

MAY/JUNE 2026

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THE *Regal* ROAMER

TURNER WORLD TRAVEL



CRUISING, REIMAGINED:
Choosing the Experience,
Not Just the Destination

NEW FOR 2026
Introducing Our Signature Journeys Collection

CRUISING, REIMAGINED

A MORE INTENTIONAL WAY TO MOVE THROUGH THE WORLD



On the cover: Captured along the beautiful coastline of Philipsburg, St. Maarten.

May Table of Contents

This issue explores why the future of cruising is less about the ship and more about how you want to move through the world.

Featured Article

7 Cruising, Reimagined. Choosing the *Experience*, not just the Destination. Explore why today's travelers are prioritizing immersion, ease, and intentional experiences over simply seeing more.



Tools & Information



11 What a cruise costs. Learn how to plan the cruise you want at the price you need.

13 It's time to cruise: Explore the options to fulfill your cruise expectations.

15 Welcome to Virgin Voyages' Brilliant Lady.



17 The Travel Brief. How to capture the moment *and* preserve the memory.



19 Our 2026 & 2027 Signature Journeys Collection overview.



22 Travel Updates & Info Check in here for trip updates and Info Sessions.



CRUISING, REIMAGINED

A MORE INTENTIONAL WAY TO MOVE THROUGH THE WORLD

It's Time To Travel *Well*

Travel is changing. More travelers are moving away from rushed itineraries and toward experiences that feel slower, more connected, and more intentional. Cruising, when thoughtfully chosen, has become part of that shift.

May

WHAT WE'RE EXPLORING THIS MONTH

Cruising, Reimagined.

It is time to rethink what you thought cruising was.

The version most travelers still picture is no longer the full story.

There are now adults-only sailings led by brands like Virgin Voyages.

New players are entering the river space, including Trafalgar, bringing a different approach to how these journeys are designed.

And brands like Celebrity Cruises are expanding into new categories altogether.

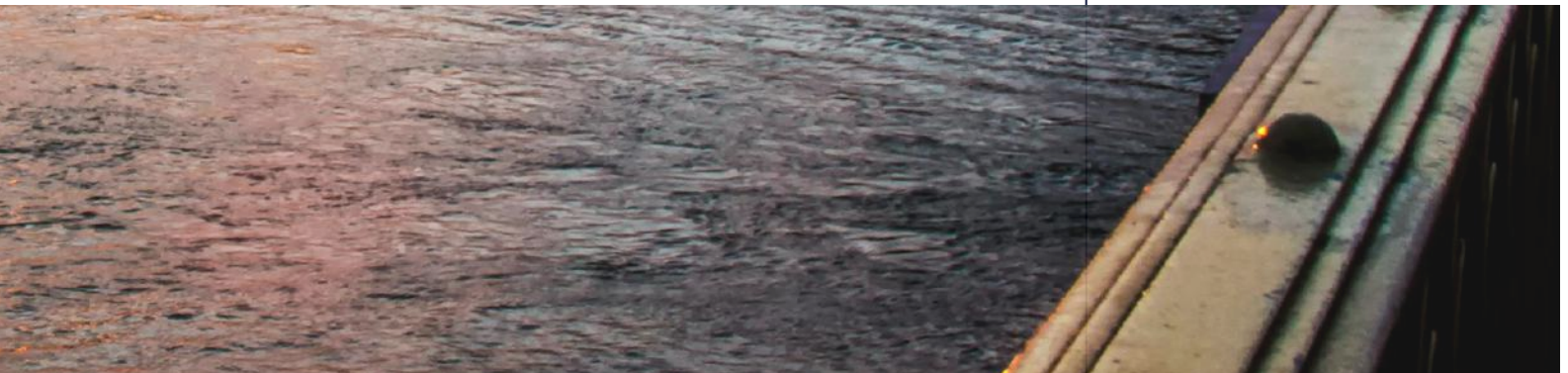
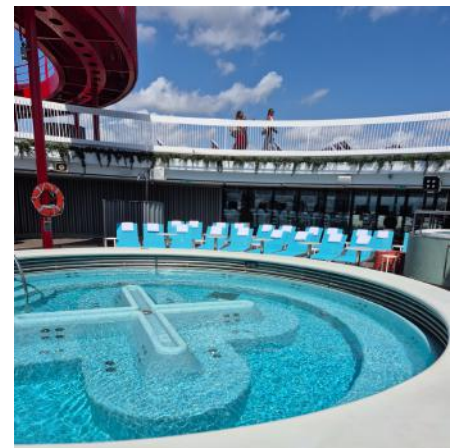
This is not a small shift.

It reflects a broader change in how people want to travel.

Inside this issue, you will explore:


- **Five Ways to Cruise and Why They Feel Completely Different** Not all cruises are designed for the same traveler.
- **What a Cruise Actually Costs** Understanding the difference between price, value, and what's included.
- **Why the Experience Should Come Before the Destination** The most memorable journeys begin with how you want to travel.
- **Inside Virgin Voyages' Newest Ship** A firsthand look aboard Brilliant Lady and what it reveals about the future of cruising.
- **Introducing Our Signature Journeys Collection** A new chapter for Turner World Travel and a preview of what's ahead.

You may find that what you thought you knew about cruising is only part of the picture.



Cruising Reimagined:

A MORE INTENTIONAL WAY TO MOVE THROUGH THE WORLD

A photograph of a sailboat's deck and white sails on the right side, sailing on a deep blue sea. In the background, a large, dark, rocky island with some vegetation is visible under a clear blue sky. The water shows some white foam from the boat's wake.

“
Travel changes
us most when
we stop
rushing
through it.
”

Editor's Letter

I still remember my first cruise.

It was 2008. Four of us in one cabin, me and three of my girlfriends. We booked it and went. My eyes were opened.

Meals were included. Entertainment was included. And we woke up somewhere new each day—Costa Maya, Cozumel, Honduras, Belize. At the time, it felt like the experience was the cruise.

If you have ever thought about cruising, chances are that is the version you picture. And in some ways, that is still true. But it is not the full picture anymore. Over time, my perspective has changed.

I cruise once, sometimes twice a year now. Enough to know that no two experiences feel the same—and that it has far less to do with the destination than I once thought.

“The question isn't whether cruising is right for you. It's whether you've seen the version that fits how you want to travel.”

I have sailed Virgin with my husband, where we came and went from the ship in Amsterdam as if it were a hotel. I have taken that same cruise line with my sister and with girlfriends, and it felt entirely different each time.

I have traveled to Alaska with my family, where my daughter connected with nearly every teen onboard, which on an Alaska sailing is not a large group. It becomes a small circle very quickly. And I have seen how a cruise can hold space for very different people at once—from first-time travelers to my older brother, a classically trained chef, who found his own rhythm in—it does not happen by accident.

You may have dismissed cruising at some point. Or assumed it was not for you. I hear that often. But cruising is evolving.

More than 30 million people travel this way each year and that number continues to grow. Not because it is simple, but because when it is done well, it works. It removes the friction of constantly

starting over. It allows you to move through multiple destinations with a sense of continuity. And when you approach it thoughtfully, adding time before or after, it becomes something more complete.

So the question is not whether cruising is right for you. It is whether you have seen the version that fits how you want to travel.

What I have come to understand is this. The most memorable trips are not defined by how much you see. They are defined by how they feel. And that does not happen by accident.

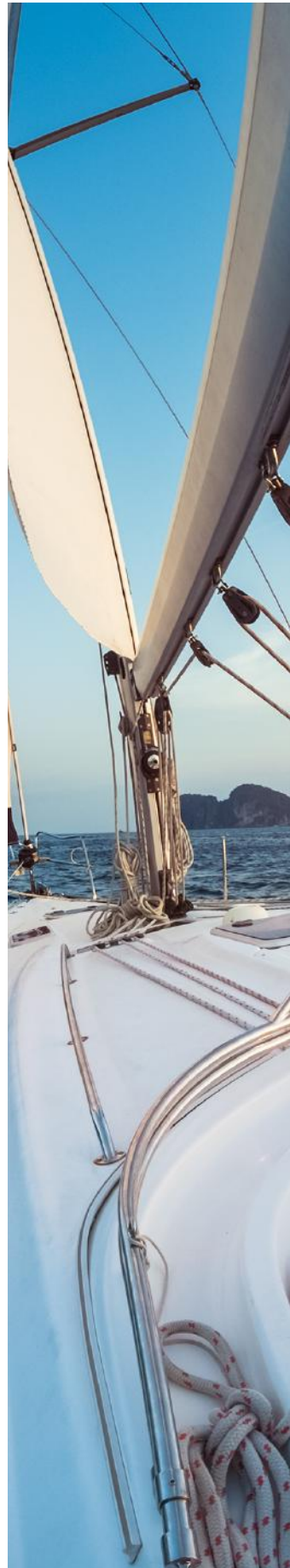


It is designed.

If you are thinking about your next trip, consider not just where you want to go—but how you want to experience it when you get there.

Gwendolyn

Editor, *The Regal Roamer*
Founder, Turner World Travel



CRUISING, REIMAGINED

A MORE INTENTIONAL WAY TO MOVE THROUGH THE WORLD

Featured Article

Cruising, Reimagined: Choosing the *Experience*, Not Just the Destination

A fresh perspective on cruising and why the right experience can transform how you explore the world with greater ease, clarity, and depth.





For years, cruising has been defined too simply.

Often reduced to a single idea, a single image, or a single past experience—something either embraced or dismissed without much reconsideration.

But that version of cruising no longer reflects what exists today.

Because cruising is not one experience.

It is a range of distinctly different ways to travel, each shaped by its own pace, its own priorities, and its own relationship to the places you visit. And the differences between them are not subtle. They determine how your days unfold, how much you engage, and ultimately, what you take away from the journey.

The Shift in How We Travel

The challenge for most travelers is not a lack of options. It is knowing how to evaluate them.

Many begin with the destination. The itinerary. The ports. But the more meaningful starting point is something else entirely.



Not One Experience—But Five Distinct Ways to Travel

A river journey through Europe, for example, offers immediacy. You are placed directly within the destination, stepping off the ship into the center of daily life, with little separation between where you stay and where you explore. The experience is immersive.

An expedition cruise operates on a different premise altogether. The destination leads, often in places that are remote, unpredictable, and difficult to access. The structure is flexible, the days shaped by conditions rather than schedule, and the experience deepened by those who guide it.



CRUISING, REIMAGINED

Ocean cruising, perhaps the most familiar, spans the widest range.

At one end are large-scale ships designed to offer energy, variety, and choice—environments that can accommodate families and multigenerational travel, where different ages and interests can be met within a single setting. At the other end are more refined experiences, where the scale is smaller and the emphasis shifts toward design, service, and destination.

Smaller ships and yacht-style journeys take that shift further. With fewer guests and access to ports that larger ships cannot reach, the experience becomes quieter, more deliberate, and often more personal. The pace softens. The focus narrows.

And at the far end of the spectrum, private charters remove the structure almost entirely. The journey is shaped around you—your pace, your preferences, your priorities—creating something that feels less like a scheduled trip and more like a fully tailored experience.

Each of these approaches offers something valid.

But they are not interchangeable.

Choosing between them is not simply a matter of preference. It is the difference between a trip that feels aligned—and one that does not.



“ Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore. ”
– André Gide



In reality, the experience defines everything that comes after.

Where Most Travelers Get It Wrong

This is where many travelers misstep.

They choose the destination first, assuming the experience will follow.

In reality, the experience defines everything that comes after.

It determines whether your days feel full or rushed. Whether you are managing decisions or moving through something already considered. Whether the journey feels continuous, or fragmented into parts.

For families and multigenerational groups, this becomes even more important. The right environment must hold different expectations at once—energy and ease, activity and space, structure and flexibility. Larger ships often meet that need well, offering variety and choice within a single setting. But even then, how that experience is designed will shape how it feels for everyone involved.

The most meaningful shift is a simple one.

Not starting with where you want to go.

But with how you want to experience it.

A Better Way to Choose

You should remember where you have traveled.

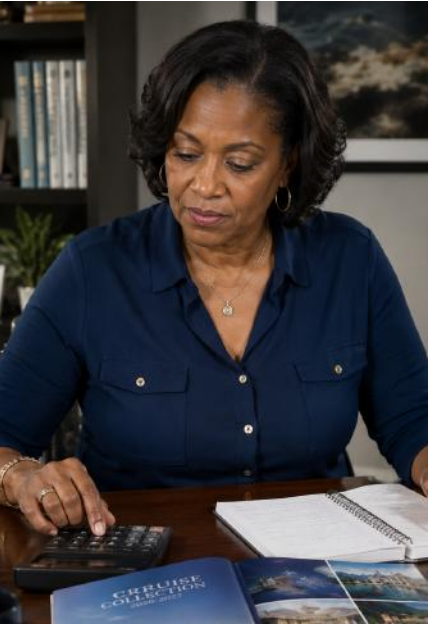
Not just that you went—but what made it distinct, and how it changed you.

And that begins with choosing the experience first.

Discover. Immerse. *Transform.*



What a Cruise Actually Costs - AND WHAT YOU'RE REALLY PAYING FOR



Cruise pricing is not standardized. What you pay upfront is only part of the story. What often matters more is how the experience is structured once you are on board.

Not all cruises are designed the same way. On larger ships, the model is often built around choice. The base fare gets you on board with your accommodations, meals, and entertainment included, while the experience expands as you add excursions, beverage packages, specialty dining, and other enhancements.

On smaller ships and in luxury or river cruising, much of that is already accounted for. The intention is not to build the trip as you go, but to begin with a more inclusive and thoughtfully structured experience.

The real question is not simply what a cruise costs. It is what is included, how the experience is designed, and whether that approach aligns with how you want to travel.

A General Guide by Experience

Mass Market Ocean Cruises	Premium and Small Ship Cruises	Luxury and River Cruises
\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$	\$\$\$\$\$
~ \$100–\$250 per person, per day	\$250–\$500 per person, per day	\$500–\$1,200+ per person, per day
Carnival, Royal Caribbean, MSC Cruises, Margaritaville at Sea	Celebrity, Virgin Voyages, Windstar, Star Clippers	Viking, Uniworld, Seabourn, AmaWaterways, Ponant
Lower entry price with the essentials included. Experience is built in layers—drinks, specialty dining, excursions, and gratuities are additional. The ship becomes central part of the experience.	Elevated dining, select beverages, and often Wi-Fi. These ships tend to feel more considered in design and scale, offering a balance between onboard experience and time in destination.	More complete experience. Excursions, dining, beverages, and gratuities built in cruise price, reducing need for ongoing decisions. focus shifts outward—the destination, not the ship, becomes the primary draw.



Before making any travel investment, review the Terms & Conditions carefully. Understanding cancellation policies, payment schedules, and what's included can help you make a more informed decision.



Compare What's Included —and Where It Changes

Across most cruises, a few elements are consistently included: your stateroom, main dining, basic entertainment, and transportation between ports.

This is the foundation. Where it begins to diverge is everything beyond it. On some cruises, this is where inclusion ends. On others, it is where the experience has already been shaped in advance.

- Shore excursions that define how you engage with each destination
- Beverages, from morning coffee to wine at dinner
- Specialty dining that extends the experience into the evening
- Gratuities that remove the need for ongoing calculation
- Wi-Fi that determines how connected you choose to be

What to Look for When Comparing

When evaluating options, the headline price is rarely the most useful reference point. What matters is how the experience is constructed.

Consider:

- Whether excursions are included or optional
- If beverages are part of the experience or added separately
- How much time is spent onboard versus in destination
- Whether the ship is the focus, or the places you visit
- How many decisions you want to make during the trip

Whether you prefer the flexibility to make decisions as you go or the ease of having more included upfront, understanding how a cruise is

structured matters because it directly affects both the experience and the overall cost once you are onboard.

Some cruises are designed around the ship itself, while others place greater emphasis on connecting you to the destinations you visit.

Understanding that difference is often what helps travelers choose the experience and value that fit them best.



CHOOSE YOUR CRUISE

By now, you've seen that cruise pricing, inclusions, and onboard experiences can vary significantly. Each style of cruising offers a different way to explore the world, shaped by its own pace, priorities, and personality.

If you're wondering which might be the best fit, this quick guide highlights what makes each one unique.

River Cruising Travel along inland waterways (Rivers) that place you directly within each destination, with immediate access to towns and cultural life

Best For:

Travelers seeking cultural immersion and easy access to local communities.

Why It's Different: You are not arriving into the destination. You are already inside it.

Expedition Cruising Journeys designed around remote regions, where access, environment, and expert guidance shape the experience.

Best For:

Curious travelers who prioritize destination, wildlife, and adventure.

Why It's Different:

The destination dictates the journey, not the itinerary.

Ocean Cruising A broad, large-scale format that combines multiple destinations with a wide range of onboard environments and activities.

Best For:

Travelers who value variety, flexibility, and multiple ways to vacation.

Why It's Different:

One ship can accommodate many different travel styles at once.

Small Ship and Yacht Style A more intimate approach, using smaller vessels to access less-traveled ports with a quieter, more refined atmosphere.

Best For:

Travelers who prefer a quieter, more intimate atmosphere with fewer guests.

Why It's Different:

It feels closer to private yachting than traditional cruising.

Private Charter and Sail A fully tailored experience where the route, pace, and daily structure are shaped around your preferences.

Best For:

Travelers who want maximum personalization and control over the experience.

Why It's Different:

The journey is built around you, not shared with thousands of other guests.





Inside Virgin Voyages' Newest Ship —

Where Design, Atmosphere, and Experience Meet

As part of our continued exploration of how cruising is evolving, I recently had the opportunity to step aboard **Virgin Voyages' newest ship, Brilliant Lady** — the same ship our Turner World Travel Alaska group will sail aboard in August 2026.

What stood out most during the tour was how intentional the entire experience felt. The atmosphere was relaxed, modern, and thoughtfully designed around how many adults want to vacation today. From the restaurants and lounges to the outdoor spaces overlooking the water, the ship felt less like a traditional cruise environment and more like a boutique hotel at sea.

The experience also reinforced just how much cruising itself is changing.

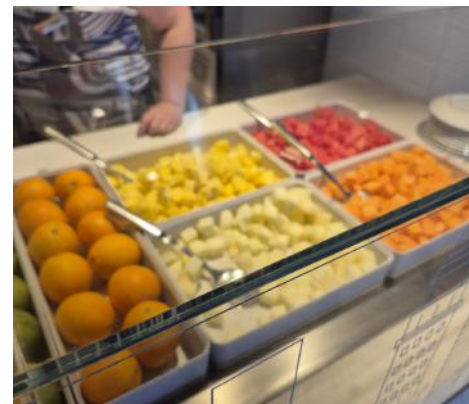
For years, many travelers associated cruising with crowded buffet lines, rigid dining schedules, and highly structured environments. But some cruise lines are rethinking that

model entirely, shifting toward experiences that feel more flexible, immersive, and experience-driven. Virgin Voyages is one of the clearest examples of that evolution.

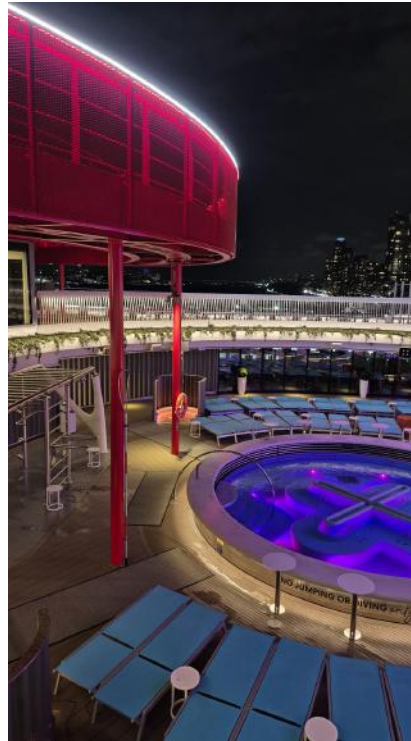
Why Virgin Voyages Feels Different

The adults-only environment immediately changes the energy onboard. The atmosphere feels calmer, more flexible, and noticeably less rushed. Instead of waterslides and constant announcements competing for attention, the focus feels centered around atmosphere, connection, wellness, and freedom of choice. That difference carries throughout the ship.

Virgin has eliminated the traditional buffet entirely, replacing it with more than 20 included eateries, each with its own personality and design. Ojo by Razzle Dazzle was a standout space during the tour — conversational, vibrant and clearly designed around shared experience rather than rushed dining.



Insides Virgin Voyages' Newest Ship - Brilliant Lady



What Brilliant Lady reinforced for me is something I have come to appreciate more over time: how a trip feels matters just as much as where it takes you.

Natural light, ocean views, comfortable outdoor spaces, and quieter places to pause all shape the rhythm of the journey in ways many travelers do not initially expect. Those details influence whether an experience feels rushed or restorative, overstimulating or intentional.

After touring **Brilliant Lady** firsthand, I left even more excited about Alaska. Pairing one of the world's most visually striking destinations with a ship intentionally designed around atmosphere, flexibility, and experience creates something very different from the traditional image many people still associate with cruising. It becomes less about simply getting to Alaska and more about how you experience the journey while you are there.

10 THINGS EXPERIENCED CRUISERS NEVER FORGET TO PACK

The difference between a good cruise and a smooth cruise often comes down to preparation.

And while every itinerary is different, there are a few items experienced cruisers almost always bring with them — not because they are trendy travel hacks, but because they genuinely make the experience easier, more comfortable, and more enjoyable.

- 1 Lightweight crossbody or day bag**
Perfect for port days, excursions, and keeping essentials close without carrying too much.
- 2 Portable charger**
Between excursion photos, travel apps, and long days ashore, battery life disappears
- 3 Motion sickness support — even if you do not think you need it**
Most sailings are smooth, but experienced travelers prepare anyway.
- 4 Comfortable walking shoes**
You will likely walk far more than you expect, especially in European ports and Alaska.
- 5 Layers**
Cruise destinations can shift quickly between warm afternoons, cool evenings, rain, and wind — sometimes all in one day.
- 6 A refillable water bottle**
Especially helpful for excursions and longer port days.
- 7 A small carry on with First-day essentials**
Luggage delivery to your cabin can take several hours after boarding.
- 8 Magnetic hooks or small organizers**
Cruise cabins are designed efficiently. Small organizational tools make a noticeable difference.
- 9 Travel documents stored both digitally and physically**
Experienced travelers always prepare for both.
- 10 Something slightly dressier than you think you need**
Not necessarily formal. Just one outfit that allows you to enjoy specialty dining, evening lounges, or a beautiful dinner feeling prepared.



Capture the Experience *More Thoughtfully*

THE GOAL IS NOT TO CAPTURE EVERYTHING.
JUST ENOUGH TO REMEMBER HOW IT FELT.

Most people don't miss the trip. They miss the moment while trying to capture it.

The travelers who seem most present are rarely the ones documenting every moment. They're experiencing it first.

Here are a few simple ways to capture your trip without missing it.

HOW TO CAPTURE YOUR TRIP WELL



Take fewer, better photos

One thoughtful shot will stay with you longer than twenty rushed ones.



Pause before you capture

Look first. Then photograph. You'll notice more and remember more.



Capture the feeling, not just the view

A short video, ambient sound, or candid moment often brings you back more vividly than a perfectly posed photo.



Choose moments to stay present

At least once each day, resist documenting the experience altogether. Simply be there.

“ A few meaningful moments captured thoughtfully will always outlast hundreds captured hurriedly. ”

EDITOR'S PICKS

A **few simple tools** that help capture the experience without distracting from it.



COMPACT TRIPOD

Helpful for steadier photos, better framing, and actually being part of your own travel memories.



SMARTPHONE LENS ATTACHMENT

An easy way to capture landscapes, architecture, and scenery without carrying more equipment



MICROPHONE

If you enjoy recording short videos while traveling, clear sound often matters more than most people expect.



PORTABLE CHARGER

Especially useful during long excursion days, heavy photo usage, and navigating unfamiliar destinations.

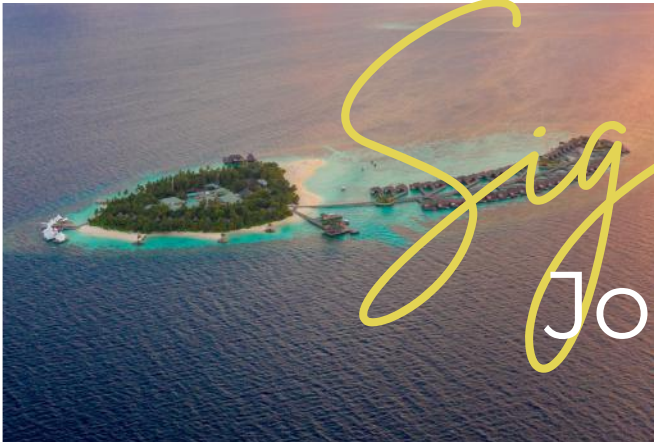
Capture intentionally. Be present fully.

Transformation
Through *Travel*



NEW FOR 2026:

INTRODUCING OUR SIGNATURE JOURNEYS COLLECTION



Signature
Journeys Collection



Hosted

Designed

There comes a point where travel becomes more than a trip. It becomes a **Signature Journey** — thoughtfully designed, professionally hosted, and meaningfully experienced. From mornings overlooking the vineyards of Napa Valley to quiet evenings beneath the lanterns of Morocco, these journeys are designed to be experienced, not rushed through. **Welcome to travel, reimagined.**

Welcome to Travel, *reimagined.*

There comes a point where travel becomes more than a trip. It becomes something you return to.

Something you look forward to. Something designed with intention, not assembled along the way.

This is where we are going.

Beginning in 2027, Turner World Travel will introduce a curated collection of Signature Journeys—eight thoughtfully designed experiences each year, created to reflect how we believe travel should feel.

These are not one-off trips.

They are experiences built with purpose, pacing, and perspective.

You will see us in places like:

- South Africa in January
- Japan during Late Summer/Early Fall
- Morocco, layered and immersive
- Belize, rich in culture and ease

And closer to home, The Philadelphia Flower Show, reimagined, journeys through New England, the Hudson Valley, and beyond

Each one intentionally designed.
Each one distinct.

A Preview of What's Ahead

As we build toward this collection, a few select journeys remain for 2026:

- **Autumn Leaves | October 8–12** — Catskills and Hudson Valley (details landing in your inbox soon)
- **Napa Valley | October 22–26** — One-third reserved

These are not just destinations.

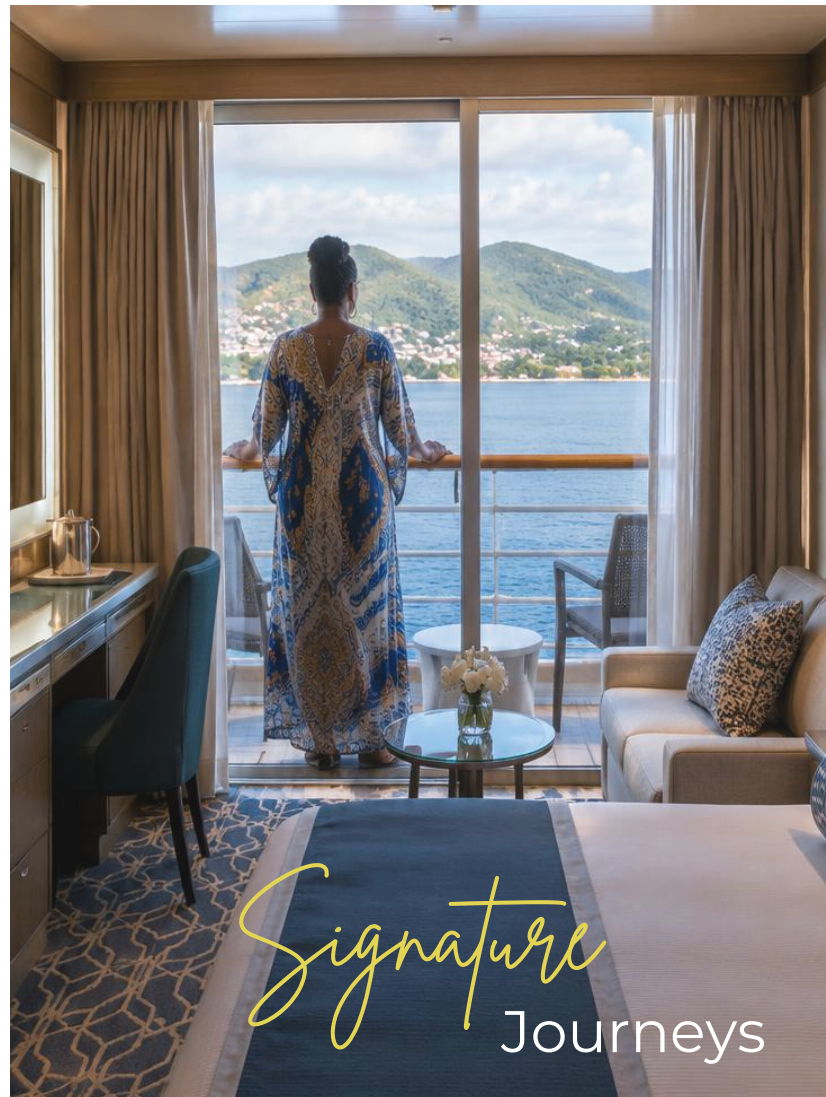
They are a preview of what Signature Journeys will become.

What This Means for You

If you have traveled with us before, you will feel the difference.

If you have not, this is where to begin. More details will follow soon via email this month.

Experienced



Cruising Reimagined:

A MORE INTENTIONAL WAY TO MOVE THROUGH THE WORLD

Group Travel,
Made *Easy*

Why Hosted Group Travel Works

- Shared experiences without planning every detail
- Professional guidance before and during the journey
- A balance of structure and personal freedom
- Built in community for couples, solo travelers, and friends
- Less decision fatigue and more time enjoying the experience

TRAVEL UPDATES:

STAY CONNECTED, GET INSPIRED

ALASKA | AUGUST 20-27 TWO CABINS HAVE RECENTLY REOPENED (now accepting new travelers)



Your Journey Starts Now

If one of our signature journeys sparked your curiosity, we invite you to join us for at a **June Travel Information Session**.

These sessions are also a chance to meet me, understand how I approach travel, and see whether our approach feels like the right fit for you.

Think of these sessions as an orientation, not a commitment. Info Session Schedule includes flexible times and days:

- Lunch Hour
- Weekday Evening
- Weekend Morning

Join Us for an Information Session

This is not a sales presentation. It's a conversation. A chance to learn, ask questions, and explore what's possible. This is where questions become clarity.

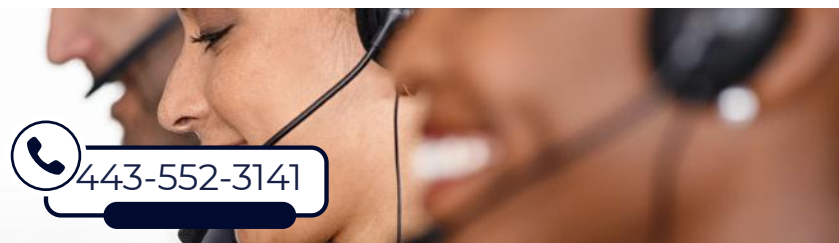
Napa Valley Harvest 2026 Info Sessions [SIGN UP](#)

South Africa 2027 Info Sessions [SIGN UP](#)



Ready to reach out? We're here to help!

Got one of our group trip locations on your "bucket list?" Let's chat—schedule a free consultation today!



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CRUISING, REIMAGINED
www.turnerworldtravel.com