



*Share the
Journey*

River vs Ocean Cruising:
What type of cruiser are you?

Hi there!

Thank you so much for downloading my guide to cruising. I put this together because everyone wants inspiration for that next big vacation, right?! You want to experience something life-changing! Stunning landscapes and historical sites, decadent cuisine and unforgettable connections can be yours.

This guide is for you if you long to step outside your daily routines and dive deep into what truly fuels you -- breathtaking experiences and extraordinary destinations, while connecting with the people you share them with.

Share the Journey!

Erin

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What type of cruiser are you?



- What cruise is best for you?
- The differences between River and Ocean Cruising
- The inside scoop on the advantages of each cruise

When it comes to taking a cruise on a river or ocean, there isn't really a bad choice. Both offer incredible views, luxurious amenities, and the opportunity to explore interesting ports.

Each one comes with its own unique perks, and depending on your specific needs and desires for your next trip, you might find that one is a better fit than the other.

So how do you decide?

Excursions and Exploration



You stop almost every day at a new port with river cruises, often for walking tours through quaint towns with little tourist traffic, and you're always in view of land. With ocean cruises, you can go days without seeing land, and ports of call and excursions tend to be more exotic and high-adventure, and/or heavily geared towards tourists.

Questions to ask yourself:

- Do you like to be on the open sea with no land in sight for days at a time?
- Is anyone in your party fearful of traveling the open sea and not seeing land for long stretches?
- Do you like the comfort of ports of call that are more geared towards tourists? Or, do you prefer to explore more authentic cities and towns?
- Do you like to have many options for shore excursions - from shopping, to bus tours, to zip-lining through the jungle, or are you content with fewer, often less exotic options, such as bike or walking tours of quaint little towns.

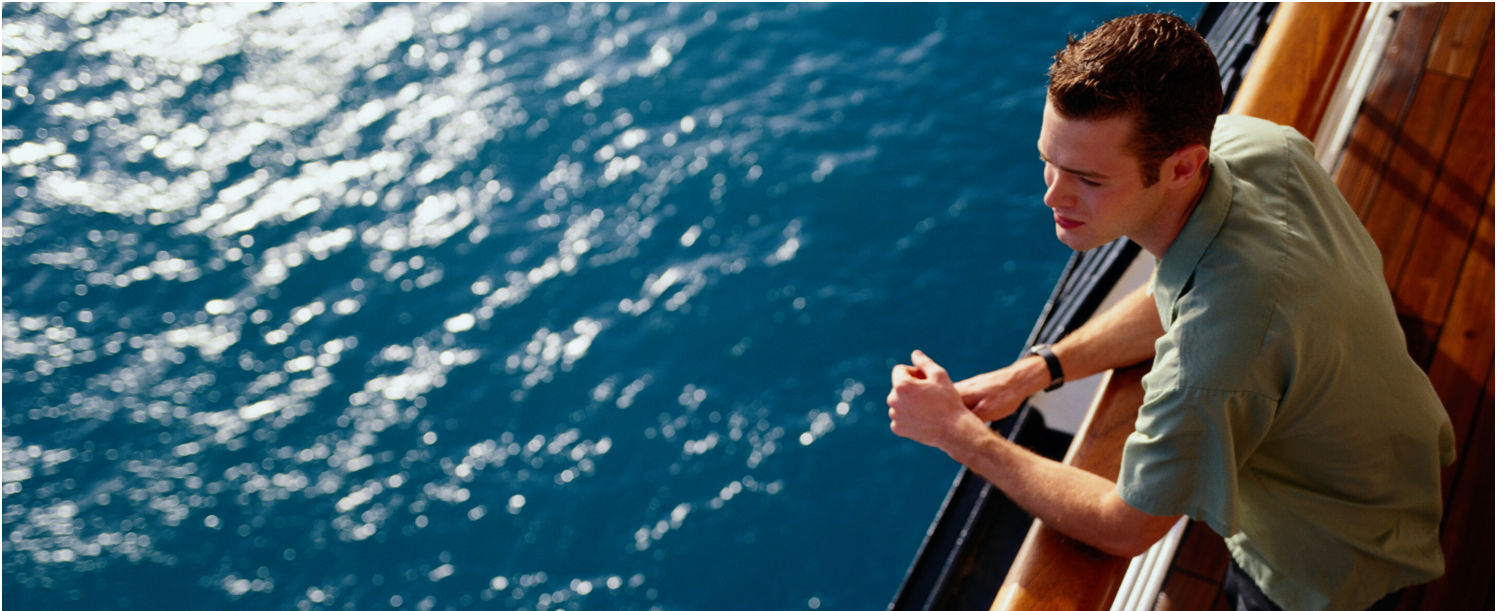
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On Board Options



Because of their larger size, ocean cruises offer plenty of options for many ages, from young kids to octogenarians, and they are often more able to accommodate a wide variety of special health needs. For this reason, they tend to make the best option for multi-generational family gatherings that include young children. For the traveler who is into high-octane adventure, ocean cruises provide a wide variety of activities on board, as well as exotic and more daring day excursions.

Questions to ask yourself:

- How many people are traveling?
- What are their ages?
- Do you need the amenities of a mega ship — spas, gyms, a dozen restaurants, and many activities?
- Or are you looking for something calmer, more intimate and easy-paced?

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Intimacy and Interaction



River cruises tend to be much smaller (190 max vs. up to 6,200 on the largest ocean cruises), and as a result, you're much more likely to be interacting with other passengers and crew members.

That smaller scale translates to all areas of the river cruise. You dine on a regular schedule at tables with other passengers (wine is typically included in the price of the cruise). Instead of 50 different things to do on board, amenities tend to be more modest with river cruises — think libraries, a workout room, cultural programs, and free Wifi vs. ten kids' playrooms, glitzy Broadway shows, and a skydiving simulator. There tend to be fewer kids on river cruises, making them popular for couples seeking quiet and relaxed time together.

Questions to ask yourself:

- How important is it to you to have a variety of activities?
- Do you like interaction with other cruisers, or do you prefer to remain more anonymous?
- Are you traveling with young children and are looking for a high energy, high stimulation environment? Or, do you prefer a more quiet, relaxed vacation?

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Cost Comparisons



River cruises do tend to be more expensive per person — but that price also includes more things. Ocean cruises have a lower sticker price per person, but you are often charged extra for alcohol and other amenities.

As always, I'm here and would love to discuss your next cruise. We can look at all the details of your upcoming trip — what you need, what you want, what your dream is — and together we can come up with a cruise you and your loved ones will remember fondly for the rest of your lives.

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Your Itinerary, Your Way

Maybe the allure of Europe's iconic Christmas Markets is more your speed? There are many grand cities along the Danube illuminated with twinkling lights and overflowing with handcrafted souvenirs. Imagine your family strolling through these festive stalls, sipping hot mulled wine and savoring the aroma of fresh gingerbread and roasting chestnuts. If you want to learn more about group travel, or you're ready to start planning a trip now - give me a call and let's get started!

The **MAGIC** of the season awaits you!



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insider travel advice on
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