# INTOTHEBLUE

**Summer 2015** Edition 9

# Explore Norway's Fascinating Fjords

#### We Catch Up With Stuart Leven

Getting to know Royal Caribbean's Managing Director for UK & Ireland

#### **All The Cool Kids Cruise**

Try something new this summer

#### **Under The Spotlight**

The Cruise Holiday Shop vs The Cruise Centre

#### **Rounding The Horn**

Exclusive South America review from expert travel writer Pat Richardson

#### **Our Most Creative Cruise Club Member**

Meet Keith - a portrait artist who loves to cruise

Bolsover Cruise Club

Cruise HolidayShop

# Welcome Back, Summer!

It appears that summer has finally arrived, bringing with it the latest edition of Into The Blue.

The 2015 season is in full swing and programmes for 2016/17 are now on sale. Advance bookings have reached an unprecedented level, the highest in a considerable number of years, and it seems that confidence is returning to the holiday market. There are so many different products out there and people have more choice than ever before when it comes to planning their perfect cruise. River cruising continues to thrive in popularity and Royal Caribbean's Anthem of the Seas, P&O Cruises' Britannia and Viking's Viking Star all commenced their maiden seasons in recent months - there really is more variety than ever.

The introduction of bigger ships, revolutionary activities and technological advances, has seen family cruising become a popular alternative to the traditional package holiday, with P&O Cruises predicting that more than 13,000 children will holiday at sea this year – a 26% rise compared to last year. Today's family cruise ships offer a dizzying array of entertainment and activities, with something for the whole family. Throw in the chance to see a multitude of destinations in just one trip and family cruising seems a really tempting option for the summer holidays. Still not sure? Our feature 'All The Cool Kids Cruise' will soon have you convinced!

This edition's 'Industry Insider' feature sees us speaking to Royal Caribbean International's Managing Director Stuart Leven. We found out what cruise convert Stuart had to say after his first year in the role and asked him some probing questions on how Royal Caribbean plan to attract new cruisers to the market. Having joined Anthem of the Seas for her inaugural celebrations in April, we are also sharing some of our favourite spots on board.

This year is an exciting one for Bolsover Cruise Club, as we not only celebrate a year of trading at The Cruise Holiday Shop at Meadowhall, but also the tenth anniversary of The Cruise Centre here in Barlborough. The refurbishment of The Cruise Centre is coming to an end, with just the finishing touches still to go, and the response to our new boutique feel has been fantastic. I hope you might visit us soon to take a look! With more people choosing to book in person, we really understand the importance of flexibility and being able to speak to someone face-to-face outside of working hours. Take a look at our 'Under The Spotlight' feature to find out how The Cruise Centre and The Cruise Holiday Shop are helping us make it easier than ever for our members to find their perfect holiday.

Finally, I should mention this edition's destination focus, the Norwegian Fjords. Home to some of the most magnificent scenery in the world, and a popular alternative to beach holidays, a cruise to the Norwegian Fjords is on many a bucket list. Have you ticked it off yours yet?

I do hope you enjoy reading the magazine.

Yours sincerely

Michael Wilson
Managing Director





















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# Cruise News

Spring was a busy time for the cruise industry and summer brings news of even more exciting developments for the coming months. Find out the latest news here.



## Thousands Watch Cunard's Three Queens in Celebratory 'River Dance'

Cunard's year of celebrations culminated in a gloriously patriotic display on the last weekend in May, as thousands of people lined the banks of the River Mersey to watch the Three Queens perform their river dance manoeuvres.

The Liverpool rendezvous of Cunard's three ships – Queen Mary 2, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth – saw the fleet sail along the River Mersey in formation, before performing a series of crowd-pleasing manoeuvres off Pier Head. The celebration marked the first time all three ships had met in the city and

thousands turned out to witness the occasion, many of them arriving in the early hours of the morning in order to secure a prime spot. Cunard's flagship Queen Mary 2 led the formation, with British institution the Red Arrows providing a fly-past which ended proceedings in a patriotic cloud of red, white and blue.

Cunard's 175th anniversary celebrations concluded on 2nd July, when the Queen Mary 2 set sail from Liverpool to remember and recreate the original Cunard transatlantic crossing, calling at Halifax, Boston and New York.



# Bolsover Cruise Club's Badges Have Arrived!

Here at Bolsover Cruise Club we have some of the most knowledgeable cruise experts in the industry; more than 25 of our team have been here over 10 years and five of those have been here over 15! We decided to celebrate their long service with brand new Bolsover Cruise Club badges. Keep an eye on the lapels of your cruise consultant next time you come into the bureau or visit the Cruise Holiday Shop at Meadowhall; you could be booking with one of the longest standing members of our team!

#### Mayflower Cruise Terminal Reopens Following £6m Refurbishment

Southampton's Mayflower Cruise Terminal has reopened following a multimillion pound refurbishment that will see it welcome some of the largest cruise vessels in the industry. The Mayflower Cruise Terminal handles a significant proportion of the city's cruise turnaround calls and has now been remodelled to feature open plan interiors, expanded security and check in areas, and an extended passenger reception area. A team of over 200 staff have been working on the renovation over the winter months and other improvements to the terminal include additional passenger and baggage x-ray machines, along with a complete redesign of the drop-off and pick-up points.

Associated British Ports Southampton recently described the refurbishment as critical to ensuring Southampton retains its title as Europe's leading cruise turnaround port. The increased number of cruise ships visiting Southampton, coupled with the rising capacity of new ships, means P&O Cruises, Cunard and other brands of the Carnival Group, are expecting passenger volume to increase by 25 per cent at Southampton over the next two years.

Steven Young, Director of Port Services & Government Affairs at Carnival UK, said: "The Carnival cruise business at Southampton continues to go from strength to strength and with the introduction of new larger ships such as P&O Cruises' Britannia, it is important that improvement to the cruise terminals and our passenger journey keeps pace. With the reopened Mayflower terminal we aim to keep this as free flowing and stress-less as possible"



# Royal Caribbean Confirm Order for Fourth Quantum-Class Ship

Royal Caribbean International have announced plans for a fourth Quantum-Class ship. The 4,180 passenger vessel will be built at the Meyer Werft yard in Germany and is expected to be delivered in 2019, three years after Ovation of the Seas debuts in mid-2016. This most recent order follows the successful launch of Quantum of the Seas and Anthem of the Seas, both arriving within the last 12 months. The introduction of a fourth Quantum-class ship sees a continuation in Royal Caribbean's quest for world domination; Quantum of the Seas and Ovation of the Seas are both set to eventually sail from China, while Anthem of the Seas will head to New York after operating its maiden season from Southampton.

Michael Bayley, President and CEO of Royal Caribbean stated that "The fourth Quantum-class vessel will be a trailblazer in smart-ship design and vacation innovation. Royal Caribbean International is synonymous with adventure, and the icons and amenities on this ship will continue to challenge and expand guest's expectations of the cruise experience."

#### Star Clippers Begin Construction of First New Vessel in 15 Years



Tall ship sailing specialist Star Clippers has revealed that work has begun on the cruise line's first new ship in almost 15 years. Set to launch in 2017, the as yet unnamed vessel will become the fourth ship in the Star Clippers fleet, replacing Royal Clipper as the largest ship of its kind in the world.

The five-mast, square-rigged barque is set to be a near replica of France II – commissioned in 1911 –with an estimated building cost of €100 million. The 8,770 ton ship will carry 300 passengers and will initially sail itineraries in the Mediterranean and Caribbean. Inaugural cruises are expected to go on sale in 2016.

Speaking about the plans for expansion, Star Clippers' owner Mikael Krafft said "The UK market for our product has increased tremendously with sales more than doubling in the last three years. We have put a lot of effort into the design of this new ship. Our fleet is timeless and I hope they will operate for hundreds of years."

## The Cruise Centre has had a Facelift!

Those of you who read our blog will know that we decided to celebrate 10 years of the Cruise Centre in Barlborough with a makeover of the whole building. Eight weeks later, work is all but finished and we are thrilled with the boutique feel of our fresh new cruise bureau. The August arrival of a brand new reception unit will provide the finishing touch and we think you will love our new look. Visit us soon to check it out!

# The Amazing Anthem of the Seas



When Royal Caribbean's Anthem of the Seas arrived in Southampton back in April, our Marketing Assistant Katie became one of the very first passengers to step foot on board. Here's what she thought to some of the ship's most exciting features on board.





#### **Two70**

Spectra's Cabaret is a cinematographic extravaganza quite unlike anything I've ever seen at sea or on land! Light and image projectors helped transform the already impressive Two70 venue and the show had the whole ship talking. Royal Caribbean have gone all out with the special effects and the result was incredible! Would certainly recommend.



#### Ripcord by iFly & FlowRider

Ripcord by iFly is a must for thrill seekers and I couldn't wait to give it a try. After attending a safety briefing and getting kitted out in rather fetching overalls and goggles, I joined the bench and waited my turn. I'm pleased to say it met and exceeded every expectation. Do it!

We were neither adventurous nor warm enough to give the FlowRider surf simulator a go, but we did watch the professionals put on an exhilarating show. FlowRider's position right at the back of the ship offers amazing views over the wake and ocean; even the best beaches and raddest surf can't match that!



#### **North Star**

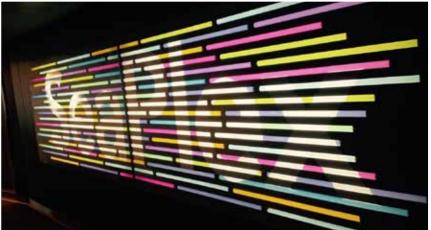
I've seen many ships from both inside and outside, but never have I seen one from 300ft above. The North Star was perhaps my favourite feature aboard Anthem of the Seas: fun, exciting and just a tiny bit nerve-wracking. After riding the North Star during the day, I'm very envious of anyone who gets to see the sunset over the ocean as the ship's lights sparkle below.



#### **Music Hall**

Being young and child-free (for one night at least!), we headed to the Music Hall to relive our youth, courtesy of music from 80's tribute act Wild Boys. The venue is amazing; dripping in crystals, clad in red velvet and with a dance floor big enough to show off even the most ambitious of moves.





#### **SeaPlex**

Who said the SeaPlex is for kids? Dodgems, roller-disco, trapeze, it all happens here! We had great fun on the dodgems, watched the team demonstrate some death-defying rollerblade stunts and finished with a fully-loaded hot dog from The Dog House. This was one of my favourite spots on board and I know my young son will absolutely love it!



#### Wonderland

We had heard great things about Wonderland and we certainly weren't disappointed when we ventured 'down the rabbit hole'. Dining here was a totally unique and immersive experience; as the Mad Hatter said: "You would have to be half mad to dream me up" and I think the same can be said for Wonderland! Amazing!

# We catch up with Stuart Leven

Stuart Leven joined Royal Caribbean International as Managing Director for UK and Ireland in October 2013. He has spent over 20 years in the European leisure and hospitality industry, with experience across airlines, travel agencies, hotels and now cruises. Stuart is married with a young family and is a qualified rugby coach.

Hi Stuart, thank you for being a part of the summer edition of Into The Blue magazine. It's great to meet you and to get a closer look at what is happening behind-thescenes at Royal Caribbean International.

You took up the position of UK & Ireland Managing Director of Royal Caribbean in October 2013. In past interviews you have mentioned that you hadn't previously cruised and that you were quite sure that cruising wasn't for you. Now however, you describe yourself as a selfconfessed cruise convert with family cruises booked aboard Allure of the Seas and Anthem of the Seas for 2015.

#### What preconceptions did you have and how have they changed?

I wasn't against cruising, I just thought it was for older people. As a family we enjoy exploring, trying new things and keeping active. I now realise we can do all of this on one of our ships.

Cruising presents a great opportunity to see more of the world within a limited space of time. Prior to joining Royal Caribbean you were travelling with your family around Europe and Morocco in a VW Camper Van. How would you compare adventures like this to family cruises you have taken since?

When we travelled my kids were 8 and 10. One of the most valuable things we witnessed was how they really benefited from the different cultural experiences along the way. On a cruise you can go to sleep in Italy and wake up in Croatia. And you have time to get off and immerse yourself in local culture and history.

Royal Caribbean's ships are brimming with technological advances and unique features such as the North Star, SeaPlex and Bionic Bar. What is it that sets Royal Caribbean apart from the rest when it comes to family cruising?

Happy kids make for a happy family holiday and our ships have so many great and current activities for kids to enjoy. We also invest heavily in areas where parents can get a bit of "me" time away from the kids if they want it. My favourite moment on board a ship so far was on Quantum of the Seas, where I saw a grandfather and his little granddaughter sky diving together for the first time. We have unique experiences on our ships and design them to offer activities and entertainment you wouldn't normally find on a land based holiday.

Royal Caribbean recently announced that a fourth Quantum-class vessel has been ordered for delivery in 2019. Can you let us in on what the line has planned for the latest ship in the expanding fleet?

We announce deployment just over a year in advance so it will be a while before we announce our plans for our fourth Quantum class ship. We do have two ships being delivered next year. Quantum three (Ovation of the Seas) will enjoy a short season sailing from Southampton and then make its way to China. Harmony of the Seas is our first Oasis class ship in over five years. This class of ship is the largest in the world with more activities, entertainment and dining options than any other ship. Harmony will be based in Barcelona for summer 2015, which gives a great opportunity for guests from the UK to enjoy all she has to offer in her first season.



#### Follow Stuart on Twitter

You can follow Stuart Leven on Twitter for more behind-the-scenes insights into life at the helm of Royal Caribbean International.



@stuleven

You mention families and couples who haven't yet had children as those amongst Royal Caribbean's target audience when it comes to current advertising campaigns. How has the way you advertise changed to focus on these specific groups?

We don't use pictures of middle aged groovers dad dancing and diners sitting down at tables covered in white linen table cloths. This isn't what we do. We provide holidays for people looking for adventure, regardless of their age. We portray this through real people and promote it in areas we know young couples will be looking for inspiration.

The 2014 launch of Quantum of the Seas saw YouTube star Alfie Deyes welcomed aboard and popular TV personality and DJ Lauren Pope hosted a club night in the SeaPlex as part of Anthem of the Seas' inaugural celebrations earlier this year. Why is it so important to engage the attentions of a younger audience in this way?

It is how people shop, research and buy these days. They look for people like them and spend so much more time researching than previous generations, because the information is immediate and available. Our ships are so well designed - we have something for everyone on board - but we have to share this with people indifferent to the idea of cruising. To help spread the word we now spend far more time in the social space working with vloggers (video bloggers on YouTube) and generating content from real people talking about how great our holidays are.

You recently invited 40 parents from UK parenting site Mumsnet aboard Oasis of the Seas and have described how 39 of those said they would consider a cruise by the time of disembarkation, compared to just two at the beginning of the visit. With misconceptions shattered so quickly once on board, what else can the industry do to present cruising as a real and incredibly fun alternative to traditional land-based family holidays?

You can't beat first-hand experience which is why we try and get as many travel agents as possible on board our ships. Brochures simply don't do a holiday like this justice. Our guests from Mumsnet managed to walk around the ship and view life through the lenses of their families and children, and they really liked what they saw. Our challenge is finding a way to share this with future customers who are unable to see the ships first. This is why we rely so heavily on our travel agency partners and take the majority of our bookings through them.

Cruising is steadily growing in popularity, with over 1.7 million people from the UK choosing to cruise in 2014. Do you envisage that ships designed with a focus on fun will provide the boost needed to see this number exceed 2 million over the coming years?

The industry is growing and proving more popular for existing and new cruisers alike. Our research suggests destination and itinerary are still key drivers in convincing people to cruise. So you have a great ship, lots of unique things to do on board, award-winning entertainment, exceptional service and some of the finest restaurants you will find anywhere, and a new destination to visit every day. It's only going to get more popular, which is why Royal Caribbean continues to invest in the best ships, visiting the best destinations around the world.



We provide
holidays for
people looking
for adventure,
regardless of
their age

## Stuart Leven Royal Caribbean International Managing Director UK & Ireland





## FROM DOOR TO BEACH IN NO TIME



Reyel Caribbean International\* now By direct to the Caribbean from the LRC, with 7-night cruises including flights for only £1389<sub>re</sub> or 14 nights from only £1389<sub>re</sub>





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Get onboard and stay onboard

Can't decide? Enjoy all the delights of the Caribbean by staying onboard throughout both 7-right cruises to make one incredible 16 night holiday from £1565... including return flights









## YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

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# All the Cool Kids Cruise

Today's cruise ships offer a dizzying array of entertainment and activities, with plenty to appeal to the whole family. Keep the hardest-to-entertain kids happy with water slides, dodgems, climbing walls and ten-pin bowling, enjoy some much-deserved me-time in the spa. Dad needn't miss his sports, with most ships featuring a good old British pub serving a great pint with live events from around the world.

With Royal Caribbean's Anthem of the Seas sailing from Southampton this summer and Norwegian Cruise Lines' Norwegian Epic offering European itineraries from its new home port of Barcelona, there has never been a better time to plan a fun-filled family cruise.

Here are five reasons to say 'see ya' to land-based resorts this summer and set sail on your first family cruise instead.

#### YOU'RE NEVER TOO SMALL FOR A BIG ADVENTURE

A family cruise is the perfect way to inspire a little wanderlust in even the youngest traveller. Let them wake with

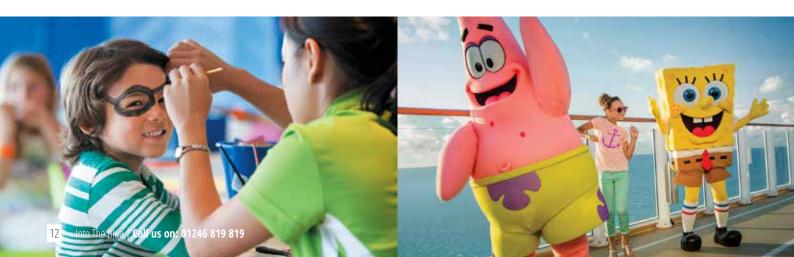
anticipation as they open the curtains to a new view each morning, visiting places only previously read about in school books and experiencing things their friends on a resort holiday can only dream about. Things like swimming with turtles in the Caribbean, riding a dog sled in Alaska and visiting some of the largest water parks in the world; their time ashore promises to be just as exciting as their sea days!

P&O Cruises are one of several cruise lines who offer dolphin and whale watching excursions, whilst Princess Cruises has partnered with the Discovery Channel to offer endless adventures both on board and ashore. Are your kids crazy for the beach? Then let them explore Princess Cays; Princess Cruises' own private island and the perfect place for recreating pirate invasions at playtime!

Why spend two weeks in one place when you can see more of the world in the same space of time? Make the most of the school holidays; unpack once and explore somewhere new almost every day.

#### SAY SO LONG TO STRESS

Choosing a family cruise holiday means you can leave lengthy security queues and airplane anxiety behind. Some of





the coolest cruises depart straight from the UK and you can now travel almost anywhere in the world without stepping foot on a plane; great for those who aren't keen on the thought of flying with toddlers in tow! Southampton is the UK's largest and most popular port and the choice of cruises departing from its four terminals is almost limitless. With ports elsewhere including Harwich, Dover, Bristol, Liverpool, Rosyth and Dublin, the whole world is on your doorstep.

Cruising also takes the pain out of packing; if you depart from and return to the UK, you can say goodbye to luggage limits. Keeping the kids clean day and night is easier said than done, so pack your cases with abandon and make the most of the extra outfits!

#### STEP ABOARD FOR A BREAK FROM 'I'M BORED!'

"Mum, I'm bored!" is the phrase that blights many a school holiday but you'll never hear it uttered aboard a cruise ship.

As family cruising booms in popularity, you'll find more ways than ever to keep kids of all ages entertained. All family cruise lines offer free children's clubs, run by qualified and experienced staff and offering age-specific activities for children usually between the ages of 3 and 17. Let little ones run wild in soft play areas and supervised splash pools, whilst teens make new mates in hangouts equipped with DJ decks, video games and even their own designated pool area. Kids of all ages

can enjoy pizza and pyjama parties, disco nights and getting creative in cookery classes, with free lessons available to children in the state-of-the-art Cookery Club aboard P&O Cruises' newest ship Britannia.

You'll need to muster some more energy after the non-stop daytime activities because the evening entertainment on family cruise ships is unmissable. Gather the kids and head to one of the ship's many entertainment venues to enjoy everything from musicals to newrelease movies and magic shows. Royal Caribbean and Norwegian Cruise Line are amongst those who offer Broadway and West End musicals as part of your fare, so the whole family can watch the likes of Mamma Mia! and Cats for hundreds of pounds less than it would cost you at home.

Princess Cruises' signature feature 'Movies Under the Stars' will keep the whole family entertained for hours, both day and night. Pick your spot beneath the huge screen located on deck and watch the latest blockbuster with soft blankets, warm popcorn, milk and cookies. With the sea as your backdrop, you'll never have another movie night quite like it.

#### FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD... EVEN FOR FUSSY EATERS!

Forget living on cheese toasties, chicken nuggets and chips for two weeks! Cruises are notorious for offering an abundance of food and with so many options

available, you'll never struggle to please even the pickiest of eaters.

Buffets appeal to all tastes and those aboard cruise ships are unrivalled in terms of both quantity and quality; let the kids load their plates with familiar favourites, whilst the more adventurous eaters can enjoy local specialities, vibrant salads and a seemingly endless choice.

If you can't entice the kids from the pool, keep them well-fuelled with juicy burgers and hot-dogs from the grill on deck. With its 1950's style diner design and an extensive milkshake menu, Royal Caribbean's Johnny Rockets is a popular spot to grab a bite between breakfast and dinner.

Family meals in the main dining room are always a pleasure, with waiters on hand to arrange high chairs, pureed meals and bottle warming for babies and children's menus are almost always on offer. Dine as a family or let the kids enjoy an earlier 'kids-only' tea, something offered by P&O Cruises aboard all of the line's family-friendly ships.

Take advantage of the night nursery offered aboard many cruise lines and enjoy some precious grown up time while the kids are under the watchful eye of trained staff. Indulge in a meal at one of the ship's speciality restaurants, before treating yourselves to a cocktail or two in a choice of nightspots. After all, it's your holiday too!







#### Enjoy a second summer Save that feel-good factor for when you need it most!

Wouldn't it be great if you could bottle that summer holiday feeling and dip into it during the winter months? Well with P&O Cruises we're offering the next best thing, with a fabulous selection of cruises that'll keep you feeling toasty warm this winter.

We're adding a sprinkling of that summer feeling to a huge selection of winter holidays this year. We thought a little extra on board spending money might not go amiss either, so you can treat yourself to a few added little luxuries on your exciting winter escape. If that alone isn't enough to warm your cockles, perhaps the thought of our fabulous destinations might just do the trick!

For ease and convenience, it's hard to beat setting sail from Southampton. You can simply check in at your allocated time and get on with enjoying your holiday. Your bags will be transported directly to your cabin,

leaving you free to explore your ship, grab a bite to eat or relax with a drink before we've even weighed anchor. If that sounds tempting, cast your eyes to the right where we've handily collated a collection of Southampton sailings for your convenience.

If the idea of spending Christmas at sea seems appealing, our festive cruises offer a wonderfully relaxing alternative to the traditional yuletide experience. This year, why not put down the potato peeler, sling the sprouts to one side and let us take care of all the trimmings? Will you be carol singing like a canary in the Canaries this Christmas?









#### Spain, Italy & Monaco

16 OCT 2015 | 14 NIGHTS **AZURA A526** 

Southampton - Vigo - Lisbon - Gibraltar Monte Carlo ● - Florence/Pisa (tours from Livorno) - Rome (tours from Civitavecchia) - Ajaccio, Corsica - Seville (tours from Cadiz) - Southampton

Outside Select Price from



#### Spain, Monaco & Italy

9 NOV 2015 | 14 NIGHTS **OCEANA E525** 

Southampton - La Coruna - Gibraltar Ajaccio - Florence/Pisa (tours from Livorno) - Monte Carlo ● - Barcelona Cartagena - Southampton

Outside Select Price from



#### Portugal, Canaries & Madeira

21 NOV 2015 | 14 NIGHTS **ORIANA X523** 

Southampton - Lisbon - Lanzarote Gran Canaria - La Gomera (evening in port) - La Palma - Madeira - La Coruna Southampton

Outside Select Price from



#### Portugal, Morocco & Spain

9 DEC 2015 | 12 NIGHTS ORIANA X525

Southampton - Lisbon - Casablanca Gibraltar (evening in port) - Malaga Seville (tours from Cadiz) - Vigo Southampton

Outside Select Price from



#### Madeira, Canaries & Portugal

17 DEC 2015 | 12 NIGHTS VENTURA N537

Southampton - Madeira - Tenerife Gran Canaria - Lanzarote - Lisbon Southampton

Outside Select Price from



#### Portugal, Canaries & Spain

21 FEB 2016 | 14 NIGHTS **VENTURA N606** 

Southampton - Lisbon - Lanzarote Gran Canaria - Tenerife - La Palma Madeira - La Coruna - Southampton

Outside Select Price from



#### **Guide to Symbols**

 ship usually berthed alongside, but there is a possibility we may be required to land passengers by tender







† Select Prices shown are per person based on two adults sharing the lowest grade of cabin available within the applicable cabin type and are subject to availability. \*Book an applicable Select Price holiday and receive on board spending money to spend during your cruise holiday in the on board shops, bars, restaurants, spa and on shore excursions booked on board. The amount shown is per cabin based on two people sharing the lowest grade of cabin available within the applicable cabin type, and varies by cabin and cruise duration (maximum amount of £450 per cabin based upon cruise N601, NF grade). Applicable to new Select Price bookings made between 7 July and 1 September 2015 on selected cabin grades on selected departures between October 2015 and April 2016 and is inclusive of the Select Price benefit of on board spending money, which can be swapped at time of booking for another Select Price benefit of an arrange or return coach travel. Choice of benefits dependent on cruise type, duration and time of booking. On board spending money can only be spent whilst on board. Offer is not applicable to Early Saver or other promotional prices and cannot be exchanged for a cash alternative. We reserve the right to withdraw the offer in whole or on individual cruises at any time.

For up to date prices visit www.bolsovercruiseclub.co.uk. For full P&O Cruises terms and conditions please refer to Second Edition March 2015 – April 2016 brochure or visit www.bolsovercruiseclub.co.uk. Here you will find full descriptions of the cruises, cabin accommodation and itinerary details, as well as important information on passport, visa and health requirements and booking conditions, which you must read before booking. P&O Cruises is a trading name of Carnival plc, a company registered in England and Wales with company number 04039524.

# Tales from a River Cruise Convert

When APT invited me to join them for three nights aboard the MS AmaVerde, I couldn't possibly have turned down the opportunity to find out more about river cruising. Having only previously experienced ocean cruising, I was keen to find out what it is about river cruising that has seen it soar in popularity over the last few years. The number of British travellers taking a river cruise grew by almost 8,000 in 2014, taking the total to 139,400 according to figures released by CLIA UK & Ireland.



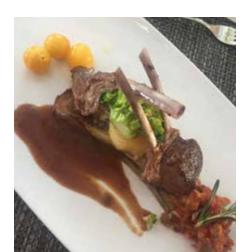
With Training Team Leader Sarah on hand to gather as much precious information as possible to pass on to our sales team, we departed Gatwick early on a Saturday morning to meet the MS AmaVerde in Amsterdam. Over the course of three nights and four days we would enjoy the same APT experience as our customers, finding out just what they can expect to receive along the way.

What followed included four days of fairy tale castles, pretty harbours, perilous bike rides, cheese factories, giant clogs, and questionable window displays (I'm looking at you Amsterdam!)

#### **SATURDAY**

Within minutes of arriving in Amsterdam, we were whisked away to our private luxury coach for the 20 minute transfer to the ship. Between us we had travelled around the world, yet not a single person in our group had ever visited Amsterdam, cue a journey full of clichéd remarks of 'Oh look, a windmill!' and 'Wow, it's all very flat isn't it?'

We arrived at our ship, the AmaVerde, where a very helpful crew swiftly took our luggage from us and transferred it to our staterooms. With some time to spare before check in, our fabulous host APT's Laura Dawson took us on a VERY extensive tour of Amsterdam. Over the course of three hours we saw everything Amsterdam had to offer; rivers lined with painted boats, enough shops to make city centres at home pale in comparison, historic squares edged with cosmopolitan cafes and riverside homes with colour coordinated bikes waiting beside the door. The modern Hard Rock Café sits between the historic converted church-cum-iconic music venue Paradiso and the imposing Rijksmuseum, which houses some of the world's most famous works of art. Amsterdam is a place of juxtapositions; modern yet historic; a party capital scattered with endless peaceful parks and quiet riverside spots. It's a place to take in the city's history, indulge in frites with mayonnaise (frites are to Amsterdam what chocolate is to Bruges) and watch the world go by with one of a seemingly endless number of local beers.



With our extensive tour complete, we headed back to the ship and snacked on the impressive lunch that was waiting for us in the lounge; three tier sandwiches and freshly-baked buttery oat cookies are the future as far as we are concerned. Nicely full, we headed to our staterooms; spacious, cosy and with French windows opening up the whole of one wall. We would have been happy to call it home for two weeks, never mind three nights!

After changing, we headed down to the lounge for a light-hearted and entertaining briefing from AmaVerde's Cruise Director Petra, before heading for dinner at the Verde Restaurant, where the food was exceptional and the service impressive.

#### **SUNDAY**

AmaVerde remained in Amsterdam until Sunday lunchtime, so Sunday morning was spent on the first of the day's three excursions. We left the ship behind and stepped aboard a much smaller boat to explore Amsterdam's famous canals with our very knowledgeable and often hilarious guide. History and humour went hand in hand to create a tour that was intriguing and interesting, and I think we were all a little disappointed when it was over! Next, we boarded a bus with our guide for a city tour that again dispensed good humour with little known facts. With everyone present and accounted for, we headed back to the ship for lunch and departed for Volendam.

With lunch enjoyed (four delicious courses for both lunch and dinner is a recipe for diet disaster!), we headed to the Sun Deck to watch AmaVerde



manoeuvre the first lock of the journey; no small feat and something that was great fun to watch. Eventually we arrived into a beautiful harbour in the town of Horn, where sailing boats lined up beside impressive yachts making quite the picturesque approach to our newest destination. We boarded a coach and made our way through scenic countryside and into the village of Edam; land of cheese! We celebrated our arrival with a visit to a cheese factory; a dream come true for a cheese fiend like myself.

We continued our journey to the harbour of Volendam, where vibrant fisherman's houses overlook the water and tiny shops sell some of the region's best seafood; I can testify that the calamari certainly lived up to the hype! We shopped for souvenirs, lingered long enough to snap a close up with a friendly heron and teetered in giant clogs for a photo opportunity on the water's edge.

Sunday evening saw us welcomed into the Bella Cucina Grill for a five course Gala Welcome Dinner; Smoked Salmon; Casanova Salad; Mushroom Cappuccino; Whole Roasted Beef Tenderloin with Herbs Mousseline Potato and a dessert of Mascarpone Mousse with Sesame Crosstini's. With a food baby firmly in place, we headed to the lounge for cocktails and a laidback soundtrack provided by the ship's talented pianist.



#### **MONDAY**

During breakfast on Monday (AmaVerde's waffles = amazing!) we arrived in Arnhem, where we were offered the choice of a visit to the Airborne Museum Hartenstein, the Netherland's only battlefield museum, or a visit to Doorwerth Castle; one of the oldest castles in Holland.

We figured there are worse places to spend a Monday morning than in a fairy tale castle on the banks of the River Rhine and after a tour of Arnhem we arrived at the imposing gates of Doorwerth Castle. Passionate gardeners gave us the low down on the way they grow crops just as those in medieval times did before them and an informative guide gave us a tour of the castle's interior. After tea and cake in the courtyard, we headed back to the coach for the journey back to the ship. AmaVerde set sail as we enjoyed lunch in the Verde Restaurant.

It was difficult to prise us away from the dessert table and its inexplicably delicious walnut ice cream but the sun was shining on deck and Laura had arranged for the ship's mountain bikes to be readied for our use. After all, we had to burn off those calories somehow!



Once docked in Nijmegen, the ship's crew prepared our bikes at the water's edge and we became seemingly the only helmet-wearing cyclists in Holland. Having not ridden a bicycle in the last ten years, I would best describe my attempt as 'wobbly'. We made our way around Nijmegen in a fashion far less graceful than it sounds, stopping for photos and biscuits to refuel along the way.

With pink faces and tired legs, we made our way to our cabins to change for the night's special event; dinner in The Chef's Table restaurant. After six courses of exceptional food and wine pairings, it took all we had to bypass bed and head to the party that was underway in the lounge. Once we realised there were Beatles-style wigs and glasses waiting for us, we were soon in the party spirit and joined a packed dancefloor for 70's, 80's

and even a few 90's classics.

All things considered, we can certainly say that we have had worse Mondays!

#### **TUESDAY**



With our cases loaded on to the coach and the riverside views appreciated for one last time, we joined the first of the day's excursions into Brussels, Belgium's cosmopolitan capital.

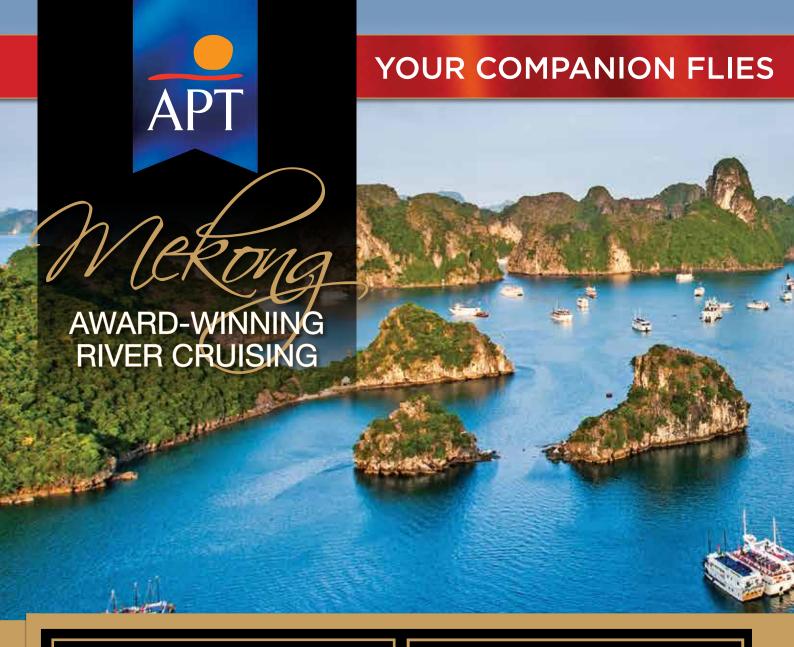
We stopped for a photo opportunity at the Atomium, before arriving in Brussels, where the smell of chocolate was almost overpowering (never a bad thing in the eyes of a chocoholic). We marvelled at the opulent buildings of the Grand Square, overstretched ourselves with Belgian waffles that proved our eyes were bigger than our bellies, shopped endless chocolatiers and didn't know quite what to make of the Manneken Pis (or Peeing Boy as the bronze statue is better known).

After some free time to explore the quaint but costly boutiques of the Galeries Royales Saint-Hubert, it was finally time to bid a fond farewell to our APT host Laura and start the journey home.

#### SO AS A FIRST-TIME RIVER CRUISER OF 28 YEARS OLD, WHAT DID I THINK?

While I wouldn't suggest river cruising for families and can't deny that it tends to attract an older clientele, it is definitely something I would do again. As cruise ships get bigger, there is something quite charming about smaller vessels; they take you to the heart of a city so you can explore from the moment you step on dry land. Your fellow passengers become friendly faces with whom you share the same experiences and mealtimes are a social occasion where everyone exchanges stories of what they saw that day.

I was amazed at how many places I was able to visit in just four days and there is something so exciting about waking up in the middle of somewhere new each morning. All things considered, I'm a river cruise convert. Next stop? Mississippi!



#### **ESSENTIAL VIETNAM & CAMBODIA**

15 Day Premium River Cruise & Tour

#### Siem Reap to Saigon

Centred around a captivating Mekong River cruise, this four-star holiday will bring you the delights of Vietnam & Cambodia at a price that represents great value. From the ancient temples of Angkor to the energetic streets of Saigon, you'll explore this exotic region in style, enjoying premium accommodation on land and aboard the RV La Marguerite ship.



1st person from £2,945 Companion from £2,095\*

Departures from January 2016 to April 2017

#### YOUR STYLISH RIVER SHIP



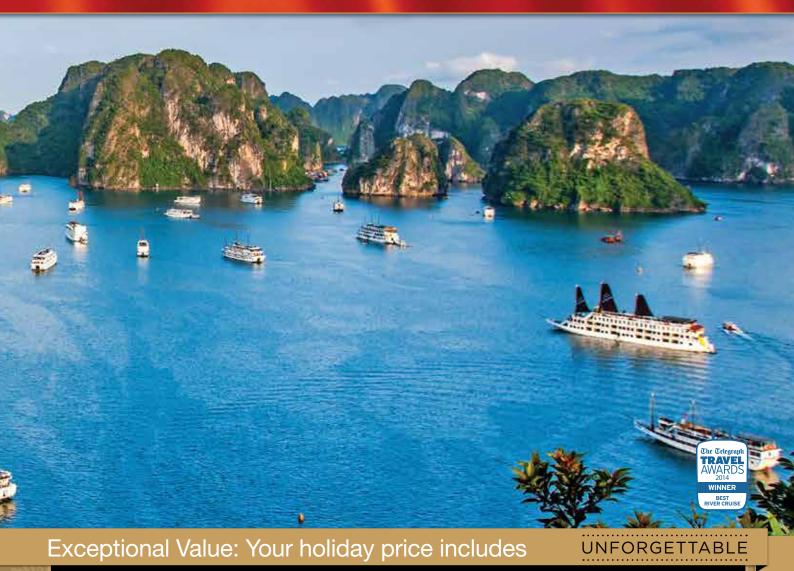
Combining the style of the colonial era with a contemporary edge, the RV La Marguerite encapsulates superior service and accommodation. Facilities include two air-conditioned lounges, spa, Fitness Centre and a Sun Deck offering uninterrupted views and a swimming pool.

#### EXTEND TO HANOI & HA LONG BAY

Begin by exploring the bustling Vietnamese capital of Hanoi. Travel to World Heritage-listed Ha Long Bay and absorb the tranquil scenery on a premium two-night cruise aboard a Bhaya Cruises junk, before flying south to Siem Reap.

Add from £1,050 per person

\*Prices are per person, twin share and include saving where applicable. Prices based on travel in Cat. C Standard Suite on 15 July 2016 (Essential Vietnam & Cambodia) and on 11 July Companion Flies Free offer based on free economy class flight from London. Two people must travel together to qualify. Flight upgrades and regional flights may be available, please contact A cabins only. Not applicable to Sadec or Indochina Suites. Combinable with the Companion Flies Free offer. Solo supplements apply. Prices Visas are not included in the tour cost. Prices





Get close to iconic wonders, and experience customs and cultures on a wide choice of guided tours and sightseeing excursions - at no extra cost.

#### PREMIUM ACCOMMODATION



The RV La Marguerite offers suites designed with comfort and convenience in mind. Each suite will delight with state-of-the-art appointments, and most feature outside balconies



Complimentary local beer, local spirits and soft drink are served at your discretion and complimentary wine is served with lunch and dinner on board the RV La Marguerite.

#### **DELECTABLE DINING**



All delicious meals onboard your cruise are included. Enjoy fine dining created by our master chefs using the finest fresh local ingredients.

#### **EVERYTHING TAKEN CARE OF**



Your holiday price includes return flights from London on quality airlines, all tipping, taxes, luggage porterage and overseas transfers.

#### **EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE**

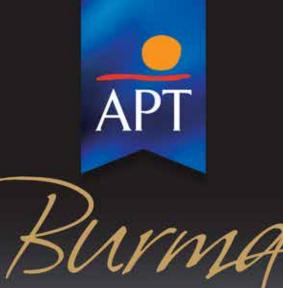


With a guest to staff ratio of 2:1, the service on board is exceptional. An experienced Cruise Director will also accompany you throughout to ensure everything runs smoothly.

2016 (Hanoi extension). Offers apply to new bookings made by 31 July 2015 or until sold out. Subject to availability and may be withdrawn at anytime. us for details. Surcharges would apply for both passengers. Free cabin upgrade is an upgrade from a Category C to a Category B cabins and Category correct at time of publication.UK0492







#### YOUR COMPANION

AWARD-WINNING RIVER CRUISING



#### MAJESTIC BURMA

17 Day Premium River Cruise & Tour

#### Yangon to Mandalay

Travelling in style and comfort, a four-star cruise along the mighty Irrawaddy River delivers an exceptional adventure through this once forgotten nation. Immerse yourself in a culture that remains intact from days gone by, feel the warmth and grace of the inquisitive locals and marvel at the sight of age-old golden temples, stupas and monasteries set against lush green forests.

# BURMA (MYANMAR) Sagaing Mingun Inwa Mandalay Bagan Yandabo Salay Tantkyi Hill Magwe Minhla RV PRINCESS PANHWAR Pyay (Prome) Myanaung Irrawaddy River Zalon Danuphyu Yangon TRAVELMARVEL

1st person from £3,995 Companion from £2,995\*

Departures from January 2016 to March 2017

#### YOUR STYLISH RIVER SHIP



The brand new RV Princess Panhwar is custom-built with you in mind, boasting sophisticated design and outstanding facilities including an air-conditioned lounge, spa and Sun Deck. And with just 36 suites, this boutique vessel ensures a gracious onboard experience.

#### EXTEND TO INLE LAKE

Extend your holiday by three nights and stay at Myanmar Treasures Resort on the shores of the lake. Take in the lake's floating gardens; see the one-legged rowing technique of the locals, and visit the famous Nga Phe Kyaung Monastery where monks have trained cats to jump through hoops.

Add from £950 per person

\*Prices are per person, twin share and include saving where applicable. Prices based on travel in Cat. C French Balcony Suite (Main Deck) on 3 March 2017 (Majestic Burma) and on 3 March Companion Flies Free offer based on free economy class flight from London. Two people must travel together to qualify. Companion Flies Free offer based on December 2016 to March 2017 please contact us for details. Surcharges would apply for both passengers. Solo supplements apply. Visas are not included in the tour cost. Prices correct at time of publication. UK0485





#### Exceptional Value: Your holiday price includes

#### UNFORGETTABLE



Get close to iconic wonders, and experience customs and cultures on a wide choice of guided tours and sightseeing excursions – at no extra cost.



At 280 square feet, the RV Princess Panhwar's suites are among the largest on the Irrawaddy. Each suite features a French or an Outside Balcony



Complimentary house wine, local beer and soft drink are served at lunch and dinner on board the RV Princess Panhwar.

#### DELECTABLE DINING



All delicious meals onboard your cruise are included. Enjoy fine dining created by our master chefs using the finest fresh local ngredients.

#### EVERYTHING TAKEN CARE OF



Your holiday price includes return flights from London on quality airlines, all tipping, taxes, luggage porterage and overseas transfers.

#### EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE



An experienced Cruise Director will accompany you throughout, be on hand to answer any questions, offer suggestions and ensure everything runs smoothly.

2017 (Inle Lake extension). Offers apply to new bookings made by 31 July 2015 or until sold out. Subject to availability and may be withdrawn at anytime departures only. January - November 2016 departures will receive a discount of £250 per person. Flight upgrades and regional flights may be available,







# A jazz festival at sea.



#### Queen Mary 2 - New York to Southampton - M526 29 October - 5 November 2015.

In association with Blue Note Records, Cunard are proud to welcome on board 15 artists from Blue Note Records, the American Jazz label for a seven-night Transatlantic Crossing on Queen Mary 2. The launch of this partnership brings two historic and celebrated brands together for the first time, combining the best of traditional Cunard entertainment with the sensual sounds of jazz.

Jazz fans sailing on this unique crossing can enjoy 15 performances by seven different bands,

including a special performance by all the artists as an All Star Band. The president of Blue Note Records, who himself is a celebrated musician and Grammy® award winning producer, will also be sailing and will host Q&A sessions and record signings with the artists.

With shows in the Royal Court Theatre, intimate evening concerts in Illuminations and latenight jam sessions in the ships nightclub, G32, this Transatlantic Crossing promises to be a spectacular jazz festival at sea.





An inside stateroom on cruise M526 starts from

#### £1,299pp\*

with the Cunard Fare and includes the flight to New York, transfers and \$80pp on board spending money.



Marcus Strickland Saxophonist

Keyon Harrold Trumpeter

# Other special Transatlantic Crossings:



An evening with Julian Lloyd Webber New York – Southampton 11 - 18 October 2015 - M524A

#### 7 nights from £1,379pp\*

Voyage from New York to Southampton on Queen Mary 2 in the company of legendary cellist Julian Lloyd Webber. Be enthralled by his personal recollections and performances by his wife, Jiaxin Lloyd Webber, and meet them both at Q&A sessions.

An Inside stateroom on cruise M524A starts from £1,379pp with the Cunard Fare and includes the flight to New York, transfers and \$80pp on board spending money.

The 250th Transatlantic Crossing of Queen Mary 2 - New York to Southampton 25 November 2015 - M528N

#### 8 nights from £1,299pp\*

In late November, Queen Mary 2 sets sail on her 250th Transatlantic Crossing from New York to Southampton. In 1840 our ship Britannia crossed the Atlantic for the first time.

175 years later we are proud to still offer the only scheduled service of Transatlantic Crossings.

An Inside stateroom on cruise M528N starts from £1,299pp with the Cunard Fare and includes the flight to New York, transfers and \$80pp on board spending money.

\*Fares shown are per person in £ sterling based on two adults sharing the lowest grade of stateroom available, within the applicable stateroom type and are subject to availability. Fares for sole occupancy and supplementary fares are available on request.

Fares and other information are correct at the time of going to press but are subject to change.

For more details, terms and conditions, speak to Bolsover Cruise Club.

Blue Note is a registered trademark of Capitol Records, LLC
All details of performers, events and fares are correct
at time of publication but are subject to change.

# Under the Spotlight Booking Special

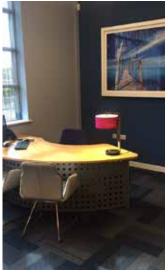
With more people than ever choosing to cruise, we aim to make the whole process a pleasure. That's why we not only welcome customers into our Cruise Bureau here at The Cruise Centre in Barlborough, but also to our Cruise Holiday Shop at Meadowhall Shopping Centre. We put Yvonne at The Cruise Holiday Shop and Poppy at The Cruise Bureau 'Under The Spotlight', to find out how each location delivers a unique service to Bolsover Cruise Club customers.





Poppy
SENIOR CRUISE CONSULTANT
The Cruise Centre
Bolsover Cruise Club
Barlborough, Chesterfield

I have worked at Bolsover Cruise Club for five years and I regularly see customers in the bureau here at The Cruise Centre. We are open 10am until 4pm Monday to Saturday (except Bank Holidays) and although Saturday is our busiest day, we tend to have customers calling in throughout the whole week. Some make appointments, others just drop in, but I think all of them enjoy having the option to call in and put a face to the voices they hear on the telephone. The majority of customers who visit The Cruise Bureau come from the surrounding areas, though others call in when passing through. I recently spoke to a lovely





couple who had been caravanning in the area and decided to call into The Cruise Bureau after being recommended Bolsover Cruise Club by someone who had booked with us in the past.

People are often surprised at the size of our offices and comment on how lovely The Cruise Bureau is; it is even better since we refurbished it! I think it's great for customers to see how established Bolsover Cruise Club is as a company and I think this adds an element of confidence for those who are maybe a little wary about booking over the phone.

Meeting people face-to-face creates a much more personal experience and allows us to get to know the customer and their needs better. We can show them things in the brochure or on the screen, rather than talking through it with them on the telephone. We will sit down with a coffee and get to know exactly what the customer is looking for, conveying their options and sharing the excitement of their booking.

Our One2One Service means that our customers will always speak to the same Cruise Consultant throughout, from the initial booking to a welcome home email on their return, so it is always nice for people to put a face to a name and a voice. It just makes the whole service far more personal.



Yvonne
senior cruise consultant
The Cruise Holiday Shop

The Cruise Holiday Shop Meadowhall Shopping Centre Sheffield

I have been at Bolsover Cruise Club for over ten years and have worked at The Cruise Holiday Shop at Meadowhall since it opened in May last year, though I divide my time between the two in order to keep abreast of new products and developments in the industry. Working at The Cruise Holiday Shop is completely different to being in The Cruise Bureau at The Cruise Centre in Barlborough, and I feel that it is really important to offer our customers the option to choose between the two locations.

Customers coming into The Cruise Centre have often made a special journey in order to enquire about a cruise, pay a balance or check details of an existing booking. The Cruise Holiday Shop, on the other hand, is set in a shopping environment, and so attracts a lot of passing trade from people visiting from all over the country, many of whom have never cruised before. I will often advise them on which cruise line or itinerary best suits their needs, with many of them choosing to book immediately

once they see what is on offer. We are also able to offer brochures for all cruise lines, though people often comment that they get a much better idea of what cruising can offer just by talking to us, than they do by looking through the brochure. I believe that our position at the main entrance to the shopping centre helps to draw people in who wouldn't otherwise have even considered cruising, had they not been intrigued when seeing the shop. I think it is great that we are encouraging new-to-cruise passengers to try something completely different to their usual package holiday and they will often call in afterwards to tell us how much they enjoyed the trip.

We have also seen many old clients returning to Bolsover Cruise Club through The Cruise Holiday Shop at Meadowhall. Some will just pop in for a chat about where they have been and where they plan to go in the future. It's great to hear stories of their trips and to see how much they adore cruising - talking about holidays never gets boring!

Something we have noticed since The Cruise Holiday Shop opened is that people who live close to The Cruise Centre in Barlborough often prefer to visit us here at Meadowhall. The shop is open 10am until 9pm Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm Saturday and 11am to 5pm Sunday, so customers who work office hours really appreciate being able to deal with someone face-to-face at a time that suits them.









# > ALL INCLUSIVE < ON SELECTED 2015/16 DEPARTURES

# FREE DRINKS \$300 ONBOARD SPEND

### THE MODERN LUXURY WAY

Book an ocean view stateroom and receive free drinks, book a balcony stateroom and above to receive free drinks and \$300 on board spending money.

Valid for bookings made from 1 Jul - 31 Aug 2015.

#### SIX REASONS YOU SHOULD CHOOSE CELEBRITY CRUISES



#### **MODERN LUXURY**

- First-class accommodation
- Exceptional cuisine
- World-class spa and wellbeing programmes
- · Real grass lawn
- · Intuitive service
- Live entertainment



#### **INNOVATIVE CUISINE & BARS**

- Up to 12 restaurants on each ship serving globally inspired, award-winning cuisine
- In Qsine®, guests use individual iPads to order their favourite cocktail, and then use it to realistically 'shake' their drink
- Ice-topped Martini Bar & Crush offering rare vodka & caviar pairings
- Up to 40 handcrafted boutique beers in Gastrobar



#### UNRIVALLED WINE OFFERING

- Up to 500 wine selections on board more than any other cruise line
- Over 200 expert sommeliers across the fleet one of the largest teams in the world
- Cellar Masters our relaxing wine bar is home to some of the finest wines from around the world
- Enlightening wine tasting classes which use Reidel Crystal



#### **PLUSH ACCOMMODATION**

- Concierge Class staterooms comprise innovative in-room features, high quality furnishings and enhanced room service
- AquaClass® accommodation offers all Concierge Class features plus complimentary entry to our Canyon Ranch SpaClub®
- Suite Class the highest level of luxury accommodation at sea, which includes a private butler, personal chef and exclusive access to Luminae restaurant



#### **HEALTH & WELLBEING**

- Health and wellbeing are at the heart of a Celebrity cruise our world-class Canyon Ranch SpaClub® offers an array of signature services and spa treatments
- Partnership with Randi Zukerberg
- Celebrity Life<sup>SM</sup> activity programme comprises a host of sports, games and fitness classes



#### **INTUITIVE SERVICE**

- 2:1 guest to staff ratio
- Complimentary sparkling wine as you board
- Destination Concierge who'll help your customers get to the heart of every destination
- Waiters who remember your name and favourite drink
- Complimentary 24-hr room service





#### 2015 DEPARTURES FROM £949pp



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 30 Aug 15 - 14 nights

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

**INTERIOR** from

OCEAN VIEW from £1,099<sub>pp</sub> | £1,499<sub>pp</sub> BALCONY from

**MEDITERRANEAN** 

#### Celebrity Reflection® - 11 Sep 15 - 10 nights

Fly from Gatwick, Rome (Civitavecchia), Sicily (Messina), Mykonos, Ephesus (Kusadasi), Rhodes, Santorini, Athens (Piraeus), Naples, Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to Gatwick

**INTERIOR** from

OCEAN VIEW from £1,329<sub>pp</sub> £1,729<sub>pp</sub>

**BALCONY** from £1,779<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 13 Sep 15 - 14 nights

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

INTERIOR from £1,099<sub>pp</sub> | £1,699<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from

**BALCONY** from



#### Celebrity Reflection® - 21 Sep 15 - 11 nights

Fly from Gatwick, Rome (Civitavecchia), Santorini, Istanbul (overnight in port), Ephesus (Kusadasi), Mykonos, Athens (Piraeus), Naples, Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to Gatwick

INTERIOR from

£1,579<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,689<sub>pp</sub> BALCONY from

£1,889<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 27 Sep 15 - 13 nights

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

INTERIOR from £1,119<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,499pp

**BALCONY** from



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 21 Oct 15 - 11 nights

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

INTERIOR from £949<sub>00</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,399pp

BALCONY from £1,499<sub>00</sub>



#### Celebrity Equinox<sup>SM</sup> - 19 Nov 2015 - 12 nights

Fly from Heathrow, Fort Lauderdale, St. Thomas, St. Kitts, Barbados, Dominica, St. Maarten, Fort Lauderdale, fly to Heathrow

INTERIOR from £1,565<sub>pp</sub>

BALCONY from £1,875<sub>DD</sub>

£2,205pp



#### Celebrity Millennium® - 20 Nov 15 - 17 nights

Fly from Manchester, Singapore, Benoa (2 nights in port), Komodo, Phuket, Penang, Port Klang (Kuala Lumpur), Singapore, fly to Manchester

INTERIOR from £2,109<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £2,239<sub>pp</sub>

www.bolsovercruiseclub.com | Into The Blue





#### 2016 CELEBRITY ECLIPSE® FROM £799pp



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 30 Apr 16 - 8 nights

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

**INTERIOR** from £79900 OCEAN VIEW from

£949...

**BALCONY** from

£999<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 10 May 16 - 12 nights

Southampton, St. Peter Port, Cork (Cobh), Akureyri, Isafjordur, Reykjavik (overnight in port), Belfast, Southampton

**INTERIOR** from

£1,199<sub>DD</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,599<sub>pp</sub>

**BALCONY** from £1,699pp



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 3 Jul 16 - 14 nights

Southampton, Bruges (Zeebrugge), Stockholm, Tallinn, St. Petersburg (3 days), Berlin (Warnemunde), Copenhagen, Southampton

**INTERIOR** from £1,529<sub>pp</sub> OCEAN VIEW from

£1,929<sub>DD</sub>

**BALCONY** from

£2,129<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 14 Aug 16 - 12 nights

Southampton, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Tallinn, St. Petersburg (2 days), Berlin (Warnemunde), Southampton

INTERIOR from

£1,285<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,635<sub>DD</sub> BALCONY from

£1,835pp



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 3 Sep 16 - 14 nights

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

INTERIOR from £1,489<sub>pp</sub> OCEAN VIEW from £1,935pp BALCONY from

£2,189<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 17 Sep 16 - 13 nights

Southampton, Ponta Delgada, Madeira (Funchal), Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Lisbon (2 days), Southampton

INTERIOR from

£1,395<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,795<sub>pp</sub>

BALCONY from £1,945pp



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 3 Oct 16 - 13 nights

Southampton, La Coruna, Madeira (Funchal), Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Lisbon (2 days), Southampton

INTERIOR from

OCEAN VIEW from £1,745<sub>pp</sub> BALCONY from

£1,895<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Eclipse® - 16 Oct 16 - 13 nights

Southampton, Vigo, Madeira (Funchal), Tenerife, Gran Canaria, Lisbon (2 days), Southampton

INTERIOR from £1,245<sub>00</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,645 BALCONY from





#### 2016 FLY CRUISES FROM £1,279pp



#### Celebrity Reflection® - 25 Apr 16 - 11 nights

Fly from Gatwick, Rome (Civitavecchia), Santorini, Athens (Piraeus), Istanbul (overnight in port), Ephesus (Kusadasi), Mykonos, Naples, Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to Gatwick

**INTERIOR** from £1,459<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,679<sub>pp</sub> **BALCONY** from

£1,869<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Equinox<sup>SM</sup> - 29 Apr 16 - 10 nights

Fly from Heathrow, Barcelona, Palma de Mallorca, Valletta, Sicily (Messina), Naples, Rome (Civitavecchia), Ajaccio, Florence/Pisa (Livorno), Barcelona, fly to Heathrow

**INTERIOR** from

£1,395<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,575pp

**BALCONY** from £1.765<sub>00</sub>



#### Celebrity Equinox<sup>SM</sup> - 16 Jul 16 - 7 nights

Fly from Gatwick, Istanbul (overnight in port), Mykonos (overnight in port), Valletta, Catania (Sicily), Amalfi Coast (Salerno), Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to Gatwick

**INTERIOR** from £1,279<sub>DD</sub> OCEAN VIEW from

BALCONY from £1,519<sub>pp</sub> £1,409<sub>pp</sub>

SPAIN, MALTA & ITALY

#### Celebrity Equinox<sup>SM</sup> - 30 Jul 16 - 7 nights

Fly from Gatwick, Barcelona, Valencia, Alicante, Valletta, Catania (Sicily), Amalfi Coast (Salerno), Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to Gatwick

**INTERIOR** from

£1,285<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from

£1,415,

BALCONY from £1,535<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Constellation® - 30 Jul 16 - 8 nights

Fly from Heathrow, Barcelona, Cannes, Rome (Civitavecchia), Amalfi Coast (Salerno), Kotor, Zadar, Bologna, Venice, fly to Heathrow

INTERIOR from £1,545<sub>pp</sub>

OCEAN VIEW from £1,675<sub>pp</sub>

**BALCONY** from £1,925<sub>DD</sub>



#### Celebrity Reflection® - 30 Sep 16 - 10 nights

Fly from Gatwick, Rome (Civitavecchia), Sicily (Messina), Mykonos, Ephesus (Kusadasi), Rhodes, Santorini, Athens (Piraeus), Naples, Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to Gatwick

INTERIOR from

£1,495pp

BALCONY from

ARABIAN COAST

CONCIERGE from £1,865<sub>pp</sub> | £2,049<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Constellation® - 27 Nov 16 - 13 nights

Fly from Heathrow, Abu Dhabi, Dubai (2 days), New Mangalore, Goa (Mormugao), Mumbai (Bombay), Khasab, Abu Dhabi, fly to Heathrow

INTERIOR from £1,969<sub>pp</sub> OCEAN VIEW from

£1,425<sub>pp</sub> £2,269<sub>pp</sub> | £2,669<sub>pp</sub>



#### Celebrity Constellation® - 10 Dec 16 - 10 nights

Fly from Heathrow, Abu Dhabi, Dubai (3 days), Muscat (overnight in port). Khasab, Abu Dhabi (overnight in port), fly to Heathrow

INTERIOR from

OCEAN VIEW from £1,625pp

BALCONY from

www.bolsovercruiseclub.com | Into The Blue



# World discoveries and complimentary flights.



Discover the world's most stunning destinations with a Cunard Exotic Cruise. Explore far flung destinations and discover rich cultures and unique experiences - all combined with the total relaxation offered by Cunard's iconic Queens.

We invite you to discover the World. Book your Cunard Exotic Cruise before 31 August 2015 and enjoy complimentary flights and transfers\*.



#### OUEEN ELIZABETH

#### Southampton to Melbourne

40 nights • 10 Jan - 19 Feb 2016

Stateroom	Cunard Fares from*	Complimentary on board spending money
Grills Suite	£13,499	\$425
Balcony	£6,499	\$300
Oceanview	£5,099	\$200
Inside	£4.799	\$175
Single	£7,829	\$175

#### Dubai to Southampton

24 nights • 16 April - 10 May 2016

Stateroom	Cunard Fares from*	Complimentary on board spending money
Grills Suite	£7,149	\$240
Balcony	£3,399	\$180
Oceanview	£2,649	\$120
Inside	£2,549	\$100
Single	£4,199	\$100

Early Saver Fares available - call for details



#### QUEEN VICTORIA

#### Hong Kong to Southampton

43 nights • 28 March - 10 May 2016

Stateroom	Cunard Fares from*	Complimentary on board spending money
Grills Suite	£12,799	\$450
Balcony	£6,049	\$325
Oceanview	£4,749	\$225
Inside	£4,499	\$200
Single	£7,499	\$200

#### Singapore to Southampton

38 nights • 2 April – 10 May 2016

Stateroom	Cunard Fares from*	Complimentary on board spending money
Grills Suite	£12,199	\$400
Balcony	£5,899	\$300
Oceanview	£4,649	\$200
Inside	£4,349	\$175
Single	£7,079	\$175



#### UEEN MARY 2

#### Southampton to Brisbane

63 nights • 10 Jan- 14 Mar 2016

Stateroom	Cunard Fares from*	Complimentary on board spending money
Grills Suite	£20,649	\$650
Balcony	£9,249	\$375
Oceanview	£9,249	\$325
Incide	£7 000	¢275



# Southampton to Rio de Janeiro 24 nights • 10 Jan – 3 Feb 2016

Southampton

Stateroom	Cunard Fares from*	Complimentary on board spending money
Grills Suite	£7,049	\$240
Balcony	£3,149	\$140
Oceanview	£3,199	\$120
Inside	£2,449	\$100

Terms and conditions: \*Complimentary flights and transfers based on Economy class one-way flights to/from London, subject to availability. Available on selected Exotic Cruises departing between January - April 2016.

New Cunard Fare bookings only. For full TeCs visit cunard.co.uk. Book by 31 August 2015. Fares shown are per person in £ sterling based on two adults sharing the lowest grade of stateroom available, within the applicable stateroom type and are subject to availability. Fares and other information are correct at the time of going to print. Ports shown in BoLD are embarkation/disembarkation ports. Destinations in italic are Cruise By/Transit only. All fares shown include international flights and transfers. For full Cunard terms and conditions please speak to Bolsover Cruise Club.

Punta Arenas Magellan Straits

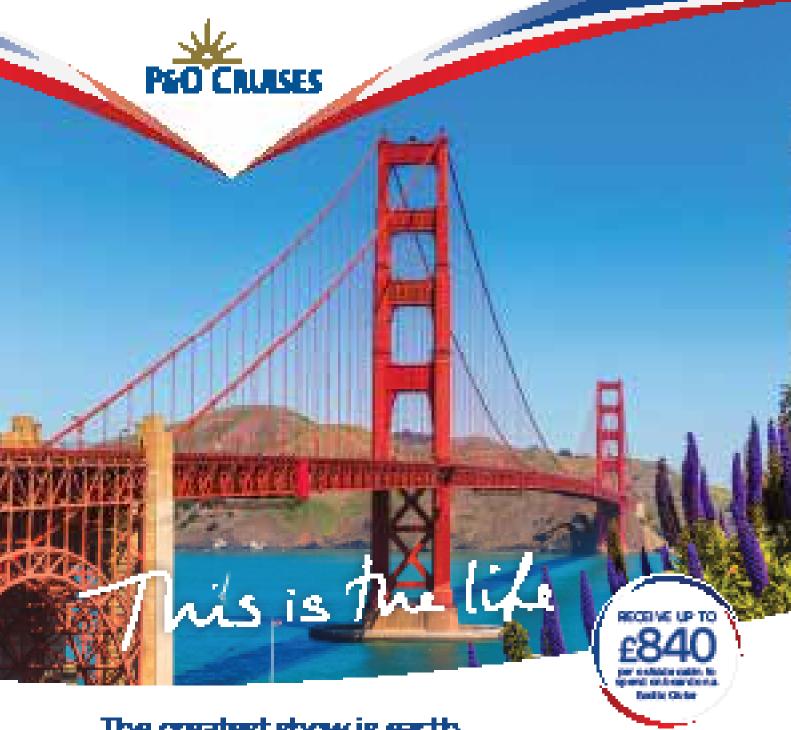
New York

Dominican Republic

Fort Lauderdale

Barbados

Cape Horn



#### The greatest show is earth Exotic Cruises for intrepid travellers.

in the ultimate in exception that you're realing, our World. Beat conditional Australians Cruises will knock your reader of the furing more leave tradecapes than you can shake a dick at, there apic halidays offer a decaling variety of destinations over the course of up to 115 unterpolitable nights.



























# Grand Asian Adventure

Explore sultry Singapore with a leisurely
4 night stay before setting sail on a grand oriental
adventure with Princess Cruises.



#### Departing 26 Nov 2015 for 17 nights

Singapore is one of the hottest travel destinations in the world and you'll spend 4 incredible nights in a city that is quite unlike any other. Staying at the 4\* Novotel Singapore Clarke Quay Hotel or the 5\* Royal Plaza on Scotts Singapore Hotel, you will be perfectly located in the heart of the action; a bus ride from rainforests and a boat trip for island paradise. After 4 nights in this eclectic country, you will board the Sapphire Princess for a grand 13 night adventure.

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 4 nights stay in 4\* Novotel Clarke Quay Hotel or 4 nights stay in 5\* Royal Plaza on Scotts Hotel in Singapore
- Morning at the Zoo with Jungle Breakfast, Footsteps of Raffles including Afternoon Tea and a Singapore Round Island Tour
- 13 nights cruise onboard Princess Cruises' Sapphire Princess
- Flights and private transfers

#### **CRUISE ITINERARY**

Singapore, Bandar Seri Begawan, Nha Trang, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok, Ko Samui, Singapore, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore



CRUISE CLUB FARES from (per person)

£2,249

#### **UPGRADES** from (per person)

Upgrade to a premium Ocean View room from £25, Balcony Cabin from £150 or a Mini-suite from £630 or a Penthouse Suite from £1996

#### **HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS**



#### Bandar Seri Begawan

Home to some of Brunei's most revered landmarks, including the majestic Sultan Omar Ali

Saifuddien Mosque, Bandar Seri Begawan comprises a heady mix of opulence and tradition. Visit colourful open-air markets and observe the Kampang Ayer water villages.



#### **Nha Trang**

As the beach capital of Vietnam, Nha Trang offers its guests high-octane energy. Four miles of sweeping crescent beaches

frame the city's turquoise bay and the impressive beachfront is littered with restaurants serving fish fresh from the sea.



#### **Ho Chi Minh City**

Ho Chi Minh, or Saigon as it is still known to its inhabitants, is Vietnam's largest city. The unrest of the Vietnam War is a distant

memory for the lively and rejuvenated city, though those interested in its vast history should visit the Reunification Palace and the fascinating War Remnants Museum.



#### **Bangkok**

Bangkok is a city of extremes, yet Thai hospitality remains a constant in a destination full of contrasts; sleek skyscrapers

tower above ancient golden pagodas, and Asian street food is eaten before cocktails at glamorous rooftop bars that overlook the whole city. Weave your way through chaotic streets or venture in search of the city's gleaming temples Wat Arun, Grand Palace and Wat Prakeaw.



#### **Kho Samui**

The second largest and best known of the Thai islands, Kho Samui lives up to everyone's expectations of a tropical

paradise. Relax on powder white beaches, dive coral reefs, pamper in luxurious spas and find yourself tempted by some of the most adventurous street food you'll ever come across.



#### **Singapore**

Home to one of the busiest and most iconic ports in the world, Singapore is a truly unique destination that must be seen to

be believed. Immaculately manicure botanical gardens are shadowed by lush green rainforest and ancient temples sit side-by-side with soaring skyscrapers.



#### **Kuala Lumpur**

Malaysia's capital is an urban metropolis that doesn't do anything by halves; the glittering Petronas Towers pierce the

sky, offering visitors the opportunity to see the city from precarious observation decks hundreds of metres in the air; the KL Bird Park is home to 3000 birds, many of which fly about this giant aviary in abandon whilst visitors pass by below; and the district of Little India simmers with the same sights, smells and sounds as the vibrant country after which it is named.



# Ligurian & Tyrrhenian Seas

Combine a luxury hotel stay in charismatic Cannes before setting sail on the Ligurian and Tyrrhenian Seas aboard one of Star Clippers' Tall Ships.



#### Departing 2 Sep 2015 for 10 nights

Begin your holiday with 3 nights in one of Europe's most glamorous cities, staying at the 4\* Eden Hotel & Spa or the 5\* JW Marriott in Cannes. Spend your days marvelling at the sleek mega-yachts and sports cars that line the harbour, and nights sipping champagne and dining on world-class cuisine. Finally, you will board the majestic Star Flyer for 7 nights of grandeur, adventure and tradition, as you explore the Ligurian and Tyrrhenian Seas.

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 3 nights stay in 4\* Eden Hotel & Spa or in 5\*JW Marriott in Cannes
- 7 nights cruise on board Star Clippers' Star Flyer
- Flights and private transfers

#### **CRUISE ITINERARY**

Cannes, Calvi, Figari Beach (Morning), Bonifacio (overnight), Costa Smeralda, Portoferraio, Elba, Rapallo, Monte Carlo, Cannes



CRUISE CLUB FARES from (per person)

£2,259

**UPGRADES** from (per person)

Upgrade to an Owners Suite from £1349

#### **HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS**



#### Calvi

Rising from the waters ahead, the lofty 15th century citadel of Calvi makes for a stunning sight on approach. With five miles of soft

sand beaches, quaint cobblestoned towns and the rugged backdrop of Monte Cinto, much of Calvi's appeal stems from its natural beauty. Man-made beauty exists in spades too, thanks to the pretty pink L'Eglise Sainte Marie Majeure and the winding steps and walkways carving their way through the mountainside. The turquoise waters that surround the island are a haven of activity, with sailing boats moored just off the coast and kayaks and catamarans available to hire.



#### Costa Smeralda

Built on Sardinia's north east coast, Costa Smeralda was created by Prince Karim Aga Khan in the 1960's as a retreat for

the rich and fabulous. Over 50 years later, the destination remains a retreat for the wealthy and Porto Cervo sits at its heart. This millionaire's paradise marina hosts the biggest and best boats in the Mediterranean Sea, their owners touching dry land just long enough to make their way to an immaculate villa on the hillside. Super-yachts glimmer in the sun just off shore, providing a sparkling contrast against Costa Smeralda's rugged but beautiful landscapes.



#### Portoferraio, Elba

The Tuscan island of Elba has long stood as a popular port of call on Western Mediterranean itineraries, however many of

its visitors overlook the destination's unspoiled capital of Portoferraio. With a chequered history spanning the Liguans, Etruscans, Greeks and Romans, Portoferraio is full of character its Old Town looks just as it did hundreds of years ago, thanks to its medieval fortifications, narrow alleyways, quaint mountain villages and old churches.



#### Rapallo

The north Italian seaside town of Rapallo maintains a traditional coastal appeal, thanks to the large number of Italians who

continue to call the fishing harbour home. The port's historic centre, with its 15th century clock tower and 12th century basilica, is a popular gathering place for locals and visitors alike. Rapallo's favourable position puts you within easy reach of Portofino and Santa Margherita, with a pleasant 15 minute boat trip taking you across the coast.



#### **Monte Carlo**

Get a taste for the high life in this jet-setter's paradise, indulging in everything that makes the city so appealing. Play your hand at

Casino de Monte Carlo, even if it's just for an excuse to see the lavish interiors, stained glass and golden statues inside. The Monaco Grand Prix is the highlight of the Formula 1 racing calendar and you can negotiate every hairpin bend yourself, thanks to companies offering supercar track days on the world famous circuit. A stroll through the manicured cliff side gardens of Avenue Saint-Martin is the perfect peaceful end to a day, before toasting to an incredible holiday on the veranda of the world famous Café de Paris.



# The Great Barrier Reef

Discover the secrets of the Great Barrier Reef with Azamara Club Cruises and stay in two of Australia's most exciting cities.





#### Departing 1 Jan 2016 for 15 nights

Start your Australian adventure in the characterful city of Cairns, spending 2 nights at the 4\* Breakfree Royal Harbour Hotel or the 5\* Shangri-La Hotel, The Marina. Cairns is often referred to as 'the gateway to the Great Barrier Reef' and it is here that you will join the luxurious Azamara Quest for a 10 night cruise. Finally, you will enjoy 3 night stay at the 4\* PARK ROYAL Darling Harbour Sydney Hotel or the 5\* Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel in the iconic harbour city of Sydney.

#### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 2 nights stay in 4\* BreakFree
   Royal Harbour Hotel in Cairns
- 10 nights on board Azamara Quest
- Choice of either a Blue Mountains & Australia Wildlife Tour OR Bondi Beach & Sydney Sights Tour
- 3 nights stay in 4\* PARKROYAL Darling Harbour Sydney Hotel
- Flights and transfers

#### CRUISE ITINERARY

Cairns, Willis Island (Cruising), Townsville Hardy Reef, Hamilton Island, Mooloolaba Brisbane, Newcastle, Sydney

AUSTRALIA

MOOLOOLABA

BRISBANE

NEW SOUTH
WALES

NEWCASTLE

SYDNEY

CAIRNS

TOWNSVILLE

HAMILTON ISLAND

from (per person)

£5,349

UPGRADES from (per person)

Upgrade to a Veranda Stateroom with

Balcony from £1120 or Upgrade to a

Deluxe Veranda Suite from £1480

#### HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS



#### **Townsville**

With an average of 320 days of sunshine per year and worldclass diving at the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, Townsville's

appeal is obvious. Stroll the palm tree-studded promenade of the Strand, where you can sink your feet into some of Australia's most golden sands and enjoy views of the neighbouring Magnetic Island; those looking to venture a little closer can take the short ferry ride to the island's secluded beaches if time permits. Townsville's location between the imposing red granite of Castle Hill and the sparkling blue sea provides endless scenic spots.



#### **Hardy Reef**

Widely acknowledged as the best snorkelling spot in all the Whitsunday Islands, Hardy Reef is the perfect place to discover

the mysterious underwater world of the magnificent Great Barrier Reef. The calm turquoise waters are home to vibrant corals and hundreds of species of fish, including angelfish, unicorn fish, barracuda and even the odd passing whale.



#### **Hamilton Island**

Hamilton Island is the largest inhabited island of all the 74 that make up the startlingly beautiful Whitsundays. With

pristine beaches and 70% of the island made up of National Park, Hamilton Island is the epitome of a tropical paradise. Lounge on Catseye Beach, dine beneath the lights of the elegant marina or play 18 holes on the only Australian championship golf course built on its own island.



#### Mooloolaba

The sun seekers paradise of Mooloolaba sits at the heart of Queensland's Sunshine Coast, occupying a curve of white

sand edged with sparkling rock pools. Previously a surfer's haven, the town has undergone a glamorous transformation to become a world-renowned luxury beach destination. Swim in the crystal clear waters of the Pacific Ocean or join the sophisticated clientele who dine at the cosmopolitan eateries along Mooloolaba Esplanade.



#### Brisbane

Queensland's sophisticated capital offers culture aplenty, with a thriving art scene, eclectic markets and a melting pot of

nationalities. Experience the great outdoors in vast green parks across the city or take a kayak along the Brisbane River. Historic buildings line the city streets and are best appreciated from the dizzying heights of Story Bridge.



#### Newcastle

Newcastle may not be Australia's most famous city but it is its second oldest and it is thriving. The gradual gentrification of the

city has brought a cool vibe to its streets and the renowned Darby Street is now lined with hip boutiques and quaint cafes. Alternatively, explorers can make the four mile walk to the 44 acre Blackbutt Reserve, where possums, koalas, kangaroos and wombats are known to roam.



Combine sizzling city nights in cosmopolitan
Miami with a serene West Indies cruise on board
Azamara Journey with Azamara Club Cruises



# Departing 24 Jan 2016 for 14 nights

Miami is one of the world's most vibrant destinations and you'll spend 3 nights discovering everything the energetic city has to offer. Dance to a Latino beat in Little Havana or mingle with the rich, famous and fabulous in South Beach. Relax in the plush surroundings of your central hotel, with a choice of the 4\* Pestana South Beach Art Deco Hotel or the 5\* Conrad Miami by Hilton, before boarding Azamara Journey for 11 nights island hopping around the West Indies.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 3 nights stay in 4\* Pestana South Beach Art Deco Hotel or 3 nights stay in 5\* Conrad Miami by Hilton
- Miami city tour with Biscayne Bay Cruise
- 11 nights cruise on board Azamara Journey
- Flights and private transfers

### **CRUISE ITINERARY**

Miami, St. John, Iles Des Saintes, Roseau, Charlestown, Gustavia, Virgin Gorda, Miami

CRUISE CLUB FARES

£4,025



### **HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS**



### Miami

Miami, at Florida's southeastern tip, is a vibrant city whose Cuban influence is reflected in the cafes and cigar shops that

line Calle Ocho in Little Havana. Miami Beach, on barrier islands across the turquoise waters of Biscayne Bay, is home to glamorous South Beach, famed for its colorful art deco buildings, white sand, surfside hotels and trendsetting nightclubs. Miami really does offer something for everyone and is the perfect location to start your cruise holiday.



# **Iles Des Saintes**

The string of islands that make up lles Des Saintes sits just off the southern coast of Guadeloupe, offering visitors

the closest possible thing to an unspoiled island paradise. This eight island archipelago of the French Antilles is home to less than 3,000 inhabitants and a nonchalant French vibe flows throughout the charming painted villages. Serene beaches entice sun worshippers and the area's snorkelling is exceptional.



### Roseau

Dominica's capital sits at the foot of the Roseau River valley, with the river flowing through the heart of the town and emptying

into the sea. Roseau's narrow streets pulsate to a reggae beat and you'll find a unique blend of old and new in Dominica's urban epicentre. Escape the hustle and bustle at one of the city's beautiful botanical gardens.



# Charlestown

The island of Nevis is the next port on your West Indies hideaway and Charlestown sits at its heart. Lush rainforest and

historic sugar plantations envelope an isle dominated by a huge central volcano. Hike hilly trails of rich vegetation, monkeys providing your entertainment, or do nothing at all but relax with a local rum in a beachside bar.



### Gustavia

As the capital of St Barts, Gustavia has long been considered the playground of the rich and famous.

A glamorous French ambience draws a sophisticated crowd, who moor their glossy mega-yachts in Gustavia's glittering harbour and shop exclusive collections in the high-end boutiques of Quai de la République. This tiny town exudes an air of je ne sais quoi.



## Virgin Gorda

Those for whom money is no object make their home on Virgin Gorda; the third largest of the British Virgin Islands. Despite

attracting the world's most privileged to its sandy shores, the island has completely escaped commercialism and remains reminiscent of a paradise lost. Follow the trails to Gorda Peak National Park for incredible views from 1358ft above the city or negotiate your way through the caves of The Baths, where the sky-high boulders eventually give way to the fine white sands of Devil's Bay.

# Top Tips for Your First Day On Board

The time has come and you're ready to set sail! Here's our advice on how to spend your first day on board and some top tips for slipping straight into holiday mode.





You've made the trip to the port and maybe even spent the night before exploring the local area and winding down with a nice meal. Now, it's finally time for embarkation and for your holiday to begin. With security cleared and your luggage whisked away, you take those exciting first steps aboard the ship that will be your home for the next week or more. But what now? Here are our tips for making the most of your first day on board.

### **SHUN THE SHIP TOURS?**

While you may think you can find your own way around, it isn't always a wise move to shun the official ship tours. Your guide will make sure you know all the necessary information in a quick and informative tour around the whole ship, before giving you plenty of time to explore for yourself later. Why waste time trying to find the facilities when you could be enjoying them instead?

# **MUSTER UP SOME ENERGY**

While it may not be the most exciting way to spend 20 minutes of your first few hours aboard, the muster drill is a mandatory requirement. Cruise lines don't take kindly to people who fail to muster up the energy to attend the muster drill, so please turn up and pay attention.

# **GET PRACTICAL**

If you're sailing from the UK, take five minutes before departure from the port to check your mobile data roaming package is arranged and any last minute bits are taken care of with the kennels/cattery/ house sitter etc. Once you're at sea, you'll spend a lot more to make those important phone calls so get them out of the way now and then you can relax.

### HIT THE POOL

Pools and hot tubs are usually all but empty on embarkation day, as people use the time to settle into their cabins and see the ship. Make the most of it by packing your swimwear in your hand luggage, that way you won't have to wait for your luggage to arrive in your cabin. Hitting the pool may not seem so appealing when sailing from a UK port on a cold December day but soaking your shoulders in a red hot Jacuzzi is a treat in any weather.

# SLIP INTO SOMETHING MORE COMFORTABLE

If you've spent hours on a flight or on a bus or train to the port, chances are you'll feel less than your best when you finally get on the ship. Plan ahead and pack a change of clothes in your hand luggage, along with bits you need to freshen up,

such as face wipes and toiletries. This way, even if there is a delay with your luggage arriving at your cabin, you can get changed and spend the time exploring the ship in comfort.

## **GET RID OF THE KIDS**

Okay not literally, but if you're planning on letting your children head to the kid's clubs once the ship is at sea, you will need to register them in advance. Head there as a family and see what is on offer. Chances are the kids won't want to leave once they've seen the facilities and that isn't a problem; most kid's clubs are open on embarkation day.

# SNOOP AROUND THE SPA

Even if you're not a fan of pricey treatments, a couple of lazy hours in the spa is enough to leave anyone feeling rejuvenated. Many spas don't open on embarkation day, other than for tours and reservations, so head down and have a look around. Book yourself in for a treatment or a few hours in the spa itself. Don't forget to reserve your private cabana at the deck-top retreat too if your ship has one; these are often surprisingly good value for money and as a result book up quickly.

# Don't skip the sailaway celebrations... The sailaway party may seem cheesy but it's the perfect way to kick off your cruise. Treat yourself to a cocktail, listen to the live music and watch the shoreline dwindle away on the horizon. It's time to get the holiday started whilst meeting fellow guests!

Many ships hold organised sailaway parties. If not, head to the pool deck and you will usually find other passengers gathering, having a good time and waving





### MEET THE MAITRE D'

Don't wait until your first meal time to make sure dining details are correct. Pop and see the Maitre D' once you're settled on the ship, checking seating arrangements and that any dietary requirements have been noted correctly. That way, when it comes to your first meal on board all you need worry about is what to pick from the menu.

### SCOPE OUT SPECIALITY SPOTS

While many hungry passengers head to the buffet, those in the know will scope out the speciality spots and sometimes even scoop a bargain at the same time. Some cruise lines may offer discounts or little extras for those who dine in speciality restaurants on embarkation day, including Celebrity Cruises, who often offer discounts on speciality venues, and Carnival Cruise Lines, who are sometimes known to provide a complimentary bottle of wine to those dining at the Steakhouse.

### **GRAB A DRINKS PACKAGE**

Often, cruise lines will offer drinks packages as part of the booking process. This said, if you decide not to buy yours until you're on board, it makes sense to do it on your first day so that you get the full benefit. Make sure you're confident that a drinks package is the best value for you before purchasing one; if you only usually enjoy an odd cocktail or glass of wine with dinner, it is unlikely that you really need a package offering unlimited beverages and it could cost you more overall.

### **JUST CHILL OUT!**

When all is said and done, you're on holiday and you'll be on the ship for days to come. While it's lovely to see what is on offer, it's even better to take off your watch, turn off your phone and just slip straight into holiday mode. Head to the Sun Deck, with a celebratory cocktail in one hand and a burger from the poolside grill in the other, and raise a toast; here's to happy holidays!

# OCEANIA CRUISES® Your World. Your Way.®



# See the world in a new light

The unique itineraries of Oceania Cruises show you the world in an entirely new way. We have long held a reputation for innovation, and 40 of our 43 European itineraries are new in 2015. Nautica, Marina and Riviera explore all of Europe from the treasures of Scandinavia to the pearls of the Mediterranean while Insignia charts a once-in-a-lifetime Odyssey that spans all of Europe and then some, from Iceland to the Arabian peninsula. Meanwhile, Regatta spends the summer amidst the majesty of Alaska before returning to the East Coast to explore the vibrant autumn foliage of Canada and New England.

# Enrich your mind, body and spirit

Imagine a country hotel, nestled in the heart of the... Mediterranean, the South China Sea, the Atlantic or the Pacific Ocean. Oceania Cruises combines the sophisticated elegance of a private hotel with the flexibility and adventure of sea travel. Exciting and exotic worldwide itineraries with extensive shore excursion choices and expert on board lecturers, fine dining in a wide choice of open-seating restaurants including up to four speciality restaurants all at no additional charge, a private veranda in the majority of accommodations and butler service in suite accommodations blend to create an ambiance that is fast becoming the choice of the more discerning traveller.

# **ITALIAN IMPRESSIONS**



# Marina - 14 Sep 2015 - 10 Nights

Fly from London to Barcelona, Provence (Marseilles), Monte Carlo, Cinque Terra (La Spezia), Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno), Olbia/Porto Cervo (Sardinia), Trapani (Sicily), Valletta, Catania, Sorrento/Capri, Rome (Civitavecchia), fly to London

Veranda from £2,025pp Concierge Veranda from £2,145pp Penthouse from SOLD OUT

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

# MEDITERRANEAN COASTAL **MOSAIC**



# Riviera - 5 Oct 2015 - 8 Nights

Fly from London to Athens, Taormina (Sicily), Sorrento/Capri, Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno), Monte Carlo, Provence (Marseilles), Barcelona, fly to London

Veranda from £1,699pp Concierge Veranda from £1,815pp Penthouse from £2,069pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

# **TREASURES**



# Marina - 14 Oct 2015 - 10 Nights

Fly from London to Monte Carlo, Portofino, Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno), Rome (Civitavecchia), Sorrento/Capri, Palma de Mallorca, Sete, Saint Tropez, Provence (Marseilles), Barcelona, fly to London

Veranda from £1,885pp Concierge Veranda from £2,025pp Penthouse from £2,239pp

Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

# **ISLES & EMPIRES**



### **Riviera - 30 Oct 2015 - 8 Nights**

Fly from London to Rome (Civitavecchia), Sorrento/Capri, Taormina (Sicily), Argostoli (Cephalonia), Kotor, Zadar, Koper, Venice (overnight in Port), fly to London

Veranda from £1,699pp Concierge Veranda from £1,809pp Penthouse from £2,089pp

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# **ARTISTIC DISCOVERIES**



# Riviera - 7 Nov 2015 - 11 Nights

Fly from London to Venice (overnight in Port), Zadar, Kotor, Palermo (Sicily), Rome (Civitavecchia), Florence/Pisa/Tuscany (Livorno), Monte Carlo, Provence (Marseilles), Barcelona (overnight in Port), fly to London

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# **MAYAN MYSTIQUE**



### Regatta - 28 Nov 2015 - 10 Nights

Fly from London to Miami (overnight in Hotel), Georgetown, Cozumel, Belize City, Santo Thomas, Roatan, Costa Maya, Key West, Miami, fly to London

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Other airports available at a supplement, call for details.

# Norway's Fascinating Fjords

It is by no means an exaggeration to say that the Norwegian Fjords offer some of the most spectacular scenery you could ever see in your lifetime; great expanses of inky blue waters framed by snow-capped mountains, dotted with cascading waterfalls and scattered with picture-perfect wooden towns.

There is no finer way to experience the Norwegian Fjords than to sail through them and the smaller ships of cruise lines like Hurtigruten and Fred Olsen will take you to the heart of the fjords. While the Norwegian Fjords cruise season runs from spring to autumn, the question of when is the best time to go is subject to much debate; the early season brings snowy mountain scenes, heavily gushing falls and a good chance to see the Northern Lights, whilst the late season typically brings warmer weather ideal for exploring and a chance to enjoy the midnight sun.

By travelling on a Norwegian Fjords cruise, you can expect to see historic fishing ports, lively towns and incomparable scenery; hike mountainous terrain to world-renowned viewpoints, ride Scandinavia's only funicular railway and kayak in the shadow of imposing cliff-faces. Whoever you choose to travel with, if the Norwegian Fjords are your destination we promise that you will never forget the experience.

### OLDEN

The charming fishing village of Olden sits at the inner end of the Nordfjord; the sixth largest fjord in Norway. Peaceful valleys, emerald waters, gleaming glaciers, foaming waterfalls and towering mountains contribute to Olden's dramatic scenery, instantly meeting even the wildest expectations of Norwegian landscapes.

Olden serves as the gateway to some of the most beautiful areas around the Nordfjord; take a boat trip along Lake Lovatn or to the Jostedal Glacier; the largest ice sheet in Continental Europe. Whilst in the area, a visit to the Briksdal Glacier is a must. Located in Jostedal National Park, this well-known glacier arm is receding at a startling rate; a thunderous noise can often be heard as the glacier continues to calve. A short hike is required to reach the Briksdal Glacier but the opportunity to see this ice age wonder, before it is too late, is a just reward for your exertions. Soaring above Olden, the viewpoint at Nos is considered one of the best in the world, thanks to

its position at the edge of a 500 metre vertical cliff. From here, you can enjoy awe-inspiring views of the Nordfjord, Olden and the hamlets of Randabygda and Hopland.

# **GERAINGER**

The western town of Gerainger lies at the head of the Geraingerfjord; the most photographed of all Norway's fjords. Home to nature in its rawest form and recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2005, Gerainger is an unmissable port of call on any Norwegian Fjords itinerary. Deep blue fjords are overlooked by commanding cliff faces and lush green hillsides, creating an overwhelmingly beautiful backdrop for those who take the opportunity to kayak on the blue-black waters.

Some of Norway's most impressive scenery sits within close proximity of Gerainger, including the world-famous viewpoints of Ornevegen and Flydalsjuvet, each of which offers a view even more soul-stirring than the last. Every so often, the verdant greenery









Opposite: Stunning views with crystal clear water falls Clockwise from top left: Breathtaking views as you cruise through the narrow fjords; Bergen is Norway's second biggest city; Stavanger at night; Briksdal Glacier is a must

of the Geraingerfjord is punctuated by a thundering waterfall, with the Seven Sisters and the Bridal Veil being amongst those whose beauty attracts both locals and tourists year round.

A scenic drive along winding roads takes you to the summit of Mount Dalsnibba. Sitting 4,757ft above sea level, the rugged terrain offers panoramic views of Gerainger, the Geraingerfjord and the wild Flydal River Valley.

## **BERGEN**

Bergen is Norway's second biggest city, surrounded on all sides by seven mountains and seven fjords, and often referred to as 'the gateway to the fjords'. The waterfront area of Bryggen sits at the heart of the city; an intriguing indication of Bergen's seafaring past. Once part of the Hanseatic League's trading empire and sometimes referred to as 'the wooden city', Bryggen earned its position on the UNESCO World Heritage list thanks to the medieval Hanseatic buildings that remain.

Nature is never far away in Bergen, yet the city is also home to a vibrant cultural life that cities five times its size would be proud to have. Throw yourself into the thriving foodie scene or while away the evening hours with live music in a host of lively spots. Eat salmon or trout with a glass of schnapps or enjoy the ultimate Scandinavian snack of smorbrod; an open rye bread sandwich topped with anything from cold meats, to cheese or salmon, and garnished with salad.

Within easy reach of Bergen sits the Hardangerfjord; the second longest fjord in Norway. Explore the region of Hardanger, an area known as the Orchard of Norway, where thousands of fruit trees can be witnessed in glorious bloom throughout May.

## **STAVANGER**

The city of Stavanger is home to one of the most recognised picture-postcard images associated with the Norwegian Fjords; the Preikestolen, or Pulpit Rock. As one of the most famous observation points in the world, Pulpit Rock attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors every year. Accessible only via a 2.4 mile hike, the flat top of the rock rises 604 metres above the Lysefjord; this being the most southern major fjord in Norway and a waterway that is as deep in places as the mountains around it are high. Pulpit Rock was formed over 10,000 years ago, when water from the glacier froze in the mountain and broke off in large angular blocks. A deep crack continues to run along the plateau and scientists are confident that the famous rock will eventually fall from the cliff face, although visitors are safe to continue enjoying the remarkable views for the foreseeable future!

Stavanger's second most famous observation point is undoubtedly the Kjeragbolton. Wedged between two cliff faces on Mount Kjerag since the last glacial period in 50,000 B.C., this enormous boulder is suspended 984 metres above the Lysefjord below. Tourists flock to the spot for photographs and it is considered a prime location for BASE jumping.

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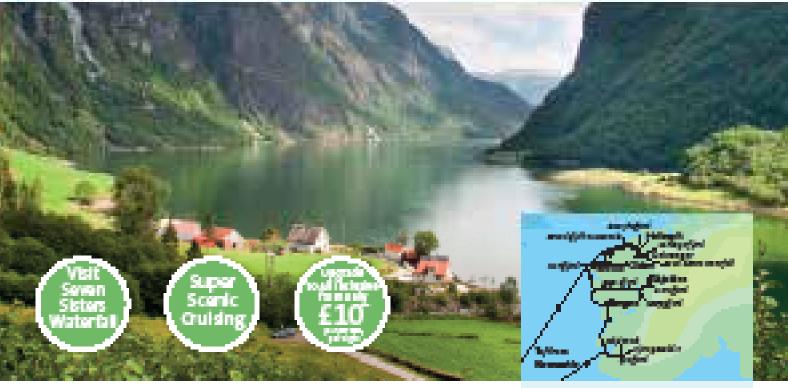




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# Rounding The Horn

Not many cruises allow the opportunity to sail two oceans, visit three South American countries and the Falklands, and meet penguins up close and personal. Pat Richardson reviews her recent cruise with Holland America Line to South America.



Pat has been a travel writer for 22 years, including 16 years as a Travel Editor on a weekly magazine. Her features appear frequently in The Telegraph's Cruise Style supplement and also in their print and online Travel sections; she also writes for other publications and websites. She has visited more than 70 countries and hundreds of cities and taken numerous river and ocean cruises. She recently enjoyed a South American cruise with Holland America Line, we asked her to relate her experiences.

Travel writers have bucket lists, too, and this trip would let me tick off quite a few items on mine. I'd never been to South America and was keen to be able to say I'd 'rounded the Horn'. Adding three more countries to my 'been there, done that' tally would be a bonus. Plus, I have a personal passion for seeing wild animals in their natural habitat being, well, just wild; and there would be penguins a-plenty at the other side, and other end, of the world.

When you want to cram all this into one trip (and onto your camera), and also want to travel with ease, without hassle and in luxurious comfort and style, there's really only one way to go: on a cruise. And because Cape Horn was named in honour of a small port city in the Netherlands called Hoorn, who better to cruise with

than Netherlands-registered Holland America Line, who have named all their ships after Dutch towns and cities?

Their 14-night South America Passage itinerary on Zaandam certainly made enticing reading. Sailing south in the Pacific from Valparaiso, with three port calls in Chile and three days at sea we would then dock at the world's southernmost city, Ushuaia in Argentina. Then another day at sea as we rounded Cape Horn, if conditions allowed. Next, northbound in the Atlantic, we'd reach the Falkland Islands. Two more days at sea would bring us to Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay, on the upper lip of the River Plate's wide mouth. Finally, we'd sail up-river, to Argentina's capital, Buenos Aires.

The breathtaking view of the High Andes, from my window seat on the flight to Santiago, was a fitting introduction to what should be quite an adventure – and what an adventure it proved to be. It would also prove to be something of a geography lesson. Had I looked more closely at a map before leaving home, I'd have seen than that the tip of South America lies much further south than that of South Africa; I would have realised that Santiago, Montevideo and Buenos Aires all lie in an almost straight line,

and are almost in line with Cape Town. As well, I'd have noticed that southern Chile's coastline isn't a solid landmass, but a mass of small islands separated by a network of sheltered channels, inlets and fjords.

One – the Magellan Strait - was the sailing route between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans before Cape Horn was discovered in 1616. If conditions were bad, we too would use it to reach the Atlantic. Zaandam would dock alongside the port at both Ushuaia and Montevideo. At the other four ports of call – Puerto Montt, Puerto Chacabuco and Punta Arenas in Chile and Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands - conditions would again be the determining factor for whether or not we were able to go ashore, as tender operations are suspended in strong winds.

On a cruise where you're likely to be at the mercy of the elements, it's all the more important to choose a ship that offers enough entertainment and activity options to fill more sea days than you may have bargained for. MS Zaandam certainly does that, with its inviting Greenhouse Spa & Salon, its fitness centre and exercise classes, outdoor pools, sports courts and shopping arcade. There's also a cinema – or you can order

a DVD to watch in your stateroom – as well as a Culinary Arts Centre where classes and demonstrations are held, and a Digital Workshop run by trained 'techsperts'. Explorations Café doesn't just serve up teas, coffees, pastries and light bites, it also incorporates an extensive library, computers for passengers use and a selection of puzzles and games plus super-comfy seats with a sea view. Then there's a full daily programme of on board activities, ranging from Pilates and yoga sessions, dance or language lessons as well as bingo, bridge, poker and wine-tastings.

Whether you're at sea or ashore, you'll find Chile intriguing to explore. Truly a country of contrasts, its 2,653-mile stretch of South America's Pacific coast starts with the Atacama Desert - the driest place on Earth - in the north and finishes with a flourish of icebergs and glaciers in the far south. This itinerary's 'scenic cruising' days gave us grandstand views of the latter, and we marvelled at the ethereal beauty of a turquoise-tinted glacier bathed in the soft pinks and lilacs of sunrise, with the seabirds bobbing in the water and wheeling overhead.

Throughout this cruise, shore excursions on offer included scenic drives, city sightseeing, viewing wildlife, visiting farms or a pampas cattle estate, wine-tastings and walking tours. There were more strenuous options, too, such as river rafting, kayaking, trekking and horseback riding. Or, of course, you could opt to explore on your own.

Back on-board, you're spoilt for choice again. Where to eat? The elegant Main Dining Room, casual self-service Lido, relaxed Italian Canaletto, al fresco at the Terrace Grill or fine-dining at the Pinnacle Grill? Which bar for pre-dinner drinks and live music? And then – a glittering stage



show, a turn on a dance floor or a spin of the roulette wheel in the Casino? Every night's a night out, if you want it to be.



Every port is an opportunity to add something very special to your memory bank. From Ushuaia, I took an excursion to Tierra del Fuego National Park, to admire its forest, lakes and rivers, and to stand at the point that marks the end of the Pan-American Highway. My Architecture and Old Town tour of Montevideo revealed faded glories from a colonial past and the cutting-edge modernity of Teatro Solis. In Buenos Aires, a stroll around the famous Recoleta Cemetery was counter-balanced by a coffee-and-cake stop at the impressive El Ateneo bookstore - formerly the city's Grand Splendid Theatre.

In the Falklands, after a long scenic drive through landscapes reminiscent of the Yorkshire Dales - albeit with far fewer trees - I spent several unforgettable hours at two penguin colonies. Watching these often-comical characters in their natural habitat was the highlight of this cruise for me.

Rounding the Horn didn't come far behind. For all the warnings that we might

not manage it if the weather was bad, the wind too strong or the sea too rough, we arrived at the small island on which Cape Horn sits (not the mainland - another geography lesson for me) before sunrise on a calm, clear day. Then we watched, spellbound, as dawn's golden fingers brought the shadowy, steeply rising headland at its southern edge into sharp focus. We stayed for some time absorbing its significance and stark beauty, as we drifted back and forth between the two great oceans that meet here, in an often tempestuous confrontation. And then we turned and sailed north into the Atlantic. If I were a sailor. I would now be entitled to wear a gold hoop earring, and put both feet on the table – which isn't something I'd recommend in the Rotterdam Dining Room.

And so to bed, as the saying goes. On a Holland America ship, that means a signature Mariner's Dream™ bed dressed with fine cotton linens, and a good-night chocolate on your pillow. Sleep tight? Rest assured, you will!





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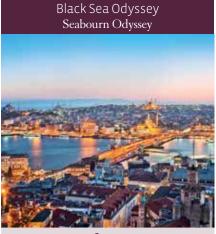
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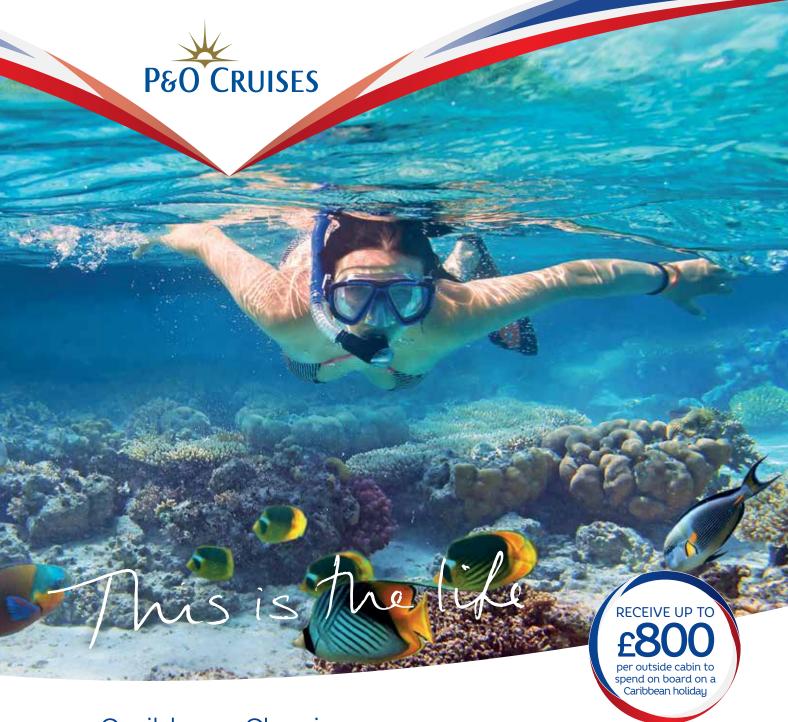


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13	select the best, based on real-time reports of wildlife, weather and ice conditions Passing Cape Horn Ushuaia, Argentina
13 14-17	select the best, based on real-time reports of wildlife, weather and ice conditions  Passing Cape Horn  Ushuaia, Argentina  Cruising Chilean Fjords
13 14-17 18	select the best, based on real-time reports of wildlife, weather and ice conditions  Passing Cape Horn  Ushuaia, Argentina  Cruising Chilean Fjords  Puerto Chacabuco, Chile

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So there you have it; culture, cuisine, intrigue and excitement all rolled into one fabulously sunny winter escapade. A compelling case for a Caribbean winter holiday if ever there was one. Now comes the dilemma; choosing which of our Caribbean itineraries suits you best. Will it be a relaxing transatlantic crossing, or flying straight to the sun in Barbados?

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# Eastern Caribbean

2 JAN 2016 | 15 NIGHTS **BRITANNIA B601A** 

→ Barbados - Grenada - Isla Margarita Curacao - Aruba - Tortola 🕹 - St Maarten Antiqua - St Kitts • - Barbados (overnight in port) - Overnight flight to UK >

Balcony Select Price from



# FLIGHTS 🛧

Economy class flights from/to London Gatwick are included in the price. Flights from/to Manchester or Birmingham are available on all Azura and Britannia departures for an additional supplement of £50-£100pp. Other regional flights may be available, please speak to Bolsover Cruise Club for more details.

Upgrade to Premium Economy for £299pp return, or £149pp one-way on the Caribbean transatlantic cruises.

### Madeira, Caribbean & Azores

18 JAN 2016 | 28 NIGHTS VENTURA NGO3

Southampton - Madeira - Barbados Grenada - St Lucia - Martinique - Antiqua St Kitts • - St Maarten - Tortola - Ponta Delgada, Azores - Southampton

### Eastern Caribbean

23 JAN 2016 | 15 NIGHTS AZURA A602A

> Barbados - Bonaire - Curacao - Aruba Amber Cove, Dominican Republic - Tortola St Maarten - Antiqua - Grenada - Barbados (overnight in port) - Overnight flight to UK >

### Transatlantic Caribbean & Azores

12 MAR 2016 | 13 NIGHTS **BRITANNIA B606A** 

→ Barbados - St Lucia む - St Kitts St Maarten - Ponta Delgada, Azores Southampton

Select Price from

**₩**ABTA



Outside Select Price from

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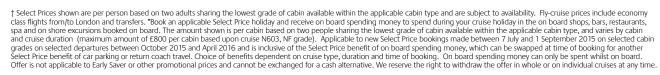


### **Guide to Symbols**

♣ land by tender

 ship usually berthed alongside, but there is a possibility we may be required to land passengers by tender





For up to date prices visit www.bolsovercruiseclub.co.uk. For full P&O Cruises terms and conditions please refer to Second Edition March 2015 – April 2016 brochure or visit www.bolsovercruiseclub.co.uk. Here you will find full descriptions of the cruises, cabin accommodation and itinerary details, as well as important information on passport, visa and health requirements and booking conditions, which you must read before booking. P&O Cruises is a trading name of Carnival plc, a company registered in England and Wales with company number 04039524

# Our Most Creative Cruise Club Member

When Keith Boldy submitted a glowing review of his four week cruise to New Orleans aboard P&O Cruises' Oriana, he accompanied it with a portrait drawing which caught our attention.

After seeing more of Keith's work, and discovering that he has an extensive number of sailings under his belt, we decided to get to know this creative cruiser a little better.

Hi Keith, thank you for being a part of this edition of Into The Blue. You recently returned from a cruise aboard P&O Cruises' Oriana. It sounds like you had a great time! This wasn't your first cruise with P&O Cruises; how long have you been enjoying cruise holidays?

My wife Chris and I have been cruising since October 2000, when we tested the waters with a short cruise to Lisbon on board the old Arcadia. I didn't think I would enjoy it as we had always driven to the South of France previously, however I was hooked immediately and booked on board for Aurora's maiden Christmas cruise to the Caribbean two months later. We have only cruised since then, sailing with P&O Cruises almost 30 times and booking more than 20 of those through Bolsover Cruise Club.

We love cruising not just for the many beautiful destinations and the thrill of waking in a different port every morning, but also for the sea days, when we can draw, read, shop and make new friends over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine. We have made lifelong friends over the years and this is one of the many delights of cruising.

# With so many cruises under your belt, you must have ticked rather a lot of destinations off your bucket list. Where will your next adventure take you?

We have two cruises booked for 2016: the Iberian cruise on the Oriana in May and the Caribbean on the Aurora in October. While aboard, I plan to do the portraits of the Captains and anybody else who catches my attention. I always let any passenger or crew member that I draw keep the original, free of charge, of course!

Your portrait of Oriana's Captain Banach (top right portrait) caught our eye when it arrived into our office with your review of the New Orleans sailing. You certainly have a talent! How long have you been drawing? Ironically, I ran out of books to read whilst sailing the Panama Canal aboard P&O Cruises' Oriana in January 2010. I could have gone to the library but decided to do a small drawing in a sketch book I had been given for Christmas; I had always liked to doodle and my family thought I had potential, but I had never attempted any real artwork at the time.

My first ever portrait (and I use the term loosely) was of Gishnu Nair, a steward in the Crow's Nest. Gishnu was very kind in accepting the portrait, though I think he thought it was rather questionable. I repeated the portrait two years later and was far happier with the result.

We can't think of a better place to pitch an easel than on the deck of a cruise ship with the ocean as your background. How long does the average portrait take you to draw?

When on a cruise, there is nothing better than finding a quiet corner in which to sit and draw. I have a passion for portraits and love to draw both people and animals. I only work in pencil and pencil crayon and it can take me up to 30 hours to do a portrait depending on size and medium.

You draw a combination of crew and passenger portraits while aboard. Have you ever considered drawing the destinations you visit?

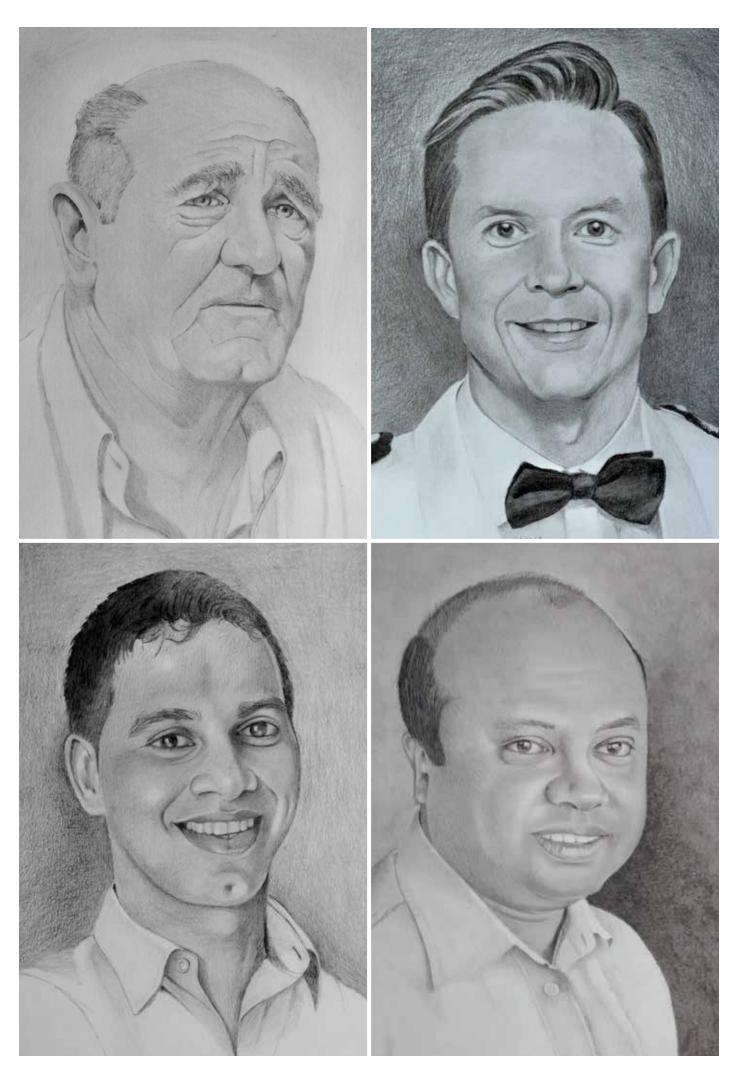
I don't consider myself to be a landscape artist. I am able to draw landscapes but

I'm certainly not as passionate about that genre as I am about portraits. That said, my youngest brother lain Boldy and another sailor Matthew Stewart were killed on board the frigate HMS Argonaut in the Falklands conflict and it was an honour to be asked by the HMS Argonaut association to draw the Argonaut for a raffle prize. Ten limited edition prints of the drawing were also produced and sold to raise money for the 30th anniversary. On the ship I drew two sailors, representing my brother and his mate, with P&O Cruises' Canberra in the background, as it was there on that fateful day. One of the items on my bucket list is to cruise to the Falklands and lav a wreath for them.

# Cruise ship passengers and crew aren't your only subjects; your drawing of Coronation Street is sold as a souvenir on tours of the set. This must be quite a claim to fame for any artist?

I was asked to draw this piece by a friend of ours, a Coronation Street tour guide who we had met aboard Aurora. I drew each and every brick and cobble individually and eventually lost count of the number of hours it had taken me. It has proven most popular, particularly with Canadians and Americans; I like to cheekily tell people that I'm a big deal in North America!

Other highlights have included a letter from St James' Palace, thanking me for a drawing of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge which I sent to them as a wedding present. They were pleased to accept the drawing and I like to think it might be hanging in a loo somewhere in Kensington Palace. I also did a portrait of Pope Francis and again received a letter from his office saying that the Pope sent his blessings and thanked me for the portrait.





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Seven Seas Mariner®

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Rome (Civitavecchia), Sorrento/Capri, Amafi/ Positano, Taormina (Sicily), Argostoli, Gythion, Santorini, Izmir, Mitilini (Lesbos), Istanbul

Was £4,649pp Now £2,599pp



# **Venice to Istanbul**

Seven Seas Voyager®

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Seven Seas Navigator®

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Seven Seas Voyager®

### 21 nights | 31 Oct 2015

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39

TOURSION

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Guests in all suite categories can enjoy a FREE 3-night pre or post-cruise land program on this voyage

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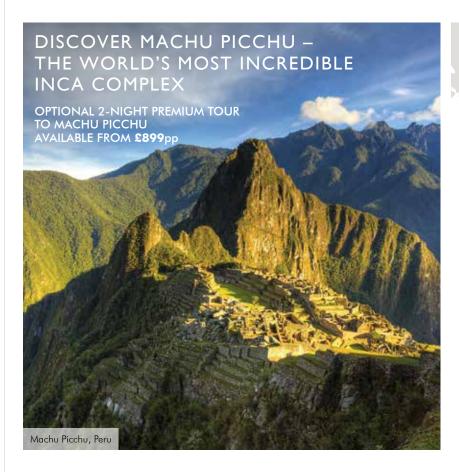
67

of excursions shown is correct at time of printing and is subject to change at any time. \*Available to guests in Concierge Suites and higher

12

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12TH MARCH - 28TH MARCH 2016 17-DAY CRUISE

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OUTSIDE CABINS AVAILABLE FROM £2859 PER PERSON

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# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Overnight in the UNESCO-listed city of Cartagena
- Transit the remarkable Panama Canal
- Opportunity to visit the extraordinary Galapagos Islands
- 2 nights in Lima, Peru, for the chance to witness the Inca heritage and magnificent Machu Picchu
- Overnight stay in Santiago de Guayaquil with option to extend your stay by visiting the unforgettable Galapagos Islands

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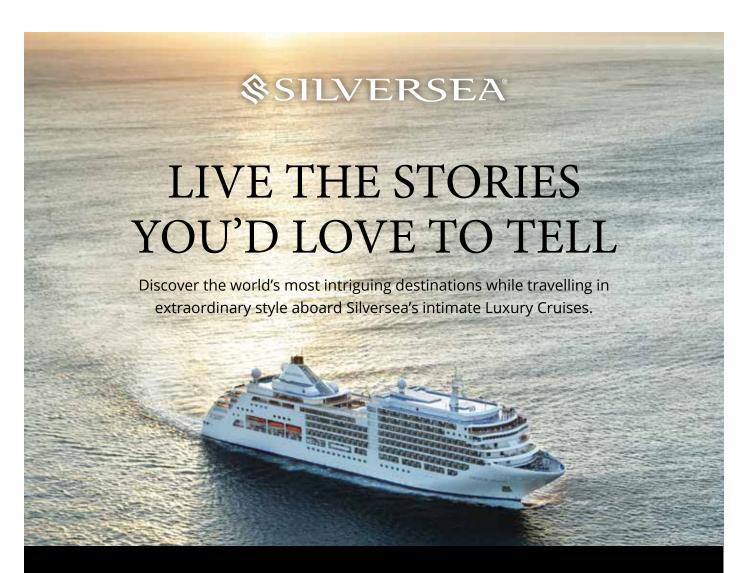
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# Singapore to Singapore Silver Shadow - 13 Feb 2016 - 12 Davs



Singapore, Port Klang (Kuala Lumpur), Penang, Phuket, Yangon (3 days), Langkawi, Malacca, Singapore

Vista Suite (cruise only) from

£3,750 per person

# Barcelona to Civitavecchia

Silver Spirit - 23 May 2016 - 9 Days



Barcelona, Sète, Cannes (overnight), Ajaccio, Monte Carlo (Grand Prix overnight), Portofino, Livorno, Civitavecchia (Rome)

Vista Suite (cruise only) from

£4,350 per person

# Baltra-Baltra

Silver Galapagos - 30 Jul 2016 - 7 Days



Baltra, Bahia Darwin, El Barranco, Seymour Norte, Bahia Sullivan, Rábida, El Eden, Galapaguera Cerro Colorado, Punta Pitt, Gardner Bay, Punta Suarez, EstacionDarwin & Puerto Ayora, Plazas Sur, Baltra

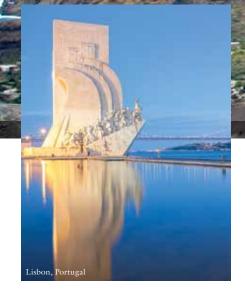
Vista Suite (cruise only) from

£4,550 per person

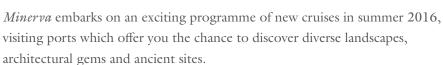
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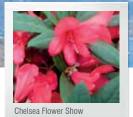
Further afield, *Minerva* heads into Norwegian waters, embarks on an inaugural sailing from Kirkenes to the mysterious White Sea and cruises to the delightful shores of the Mediterranean from where you can step ashore on rugged islands, stroll amongst peaceful landscapes and revisit history amidst dramatic ruins.

There really is a cruise to suit every taste, and each includes a programme of shore excursions worth up to  $\pounds 650$ , flights and overseas transfers, where applicable, all meals, activities and entertainment on board, a Guest Speaker programme, all gratuities, porterage of luggage, a complimentary chauffeur service for higher grade cabins and all port taxes.













DISCOVER MINERVA'S EXCITING NEW HIGHLIGHTS

Our brand new itineraries offer opportunities to sail along beautiful rivers, experience exciting cultural events and discover intriguing parts of the world, including a host of new ports of call. We hope you will be inspired to discover some of these spectacular destinations and experiences with us during summer 2016.

- Join 'Celtic Traditions and Edinburgh's Tattoo' to discover historic Edinburgh, where you will experience the city's magnificent Military Tattoo, featuring music, dance, military pageantry and an impressive fireworks finale.
- Take in London's striking architecture as you sail down the River Thames on our 'Glorious Gardens and the Chelsea Flower Show' cruise, which also includes entry to the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show.
- On our wonderful 'Trois-Rivières de France' cruise, you can take in spectacular scenery along three fascinating rivers, combining coastal cruising with journeys along the Loire, Seine and Garonne.
- On our 'Hidden White Sea and Norse Discovery' cruise, join *Minerva* as she embarks on her very first cruise to the mysterious White Sea, where you can visit the beautiful Solovetsky Islands, home to a sacred monastery.
- Our 'Iberian Maritime Adventure' coincides with the Tall Ships Festival's diamond anniversary, offering the unique opportunity for you to join the celebrations in atmospheric Lisbon and diverse Cadiz.



# GLORIOUS GARDENS and the CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW

14 - 27 MAY 2016 14-day cruise ENGLAND • FRANCE • CHANNEL ISLANDS • NETHERLANDS



### YOUR CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Cruise designed in partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society and featuring a range of garden-themed excursions
- Stroll amongst the picturesque gardens of impressionist painter Claude Monet in Giverny
- Explore La Ville Intra-Muros, the ancient walled city of St Malo
- Minerva makes two maiden calls to Douarnenez and Rotterdam
- Sail down the River Thames for a two-night stay in London, our own splendid capital
- Included entrance to the Chelsea Flower Show perhaps the most famous horticultural show in the world

# HELLENIC ODYSSEY

8 - 21 OCTOBER 2016 14 -day cruise CROATIA • GREECE • TURKEY



# YOUR CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore UNESCO-listed Dubrovnik, with its impressive city walls and marble streets
- *Minerva* transits the narrow Corinth Canal a remarkable feat of engineering
- Experience an overnight stay in Nauplia, your gateway to legendary Mycenae
- Minerva makes her maiden call at the small Greek island of Milos
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# Norwegian Fjords

There is no experience that can even come close to that of cruising through the majestic Norwegian Fjords, navigating the narrow, crystal clear waterways, surrounded by stunning snowcapped mountains and sailing past gushing waterfalls that cascade down the cliff faces.

The Norwegian Fjords are truly amazing and cruising this region presents an incredible opportunity to see some of the most spectacular natural sights in Europe, marvelling at the beautiful scenery of this Northern European destination.

It is often said that there is no finer way to see the Norwegian Fjords than to sail through them and we could not agree more.



Bolsover Cruise Club









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