

A Brand Apart: What Makes Windstar Different

The leader in small-ship cruising, where immersive travel meets casual luxury

At a Glance

Founded: 1984

- Headquarters: Miami, FL (operations), with corporate ties to Xanterra Travel Collection®
- Fleet: 8 small ships (3 motor yachts, 3 sail-powered yachts) + 2 new motor yachts to be delivered with Star Seeker (Dec 2025) and Star Explorer (Dec 2026)
- Guest Capacity: 148–342 guests per ship
- Crew-to-Guest Ratio: 1:1.5
- Parent Company: Xanterra Travel Collection®, a subsidiary of The Anschutz Corporation

Distinctive Fleet

Windstar is the only cruise line operating both classic wind-powered sailing ships and all-suite luxury yachts

- Star Class Yachts: Star Breeze, Star Legend, Star Pride; Star Seeker (2025), Star Explorer (2026)
- Wind Class Sailing Yachts: Wind Spirit, Wind Star, Wind Surf

What Sets Windstar Apart

1. Immersive Itineraries

- Visits off-the-beaten-path destinations inaccessible to larger ships
- Longer port days and overnights for deeper cultural connections
- Signature itineraries in the Mediterranean and Tahiti year-round, Northern Europe, Caribbean and Latin America, Alaska, Asia, and beyond

2. Yacht-Style Experience

- No casinos, no crowds, no formal nights casual yet polished
- Like home at sea
- A private yacht atmosphere with open-bridge access and friendly crew
- Personalized service from a team that remembers your name and drink order
- Friendly, relaxed atmosphere where you might meet your next best friend

3. James Beard Foundation Culinary Partnership

- Official cruise line of the James Beard Foundation
- Guest chefs, wine tastings, and regionally inspired menus
- Local sourcing and immersive food tours at select ports

4. Small Ships, Positive Ripples

- Ongoing eco-upgrades like installing new cleaner-burning engines; outfitting ships for shore power and reusing/recycling materials
- Smart growth strategy prioritizing destination authenticity over mass-market scaling
- Positive financial impact to communities through local sourcing for tours, food, gifts
- In-kind and financial donations to non-profit organizations based in our communities, environmental or arts causes
- Cross-brand opportunities through Xanterra's collection of experiential travel brands

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