



TRAVEL with EASe Newsletter May 2019

Which cruise line is right for you?

Thinking about booking your first cruise or do you want to try out a different cruise line? The number of ships and the range of choices can be confusing. There are 24+ cruise lines marketing to us and no two are alike.

Here we are covering companies that are the most popular, from small luxury to the world's biggest. If you have questions, please contact us. Plus remember everyone's needs are different and one cruise line doesn't necessarily work for everyone.



With just three small ships each holding fewer than 700 passengers, Azamara Club Cruises is one of the smallest players in the cruise business. The line prides itself on offering longer stays in ports and docking at smaller, less-traveled ports, plus multiday visits, more overnights, country-intensive itineraries, authentic shore excursions, and complimentary AzAmazing Evenings®. It has a loyal following of travelers who appreciate the upscale ambiance of its vessels, the inclusive amenities it offers (including gratuities and alcoholic drinks) and its destination focus. Its ships have an intimate, boutique-hotel feel.



The self-described "Fun Ship" line is the king of affordable, fun-focused cruises from US ports to the Caribbean, Bahamas, Mexico and beyond. In a nutshell... they are all about fun vacations at sea and ashore! A Carnival cruise features day and

nighttime entertainment like stage shows, musical performances, deck parties, casinos and more. (Like what? Like waterslides!) Its ships are notoriously lively, flashy and packed with fun features such as water slides. Just don't expect anything too fancy.



On a Celebrity vacation, not only will you experience a signature modern luxury vacation, but you'll be traveling in good company. This "premium" line is known for some of the most stylish ships at sea. Expect high-end design, cutting-edge art and on-trend restaurants. In short, it aims for sophisticates, not the party crowd. Its newest ship, the Celebrity Edge, aims to attract new-to-cruisers to the seas with a bevy of amenities and a sleek design. Those who travel often certainly know their way around the globe and Celebrity Cruises shines in polls, surveys and reviews.



Some say this is the ultimate luxury line and their tag line is "Where luxury is personal." Despite its small size — aside from a budding river cruise operation, it offers just two traditional ocean ships and a small yacht — Crystal long has set the bar for on-board service, elegance and fine dining. There are those who desire more from their travels. More from their journeys. More from their luxury. They desire a voyage of fascinating discovery.



For over a century and a half, the iconic ships of Cunard have defined sophisticated ocean travel. They have always been The Most Famous Ocean Liners in the World®. A storied line with roots that go back to the 1800s, this three-ship brand is perhaps best-known for its 2,695-passenger flagship, Queen Mary 2, which lives up to its billing as a true "ocean liner" with semi-regular, transatlantic service between Southampton, England and New York. Cunard fans

love the line's relatively formal vibe (including nightly dress codes) and other nods to ocean-liner tradition including evenings with ballroom dancing.



When you set sail with Disney, you'll experience an unforgettable vacation that boasts fun and leisure for every member of the family so that no one ever has to compromise. Whether it's relaxing "me time" for adults, imaginative activities for the kids or thrilling entertainment for the whole family, a Disney cruise invites everyone to enjoy their favorites—and share in the magic together. Meet-and-greets with Disney characters, Disney-themed shows and the most extensive kiddie fun zones on the high seas are just a few of the family-friendly allures of a Disney cruise. If you're a Disney fan, nothing quite compares. Ports of call include Hawaii, Bermuda, Cozumel and even Disney's private island in the Bahamas. The downside? As with Disney's parks on land, it doesn't come cheap.



Tradition long has been a touchstone for this storied line, which dates to 1873 and is known for carefully crafted, globe-circling itineraries on mid-size ships. Holland America Line believes travel has the power to change the world and consider it their higher purpose to help make the world a better place through opening minds, building connections, and inspiring a shared humanity. But it's been shaking things up in recent years with lively new venues such as B.B. King's Blues Clubs. Couples and retirees are the market; families with kids might want to look elsewhere.



MSC Cruises is the world's largest privately-owned cruise line and looks for customers to experience the elegant side of the Mediterranean. A giant of cruising in Europe, Switzerland-based MSC is making a big play for North Americans with

newer, bigger ships based year-round in the Caribbean. MSC operates giant, resort-like vessels that appeal to a broad audience.



Norwegian Cruise Line revolutionized the cruise industry by offering guests the freedom and flexibility to design their ideal cruise vacation on their schedule with no set dining times, a variety of entertainment options and no formal dress codes. Imagine cruising just the way you want it: with no schedule to follow but your own. That is the freedom Norwegian Cruise Line provides in all their itineraries. Multi-story water slides, ropes courses and even go-cart race tracks are among the gee-whiz attractions you'll find atop Norwegian's giant, resort-like ships, which also are packed with eateries, bars, showrooms and casinos. If you're looking for a Las Vegas-style resort at sea, this is your line.



Featuring a fleet of warm and luxurious ships, Oceania Cruises offers an unrivaled vacation experience renowned for its gourmet culinary program and its array of destination-rich itineraries spanning the globe. At Oceania Cruises, they believe in doing things the R.I.T.E. way – Respect, Integrity, Trust and Excellence are the foundation of all their actions, every day, in everything they do. They appeal to discerning, sophisticated travelers in search of world-class cuisine, unparalleled personal service, a luxurious onboard ambiance and enriching destination experiences. Its six ships feature a relaxed, country club-like environment and inspired dining that appeals to a mostly older crowd. In addition to standard itineraries, Oceania offers 180-day Around the World cruises.



Considered one of the most recognized cruise lines in the world, Princess is continually evolving. Popular with middle-age couples, retirees and multi-generational families, the "Love Boat" line's ships aren't flashy (or big) and that's just the way its customers like it. Princess has 18 ships across their fleet that serves over 1.8 million passengers yearly. They travel to over 380 destinations across more than 100 countries on 7 continents.



Royal Caribbean looks beyond the now, sensing, feeling and intuiting what could be. As a company they feel compelled to ask one question – What if? For mega-resort fans, there’s nothing quite like a Royal Caribbean vessel. The line’s biggest ships are more than 20% bigger than any others afloat and feature every type of amusement imaginable, from rock climbing walls and surfing pools to Broadway shows and ice-skating rinks. Families will love it.



SEABOURN®

The experience of cruising on Seabourn is luxurious, yet relaxed — elegant, yet casual — sumptuous, yet understated. Their ships are intimate and visit the most desirable destinations worldwide, sailing to the heart of landmark cities, as well as to hidden gems where larger vessels cannot follow. Seabourn attracts interesting people, who seek to share experiences beyond the expected in places beyond the ordinary. Seabourn offers all-suite vessels, top-notch service and elegant cuisine that includes dishes created by star chef Thomas Keller. Soon it will be getting into more adventurous, expedition-style cruising with two new, 264-passenger vessels.



Silversea's smallest ships are designed for those who delight in the thrill of discovery while indulging mind and body in the most lavish surroundings imaginable. All accommodations are spacious, ocean-view suites that include butler service, and most include private verandas. Exquisite service, refined dining and well-appointed accommodations are hallmarks of this Monaco-based luxury line. Their ships are small enough to visit exceptional destinations; yet large enough to make sure that you may experience everything you could dream of.



The Regent Experience has long been absolute in its inclusiveness, seeking to provide you with the most enriching and luxurious journey on the seven seas. This Miami-based luxury line operates some of the most opulent vessels at sea, including the notably over-the-top Seven Seas Explorer. At \$450 million, it's one of the most expensive luxury ships ever and boasts some of the most elaborate accommodations at sea. One of its popular itineraries is the Barcelona to Venice sailing with stops in Marseille, Monaco, Tuscany, Rome, Amalfi, Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia.



Discover a world that is 180° from ordinary. If the idea of sailing on a big ship makes you cringe, small-ship specialist Windstar is the answer. Most of its six vessels carry just 150 to 200 passengers. Romantic types will love Windstar's three vessels with sails — a relative rarity. Foodies can choose one of the James Beard themed cruises, which include market tours and cooking demos with a Beard Award-winning chef. A Windstar ship is large enough to pamper, yet small enough to explore secluded coves and docks in the heart of charming villages, sparkling cities and remote islands.



Founded in 2015, this fast-growing line is shaking up the world of upscale cruising with an all-new fleet of impeccably-designed, Scandinavian modern ships; unusual, port-intensive itineraries; and a “no-nickel-and-diming” philosophy. Ships are engineered at a size that allows direct access into most ports, so guests have easy and efficient embarkation and disembarkation. Each ship boasts a private veranda in every stateroom, a choice of restaurants offering a variety of fine dining options, the most al fresco dining at sea, an infinity pool, a Nordic-inspired spa, panoramic Explorers' Lounge and thoughtfully curated book collections throughout the ship, and more—all designed in understated elegance. Kids under 18 aren't allowed.



An entirely new way to look at sea travel; a 24/7 festival at sea where tranquility meets curiosity with no kids, no buffets, and no limits. Scheduled to debut in 2020, this start-up line backed by Richard Branson's Virgin Group is promising to reinvent mainstream cruising with a hipper, more inclusive, younger vibe (though not too young; its ships will be adults-only). Think tattoo shops, drag queen brunch and no upcharges for tips or eateries. Its first ship, the Scarlet Lady, will have suites by acclaimed designer Tom Dixon. Destinations will include Miami, Havana, the Dominican Republic, Costa Maya in Mexico, and Sir Richard Branson's private beach club in the Bahamas.

Hope you found this informative. If you have any questions or are ready to get away on a cruise that meets your needs, contact us.

Thank you.



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