



INFINITY TRAVEL

Luxury Concierge · Cruise Specialist · Florida Local

The Cruise Line

Comparison Guide

17 cruise lines side by side —
so every family, couple, and group finds the perfect ship.

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"Let all that you do be done in love." — 1 Corinthians 16:14

infinitytravel.life

Which cruise line fits YOU?

There is no 'best cruise line' — only the best fit for your family, your vibe, and your budget. Below is a plain-language edit of 17 lines from mainstream to ultra-luxury, with sample itineraries and the one insider tip I share with clients before every booking.

PRICING LEGEND

\$ value · \$\$ mainstream · \$\$\$ premium · \$\$\$\$ luxury (all-inclusive) · \$\$\$\$\$ ultra-luxury

FIND YOUR FIT AT A GLANCE

If you want...	Best fit
Traveling with kids under 12	Disney · Royal Caribbean · Carnival · MSC (Kids Sail Free)
Tweens & teens on board	Royal Caribbean · Norwegian · MSC · Carnival
Multigenerational family (grandparents to toddlers)	Royal Caribbean · Princess · Holland America
Adults-only, no kids please	Virgin Voyages · Viking Ocean · most luxury lines
Honeymoon on a budget	Celebrity · Norwegian Haven · MSC Yacht Club
Milestone honeymoon or anniversary	Seabourn · Silversea · Regent · Ritz-Carlton Yacht
Foodie / culinary travelers	Oceania · Celebrity · Virgin · Windstar
First-time cruisers testing the waters	Carnival · Royal Caribbean · Norwegian (short 3–4 night)
Alaska specifically	Princess · Holland America · Norwegian · Celebrity
Mediterranean & Europe	MSC · Celebrity · Oceania · Viking · Windstar
Caribbean quick escape from Florida	Carnival · Royal Caribbean · Disney · MSC
Small ship, quiet, cultural	Windstar · Viking · Oceania · Silversea
Expedition (Antarctica, Galápagos, Kimberley)	Silversea Expedition · Seabourn Expedition · Viking Expedition
Transatlantic / world cruise	Cunard · Holland America · Regent · Silversea

TIER · FAMILY & VALUE

Carnival Cruise Line

\$ · 27 ships

Fun, casual, come-as-you-are. High-energy pool decks, waterslides, comedy clubs, and family-friendly pricing.

Best for: First-time cruisers, budget-conscious families, groups celebrating a milestone.

Sample itinerary: 4-night Bahamas from Miami/Port Canaveral; 7-night Western Caribbean.

INSIDER TIP — Carnival Celebration and Mardi Gras (their newest Excel-class ships) are a real upgrade — worth the small premium.

Royal Caribbean

\$\$ · 28 ships

Biggest ships at sea, most onboard activities. Ice-skating, waterparks, zip-lining, Broadway shows, robot bartenders.

Best for: Multigenerational trips, active families with tweens/teens, first-timers who want the 'wow'.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Perfect Day at CocoCay itineraries from Florida.

INSIDER TIP — Icon of the Seas and Utopia of the Seas are experiences unto themselves. Book a Central Park balcony for the quietest cabin location.

MSC Cruises

\$-\$\$ · 22 ships

European elegance at competitive prices. Newer fleet, Mediterranean flair, kids sail free promotions.

Best for: Budget families who want a more international, less rowdy feel.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Caribbean from Miami/PortMiami; 7-night Mediterranean.

INSIDER TIP — MSC's Yacht Club (ship-within-a-ship) is one of the best-kept secrets in cruising — suite-level luxury at premium-cruise prices.

Disney Cruise Line

\$\$\$ · 5 ships (Wish, Treasure newest)

Disney magic on water. Character breakfasts, rotational dining, first-run Disney films, adults-only pools & lounges.

Best for: Families with kids under 12, Disney lovers, honeymooners who grew up on Disney.

Sample itinerary: 4-night Bahamas + Castaway Cay from Port Canaveral.

INSIDER TIP — Book 15–18 months out for holiday weeks — Disney sells out first and rarely discounts. Concierge level includes a private sundeck.

TIER · MAINSTREAM PREMIUM

Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL)

\$\$ · 20 ships

Freestyle cruising — no set dining times, no formal nights. 20+ dining venues, contemporary vibe.

Best for: Independent-minded travelers, couples who want flexibility, foodies.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Alaska from Seattle; 10-night Greek Isles.

INSIDER TIP — Norwegian Prima and Viva are their new premium tier — Haven suites include a private restaurant, concierge, and butler. Extraordinary.

Princess Cruises

\$\$ · 16 ships

Elegant but relaxed. Movies Under the Stars, MedallionClass wearable tech, strong Alaska and European programs.

Best for: 50+ couples, Alaska-focused travelers, comfortable classic cruisers.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Alaska Voyage of the Glaciers; 12-night British Isles.

INSIDER TIP — Princess owns Alaska. Their glacier-viewing itineraries and Denali land-cruise combos are the industry standard.

Holland America

\$\$ · 11 ships

Refined, quieter, culturally rich. Live music from B.B. King's Blues, Lincoln Center Stage, longer itineraries.

Best for: 60+ travelers, world-cruise dreamers, jazz lovers.

Sample itinerary: 14-night Alaska + Yukon; 35-night South Pacific.

INSIDER TIP — Holland America's grand voyages (35 to 128 nights) are the calmest, most thoughtful way to see the world — often cheaper per-day than a 7-night cruise.

Celebrity Cruises

\$\$-\$\$\$ · 16 ships

Modern luxury, design-forward. Rooftop garden, Michelin-caliber dining, chic adult vibe.

Best for: Couples 40+, honeymooners on a budget, design-savvy travelers.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Caribbean; 10-night Mediterranean; Galápagos on Xpedition.

INSIDER TIP — The Edge-series ships (Edge, Apex, Beyond, Ascent) are visually stunning. Book the Retreat suites for included premium drinks, dining, and butler.

Virgin Voyages

\$\$\$ · 4 ships

Adults-only (18+), boutique-hotel-at-sea, wellness-focused. All tips, WiFi, and premium dining included.

Best for: Adults who want no kids, style-forward travelers, wellness/yoga lovers.

Sample itinerary: 5-night Fire & Sunset Soirées from Miami; 7-night Mediterranean.

INSIDER TIP — Virgin includes what other lines up-charge: gratuities, group fitness, essential WiFi, and 20+ restaurants. Great value once you total everything in.

Cunard

\$\$-\$\$\$ · 3 ships (Queen Mary 2, Victoria, Elizabeth)

British ocean-liner tradition. Formal-night culture, transatlantic crossings, afternoon tea, ballroom dancing.

Best for: Classic travelers, formal-cruise lovers, transatlantic bucket-listers.

Sample itinerary: 7-night transatlantic New York ↔ Southampton on Queen Mary 2.

INSIDER TIP — Queen Mary 2 is the only true ocean liner in service — a genuine 7-day slow crossing, not a cruise. Bucket list.

TIER · LUXURY

Oceania Cruises

\$\$\$ · 8 ships

Small-ship (~1,200 pax), foodie-first premium. The finest cuisine at sea; complimentary specialty dining.

Best for: Culinary travelers, couples 50+, small-ship enthusiasts.

Sample itinerary: 10-night Mediterranean; 20-night Alaska + Panama Canal.

INSIDER TIP — Oceania's Vista and Allura are their new build. Included specialty dining + one of the best beverage packages in the premium tier.

Viking Ocean

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ · 10 ships

Adults only, cultural focus, Scandinavian minimalism. Free shore excursion in every port, no kids, no casino.

Best for: Curious travelers 55+, museum-and-history lovers, first-time luxury cruisers.

Sample itinerary: 15-night Viking Homelands; 8-night Iconic Western Mediterranean.

INSIDER TIP — Viking includes shore excursions, WiFi, beer/wine at meals, and Nordic spa. One of the best 'inclusive without being flashy' options in cruising.

Windstar Cruises

\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$ · 6 ships

Small ships (150-300 pax) + iconic sailing yachts. Under-the-radar ports, watersports off the back of the ship.

Best for: Small-ship purists, sailors, couples who hate crowds.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Tahiti & Society Islands on Wind Spirit.

INSIDER TIP — Windstar's Wind Star and Wind Spirit sailing yachts are unforgettable. Fewer than 150 guests. You'll never cruise big again.

TIER · ULTRA-LUXURY

Silversea

\$\$\$\$ · 12 ships

All-suite, all-inclusive. Butler service, complimentary premium drinks, expedition + classic fleets.

Best for: Seasoned luxury travelers, honeymooners spending big, expedition-curious.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Caribbean on Silver Nova; 10-night Antarctica on Silver Endeavour.

INSIDER TIP — Silversea's expedition ships (Endeavour, Cloud, Origin) are among the best ways to reach Antarctica, Galápagos, and the Kimberley.

Seabourn

\$\$\$\$ · 6 ships

Ultra-luxury small-ship. Butler-served suites, complimentary champagne and caviar, no gratuities.

Best for: Discerning couples, milestone anniversaries, quiet-luxury lovers.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Greek Isles on Seabourn Encore; 21-night Alaska + Japan.

INSIDER TIP — Seabourn's caviar-in-the-surf beach day is a bucket-list moment. Every suite has a private veranda; every fare includes premium spirits and gratuities.

Regent Seven Seas

\$\$\$\$-\$\$\$\$\$ · 6 ships

The most inclusive luxury cruise line. Business-class air, all excursions, unlimited drinks, gratuities, WiFi.

Best for: Travelers who never want to see a bill onboard, luxury bucket-listers.

Sample itinerary: 10-night Caribbean on Seven Seas Grandeur; 132-night World Cruise.

INSIDER TIP — The all-in Regent fare typically beats piecing together business-class flights + excursions + drinks separately. Their Grandeur is spectacular.

Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection

\$\$\$\$\$ · 3 yachts (Evrima + newer)

Superyacht at sea. 149 suites max. Michelin-alum kitchens, private marinas, unrivaled service.

Best for: Luxury-hotel loyalists, honeymooners going all-out, ultra-quiet-cruise seekers.

Sample itinerary: 7-night Caribbean or Mediterranean itineraries.

INSIDER TIP — The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection is essentially a Ritz-Carlton hotel that sails. If you love the brand on land, you'll love it more at sea.

How to book smart.

Book 9–14 months out for peak weeks.

Holiday, spring break, and July sail dates fill first. Early bookers lock the best cabin locations (mid-ship, higher deck) and the lowest fares.

Cabin location matters more than category.

A mid-ship balcony on a lower deck rides smoother than a top-deck aft. Ask me for the deck plan before you book — I'll flag the noisy neighbors (nightclubs, elevators, self-service laundry).

Bundle the drink and WiFi packages up-front.

Booked at time of reservation, they run 25–40% less than onboard. Some lines include them at higher fare classes — Virgin Voyages and Viking Ocean, for instance.

Watch for repositioning cruises.

When ships move seasons (Caribbean ↔ Europe, Alaska ↔ Mexico), fares drop by 40–60%. Longer routes, fewer ports — but real luxury for near-mainstream pricing.

Travel insurance covers what your credit card doesn't.

Cruise-specific policies cover medical evacuation from a ship, missed-port compensation, and full trip cancellation. A \$150 policy protects a \$6,000 sailing.

Flex Pay is available.

For qualifying itineraries, we can offer monthly payment plans through Uplift / Affirm-style partners — book now, pay across your final payment date.

ONE LAST THING

Ready to book your fit?

Send me the 2–3 lines from this guide that caught your eye — plus a rough sail-date window and the party you're traveling with — and I'll come back with real cabin options, current promotions, and the total cost breakdown. My \$25 research consult locks it in and applies as a credit toward your final booking.

Book your \$25 consult	infinitytravel.life/quote
Explore cruises	infinitytravel.life/specialties
Email BaLinda	bookininfinitytravels@gmail.com
Text (fastest)	850-272-8172
Chat with NOVA (24/7 AI concierge)	infinitytravel.life/nova

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Curated by BaLinda Taylor, MSN, RN · Infinity Travel · Independent Travel Advisor. Cruise line descriptions reflect publicly available information as of publication and do not constitute a binding quote. Fleet counts, itineraries, promotions, and pricing tiers change without notice.