

Preliminary Info



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Preliminary Information

**New Year's Caribbean Cruise**

***The Second All Gay Holiday Cruise***

**December 27, 2008 – January 3, 2009**

Welcome aboard the magnificent *msy Wind Spirit!* You are about to embark on an incredible journey on a magnificent vessel to some of the most unique destinations in the Caribbean.

This booklet contains preliminary information to help you prepare for your upcoming cruise. We think you will find it extremely helpful in preparing for your departure.

Approximately 21 days prior to sailing you will be receiving a final documents package with even more details along with your cruise documents, tickets, shore excursion information and more.

If you have any questions, we are here to help.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU SOON!**

## **EMBARKATION DAY**

The *msy Wind Spirit* will be available for embarkation beginning at 2:00PM on Saturday, December 27, 2008 at Crown Bay.

Transfers from the Marriott Frenchman's Reef will begin starting at approximately 1:45PM via open air vans. Those staying at other hotels in St. Thomas may take their own taxi to the ship any time after 2PM.

### **For those arriving in St. Thomas on embarkation day:**

#### **Flights Arriving St. Thomas before 12:00NOON –**

If you wish, you may take a taxi to the Marriott where you will be able to lounge in the lobby or restaurants and take our transfer from the hotel. Otherwise you may wish to pass time in downtown St. Thomas as it is closer to the ship than the Marriott.

#### **For Flights Arriving St. Thomas after 12:00NOON –**

The Windstar ground agent will be waiting for you in the baggage hall to coordinate your transfer to the ship.

For those who are making their own way to the ship please be aware sailing time is 11:30PM and you must present yourself at the pier at least one hour prior to sailing time.

**If all guests are onboard well before the 11:30PM sail time, it is possible we may opt for an early sail away.**

## **ONBOARD LIFE**

Once onboard the ship you will receive a daily schedule. The daily schedule will list all onboard activities, meal times, port information and shore excursions along with other useful information to make the most of your time while cruising. All meals onboard the ship are included in your cruise price, including 24-hour snack service.

As well, your nightly entertainment shows featuring Travelpride's Signature Entertainers are included too. We have a great lineup that we know you will enjoy.

## **ATTIRE**

Attire onboard the ship is resort-casual although we do suggest "casual-chic" at dinner. We do allow dress shorts and shirts in the evening. There are no formal nights and a coat and tie are never required on Travelpride cruises. Attire during the tours is casual (shorts, polos, etc).

## **TRAVELPRIDE CREW**

In addition to the ship's crew, Travelpride will have several hosts onboard to assist you at all times with questions, directions or suggestions. You are our guests and we will do everything possible to make your vacation a wonderful and memorable experience.

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

In addition to our theme tea dances, we have a wonderful line-up of entertainment planned each evening in the Lounge. Our entertainers will create everything from a quiet piano-bar lounge to the highest quality drag entertainment around. The complete lineup will be announced in your final documents package.

## **WEATHER**

The climate in the Caribbean is hot and somewhat humid. Average temperatures in the region in December are highs in the mid 80's and nighttime lows in the mid 70's so please pack accordingly. The ship sails at about 13 knots so it is breezy whilst on deck.

## **SMOKING POLICY**

The *msy Wind Spirit* is a non-smoking vessel inside. Smoking is only permitted in designated outdoor areas. We regret smoking is not permitted in your cabin.

## **COMMUNICATION WHILE ONBOARD**

We are pleased to announce that the *msy Wind Spirit* has full Internet capability with a computer terminal in the library for your use. In addition, the ship is WIFI enabled, including your stateroom, so you may wish to bring your own WIFI accessible laptop.

International cell phone use varies from carrier to carrier. Please contact your cell phone provider to see if international service is available. Each cabin does have an international satellite phone.

Internet service and in cabin satellite phone is available at the published rates on board.

## **PRE & POST CRUISE HOTELS**

The Marriott Frenchman's Reef will be the pre and post cruise hotel for this cruise.

If you still need to book a room at the Marriott, please contact us immediately, as available rooms are limited.

## **ITINERARY UPDATE**

A new port tax increase recently in Barbuda and Anguilla in excess of \$200 per person has led us to replace those calls with St. Martin (French Side) and St. John. We apologize for this change, however, we did not want to burden our guests with unnecessary additional fees. Full itinerary and port info will be in your final document package.

## **DISEMBARKATION**

On Saturday January 3rd, you will settle your shipboard account for any personal charges and may disembark at your leisure but no later than 8:30AM. The Travelpride and Windstar crew will be available to assist you with any departure questions.

For those guests who are staying at the Marriott Frenchman's Reef after the cruise, you will be transferred to the hotel starting at approximately 8:30AM.

For those with flight arrangements on disembarkation day, your departure transfer to the St. Thomas Airport will be based on your flight departure time. Exact departure times will be announced onboard. Guests with late afternoon or early evening flights may wish to inquire with local hotels for day rooms for added convenience.

Both disembarkation transfers are complimentary.

## **PASSPORTS & VISAS**

A valid passport is required for travel and this cruise. It should be valid for at least six months after the planned end of your trip. A visa is not required for US citizens. Citizens of other countries should check with their travel agent, or the Embassies of the territories we visit. It is your responsibility to make sure you have all pertinent travel documents in order, before you travel.

## **MYSFACE PAGE**

If you would like to see pictures from past cruises, chat with guests from past and upcoming cruises, please consider joining our myspace page at [www.myspace.com/travelpride](http://www.myspace.com/travelpride)

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