



theconnectedtraveler

we connect you to the world.



HELLO OCTOBER

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

October has been an incredibly busy and rewarding month for **The Connected Traveler**, filled with meaningful connections and global collaboration. Our team has been on the move—attending some of the most influential travel conferences in the industry to ensure we continue curating the best experiences for our clients. We started the month in Nassau at **ILTM/Proud**, where we met with over 100 travel partners from across the planet, discovering new luxury destinations, LGBTQ+-inclusive experiences, and exclusive **Virtuoso**-level offerings. From there, we traveled to **Knoxville, TN**, where we connected with 50 additional travel partners, deepening our relationships with domestic tourism boards, hoteliers, and cruise representatives who share our passion for personalized, transformative travel.

Next, we headed west to Denver, CO, for **The Travel Society Summit**, meeting with 90+ partners who represent some of the most prestigious brands and destinations in the world. These conversations helped us strengthen our global network and align our strategies for the year ahead. To wrap up the month, we joined **IGLTA** in Palm Springs, where we connected with nearly 100 travel and media partners focused on **LGBTQ+ travel innovation and inclusion**. Each event reinforced our mission—to build trusted partnerships that translate into unforgettable journeys for our clients. October was a whirlwind of collaboration and inspiration, and we can't wait to bring these new opportunities and connections to The Connected Traveler Family.

Virgin Discounted Cruises

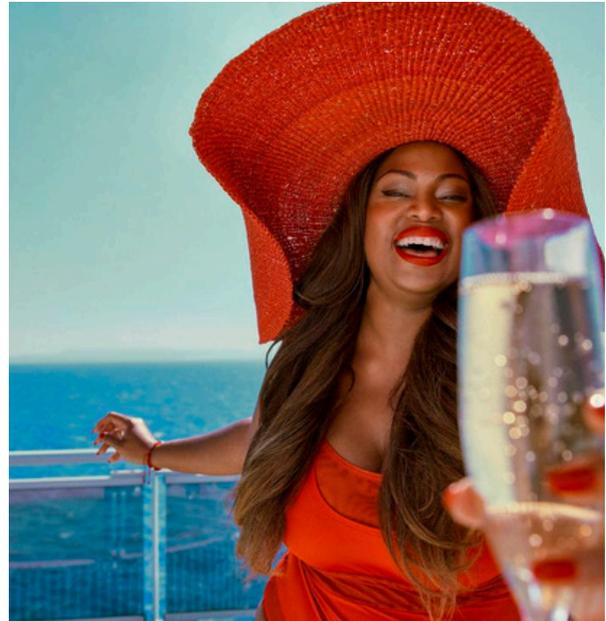


EASTERN CARIBBEAN & BIMINI BEACH NOV 29-DEC 6, 2025

*Set sail aboard Resilient Lady for an unforgettable tropical escape that begins and ends in Miami, Florida. This vibrant itinerary takes you to San Juan, Puerto Rico, where history and culture meet Caribbean flair, then to the lush beauty of Samaná, Dominican Republic, known for its waterfalls and pristine beaches. You'll wrap up your journey at The Beach Club at Bimini, Bahamas, Virgin Voyages' private island retreat, before returning to Miami refreshed and inspired. **Starting at \$1386 per Cabin!***

RIVERIA MAYA DEC 14-19, 2025

*Embark on a 5-night getaway aboard Scarlet Lady that blends sun, style, and adventure. Departing from Miami, you'll sail to Cozumel, Mexico, where turquoise waters and vibrant coral reefs invite you to explore and unwind. Then, enjoy a day of pure relaxation at The Beach Club at Bimini, Bahamas, Virgin Voyages' exclusive private paradise, before returning to Miami with memories of the ultimate tropical escape. **Starting at \$1190 per Cabin!***



SAN JUAN SUNRISES & DOMINICAN DREAMS JAN 31-FEB 7, 2026

*Set sail on a 7-night Caribbean adventure aboard Resilient Lady, departing from Miami, Florida. Your voyage takes you to Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, where mountains meet the sea, and on to the colorful streets and lively culture of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Then unwind at The Beach Club at Bimini, Bahamas, Virgin Voyages' exclusive island retreat, before returning to Miami with a perfect blend of relaxation, exploration, and Virgin-style luxury. **Starting at \$ 1466 per Cabin!***

Featured 2025 Cruises



CAPE TOWN TO MOMBASA DEC 23, 2025-JAN 5, 2026

Sailing aboard the Crystal Symphony from Cape Town, South Africa to Mombasa, Kenya is more than just a voyage—it's a luxurious expedition up the eastern coast of Africa filled with cultural treasures, wild landscapes, and vibrant port cities. Crystal Cruises is known for its ultra-luxury, all-inclusive experience, and the Symphony delivers with impeccable service, refined dining, and enrichment programs tailored to curious, worldly travelers.

Starting at \$5000 per person

VALIANT NEW YEAR'S AHOY DEC 27, 2025-JAN 3, 2026

Celebrate New Year's Eve in style aboard the Virgin Voyages Valiant Lady as she embarks on a roundtrip journey from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Experience the vibrant festivities and breathtaking views at each port of call, including Philipsburg, Basseterre, Castries, Bridgetown, and St. Croix, making this a memorable way to ring in the new year surrounded by the beauty of the Caribbean.

Starting at \$3604 per Cabin.



2026-2028 FEATURED TRIPS

Looking ahead to 2026–2028, The Connected Traveler has an extraordinary lineup of featured journeys designed to inspire every kind of explorer — from cultural connoisseurs and luxury cruisers to adventure seekers and romantic wanderers. These handpicked experiences span the globe, showcasing destinations that blend authenticity, elegance, and unforgettable moments. Whether it's sailing aboard world-class luxury cruise lines, exploring iconic cities with our expert partners, or discovering hidden gems off the beaten path, our featured trips represent the best of what travel has to offer.

And this is just the beginning — these are only our featured journeys, with countless more adventures waiting for you on our website. If you're curious which voyages Sean and Scott will personally be hosting, be sure to check out the "Hosted Trips" section online. These select experiences offer travelers the chance to join The Connected Traveler family in person, enjoy exclusive events, and create memories that last a lifetime. Explore, connect, and travel with purpose — your next great adventure begins here.

Featured 2026 Cruises



SCARLET'S VALENTINE'S VOYAGE FEB 13-18, 2026

*Celebrate love, friendship, and adventure this Valentine's season with a five-night getaway aboard Virgin Voyages' Scarlet Lady, sailing roundtrip from Miami, February 13-18, 2026. Whether you're setting sail with your husband, wife, partner, or gathering your besties for a Valentine's Cruise, this journey is designed to mix romance, relaxation, and plenty of fun. From the moment you step on board, you'll enjoy Virgin's signature adults-only vibe, elevated dining with over 20 eateries, and entertainment that's equal parts bold and unforgettable. **Starting at \$1800 per Cabin.***

CABO OVERNIGHT CRUISE FEB 13-18, 2026

*Celebrate Valentine's, Palentine's Day on Royal Caribbean's Quantum of the Seas. This exciting sailing departs roundtrip from Los Angeles and offers the perfect mix of celebration and adventure. With all the incredible dining, entertainment, and activities that Royal Caribbean is known for, every moment onboard will be filled with energy, connection, and fun. **Starting at \$549 per person.***



7 DAY HAWAII INTER-ISLAND MARCH 21-28, 2026

Immerse yourself in the rich culture, incredible landscapes and delicious cuisine of Hawai'i on this one-of-a-kind 7-day cruise from Honolulu on Pride of America.

Where you can explore an island every day of your vacation – from the lush, fragrant vegetation of Kaua'i to the Big Island's dramatic volcanoes and the famous surfing beaches of Oahu.

Where you can enjoy overnight stays in Maui and Kaua'i, giving you even more time to discover the best of island living.

*Where each day is spectacular and every night is legendary. This is how you Hawai'i. **Starting at \$2524 per person.***

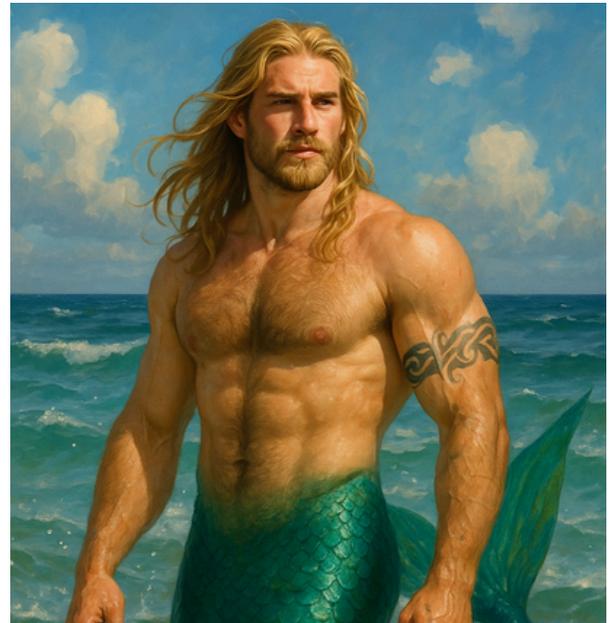


RIVERIA MAYA-SCOTT'S BIRTHDAY CRUISE MARCH 22-27, 2026

*Come celebrate our very own SmokyMtnBear, Scott, on an unforgettable Virgin Voyages sailing aboard the Scarlet Lady. This roundtrip adventure departs from Miami and promises a perfect blend of celebration, relaxation, and world-class experiences. From the moment you step onboard, you'll be surrounded by exceptional dining, cutting-edge entertainment, and the modern, adults-only atmosphere that Virgin Voyages is known for. **Starting at \$1790 per Cabin.***

BRILLIANT LADY LA MERMAIDEN APRIL 7-12, 2026

*Join the SmokyMtnBears on an exhilarating adventure aboard the Brilliant Lady's La Mermaiden voyage, departing from the vibrant city of Los Angeles, CA. Explore the stunning coastal gems of Santa Barbara and San Diego before indulging in the rich culture and flavors of Ensenada, Mexico, culminating in a seamless return to the City of Angels. Prepare for a voyage filled with camaraderie, exploration, and unforgettable memories amidst breathtaking coastal vistas. **Starting at \$2746 per Cabin.***



11 NIGHT PRIDE CRUISE JUNE 15-26, 2026

*Set sail on the dazzling Celebrity Ascent, one of the newest ships in Celebrity's luxurious Edge Series, for an 11-night Pride Cruise that celebrates authenticity, joy, and community. Hosted by The Queer Nomads, this epic roundtrip voyage from Rome brings together stunning destinations, unforgettable experiences, and a welcoming space for LGBTQIA+ travelers and allies to connect and thrive. **Starting at \$1873.76 per person.***



8 DAY INSIDE PASSAGE SEPT 20-27, 2026

*Embark on an unforgettable journey through the rugged beauty of Alaska aboard the Sun Princess, setting sail from Seattle, Washington. This remarkable voyage takes you to some of the most iconic and breathtaking destinations in the Last Frontier. Your first stop is Ketchikan, known as the "Salmon Capital of the World" and famous for its rich Native Alaskan heritage and vibrant totem poles. Stroll along the historic Creek Street boardwalk, admire the lush forests, and take in the surrounding misty fjords that define Alaska's wild beauty. **Starting at \$1768 per person.***

QUEER THANKSGIVING NOV 21-28, 2026

*This Thanksgiving, trade the stress of cooking and cleaning for turquoise waters, sandy beaches, and island adventures. Set sail with the SmokyMtnBears on an unforgettable Southern Caribbean Cruise, departing from vibrant San Juan, Puerto Rico, and cruising to beautiful Bridgetown, Barbados. **Starting at \$1149 per person.***



Featured 2027 Trips



NATURALLY COSTA RICA FEB 9-16, 2027

*Discover the wild beauty and unspoiled coastlines of Central America aboard Windstar's intimate yacht, the Star Legend, as she sails from Puerto Caldera to Balboa. This extraordinary journey takes you into the heart of Costa Rica and Panama, blending tropical charm with authentic adventure. With just 312 guests on board, Star Legend offers an inviting, yacht-style atmosphere where every stop feels personal and immersive. **Starting at \$2055 per person.***

MYSTICAL MAYA VALENTINE'S, GALENTINE'S, PALENTINE'S CRUISE FEB 9-16, 2027

*Join us for an unforgettable Valentine's & Palentine's Cruise aboard the Grandeur by Regent Seven Seas, where luxury and adventure unite! This roundtrip journey from vibrant Miami offers the perfect blend of indulgence and exploration, sailing to some of the most captivating destinations in the Western Caribbean. Plus, enjoy an all-inclusive experience with complimentary shore excursions, gratuities, drinks, dining, WiFi, and more—all designed to make your voyage effortlessly luxurious! **Starting at \$4412 per person.***



JAPAN INTENSIVE APRIL 22-MAY 3, 2027

Embark on an unforgettable journey through the Land of the Rising Sun aboard the Azamara Pursuit, a boutique-style ship designed for immersive travel. With just under 700 guests, the Azamara Pursuit offers an intimate and luxurious cruising experience, allowing for access to smaller ports that larger ships simply can't reach.

*On this 14-night Japan Intensive Cruise, you'll explore both iconic cities and hidden gems, with extended stays and overnights in ports like Tokyo, Kobe, and Hiroshima—giving you time to dive deeper into the culture, cuisine, and captivating history of Japan. **Starting at \$4599 per person.***



DUBROVNIK TO VENICE AUG 29-SEPT 5, 2027

*Discover the magic of Croatia, Italy and Montenegro on this wondrous journey. Starting with an overnight and late evening in Dubrovnik, take a scenic journey through Ston to learn about the gastronomic culture of oyster and mussel farming, along with a taste of the world-famous oysters. In Otranto, one of Italy's best-kept secrets, stop at a local bar to raise a glass of Primitivo or Bombino Nero during a late night in port. Vis Island offers a fascinating look into ancient history with its well-preserved ruins, charming old towns, and cobblestone streets. Crystal blue waters in Rovinj beckon you to jump in for a refreshing swim. **Starting at \$4096 per person.***

HALLOWEEN CRUISE OCT 28-NOV 6, 2027

*Get ready for a one-of-a-kind adventure as the SmokyMtnBears host an unforgettable LGBTQIA+ Halloween Cruise aboard Azamara. Sailing from New York City to San Juan, this festive journey brings together community, celebration, and the magic of Halloween—Azamara style. With Azamara's signature service, inclusive amenities, and intimate ship atmosphere, every moment onboard is designed to connect, entertain, and inspire. **Starting at \$1139 per person.***



These are just a few of our featured trips for 2025–2027, and we're constantly expanding our offerings! Our team is hard at work curating even more incredible adventures for 2026–2028, including luxury train journeys and exciting bucket list experiences you won't want to miss. Be sure to visit our website regularly to see the complete list of trips available through The Connected Traveler. And if there's a destination or experience you don't see listed, don't hesitate to WhatsApp us at 615-336-0507 or 615-853-4996 – we'd love to help make your travel dreams a reality.