Japan, the “Land of the Rising Sun.” Explore ancient and modern Japanese culture firsthand. Discover peaceful temples and technological marvels set against unimaginable natural beauty. This amazing 14-day tour will include airfare from Newark, transfer to and from Newark airport from Home Town Travel, 18 meals, all accommodations, sightseeing with entrance fees, transportation within Japan and a professional tour escort thorough the trip. Some of the highlights of this tour will include: Tokyo, Asakusa, Sensoji Shrine, Tea Ceremony, Ginza, Lake Ashi Cruise, Matsumoto Castle, Takayama, Sake Tasting and Hida beef dinner, Kyoto, bullet train and Hiroshima. Exact dates and rates will be out shortly. For more information, please call the office.

Netherlands, Belgium & France with Collette Vacations September 2026

From iconic Dutch windmills and cozy Belgian streets to the world-renowned Champagne region and the “City of Light,” experience the essence of three European countries. This 12-day tour will include airfare from Newark, transfers to and from Newark airport from Home Town Travel, 16 meals, all accommodations, transportation through out your journey, sightseeing with entrance fees and a professional escort. Some of the highlights of this tour will include: Amsterdam, Canal Cruise, Kinderdijk, Bruges, Reims, Route du Champagne, Paris Parisian Bakery Workshop, Parfum Workshop, Le Marais, Ile de la Cite, Seine River Cruise and Eiffel Tower dinner. Exact dates and rates will be out shortly.

We will be having an informative Wine and Cheese with Collette tours in April with all the information on promoted tours. Please make sure to RSVP early, date will be confirmed and will be in our news blast.

Princess Cruises Goes Country with New Music Partnership

Princess Cruises, in partnership with the Academy of Country Music (ACM), is bringing country music to the high seas with the ACM Live from the Red Barrel Lounge concert series. On Caribbean voyages departing Galveston, Texas, between Feb. 9 and March 17, guests aboard Regal Princess will enjoy live performances from some of country music's most exciting emerging artists, including chart-topping singer and ACM Award nominee Kameron Marlowe, reigning ACM New Vocal Duo or Group of the Year Tigrilily Gold, and America's Got Talent breakout stars Chapel Hart, along with other rising acts across several cruises sailing out of Galveston in early 2025 voyages. (Pictured above: Maddie & Tae being interviewed live from the Princess Stage at the 59th ACM Awards Show.)

As part of the series, six ascending country music acts will perform two, 45-minute concerts in the Princess Theater and interact with guests during Meet & Greet sessions.