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**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 8/27/2015 4:26:48 AM  
**Subject:** This Week's Top Cruise Bargains

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Dear Mr. Kester,

This week, I'll share a few newsworthy items from around the industry -- including how some cruise lines are upgrading onboard Wi-Fi access for their passengers.

But first, I'm pleased to present the following **money-saving offers from Holland America, Carnival, MSC and Paul Gauguin Cruises**. They include shipboard credits, which are as good as cash on the ship and can be used toward onboard purchases not covered in the cruise fare, such as shore excursions and spa treatments.

**Holland America** is offering our customers huge discounts -- save up to 79% -- and shipboard credits of up to \$400 on select sailings. On some cruises, you can receive a free beverage package that includes alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages, a free dinner for two in the Pinnacle Grill specialty restaurant and a reduced deposit. Past guests may see better rates on select sailings. [See dates and prices.](#)

**Carnival** is offering Vacations To Go customers markdowns of up to 87% across a wide range of sailings in 2015 and 2016. [See dates and prices.](#)

**MSC** is offering our customers fares reduced by up to 76% and exclusive shipboard credits of up to \$200 per cabin on all remaining departures in 2015. Plus, book select Caribbean sailings in 2016 and get a free upgrade from an inside cabin to a balcony cabin. [See dates and prices.](#)

**Paul Gauguin Cruises** is offering our customers savings of up to 77% and shipboard credits of up to \$300 per cabin on a variety of voyages. **Book by August 31.** [See dates and prices.](#)

As always, these offers are for new bookings only and subject to availability. Restrictions may apply.

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We've also arranged several terrific offers with river cruise operator **Avalon Waterways** for 2016 voyages. The line sails in Europe, Asia, Egypt and the Amazon. It also offers small-ship cruises of the Galapagos Islands.

**Save up to 15%** off 2016 river cruises when you **book by September 15.** [See dates and prices.](#) Plus, members of Journeys Club, the past passenger association for the Globus family of brands, will **save an additional 5% off any 2016 sailing.**

Also, the **single supplement has been waived** for all 2016 Avalon cruises in Europe. [Click here](#) to see these departures.

Or, [click here](#) to view all promotions from Avalon, including special offers on remaining 2015 sailings.

The upfront fare of an Avalon vacation includes a river-view stateroom, onboard meals, free Wi-Fi, guided sightseeing, sparkling wine at breakfast and beer, wine and soft drinks at dinner, plus much more.

Beds face the windows aboard the Suite Ships of Avalon, so you can sip your coffee while watching riverside scenes drift by. More than 80% of the accommodations are 200-square-foot Panorama Suites, which Avalon states are 30% larger than the average riverboat cabin. These staterooms transform into Avalon's unique "Open-Air Balcony" concept: A wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling window slides open to turn the room into one large space that lets the fresh air in.

Onboard dining ranges from early and late-riser's breakfasts to lunch buffets and afternoon teas to four-course dinners. Late-night snacks are provided at 10:30.

Avalon provides a superb sightseeing program in port, thanks to sister company Globus, which has more than 85 years of touring experience. Guests enjoy VIP access to key attractions, and headsets are provided.

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**Royal Caribbean** will send the Majesty of the Seas to drydock next May for upgrades and new amenities. Among the biggest improvements in store for the ship is Voom, **Royal Caribbean's groundbreaking, ultra-fast Internet connectivity**.

Voom is the fastest Internet at sea, with more bandwidth on one Voom-equipped ship than all other cruise ships in the world combined. Passengers can stream movies and music, FaceTime, Skype, Tweet and keep up with their email, Facebook and Instagram accounts -- day and night.

Voom will be free and unlimited for guests aboard the **Majesty of the Seas**, which will sail short Bahamas cruises from Port Canaveral beginning May 27 after the refurbishment.

Voom also is offered aboard Royal Caribbean's **Quantum-class ships** and **Oasis-class ships** for a cost of \$15 per day, per device, when you purchase multiple days (a second device can be added for half the price). Voom is available in the Caribbean, Mediterranean and Asia but not on trans-Atlantic or repositioning cruises.

Meanwhile, **Carnival will roll out its enhanced Internet access** and new social media packages fleetwide by the first quarter of 2016. These features currently are available on 16 ships. The ramped-up Internet access provides faster speeds, while the social media package offers unlimited access to popular social networks like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and Pinterest for \$5 per day (it does not include access to the entire Internet).

Last week, **Crystal announced that it will offer complimentary Internet** to all guests on its two liners. Beginning August 30, each person in Deluxe Staterooms and Penthouse Staterooms will receive one free hour per day. Passengers in Penthouse Suites will receive 90 minutes per day. The 62-guest Crystal Esprit yacht also will have this perk when it debuts in December 2015.

And as I mentioned in an earlier newsletter, **Silversea will offer at least one hour of free Wi-Fi per day** to all passengers in all staterooms and public spaces starting in January 2016. Guests in select higher-end suites will receive unlimited free Wi-Fi.

Wi-Fi speeds and costs vary by ship across the industry. We've gathered information and pricing for onboard Wi-Fi use for most vessels where available and added it to our website. [Click here](#) to see a list of ships, then click a ship name. Under "Detailed Information," you'll find a link to "Wireless Internet," which you can click for more info.

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**Celebrity** will launch evening shore excursions on Caribbean cruises, beginning in January 2016. Called "Evenings Around the World," these new experiences include a night of jazz in Cozumel, wine tastings in Curacao and a sunset sailing in Aruba.

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The Port of Houston will end its run as an embarkation point for cruises next spring. Princess and Norwegian will pull ships that were homeported at the Bayport Cruise Terminal. The last departures from Houston for both the **Caribbean Princess** and the **Norwegian Jade** will be in April 2016. Cruises aboard Carnival, Royal Caribbean and Disney ships will continue to be offered from **Galveston**, about an hour southeast of central Houston.

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Here are all the best cruise deals worldwide in the next 90 days, organized by region:

[Africa](#)  
[Alaska](#)  
[Alaska Cruise & Alaska Tour](#)  
[Antarctica](#)  
[Arctic](#)  
[Asia](#)  
[Australia/New Zealand](#)  
[Australia/New Zealand Cruise Tours](#)  
[Bahamas](#)  
[Baltic](#)  
[Bermuda](#)  
[Black Sea](#)  
[British Isles](#)  
[Canada/New England](#)  
[Canada/New England Cruise Tours](#)  
[Canary Islands](#)  
[Caribbean](#)  
[Europe Cruise Tours](#)  
[Galapagos](#)  
[Greek Islands](#)  
[Hawaii](#)  
[Mediterranean](#)  
[Mexico/Central America](#)  
[Middle East](#)  
[Northern Europe](#)  
[Norway](#)  
[Pacific Northwest](#)  
[Panama Canal](#)  
[Repositioning](#)  
[River Cruises](#)  
[South America](#)  
[South America Cruise Tours](#)  
[Tahiti/French Polynesia](#)  
[Transatlantic](#)  
[World](#)

Here are all the best cruise deals worldwide in the next 90 days, organized by cruise line:

[American Cruise Lines](#)  
[Azamara Club Cruises](#)  
[Blount Small Ship Adventures](#)  
[Carnival](#)  
[Celebrity](#)  
[Costa Cruises](#)  
[Croisières de France \(CDF\)](#)  
[Cruise & Maritime Voyages](#)  
[Crystal](#)  
[Cunard](#)  
[Disney](#)  
[Fred. Olsen Cruise Line](#)  
[Haimark Line](#)  
[Hebridean Island Cruises](#)  
[Holland America](#)  
[Hurtigruten](#)  
[Lindblad Expeditions](#)  
[MSC Cruises](#)  
[Norwegian](#)  
[Oceania Cruises](#)

P&O Cruises  
Paul Gauguin Cruises  
Pearl Seas Cruises  
Ponant Yacht Cruises  
Princess  
Pullmantur  
Quark Expeditions  
Regent  
Royal Caribbean  
Seabourn  
SeaDream Yacht Club  
Silversea  
Star Clippers  
Swan Hellenic  
Voyages of Discovery  
Voyages to Antiquity  
Windstar

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Here are today's **Top 10 Cruises**, brand-new specials from the world's best cruise lines. **Click the FastDeal # for details.**

- 1) **Caribbean**, 7 nights on Carnival, departs San Juan Nov 1, starting at \$449, save 75%, [FastDeal # 15968](#)
- 2) **Canada/New England**, 7 nights on Holland America, departs Boston Sep 5, starting at \$499, save 72%, [FastDeal # 15749](#)
- 3) **Caribbean**, 7 nights on Royal Caribbean, departs Galveston Oct 4, starting at \$449, save 60%, [FastDeal # 31653](#)
- 4) **Bermuda**, 7 nights on Norwegian, departs Boston Oct 23, starting at \$599, save 67%, [FastDeal # 18073](#)
- 5) **Caribbean**, 7 nights on Celebrity, departs Fort Lauderdale Nov 15, starting at \$549, save 63%, [FastDeal # 22824](#)
- 6) **Mexico**, 10 nights on Princess, departs San Francisco Sep 15, starting at \$699, save 36%, [FastDeal # 34041](#)
- 7) **Alaska**, 10 nights on Norwegian, departs Seattle Sep 19, oceanview starting at \$999, save 47%, [FastDeal # 23627](#)
- 8) **Caribbean**, 7 nights on Windstar, departs Barbados Nov 21, suite starting at \$1,499, save 72%, [FastDeal # 11532](#)
- 9) **Transatlantic**, 13 nights on Paul Gauguin Cruises, departs Lisbon Nov 29, oceanview starting at \$1,945, save 50%, [FastDeal # 14346](#)
- 10) **Mediterranean**, 7 nights on Regent, departs Barcelona Oct 14, suite starting at \$5,399, save 64%, [FastDeal # 19098](#)

For the best last-minute cruise specials in the next 90 days, please visit our world-famous [90-Day Ticker](#). To search for discounts of up to 82% on cruises departing more than 90 days from now, [click here](#).

To save up to 40% with escorted and independent tours, [click here](#).

For river cruises up to 50% off, [click here](#).

For discounts of up to 50% at hotels and all-inclusive resorts, [click here](#).

For the lowest rates on Africa safaris from budget to luxury in quality, [click here](#).

Once you've found a FASTDEAL, call us toll free at 800-338-4962 (US and Canada) and a cruise counselor

will attend to your needs. International customers, please email or call us at +1-713-974-2121.

Please email me your comments, suggestions and questions at [alanfox@vacationstogo.com](mailto:alanfox@vacationstogo.com) and I will respond the same day.

If you enjoy our newsletter, please forward this email to family and friends.

Sincerely,

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