# INTOTHEBLUE

brought to you by Bolsover Cruise Club

Summer 2014 Edition 5



# SUMMER 2014 WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

Welcome to our 2014 Summer edition of 'Into the Blue'. The cruising calendar is now in full swing as we head into summer. Looking ahead, the 2014/15 season is set to be exciting and we are looking forward to the launch of some high profile ships. Royal Caribbean's Quantum of the Seas will soon commence her maiden season and will be joined in Southampton next year by her sister ship, Anthem of the Seas. Viking River Cruises have also captured the headlines by breaking their own record for the most ships christened in a single day. Plus we now know all the fantastic details for P&O Cruises' Britannia, set to sail from Southampton in Spring 2015.

Alongside the cruising industry as a whole, 2014 has also proved to be an exciting year for Bolsover Cruise Club. Not only did we enjoy a wonderfully successful 2015 launch period, but we have also expanded our facilities. On 8 May, we officially opened 'The Cruise Holiday Shop' located at Meadowhall Shopping Centre in Sheffield!

The Cruise Holiday Shop' is, in essence, an extension of our Cruise Bureau, found at our main office in Barlborough. It's a place where you can discover more about cruising, browse our library of brochures and leaflets, catch up with the latest cruise offers and of course, book your cruise face to face with one of our expert consultants. Our new premises will enable us to reach a wider audience, many of whom may be new to cruising and perhaps unaware of the service and expertise that Bolsover Cruise Club provide. It will also offer our existing customers another avenue for booking the perfect cruise holiday.

In this edition of the magazine you can learn more about 'The Cruise Holiday Shop', along with the benefits of booking in person. We also take a closer look at the world of Celebrity Cruises with President and CEO, Michael Bayley. We continue the popular series 'Under the Spotlight', this time focusing on our Administration Manager, Wayne Shutt. This edition also offers an insight into the latest cruise news, the top 6 kids clubs at sea, plus we take a look at P&O Cruises' Strictly Come Dancing sailings.

Each edition of 'Into the Blue' features a destination focus and in this Summer edition it's all about the Canary Islands. Read our detailed guide for exploring the islands with an overview of the most popular ports of call. We also showcase the incredible Galapagos Islands and you may notice the QR Codes in the corner of these pages. Simply download the QR Reader app to your smartphone and scan the code and you will be instantly directed to some great video footage of the islands and one of the ships that takes you there, Celebrity Xpedition®.

I hope you enjoy reading our magazine.

Yours sincerely

Michael Wilson
Managing Director























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# Win a Magnum of Champagne!

We're giving you the opportunity to win a magnum of Moet & Chandon champagne!! No quizzes or reviews required this time, all you have to do is find the 'bottle of bubbly' secretly hidden somewhere on our website. It could be anywhere but if you find it, the case of 'champers' could be yours!

When you find the hidden bottle, drop an email to comp@bolsovercruiseclub.co.uk telling us where it is. Remember to leave your name and contact details.



# BREAKING NEWS

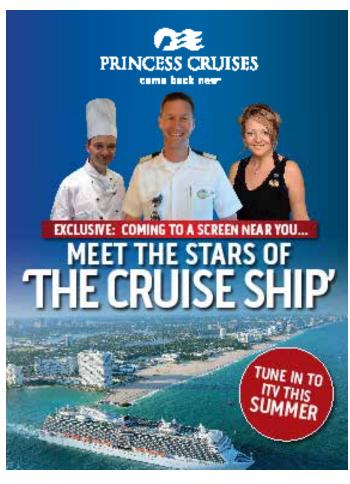
# Princess Cruises documentary to air on prime time ITV this Summer

A four-part documentary set on board a Princess Cruises ship will broadcast weekly on ITV this summer. Entitled 'The Cruise Ship', it will show unprecedented behind-the-scenes footage of crew and passengers on Royal Princess, a 3,600-passenger ship that was launched last year by HRH The Duchess of Cambridge.

The documentary will give an insight into what life is really like on board for the 1,600 crew members and how they work together to give guests a first-class customer service. From preparing a glittering welcome on board party to cooking a barbeque for all guests on Princess Cruises' private Bahamas island, the programme offers a bird's eye view of the ship as it sails through the Caribbean.

Paul Ludlow, Princess Cruises' managing director UK and Europe, said: "We are thrilled the crew on Royal Princess will star in this major series. We're positive the show will strike a chord with everyone who

enjoys travelling with us and also open up the appeal of cruising to a whole new generation of holidaymakers. Even our most travelled guests will be amazed at just how much hard work goes into making sure our ships run smoothly. We're so proud of everything Princess Cruises has to offer and can't wait for television viewers to see this for themselves." The date of the first episode will be confirmed shortly.



## Viking Ocean Cruises to triple size of new fleet

Viking Cruises has announced the news that two new ocean ships will join the fleet in 2016. The cruise line's inaugural ocean ship, Viking Star will begin sailing in May 2015, commencing the first step in the lines attempt to break into the ocean cruising market. The decision comes on the back of strong customer demand. The two new ships for 2016 will triple their capacity in just two years. Both ships will have a passenger capacity of 930 and will be named Viking Sea and Viking Sky.

# MSC Cruises announce two 'revolutionary' ships for 2017



The new prototypes will be built at the Fincantieri shipyard and have been codenamed 'Seaside'. With a length of 323 metres, a width of 41 metres and a height of 70 metres, the new ships will have a gross tonnage of 154,000 tons and will accommodate up to 5,300 passengers plus 1,413 crew members. The ships will boast 2,070 guest cabins and 43,500 square metres of public areas available. MSC has announced that the new ship design and versatility will enable them to dock at any port worldwide. Executive chairman Pierfranscesco Vago said: "From the moment we started talking with Fincantieri, we had in mind to design and build two completely new ships, revolutionary in their structure, unlike anything that exists on the market today.

# Azamara reveal 2016 itinerary details

Azamara announced details of their 2016 'Destination Immersion' voyages. Azamara Journey and Azamara Quest will sail itineraries all over the world in 2016



including heading to offbeat locales throughout Australasia, the Far East and Southeast Asia, the Arabian Gulf and the West Indies. In total, the cruise line will visit 204 different ports of call in 70 different countries. The cruise line has announced that for 2016 both ships will continue to remain in port after most others have departed. Azamara Journey and Azamara Quest will remain in port past 8pm in more than 175 calls into port and will overnight in port on over 100 calls. They will also take guests on even more brand new adventures in 2016 with the announcement of 44 new maiden calls in Australia and New Zealand, the United Arab Emirates and Oman, Europe and the West Indies.



# **New Suite Class for Celebrity Cruises**

Celebrity Cruises has unveiled plans for a new Suite Class experience to begin in April 2015. The new Suite Class experience will be more exclusive than it's ever been before with more luxury amenities and a wide range of new elite services. Created for discerning guests seeking a contemporary holiday experience, Suite Class will be introduced to Celebrity's state-of-the-art ships during April 2015, offering exclusive benefits such as a suite-only restaurant, luxurious VIP lounge, butler service and much more.

# Staterooms for singles added to Queen Elizabeth

Cunards' decision to add single passenger accommodation to Queen Elizabeth comes in response to guest feedback and demand. A total of nine new single staterooms have been added and are located on deck 2 in the midships area. The space for these staterooms is has been created by re-modelling part of the ship's casino. Eight of the new single staterooms will be Ocean View cabins and one will be an inside stateroom.

# Choose your own itinerary with Fred Olsen

Fred Olsen has launched its most innovative and unique cruise to date. Braemar's 15-night 'You Choose Your Cruise' sailing departs from Southampton on 10 October 2015 and will offer passengers a brand-new concept for Fred Olsen and the cruise industry as a whole. Guests on board will get to 'tell the Captain where to go', as they vote for the next port of call as the cruise progresses, from two choices every 48 hours.

# Norwegian Cruise Line announce it will invest over \$250m revamping their fleet

The Norwegian NEXT programme will build on the success of its Breakaway-class ships to roll out new restaurants and bars on eight other vessels, as well as customised entertainment and technology upgrades. Dining enhancements will include new menus in the Main Dining Rooms and the Garden Café, while the O'Sheehan's Neighborhood Bar & Grill is being rolled out fleet-wide, along with Carlo's Bake Shop by Buddy Valastro. Seven ships will be fitted with Scrubbers to reduce emissions. Fuel efficiency will also be improved by the addition of underwater hulls being coated in high performance paint.

# Menu revealed for Jamie Oliver's Italian restaurant



Jamie Oliver has revealed the menus for his Jamie's Italian restaurant on board Royal Caribbean's Quantum of the Seas. Highlights of the Jamie's Italian menus for Quantum of the Seas include the Signature Porchetta, a slow-cooked pork belly filled with herbs, garlic and spices, served with fennel crackling and watercress salad; free-range grilled garlic and rosemary chicken; fillet steak wrapped in Italian ham with braised cannelloni beans; and truffle tagliatelle served with fresh foraged black truffles, butter, Parmesan & nutmeg.



Book selected European sailings between Oct 2014 & Apr 2016 and choose 2 from the 3 fantastic offers...

**\*OCEAN VIEW STATEROOMS & ABOVE** 

# Three big offers. Choose yours & go.

- Up to \$1,400 FREE Beverage Package
- Up to \$300 On Board Spend
- FREE Gratuities Included

## Norwegian Fjords

Celebrity Eclipse® - 9 May 2015 - 7 Nights



Southampton, Bergen, Alesund, Geiranger, Stavanger, Southampton

**OCEAN VIEW** 

**BALCONY** (obs)

From £699<sub>pp</sub> From £899<sub>pp</sub> From £949<sub>pp</sub>

## Iceland & Fjords

Celebrity Eclipse® - 27 Jun 2015 - 14 Nights



Southampton, Reykjavik (overnight), Akureyri, Klaksvik (Faroe Islands), Geiranger, Alesund, Olden, Stavanger, Southampton

**INTERIOR** 

**BALCONY** (obs)

£1,249, From £1,599, From £1,799, From £1,79

### Scandinavia & Russia

Celebrity Eclipse® - 11 Jul, 25 Jul, 8 Aug 2015 - 14 Nights



Southampton, Bruges (Zeebrugge), Warnemunde, Tallinn, St Petersburg (overnight), Helsinki, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Southampton

**OCEAN VIEW** 

**BALCONY** (obs)

E1,349, From £1,649, From £1,849,

# Norwegian Fjords

Celebrity Eclipse® - 22 Aug 2015 - 8 Nights



Southampton, Bergen, Flam, Geiranger, Alesund, Stavanger, Southampton

INTERIOR

**OCEAN VIEW** 

**BALCONY** (obs)



## PLUS, Bonus Cruise Club Contribution Towards Your Gratuities

#### Mediterranean

Celebrity Eclipse® - 30 Aug 2015 - 14 Nights



Southampton, Gibraltar, Nice (Villefranche), Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence / Pisa (Livorno), Genoa, Malaga, Lisbon, Southampton

**BALCONY** (obs)

£1,299<sub>pp</sub> £1,599<sub>pp</sub> From £1,699<sub>pp</sub>

## Canaries & Azores

Celebrity Eclipse® - 27 Sep 2015 - 13 Nights



Southampton, Ponta Delgada (Azores), Funchal (Madeira), Gran Canaria, Tenerife, Lanzarote, Lisbon, Southampton

**INTERIOR** 

**OCEAN VIEW** 

£1,199<sub>pp</sub> £1,499<sub>pp</sub> £1,549<sub>pp</sub>

## Spain & Canary Islands

Celebrity Eclipse® - 10, 21 Oct 2015 - 11 Nights



Southampton, Vigo, Lisbon, Gran Canaria, Tenerife, Funchal (Madeira), La Coruna, Southampton

**OCEAN VIEW** 

BALCONY (obs)

E1,299<sub>pp</sub> From £1,399<sub>pp</sub>

# **Broadway & Beaches**

Celebrity Eclipse® - 1 Nov 2015 - 15 Nights



Southampton, Boston (Massachusetts), New York (overnight), Kings Wharf (Bermuda - overnight), Port Canaveral, Miami

**OCEAN VIEW** 

**BALCONY** (obs)

# Cruising the Clanaries

The Canary Islands are one of the most popular cruise destinations in Europe, known for their diversity and ability to attract cruise passengers with varying interests, ranging from those looking for a warm and sunny beach to passengers searching for some of the most fascinating cultural sights in the world. The region comprises of El Hierro, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, La Gomera, Lanzarote, La Palma, Tenerife, and the Chinijo Archipelago, but the most popular cruise ports lie within Tenerife, Lanzarote, and Gran Canaria.

The islands are famous for their stunning white and black sand beaches, particularly Tenerife's Playa de las Américas, but there is much more to these beach destinations than meets the eye. The culture of the islands is a blend of Mediterranean and Moorish influences due to their location just off the western coast of Northern Africa, and the islands are also some of the most important in terms of researching the area's history. With volcanic origins, the islands are somewhat mysterious, winding lava caves give hints as to the age and evolution of the land.

#### When & Where to Cruise

Cruise ships sail to the Canary Islands throughout the year, as temperatures can hit 20 degrees and above even during the winter, making this the perfect destination for a holiday, or for a touch of warmth to banish the winter blues. Travelling in the summer, you're unlikely to experience any rainfall whatsoever, however you may get a few light showers during the winter months but they are often short lived.

If heat is your thing, consider cruising to the islands to the west, they are largely protected from the trade winds by the more easterly islands, making them seem warmer, these islands include Tenerife, La Gomera, La Palma and Gran Canaria. However, the islands to the east have their own advantages - the winds have created very rugged and beautiful coastlines and there's plenty of opportunities for trying out some watersports. Eastern Canary Islands include Fuerteventura and Lanzarote.

#### **Itineraries**

If you've decided to explore the beauty and culture of the Canary Islands, you will find yourself spoilt with a choice of fascinating itineraries. Canary Island cruises from Southampton are very popular. Ships usually reach Lanzarote - the closest island to the UK - within five days, and the itineraries will typically include stops en route, usually in Spain and Portugal, or the island of Madeira to the north. Some cruise lines will even add a little more diversity by making a stop in Agadir, Morocco - a resort town where you can relax on the beaches, learn more about the Berber community or sample some fiery Moroccan whisky.

#### **Canary Islands Climate**

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Min Night-time Temperature (°C)

J F M A M J J A S O N D

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# Raroue Nacional pe Timanfaya Timanfaya

The Timanfaya National Park or Fire Mountains is a must for any visitor to Lanzarote because of its unique 'Martian' landscape and rare plant species. The area is 51.07 square km and is entirely made up of volcanic soil.



The rolling sand dunes of Maspalomas, Gran Canaria afford you the unique opportunity of being in a desert by the sea, on a beach which runs for miles along the South coast of the island, offering fun and relaxation for all ages and all interests.



Tenerife is home to some beautiful beaches. Las Teresitas de San Andres is located 9 km east of the capital Santa Cruz. The 1.5 km long beach is made of finest Sahara sand.

# Popular Canaries Destinations

The great thing about the Canary Islands as a cruise destination is that they can be combined with more lengthy and exotic voyages due to their Atlantic location between Europe and the Americas. Tenerife and La Palma are popular ports when sailing between Southampton and the Caribbean, between Florida and Europe and between Europe and South America. Each of the islands has something different to offer. La Gomera, for example, is largely dominated by national parks, whereas Fuerteventura is better known for its watersports and laid back bars. Lanzarote, Gran Canaria, and Tenerife are three of the most diverse islands in the region and you'll visit at least one of these three when cruising to the Canary Islands.

#### Lanzarote

To see the best of Lanzarote, it's well worth booking a cruise excursion. You'll dock just outside the main centre of Arrecife, on the islands east coast. While Arrecife itself is a good place for relaxing and doing some shopping, the island's most famous attractions lie quite some distance from the port, so by booking an excursion you can be sure you'll get to all the places you want to see quickly and easily. An organised tour is also suggested if you want to discover the Fire Mountains, located within the Timanfaya National Park. The vibrant red rocks and sand, remnants of the volcanic eruptions of the 19th century, are some of the most breathtaking sights in the world, especially for nature lovers.

#### **Gran Canaria**

Like Lanzarote, Gran Canaria is very beautiful and scenic, but what makes it stand out amongst the other islands is that it has a lively, bustling atmosphere that you simply won't find elsewhere. Younger cruise passengers especially may enjoy the thrills of the island, including Aqualand, home to some of the largest (and scariest) waterslides in all of Europe. Watersports are hugely popular here, particularly kayaking along the calm Las Palmas coast.

#### **Tenerife**

Whatever your interests, you'll find it hard not to fall in love with Tenerife. While it's very cliched to say the island has 'something for everyone', it honestly does. This is one of the only places in the world where that statement really holds true. Being located within the middle of the archipelago, Tenerife draws its influences from the surrounding islands and European mainland. There's the adrenaline of Gran Canaria, to be found at the Water Kingdom water park, the beauty of Lanzarote in the form of Mount Teide and the classic stunning sands of Playa de las Americas typical of the Western Med.



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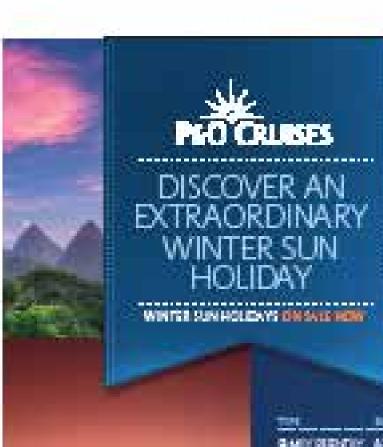
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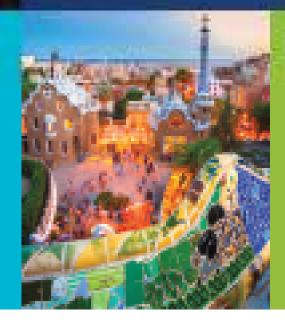
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# Booking a cruise face to face

With The Cruise Holiday Shop at the Meadowhall Shopping Centre now open, we know some of you may be wondering what The Cruise Holiday Shop and our head office Cruise Bureau at Barlborough has to offer that the website or a telephone call cannot. Many of you will have booked your cruises using information available through our website and by talking to our expert Cruise Consultants on the phone, making full use of the ease and convenience of modern technology. The aim of The Cruise Holiday Shop is to offer the same personalised face to face experience that you would receive at our Cruise Bureau.

#### **Award Winning Service**

Our dedicated Cruise Consultants are not only highly experienced, but also passionate about customer care. We're experts in understanding your needs, requirements and preferences to ensure that we find the perfect cruise holiday for you. Either over the phone, at The Cruise Holiday Shop or at the Cruise Bureau at our main office in Barlborough, Derbyshire, our reputation, knowledge and award winning service speaks for itself; we're here to plan your dream cruise.



#### **Book With Confidence**

Rest assured that we take security very seriously at the Cruise Centre and you can book your cruise with us safe in the knowledge that your details will not be passed onto any third parties and that your personal details and payment information will remain completely confidential. As an ABTA member you are fully protected, covered and assured that you can travel with complete peace of mind. Despite this, we understand that some people are reluctant to give out such personal information either online or over the phone. When booking your cruise face-to-face, you're in complete control as to how your information is handled internally. You can see exactly how, where, and why we use your personal details. We want the booking process to be enjoyable for you, not stressful!

#### **Ask Questions**

We actively encourage our clients to ask questions and make the most of our Cruise Consultants wide range of travel experience, whether this is by email, phone or via the Cruise Club Forum. However, we find that travellers tend



to ask more questions when they're booking in person than they do over the phone. Chatting to someone face-to-face boosts feelings of familiarity and clients tend to feel more comfortable enquiring about different stateroom amenities, ship facilities and destinations when they can see the person they're talking to. There is no such thing as asking too many questions - we don't think you can ever be too prepared for your cruise!

**Treat Yourself** 

At Meadowhall there are over 40 different cafes and restaurants all offering exciting food and drinks, so why not indulge in a creamy coffee or naughty chocolate chip muffin after you've just booked your holiday? Meadowhall is an amazing place to explore with 280 different stores, ideal for booking a cruise holiday and then finding something new to wear. Alternatively, our Cruise Bureau has been the talk of the industry since its opening in 2005 and continues to offer exceptional personalised service.

The Cruise Bureau and The Cruise Holiday Shop offer an excellent booking process with a touch of excitement and a sense of occasion.

The Cruise Holiday Shop is now open for business, so why not drop in and say 'Hi? Feel free to pop in for information or advice, for destination inspiration or simply to have a chat. Whether you're brand new to cruising or have sailed around the world, our Cruise Consultants have valuable information to share.







# INTRODUCING THE SHIP THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

Sailing exclusively from Southampton for the duration of summer 2015, Anthem of the Seas<sup>SM</sup> takes cruising to a whole new level. Here are just some of the amazing experiences waiting for you onboard...



#### **NORTH STAR<sup>SM</sup>**

The exclusive North Star<sup>SM</sup> promises to elevate you both physically and emotionally, revealing 360-degree views of a world you've truly never seen before!



#### RIP CORD<sup>SM</sup>

Another first you'll find only on Royal Caribbean is RipCord by iFly\*. This skydiving simulator lets guests experience the sheer thrill and exhilaration of flying.



#### SEADI EYSM

The largest indoor active space at sea, but also the most groundbreaking. Transforms from basketball court to circus school by day, roller skating to bumper cars by night.



#### TW070<sup>SM</sup>

Seamlessly fusing together technology and entertainment, this one-of-a-kind grand room promises to take you on a transformative journey from day to night.

#### **PLUS ROYAL CARIBBEAN® FAVOURITES**

FlowRider • Rock-climbing Wall • DreamWorks Experience • H20 Zone • Solarium

# Anthem of the Seas<sup>™</sup> Sailing from the UK in 2015, ON SALE NOW!

Visit www.bolsovercruiseclub.com/wow to download the brochure

# **GET HAPPY**



#### **FREE FLIGHTS**

For a limited time only, book selected cruises of seven nights or more by 31 July 2014, and you could enjoy free return flights to meet the ship (from selected UK airports), including free transfers.



#### **REDUCED FLIGHT SAVINGS**

Book a selected fly/cruise (from selected UK airports) of seven nights or more to the Caribbean, and receive up to £200pp off, including free transfers. Cruises must be booked by 31 July 2014.



#### FREE CAR PARKING

Book selected cruises of seven nights or more by 31 July 2014, on Explorer or Brilliance of the Seas®, departing from Southampton or Harwich, and reserve a parking space at the port absolutely free! Guests must pre-book their free parking space by 7 August 2014.



#### FREE COACH TRANSFERS

Book selected cruises onboard Explorer or Brilliance of the Seas® of seven nights or more by 31 July 2014, and enjoy free return coach transfers to the port. Prebook your coach by 7 August 2014 to take advantage of this amazing offer.



#### FREE PRIVATE TRANSFERS

Book a balcony room or above on selected Anthem of the Seas<sup>SM</sup> sailings of seven nights or more by 31 July 2014, and have your very own private driver collect you and drop you at the port - for free. If you live within 200 miles of Southampton, you'll get a free return transfer for up to four people direct from your door. Or for those of you flying in from further afield, there are free private airport transfers. Pre-book your private transfers by 7 August 2014 to take advantage of this limited time offer.

#### PLUS, Bonus Cruise Club Contribution Towards Your Gratuities<sup>2</sup>



#### CANARY ISLANDS

Anthem of the Seas<sup>SM</sup> - 22 May 2015 - 10 Nts

Southampton, Funchal (Madeira), Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Vigo, Southampton

Interior from

Ocean View from Balcony obs from

£1299, £1499, £1649,



#### **ITALIAN MEDITERRANEAN**

**Anthem** of the **Seas**<sup>SM</sup> - 18 Jul 2015 - 14 Nts

Southampton, Gibraltar, Cartagena, Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence/ Pisa (La Spezia), Marseille, Cadiz, Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton

Interior from

Ocean View from Balcony obs from

£1999<sub>PP</sub> £2299<sub>PP</sub> £2499<sub>PP</sub>



#### **SPAIN & MED BEACHES**

Anthem of the Seas<sup>SM</sup> - 1 Aug 2015 - 14 Nts

Southampton, Gibraltar, Malaga, Villefranche (Nice), Palma De Mallorca (overnight), Ibiza, Cadiz, Southampton

Ocean View from Balcony obs from

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#### **PARIS & BRUGES**

Anthem of the Seas<sup>SM</sup> - 29 Aug 2015 - 3 Nts

Southampton, Zeebrugge (Brussels), Le Havre (Paris), Southampton

Interior from

Ocean View from

Balcony obs from

£499<sub>PP</sub>









# \* GET HAPPY

#### NEW ITINERARIES SAILING FROM SOUTHAMPTON

We're delighted that the newly-enhanced Explorer of the Seas\* will be coming to the UK in 2015. And of course, sailing direct from the UK offers plenty of benefits - there's no need to get on a flight, and the generous luggage allowance doesn't hurt either. Based in Southampton, Explorer of the Seas\* will sail to some truly spectacular destinations across Europe, the Mediterranean and for the first time North Africa and the Azores. Boasting fantastic new features such as the exhilarating FlowRider\* surf simulator and state-of-the-art 3D movie theatre, there are also mouth-watering new dining options to be savoured.

#### PLUS, Bonus Cruise Club Contribution Towards Your Gratuities<sup>a</sup>



#### **CANARY ISLANDS**

Explorer of the Seas® - 24 Apr 2015 - 10 Nts

Southampton, Funchal (Madeira), Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, Vigo, Southampton

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Balcony from

£949<sub>PP</sub>

£1059...



#### **PARIS & BRUGES**

Explorer of the Seas® - 23 May 2015 - 3 Nts

Southampton, Bruges (Zeebrugge), Paris (Le Havre), Southampton

Interior from

Ocean View from

£519...

Balcony from £569<sub>50</sub>



#### **SPAIN & MED BEACHES**

Explorer of the Seas® - 3 Jun 2015 - 14 Nts

Southampton, Gibraltar, Malaga, Villefranche (Nice), Ajaccio (Corsica). Cagliari (Sardinia), Palma De Mallorca (overnight), Cadiz, Southampton

Interior from

Ocean View from

Balcony from



#### **ITALIAN MEDITERRANEAN**

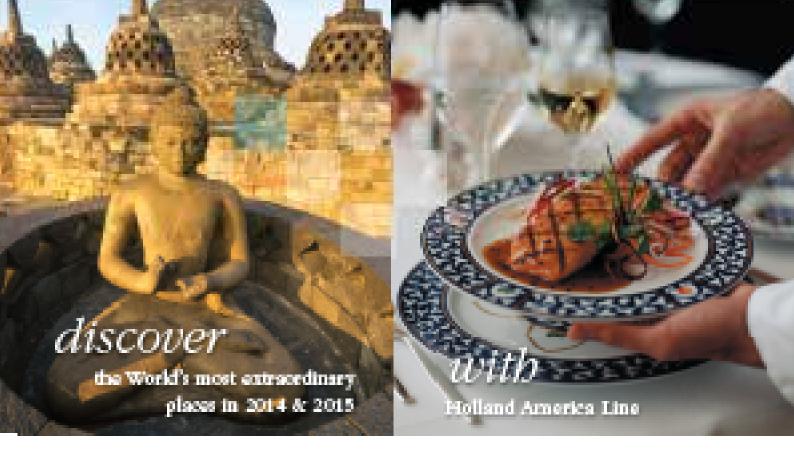
Explorer of the Seas® - 9 Aug 2015 - 14 Nts

Southampton, Gibraltar, Villefranche (Nice), Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence/Pisa (La Spezia), Marseille, Malaga, Lisbon, Southampton

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#### PLEASE ARK FOR PLYCHAINE PRICING.





## 1. Could you give our 'Into The Blue' Magazine readers an overview of your role within at Bolsover Cruise Club?

I am responsible within the organisation for the Administration Team, which includes all the boring side of travel, like invoicing, ticketing, visas and all things paper. As well as managing my team I also have various other roles around the office, changing light bulbs, fixing printers and turning things off and on again when they stop working.

## 2. You have a longstanding history of working within the travel industry, please tell us about it.

I fell into the travel industry by accident really, in order to win a bet with my dad I applied foolishly to be a Holiday Rep and somehow 4 months later found myself in Gran Canaria wondering what on earth I was doing. Now after nearly 20 years in the travel industry I thinks it's one of the best decisions I ever made. After 6 years working overseas I moved back to the UK and have worked for a train operating company, a coach holiday provider and finally joined Bolsover Cruise Club 7 years ago as Administration Manager. I just need to work for an airline now and I will have the full set.

# 3. The Administration Department is key to ensuring a smooth booking journey for our clients, how many staff do you currently have at your disposal and what are the different roles in the department?

The Administration Team is made up of a total of 22 members of staff. This includes Linda, my Assistant Manager, who helps me run the team on a day by day basis and she is also responsible for the team's training needs. There are 14 Administrators who are responsible for the processing of all passenger documentation, 3 of whom have a specialised role in the team. These Specialist Administrators help me with tickets and travel documentation, visa requirements and itinerary changes. Last but not least we have 7 Support Administrators who man our reception desk and generally keep the paperwork moving around the office.

# 4. Customer service is paramount to Bolsover Cruise Club but what makes our Administration Department the best in the business?

We deal with so many different cruise operators and there is a huge amount to learn about their documentation and booking requirements, so firstly I have to say that I am amazed by my team's knowledge on the varying products. This helps them to deal with customer queries, book specific flight seats, or take payments and nothing is too much trouble for them.

## 5. What is your role in the process of Visa requirements and applications?

With the popularity of cruising growing year on year the cruise lines are constantly trying to find new and exciting places they can visit around the world and this can often mean that our clients need to purchase a visa to visit that country. Whilst most cruise lines will give customers the information they need on what visas to apply for, they will only do this 10-12 weeks before departure. As a company we feel it is our job to provide this information to the passengers much sooner and we aim to have this information available at the time a booking is made. In order to do this, I personally go through all the new cruise line brochures as they are launched and research the itineraries in depth to establish what visa is required and the procedures our clients need to follow in order to apply for them.

## 6. Can you offer our readers an explanation on the current e-ticketing process with many of today's cruise lines?

In my 7 years at Bolsover Cruise Club, I think this is the area that has changed the most since I started here. From all the cruise lines issuing traditional tickets and travel documents this has mostly changed now to e-tickets. E-tickets have been implemented by the majority of cruise lines. A 'green' and environmentally friendly service has been introduced in order to cut down on the amount of unnecessary paperwork. A couple of the main things clients need to know about



e-tickets and e-documentation: Firstly that some (but not all) operators require the guest to visit their website and complete the online registration before they will issue the e-tickets, we give more specific information on the processes needed when you make a booking. Depending on your chosen cruise operator your e-tickets could be ready from 40 days to departure right up to 14 days to departure depending on who you are travelling with, the operator will usually email you to advise you when they are ready for you to view. If you have any concerns or problems, we are on the other end of the phone and happy to help with any queries you may have. Although a growing number of people in the country now have access to a computer, we appreciate that not everyone is comfortable using one, so we will always be able to print your e-documentation for you if you prefer. It is also worth noting that you also now have the ability to choose not to take any travel documents with you and instead simply quote your booking reference, showing your e-ticket on a smartphone or tablet device at the check-in desk; however this does not apply to all cruise lines and if you are like me then you will probably feel more assured with a bit of paper in your hand.

## 7. Itinerary changes can be a necessity at times for cruise lines, how do you manage this type of scenario?

Again as we deal with lots of different cruise lines, we do have to deal with quite a few changes on a daily basis, these can vary from the odd hour change here and there to a major change of ports or cancellation. One member of my team collates all of the changes we receive and passes this information on to our customers via email or post. I then set up alerts on our booking system so that if we get new bookings on an amended cruise the Sales Team know to pass this on to our clients.

#### 8. Following the recent opening of 'The Cruise Holiday Shop' in the Meadowhall Shopping Centre, how will the administration process work for the new shop?

I think we are very lucky in the fact that we have our own bespoke

reservation system that is without doubt better than anything else you can buy. As we have this system we are able very quickly to develop and improve this when the need arrives so Meadowhall was an interesting and enjoyable challenge. Apart from a payment receipt, which our Cruise Consultants issue in the store, all of the clients paperwork is electronically sent through our system back to my Administration Department where I have a dedicated section of my team who deal with all the bookings from the shop.

# 9. You have cruised many times over the years, firstly what initially attracted you to cruising? And secondly do you have a favourite ship?

If I am honest I had not considered cruising as a holiday until I joined Bolsover Cruise Club. I had the impression (wrongly now I admit) that cruising was for the elderly or well off. My wife and I did take a cruise before we were married and enjoyed it but that was only really because it was run by the tour operator I worked for at the time and between you and me was really only a glorified ferry. Since starting work here I am constantly amazed by the new facilities and features being introduced by the cruise lines in order to attract new customers of all ages to cruising. Whilst all the new huge modern ships look amazing and I would love to holiday on them all, I think my favourite ship is P&O Cruises' Oceana, there is just something magical about her.

# 10. In this edition of the magazine we cover the top 6 kids clubs at sea, you yourself have two children, which cruise line would you say offers the best children's facilities?

Having only taken the children with P&O Cruises, I can only review their "Reef Club". Even though I know of the children's clubs and all the brilliant facilities on the other cruise lines, unless you experience them through a child's eyes then I don't think can fully appreciate how good they are and how much the children enjoy them. My son is a little shy when it comes to things like this but the Reef Rangers soon made him feel welcome and secure and he had a great time. My daughter was there all day and I think they saw more of her than we did.







# WORLDWIDE CRUISES 2015-16

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# TOP Clubs Clubs at Sea

More and more families are choosing to cruise due to the fantastic facilities available for children of all ages. Parents can relax whilst children enjoy the brilliant kids clubs on board. Here are 6 of the best kid's clubs at sea that your children are sure to love:



#### The Reef

#### **P&O Cruises**

P&O's four family-friendly ships, Aurora, Azura, Oceana, and Ventura, along with the newest addition to fleet, Britannia (due to set sail in 2015), all boast 'The Reef' - an activity and play centre supervised by 'Reef Rangers' The Reef varies its children's programmes on each family-friendly ship to ensure your children have new activities to try out. The Reef is divided into four different age groups - Splashers, Surfers, Scubas, and H20 - with each area offering age-appropriate activities. For the younger children in the Splashers and Surfers groups, there's a wide range of toys, creative activities, and games to take part in, while the older kids in the Scubas and H20 groups will enjoy treasure hunts around the ship, trips to the buffet restaurant for treats and a few games in the sporting nets. Teenagers have their own separate spaces including their own nightclub and video game centre.

### Youth Centre & Teen Centre

#### **Princess Cruises**

With the exception of Pacific Princess and Ocean Princess, all Princess Cruises' ships include the Youth Centre, for younger children and the Teen Centre, for the older ones. The Teen Centre is very lively and vibrant and there's always something going on. It incorporates 'The Remix group', which is all about hip-hop dance classes, themed nights and Wii tournaments held on the gigantic outdoor movie screen. The younger children are separated into two groups - Princess Pelicans, and Shockwaves. Princess Pelicans, the group for the youngest sailors, has a very creative atmosphere and uses Klutz brand art supplies, so leave room in your luggage for taking paintings and drawings home with you. In the Shockwaves group kids can learn and have fun with hands-on equipment from the California Science Centre - one of Princess Cruises' partners.





#### Adventure Ocean

#### **Royal Caribbean**

Royal Caribbean has facilities for even the smallest of passengers, aged from just 6 months old. Younger children aged up to 3 years (Royal Tots) can enjoy interactive play sessions held around the ship throughout the voyage, whereas older kids can join groups including Aquanauts (3-5 years), Explorers (6-8 years), Voyagers (9-11 years) and the tween and teen programmes. For a nominal fee, Sitters at Sea offer babysitting services, both in a group setting, and individually in parents' staterooms. Children must be at least one year old. Teens will love cruising on Royal Caribbean as the older kids' clubs are more informal, meaning they can come and go as they please. However, they probably won't want to leave!

### Fun Factory & X-Club

#### **Celebrity Cruises**

The type of kids club on offer will be dependent upon each individual ship's facilities. For example, ships with a Celebrity iLounge offer iTake for older kids, a unique programme which gives them the chance to direct, produce and star in their own videos. There's also the largest collection of Xboxes at sea, so teens will be in their element. The kid's clubs on board Celebrity ships are divided into two groups - the Fun Factory for little ones and X-Club for teens. Kids attending Fun Factory will be divided further based on age group; Shipmates (3-5 years), Cadets (6-8 years), and Ensigns (9-11 years). Ensigns can enjoy ship-wide activities, as well as the ability to sign themselves in and out as they please.





# Splash Academy & Entourage

#### **Norwegian Cruise Line**

Norwegian Cruise Line offer excellent facilities, especially their partnerships with Kings Camp - a popular kid's activity provider - and Hilario Productions, a circus-style company encouraging creativity in children. Splash Academy, for kids between 6 months and 12 years, is broken down into different areas: Guppies (6 months-2 years), Turtles (3-5 years), Seals (6-9 years), and Dolphins (10-12 years). Teens can sign themselves in and out of the Entourage Club, where there are Wii U tournaments, sporting activities and even a disco. On board Breakaway, Dawn, Epic, Gem, Getaway and Pearl there are the eYouth tablets, which make registration and sign in quick and simple.

### The Zone

#### Cunard

All three of Cunard's vessels include The Zone - a play programme for children that is divided into three separate age groups - The Play Zone, The Zone, and the Teen Zone. You will also find changing facilities, child-sized toilets and sinks and a quiet room for when your kids need to take a nap after a busy day. The Zone can be used as a play area with parental supervision, or as a nursery, allowing you to enjoy a child-free evening on board. Smaller children can play with toys, paint and draw, play games, or watch movies and TV shows. The ships also boast private outdoor areas for use by The Zone only, where there's a kid's splash pool, outdoor play equipment and ride-on toys. Older children are often escorted around the ship on treasure hunts or to the buffet restaurant for drinks and ice creams.





# the Cruise Holiday Shop

We are delighted to announce the acquisition of a new retail shop in Meadowhall Shopping Centre, Sheffield. This expansion will allow us to reach a larger audience of passengers who may be new-to-cruising and unfamiliar with the service and expertise we offer. Set in a prominent position, in the main central entrance, our new premises 'The Cruise Holiday Shop' opened in May this year.

#### **About Meadowhall**

Meadowhall is a thriving shopping centre that covers 1.5 million square feet of floor space. The shopping centre currently houses 280 different stores and attracts over 25 million visitors each year. Since opening in 1990, Meadowhall has become the place to shop in the region, with many shoppers travelling great distances to enjoy the vast array of shopping opportunities to be found here. Meadowhall is easy to reach as it enjoys direct access to train and tram transport options and with 12,000 parking spaces and a helipad, parking is never an issue.



#### The Cruise Holiday Shop

The Cruise Holiday Shop is an extension to our popular Cruise Bureau, located at our main office in Barlborough. The Cruise Bureau is a place where customers can enjoy a face to face discussion with one of our dedicated Cruise Consultants. We are the leading experts in all things cruise and the Cruise Bureau allows our clients to visit us and experience first-hand what we do best. The Cruise Holiday Shop in Meadowhall offers the exact same opportunity. Customers will be able to discover more about cruising, browse our library of brochures and leaflets, and book a cruise with one of our experienced Cruise Consultants.

Bolsover Cruise Club was the very first cruise agent in the UK to open a dedicated Cruise Bureau - a place where keen travellers could pop in, either with an appointment or simply on the spur of the moment, to discuss different cruise operators, different destinations and different itineraries with our experienced staff who are truly passionate about the cruise industry.

In this new age of technology some of our competitors labelled us as 'old fashioned' when we announced plans for the Cruise Bureau, but there has been unprecedented success since



its introduction, which appeals to those preferring face-to-face communication over telephone or online options. We have always strived to be ahead of the game with the way British customers book their cruise holidays and have managed to maintain our reputation as one of the UK's most prominent cruise agents. The Cruise Holiday Shop is our next step to provide a wider range of services and accessibility for our customers.

#### Why Meadowhall?

At our current Cruise Bureau in Barlborough we are restricted in the time we are open to visitors - limited to 10am - 4pm Monday to Saturday. While these opening hours have proved to be very convenient for some, we understand that you lead busy lifestyles and that a greater flexibility in opening times would benefit many of our clients and attract new ones too.

After considering the best options available to us, we decided that opening The Cruise Holiday Shop in Meadowhall would be ideal for our customers. Meadowhall is open 10am - 9pm Monday to Friday, 9am - 8pm on Saturday, and 11am - 5pm on Sunday. Have you ever had the urge to pop to the shops on a Friday evening and book a cruise holiday after enduring a busy and stressful week at work? Well, now you can!

We're once again changing the face of the UK cruise industry, becoming one of the very first dedicated cruise shops in the country, and certainly the first to open within Meadowhall. We know we've got what it takes to stay at the top and that's because of our unique focus on cruising. Bolsover Cruise Club staff are the most knowledgeable in the industry. If it's cruising you're interested

in, you won't get a more comprehensive customer service experience anywhere else.

#### **Our Goals**

We've got one very important goal for The Cruise Holiday Shop at Meadowhall, and that's to remove the common association between a travel agent shop and booking a holiday. Yes, at the end of the day, that's what it's all about - helping you to finalise your plans and getting you on board the best cruise for you - but we want to offer a service that's more versatile than that. We want The Cruise Holiday Shop to be about having somewhere for travellers to obtain specific cruise advice from those in the know and to make our knowledge and expertise much more accessible.

Not only will you be able to pop in and speak to our Cruise Consultants whilst enjoying a little retail therapy, you can also catch up with all the latest cruise offers available as well as the latest cruise news. Two state of the art screens are displayed on either side of The Cruise Holiday Shop entrance and will feature live offers available from a wide range of cruise lines. You can even call in and take advantage of our quick 'sign up' to join our database. Head for the interactive screen unit located in the centre of the shop and use the touch screen function to enter your name and email address. Then carry on shopping knowing that you are now a registered Bolsover Cruise Club member and will receive our exclusive weekly emails providing you with all the latest and best cruise offers available. It's as quick and easy as that! The Cruise Holiday Shop in partnership with the Cruise Bureau offers you accessibility to the cruising world like never before!



ALL ABOARD FOR A FAMILY HOLIDAY LIKE NO OTHER.



#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN

#### FROM BARCELONA

NORWEGIAN EPIC 7-NIGHT CRUISE



**2014:** 20, 27 Jul • 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Aug • 7, 14, 21, 28 Sep • 5, 12, 19 Oct

Fly from UK to Barcelona - Naples (Pompeii) - Civitavecchia (Rome) Livorno (Florence/Pisa) - Cannes - Palma - Barcelona - Fly to UK

Cruise only from £469
per person

Fly Cruise from (per person)

Inside £740 Balcony £930

Mini Suite

All fares based 5 Oct 201

#### **CANARIES & MOROCCO**

#### FROM BARCELONA

NORWEGIAN EPIC 10-NIGHT CRUISE



Fly UK to Barcelona - Tangier - Gran Canaria - Tenerife Funchal (Madeira) - Malaga - Barcelona - Fly to UK

Inside

£89

Cruise only from £539 per person

Fly Cruise from (per person)

Balcony **£1050** 

Mini Suite **£1150** 

All fares based 29 Nov 2015



#### nickelodeon

Exclusive to Norwegian, Nickelodeon brings a whole new dimension to family fun at sea. Everyone can meet their favourite characters like SpongeBob, Dora the Explorer and others and even enjoy a pyjama party breakfast\* with them. Enjoy Nickelodeon fun aboard Breakaway, Epic, Gem, Getaway and Jewel yearround. And watch out for more ships to come.



# SPLASH ACADEMY YOUTH PROGRAMME (AGES 3-12)

When your kids are having a brilliant holiday, you'll enjoy yours so much more. And that's where our cool youth programme comes into play. They can clown around at circus school, perfect their pizza making, join in interactive workshops, medal at Norwegian's own Shipboard Olympics and so much more. And it's all FREE during advertised programme times.

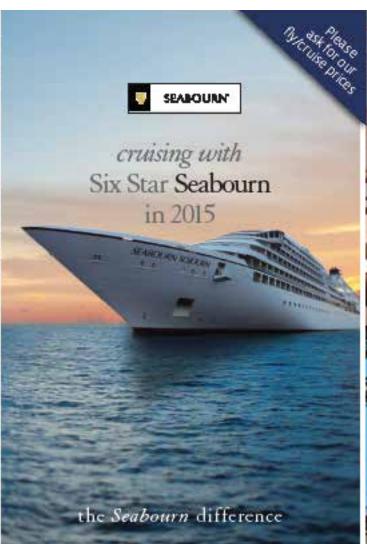


## ENTOURAGE TEEN PROGRAMME (AGES 13-17)

Let's face it, teens like to escape their parents now and then and hang out with kids their own age. Welcome to Entourage, the coolest clubhouse at sea. They can have a blast with Wii<sup>TM</sup> games, be a star at theatre workshops, watch movies, dance, party by the pool, show their skills at sports and more. Just like Splash Academy, Entourage is complimentary.

© 2014 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved. SpongeBob SquarePants created by Stephen Hillenburg. All events and activities vary per ship and are subject to change.\*Breakfast with Nickelodeon available for a nominal fee







Cruising with Seabourn is unlike any other form of travel. The experience is luxurious, yet relaxed... elegant, yet casual.. sumptuous, yet understated. Designed to accommodate just 450 guests, the Seabourn Odyssey, Sojourn and Quest are the the most modern fleet of six star ships sailing today, offering the perfect blend of glamorous elegance, impeccable service, all-suite accommodation, exquisite cuisine and highly personalised destination experiences.

And as always with Seabourn, you will enjoy:

- Spacious all-suite accommodations
- Complimentary champagne and in-suite bar
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- Award-winning gourmet dining and more
- Tipping neither required nor expected, service simply to delight

SHIP	DATE 2015	DAYS	PORTS OF CALL	LEAD IN FARE
Seabourn Sojourn	15 Mar	16	Myanmar & the Malabar Coast Singapore, Port Klang, Georgetown, Phuket, Thilawa, (Rangoon, 2 nights), Cochin, Mangalore, Mumbai	From £4,002pp Cruise Only
Seabourn Quest	24 Feb	20	Brazil & the Amazon Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Ihlabela, Rio de Janeiro, Armacao dos Buzios, Vitoria, Recife, Natal, Fortaleza, Santarem, Anavilhanas, Manaus (overnight)	From £7,231pp Cruise Only
Seabourn Quest	14 Apr	7	Mediterranean Magic Barcelona, Mahon, La Joliette (Marseilles), St Tropez, Ajaccio, Monte Carlo, Portovenere, Civitavecchia (Rome)	From £2,499pp Cruise Only
Seabourn Odyssey	23 May	7	Greek Isles & Ephesus Piraeus (Athens), Milos, Mykonos, Marmaris, Kusadasi (Ephesus), Patmos, Myrina, Istanbul	From £2,509pp Cruise Only

Lead in prices are per person twin occupancy and are subject to availability at the time of booking.

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Since 1997 Celebrity Cruises have developed a reputation as one of the world's premium cruise operators, delivering high quality, luxury accommodation, incredible design, awardwinning dining and an impeccably attentive service.

Hi Michael, thank you for being a part of this edition of 'Into The Blue', it's great to catch up with you and hear all about the current world of Celebrity Cruises. Our 'Into The Blue' magazine is now into its 5th edition since launching in July 2013, what do you think of the magazine so far? I really like the magazine. The glossy look and layout looks great and the informative features

are a good read. I hope to hear more when

The term "Modern Luxury" is synonymous with Celebrity Cruises along with the iconic 'X' (the symbol located on each ships funnel), what does this concept mean to you and how has it been brought to life?

"Modern Luxury" is a concept that is prevalent throughout the entire Celebrity Cruises experience. The guests onboard our ships enjoy the finer things in life and expect a unique and luxurious holiday. Our ships sail to some of the world's most beautiful destinations and our guests travel there in style. From the sleek modern design and the onboard art – we are incredibly proud of our art collection, we have pieces by Damien Hirst and Anish Kapoor, to mention a few – to the incredible onboard

experiences. We have recently partnered with Canyon Ranch, the world's leading spa and wellness brand, to launch the largest and most comprehensive SpaClub® at Sea. Guests can really relax and recharge mind, body and spirit while on their holiday.

The new 2015/2016 itineraries have been launched and are now on sale, what's new for next year and what are you particularly looking forward to for Celebrity Cruises in 2015?

We really have some very exciting sailings in our 2015/16 line-up. I'm most looking forward to the events we'll be coinciding our destination visits with. We'll be mingling with Hollywood's A-list next year when we call into Cannes during the International Film

your readers step onboard our ships.

Festival and I can't wait for when Celebrity Constellation visits Venice for the Redentore Festival. The spectacle of the procession of decorated boats and the fireworks displays are a sight to behold. Also, I'm a big golf fan so I'm looking forward to being in Edinburgh for 2015 The Open Championships at St Andrews when Celebrity Silhouette calls there. Our guests will also enjoy the chance to experience the gem in the global carnival crown in Rio in 2016. Celebrity Infinity will visit Rio De Janeiro for two nights during the world famous carnival, what an unforgettable holiday experience.

# We also understand there will be some changes regarding suite accommodation for 2015, can you expand on this for us?

Our new Suite Class experience will roll out in April 2015 in time for the summer season. Our guests are accustomed to exceptional quality and service, and those booking a suite will receive new exclusive benefits including access to a suites-only restaurant, VIP lounge, complimentary premium drinks and even a Suite Class butler on hand 24 hours a day to ensure seamless, dedicated and personalised service. We know that suite guests value privacy, personalised service, exclusive access and flexibility, and providing them with their own unique benefits, such as a dedicated restaurant with a dining experience like no other, is just another way that we are significantly elevating their holiday with us.

The new dedicated private restaurant is especially exciting. Each meal will feature unique menus that offer dishes not available anywhere else onboard. Guests can truly immerse themselves in the local culture with specially crafted menus inspired by the local destination, and enjoy the world's best ingredients – from locally caught seafood, to the freshest pasta. The Suite Class chef can also provide a tailor-made experience to suite guests and prepare a dish exactly to their liking.

# Fantastic entertainment is a regular piece of feedback we receive from our customers following a Celebrity Cruises holiday; do you have any plans in place for new entertainment attractions?

Our most recent addition to the entertainment line-up is the luxury Las Vegas style 'Sin City' comedy show. The riské show has actually twice won the coveted "Best of Las Vegas Award". It's a combination of comedy, music and dance and is going down a storm with guests onboard. We are consistently looking for new ways to enhance the onboard experience for our guests, including new entertainment options, so watch this space.

Ensuring an exceptional dining experience for passengers has appeared a key objective for Celebrity Cruises

with culinary vision evident throughout the fleet, especially on board the 'Solstice Class' ships, do you have a favourite restaurant or is it difficult to narrow it down to just one?

We have some of the finest restaurants I've ever dined in onboard our ships. The speciality dining restaurants are tough to choose between, it depends what I'm in the mood for.

I love a good Italian meal so Tuscan Grille curbs that craving and Murano, our contemporary take on classic French cuisine, is also a personal favourite. I really enjoy the interactive experience of our Lawn Club Grill and Qsine too. You're right, I can't narrow it down to just one. A good meal requires a good glass or two of wine and I'm incredibly proud of our onboard wine offering. Our list offers a choice of more than 500 wines from every major wine-producing region in the world and our sommeliers have undergone rigorous training so can advise on the best choice for any palate. Our guests enjoy the fine wines we offer onboard and this is the third year that we

new accommodation category, AquaClass, so that guests were able to book a holiday with a real spa, health and wellbeing focus. Guests in these staterooms and suites have exclusive access to the 'clean cuisine' restaurant, Blu, and unlimited use of the Persian Garden – a wonderful relaxing space.

You began your role as President & CEO of Celebrity Cruises in 2012 but prior to this enjoyed a career spanning 30 years with the brand's parent company, Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. (RCCL), what would you say has been the major developments in the cruising industry during this time and what do you think sets Celebrity Cruises apart from other brands?

At Celebrity Cruises we aim to stand out with our modern luxury offering. Our onboard features are key to the holiday experience but we've recently seen a major focus on the destinations themselves. A cruise holiday is the perfect opportunity to visit five or six (or more) destinations in one holiday – and with



have renowned wine expert, Oz Clarke, hosting wine themed cruises from the UK. They'll take place in the autumn, to coincide with the wine harvest, and Oz will lead masterclasses, pairing dinners and most excitingly, trips out to his favourite vineyards.

#### The 'Solstice Class' ships seemed to be the dawning of a new era for Celebrity Cruises, what makes these stunning ships so special?

As well as their unique sleek design, our Solstice Class ships lead the way with a series of industry firsts. For example, each of the five ships features a half-acre Lawn Club with real grass on its top deck. With the Solstice Class ships we also introduced an entirely

only having to pack and unpack once. We've introduced a number of overnight stays in destinations for our current and upcoming seasons and our guests are really relishing the chance to get under the skin and soak up the culture of the places they are visiting.

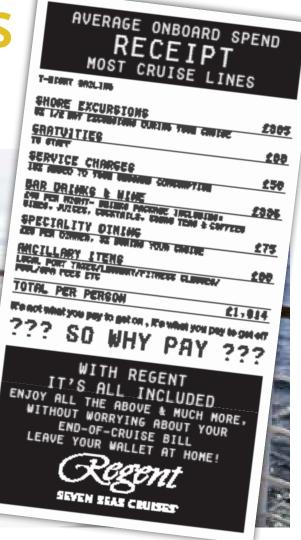
#### We have seen so much from Celebrity Cruises already over the years, what's next for this exciting, 'Modern Luxury' cruise line?

We're always striving to enhance our guest offering and we are currently working on some new additions to our spa programme with Canyon Ranch which I'm particularly excited about. We don't want to ruin the surprise so you'll have to stay tuned for our announcements.

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#### MEDITERRANEAN

Seven Seas Mariner - 13 Sep 14 - 10 Nts

Fly UK to Monte Carlo, Livorno (Florence), Civitavecchia (Rome), Sorrento (Capri), Taormina (Sicily), Corfu, Tirana (Durres), Split (Croatia), Koper (Slovenia), Venice (overnight), Fly to UK

Deluxe Veranda Suite EXCLUSIVE OFFER FARE from £3,299pp

PLUS up to **47 FREE shore excursions** 



#### CARIBBEAN

Seven Seas Navigator - 13 Nov 14 & ^18 Mar 15 (^Itinerary In Reverse) - 10 Nts

Fly UK to Miami, Nassau (Bahamas), San Juan (Puerto Rico), St Barts, Antigua, St Lucia, St Maarten, Miami, Fly to UK

Ocean View Suite from £3,209pp

PLUS \$400 per suite on board spend & up to 39 FREE shore excursions



#### SOUTH PACIFIC

Seven Seas Mariner - 20 Jan 15 - 16 Nts

Fly UK to Sydney, Brisbane, Champagne Bay, Port Vila (Vanuatu), Lautoka (Fiji), Suva (Fiji), Apia (Samoa), Pago Pago (American Samoa), Bora Bora (French Polynesia), Papeete (French Polynesia), Fly to UK

Deluxe Veranda Suite from £6,139pp

PLUS \$500 per suite on board spend & up to 28 FREE shore excursions



#### **CHINA & JAPAN**

Seven Seas Voyager - 21 Feb 15 - 18 Nts

Fly UK to Beijing (China), Dalian (China), Seoul (South Korea), Shanghai (overnight), Xiamen (overnight), Hong Kong (overnight), Kaoshiung (Taiwan), Tapei (Taiwan), Kagoshima (Japan), Kobe (Japan – overnight), Tokyo (Yokohama - overnight), Fly to UK

NEW Deluxe Veranda Suite reduced fare WAS £8,849, NOW from £6,799pp PLUS \$500 per suite on board spend & up to **75 FREE shore excursions** 

Before you book your next cruise, why not compare a Regent all-inclusive cruise with a non-inclusive alternative? The results may surprise you!

- **✓ FREE** Flights
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- **✓ FREE** Pre-Paid Gratuities
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- **✓ FREE** Shore Excursions
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THE MOST INCLUSIVE LUXURY CRUISE EXPERIENCE



Stars and sparkle with

On these cruises you will enjoy a stunning performance by the show's professional dancers and you'll have the opportunity to meet them and maybe learn a move or two. There will also be the chance to ask questions, hear about the glittering world of Strictly and to see some amazing costumes from the show.



### P&O CRUISES STRICTLY COME DANCING CRUISES:

### Portugal, Spain & Ibiza Azura - 2 Aug 2014 - 12 nts - A421

Southampton - Lisbon - Gibraltar - Barcelona - Ibiza Cartagena - Cadiz - Southampton

### On this cruise:

- Pasha Kovalev & Katya Virshilas
- Ian Waite & Camilla Dallerup
- · Craig Revel Horwood

Inside from (pp)

£1,169

Outside obs from (pp)

**Celebrity Dancer Patrick** Robinson

Balcony from (pp)

£1,269

Inside from (pp)

Craig Revel Horwood

Madeira - El Ferrol - Southampton

• Ian Waite & Camilla Dallerup

• Darren Bennett & Lilia Kopylova

On this cruise:

Canaries, Portugal & Madeira

Aurora - 25 Sep 2014 - 13 nts - R417

Southampton - Lisbon - Lanzarote - Gran Canaria - La Palma

Outside from (pp)

Balcony from (pp)

**Celebrity Dancer** 

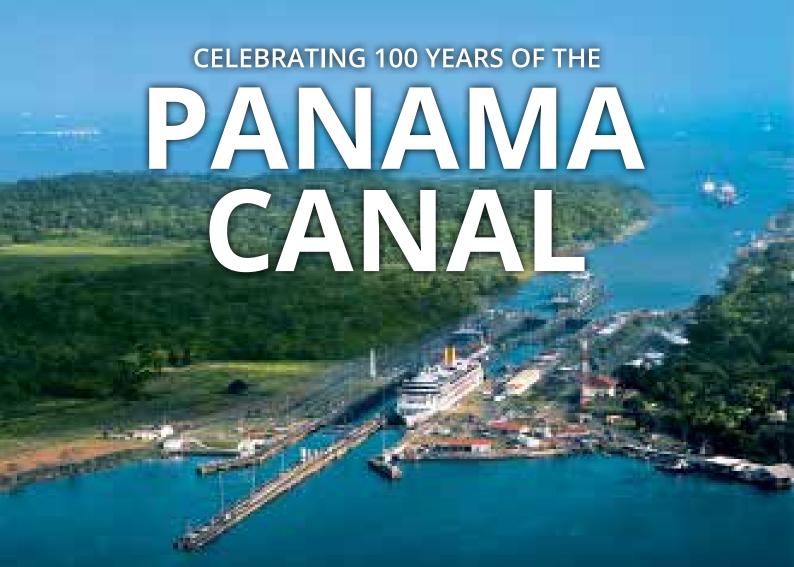
Mark

Foster

£1,469

### BBC

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Before the Panama Canal was completed in 1914 - an exercise which took 30 years - trade ships had little choice but to sail around Cape Horn on the southern tip of South America. While many cruise ships today offer amazing sailings around Cape Horn, the smaller trade ships of the past had difficulty in navigating the choppy waters, and it was quite risky for sailors to take this route. However, if they were to import and export goods between Europe and the Pacific region in a timely manner, it was the only way. That is, until the Panama Canal was introduced, this then offered a safer and guicker way for trade ships to travel between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Nothing like this had ever been attempted before, and it instantly became the most remarkable engineering project in the world. The canal is still frequently used for trade purposes, although it has become more of a tourist destination in recent years, with luxury cruise ships making the trip between the east and the west.

This summer marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal. Providing the perfect 48 mile shortcut between the Atlantic and Pacific, practical purposes aside, this manmade passage thrills cruise passengers year after year with scenic cruising through a series of locks.

15 August 1914 proved to be a special date in history. The Panama Canal was opened by the passing of the SS Ancón. The cost of the creation proved to be astronomical both in monetary matters and human life. Many were injured in the construction of the canal and once completed, it became the highest cost of anything constructed by the United States Government throughout the whole 19th century, amounting to over an incredible \$350 million.

The west coast of the United States is absolutely beautiful and so wonderfully diverse that anyone with a love of travel, culture and adventure should visit these glorious shores at some point in their lives.

The Panama Canal has made it possible for Europeans to experience the magic of the west coast in a comfortable, luxurious and cost effective manner. Sail through the clear blue waters of the Caribbean, immersing oneself in the rich culture and history of Central America. Experience the Pacific influences that make west coast USA a world apart from the eastern states, which creates a truly unique and definitely unforgettable holiday for the intrepid traveller.

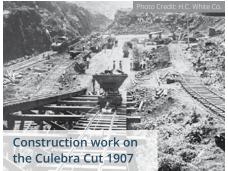
However, it's not just about getting to a destination; it's also about the journey itself. Sailing along the Panama Canal is a very special experience indeed. With just a small amount of space either side of your ship, you will get to sail where many of today's larger ships cannot, passing through locks which raise the ship a whopping 85 feet along the way. It's a full scale operation, with land trains meeting your ship and keeping it steady as it rises. You will not get an experience like this anywhere else in the world!

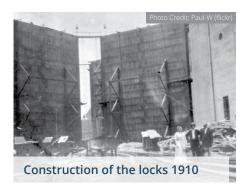
There are some spectacular itineraries on offer when it comes to cruising the Panama Canal. Full transit itineraries travel between the Central American cities of Panama and Colón, or vice versa, both of which offer many points of interest for travellers. However, there are also plenty of other fascinating ports at either end of the canal. Ever popular ports include Panama City, Colon, Cartagena and Los Angeles (often a start or finish point for Panama Canal cruises).

### Looking back at the construction of the Panama Canal...

France began work on the canal in 1881, but had to stop because of engineering problems and high mortality due to disease. The United States took over the project in 1904, and took a decade to complete the canal, which was officially opened on August 15, 1914. It was one of the largest and most difficult engineering projects ever undertaken.















Interested? Here's some essential Panama Canal tips...

### ✓ Consider a Partial Transit

Many travellers are of the impression that if they're going to 'do' the Panama Canal, then they're going to do a full transit. However, if you don't have the time for this, a partial transit can be equally as amazing - if not more so! While you won't be able to say you travelled between the oceans, many partial transit itineraries allow passengers some shore time, which provides an excellent opportunity to really discover the local Embera Indian villages in the Chagres National Park, and the majestic and exotic wildlife of the Gamboa Rainforest.

### ✓ Splash Out for a Balcony

On many cruises, especially those with plenty of shore days, a balcony stateroom is not always deemed necessary as you're often out and about during the day, and enjoying dinner and a show in the evening. On a Panama Canal cruise, we wholeheartedly recommend booking a balcony cabin! Not only will you have a guaranteed view of the breathtaking scenery along the way, but if you're doing a full transit you generally won't have the opportunity to leave the ship - it's just nice to have your own space to get some fresh air when you've been on board all day.

### **✓** Get Up Early!

Although timings will vary depending on your exact itinerary, many passengers will find that their cruise ship enters the first lock very early in the morning, and you don't want to miss out on this! A local pilot, experienced in guiding ships throughout the canal, is often brought on board at around 5.30am, although you will find the best viewing places on deck taken up long before that. Yes, it's early, but this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Get an early night to ensure you're ready and raring to go when your ship enters that first lock, gaining access to the canal.



# Welcome to the Galapagos Scan OR Code with

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For many, a trip to the Galapagos Islands qualifies as a once in a lifetime event. Consequently, we want you to be completely focused on the Galapagos, and not on logistics or details. We want you to immerse yourself in these islands, absorbing everything there is to see, learn, and do while you're there. With that in mind, we've made your holiday all-inclusive, making your trip as convenient, relaxing and memorable as possible.

The Galapagos is one of those special places. The kind that makes you want to remember every detail with crystal clarity. Our all-inclusive package allows you to spend your time capturing those precious details, so you can relive your once in a lifetime experience on board Celebrity Xpedition® again and again.











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- Shore excursions, with choices of activity levels & locations
- All gratuities
- Park entrance fees & Galapagos
   Tourist Card fees
- All meals, including room service & in-stateroom dining during meal hours
- All snorkeling equipment, including masks, snorkels, fins, wet suits, & snorkeling vests
- All onboard briefings and lectures led by expert naturalists & guest lecturers
- FREE internet access

### 13 Night Galapagos Outer Loop





Includes: 4 night post cruise Peru expedition with Machu Picchu option

### 2015 Departure Dates:

departs year-round every other Sunday Jan 11, 25 | Feb 8, 22 | Mar 8, 22 | Apr 5, 19 May 3, 17, 31 | Jun 14, 28 | Jul 12, 26 | Aug 9, 23 Sep 6, 20 | Oct 4, 18 | Nov 1, 15, 29 | Dec 13, 27

### 2016 Departure Dates:

departs year-round every other Sunday Jan 10, 24 | Feb 7, 21 | Mar 6, 20 | Apr 3, 17 May 1, 15, 29 | Jun 12, 26 | Jul 10, 24 | Aug 7, 21 Sep 4, 18 | Oct 2, 16, 30 | Nov 13, 27 | Dec 11, 25

Package Fares from (based on 13 Dec 2015)

£7,599<sub>pp</sub>

### 13 Night Galapagos Inner Loop





**Includes:** 4 night post cruise Peru expedition with Machu Picchu option

### 2015 Departure Dates:

**departs year-round every other Sunday**Jan 4, 18 | Feb 1, 15 | Mar 1, 15, 29 | Apr 12, 26
May 10, 24 | Jun 7, 21 | Jul 5, 19 | Aug 2, 16, 30
Sep 13, 27 | Oct 11, 25 | Nov 8, 22 | Dec 6, 20

### 2016 Departure Dates:

departs year-round every other Sunday Jan 3, 17, 31 | Feb 14, 28 | Mar 13, 27 | Apr 10, 24 May 8, 22 | Jun 5, 19 | Jul 3, 17, 31 | Aug 14, 28 Sep 11, 25 | Oct 9, 23 | Nov 6, 20 | Dec 4, 18

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# WHY 11 MILLION GUESTS HAVE ALREADY ENJOYED AN MSC CRUISE

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Whether it's fun with the children or relaxation on your own, we have a wide array of onboard facilities to fit the bill. There are dedicated children's areas, a pool with a Magrodome sliding glass roof, an F1 racing simulator, 4D cinema, bowling alley, Aqua Park with 150 fountains, as well as a 120 metre Vertigo water slide on MSC Preziosa – the longest at sea. Or why not take time out at our spa facilities offering treatments such as a Balinese massage.



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<sup>\*</sup>All under 18s cruise FREE only applies when the minor is sharing a cabin with two full fare paying adults. Port fees and flight fares will be required on selected voyages only.

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Balcony Fantastica from: £849PP

Departs alternative weeks from 29 Nov 2014 to 4 April 2015



### Med Winter & Canaries MSC Fantasia - 5 Dec 2014 - 11 Nights

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Fly UK to Genoa, Barcelona, Casablanca, Tenerife, Funchal (Madeira), Malaga, Civitavecchia (Rome), Genoa, Fly to UK

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Balcony Fantastica from: £899PP
Departures from 5 Dec 2014 through to 8 April 2015



### **Dubai**MSC Orchestra - 7 Feb 2015 - 8 Nights

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### Caribbean

### MSC Divina - 12 Nov 2014 - 17 Nights

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Inside Bella from: £1,399PP Outside Fantastica from: £1,599PP Balcony Fantastica from: £1,879PP

# For the Wine Connoisseurs

One of the biggest changes that's happening within the cruise industry is a dedicated focus on food and drink - we're not only seeing Main Dining Room advancements but also an influx of Speciality Dining restaurants and the rise of Celebrity chefs at sea. Cruising is catering to self-confessed 'foodies' and wine connoisseurs more than ever before and here are some cruise lines that are leading the way.





Celebrity's Immersive Wine Cruises visit France, Spain and Portugal, giving passengers not only the chance to sample some unique wines on board and meet with world renowned wine experts such as Oz Clarke, but also to visit some of Europe's most prominent vineyards and wineries, including the Agro de Bazan Wineries which are known for their cabernets, merlots, and syrahs. To supplement both the on board and shore activities on an Immersive Wine Cruise passengers can also opt for the Tastes of the Vineyard drinks packages which include New Zealand sauvignon blancs and Argentinian malbecs. If these set packages don't take your fancy, you can even build your own package, hand picking a selection of classic and contemporary offerings from the cellar.



Those who have sailed with Regent Seven Seas in the past will be familiar with the cruise line's themed sailings, known as 'Spotlight on...' voyages. This can be anything from 'Spotlight on Chocolate' right through to 'Spotlight on Public Television at Sea' - there's a huge and diverse range of themed cruises available via Regent Seven Seas. However, one that has proven to be massively popular is 'Spotlight on Wine'. Featuring wine tastings, Q&A sessions, wine lectures and special guests, these sailings are ideal for both the wine connoisseur and for those who simply love a good merlot. In the past, Regent Seven Seas have welcomed the likes of Private Reserve - a Californian band made up of Napa Valley wine growers - providing both a fascinating insight into the world of wines, as well as some great entertainment.



Wine expert Olly Smith has been working alongside P&O Cruises since 2010 when The Glasshouse opened on board Azura. However, the recent announcement that Smith would become one of P&O's new 'Food Heroes', with Eric Lanlard, James Martin, Marco Pierre White and Atul Kochhar on board new ship Britannia has shown us we can expect to see much more of him in the future, starting with Olly Smith wine themed cruises setting sail in 2014 and 2015. Smith will be present on board select sailings hosting wine tastings and escorting tour groups to vineyards and wineries throughout Europe. They will also be on hand to talk about the different wines on board, including those at The Glasshouse and the house wines, all of which have been handpicked by Smith himself. You can expect to see Olly Smith on board Azura, Aurora, Ventura and Britannia in the near future.





If you've travelled on Royal Princess, you may be familiar with Princess Cruises' Wine Maker Dinners, but if not you will have plenty more opportunities to try out this unique dining option as it has now been introduced on the cruise lines newest addition to the fleet, Regal Princess. Taking place within the Main Dining Rooms, passengers who have reserved a Wine Maker's Dinner will be offered an exclusive menu featuring dishes such as asiago cheese stuffed gnocchi, white bean & chorizo flambe, and filet mignon, all of which are created to compliment a selection of wines in the wine cellar. Wines are poured freely throughout the meal, and there are many different offerings including Italian wines made from a blend of ansonica and caternutto grapes and Californian wines that combine the very intense fragrances of vanilla bean and dark summer fruits. Book your Wine Maker Dinner as soon as you board - it's limited to just 10 guests per evening!

### K Red Claim Crube Line

# **EXPLORATIONS IN 2015**











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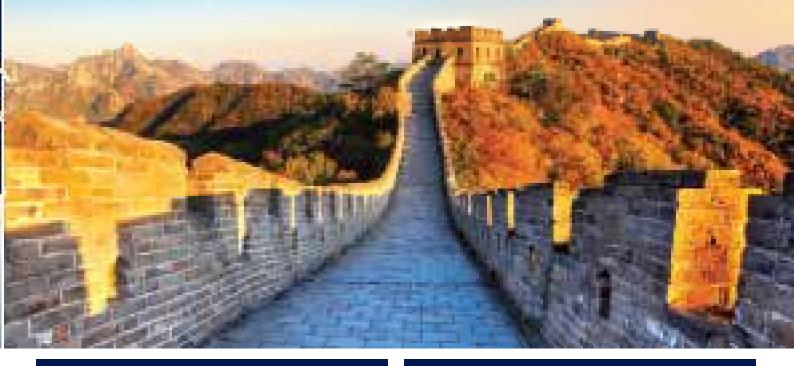
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### GEMS OF ANTIQUITY



Riviera - 29 Jul 2014 - 7 Nights

Fly from London to Athens (Piraeus), Santorini, Ephesus (Kusadasi), Rhodes, Mykonos, Kavala/Philippi, Istanbul (overnight), Fly to London

Veranda from £1,459pp
Concierge Veranda from £1,549pp
Penthouse from £1,729pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

### VIKING TRAILS



Marina - 21 Aug 2014 - 12 Nights

Fly from London to Stockholm, Helsinki, St Petersburg (2 nights in port), Tallinn, Klaipeda, Gdansk (Gdynia), Berlin (Warnemunde), Copenhagen, Amsterdam (overnight), Fly to London

Inside from £1,925pp
Ocean View from £2,055pp
Veranda from £2,335pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

### MEDITERRANEAN PATHWAYS



Riviera - 22 Aug 2014 - 10 Nights

Fly from London to Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence/Pisa/ Tuscany (Livorno), Portofino, Monte Carlo, Saint-Tropez, Provence (Marseille), Barcelona, Palma de Mallorca, Amalfi/Positano. Rome (Civitavecchia). Fly to London

Inside from £1,929pp
Ocean View from £2,229pp
Veranda from £2,529pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

### FLAVOURS OF EUROPE



### Riviera - 1 Sep 2014 - 7 Nights

Fly from London to Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno), Portofino, Monte Carlo, Saint-Tropez, Provence (Marseille), Palma de Mallorca, Barcelona, Fly to London

Inside from £1,539pp
Ocean View from £1,899pp
Veranda from £2,249pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

### TAPESTRY OF CULTURES



Marina - 24 Sep 2014 - 10 Nights

Fly from London to Lisbon, Gibraltar, Tangier, Malaga, Valencia, Barcelona, Provence (Marseille) Cannes, Monte Carlo, Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno), Rome (Civitavecchia), Fly to London

Inside from £1,825pp
Ocean View from £2,115pp
Veranda from £2,405pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

### MEDITERRANEAN MONTAGE



Riviera - 12 Oct 2014 - 10 Nights

Fly from London to Barcelona, Provence (Marseille), Monte Carlo, Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno) Rome (Civitavecchia), Sorrento/Capri, Taormina (Sicily), Zakynthos, Santorini, Kavala/Philippi, Istanbul, Fly to London

Inside from £1,849pp
Ocean View from £2,119pp
Veranda from £2,419pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

# Tenerife's active volcano is the 3rd highest in the world after Hawaii's Moana Loa & Moana Kea

**VISIT PAGE 8 TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CANARY ISLANDS** 



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