

Introduction to

# Cruising





# Introduction to **Cruising**





## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction.....
- Chapter 1.....
  - Is Cruising Right for you?.....
  - Making Decisions .....
  - Cabin Options.....
    - Types of Cabins.....
      - Single .....
      - Double.....
      - Triple/Quad .....
      - Inside Cabin .....
      - Oceanview Cabin .....
      - Mini-Suite .....
      - Suite .....
    - Cabin Guarantees.....
  - Choosing an Itinerary .....
  - Alaska.....
  - Bahamas.....
  - Bermuda.....
  - Caribbean .....
  - Europe .....
  - Panama Canal.....
  - South America .....
  - South Pacific.....
  - Africa.....





- Chapter 2.....
- Tips for Planning a Great Cruise.....
- Tips for Booking a Cruise .....
- Choosing the Best Time for your Cruise.....
- Understanding the Different Cruise Lines .....
- Birka.....
- Carnival Cruise Lines.....
- Crystal Cruise Lines.....
- Disney Cruise Lines.....
- Norwegian Cruise Lines.....
- Selecting the Best Cruise Lines .....
- Chapter 3.....
- Practical Matters .....
- Paperwork Matters .....
- Understanding the Costs of a Cruise .....
- Basic Costs.....
- Port Taxes and Fees.....
- Air Travel Costs .....
- Cancellation Insurance .....
- Lead-in Pricing.....
- Extra Miscellaneous Costs .....
- All-Inclusive Cruises .....
- Tips for Saving Money on your Cruise .....
- Chapter 4.....
- What to Expect from your First Cruise .....
- Chapter 5.....







- Getting Everything Together for your Cruise.....
- The Day before Departing.....
- What to Pack for your Cruise .....
- Essentials for Everyone .....
- Packing List for Women.....
- Packing List for Men.....
- Packing List for Children.....
  - For Infants and Toddlers .....
  - For Grade School Children .....
  - For Teenagers .....
- Tips for Packing.....
- Communication Matters .....
- Chapter 6.....
- Your Cruising Timeline .....
- 3 Months Before Cruising.....
- 60 to 75 Days Before Cruising .....
- 30 Days Before Cruising .....
- 2 to 4 Weeks Before Cruising.....
- 1 Week Before Sailing.....
- 3 Days Before Cruising .....
- The Day Before Cruising .....
- Departure Day .....
- Conclusion.....





## INTRODUCTION

There are numerous reasons for considering taking a cruise. One of the most popular reasons for going on a cruise is that it makes it possible for you to simply get away from everything. When you take a cruise, there is no rushing about and you do not have to worry about making it anywhere on time.

In addition, taking a cruise is much more affordable than you might think. There are often plenty of great deals that you can find on cruises on a daily basis. While some of the best deals for cruises can be found during the off season, there are also numerous discounts that can be found practically any time of the year. You may be surprised to find that it is possible to spend less money on a cruise than you would have spent on any other vacation.

There is also plenty to see when you take a cruise. Cruising allows you to travel to a host of different locations around the world. It is even possible to visit some of the more remote and unique places of the world. By taking a cruise, you can visit and experience a range of different parts of the world and cultures. That is not even including the wide range of activities that are typically available on the cruise ship itself.

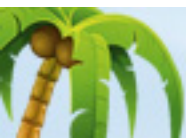
If you enjoy meeting new people you will certainly love the opportunity to meet others while on a cruise. It is not even necessary to get off the ship to meet others.

Finally, cruises make it possible for you to do a lot of new things. Off and on the ship, there are plenty of things you can do, see and enjoy. You can go scuba diving or rock climbing. Learn a new skill. The sky is practically the limit when it comes to what you can do while on a cruise.

Taking a cruise offers many rewards for people who are looking for something adventurous or even something more relaxed.

Are you ready to learn how to have a once in a lifetime cruise experience?

Let's get started!





## CHAPTER 1

### **Is Cruising Right for you?**

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If you are considering taking a cruise as a first-timer, you may naturally have a lot of questions and wonder what cruising is really like and whether it is a good choice for you. You might also have questions about where you should go and what you can see while you are on a cruise.

One of the first things to understand about cruising is that there is no such thing as standard or stereotypical cruisers. People who take cruises are as varied as the ships and the possible destinations. Some people who take cruises are young, while others are older. Cruises are no longer just for the wealthy and older set. While it is true that back in the day when cruises were first becoming popular, in the 1960s and 1970s, cruising was often designed for the more mature set that had plenty of time and money.

Over the years; however, cruising has continued to evolve until there is now something offered for everyone. Cruisers today are likely to be from a variety of backgrounds, income levels and ages. The Cruise Line International Association reports that most cruisers today are actually under the age of 60 and earn a yearly income of \$60,000 or less. Due to the fact that the average age of cruisers has decreased, many cruise lines have redesigned their ships and programs to appeal to an audience that is younger and more active.

The truth is that cruises offer something for practically everyone. Some people like the idea of taking a cruise simply because it sounds like fun to be at sea and they look forward to a sense of freedom and relaxation as they get away from the stress of daily life. Other people prefer the cruising experience because it offers a convenient way of visiting numerous different ports of call within a short time frame; all without the hassles of worrying about packing and unpacking, changing hotels and catching flights.

Overall, cruises offer excellent value as they include all of your accommodations for the entire duration of your cruise, as well as your meals and entertainment. While you are on-board the cruise ship you can benefit from a host of different dining options that range from traditional sit-down restaurants to grills, pizza, casual buffets, bistros and more. There is also a wide variety of different entertainment options available as well. No matter whether you prefer a Las Vegas or Broadway style show, piano bar, jazz, casino or disco, you will be sure to find something to enjoy while aboard a cruise ship.

Cruises also offer an array of amenities and services. If you want to keep up with your fitness regimen, you should have no difficulty in doing so as most cruise ships today offer state-of-the-art fitness facilities as well as swimming pools, jogging tracks and spas. Some cruise ships even offer rock climbing walls. There is virtually no limit to what you will find aboard a modern cruise ship.

The array of on-board activities offered to cruisers is virtually dizzying. You will find everything from sports competitions to lectures on every subject under the sun. Whether you want to remain active or simply sit in a deck chair and relax, you are sure to find something that will appeal to you while enjoying a relaxing and leisurely cruise.

