

FREE

PHIL HOFFMANN TRAVEL ISSUE 20

Phil Hoffmann Travel

cruise

All Aboard Together

There's a new kind of family reunion happening, not in the backyard or a banquet hall, but on the high seas.

Adelady takes Europe

Hear all about Lauren & Hayley's latest trip onboard Travelmarvel Capella with Travelmarvel.





Welcome to cruising with PHT.

The Future of Cruising: 2026 & Beyond

Dear Fellow Cruise Enthusiast,

As we reflect on another incredible year of travel, I'm reminded of the joy and adventure cruising brings. Whether exploring new destinations or returning to old favourites, there's something magical about life at sea.

In July, I had the pleasure of sailing Europe's legendary rivers aboard the luxurious APT Solara and the innovative AmaMagna. From the timeless elegance of Vienna to the charm of medieval towns along the Danube, it was a journey that reaffirmed why we love to travel.

Just last week, I returned from Alaska with fifteen of our team aboard the magnificent Norwegian Bliss. We experienced the pristine wilderness, spotted black bears, flew by helicopter to a glacier, and watched the Northern Lights from our ship as we sailed from the frontier town of Skagway—an unforgettable adventure.

Next up, I head to Florida in November for the launch of Oceania's luxury flagship Allura and the stunning new Star Princess. The cruise industry continues to evolve, blending tradition with innovation. Today's ships offer ultimate comfort, with features like facial recognition for seamless boarding and Starlink high-speed internet to stay connected, share memories, or even work remotely.

For something truly different, expedition cruising to the Antarctic and Arctic is booming. Scenic Eclipse, Ponant, Silversea, Seabourn, and Viking are expanding their eco-friendly itineraries—ideal for travellers wanting to explore the world's most remote regions while caring for the environment.

World Cruises are also sailing at full capacity. Extended voyages with Princess, Oceania, and Viking are more popular than ever, with many selling out within days. If you've dreamed of a grand journey, now's the time to start planning for 2027 or 2028.

River cruising is also thriving, with new ships and experiences making it easier than ever to explore Europe's waterways in style. APT's new ultra-luxe river ships debuted this year, marking a new era of growth and innovation in this space.

Prefer a more intimate journey at sea? Small ships and luxury yachts cruising the Adriatic (think Croatia!), Italian Riviera, and Greek Islands remain top picks. Emerald Waterways' fleet of superyachts delivers all-inclusive luxury paired with unforgettable destinations.

Whether you're a seasoned cruiser or planning your next big adventure, there's never been a better time to set sail.

Wishing you smooth seas and happy travels,

Pete Williams
Managing Director / CEO



Experiencing Alaska with NCL!

BY LAURA MARTINO | ASSISTANT MANAGER - MODBURY

I've been lucky to visit some incredible places in my 16 years in travel, but my recent Alaska cruise with Norwegian Cruise Line was easily one of the best. It ticked off every item on my Alaska bucket list—and even a few I hadn't thought of.

From the moment we set sail, the experience was seamless. NCL's Freestyle Dining gave us the freedom to eat when and where we wanted, with a great mix of gourmet and casual options. One standout was the Teppanyaki restaurant—more than just a meal, it was an energetic, interactive show with incredible food, flair, and fun. Easily the most entertaining dinner I've had at sea.

The onboard entertainment was world-class, from comedy acts and live music to a Beatles tribute and my favourite, the Jersey Boys Broadway show.

Each port brought unforgettable adventures. In Skagway, we rode the historic White Pass & Yukon Route Railway through dramatic mountain ranges and glacier-fed waterfalls—like stepping into a postcard. In Ketchikan, I saw a black bear fishing for salmon, with a bald eagle soaring overhead and a seal swimming nearby. A true pinch-me moment. Sea otters floated in the harbors, and orcas glided past the ship—each encounter more magical than the last.

The scenery was breathtaking: towering glaciers, endless forests, and one unforgettable night when the northern lights lit up the sky. Wrapped in a blanket on my balcony, I watched green and violet ribbons dance above the ship—nature's own fireworks.

Norwegian Cruise Line made it all effortless, with well-organized excursions, knowledgeable guides, and a fun, spacious ship to call home for the week.

I came home with a heart full of memories and a deep appreciation for Alaska's wild spirit. This trip reminded me exactly why I love to travel—and why Alaska should be on everyone's bucket list.



Looking to truly *experience* Europe?

Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL)'s Europe itineraries are designed for travellers who crave more time in port and less time at sea. Whether you're wandering through the sun-drenched streets of the Greek Isles or soaking up the rich culture of Northern Europe, savour the luxury of time to delve deeper into iconic landmarks and underrated gems with full-day excursions, exquisite local dining and vibrant nightlife.

Named Europe's Leading Cruise Line 17 years in a row by the World Travel Awards, NCL will have eight spectacular ships sailing across the Mediterranean, Greek Isles and Northern Europe in 2026 from smaller ships for a more intimate experience to the elevated Norwegian Viva®. With itineraries spanning 27 countries, 130 ports and 21 overnight stays, guests have more ways than ever to experience the richness and diversity of Europe.

Many itineraries visit a new port nearly every day, with extended stays and overnights in destinations like Istanbul or Copenhagen, offering more time for immersion, exploration and cultural connection.

Guests can design their ideal European holiday, choosing from convenient seven-day sailings - perfect for pairing with land-based travel - to more leisurely 14-day journeys.

Step aboard Norwegian Cruise Line's contemporary fleet and discover a world where indulgence meets innovation. With more dining options than days at sea, guests can savour world-class cuisine, unwind in stylish bars and lounges, and rejuvenate at the award-winning Mandara Spa® featuring adult-only thermal suites. NCL offers more in every sense - more destination immersion with late stays and overnights in port[†], more spacious accommodation from solo cabins to suites, and more ways to relax and be entertained. NCL's Europe is more than a holiday — it's a personalised journey of discovery, relaxation and indulgence.

Now is the ideal time for travellers to plan their 2026 NCL Europe cruise with Phil Hoffmann Travel. Speak to your PHT consultant to find out about the latest NCL offers across a wide range of immersive itineraries through the Mediterranean, Greek Isles, and Northern Europe.

NCL NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE®

Experience MORE of Europe with NCL

Come aboard and explore the best of Europe in style with NCL®. Choose from 10 spectacular ships cruising the Mediterranean, Greek Isles and Northern Europe in 2026 & 2027 offering the perfect mix of culture, history, and breathtaking scenery — with immersive itineraries that offer few to no sea days, overnight stays and more time in port[†].



Get the most inclusive value at sea with **More At Sea™**

experience
MORE
at sea™

†Applies to select sailings. ©2025 NCL Corporation Ltd. NCL Australia Pty. Ltd. ABN 80 607 578 781. Ships' Registry: Bahamas and USA. 2700550 09/25.

7-Day Mediterranean
From Barcelona to Rome (Civitavecchia):
Nice, Florence & Amalfi Coast (Salerno)
Norwegian Epic® | May – Oct 2026



Late stay in Livorno

7-Day Greek Isles
From Athens (Piraeus) to Venice (Ravenna):
Santorini, Olympia & Croatia
Norwegian Pearl® | May – Oct 2026



Visit a new port every day

9-Day Mediterranean
From Barcelona to Venice (Ravenna):
Italy, France & Greece
Norwegian Viva® | 29 Apr, 24 Jun & 19 Aug 2026



Visit a new port every day

9-Day Greek Isles
From Rome (Civitavecchia) to Istanbul:
Santorini, Athens & Malta
Norwegian Viva® | 27 May & 22 Jul 2026



Overnight in Istanbul



FOLLOW US

3

SCENIC°ECLIPSE

2026 Worldwide Discovery Voyages



Antarctica's Ross Sea: Majestic Ice & Wildlife

24-Day All-Inclusive Expedition Voyage
Departs 29 Jan 2026 from \$40,935pp*

SAVE from \$10,000pp*
Suite Upgrade Saving of up to 50%±

Highlights:

- Follow in the footsteps of legendary Antarctic explorers Shackleton and Scott, with special on board guests Robert Swan – the first person to walk to both the North and South Poles – and his son Barney, fellow explorer and environmental advocate.
- Admire the otherworldly landscapes of the McMurdo Dry Valleys, one of the driest places on earth, from a helicopter^.



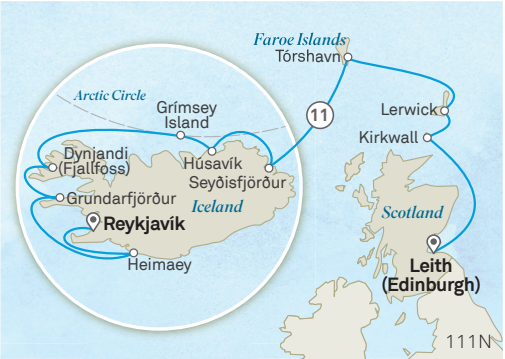
South Pacific Discovery: Norfolk, New Caledonia & Fiji

11-Day All-Inclusive
Signature Yacht Cruise
Departs 4 March 2026 from \$16,045pp*

SAVE from \$3,500pp*

Highlights:

- Encounter blissful beaches, abundant seabirds and marine life.
- Be immersed in local cultures with a range of Scenic Freechoice excursions.
- Visit Vanuatu's Mount Yasur, walk up a trail up to the rim and peer into the fiery depths of the volcano's crater.
- Explore Norfolk Island's historic areas, such as Kingston, Cascade, and Longridge.



Whiskey, Fire & Ice - Scotland to Iceland

12-Day All-Inclusive
Expedition Voyage
Departs 3 June 026 from \$22,230pp*

SAVE from \$1,000pp*

Highlights:

- Visit the jewel of the Westfjords, Dynjandi Waterfall, tumbling down seven tiers over 100 metres it is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Iceland.
- Tórshavn is one of the world's smallest capital cities, wander down cobbled alleyways between colourful buildings with grassy roofs and imagine life in Viking times.



Jewels of Spain and Morocco

13-Day All-Inclusive
Signature Yacht Cruise
Departs 3 May 2026 from \$19,315pp*

SAVE from \$5,000pp*
Suite Upgrade Saving of up to 50%±

Highlights:

- Discover Casablanca's unique blend of history and contemporary charm—visit the iconic Hassan II Mosque, stroll the Corniche, and explore vibrant souks.
- Experience the Canary Islands' volcanic wonders of Timanfaya National Park and finish with a tasting of Lanzarote's unique wines in the vineyards of La Geria.

The most all-inclusive ultra-luxury cruise

- Discovery Yacht experience for only up to 228 guests
- Close to 1:1 crew-to-guest-ratio
- Specialist Discovery Team of up to 20 experts
- Unrivalled discovery by Zodiac, kayak and stand-up paddleboard^
- All verandah suites with butler service
- All meals and premium beverages^
- Up to 10 culinary experiences
- Up to nine bars and lounges
- 550sqm Senses Spa*, yoga and Pilates classes and state-of-the-art gym

Scenic Select Saving from \$3,500pp is off the full fare and is based on cruise departure and suite category. Prices are correct as of 31/07/2025 based on voyage 131S290126.1, 171F040326.2 in a Category DA or DB Suite, 191M030526.1 and 111N030626.2 in a Cat CA (Deluxe Verandah Suite) and. ±Save up to 50% off the suite upgrade on category CA or BA on voyages 131S290126.1 and 191M030526.1. ^Flights on board two helicopters, helicopter experiences and submersible experiences are at an additional cost, subject to availability and regulatory approval, weight restrictions, medical approval and weather and ice conditions. Helicopter is not operational in Scotland. Submersible is not operational in New Zealand and Europe & the Mediterranean. #Spa treatments at additional cost. +All drinks on board are included except for a very small number of rare, fine and vintage wines, Champagnes and spirits. -Kayak and stand-up paddleboard may not be possible in all locations. Full payment is due within 10 months of departure or 30 days of booking when departure is within 10 months of departure. For the full set of terms and conditions visit scenic.com.au/terms-conditions. ABN 85 002 715 602.

These Are the Days with Princess®

YOUR DREAM ESCAPE AWAITS

There's something timeless about being at sea — the horizon stretching endlessly ahead, the salty breeze, the laughter of loved ones close by. On a Princess® cruise, these moments become memories that last a lifetime. These are the days.

Step aboard one of 17 elegant ships and discover the world your way, with over 345 destinations across all seven continents. From the glaciers of Alaska to the ancient cities of Europe, the wonders of Japan and the sun-drenched islands of the South Pacific, Princess is your global guide to extraordinary experiences.

Closer to home, Princess offers unforgettable journeys right from your doorstep. Cruise to New Zealand, explore the Great Barrier Reef, uncover Tasmania's rich history, or soak in the serenity of the South Pacific. With benefits like AUD onboard currency, no tipping required, and departures from convenient homeports, your dream holiday is easier than ever.

This summer, Discovery Princess® — the largest and newest Princess ship to homeport in Australia and New Zealand — makes her debut. Sailing from Sydney from 6 December, her season promises stunning balcony views, award-winning dining, immersive entertainment including 360: An Extraordinary Experience and O'Malley's Irish Pub, plus warm, personalised service from the moment you step onboard.

Princess makes it effortless to explore, thanks to MedallionClass™ technology, which streamlines everything from boarding to ordering drinks. Onshore, discover authentic excursions that connect you with each destination's culture, cuisine, and natural beauty.



Internationally, step aboard Sun Princess®, the newest flagship and first Sphere Class ship, sailing the Mediterranean with over 30 dining and bar venues, panoramic architecture, and immersive entertainment. In 2026, Star Princess® joins the fleet, debuting in Alaska — complete with luxe accommodations and exclusive experiences like Wilderness Lodges and North to Alaska cultural programming.

Named Best Premium Cruise Line in the Cruise Passenger Reader's Choice Awards for ten years running (2014–2024), Princess has nearly 60 years of sailing expertise, including almost 50 years sailing from Australia.

Whether you're chasing sunsets or seeking cultural treasures, Princess delivers more than just a holiday.

These are moments you'll treasure forever.

These are the days.



PRINCESS

Sun Princess® in the Mediterranean

A New Era of Luxury at Sea: Step aboard Sun Princess, Princess Cruises' newest flagship and the first of its revolutionary Sphere Class. This stunning ship redefines modern cruising with its harmonious fusion of cutting-edge design, refined elegance and indulgent experiences at sea. With over 30 dining and bar venues, panoramic glass architecture, and immersive entertainment spaces, Sun Princess is more than a cruise, it's a floating luxury resort.

Iconic Ports That Sparkle with Culture and Charm:



Gibraltar
A British outpost with Spanish soul: Gibraltar offers dramatic views from the Rock, charming town squares, and encounters with its famous Barbary macaques.



Marseille, France
France's oldest city pulses with Provençal flair. Explore the historic Vieux-Port, sip rosé in seaside cafés, or wander through the vibrant Le Panier district.



La Spezia & Cinque Terre, Italy
Gateway to the UNESCO-listed Cinque Terre, La Spezia is your launchpad to pastel-hued villages clinging to cliffs, connected by scenic trails and breathtaking views.



Santorini, Greece
The crown jewel of the Aegean. Whitewashed buildings, blue-domed churches, and sunsets that stop time - Santorini is romance, mythology and magic rolled into one.

Culinary Experiences That Dazzle:



Love by Britto
A whimsical, art-infused dining experience by Romero Britto and Chef Rudi Sodamin. Expect heart-shaped lobster, romance-inspired appetizers, and vibrant décor that celebrates love in every bite.



Umai Teppanyaki
Sizzling showmanship meets Japanese precision. Watch master chefs slice, dice, and dazzle tableside with flame-grilled delicacies and theatrical flair.



Spellbound by Magic Castle
An immersive dining and mixology experience where illusion and gastronomy collide. Think enchanted cocktails, sleight-of-hand sorcery, and a menu that's pure magic.



Sabatini's Italian Trattoria
A Princess favourite, Sabatini's serves up rustic Italian fare with flair—handmade pasta, rich sauces, and warm hospitality that feels like nonna's kitchen at sea.

Sun Princess® offers a multi-venue entertainment lineup that rivals Broadway:



Princess Arena:
A state-of-the-art theatre-in-the-round hosting original productions like Vallora: A Pirate Quest and Stage Struck, featuring high-energy choreography and iconic soundtracks.



The Dome:
Inspired by Santorini's terraces, this glass-covered space comes alive at night with vibrant performances, glowing lights and a lively, romantic vibe that's perfect for unforgettable evenings.



The Piazza:
The heart of the ship, alive with live music, game shows, and the iconic Champagne Waterfall.



Spellbound Lounge:
Where magic meets mixology in an intimate, spellbinding setting.

BOOK NOW | Contact your travel agent | 13 11 00



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EMERALD[®]

CRUISES & TOURS



NEW LUXURY YACHT CRUISING

Emerald Cruises luxury yachts, with only up to 128 guests, offer an intimate cruising experience with visits to picturesque coastal towns and unique small ports. Enjoy world-class services, included excursions, all meals and complimentary drinks.

15 DAY ADRIATIC, CORINTH CANAL & THE GREEK ISLANDS



Luxury yacht Cruising Dubrovnik to Athens

- Visit UNESCO Site of Butrint in Sarande and enjoy a guided hike of Kotor's city walls
- Selected shore excursions with EmeraldPLUS & EmeraldACTIVE experiences
- 36 meals included with complimentary drinks on board
- All gratuities & port charges included

From **\$14,495**ppt/s* **SAVE from \$3,750** per person*

8 DAY GREEK ISLANDS & TURKISH COASTLINES



Luxury yacht cruising Athens to Athens

- Visit Delos, small Greek Island Patmos, Kusadasi in Turkey, Kos off the coast of Bodrum in Turkey and the world renowned islands of Santorini and Mykonos
- Selected shore excursions with EmeraldPLUS & EmeraldACTIVE experiences
- 20 meals included with complimentary drinks on board

From **\$9,645**ppt/s* **SAVE from \$2,250** per person*

10 DAY MALTA, SICILY & AMALFI COAST



Luxury yacht cruising Valletta to Rome

- Discover Giardini Naxos, Lipari, Amalfi, Capri, Sorrento and Porto Ercole
- Selected shore excursions with EmeraldPLUS & EmeraldACTIVE experiences
- 26 meals included with complimentary drinks on board
- All gratuities & port charges included

From **\$11,245**ppt/s* **SAVE from \$2,750** per person*

*Conditions apply. For full conditions refer to brochure or website. Price based on per person twin share on selected cruises. Offers on new bookings only. Not available on future travel credit vouchers. Non-refundable deposit of 20% per person of cruise price is due at time of booking. All pricing based on D Category Stateroom with Super Earlybird and Phil Hoffmann \$250pp discounts. E16D price based on 18/09/27 departure. E08G price based on 19/06/27 departure. E23M price based on 10/05/27 departure. Valid on new bookings only & limited availability based on capacity. Surcharges may apply on credit card transactions. Prices, dates, taxes and availability correct at 30/09/25 & subject to change. Emerald Cruises (a division of Scenic Tours Pty Ltd). ABN 85 002 715 602.



Arctic Norway Frontier

OSLO, FJORDS & SVALBARD

Some journeys take you far from home; others carry you to the very edge of the map. The Arctic Norway Frontier – Oslo, Fjords & Svalbard belongs firmly in the latter category. Travelling from Oslo to Longyearbyen, it follows a route that combines rail and sea travel with small-ship exploration, culminating in the rare chance to sail across 80° North beneath the glow of the Midnight Sun.

The adventure begins in Oslo, where modern Nordic culture meets old-world charm, before boarding the Flåm Railway. This iconic line threads through deep valleys and along waterfalls, a dramatic prelude to the landscapes still to come. The journey continues to Bergen, where the sea becomes your highway north.

The coastal voyage reveals Norway at its most elemental: the jagged silhouettes of the Lofoten Islands, the Arctic city of Tromsø, and the cliffs of the North Cape, Europe's northernmost point. Each day brings another stretch of wild shoreline, with fishing villages tucked between fjords and mountains.

Beyond the mainland lies Svalbard, an Arctic archipelago suspended between Norway and the North Pole. Longyearbyen, the world's northernmost town, marks the gateway to this next chapter. From here, a small expedition ship pushes deeper into the High Arctic. The itinerary includes Ny-Ålesund, a settlement with a long history of polar science, and remote fjords where glaciers calve into icy seas. Sailing across the 80th parallel, you enter the realm of polar bears, walrus, and seabirds, all under a sun that never sets.

One of the most memorable experiences is a silent cruise aboard a hybrid-electric catamaran. Gliding quietly through waters studded with ice, you come face to face with glaciers in a way that feels both intimate and respectful of the fragile environment.

This is more than a holiday. It is a passage through landscapes that few ever see, stitched together by train, coastal steamer, and expedition ship. The result is a rare journey that captures the essence of Norway and the Arctic frontier—wild, remote, and unforgettable.

Hurtigruten's 17-day Arctic Norway Frontier tour package starts from **\$12,499pp***. There is also a 13-day itinerary priced from **\$8,999pp**. Phil Hoffmann Travel clients receive an exclusive **\$150pp** onboard credit. **twin share. Price correct as at 3 October.*

 **HURTIGRUTEN**
Live the legend of Norway

ARCTIC NORWAY FRONTIER

Oslo, Fjords & Svalbard

With over 130 years of experience exploring Norway, Hurtigruten takes you 80° north — via one iconic train and two extraordinary sea voyages. This is the 'eventyr' of a lifetime.

- Sail Norway's coast to Svalbard on an all-inclusive Signature voyage
- Spot polar bears on a thrilling four-day cruise into the High Arctic
- Bask in 24-hour daylight under the Arctic Circle's Midnight Sun
- Embark on a two-day journey on the iconic Flåm Railway through Norway

NEW TOUR PACKAGE

17-DAYS FROM **\$12,499pp***
14-day option excl. cruise extension priced from \$8,999pp

Contact Phil Hoffmann Travel today for an exclusive onboard credit.

Places limited. Don't miss out.

*From price correct as at 3 Oct, 2025, per person, twin share. See website for full T&Cs.



Nordics
BY LAND AND SEA

All Aboard Together:

THE RISE OF *MULTIGENERATIONAL* CRUISING

There's a new kind of family reunion happening, not in a backyard or a banquet hall, but on the high seas. From toddlers taking their first steps to grandparents ticking destinations off their bucket lists, multigenerational cruising is quickly becoming one of the most popular ways for families to travel, reconnect, and create shared memories.

Once stereotyped as a holiday for retirees or honeymooners, cruising has transformed into a dynamic, family-friendly experience that appeals to all ages. Thanks to evolving onboard experiences, diverse destinations, and exceptional value, cruises are now the go-to holiday choice for families who want something more than just a holiday, they want time together.

WHAT IS MULTIGENERATIONAL CRUISING?

Multigenerational cruising refers to extended families, often spanning three or even four generations, travelling together on a cruise holiday. That might include grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles, cousins, and sometimes even great-grandparents. These trips can mark milestone celebrations, like anniversaries or birthdays, or simply serve as an opportunity for family members who live far apart to reconnect.

The appeal? Cruises offer the perfect blend of togetherness and independence. There's plenty of opportunity for shared activities, meals, and excursions, but also the flexibility for everyone to enjoy their own interests.

WHY FAMILIES ARE CHOOSING CRUISES

1. Something for Everyone

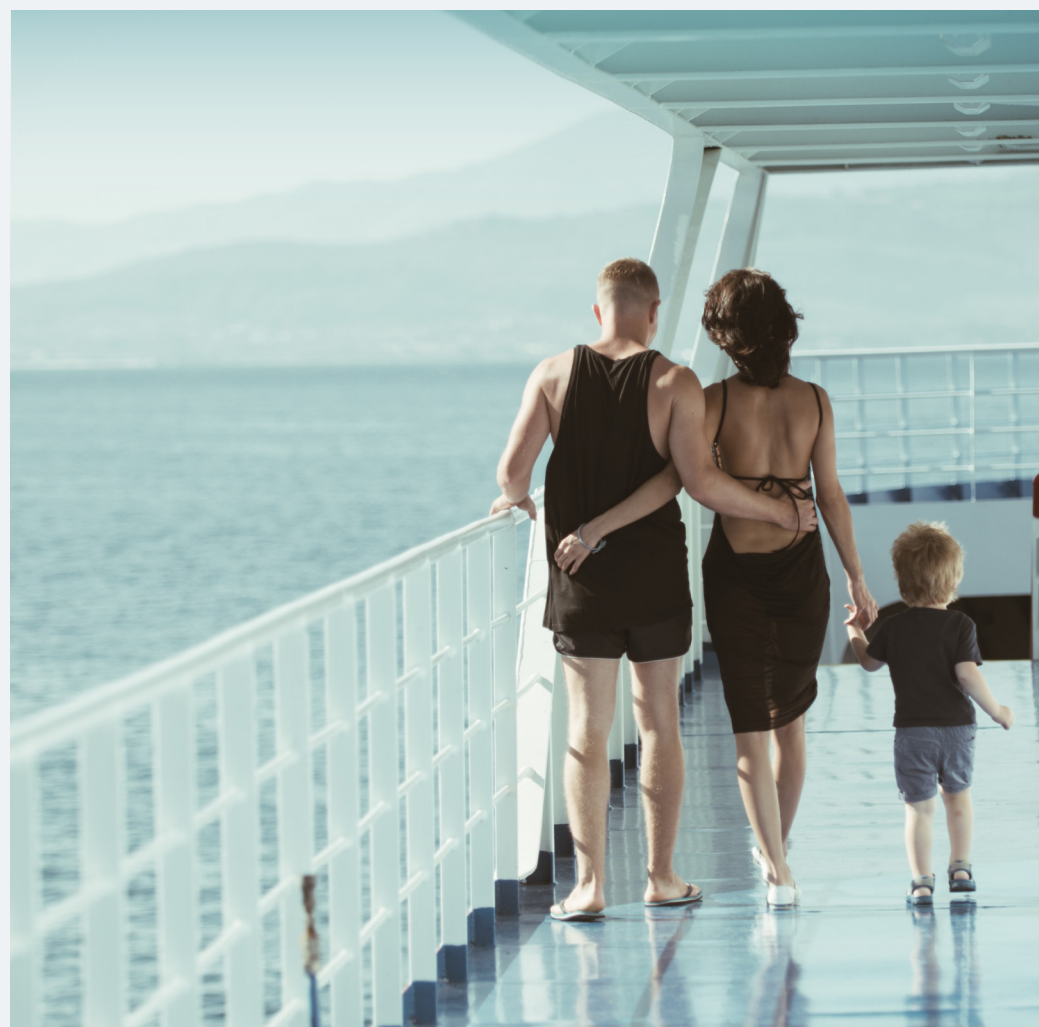
Today's cruise ships are floating cities with entertainment, dining, and activity options for every age and interest. Kids can explore imaginative play zones, waterslides, and adventure clubs, while teenagers hang out in lounges with gaming consoles, movie nights, and social events. Adults can indulge in spa treatments, wine tastings, fitness classes, and fine dining. And for grandparents? Leisurely afternoons with panoramic views, cultural lectures, or a good book by the pool.

Each age group can enjoy tailored experiences during the day, then regroup in the evening for a shared meal or a Broadway-style show. It's the best of both worlds - individual fun and family bonding.

2. Ease and Convenience

Coordinating a land-based holiday for a large group can be a logistical nightmare - hotels, restaurant reservations, multiple cars, and varied itineraries. Cruises simplify everything.

With accommodation, dining, transportation, and entertainment bundled into one package, families can focus on enjoying time together, not planning it. You unpack once, and your floating hotel takes you from destination to destination while the crew handles the rest.





3. Shared Experiences, Lasting Memories

Family holidays are about more than sightseeing - they're about connection. Multigenerational cruises provide a rare opportunity for families to truly slow down and enjoy each other's company without the distractions of daily life. Whether it's watching a grandchild's eyes light up during their first dolphin encounter, laughing over dinner stories, or dancing under the stars on deck, these are the moments that become part of the family story.

4. Incredible Value

Cruising often offers better value than coordinating separate flights, hotels, and activities - especially for larger groups. With meals, entertainment, and inter-port transport included, you get a luxury travel experience without the hefty price tag. Many cruise lines also offer promotions like "kids sail free", group discounts, or onboard credit for booking multiple cabins.

This makes cruising an appealing and cost-effective option for families looking to travel together without sacrificing comfort.

WHERE ARE FAMILIES CRUISING TO?

While popular routes like the Caribbean and Mediterranean still dominate, many families are expanding their horizons.

- **Alaska** is a top choice for nature-loving families who want to witness glaciers, whales, and Indigenous culture.
- **The Galápagos Islands, Antarctica, and Iceland** attract adventurous families with teens and a taste for exploration.
- **Australian and New Zealand** coastal cruises offer incredible convenience and scenery for local families who want to travel without the long-haul flights.
- **European river cruises** are increasingly catering to multigenerational groups, with themed sailings and excursions that mix history with hands-on experiences.

No matter the destination, cruising makes it easy to see the world - together.

CRUISE LINES LEADING THE WAY

Cruise lines have taken note of the multigenerational trend and are evolving their ships and itineraries to cater to extended families.

- **Royal Caribbean's *Icon of the Seas*** offers a "Family Neighbourhood," complete with multi-room family suites, splash parks, and the largest water park at sea.
- **Disney Cruise Line** blends nostalgia and magic with Broadway-style shows, character encounters, and adults-only lounges and spas for parents and grandparents to unwind.
- **MSC Cruises and Carnival** offer affordable options with extensive kids' clubs, family cabins, and all-ages entertainment, ideal for budget-conscious families.
- **AmaWaterways**, in partnership with Adventures by Disney, now runs family-friendly river cruises, combining European heritage with immersive cultural activities for all ages.

Many ships also feature interconnecting cabins, large family suites, and group dining options, making onboard living comfortable and seamless.



TIPS FOR PLANNING A MULTIGENERATIONAL CRUISE

Planning a successful multigenerational cruise requires a little strategy. Here are a few tips to make the experience smooth and memorable:

- 1. Book Early:** Larger cabins and adjoining rooms sell out quickly. Booking early ensures better rates and more choices.
- 2. Choose the Right Ship:** Not all ships suit all families. Make sure the cruise offers age-appropriate activities and amenities for your group.
- 3. Be Flexible:** Not everyone will want to do the same activities. Schedule shared meals or excursions but allow room for solo or small-group exploration.
- 4. Set Expectations:** Talk budgets, schedules, and must-dos before departure to avoid misunderstandings.
- 5. Look for Group Perks:** Many cruise lines offer perks for groups of 8 or more cabins, including onboard credits or free upgrades.
- 6. Consider Travel Insurance:** It's especially important when travelling with young children or older adults.

CHALLENGES AND HOW TO NAVIGATE THEM

Of course, no family trip is without its bumps. From differing activity levels to conflicting opinions on excursions or dining times, multigenerational travel requires patience and compromise.

- **Mobility concerns?** Choose a ship with elevators, accessible rooms, and shorter walking distances between venues.
- **Dietary needs?** Cruise lines are well-equipped to handle gluten-free, vegetarian, and allergy-sensitive meals.
- **Teens bored?** Look for ships with teen lounges, Wi-Fi packages, and late-night entertainment.

The key is striking a balance - give everyone their space, but prioritise shared moments that will bring the group together.

A HOLIDAY THAT BECOMES A LEGACY

Perhaps the most powerful part of a multigenerational cruise is not the destinations you visit, but the legacy you create. For many families, these cruises are more than holidays - they're a chance to build relationships, share stories, and pass on values and traditions.

Imagine celebrating a 50th wedding anniversary on deck with three generations present. Or seeing a child bond with their grandparent over a cultural tour in Italy. These are the kinds of moments that become part of your family's history, cherished for years to come.

WHY NOW IS THE TIME

In today's world, where families are often spread out across cities, or even continents, time together is the ultimate luxury. A cruise brings everyone together in one place, offering comfort, adventure, and memories that outlast any souvenir.

So, whether you're celebrating a milestone, planning a family reunion, or simply want to spend more time with the people who matter most, consider cruising. It's travel made easy, meaningful, and memorable, for every generation.

After all, the only thing better than seeing the world... is seeing it with the people you love.



FOLLOW US

ADELADY TAKES EUROPE *by river...*

Proving once and for all that travel is even better when it's shared.

Words by Hayley Pearson & Lauren De Cesare

Ten years ago, we made a promise: one day, we'd take our parents on their dream holiday to Europe. Well, pinch us — it actually happened!

We went on the trip of a lifetime, cruising the Delightful Danube with Travelmarvel onboard Travelmarvel Capella from Budapest to Munich — all thanks to Phil Hoffmann Travel, who made the whole experience beyond easy. All we had to do was hop on the plane and breathe.

Eight nights, nine days, exploring fairytale towns by day and floating down one of Europe's most magical rivers by night. Making memories with our parents? Absolutely priceless.

Step inside our travel diary so you can experience every magical moment right alongside us.

Adelady

TRAVEL

We still can't believe that we were lucky enough to experience Qatar Airways' Qsuite on the flight over to Europe! We're talking sliding doors, lie-flat beds, chef-designed menus, world-class wines, and PJs — it's no wonder Qsuite has been voted World's Best Business Class twelve times. It was absolute bliss.

After a stopover in the incredible Doha Airport, the six of us made it to beautiful Budapest where we checked into the exquisite Corinthia Hotel, pretended we weren't jet-lagged, and headed out to start exploring.

DAY 1

We boarded our floating home, the Travelmarvel Capella. Their ships are custom-designed for guests to soak in Europe's rivers in style — French balconies, sky decks, luxe lounges, incredible food and impeccable service.

Within minutes, drinks were poured and new friends made. Unpacking once for the entire trip was an absolute game changer, and we couldn't wait to dine like queens, then head up top to watch the Danube sparkle under the stars. Happy tears!

DAY 2

We woke up refreshed to the smell of coffee and the most incredible breakfast buffet — flaky pastries, fresh fruit, an omelet station, the works! Then off we went with our guide to discover Budapest's treasures: Parliament House, Heroes' Square and the breathtaking St. Stephen's Basilica.

Back onboard, we waved goodbye to the city and sailed toward Vienna, gliding past rolling hills and storybook castles. It felt like we were watching a fairytale unfold right outside our window.

DAY 3

Good morning, Vienna! The moment we stepped off, we were smitten — horse-drawn carriages, grand palaces and the faint sound of classical music drifting through cobblestone streets. Pure magic.

Travelmarvel offers a mix of included and optional tours, and the 'Enhance Your Tour' experience in Vienna was next-level: a Mozart concert inside a palace! We got all dolled up and gave it a solid 11/10.



Photo credit Wayne Pearson





DAY 4

Breakfast in Austria, lunch in Slovakia — because that's how Europe rolls! You blink and suddenly find yourself in a whole new country with a new language, new culture, new food... it never gets old!

We joined our lovely tour guide for a day trip to Bratislava, wandering pastel streets and browsing quirky shops filled with handmade trinkets. Then came the sweeping views from Bratislava Castle — another one of those 'pinch me' moments we'll never forget!

DAY 5

Dürnstein is the real-life Beauty and the Beast village! Cobblestones, flowers, and apricots everywhere — in chocolate, wine, ice cream, jam, schnapps... you name it. We felt like we'd stepped straight into a fairytale.

Mumma Rosa climbed to the top of the old tower (applause!), while we... bought jackets and fridge magnets instead. Later, we soaked in the top-deck hot tub watching the Danube drift by before arriving in Melk. Bliss!

Melk's stunning abbey sits high above the town. We explored its golden halls, then strolled back down for a beer with Dad while the mums browsed boutiques. That night, dinner and acoustic music onboard topped off a perfect day.

DAY 6

The hills were alive — literally! We made our way to Salzburg, visiting the Sound of Music church in Mondsee where Maria and Captain von Trapp tied the knot. A total dream come true!

We wandered Salzburg's pastel-coloured old town, visited Mozart's house and finished the day with a Bavarian feast onboard — live band and all! Each meal on the ship celebrates the regions we visit, and every night we've sipped local wines that tell the story of the villages we float past. So immersive!

DAY 7

Regensburg on a rainy Sunday had its own kind of charm — even with all the shops closed, the city felt alive. We wandered the cobblestone streets with umbrellas in hand, soaking up the old-world beauty and snapping photos of the most stunning buildings.

We found a cosy spot for the best hot chocolate and strudel of our lives and then went into a magnificent church to light a candle for the people that we love.

From there, we explored Nuremberg — a city full of history, and where Hitler held some of his most famous rallies, which for some was hard to stomach.

But the highlight of Nuremberg for us, was visiting the markets where we walked in the rain, ate hot Christmas nuts, went shopping in the main square and then hit the sack, ready to head to Munich the next day.

DAY 8

And just like that, our incredible European adventure is over — and what a magical finale it was in Munich, from belly laughs echoing through beer halls to the unforgettable views after climbing 370 steps to the top of the city's tallest church

The Travelmarvel ship? Faultless, with immaculate rooms and exceptional service the whole time, plus some truly incredible food. The excursions let you choose your own pace — whether guided or free-range, like we preferred.

This trip has been pure magic — every moment thoughtfully planned and carried out thanks to Phil Hoffmann Travel. If you've ever dreamed of Europe but dreaded the planning, do yourself a favour, and let the experts handle it.

We loved every second and would recommend this experience to **EVERYONE!** Europe... you were a dream.

Until next time,
Hayley + Lauren x





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Top Reasons to cruise Alaska with Holland America Line

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Glaciers Guaranteed on Every Alaska Cruise

Holland America Line offers more opportunities for glacier viewing than any other cruise line. Every Alaska cruise includes a scenic visit to Alaska's iconic glaciers, where the ships sail up to the face of the ice formations and rotate for a 360-degree view. Holland America Line is

confident that guests will have an unforgettable glacier experience and offers a "Glacier Guarantee" program that pledges glacier viewing on every Alaska cruise and the majority of Cruise tours.

Glaciers visited along the journey may include Glacier Bay National Park, College Fjord, Dawes Glacier, Hubbard Glacier and Twin Sawyer Glaciers of Tracy Arm. During Glacier Bay scenic cruising, Holland America Line continues to bring on a Glacier Bay National Park Ranger for the day to engage with guests.

More Ways to See Alaska's Wildlife in the Wild

Beyond providing more than 175 tours to see Alaska's wildlife and wilderness, Alaska ships also carry a wildlife expert on board to help guests witness the majestic animals found in the region, and a Wildlife Spotting Guide points out

the native animals found along the cruise route and includes a map with the best places to see each species.

Serving Fresh Fish in Alaska

Holland America Line continues to build on its groundbreaking Global Fresh Fish Program that brings locally sourced fresh fish from port to plate in less than 48 hours. In addition to the seafood and other local delicacies served on the menus, ships in Alaska serve exclusive dishes created by the brand's Fresh Fish Ambassador Chef Morimoto.

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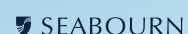
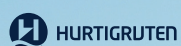
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NIGEL, LYNNE, BRETT & LIZ
FOLLOW THE LIGHTS - HURTIGRUTEN

Norway and Finland in winter have long been on our travel wish lists. To finally experience the Northern Lights, see the snowy landscapes, and take reindeer sleigh and husky rides was a dream come true. To complete our winter wonderland adventure, we finished with a stopover in Switzerland.

Our holiday began travelling from Oslo to Bergen, including a journey on part of the famous Flåm Railway. In Bergen, we boarded the Hurtigruten ship Richard With. This coastal express vessel travels along Norway's spectacular coastline, stopping at charming fishing villages and towns to pick up locals and cargo. While sailing, we passed whales, majestic mountain scenery, and tiny red fishing cabins. On two nights, the skies cleared and the glowing, swirling green Northern Lights danced above us. Magical.

Disembarking Richard With, we discovered the enchantment of Finland in winter. Everything was blanketed in a soft carpet of snow, with tree branches heavy under its weight. Staying in glass-topped igloos, we admired the Northern Lights once more - warm and comfortable inside, venturing out only to capture photographs.

Our time in Finland included a visit to Santa's Village, a thrilling 5 km husky sled ride through the forest, and a visit to a Sami Village for a reindeer sleigh ride - everything on the wish list ticked off.

Our final week was spent amid the beauty of the Swiss Alps. With a Swiss Rail Pass in hand, we enjoyed the flexibility of unlimited travel through stunning alpine scenery.

Never let cold weather hold you back from travelling. Experience the magic of a winter holiday - stay in a glass igloo, meet reindeer, and enjoy the snowy landscapes. The winter scenery is breathtaking, with snow-covered mountains, frozen lakes, and frosty forests. And don't forget to build a snowman!



TONY & JUDY WILSON
RHINE CONNOISSEUR - TAUCK

Judy and I are no strangers to boating, having spent nearly 10 years exploring the canals and rivers of France for two months each year. When COVID hit and travel came to a halt, we reluctantly sold our boat — but five years on, it was time to return to the waterways of Europe.

We chose the 11-Day Rhine Connoisseur Tour with Tauck, starting in stunning Montreux, Switzerland and finishing in Brussels, Belgium, journeying through Germany and the Netherlands along the way.

Our ship, the MS Grace, carrying just over 100 passengers, was outstanding in every respect. If you're looking for luxury accommodation, exceptional hospitality, effortless organisation, and adventure at every turn — from airport arrival to airport departure — this is the perfect choice.

Regardless of cabin category, every guest enjoyed access to the same world-class facilities, including the elegant dining venues, inviting bar, and expertly guided on-shore excursions.

The on-shore experiences were wonderfully varied and thoughtfully designed to suit all levels of activity. We particularly loved the cycling excursions, guided city tours, and beer and chocolate tastings, all led by warm, knowledgeable local guides who brought each destination to life.

River cruising at this calibre, where tipping is included and dining and drinks are covered before you even leave home, truly delivers a seamless, carefree holiday experience.

We're already looking forward to our next river cruise, and Alex at Phil Hoffmann Travel will be our go-to man for making it happen.



ROBERT & JOANNE NUNAN
MEKONG RIVER CRUISE

We were introduced to the magic of river cruising on an unforgettable journey from Ho Chi Minh City to Siem Reap. From the moment we stepped aboard, we were welcomed by warm, hospitable staff and expert local guides whose knowledge brought every destination to life. The ship itself was beautifully appointed, with elegant Southeast Asian furnishings, warm décor, and delicious cuisine that often reflected the flavours of the journey.

Over eight days, we experienced the Mekong River's charm — each day offering a new perspective on local life, tradition, and culture. Highlights included a moving Buddhist blessing ceremony, visiting a village school, and joining Cambodian pottery and cooking demonstrations. Onboard, we enjoyed a cooking class with the ship's chef and took part in peaceful morning yoga sessions on the sun deck as we sailed along the tranquil waters. The excursions gave us an intimate glimpse into riverside communities and how people live along the Mekong.

Before embarking, we spent a few days exploring Ho Chi Minh City — marvelling at the Notre-Dame Cathedral, browsing the bustling central markets, and sampling delicious Vietnamese food. After the cruise, our adventure continued in Siem Reap, where we explored the legendary Angkor Wat. Built in the 12th century, the vast temple complex was originally dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu before becoming a Buddhist site. Its intricate carvings and towering architecture were incredibly moving.

This journey was the perfect blend of culture, history, and relaxation — an authentic introduction to river cruising and the rich heritage of Vietnam and Cambodia.

If you would like to find out more information about these destinations, please contact Phil Hoffmann Travel on 13 11 00

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