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Norwegian cruise lines news

Our editors independently research, test, and recommend the best products and services; more information about our review process can be found here. We may receive a commission for purchases made from the links we select. Best Luxury Cruise: Silversea Silversea's five-star service and all-inclusive pricing are hard to beat. Best Adventure: Lindblad Expeditions Includes cruises through Patagonia and the Galapagos in Antarctica and the Amazon. Best River: Viking River Cruises Operates more than 70 ships and continues to rake in awards and accolades. Runner-Up, Best River: Avalon Waterways Known for its signature Suite Ships, which are 30 percent larger than other river cruise ships. Best couples: Celebrity Celebrity ships pose with modern, elegant décor and cutting-edge designs to create a romantic atmosphere. Best for families: Disney Wait for an evening of fireworks, fast water slides, Disney movies 3-D, deck parties, pirate nights and lots of Disney characters roaming ships. Best in the mainstream: Norway Known for its Freestyle Cruise approach - which means casual attire and flexibility are not set in dining times. Best Boutique: Azamara Club Cruises Founded with its own niche with unique itineraries and enriching shore excursions. 01 08 When you're ready to be completely pampered, Silversea's five-star service and all-inclusive pricing are hard to beat. On board, passengers can enjoy free running wines, in-suite meals, gourmet cuisine, enrichment lectures, 24-hour butler service and extra charges. Since most Silversea ships carry fewer than 300 guests, Silversea is a hybrid between yacht and cruising, all-suite, Oceanview states spaces and smaller-sized ships that go where larger ships can't. Silversea entertainment is more modest, so guests can relax in the luxurious lounges or on-board spa. Silversea ships don't have a lack of dining options, from intimate asian fusion venues to open-air terraces that highlight regional delicacies. 02 08 courtesy of Lindblad Expeditions Ocean cruise ships are not always floating theme parks, and there are a number of cruise ships designed for expedition-style trips to the remote corners of Earth. Lindblad Expeditions partners with National Geographic to explore the natural wonders of the boat. Lindblad is a smart choice for travelers to Patago, look for a wide range of city-wide 8-15-inch tours. The ships anchor in remote ports and coastlines, where passengers board the zodiac to get close to flora and fauna. Excursions include kayaking, hiking and wildlife watching. These bucket-list trips tend to be longer than mainstream ships - and more expensive - but are unforgettable. 03 08 courtesy of Viking River Cruises When it comes to river cruising, the Viking River Cruise brand is one of the most recognized - and for good reason. The company operates more than 70 ships and continues to rake in awards and accolades. Known for cruises in European rivers such as the Danube, Rhine, Rhone, and others, the company also explores Asia and Egypt. Passengers travel comfortably aboard the famous Viking Longships, with elegant décor, restaurant floor-to-ceiling windows and public viewing lounges, organic surrealism, green, hiking trails and luxurious country rooms with high-quality bedding. Viking also bundles education shore excursions into cruise pricing at each stop. Travelling to England? Check out our selection of great Thames River cruise ships. 04 08 courtesy of Avalon Waterways Avalon Waterways is known for its signature Suite Ships, which are 30 percent larger than other river cruise ships and feature panoramic, wall-to-wall and floor-to-ceiling windows for first viewing directly from the stateroom. On the Avalon River cruise, guests can relax in a bed - which has been set up by windows - while they look at the changing countryside, ancient castles and sleepy towns for swimming, submitted by the Commission. Avalon's dining is a treat brought in by local growers, free wine pairings with sommeliers and flexible meal times. The fleet consists of some of the newest ships in the industry, and they travel rivers in Europe, Asia, the Amazon and the Galapagos. Proceed to 5/8 below. 05 08 courtesy of Celebrity Cruises Celebrity is a mainstream cruise line that has found its niche in a more chic, graceful brand under Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. While Royal Caribbean-branded ships cater to families and cruisers looking for over-the-top thrill-seeking amenities (zip lines, skydiving, surfing) Celebrity ships pose modern, elegant décor and cutting-edge designs to create a romantic atmosphere. Expect features like rooftop gardens, outward-looking public spaces, or the industry's first floating deck that reinvents itself on every floor (on Celebrity Edge). Staterooms have a variety of opulent options such as endless verandas with floor-to-ceiling windows, marble-style baths and king-sized beds with cashmere mattresses, while aqua-class cabins offer special spa privileges. Want to take a look at some of the other options? See our guide to the best cruise ships for couples. 06 08 Disney knows how to take movie and theme park magic and make a cruise ship experience an unforgettable family getaway at sea. Expect evening fireworks, fast water slides, Disney movies in 3D, deck parties, pirate nights and lots of Disney characters roaming ships. Musicals in the theatre are cutting edge (think Frozen or Aladdin). Planned activities in several kids' clubs target each age group and evening dining halls have favorite films. Disney doesn't leave parents either: there are adults-only lounges, restaurants, nightclubs and bars plus a spa and lounge (though the ships are not casinos). Plus, themed cruises like Star Wars or Marvel at the Sea are a big hit for families. Read more about some of the best cruise ships you can book today. 07 08 courtesy of Norwegian Cruises Norwegian cruise ships is something for everyone: kids clubs and water slides for families, swanky new nightclubs and lounges for the Millennial crowd, romantic, a-la carte restaurants and wine bars for couples, and exclusive, quiet enclaves for those who want to recharge. The Norwegian fleet ranges from traditional style cruises to a large list of classic daytime activities (pool games, trivia) to behemoth new ships with natural amenities such as race tracks at sea and Cirque du Soleil-style shows and Broadway performances. The cruise ship is known for its Freestyle Cruise approach - meaning casual attire and flexibility are not set in dining times. Cruisers have their pick of a variety of staterooms, from affordable interiors to sprawling garden villas. 08 08 courtesy of Azamara Club Cruises Azamara Club Cruises operates two expensive ships carrying just 690 passengers that travel around the world - inviting smaller, less visited ports that others do not. While many cruise ships on this list focus on the onboard experience, Azamara has created its own niche with unique itineraries and enriching shore excursions. Azamara is one of the few companies that stays in port overnight - and in doing so they include evening excursions often bundled at a price (select wine and spirits, as well as surcharges, are added to ticket prices). The company puts emphasis on destination immersion, so shore excursions dive deeper into the culture and also connect travelers with local experiences. Our editors independently research, test, and recommend the best products; more information about our review process can be found here. We may receive a commission for purchases made from the links we select. Levente Bodo/Getty Images Picking the perfect honeymoon is no easy feat-count for countless romantic destinations, endless hotel options, limited vacation time and the fight-is-real challenge of finding the perfect place to please both you and your new husband. Where to start? Well, right here. Whether you're looking for bucket-list hotels and resorts, far-flues on beaches, top cruise couples, cheap travel ideas, or unexpected honeymoon-worthy locales, you've come to the right place. If the picture-perfect blue water, garden-green private islands, and hours after hours of lounging in the sun is what you do after your honeymoon, you're looking for French Polynesia. And there's no better way to explore this South Pacific paradise than aboard a luxe cruise ship like Gauguin, the flagship of Paul Gauguin Cruises. With just 332 passengers, with a private balcony of more than 70 percent of suites and public spaces, and a crew-guest ratio of 1:1.5 (one of the tallest in the cruise industry), Gauguin is a small-ship dream. And that doesn't mean that the ship aboard the water sports marina, three dining options, an extensive spa and friendly staff from local Tahitians. The crystal is much more than Ocean-going cruise line these days—The Chinese-backed company now offers river cruises, yachts, around the world of AirCruises (provided retrospectively by a Boeing 777 airliner), private jet charters, and even detached houses at sea with upcoming Crystal Executive class ships. But it was the ocean ships Crystal Symphony and Crystal Serenity that launched the brand at such great heights. This will only continue because both ships have seen multi-million dollar renovations in 2017 and 2018. If your honeymoon is looking for a smaller ship, don't worry-just book a trip to the 62-passenger Crystal Esprit, the first yacht with Crystal family amenities, which include a quick supply of water skiing and jet ski activities, kayaks (take out your leisure time), butler service (they'll even unpack your bags on demand), all-inclusive dining room (with grab-and-go bistro and wine bar), unlimited champagne and a double-person submarine (yes, you'll read that right-hand ship to the submarine). Or try their fleet of river cruises. This ultraluxe, all-inclusive line has been at the top of the small craft game for years thanks to its unique routes, less crowded ports, expert guides and OTT ships (with cutting-edge service and high staff-to-guest ratios). In December 2016, Seabourn launched its largest ship, Seabourn Encore, the first in a new class of ships that is slightly larger than the three existing Odyssey class ships (Seabourn Odyssey, Seabourn Sojourn and Seabourn Quest, with just 458 passengers). The Encore feature, designed by Adam D. Thany, is not a private veranda in every suite or an open bar service; This is Retreat, a new secluded shrine on deck 12 with a whirlpool, sun loungers and 15 private cabanas, each with a flat-screen TV and fridge equipped with a personalized range of drinks (from \$350 per pair per day). So, if you're looking to relax with other travelers, all you have to do is make a reservation—although we recommend choosing one Spa Treatment Cabana, because, well, duh. All five main ships (Silver Wind, Silver Shadow, Silver Whisper, Silver Spirit and Silver Muse) are equipped with water-view suites, restaurant-quality kitchens and a crew-to-guest ratio of nearly 1:1, sailing to about 800 destinations around the world. Silver Muse joined the fleet as recently as 2017, the ship will host just 596 guests in a suite of butler serviced accommodation, ideal for couples looking for a luxe, intimate, small-ship experience. However, those who want a tour of packed itineraries in remote areas-such as north and south Poles, Southeast Asia, Australia's Kimberley Coast and the Galapagos Islands-need only to check out one of Silversea's Expedition-class ships, Silver Explorer, Silver Galapagos, Silver Discoverer, Silver Cloud, Or the brand new Silver Origin (designed specifically for sailing around the Galapagos Islands). Are you looking for the Caribbean. Or transatlantic trip, SeaDream Yacht Club's two twin mega-yachts-SeaDream I and SeaDream II-are ideal for celeb-worthy ships. Sea days can be spent relaxing in the saltwater pool, while nights include movies, sited through the top deck and a sleep-under-the-stars experience (the team creates a special bed for you on deck so you can sleep on the sounds of the sea). Each ship is equipped with 56 luxe staterooms, including 10 suites, which means that you and your new partner basically have the ship itself (in fact, it may be self-route offering private charters, perfect for a wedding at sea—just to put it). Itineraries are also all-inclusive, so food, drinks (including alcoholic beverages), water sports and even extras are baked into the cost of the cruise. Windstar is one of the latest cruise ships to operate traditional sailing yachts, the ultimate throwback cruising experience. Three recently renovated sailing yachts (Wind Surf, Wind Spirit and Wind Star) carry either 148 or 310 passengers and travel to 50 nations, 150 ports-of-call across Europe, the South Pacific, the Caribbean and Central America. Windstar is also powered by yachts-Star Pride, Star Breeze and Star Legend with just 212 guests. Foodie couples also appreciate Windstar's partnership with the James Beard Foundation, offering guests exclusive culinary sightseeing trips that highlight the local cuisine of the destinations you visit, plus on-board cooking demonstrations, regional wine tastings and visiting local markets on shore. Regent Seven Seas Cruises Regent's crown jewel, the 750-passenger Seven Sea splendor, has been dubbed the world's most luxurious ship. What makes him so over-the-top? The fact that each state room has a suite with its own private balcony, while the common areas have inlapped marble floors, glass staircases, crystal chandeliers and, oh-ship hosts the largest suite at sea, with a spa in their room. Seven Seas Splendor joined the line's four other all-suite ships-Seven Seas Among navigator, Seven Seas Mariner, Seven Seas Voyager and Seven Seas Explorer-which jointly fly to nearly 350 destinations around the world on all-inclusive trips (including round-trip airfares, excursions at every port, WiFi concierge-level room, and pre-cruise hotel packages in some cases). If you're not on your honeymoon until 2019, you're in luck. That's when Celebrity Cruises is set to launch Celebrity Edge, a completely unique, completely crazy first ship in a brand new Edge class. Fame away from internationally renowned architect Tom Wright designed a wide range of spaces for the Resort Deck, which includes the main pool area, rooftop garden, jogging track and solarium. He also cheated on crazy edge villas with floor-to-ceiling windows and indoor areas. The edge class is the first new class of ships since the equinox class debuted millennium and xpedition 10-expensive ships. Also note: the line focuses on novel culinary programming for all tours, offering experiences such as Taste the Film, in which visitors can sign up for a multi-course meal with a popular food-themed movie (think The Hundred-Foot Journey or Julie and Julia), to parse the deck under the stars. The route also has an exclusive level of wellness-centric state rooms called AquaClass, where travelers have access to spa and lounge areas around the clock and can eat in their own restaurant. If the idea of being on the high seas makes you seasick, good news for AmaWaterways award-winning river cruises in ply waters in Europe, Southeast Asia and Africa. So whether you're looking to soar over the Myanmar temples of Bagan by a hot air-balloon (try AmaPura), see the architecture of Budapest at night (AmaVista), sip vintages in Portugal's Douro Valley (Ama Lotus), sample Asian delicacies floating in the markets of Cambodia and Vietnam's Mekong River (AmaDara), or go to the traditional game drives of Botswana (Zambezi Queen), AmaWaterways is something of any kind of honeymoon. Oceania Cruises is an exclusive partnership with culinary legend, Jacques Pépin. What does this mean for passengers? This means they will have the opportunity to travel with the internationally renowned French chef, television personality and author of the signature journey. If your honeymoon doesn't coincide with Pépin's schedule, don't be afraid, Oceania Cruises's expertly crafted trips call more than 370 ports across Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, the South Pacific and America aboard the 684-guest Regatta, Ignisnia, Nautica and Sirena, as well as the 1,250-guest Marina and Riviera. The line focuses on experiencing local culture, so travelers on new trips to Cuba, for example, can experience Old Havana's cobbled alleys, pastoral landscapes of Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba's live music scene. Scene.