



Aug 19, 2015 13:44 BST

Venture further, for longer on a ‘Journey of Discovery’ in 2016

Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines unveils its new ‘Journeys of Discovery’ brochure, featuring 11 exotic, longer voyages for 2016. These cruise holidays are ideal for those guests who have the time and curiosity to explore a bit further afield and discover even more new and exciting ports around the world. Amongst the 2016 longer voyages is a fascinating 30-night cruise ‘From Majestic Madeira to Captivating Cape Town’ departing on 5th January 2016 aboard *Boudicca* and a 28-night ‘The Croatian & Italian Coast with Venice’, departing on 10th September 2016 on *Braemar*.

In addition, if a guest books on one of Fred. Olsen’s 2016 ‘Exotic Fly-Cruises’, there is a chance to extend their holiday with a land-based pre and post stay.

These exciting 'Holiday Extensions'* include a two-night post-cruise trip on one of the world's greatest railway journeys – 'The Blue Train' in South Africa – a three night 'Safari Experience' at the private Thanda Game Reserve, a four-night pre-cruise stay in Cape Town, or the opportunity to visit one of six Australian cities – Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide, Cairns, Melbourne or Perth. These 'Holiday Extensions' allow guests to really discover an unforgettable destination in depth.

Guests, who book by 18th September 2015, can also make the most of 'Free Door-To-Door Transfers'*** – up to 250 mainland miles each way – applicable on most of the cruises included in the new 'Journeys of Discovery' brochure.

- Black Watch's 56-night 'Peru, Polynesia & Fijian Delights' fly-cruise, W160212, ex Southampton on 8th January 2016. Prices start from £5,669 per person cruise-only (limited availability).

Black Watch will make her first call on this exciting cruise in **Ponta Delgada**, in the Azores, before three stops in the sunny Caribbean. First, guests will visit **Bridgetown** (Barbados), then **Kingstown** (St. Vincent and Grenadines), and finally **Castries** (St. Lucia). With plenty of time to enjoy the 'chilled out' vibe of the Caribbean, guests will be ready for adventure when *Black Watch* cruises past the mountainous Pitons and reaches **Oranjestad**, in Aruba.

Black Watch then embarks on a discovery of South America, with stops at **Santa Marta** and **Cartagena de Indias** (Colombia) and **Colón** (Panama). One of the 'must-see' highlights of this trip follows, with a scenic cruise along the awe-inspiring **Panama Canal**. Panama is a tiny, but diverse, country of volcanoes, rainforests, coffee plantations and beautiful beaches, on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, which is also home to one of the most important trade waterways on the globe. The 'Big Ditch', as the Panama Canal is known, lifts *Black Watch* with a fascinating system of mechanics, along the three great locks – 'Gatun', 'Pedro Miguel' and 'Miraflores'.

Next come the ports of **Manta** (Ecuador), **General San Martin** and **Callao** (both Peru) – for an overnight stay – before *Black Watch* arrives in **Nuku Hiva**, the largest of the Marquesas Islands in French Polynesia. Guests will then have the chance to explore more mesmerising islands of French Polynesia, stopping first at **Rangiroa**, which is surrounded by two legendary bodies of water – 'Moana-tea', meaning 'Peaceful Ocean' and 'Moana-uri', meaning 'Wild Ocean', before moving onto **Papeete** (Tahiti), for an overnight stay. Tahiti

is French Polynesia's largest island and offers the chance to explore lagoons, black and white sand beaches, volcanoes, and has a lively night time scene.

After further calls in sun-soaked **Moorea** and **Bora Bora** in French Polynesia, *Black Watch* arrives in **Rarotonga** (Cook Islands). With the chance of a ground hog day guests then cross the International Date Line – a fantastic experience in itself – before cruising to **Nuku'alofa** (Tonga), **Suva** (Fiji), **Mystery Island** (Vanuatu) and **Noumea** (New Caledonia).

Sydney (Australia) is next, for an overnight stay – visit the famous Opera House or take a stroll along the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge. Guests will then disembark the ship and can either extend their trip with a post-cruise experience in Australia or fly straight back to the UK.

- *Balmoral's* 34-night 'Old England to New England' cruise, L1608, ex Southampton on 16th April 2016. Prices start from £3,499 per person.

This unique cruise – where almost every destination is the namesake of a place back in the UK – sees *Balmoral* set sail across the Atlantic, making a call to **Ponta Delgada (Azores)** on the way, before arriving in the small but vibrant **Hamilton**, the capital of Bermuda. Here guests will find shops, restaurants and wonderful views out across Hamilton Harbour. There are also plenty of spectacular beaches to relax on too.

Next is a call to **St. George** in Bermuda, before *Balmoral* makes her first of seven calls in the USA.

Norfolk is home to the largest naval base in the world. The vibrant waterfront showcases the interactive Nauticus National Maritime Centre and the fascinating battleship *USS Wisconsin*, in service since World War II. Guests will then have an overnight stay in **Baltimore** – known as 'Charm City' – where guests can enjoy a visit to the lively waterfront area of Fell's Point or Federal Hill, which affords fantastic views of the city skyline or take a tour to Washington DC to see the iconic White House.

Balmoral then calls into **New York** – known as the 'city that never sleeps' – for an overnight stay, before spending a day in **Newport**, where guests can visit one of the many extravagant mansions of the 19th century, when this seaside resort was a very fashionable playground for the wealthy

industrialists.

A leisurely cruise along the **Cape Cod Canal** is next, before arriving in **Boston**, for another overnight stay. Follow the famous Freedom Trail – the best way to see the city and discover its historic significance – and take in the wealth of excellent restaurants, superb shopping and, of course, the most famous bar in the world - ‘Cheers’, ‘*Where everybody knows your name!*’

Next, is a visit to **Gloucester**, where guests can relax on the gorgeous beaches, go whale watching or try some delicious fresh seafood, *Balmoral* will then arrive in **Portland**, the largest city in Maine – the Pine Tree state – which still retains a small town charm. Discover the cobbled streets and quaint shops of the Old Port; admire the fine works displayed in the Portland Art Museum; and taste the local tipples in one of the many microbreweries or brewpubs which thrive in the area.

Balmoral will then make two calls in Canada, at **Halifax** in Nova Scotia and **St. John's** in Newfoundland, before journeying across the Atlantic, making a call into **Ringaskiddy** in Ireland, arriving back into Southampton on 20th May 2016.

All prices above include accommodation (subject to availability), all meals and entertainment on board, and port taxes.

*Pre/Post ‘Holiday Extensions’ are subject to reaching minimum participants. To find out what’s included and for full terms and conditions, please call 0800 0355 242.

**Guests must book by 18th September, available on fly-cruises, where flights are booked with Fred. Olsen and on all other cruises in the ‘Journeys of Discovery’ brochure, except W1610.

For further information on Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, visit the website at www.fredolsencruises.com Book online, call Reservations on 0800 0355 242 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm; Saturday, 9am to 5pm; Sunday, 10am to 4pm), or visit an ABTA travel agent.

Fred. Olsen Cruise Line operates in the UK with four intimately sized ships for

a more personal cruising experience.

Contacts



Georgina May

Press Contact

Acting PR Manager

Public Relations

georgina.may@fredolsen.co.uk