

Windstar Cruises Announces 2009 and Winter 2010 Deployment

2008-03-19

New Signature Collection Series, Venice Roundtrip Sailings and Elegant Ship Enhancements Aboard Wind Star, Wind Surf and Wind Spirit Cruises

Windstar Cruises, which operates a three-ship fleet of luxury yachts that explore hidden harbors and secluded coves of the world's most sought-after destinations, announces a tantalizing selection of voyages for 2009 and winter 2010 aboard the 312-guest Wind Surf and 148-guest Wind Star and Wind Spirit.

With the addition of a new Signature Collection Series, Venice roundtrip sailings and completed ship enhancements, Windstar Cruises has raised the bar for their loyal guests and fellow sailing enthusiasts. Guests interested in enchanting locales, fine dining, luxurious accommodations, or spending time with renowned wine makers, top chefs and acclaimed artists will all have something to look forward to aboard Windstar Cruises.

"We are excited to offer this selection of remarkable sailings and welcome the return of our Signature Collection Series on our beautiful ships for the 2009 and 2010 seasons," said Diane Moore, Executive Vice President, Windstar Cruises.

Signature Collection Cruises

Windstar's Signature Collection Series returns by popular demand and features distinguished guests and lecturers. Windstar guests can taste and learn about wines from top wine makers Greg Lill of DeLille Cellars and Gary Eberle of Eberle Winery. Art lovers will delight in spending time with Canadian artist Jody Hewgill, whose clients include Windstar Cruises, Rolling Stone magazine, Mondavi Wines and TIME magazine. Her paintings are also included in many public and private collections throughout Europe and North America. Nothing will please true food connoisseurs more than some culinary treats and secrets from acclaimed chef and culinary expert David Shalleck, author of Mediterranean Summer, published by Broadway Books. And, sports enthusiasts will relish the opportunity to hear from Rafer Johnson, gold medalist at the 1960 Rome Olympics. Sports Illustrated's "Sportsman of the Year," World Sports Humanitarian inductee and one of ESPN's "100 Greatest North American Athletes" are just a few of the accolades Mr. Johnson has earned in his distinguished athletic career. These special guests and others will sail on select cruises throughout the 2009 season.

Caribbean, Cost Rica, Europe, Greek Isles and Transatlantic Itineraries

European cruises offer guests the chance to experience some of the most exciting places in the world. Due to frequent requests from guests on Windstar's European sailings, the number and variety of Croatian ports will increase. A new Venice roundtrip itinerary will afford guests the opportunity to overnight in Venice before visiting a unique collection of picturesque, historical Croatian destinations. Additional ports in L'île Rousse, France and Ischia Island, Italy will also be making their debut on Windstar itineraries in 2009. The history, charm and grandeur of Europe are available to guests on an assortment of 6-, 7- or 8-day cruises aboard all of Windstar's luxury yachts with departures from Lisbon, Portugal, Barcelona, Spain, Rome, Italy, Venice, Italy, Nice, France. And, guests planning to visit Europe will find a significant benefit of cruising with Windstar Cruises. A strong euro makes cruising a value superior to land-based vacations.

The Greek Isles are the enduring favorite of Windstar's returning guests and are renowned for breathtaking blue waters, stunning white beaches and the romance of ancient gods. Guests aboard Wind Spirit and Wind Star's 7-day cruises can expect to experience the ancient spirit and mythic beauty that only the Greek Isles can offer.

Warm, whispering winds and sandy beaches await travelers longing for the colorful tranquility of the Caribbean. Wind Surf offers 7-day sailings roundtrip from Barbados and a variety of vibrant, tropical ports of call on northbound and southbound itineraries. Wind Spirit's 7-day sailings roundtrip from St. Thomas offer guests dream-like island settings and lively cultural opportunities.

Guests yearning for an exotic experience will enjoy lush rainforests, pristine beaches and warm waters on the 7-day Costa Rican sailings roundtrip from Puerto Caldera. Wind Star's 14-day cruise features a transit through the Panama Canal with ports of call in Central America, South America and Caribbean Islands.

Travelers who know the true tranquility and leisure that only time away at sea can bring will be eager to book one of Windstar's 14-day transatlantic voyages. Two weeks provides plenty of time for guests to rejuvenate while enjoying the WindSpa and many other shipboard amenities designed to pamper and indulge. Transatlantic sailings are available aboard all three Windstar ships.

Degrees of Difference

The recently completed multi-million dollar Degrees of Difference enhancements on all three ships focused on structural and technical operations along with upgrades to guest areas, remodeled bathrooms in staterooms and an expanded beauty salon and spa. On the Wind Star and Wind Spirit, the Lounge, Veranda and Pool Bar were renovated. On the Wind Surf, the Yacht Club replaces the library and provides comfortable seating, a large flat screen television, an espresso bar and computers offering Internet access. Two new luxury suites were built on the bridge deck and feature a living and dining area, separate bedroom and whirlpool tub. In order to take the ship's comfort level to a new degree of luxury, Apple iPod Nanos and Bose SoundDock speakers, wireless Internet, flat screen televisions, luxury linens and mattresses as well as L'Occitane bathroom

amenities were added in each stateroom across the fleet.

Windstar Ships

A leader in defining the small ship luxury cruise experience for more than 20 years, Windstar has won the allegiance of a new generation of contemporary travelers who appreciate the line's casual attire, alternative dining venues, diversity of shore excursions, complimentary water sports program, deluxe spa facilities and luxurious accommodations.

Windstar's award-winning reputation for luxury paired with casual elegance has been recognized by some of the most notable names in the travel industry. Porthole Cruise Magazine named Windstar "Most Romantic Cruise Line" and all three Windstar ships were listed as "Best Small Ships" in Conde Nast Traveler's 2008 Readers' Choice Poll. Windstar was also selected as a 2008 WAVE Editor's Pick in TravelAge West as the "Cruise Line with the Highest Client Satisfaction," has earned top honors in Travel + Leisure's 2007 World's Best Awards, was placed on Conde Nast Traveler's 2008 "Gold List", and was recognized as the best small-ship cruise vacation by readers of Celebrated Living.

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