

Windstar Cruises Appreciates Travel Advisors Now More than Ever

New Policy Pays Commissions on Future Cruise Credits; Favorite Agent Promotion Is Back

SEATTLE, WA, May 5, 2020 – <u>Windstar Cruises</u> is making a major change to its travel agent commission policy as well as announcing the return of a favorite promotion for travel advisors. Both announcements are timed to honor National Travel and Tourism Week and National Travel Advisor Day (Wednesday, May 6).

Windstar Cruises' <u>Travel Assurance Booking Policy</u> already allows travelers to cancel their cruise up to 15 days prior to departure and receive a 100 percent future cruise credit to be used on all sailings through December 31, 2021. Starting immediately, however, Windstar is changing its policy to pay agent commissions on all future cruise credits, recognizing that far more cruises have been cancelled than in the past.

"Travel Advisors have always been important partners of Xanterra Travel Collection," said Xanterra and Windstar Cruises CEO Andrew Todd. "A few years ago, Windstar Cruises introduced Star Promise – our commitment to travel advisors. In keeping with that pledge, it is important to update our policy to recognize the hard work and support of our travel advisor partners."

In addition to the commission change, Windstar is pleased to announce the return of its most popular promotion for travel advisors – the "Sell 3, Sail Free" program, which will begin on May 18.

Travel advisors must sell three staterooms, and once fully deposited, the advisor (and a guest) sail for free on a cruise departing by April 30, 2021. Travel advisors will be confirmed 60 days out based on availability and will pay only taxes, fees, and port expenses, plus gratuities.

For more details on booking guests with Windstar, visit <u>https://advisorhub.windstarcruises.com/</u>.

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About Windstar Cruises

Windstar Cruises operates a fleet of six boutique all-suite and sailing yachts carrying 148-342 guests. Small ship cruises sail throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Costa Rica and the Panama Canal, Asia, Alaska and British Columbia, Canada and New England, Tahiti and the South Pacific, Mexico and U.S. Coastal, and newly launched Australia and New Zealand cruises. Windstar has recently launched the *\$250 Million Star Plus Initiative* to transform three Star Class ships with new suites, restaurants, and a world-class spa and fitness center. The award-winning line is known for immersive experiences, destination authenticity, port-intensive itineraries, exceptional service, and an innovative culinary program as the *Official Cruise Line of the James Beard Foundation*. Windstar Cruises is a part of Xanterra Travel Collection, an award-winning, globally diversified travel company offering once in a lifetime experiences in some of the most beautiful and iconic places on earth. To learn more about authentic small ship cruising with Windstar, visit www.windstarcruises.com.