

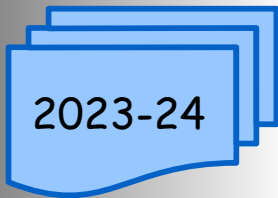


# Eagle Landings

Travel News and Comments



Winter 2023-24 Issue 83



## Winter Travel Notes

### 2024: Travel Rebound Continues to Take Off!

This year looks like a huge growth year for the travel industry and cruising in particular. New ships are launching as usual but the lines are offering more niche experiences that ever before.

Inflation of airfares and hotel rates seem to have stabilized but at a high level which could be a drag on travel. As of late, cruise lines haven't raised fares much and ship travel might offer a value versus land based trips.

### Is this the longest cruise in the world? Three and a half years?

CNN Travel Dec 2023

**Villa Vie Residences** has purchased a ship for its own three-and-a-half-year journey around the world. Departure is set for May 2024.

Cruisers will be traveling for 1,301 days across 147 countries and 425 ports.



### Taylor Swift Drives Tourism, Countries Vie for her Concerts!

Travel Pulse.com Dec. 2023



Global superstar Taylor Swift's **Eras Tour** is driving a global tourism boom.

The Taylor Swift Travel Era is going strong. Tour operators like **Contiki** are offering combined tour and concert experiences for Swift's European tour, while others within the industry are finding unique ways to bring Taylor Swift fans together

Government heads like Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau have requested Swift's tour to come to their countries.

A report by **Forbes** in July, noted the Chilean president, the mayor of Budapest and the leader of Thailand's Move Forward Party also requested their destinations be added to her global tour, each noting the economic boost each destination of her tour receives.

**Taylor Swift's Eras Tour** continues next summer in Toronto, Sydney, Tokyo, Singapore, Paris, Vienna, Warsaw and London. Its popularity shows no signs of slowing down, and neither will Taylor Swift's boost in tourism across the globe.

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# Cruise News



## Cruise 'Wave Season' Arrives

Each year the cruise lines promote their best sales during "Wave Season" from January through March. Here are a few of our favorite sale offers. Call us for a quote on your cruise.

### Princess Cruises Adds Alaska Bear Watching Tour

Insider Travel Report Dec 2023



**Princess Cruises** announced a new **Katmai National Park** Cruise-tour for the 2024 season. This unique experience will allow them to witness bears before or after sailing on a seven-day **Voyage of the Glaciers** cruise

Cruise-tour guests will fly to King Salmon from Anchorage to reach **Brooks Lodge** for a day observing large brown bears welcoming the returning sockeye salmon.

**Katmai National Park** cruise-tours start at \$2,429 per person and combines a seven-day cruise with two nights in Anchorage, flights to and from Katmai National Park and all transfers.

### Princess Cruise Lines Reverses Pricing Policy

Insider travel report Oct. 2023

In the past most cruise lines charged higher fees when bookings first opens. They figure passengers who must have a particular ship or date will pay the premium. Now **Princess** is essentially reversing the policy.

Now early bookers get the best deals possible. Prices for 2024 and 2025 cruises are now set at their absolute lowest and will increase going forward.

Further, if a guest is unsure of a departure date, Princess will allow them to secure today's pricing without locking in specific dates.



### Princess Wave Sale is on now!

**Princess Cruises** revealed offers on tap for the 2024 Wave Season, including savings of up to 40 percent off cruise fares, complimentary room upgrades, plus third and fourth guests' sail for free.

The **2024 Wave Sale**, available now, offers the following perks on select 2024, 2025 and 2026 sailings: Up to 40 percent off cruise fares on voyages all over the globe.



### Holland America Line's "Time of Your Life" offer.

Through Feb. 29, 2024, guests who book select summer 2024 through spring 2025 cruises will enjoy the "Have It All" premium cruise package

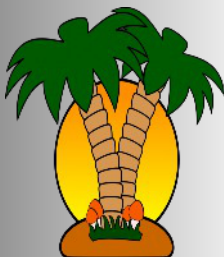
They include a free stateroom upgrade, fare discounts, free fares for kids and reduced deposits with "Time of Your Life."

As a bonus, cruisers who book by Jan. 31, 2024, also receive up to \$500 per stateroom onboard credit, depending on cruise length. This is in addition to the "Have It All" perks of shore excursions, beverages, specialty dining and Wi-Fi that also are included with the cruise fare.

### Mexico to Levy Cruise Tax

The state of **Quintana Roo** is proposing a cruise ship tax of \$5 per passenger, which would start in 2025.

Quintana Roo is home to two of the busiest cruise ports in the country. **Cozumel** and **Costa Maya** have over four million passengers every year.





## MKE Mitchell Airport News



Mitchell Airport News Oct. 2023

Milwaukee is among the top three large cities in the U.S. to visit, according to the **2023 Condé Nast Traveler Reader's Choice Awards** released in October. yet another significant national recognition of Milwaukee as a top-tier destination for business and leisure travelers.

More than 520,000 **Condé Nast Traveler** readers submitted responses rating their travel experiences across the globe. The Readers' Choice Awards, is the travel industry's longest-running and most prestigious accolade. MKE joins Chicago and San Diego in the top three among large cities.

### Why do you have to open the airplane window shade for takeoff and landing?

Euronews.travel Dec 2023

The reasons for keeping your window shade open for takeoff and landing is because these phases of the flight are the most hazardous, and open shades enable flight attendants and passengers to spot any problems - such as an engine fire, so they can alert the flight deck.



In the event of an emergency evacuation, it also allows the crew to see whether it's safe to use the exit, and lets employees outside assess the situation inside the cabin. On top of this, it enables your eyes to adjust to the outside light, so you are able to see better during an evacuation.



### Mexico Launches First Tourist Train on Yucatan Peninsula

Travel Pulse.com Dec.2023



The **Yucatan** peninsula has opened the first section of a new tourist train that's will connect the region's many resorts and archaeological sites.

Mexico's President **Lopez Obrador** attended opening ceremonies for what will ultimately be a 950-mile train line, which is named the **Maya Train**.

The \$20 billion project is expected to be complete by February. Once finished, the train will operate a rough loop around the Yucatan peninsula.



### Mitchell Coat Check Returns

It's getting to be that time of year again—time to fly somewhere warm! But who wants to bring their bulky winter coat on their vacation?



MKE's easy coat check has returned! That means you can wear your coat to the airport, and then leave it behind. Just drop it off at the **Summerfest Marketplace Store** and pick it up when you return. You'll pay just \$2 a day with a maximum of \$10.





# ....and in Conclusion!



## Celebrity Cruises has Biggest Caribbean Offering Yet!



**Celebrity Cruises** has started its 2023-24 Caribbean season. With nine ships sailing the region, this is the line's biggest Caribbean season so far, according to the cruise line.

The itineraries range from new 3-night short getaways to 12-night vacations. In addition, select sailings will call on the **Perfect Day at Coco Cay**, providing access to the private island experience. In December 2024, a Celebrity ship will sail from **Port Canaveral** for the first time as well.



### Currency Exchange Rates

1 Euro = \$1.11

\$1 Canadian = \$ 0.76

\$1 USD = 17.0 Mex. Peso

1British Pound = \$1.27

## New Travel System for Europe Delayed Again

NBC News Dec 2023

Americans who are planning to visit Europe in 2024 don't have to worry about applying to the **European Union's** new travel system yet.

European Union authorities have been working on a visa-like system called the **European Travel Information and Authorization System**. It's for travelers from "visa-exempt" countries like the U.S.

**ETIAS** was expected to go online in 2024, but it has now been pushed back to mid-2025 because its entry/exit database isn't ready.

### More On the Website:

- TSA tests airport Self Screening - e.g. Do it Yourself!
- The 10 worst oceans to sail on.
- Five airports with spectacular fly-in views.



## Eagle Travel Planners

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