

Windstar Cruises Goes Digital with 2021/22 Small Ship Cruise Brochure

New Cruises along the West Coast, Mexico and the South Pacific offered

SEATTLE, WA, August 4, 2020 – <u>Windstar Cruises</u> may operate small cruise ships with sails and all-suite yachts, but it's going digital in a big way. The new <u>Voyage Collection brochure</u> that details and brings to life the cruise line's 2021 through spring 2022 sailings and cruise tours is 100 percent online. It's easy to navigate, visually stunning, and environmentally responsible – a Windstar hallmark. Brand-new itineraries include California and Baja's Sea of Cortez, along with fresh options in the South Pacific, and Black Sea.

Windstar is using the online piece to showcase the programs, shore excursions, and amenities, as well as the diverse destinations where Windstar sails. Its much anticipated transformation of three all-suite yachts, renamed the Star Plus Class (with new restaurants, suite choices, and environmental improvements), will come to fruition in 2021 and will be a major development for the line, offering a range of upgraded experiences as well as increased capacity from 212 guests per ship to 312.

Because many of Windstar's new itineraries for 2020 were cancelled due to the pandemic, 2021 has many undiscovered ports and new itineraries, including several selections in Alaska (like a shorter, seven-day cruise that's perfect for working families), comprehensive itineraries surrounding the Black Sea, cruises that access the Holy Lands, as well as additional ports and offerings in Canada and New England following a one-year hiatus from visiting the region. More cruises departing from U.S. ports include two yachts sailing Caribbean cruises roundtrip from San Juan, Puerto Rico. The 2021/22 Voyage Collection also includes more Cruise Tours than ever before, which is in response to increased guest demand for those comprehensive itineraries.

Also of note, *Star Breeze*, the first <u>Star Plus Class ship</u> to emerge from the extensive transformation in the fall of 2020, will be sailing the new itineraries in California and Sea of Cortez, along with "filling in" for *Wind Spirit*, which typically sails year-round in Tahiti. While *Wind Spirit* undergoes regular maintenance at a scheduled dry dock, *Star Breeze* will sail *Wind Spirit's* usual itineraries like the seven-day *Dreams of Tahiti*, giving guests a one-time chance to

experience this all-suite ship in the South Pacific. On *Wind Spirit's* way to Indonesia and back, there is a rare opportunity for visiting beautiful islands and tiny ports like Port Vila, Vanuatu and crossing the Coral Sea.

"The global cruise industry is facing its biggest challenge yet, but we're incredibly optimistic for the future of small ship cruising and Windstar," said Andrew Todd, CEO of Windstar Cruises and parent company Xanterra Travel Collection. "That's why we're excited to put out this brochure – because dreaming about and planning the next trip is a hopeful and uplifting experience. We want to celebrate that travel promise and also give our customers the confidence needed to book, along with the assurance that we will protect their investment should plans change."

Windstar recently announced a new <u>Beyond Ordinary Care</u> program, which is a multi-layered strategy with key hospital-grade elements: HEPA filters and UV-C ultraviolet germicidal irradiation to filter and disinfect the air, plus EvaClean with PurTab to sanitize all surfaces throughout the yacht. The company hopes this extra effort to provide a healthy environment on board will also give consumers and travel agents confidence to book, paired with a <u>Travel Assurance Booking Policy</u> that gives flexibility to make plans and update them if things change.

Windstar operates a fleet of six small yachts carrying from 148 to 342 guests and is known for visiting small ports and hidden harbors around the world. The 148-guest *Wind Spirit* will be its first yacht to resume sailing on October 15, 2020 in Tahiti. Other Windstar yachts will start cruising in the Mediterranean in October and the Caribbean in November, while others will come online in 2021 following scheduled <u>transformations</u>. For updated information, reservations, and itineraries, visit <u>www.windstarcruises.com</u>.

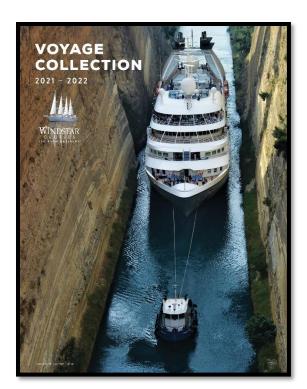
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About Windstar Cruises

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, Australia and New Zealand. Windstar 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.



Front cover – 2021/22 digital brochure; the Corinth Canal