



## **Multi-Million Dollar Initiative Begins for Windstar Cruises’ Three Iconic Wind Class Sailing Ships**

Setting Sails: Wind Class Refresh - takes inspiration from the sails, the sea and a desire to foster connections

**MIAMI, FL, December 5, 2023** – Afficionados of Windstar Cruises’ original three classic sailing yachts – 148-guest Wind Star and Wind Spirit and 342-guest Wind Surf – will be happy to learn the award-winning small ship cruise line is embarking on a multi-million dollar initiative to redesign and update all three yachts. The multi-year initiative began in November 2023 with the Wind Star who has just completed phase one of her renovations and will finish in 2026.

“Our sailing ships are beloved by Windstar guests,” says Windstar’s President Christopher Prelog, “Being on the ship under sail is unforgettable and brings an element of freedom and romance to every voyage.”

Wind Star was the first sailing ship to start the process and is currently in Lisbon about to welcome guests onboard with a second phase that includes the remaining staterooms and dining venues in 2026. Wind Spirit will be fully remodeled and complete her renovations in 2025 and Wind Surf will be in two phases – 2024 and 2026. The project encompasses a full redesign of all public spaces with new layouts, furniture, wall and floor coverings, lighting and custom art. Guest staterooms, Premium and Owner’s Suites will be fully refurbished including new furniture, interactive Televisions and décor.

“This multi-year, multi- million-dollar initiative is all about providing guests with updated spaces that inspire relaxation, foster connection, and offer multifunctional needs of an intimate sized sailing yacht,” says Stijn Creupelandt, Windstar’s vice president of hotel operations and product development. “Spending time on our yachts is all about moments of connection, whether that be guest to guest or guest to crew, and we want to make sure our spaces reflect that desire.”

### **Project Highlights for Wind Star, Fall 2023**

**Lobby** – Opening up the space creates a more expansive reception area with added seating and expanded retail space.

**Lounge** – A redesign of the layout is meant to foster connections between people with a living room-like ambiance. New furniture, lighting and finishes enhance the area for daytime relaxation and evening entertainment.

**Spa and Fitness Center** – The World Spa by Windstar and gym have been thoughtfully designed with wellness and respite in mind. Both areas will have all new finishes, color palettes, and new state-of-the-art equipment.

**Pool Deck** – A focal point on every voyage, the pool deck will be expanded with removal of the skylight, adding in a new pool and jacuzzi, and extending the pool bar. New furniture includes sofas for lounging and colorful poufs, ottomans and chairs around the pool. New speakers, lighting and finishes add to the fun of parties on the pool deck. New fauna and greenery around the pool bar adds a pop of color.

**Artwork** – Through its partnership with Fountainhead Arts in Miami, the line is sourcing a curated collection of artwork for all three yachts. All will be specially commissioned for Windstar with a common theme around the convergence of nature, organic materials and the essence of yachting.

**Technology** – New, larger televisions in every cabin will be fully loaded with curated content and movies, and the line’s Wayfinder application. Additional wifi access points will provide a better connection to Starlink internet.

Most updates planned for guest staterooms, the main dining room Amphora and lunch/breakfast restaurant Veranda will occur in phase 2.

“The design inspiration really developed from the yachts themselves,” explains Jessica Payne, Windstar’s manager of interior design. “I studied classic and modern yacht architecture to develop the sophisticated design foundation, and then went on to add pops of fun and peeks of relief inspired by our sails, the sea, the cities we visit, and our guests. Stepping into the lobby as you embark is about feeling a sense of stepping onto your own private yacht but experiencing the service of a luxury boutique hotel.”

For more details on Windstar Cruises, visit [www.windstarcruises.com](http://www.windstarcruises.com).

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**Photos:** <https://collection.cloudinary.com/windstar-cruises/77b777f82b73c661c7b8ff13dbd848ec>

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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, New England and Eastern Canada, the Middle East, and the South Pacific, including a ship year-round in Tahiti. Windstar launched the \$250 Million Star Plus Initiative to transform the three all-suite Star Plus Class yachts 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. Windstar Cruises is part of the Xanterra Travel Collection<sup>®</sup>, a group of global hospitality and travel companies, one of which traces its history back over a hundred years of operating our country's iconic national parks, including Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Glacier, Death Valley, and many others. Xanterra Travel Collection<sup>®</sup>, is owned by The Anschutz Corporation, the ultimate owner of the Broadmoor, Sea Island, and entertainment giant AEG, Anschutz Entertainment Group.