# the**connected**traveler

we connect you to the world.



# **SUMMER IS IN FULL SWING!**

Summer is now in full swing with The Connected Traveler. As June draws to a close, the excitement for July and the heart of the summer season is evident. Longer days and brighter sun create the perfect opportunity for a summer getaway. With numerous destinations waiting to be explored, now is the time to create those cherished summer memories.

Looking ahead to the upcoming months, it's also the ideal moment to start planning for fall and winter holidays. Booking your trips for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve ensures you secure the best deals and accommodations. By planning ahead, you can avoid the last-minute rush and enjoy a stress-free holiday season. Let The Connected Traveler guide you through the myriad of options and find the perfect destinations for your fall and winter festivities. Don't wait —start planning your next great adventure today!



### FEATURED CRUISE OF THE MONTH

Don't miss your chance to book an unforgettable adventure on Royal Caribbean's Utopia of the Seas! Departing from Port Canaveral from **July 19-22, 2024**, this incredible cruise offers a perfect blend of relaxation and excitement. Join the SmokyMtnBears for a memorable journey, complete with breathtaking ocean views, world-class dining, and endless onboard activities. Whether you're lounging by the pool, exploring exotic ports, or enjoying the vibrant nightlife, this cruise promises an experience like no other.

But the fun doesn't stop there! Mark your calendars for another extraordinary voyage from **November 29-December 2, 2024**, for the Utopia Sagittarius Birthday Bash! Celebrate with fellow Sagittarius travelers on this special birthday-themed cruise, filled with unique events, parties, and surprises. It's the perfect opportunity to make new friends, create lasting memories, and indulge in the luxury and entertainment that only Royal Caribbean can offer. Book your spot now and get ready for an epic adventure on the high seas!

Call us at 865-973-9744 or visit us at www.theconnectedtraveler.com



# THE CONNECTED TRAVELER ATTENDS THE PROUD CONFERENCE!

The Connected Traveler was honored to be invited as buyers to attend the Proud Conference in Los Angeles this year. Held in the heart of LA, the event featured two full days of appointments with other LGBTQ+ companies, offering a unique opportunity to forge valuable connections with hotels, resorts, and destinations worldwide. This conference was a vibrant hub of networking and collaboration, bringing together industry leaders and innovators committed to enhancing travel experiences for the LGBTQ+ community.

We arrived prepared and enthusiastic, armed with a list of destinations we were eager to explore and gather information about for our Connected Traveler Family. Our goal was to ensure that we could offer a diverse array of travel options that cater to the unique needs and preferences of our community. The Proud Conference provided an invaluable platform for us to engage with like-minded professionals, exchange ideas, and build partnerships that will enable us to deliver exceptional travel experiences. We're excited to bring back a wealth of knowledge and new connections to enhance our offerings and continue supporting our Connected Traveler Family in their journey to discover the world.







# THE CONNECTED TRAVELER IN TURKEY

The Connected Traveler recently embarked on an exciting journey to Istanbul, Turkey, to conduct site inspections on various hotels and explore some of the city's most captivating attractions. This visit was a crucial step in planning a week-long land trip for 2025, as we aim to ensure that every aspect of the trip meets the highest standards for our Connected Traveler Family. Istanbul, with its rich history, vibrant culture, and stunning architecture, promises to be an unforgettable destination, and we are committed to curating an experience that highlights the very best the city has to offer.

During our visit, we meticulously evaluated a range of hotels, focusing on comfort, amenities, and location to ensure that our travelers will enjoy exceptional accommodations. We also explored key attractions such as the Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque, and the bustling Grand Bazaar, assessing their accessibility and overall visitor experience. Our goal is to create an itinerary that not only showcases Istanbul's iconic landmarks but also provides unique, immersive experiences. By conducting these site inspections, we are dedicated to offering a trip that combines luxury, adventure, and cultural enrichment, making it a memorable journey for our Connected Traveler Family.









# **ADRIATIC SEA GEMS WITH THE BEARS**

The Connected Traveler recently embarked on the unforgettable "Adriatic Sea Gems" round trip cruise, setting sail from the historic port of Athens, Greece. This remarkable journey featured several groups eager to explore the breathtaking beauty and rich history of the Adriatic region. With carefully selected port stops in Dubrovnik, Split, Kotor, and Corfu, this cruise offered a perfect blend of stunning landscapes, cultural experiences, and leisurely adventures.

Each port of call brought its own unique charm and allure. In Dubrovnik, travelers strolled through the ancient walled city, marveling at its well-preserved medieval architecture. Split offered a glimpse into the grandeur of Roman history with the awe-inspiring Diocletian's Palace. Kotor's dramatic coastal scenery and winding streets captivated everyone, while Corfu's lush greenery and vibrant local culture provided a delightful end to the journey. Throughout the cruise, our groups enjoyed luxurious accommodations, exceptional dining, and the warm camaraderie of fellow travelers. The Connected Traveler is proud to have curated such an enriching and memorable experience, creating cherished memories for all who joined us on this Adriatic adventure.





Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 7pm est,

Windstar Virtual Cruise Night
Learn more about Windstar Cruises as
they were Voted Top 10 for Adult
Cruise Lines by the USA Today Readers
Choice.

Registration at www.tinyurl.com/windstarcruisenight

Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 7pm est,

Virgin Voyages Virtual Cruise Night

Lindsey G is excited to announce all the latest sales and promotions on Virgin Voyages, with special emphasis on discussing New Year's Eve.

Registration at www.tinyurl.com/nyeinjuly





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International LifeLine™ is a critical service that provides on-demand incident management and emergency response worldwide, ensuring travelers can return home safely during emergencies. From natural disasters to political unrest, this service bridges the gap where traditional travel insurance falls short, offering medical evacuation, political evacuation, and kidnap resolution without any extra costs.



### August 30-Sept 3, 2024

A Virgin Voyages Celebration Cruise

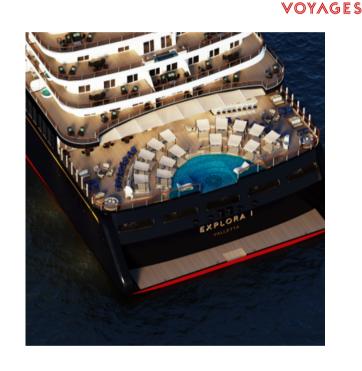
Join the SmokyMtnBears and Boy George, as guest DJ, on this truly amazing cruise.

August 26-Sept 2, 2024

Riviera Reveries & Italian Icons

set sail on Explora II from Barcelona to Rome







November 23-30, 2024

7 Day Western Caribbean Thanksgiving Cruise with the Bears!

Don't spend all day in the Kitchen on Thanksgiving. Come join the SmokyMtnBears as we set sail through the Caribbean!

PRINCESS



### November 29-December 2, 2024

Utopia Sagatarris Birthday Bash

Join Della and Jessica on the brand new Utopia of the Seas!

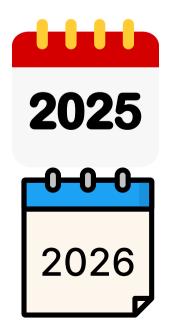


### December 28-January 4, 2025

Resilient New Years Ahoy with It's Chris & Alex, the SmokyMtnBears, and The Bearetts!

Join us and ring in NYE Virgin Voyages Style!





Have you checked out our website,

www.theconnectedtraveler.com, to see all the exciting trips we have lined up for 2025 and 2026? We're already working on our 2027 itineraries as well! Please let us know if there's a specific trip you'd like planned or a destination you're eager to visit.