

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT WORLD CRUISES

1. How long does an around-the-world cruise take?

As you can see below, the length of the world cruise depends on the cruise line company, but first of all, the longest is the Grand Voyage by Victoria Cruises which takes 540 days (the round-the-world trip takes about 27 months, the time spent in ports is about 540 days). This means that you can rent a stateroom for the whole trip, with all-inclusive pampering in a luxurious area, along with adult/senior-friendly entertainment options.

ROUND THE WORLD CRUISE COMPARISON 2022

	VCL	Royal	MSC	Princess	Viking
Only +18	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
All inclusive	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Departure	USA/Italy Miami/Livorno	USA Miami	Italy	USA	London
Arrival	USA/Italy Miami/Livorno	USA Miami	na.	Sydney	na.
Duration(day/night)	unlimited	274	128	55	138
Ports	205	150	25	20	28
Full pricer/person (starting price in USD)	\$3,999 from monthly fee	\$59,999	\$15,549	\$7,790	\$59,995
Avarage price/person/day (starting price in USD)	\$133	\$219	\$121	\$142	\$435

2. Are world cruises cancelled?

Not at all, or not all of them. The best cruise line companies have updated their organizations and healthcare protocol, which means that this type of travel has become one of the safest.

3. How much does it cost to go around the world on a cruise ship?

Again, it depends on the cruise line company, but the average cost of an around-the-world adventure on a cruise ship can range from \$7,999-\$34,999 /month.

4. Are world cruises safe?

Absolutely. After the entire cruise industry practically shut down in 2020, many health and safety measures have been introduced on board. Prices might be a bit higher, but feel good knowing that extra measures have been put in place protect passengers during this time of continued pandemic.

5. What are the most majestic destinations of the Grand Voyage?

First of all, the Grand Voyage contains all the seven wonders of the ancient world, like:

- Great Pyramid of Giza, and the Lighthouse of Alexandria
- Colossus of Rhodes
- Hanging Gardens of Babylon, today referred to as Hillah, Iraq
- Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, Turkey
- Statue of Zeus at Olympia
- Temple of Artemis at Ephesus, Turkey

And these are just seven of the 205 places! Amazing adventure awaits you in, for example, Morocco, Namibia, Aruba, Colombia, Chile, Peru, Galapagos, El Salvador, Canada, China, Japan, the Philippines, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, India, Sri Lanka, Paris and more.

6. What benefits are included when booking the Grand Voyage?

First of all, we offer a special trip and experience that you can't get anywhere else.

The Grand Voyage trip lasts about 27 months while you live on the vessel like at home. You can do different activities, enjoy cultural programs or exhibitions, you can learn new skills, and study if you want.

During this wonderful time, we will take you to the nicest places on earth. There are 205 countries awaiting you!

The ships offer cabins and suites of different sizes for short- and long-term charter, with all-inclusive catering and luxury services at affordable prices. The cheapest rental cost start at \$133/person/day.

EVERYDAY LIFE ON BOARD

You can go to the gym, take online and painting courses, invite your partner to the theatre, the cinema or a classical music concert, or get to know your favorite travelling companion in the romantic Crescent Date Lounge.

You can blow off some steam at the casino with a good poker game or in the arcade. More sedate seafarers can recharge with pampering massages, jacuzzis and spa treatments en route between two ports of call.

The sundeck and pool deck are covered in winter, so you can indulge in the dolce vita feeling regardless of the season, and without the hustle and bustle of children, as only guests over 18 years of age are allowed on board!

Casual wear formal is recommended on two evenings a week, but for less formal guests, we also offer other dress-code-free options on those evenings.

If you need internet access for work, we have got you covered with unlimited internet access for all passengers through state-of-the-art O3b mPower technology.

PREMIUM STATEROOMS AND SUITES ON REQUEST

A wide range of staterooms and suites are available for rent on board at the following sizes:

The average size of the interior staterooms is 161-215 sq. ft. (15-20 m²). You don't have to give up the view either, as you can admire the current landscape through a 100 cm LCD screen.

There are sea view and veranda staterooms of about 237 sq. ft. (22 m²)

And suites average 280-1,270 sq. ft. (26-118 m²) in size.

Sleep-Relax: King-size premium mattresses and elegant cotton bed linen, as well as hypoallergenic pillows in various sizes ensure you get the maximum rest. All beds can be converted into a double bed or two single beds on request.

7. Which cruise line is best for single seniors?

I think the best solution is definitely Victoria Cruises' Grand Voyage because it is specially for adults over 40 without kids. All of the equipment and entertainment are prepared for these people. The staff are also professionally trained to take the best care of them. As a senior or mid-aged adventurer, you will find the highest level of elegance, luxury and comfort.

8. What age is considered senior for cruises?

It depends, but basically over 60 years of age means senior, while passengers between 40-60 are the mid-age group. At Victoria Cruises, the basic rule is that only adults are welcomed aboard, especially those over 40.

9. Do you have to pay for medical care on a cruise ship?

Normally you would, but Victoria Cruises includes general practitioner service in the price.

10. What is the payment schedule?

A deposit is required to book your Grand World Voyage trip. Once the booking is finalized, 10% of the deposit fee is required as a deposit.

The final payment of the remaining 90% of the deposit fee must be received by Victoria Cruises 120 days prior to the cruise departure.

11. If I am travelling alone, do I still have to pay the cabin/suite price for 2 people?

No, if you are travelling alone, we will waive 25% of the monthly rental fee. The deposit is the same.

12. Do I need to pay for drinkable water?

No, it's included. Fresh mineral water is prepared in your stateroom every day.

13. What's included in "all-inclusive"?

Our standard interior stateroom (costs \$133/day/person) includes:

- All-inclusive buffet restaurant with unlimited coffee, tea, mineral water, soft drinks, some alcoholic beverages (flowing wine and draught beer).
- During the day, sweet and savory pastries, fruit, coffee, tea, mineral water, soft drinks, and unlimited consumption of certain alcoholic beverages (wine and beer on tap) in the buffet restaurants.
- Use of self-service laundry facilities.
- Change of bed linen 1x a week, change of towels 3x a week.
- Daily cleaning.
- Use of internet (except movie downloads).
- On-board swimming pool, sunbathing, solarium, gym, some adult animation programs (as advertised), theatre, other themed shows and dance evenings (excluding drinks and food).

- 24/7 medical support.
- Pandemic healthcare protocol, which means every passenger is safe onboard.

The exact list for the booked cabin can be viewed at

14. What does 24/7 healthcare service mean?

Both of our cruise ships have 3 doctors, 1 dentist and a fully equipped “onboard-hospital” prepared for every emergency!

The question on everyone's mind is what medical care can be provided on board?

This is a question that is of particular concern to older travelers.

All passenger ships have a medical center. This is usually where care for minor accidents or for sea sickness during the voyage is predominant. These are covered by a well-trained doctor and medical staff on board each vessel.

On VCL ships, the passengers are long-term residents and live their lives here, so we have set up a much better equipped medical center with a professional medical team to ensure that everything is at the disposal of the residents should the need arise.

Our medical centers are equipped with 10 beds in case it is necessary for a patient to be under medical supervision for a few days.

The medical center is equipped with ECG, EEG, X-ray, ultrasound, defibrillators, etc. All the necessary equipment to perform minor outpatient surgeries is available.

Victoria Cruises Medical Center

The medical center is on call 24 hours a day. On board, 3 doctors and 6 nurses take turns attending to patients. We also have a small pharmacy where we can supply patients with basic medicines. If you require a continuous supply of medication, please consult your pharmacist before departure to ensure that you do not run out of the medication you need. As we are supplied with essential medicines, you will need to bring any special medicines on board with you.

The medical center also has a dental clinic. If necessary, we can provide all outpatient treatment as our dental department has the latest equipment.

Victoria Cruises Dental

If you decide to travel with us but are concerned about medical care, you can rest assured that our professional medical team is fully prepared to provide care to all passengers should you contact the medical center with any complaints.

Kind regards, Thomas Kohl. Dr.

15. Is there phone and internet access?

For sure! And it's free of charge!

During the trip, our boats are equipped with an online system called 'ON BOARD SYSTEM' or OBS. The OBS system consists of a tablet, which is your personal assistant in each cabin/suite. You can access the system with your email address and password. For the first login, you will receive an access password, which you will have to change after activation.

The system can do the following:

- Manage your personal account. Here you can see your current rental account, see the amount spent on on-board paid services, get information about the current balance of your

prepaid card (on board you can only use your ID card to pay for bars, cafés and other services that carry an additional charge).

- You can see the daily menus for the restaurants and bookings for themed restaurants.
- Find out about on-board program options.
- Find out about the ship's current position, next departure time and next port of arrival.
- Find out what optional activities are available in and around the port of call, make reservations and pay for services.
- News and other points of interest

All passengers will be issued with a facial RFID ID card upon completion of registration. The QR code on the card will contain your details. The card will be sent to you by post before you start your journey.

Please bring it with you on arrival!

SAFETY & SECURITY

You will be able to open and lock your cabin/suite with the card.

IDENTIFICATION

The card must be presented on departure and arrival.

EASY PAYMENT

You can use the card to pay for on-board services (theme restaurants, cafeteria, bar).

You can top up your card at the front office with debit and credit cards or cash (USD, EUR, GBP).

If, at the end of your trip, you have credit left on your card, we will credit it back to your credit or debit card.

16. How do you pack for a residential vessel trip?

As you are not going on a short trip, you will need to pack in a completely different way. Our boats have enough space to store your clothes, but less than an apartment or house. As it is difficult to store suitcases in the cabins, VCL has developed a paper suitcase that is sent to passengers 30-60 days before the trip by courier service. Each passenger receives 2 XL suitcases that can hold approximately 40-50 kg of clothes. What you don't need on board: bathrobe, winter and temporary coat (all passengers will have these in their cabin for departure, the lining of the coat is removable and can be used as a winter coat and raincoat).

It is recommended to put the clothes in vacuum packs in the suitcase so it takes up less space!

It is possible to have the suitcases delivered to the departure port by our partner courier service before departure, so you do not have to bring them with you when you arrive at the departure port.

Please contact our customer service to arrange the option to send your luggage at least 60 days before departure.

Please use the suitcases provided by us for packing!

17. Do I need to pay for internet onboard?

No, it's in the price, you shouldn't need to pay an extra fee.

18. How long does a round-the-world cruise take?

The round-the-world trip takes about 27 months, the time spent in ports is about 540 days.

19. What are the benefits of living on a luxury cruise ship vs. a retirement home?

Retirement life: boring weekdays or rich adventure experience? Which would you choose?

Retirement home vs. cruise ship luxury residence?

Comparing costs and lifestyle

In 2021, retirement is looking much brighter than before. It's time for you to change your perspective! This article is here to help you do just that.

Nowadays, there are many options for retired people:

Own or rent an apartment for your retirement at an average monthly cost of \$11,600. If you are thinking of a nursing home, you can expect to pay roughly \$14,250 a month, with 24-hour nursing care, but the same routine every day, the same environment and the same opportunities every day. You can rent a hotel apartment for a long stay with breakfast and home care assistance, where you don't have to worry about chores, but it's a rather hectic lifestyle, not to mention the fact that lunch and dinner, entertainment and other facilities are extra on top of the monthly fee.

In the case of the three lifestyles above, the holidays are funded at an additional \$5,000 per month (this is for one round-the-world cruise per year for 138 days).

However, a brilliant option for adventurous and active retiree has emerged, offering a more comfortable and exhilarating lifestyle than any other alternative on the market!

The idea is that once you're finally free and never have to work again, how about exploring the world by renting a cabin or suite on a luxury ocean liner for a long period (6-18 months or more).

The average daily rate of \$133-417 includes accommodation, 24-hour free medical supervision, and activity, cultural and entertainment options specifically designed for the 65+ age group.

A very tempting alternative, isn't it?

Well, let's take a closer look at the data!

If you're about seeing the actual numbers for the comparison, see this blog post [HERE](#).

20. How my laundry will be done onboard?

You can use our self-service laundry facilities when you want, or you can enjoy our laundry service as well.

Change of bed linen 1x a week, change of towels 3x a week and the daily cleaning are not your concern, our room service will do it for you every day/week or if you request it.

The exact list for the booked cabin can be viewed at [LINK](#)

21. How can I choose activities for myself?

The Victoria Majestic & Victoria Amazing are more than just classic cruise ships. During the day, guests can enjoy a wide range of leisure activities. For example, there are wine tastings, computer courses or lectures on travel destinations (some for a fee). On board, most guests are middle-aged to seniors. Formal dress is recommended two nights a week. For guests who prefer an even more relaxed atmosphere, there are alternative options on these two evenings without formal dress.

For actual entertainment possibilities on board see:

<https://victoria.cruises/about/entertainment/>

22. What if I can't handle/can't use any smart devices or apps?

Don't worry, it's a really easy platform like your mobile device, and our staff are always there for you to help!

23. Will I get seasick?

On a big cruise ship, it not usual to get seasick. Of course, it is possible if the weather is windy or stormy.

24. What is the longest cruise in the world?

Obviously the 27-month-long Grand Voyage of Victoria Cruise! **Costs a minimum of \$7,999/month, starting price/stateroom**

Before Victoria Cruises, it was the Royal Caribbean world cruise, which lasted **274 days**, with prices starting at **\$61,000**.

[Price table](#)

25. What Are the Rooms like and how do I choose?

All staterooms include 100% cotton, high-thread count linens, a flat-screen TV, a refrigerator, safe and complimentary room service. Plus, the little extras you find in the best hotels — fresh fruit (by request), evening bed turn-down, chocolates on your pillow, complimentary shampoo, conditioner and body lotion, provided in every stateroom. Watch a brief video about our staterooms.

We offer a wide range of stateroom options, including spacious balcony staterooms. There are also luxurious full suites with premium upgrades and complimentary features like laundry and professional cleaning services and more. Our ocean view and interior staterooms are a great value for budget conscious travelers.

26. How much does it cost to retire on a cruise ship?

The average cost of retirement facilities ranges from \$3,500 to \$10,500 a month, with an average of around \$3,700. The average cost of a month at sea is comparable to this at around \$3,999 a month for a standard room on a cruise ship

27. Why retire on a cruise ship?

Living on a cruise ship and traveling around the world

The management of Victoria Cruises has come up with an ingenious solution, taking the basic idea of a sophisticated and premium retirement home, updating it and "putting" it on an ocean liner.

So, you can travel the world without leaving the comfort of your home! Amazing!

As they say, "For the sake of a change of scenery, why not live in retirement on a constantly moving ocean liner?"

Why should retirement be about nihilism, boredom and the usual vegetation?

Why shouldn't a moderately young person over 65 be more active than waiting for shows on TV and playing cards with friends?

This alternative can also be much cheaper than renting an apartment, hotel room or rest house. It offers the same benefits and advantages, while giving residents the experience of a lifetime.

A cruise ship offers the same amenities a retirement community does, but you are able to travel while enjoying them. You get lodging, dining, and scheduled activities bundled into one price, plus you get to explore places you have never been.

A retirement facility may have staff to help out, but cruises cater to their guests' every whim, making it an incredible experience. Whether it's your next meal or something fun to do, your desire is a request away — and there will always be plenty of options. Every cruise line is known for different things so you can choose one that has 4-star dining and even Michelin chef award-winning food, one that has the best nightlife and entertainment, or one that is geared toward a 55+ demographic, with no children on board.

Most people spend their entire lives working with only a few weeks of vacation a year. Spending at least part of your retirement on a cruise ship means you'll see the parts of the world you always wished you had time to travel to and you can even do it for a pretty reasonable price.

28. Is there a loyalty programs on Victoria Cruises?

Yes, if you want to rent a stateroom or suite for a longer stay, we can offer you the following special discount:

- 12-17 month lease: -10% discount on the monthly rent
- 18-23 month lease: -15% discount on the monthly rent
- 24-29 month lease: -20% discount on the monthly rent
- 30-35 month lease: -25% discount on the monthly rent
- 36 months lease: -30% discount on the monthly rental
- Lease of more than 36 months: -40% discount on the monthly rent

If you terminate the contract before the end of the rental period, the deposit will not be refunded.

29. Explain the gratuity policy for wait staff, room steward, etc.?

There is no extra tip, it is built into the monthly rent.

30. What age group can live on VCL boats? What price categories are there?

Victoria Cruises welcomes anyone over the age of 18. There is no upper age limit.

Monthly rental rates are set in several categories.

Inside cabin: \$7,999

Ocean view cabin: \$10,999 and \$9,999

Suites: \$15,999 and \$24,999

Rates are for two persons and include all services, except:

-shore excursion

-beauty salon use

-Visa, in countries where required

-thematic restaurant consumption (only the portion over \$20 is payable)

-premium drinks (4-5* cognac, etc.)

If you are travelling alone, you will receive a -20% discount on the rental fee.

31. Will the doctor be able to do renew our prescriptions, nothing life threatening?

Unfortunately not, because you are probably a US citizen and our doctor is not registered in the US, so he cannot write you a prescription.

32. If not will there be a way for the kids to mail them to us once a year?

we have offices on every continent, you can request a package to these offices. The office will send the package to the ship free of charge. Package size is limited (50x20x20cm, max weight 5kg)

33. And hopefully last morbid question, since we are considering this to be our retirement home, if one of us dies and the other chooses to remain in our apartment, will the rate remain the same or is there a discount for a single occupancy?

in the event of death, the other passenger will have to pay half of the contracted monthly rental (this is a discounted price because the monthly rental is higher for single occupancy.) If you sign alone at the start, you only get -20% discount on the basic monthly rent + the loyalty discount!

34. If we book for 37 months or longer the discount is 40%?

yes, if you book for 37 months you get a 40% discount

35. Also, no matter the length of the booking, we pay it in full before we move in?

no, 10% of the deposit must be paid at the time of booking, the remaining 90% must be received in the VCL account at least 90 days before departure. The deposit can be paid in instalments. Payment methods: bank transfer, debit or credit card.

The first month's rent must be paid at least 5 days before departure. Subsequent monthly rentals are due on board each month.

36. The monthly rent includes all port fees, taxes, gratuities?

yes it includes,

37. I understand I will pay for visa's but the ship will be responsible for applying for them as needed?

yes, except for Venezuela, because it is the first country where a visa is required, which the passenger has to arrange before departure.

38. Not sure if you know this but what length will the staffs contracts be. Will the personal staff, waiters, bar tenders, stewards, etc be with us 6 to 9 months at a time? These are the people we will see on a daily basis and get to know our likes and preferences.

2 teams working on both our boats in 2+2 month shifts, (this includes all crew)

39. If I die on the ship, is any portion of my pre paid rent refunded?

yes, it's natural, but it shouldn't be like this :)

40. If I become so ill that I have to permanently leave the ship, is any portion of my pre paid rent refunded?

Yes, if it is a sickness that occurred after the boat has started, we will refund a pro-rata share of the current monthly rental fee.

The deposit will be returned in any case when you leave the boat!