

CRUISE & TRAVEL LIFESTYLES

**SUMMER IN
EUROPE**

WELCOME ABOARD:

**Seabourn Ovation
Ponant's Le Champlain**

**EMERGING
MONTENEGRO**

**A SCOTTISH
TRILOGY**

France

THE MAGIC OF PROVENCE

PLUS RIVER CRUISING WITH TAUCK



MSC Grandiosa

PHOTO COURTESY MSC



Silver Shadow

PHOTO COURTESY SILVERSEA



Victory Cruise Lines

PHOTO COURTESY VICTORY

Anticipating MSC Grandiosa and welcoming the MSC Meraviglia

On November 9, 2019 the **MSC Grandiosa**, the newest and largest in the **MSC Cruise** fleet and the fifth next-generation ship launched as part of MSC's \$15.6 billion investment plan will set sail. She'll be followed by a further 12 ships through to 2027 with her sister ship, **MSC Virtuosa** launching in October 2020. The *MSC Grandiosa* will feature an iconic Mediterranean Promenade where guests will enjoy entertainment, shopping and dining at specialty restaurants, including L'Atelier Bistrot, a French-inspired bar with lounge area, stage, dance floor and seated terrace. Onboard shopping will be taken to new heights, with mall-style boutiques featuring favourite clothing brands, jewelry, technology and more. *MSC Grandiosa's* entertainment highlights will include two never-before-seen shows from Cirque du Soleil at Sea, created as part of a unique long-term partnership with MSC Cruises. Dedicated foodies will be thrilled by the extension of MSC's highly successful partnership with two Michelin-starred Spanish chef Ramón Freixa whose HOLA! Tapas Bar restaurant will be featured on board *MSC Grandiosa*. A second HOLA! Tapas Bar recently opened on *MSC Meraviglia*. Chef Freixa is part of an impressive line-up of top international chefs that also includes renowned German chef Harald Wohlfahrt, holder of a three Michelin Star rating for 25 years in a row, two Michelin starred chef Raymond Blanc and innovative pan-Asian chef Roy Yamaguchi. MSC's partnership with Martha Stewart will also please lovers of all things culinary as it features not only fleet-wide stateroom delivery of surprise celebration packages for birthday, anniversaries, and weddings etc. but also culinary classes, tastings of local flavours, horseback riding in the ocean, visiting craft markets, and more immersive experiences in specially chosen Caribbean destinations. *MSC Grandiosa* will winter in the Med, visiting such destinations as Barcelona, Palermo, Marseille and Valletta during the less crowded season. Also, this fall, the much-anticipated *MSC Meraviglia* will arrive in New York after a transatlantic crossing from Northern Europe. She will sail itineraries in Canada and New England before heading for her home port in Miami to winter in the Caribbean.



MS Swallow

PHOTO COURTESY EMERALD

Luxury yachts for Emerald Waterways

Emerald Waterways has an exciting surprise for 2020 – two luxury yachts and an all-new itinerary on the Dalmatian coast. The **MS Swallow** and the brand-new **MS Lastavica** – set for her inaugural season in 2020 – will both sail The Pearls of North Dalmatia itinerary, which will include expertly guided explorations along the islands off the coastline and introductions to the area's exquisite collection of UNESCO World Heritage-listed towns. Guests sailing on the eight-day cruises, which begin in April 2020, will enjoy everything from a cake-tasting session of Rapska torta to a traditional Klapa acapella performance. Following the cruise, those keen to extend their adventures further around the Croatian archipelago can choose between a 'four days in Zagreb' or an 'eight-day Discover Croatia' tour. Each luxuriously appointed vessel will accommodate a maximum of 36 guests and will offer not only a rooftop Jacuzzi and sun deck, but also a VIP saloon, a spacious 'outside-and-inside' restaurant for enjoying the glorious Mediterranean climate and a specially-designed swim platform to encourage dips in crystal clear waters.



ARTIST RENDERING COURTESY SCENIC

Scenic Eclipse

Putting a new shine on the Silver Shadow

Every lady needs an occasional lift, so in November 2019, the 388-guest **Silver Shadow** will undergo an extensive refurbishment. The many enhancements will include: floor-to-ceiling renovations for all suites, while the lobby, boutique and casino area will become a new atrium with a lovely reception area, boutique and Arts Café. Le Dame Restaurant will be made more spacious and the ship's casino and the Connoisseur's Corner lounge, with its fine cognacs and premium cigars will relocate to Deck 8. The Observation Library on Deck 10 will be refreshed with new carpet and furniture and a renovation of the Zagara Beauty Spa and the Fitness Centre will see the addition of new steam and sauna rooms, refurbished treatment rooms, new furniture and flooring, and state-of-the-art fitness equipment. Public areas such as The Restaurant, La Terrazza, Panorama Lounge, The Bar, The Show Lounge, and Card/Conference Rooms will all benefit from décor upgrades, new furnishings, upholstery, carpets, and wall/window treatments. New outdoor furniture, refurbished teak flooring, a canvas awning with inserted lighting, and outdoor heaters will give the pool area new life.

Victory Cruise Lines' refurbishes both ships

Committed to small-ship cruising on all five Great Lakes the Canadian Maritimes, and Coastal cruising, **Victory Cruise Lines** operates all-inclusive cruises aboard its identical 202-guest ships **M/V Victory I** and **M/V Victory II** as a refreshing alternative to ocean cruising. Guests enjoy immersive and inclusive shore excursions in each port of call, multi-course dining with specialty and casual options, complimentary wine, beer and spirits, onboard enrichment and evening entertainment. Over the winter both vessels went through a multimillion-dollar refurbishment, before re-entering service in May 2019. Among the most obvious changes are new carpeting and wall coverings throughout the interior and new plush mattresses and 600-thread count linens in the staterooms. The Grill was redesigned to make the ship's only buffet dining venue more versatile and user-friendly. It's now an enclosed space with large windows, making it weathertight when necessary and allowing the windows to be opened and the breeze to flow when possible. Add to that the new furniture, flooring and fixtures, and you have a space that's versatile and modern while maintaining a look and feel closely tied to the rest of the ship.

Exploring Antarctica – above and below

If sailing to the southern tip of the globe wasn't adventurous enough, the new **Scenic Eclipse** – launching in August – is the world's first Discovery Yacht, ready to provide guests with exciting new perspectives on Antarctica, thanks to her helicopter and submarine services. Sailing to a world of incredible icescapes and wildlife on a luxurious ship, hailed as the "World's First Luxury Yacht", guests will enjoy not only informative lectures, and immersive activities to introduce them to the wonders of the south pole, but also two Zodiac excursions each day, led by trained Discovery Leaders and their teams. On special occasions, those tours will include opportunities for breathtaking helicopter flights and undersea submarine journeys to view this fascinating destination from every angle. This all-inclusive, all verandah-suite luxury yacht includes the finest amenities, an impressive array of spacious lounges and bars, ten dining experiences as well as all beverages. Itineraries for 2019-2020 feature South Georgia, the Falklands and the Chilean Fjords among other destinations.



PHOTO COURTESY AMERICAN QUEEN

Experience a U.S. river cruise on the American Countess

The latest addition to **American Queen Steamboat Company's** (AQSC) fleet of authentic paddlewheelers, and the newest on U.S. rivers, the **American Countess** will offer many of the same 8-day long exciting heartland and deep South itineraries as her sisters the **American Queen** and **American Duchess**, including her own epic 15-day Mighty Mississippi cruise scheduled for fall 2020. Built from an existing 4-deck hull and featuring 123 comfortable and sleek staterooms and suites, the ship underwent significant reconstruction, including lengthening of her body by 60 feet. Starting on April 5, 2020, guests sailing aboard the *American Countess* will enjoy the signature distinctions that have made AQSC the most award-winning river cruise line in America – regionally inspired fine dining, gracious and courteous staff, Broadway-caliber entertainment, resident culture and history experts, the Riverlorians, providing onboard enrichment, and Hop-On Hop-off shore excursions aboard an authentic paddlewheel riverboat. Join *American Countess* on one of her Lower Mississippi, Upper Mississippi, Ohio/Tennessee and Cumberland River departures to connect with America's history, geography, music, culture and cuisine.



PHOTO COURTESY HOLLAND AMERICA

Holland America continues Ryndam tradition

When the newest **Holland America Line** ship sets sail in 2021, she'll bear a familiar name – **Ryndam**, the fourth in the fleet's history. She will be very similar to her sister ships **Koningsdam** and **Nieuw Statendam**, carrying 2,662 guests and featuring enhanced Pinnacle Class amenities and innovations – both of which have been delighting guests with their marvellous amenities and onboard experiences. "The name *Ryndam* reflects the unique history of this company while honoring previous ships that were as progressive in their time as this last *Ryndam* will be," said Orlando Ashford, Holland America Line's president. "The next *Ryndam* will bring new life to one of the most notable series of vessels in our history." The first *Ryndam* was part of the Holland America Line fleet from 1901 to 1929, changing her name from *Rijndam* in 1923. In 1927 *Ryndam I* was the first Holland America Line ship to sail a world cruise, the second *Ryndam* served from 1951 to 1973, and the third sailed from 1993 through 2015, when it was transferred to sister brand P&O Australia.



PHOTO COURTESY OCEANIA

OceaniaNEXT enhancements

Oceania Cruises' Riviera has completed her dry-dock in Marseille, France – a part of the brand's OceaniaNEXT program – an ambitious initiative designed to elevate every facet of the Oceania Cruises guest experience. Similar enhancements will be carried out on Riviera's sister-ship **Marina** in 2020. The most dramatic change for *Riviera* was the all-new coffee bar area and a lounge featuring sweeping sea views. Resplendent in a palette of silvery-grey and sea greens, punctuated with bold accents of gold, high-gloss ebony and white marble, the new Bar Istas lounge invites guests to relax over a bespoke Illy coffee creation from the gleaming silver Victoria Arduino espresso machine – the reputed "Rolls Royce of Coffee". *Riviera's* Concierge and Veranda staterooms along with the Penthouse Suites now have a stylish new air and the three next-generation Owner's Suites are furnished exclusively with the Ralph Lauren Home Collection. Each features a breathtaking foyer with a limestone and black cabochon inset floor, inset Georgian wood paneling, a mahogany and quartzite bar, dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows and even a self-playing ebony piano. A stunning refresh to say the least!