

Big Plans, Small Deposit: Windstar Cruises Rolls Out a Reduced \$50 Deposit to Lock in 2025 Voyages



MIAMI, FL, May 2, 2025 – <u>Windstar Cruises</u> is excited to announce a new, traveler-friendly offer for our 2025 sailings. In response to the current climate of uncertainty, Windstar is reducing the deposit required to secure their cruise from 15 percent of the total purchase price to a flat fee of just \$50 per person. Windstar Cruises understands that planning future travel can feel uncertain right now and wants to make it easier for travelers to book their dream cruise with confidence and flexibility. With this reduced deposit, travelers can secure their spot on Windstar's award-winning small-ship cruises in 2025 without a significant upfront cost. Plus, Windstar offers flexible cancellation policies to give travelers peace of mind that if their plans change, they can adjust their booking without worry.

"Windstar is all about freedom of choice and traveling on your own terms," said Windstar Cruises President Christopher Prelog. "With so many places to explore with Windstar in 2025, we designed this offer to remove barriers and give guests the confidence to not postpone their travel plans, knowing they can lock in their 2025 preferred voyage now with minimal upfront commitment. It reflects our core belief: travel should be inspiring, not stressful."

The reduced deposit—available from May 1 – June 30, 2025—is combinable with Windstar's Pick Your Perk offer on incredible destinations like Tahiti, the Mediterranean, the Caribbean, the Canary Islands, and more. Booking perks include: one free hotel night — which can be used pre- or post-cruise — or up to \$1,000 onboard credit, which can be used for Windstar's award-winning shore excursions and adventures, spa services, or even special celebratory cocktails. Premium suite guests are afforded a third option - an upgrade to the All-Inclusive Fare — valued at \$99 per day — which includes unlimited select beer, wine, cocktails, Wi-Fi, and all gratuities.

The \$50 deposit per person is charged within three days of booking and final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. The reduced deposit offer is valid for sailings more than 90 days out from departure date. Tahiti packages with overwater bungalows require additional deposit. For those ready to book and sail within the next 90 days, Windstar has incredible <u>last-minute offers</u> and <u>solo travel steals</u> available. Though payment in full is required for these itineraries, this is a rare opportunity to grab the last staterooms for an incredible price.

While there are seemingly endless voyages to explore this year with this deposit reduction, many of these global adventures sail in November and December for those seeking a fresh way to celebrate the holidays:

- Southern Spain Winter Escapes: Adventurous guests aboard the 7-night Star Legend cruise from Malaga to Barcelona, where they'll indulge in luscious Spanish reds just steps from the Gothic Quarter's medieval splendor and master the perfect paella in a local's kitchen. While basking in Malaga's famously warm winter sunshine, they'll lose track of time collecting holiday gifts at charming winter markets and perusing galleries packed with Picasso's artistic journey—from early sketches to sculptures. And just when they think the views couldn't possibly get better, they'll find themselves gazing across the coast toward the mountains of North Africa. With this route's November itineraries, families can take their Thanksgiving traditions to sea.
- Classic Italy & The Dalmatian Coast: Adventurers aboard the 8-night Wind Surf voyage will find themselves hopping from Italian landmarks to Croatia's shores and Montenegro's jewel-like landscapes. They'll step where ancient Romans once treaded in Taormina, glide through Kotor's spectacular fjord, and enjoy the ultimate travel bragging right—dropping anchor in the heart of Old Town Dubrovnik while large cruise ships can only sail by. This small ship escape lets travelers sip, savor, and saunter through Venice's romantic canals, Rome's rich history, and the Dalmatian Coast's beauty.
- Europe's Winter Riviera: Travelers on the 7-night Star Legend itinerary will uncover the seasonal secrets of Italy, southern France, and Spain's hideaways, lingering in Livorno long enough to savor Florence's uncrowded treasures and extending their Mediterranean adventure through Genoa's maritime wonders before concluding with a delicious two-day immersion in Barcelona's vibrant Catalonian culture. This intimate coastal journey transforms typical tourist stops into unhurried explorations where guests can wander through artisan shops, admire iconic landmarks without the crowds, and

- indulge in local delicacies at the same leisurely pace enjoyed by the savvy locals who call these Mediterranean gems home.
- Treasures of the Greek Isles: The 7-night Wind Star voyage takes travelers on a Mediterranean adventure where views of the azure sea and whitewashed villages await. Guests can explore UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Athens' hilltop Acropolis, St. John's historic haunts on Patmos, and the well-preserved ancient Roman city of Ephesus. The journey culminates with a complimentary Windstar-exclusive Destination Discovery Event—an elegant dinner amidst the ruins of Ephesus, after all other cruise ships have departed.
- <u>Dreams of Tahiti</u>: Guests delighting in the 7-night *Star Breeze* itinerary across Tahiti's Society Islands can snorkel down to hand-select and harvest their own black pearls in Raiatea, experience a Windstar signature beach party at Motu Mahaea, delve into crater adventures in Moorea, and luxuriate in an overnight at the coveted island of Bora Bora.
- <u>Tahiti & the Tuamotu Islands</u>: The 11-night Star Breeze voyage guides travelers
 through the windward and leeward Society Islands to the serene Tuamotu Islands,
 where pristine atolls and crystal lagoons create a hidden paradise. Guests will
 experience Fakarava, home to rare marine life species, as they explore this unspoiled
 natural wonder.

To plan a small ship cruise with Windstar <u>book online here</u>, contact a travel advisor, reach out to Windstar Cruises by phone at 866-258-7245, or <u>request a call</u> by a Windstar vacation planner. Find more information on Windstar Cruises here.

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Photos: Press images here.

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About Windstar Cruises:

For four decades, Windstar Cruises has been reimagining small-ship cruising with a distinctive blend of relaxed luxury and genuine connection to the world's most captivating destinations. From its origins with motor sailing yachts tailored for upscale yet casual travel, Windstar has grown into a diverse fleet of three Star Class all-suite yachts and three Wind Class sailing yachts, offering voyages that are both intimate and inspiring. Two highly anticipated new yachts, Star Seeker and Star Explorer, set to debut in December 2025 and 2026, expand the fleet to eight yachts accommodating 150-350 guests. Windstar's legendary Wind Class sailing yachts are also undergoing a meticulous two-phase redesign to be completed by 2027. Windstar yachts sail to more than 330 ports across Europe, the Caribbean, Costa Rica and the Panama Canal, Alaska, Canada and New England, Japan, the South Pacific, and Asia. Unlike most cruise lines, Windstar sails year-round in the Mediterranean and Tahiti, offering different destination experiences seasonally. Each Windstar voyage is designed to immerse guests in

authentic cultural experiences, all while delivering the comfort, service, and style that define the Windstar difference.

Windstar Cruises is proud to be part of the Xanterra Travel Collection®, a distinguished group of global hospitality and travel companies with a legacy spanning over a hundred years. Xanterra operates iconic national parks, including Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Glacier, and Death Valley. The Xanterra Travel Collection® is owned by The Anschutz Corporation, the ultimate owner of the Broadmoor, Sea Island, and entertainment giant AEG, Anschutz Entertainment Group.