

A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE: GRATITUDE FOR THE JOURNEY

As we gather around tables big and small this Thanksgiving, I want to pause and reflect on the extraordinary journey this year has been—both personally and professionally. In the world of travel, every day brings a new story, a fresh perspective, and another reminder that exploration is one of life's greatest gifts. And none of it would be possible without you.

To my clients, partners, colleagues, fellow travel advisors, and the incredible travel community that surrounds me: **thank you.**

Thank you for your trust.

Thank you for your support.

Thank you for letting me be part of the moments in your life that matter.

This year brought milestones I'm deeply proud of—from being honored once again as one of the top travel advisors and employee incentive bookers by numerous vendors, being recognized as one of the top booking agents within Travel Society, being recognized professionally at conferences, being invited to sit down with cruise line CEO's and help shape the future, to witnessing the debut of revolutionary ships, exploring new destinations, and helping travelers create experiences that they'll remember long after the suitcases are unpacked. The momentum in our industry has been powerful and inspiring, driven by travelers who are more intentional, more curious, and more ready than ever to see the world with open eyes.



But the greatest honor of all has been the relationships—new connections formed, long-standing partnerships strengthened, and shared journeys that remind me why I love what I do.

Travel isn't just about planes, ships, or itineraries. It's about the communities we build, the cultures we learn from, and the joy of discovering something new—together. This year, I'm especially grateful for:

Clients who dream boldly

Partners who innovate fearlessly

A community who supports each other wholeheartedly

The privilege of helping people see the world differently

As we look toward the year ahead—with new ships launching, new destinations opening, and new stories waiting to be written—I am filled with gratitude and anticipation. There is so much more to explore, and I can't wait to continue the journey with you.

Wishing you and your loved ones a warm, joyful, and restorative Thanksgiving.

May your table be full, your travels be meaningful, and your next adventure be closer than you think.

With gratitude,

Sean Hornbeck

The Connected Traveler

Black Friday Deals



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Featured Cruises



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 \$1690 per Cabin.**

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.**

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.**

SINGAPORE TO DUBAI APRIL 26-MAY 13, 2026

Sail aboard Oceania Vista from vibrant Singapore to dynamic Doha, with unforgettable stops in Kuala Lumpur, Penang, and the tropical paradise of Phuket. Your journey continues through the UNESCO beauty of Galle, the serene islands of Malé, the bustling culture of Mumbai, and the dazzling modern wonders of Dubai and Abu Dhabi. Arriving in Doha, you'll conclude an extraordinary east-to-west adventure enhanced by Oceania's renowned service, exquisite cuisine, and immersive travel experiences. **Pricing starts at \$7999 per person.**

RICKSHAWS & RAMEN MARCH 12-22, 2028

Sail from vibrant Seoul to dazzling Tokyo aboard Oceania Cruises' Riviera, with immersive stops in Shanghai, Kagoshima, Beppu, Hiroshima, Kochi, and Nagoya showcasing the perfect blend of ancient culture and modern innovation. Along the way, you'll experience everything from geothermal wonders and samurai history to serene memorials, coastal castles, and world-class cuisine. With Oceania's boutique luxury and The Finest Cuisine at Sea®, this itinerary delivers an extraordinary journey filled with discovery, comfort, and unforgettable moments. **Starting at \$3299 per person.**

WORLD PRIDE CRUISE JULY 29-AUGUST 5, 2026

Join us for an unforgettable journey filled with joy, pride, and community on our LGBTQ+ PRIDE CRUISE 2026, featuring a very special highlight — the World Pride Parade 2026 in Amsterdam. Our route takes you from Düsseldorf to Rotterdam and on to Amsterdam (with two overnight stays), before continuing to Antwerp and Nijmegen, and finally returning to Düsseldorf.. **Starting at \$2995 per person.**

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.**

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.**

NEW ZEALAND INTENSIVE JAN 21-FEB 2, 2028

Sail roundtrip from Auckland aboard the Azamara Pursuit, exploring the Bay of Islands, Norfolk Island, New Plymouth, and Nelson before continuing into the breathtaking landscapes of New Zealand's South Island. Your journey includes immersive visits to Picton, Akaroa, Dunedin, Kaikoura, and the Art Deco charm of Napier, offering a perfect blend of culture, wildlife, and coastal beauty. With Azamara's boutique-style cruising and extended time in port, this itinerary delivers one of the most destination-rich New Zealand experiences you can imagine. **Starting at \$3529 per person.**

AMERICANA COAST CRUISE: KEY WEST, TAMPA & NEW ORLEANS

MARCH 22-APRIL 2, 2028

Sail roundtrip from Miami aboard the Azamara Quest, visiting Key West, Tampa, and Mobile before enjoying an unforgettable overnight stay in vibrant New Orleans. With extended time ashore, you can dive into jazz clubs, savor legendary cuisine, explore the French Quarter long after sunset, and then continue to beautiful Cozumel for beaches, reefs, and Mayan culture. This boutique-style itinerary delivers Azamara's signature destination immersion and the perfect blend of charm, adventure, and coastal exploration.. **Starting at \$1999 per person.**