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# **5 Amazing Sun Cruise Destinations**

Have you spent the last year pondering where to go for your next holiday? Does your check list consist of sun, sun and more sun? Well, if it's some lovely heat you're looking for, here is a run-down of some seriously sunny destination ideas to inspire your next <u>Fred. Olsen cruise from the UK</u>.

#### **The Canary Islands**

The Canary Islands are a great destination for an eyeful of the prettiest islands with sunshine all year round and plenty of beaches. See the 'Great King Valley' and the house of Christopher Columbus in Tenerife and continue to Funchal where you can visit botanical gardens and the famous Reid's Hotel. For some more earthy culture, visit the beautiful capital, Valverde where you can enjoy local cheese and walk through the tranquil pine forests. Shore tours are a fantastic way to get more out of your trip, so also check out The Fire Mountains, Corralejo Beach and Palmitos Park.

#### West Africa

The West Africa cruise takes you to the most picturesque town of Porto Novo with giant peaks and deep valleys. In Sao Vicente Island you can view colonial architecture such as the replica of Lisbon's Belem Tower. The city of Banjul is like walking around a village, with the Albert Market in its centre. Final stop is Dakar, Senegal, a modern and lively city with great sandy beaches for you to relax on in the sun. Here you can even visit the IFAN museum and the 'House of Salves'.

## Hong Kong

The Hong Kong cruise voyage explores great sun filled places starting in the Middle East, and moving further east to Mumbai, Malaysia and Indonesia. Then continuing on to Tokyo, Beijing, Shanghai and finally stopping in Hong Kong. With the incredible deserts, wildlife and coral reefs in Sharm El-Sheikh to the beautiful beaches in Sri Lanka, there's plenty of natural beauty on this trip. Jeju Island, 'the Hawaii of Korea' is full of waterfalls and volcanoes. Along the way you can experience great gardens and exotic animals such as the dinosaur-like Komodo Dragon. There is plenty of culture to absorb, from visiting Buddhist monuments in Indonesia, not to mention being able to walk along the Great Wall of China. The South American Discovery takes you to the beauty of Mount Teide and then to Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile. Rio is lively and exciting, with Portuguese culture and African traditions, it has the beautiful Copacabana beach and cable cars up to Sugar Loaf Mountain. Ilhabela, 'beautiful island' has 300 waterfalls and 40 beaches to explore. You go through the gorgeous Chilean fjords eventually stopping in Valparaiso, a vibrant city, built on more than 40 hills, with narrow lanes and colourful houses. In Peru, you can take tours to Machu Picchu and continue your journey to the Caribbean islands where stunning valleys, mountains and peaceful white beaches will be waiting for you.

## The Caribbean and Cuba

If you're going on a Caribbean and Cuba cruise don't forget to visit Barbados' famous Pussers Bar for a Pusser's Painkiller if you think you can handle it. Then heading to Havana Cuba, take a tour on the Scenic Railway in Basseterre, considered one of the world's most attractive train rides. St. Maarten being both Dutch and French is perfect for shopping with market stalls, duty free shops and cafés. Finishing in St. John's in Antigua, you can witness Nelson's Dockyard and the view of the island from Shirley Heights, which is around 487 feet above sea level. These islands have museums, crystal blue seas and 365 white sandy beaches to choose from.

All our cruises take you from one sunny paradise island to another, while bringing you great history, culture and adventure along the way. Remember with these cruises you can book shore tours with us for something extra special.

By Evie Williams

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