

Kosher Cruises Offer the Best of Both Worlds

Whether you take only one holiday a year or travel often, a cruise offers so much: resort amenities, superb entertainment and the opportunity to visit fascinating places without schlepping baggage and packing and unpacking in each place. But add another dimension – a classy cruise that’s kosher and the standard experience becomes extraordinary offering the best of both worlds for body and mind.

First choose the ship and where it’s going – Kosherica and Eddie’s Travel, (www.koshertravelers.com) the leading kosher cruise companies, each with more than 18 years experience, know they’re catering to discriminating guest and only the best will do. You’ll sail away on luxury cruise ships with accommodation and amenities that combine sophisticated European style with American-style comfort and convenience. That translates into fully-equipped fitness areas, world class spas, onboard shopping, casinos and much more, plus great entertainment, day and night.

The itineraries on kosher cruises are tailored to visit the most interesting places in the region. In summer or winter, cruises offer shore excursions in lively ports of call with the opportunity to visit local places of Jewish interest.

When it comes to dining, kosher cruises cater to extremely good taste. According to Yehuda Shifman, president of Kosherica, Five-star chefs cook everything fresh, tailored to Glatt Kosher requirements under the watchful eye of a Rav Hamachshir and a team of Mashgichim. “Our emphasis is on 5 star gourmet menus boosted by the highest quality ingredients and top notch chefs” adds Shifman.

Breads and pastries are freshly made on board. Breakfasts are a symphony of cheeses, fish, eggs and salads plus anything else to start the day pleasantly. Buffet lunches offer a wide choice of taste treats. Formal, unhurried five-course dinners are a prelude to scintillating evening entertainment. Gourmet dishes are served up on fine china with silver cutlery, accompanied by choice wines. David Walles, Eddie’s Travel CEO, notes that “Kosher cruises replicate the wonderful, vanished world of luxury kosher hotels with elaborate meals, punctuated by morning coffee, afternoon tea and late night buffets and poolside barbecues.”

Food for body is enhanced by food for the mind on kosher cruises. Stimulating Jewish educational and cultural programs include talks by distinguished lecturers on board; Jewish study groups, Israeli and Yiddish films and concerts of Jewish music of all genres from cantorial to klezmer. Traditional observances with candle lighting, kiddush and synagogue services make Shabbat at sea an unforgettable experience.

Best of all, on a kosher cruise, you don’t have to worry about meeting interesting and compatible traveling companions when company representatives are on board as hosts. “We have a huge international clientele and make sure that guests feel like they are part of our extended family,” says Shifman, of Kosherica.

Eddie's Travel staff also personally host their cruises "We give our guests individual attention to suit their needs" adds Wallis. Informal schmoozing and friendly or heated discussions are fueled by pastries and snacks from the scrumptious tea room. Being part of a group of Jews of all affiliations from all over the world, gives an instant connection and the opportunity to make new friends

This summer kosher cruises are scheduled on vessels sailing to intriguing places ranging from Alaska to Europe.

Here is an overview of summer 2010 CRUISE DESTINATIONS

Upcoming Summer 2010 Kosherica and Eddie's Travel's Kosher Cruises:

7 Day Cruises to Alaska: June 20 and July 25

See breathtaking glaciers and wildlife aboard the five-star Holland America line. Whether flying over fjords, climbing glaciers or seeing whales up close, you'll understand why Alaska is the ideal Kosher cruise vacation.

Scholar in Residence: Rabbi Muskin, spiritual leader of Young Israel of Century City (June 20th) and DR. BASIL HERRING Chief Executive of the Rabbinical Council of America (July 25th).

7 Day Bermuda Cruise July 25 aboard Holland America

Enjoy a Glatt Kosher cruise departing from New York City to Bermuda , a dreamy tropical isle with a decidedly British flair. More golf courses per square mile than anywhere else in the world, famous pink beaches, secluded coves, quaint shops and boutiques. A perfect New York getaway!

7 Day cruise to Canada & New England August 1st aboard Celebrity Summit

Rich with museums, galleries, historic sights and world-class dining, this picturesque region will leave you in awe of its immeasurable charm and rustic beauty. From lighthouses standing guard on mammoth granite cliffs to romantic, lantern-lit streets in quaint seaside hamlets, you'll experience extraordinary moments to cherish for a lifetime. A perfect Glatt Kosher vacation for couples or families.

7 Day Mediterranean Cruises: June 20th (Costa) and July 26th (Holland America)

Cruise the Mediterranean and you will experience Europe the way it is meant to be experienced. On a Glatt Kosher gourmet cruise that visits some of the most thrilling cities in the Mediterranean -- Rome , Barcelona , Cannes , Santa Margarita , Tunisia , La Valletta, Palma De Mallorca and Savona . A classic cruise in every sense of the word. Featuring world renown Cantor Motzen (June 20th)

Scholar in Residence: Rabbi Marvin Hier *Newsweek* named him the "number one most influential rabbi in America." (July 26th)

11 Day Mediterranean Cruise: August 6th aboard the brand new Equinox Kosherica is proud to partner with Steve Savitsky and Rabbi Steven Weil (President and Exec VP of the Orthodox Union) on the brand new Celebrity Equinox as we explore the wonders of the Mediterranean . Ports of call on this 5 star Glatt Kosher cruise include: Italy (Rome , Venice , Naples), Turkey , Greece and Croatia .

Scholar in Residence: Steve Savitsky and Rabbi Steven Weil (President and Executive VP of the Orthodox Union)

7 Day Cruise to the Baltic's & Russia. August 8th aboard the brand new Costa Delisioza

Uncover the old world charm of St. Petersburg. Start by visiting the Great Synagogue then indulge in the beauty of the Hermitage and end the day with a majestic palace tour. Take a canal tour around stunning Stockholm.

Explore the wonders of Copenhagen and Helsinki and relax into the rustic charm of Tallinn.

Scholar In Residence: featuring Rabbi Riskin (founding Rabbi of the Lincoln Square Synagogue and Head Rabbi of Efrat)

The world is at your fingertips with Eddie's Travel luxury kosher cruises.

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