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WARWICK TRAVEL
SERVICE, INC. *Est. 1975*

Personal Service at its Best!

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Regent

SEVEN SEAS CRUISES®

The Most Inclusive Luxury Experience

Welcome to the world of Regent Seven Seas Cruises, the world's most inclusive luxury experience with a four-ship fleet that visits more than 450 destinations around the world. The cruise line's fares include all-suite accommodations, round-trip business-class air on intercontinental flights from U.S. and Canada, the largest collection of free, unlimited shore excursions, unlimited internet access, highly personalized service, exquisite cuisine, fine wines and spirits, prepaid gratuities, ground transfers and one-night, pre-cruise hotel package for guests staying in Concierge-level suites and higher.

Only Regent offers free unlimited shore excursions. Shore excursions are the heart of every destination, allowing guests to experience the history, culture and cuisine of the exciting ports of call with knowledgeable local guides and comfortable transportation. By offering unlimited shore excursions, guests can take as many tours in a day and during their entire voyage as time allows. Also offered are Regent Choice Shore Excursions, a collection of optional tours. Due to their unique content, they require a highly discounted supplementary charge to partially offset the cost of their more extravagant nature.

True luxury is defined not by cost or by karat, but by exquisite details and expert craftsmanship, in the passion of creating quality that you can touch and sense. It can be defined as valuable things such as space, privacy, time and being pampered with the kind of impeccable service that anticipates your needs. Building on their long tradition of being the most inclusive luxury experience in the world, they are creating something beyond all expectations.

Serenity becomes you at their Canyon Ranch Spa Club. Peace of mind is the key to looking and feeling your best. Onboard spas, fitness and wellness facilities and beauty salons share this philosophy.

You may dine whenever, wherever and with whomever you choose in any of their open-seating restaurants. Compass Rose is their flagship restaurant featuring European-inspired Continental specialties, as well as vegetarian, Kosher and Canyon Ranch SpaClub cuisine. There is no charge for their two specialty restaurants, Prime 7 and Signatures; however, a reservation is required.

Regent Seven Seas award winning fleet consists of the *Seven Seas Voyager*, *Seven Seas Mariner*, *Seven Seas Navigator* and the "all new" *Seven Seas Explorer*. In 2020, Regent will perfect luxury with the launch of *Seven Seas Splendor*. Day or night, the Seven Seas staff is uncompromising in pursuit of your flawless experience – with never a gratuity expected. Highly trained butlers add the ultimate delight.

Enjoy the most inclusive luxury experience – cruising as it was meant

to be – a sumptuous and very personal experience where your every wish, your every whim and your every want are met with gratifying luxuries, satisfying comfort and complete fulfillment of your wanderlust. Anticipate an unforgettable journey to the world's greatest destinations where everything is included, without exception and without compromise. You really can have it all aboard Regent Seven Seas Cruises.

Upon completing your first voyage, you are automatically welcomed into the Seven Seas Society, their esteemed family of past guests. Membership confers a host of exclusive rewards and benefits designed to add even more value to your future voyages.

Cruise with Regent on a journey that will awaken, nourish and expand your mind – and truly allow you to explore the world in comfort.

Call the travel professionals at Warwick Travel Service who will offer their guidance and assistance in choosing the right itinerary for you: Newport News 757-599-3011; 800-462-3204 or Williamsburg 757-229-7854.





Paradors of Northern Spain

Kim Gambino

TAUCK  WORLD DISCOVERY

Step back in time on a journey that spans centuries and borders. Art and architecture capture your imagination in Gaudi's Barcelona, both Gothic and whimsical. Travel through the Pyrenees and Picos de Europa, welcoming with paradors and pastimes steeped in history. Basque Country evokes images of bulls in Pamplona, pintxos and big waves in San Sebastian and contemporary visions in Bibao. Follow the footsteps of pilgrims past in Santiago de Compostela, finding hospitality in a 15th-century hotel. Port wine, university treasures and monuments chronicle life in Portugal, inviting up-close discovery on a Tauck Yellow Roads of Europe tour.

Cultural charms and scenery entice during overnight stays in historic paradors, authentically restored with modern-day comforts. Enjoy a visit to the beautiful Benedictine enclave atop saw-toothed Montserrat with lunch in Cardona; choice of spa treatment or cooking demo at El Castell de Ciutat and seven-course feast in a medieval castle featuring entertainment; an overnight in Oviedo at a restored 18th-century hospice with an artisan cheese and wine tasting; a Port wine tasting and Douro River cruise in Porto; a visit to Coimbra and two nights in Lisbon.

From \$5,790 land only includes 14 Days - 13 Breakfasts - 8 Lunches and 8 Dinners, April through October 2019. Service charges, gratuities to local guides, admission fees, taxes and portage included.

Save the Date

Warwick Travel

presents

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"Alaska CruiseTours"

Warwick Travel Service

240 McLaws Circle, Ste. 110 • Williamsburg

Monday, November 5 • 5-6:30 PM

RSVP by Oct 29

757-599-3011 • 757-229-7854

Seating is Limited



St. Patrick's Day in Dublin!

Dee King



March 14-19, 2019 The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin is a world-class event: think Carnival in Rio, Mardi Gras in New Orleans and New York's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

On St. Patrick's Day, CIE Tours will be at the heart of it all, hosting an unprecedented, private pre-parade party in the General Post Office. The GPO is the most historic, iconic location in Dublin and one of the best viewing spots in town. And you're invited!

But that's not all - visit stone age tombs older than the Egyptian pyramids at Newgrange; dine in the church where brewer Arthur Guinness was married, playwright Sean O'Casey was baptized and Handel practiced the organ before the Messiah's debut nearby; tour Dublin, savoring a pint at the Guinness Storehouse and sampling whiskey in a popular distillery at the historic heart of the old city; see the fascinating ruins of Glendalough, where the work of the Irish monks preserved much of western civilization during Europe's Dark Ages and much more!

Explore Dublin, capital of the Republic of Ireland, located on Ireland's east coast at the mouth of the River Liffey. Its historic buildings include Dublin Castle, dating to the 13th century, and imposing St Patrick's Cathedral, founded in 1191, as well as Trinity College. The National Museum of Ireland explores Irish heritage and culture.

Join CIE Tours for a six-day guided vacation with the parade as the highlight.

From \$1390 land only includes 6 Days - 5 Nights - 7 Meals



Mackinac Island

Janis Belch, CTC



Mackinac Island sits in Lake Huron, between Michigan's Upper and Lower peninsulas. Mackinac Island State Park, with trails, woods and the limestone Arch Rock formation, covers most of the island. Founded in 1780, Fort Mackinac is a walled cluster of military buildings on a coastal bluff. The Richard and Jane Manooogian Mackinac Art Museum has local works, including Native American art, maps and 19th-century photos. Since the Civil War, it has been one of the nation's most favored summer resorts.

Your journey begins in Chicago with a panoramic tour of downtown Chicago and continues on to Traverse City where you will visit the Music House Museum displaying Nickelodeons, music boxes, pipe organs and a Belgian dance organ that comes alive.

Cross the border into Canada to board the Algoma Central Railway for a spectacular train ride through scenic Agawa Canyon during autumn foliage time. Spend the next two nights at The Grand Hotel, the crown jewel of Mackinac Island, where you will enjoy a private lecture with a local historian to learn the history of the island.

Continue on through the Great Lake State to Dearborn, the heartland of the Ford Motor Company. Go behind the scenes at the world's largest automotive complex as you watch the Ford F150 pickup truck being built on a Ford Motor Company factory tour.

From \$2899 per person, this 9-Day Tour takes place on September 19 & 26 and October 3 & 9, 2019, including 12 meals. For a detailed itinerary, call the travel advisors at Warwick Travel.



Adventures with Nancy

Nancy Alligood, CTC

October 12-23: Oceania Cruise Reflections of Cuba

Join Nancy on the Oceania Insignia for an 11-Night Cruise, Roundtrip Miami, visiting Key West, overnighting in Havana, Cienfuegos & Santiago de Cuba and a stop in Nassau. You will have six days to explore Cuba. *O Life Choice Amenities* include Airfare from a Gateway City, Unlimited Internet – one per cabin plus 6 Free Shore Excursions per cabin. Additional Amenities include Free Pre-Paid Gratuities and a Private Cocktail Party. From \$2599.



If interested, please contact Nancy as this cruise will sell out early.



Escape to a Magical Adventure

Sharon Flick

Create a magical family vacation when you stay and play in a never-ending world of enchantment at Walt Disney World!



Explore four theme parks: *Disney's Animal Kingdom*, where you explore the magic of nature with exotic animal sightings, eye-opening entertainment and more; *Disney's Magic Kingdom*, where you take on all the iconic mountain range attractions from the reaches of outer space to the mine where a million diamonds shine and much more; *Disney's Hollywood Studios*, where the magic of movies, television and music come to life with exciting attractions and entertainment for all; *Epcot*, where you will travel around the world, under the sea and beyond igniting your imagination of wonder and excitement.

Throughout the year, Walt Disney World Theme parks host festive events full of magic, food and fun for the entire family. From the blooms of spring to international cuisines to wonderlands of holiday fun, every season is an unforgettable experience.

Spend time at Disney's Water Parks: *Typhoon Lagoon*, a topsy-turvy tropical paradise with a storm of fun in the sun and *Blizzard Beach*, a melting ski resort with waterslides ranging from bunny slope to black diamond.

The magic never stops, even at the table. Experience themed venues including Signature Dining restaurants, Character Dining, Quick Service locations and more. There is also a Magic Your Way package that includes a Disney Dining plan with flexible and convenient ways to enjoy meals and snacks at all resorts.

Call one of our travel advisors at Warwick Travel to plan your next Disney adventure. We are available to assist and guide you through your Disney experience.

Global Entry

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) recently opened a Global Entry Enrollment Center at the Richmond International Airport. Currently available at 49 U.S. airports, Global Entry streamlines the arrival process at airports for trusted travelers arriving both internationally or Domestically.

To apply, go to www.globalentry.gov and fill out an application. Once your application has been reviewed, you will be asked to schedule an interview at one of the Global Entry Enrollment Centers close to you. The fee is \$100 and lasts for 5 years.

At Your Service:

Your Warwick Travel Staff

~ NEWPORT NEWS OFFICE ~

Nancy Alligood, CTC, General Manager, Co-Owner, Newsletter Editor
Gerry Siekirski, Group Specialist/Co-Owner
Kim Gambino, Travel Agent Manager
Sharon Flick, Travel Counselor
Linda Waynick, Travel Counselor
Laura Ellis, Travel Counselor
Morag Richards, Travel Counselor
Susan Adams, Operations Manager

~ WILLIAMSBURG OFFICE ~

Dee King, Assistant Manager
Janis Belch, CTC, Travel Counselor
Amy Hill, Travel Counselor



Cruise News



Homeport Cruising from Norfolk - 2019

CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES

Turks/Caicos & Bahamas &-Night Cruise on the Sunrise, April 29. From \$779
Bahamas 6-Night Cruise on the Triumph, May 6, Oct 14 & 20. From \$599
Bahamas 5-Night Cruise on the Triumph, May 12 & 17. From \$579

Homeport Cruising from Baltimore - 2018

ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL

Southeast Coast/Bahamas 9-Night Cruise on the Grandeur, Jan 3 & 24, Feb 14, Mar 7 & 28
Southern Caribbean 12-Night Cruise on the Grandeur, Jan 12, Feb 2 & 23, Mar 16
Bermuda 7-Night Cruise on the Grandeur, April 18 & 25

Ocean Cruises – 2019

AZAMARA CLUB CRUISES

Baltic Capitals & Russia 9-Night Cruise on the Journey, Jun 22, Stockholm to Oslo. Visit ports in Tallinn, Estonia; St. Petersburg, Russia; Helsinki, Finland and Copenhagen & Aalborg, Denmark.

CELEBRITY CRUISES

Western Caribbean 7-Night Cruise on the Edge, Jan 6 & 20; Feb 3 & 17; Mar 3 & 31, Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit ports in Key West, FL; Costa Maya & Cozumel, Mexico and Georgetown, Grand Cayman.

CRYSTAL CRUISES

South China Sea Collection 13-Night Cruise on the Symphony, Apr 26, Singapore to Hong Kong. Visit ports in Koh Samui & Bangkok, Thailand; Sihanoukville, Cambodia; Ho Chi Minh City & Chan May, Vietnam and Guangzhou, China.

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE

Southern Caribbean Wayfarer 11-Night Cruise on the ms Koningsdam, Jan 23; Feb 13; Mar 6 & 27, Roundtrip Ft. Lauderdale. Visit ports in St Maarten, St Kitts, Martinique, Barbados, St Lucia, St Thomas & Half Moon Cay.

OCEANIA CRUISES

Allure of the Islands 12-Night Cruise on the Riviera, Feb 5, Roundtrip Miami. Visit ports in Aruba, Bonaire, Grenada, Barbados, St Lucia, St Kitts & St Barts.

PRINCESS CRUISES

Voyage of the Glaciers Northbound 7-Night Cruise on the Royal Princess, May 11, 25, Jun 8, Vancouver to Anchorage. Visit ports in Skagway, Juneau & Ketchikan, Alaska.

TAUCK SMALL SHIP CRUISING

Norwegian Fjords & Coastal Treasures 9-Night Cruise on the Le Dumont D'Urville, Jun 1 or 8, Bergen to Oslo. Visit ports in Olden, Hellesyt, Alesund, Stavanger & Arendal, Norway; Goteborg, Sweden.

VIKING OCEAN CRUISES

Iceland's Majestic Landscapes 13-Night Cruise on the Viking Sky, June 8, Reykjavik to Bergen. Visit ports in Isafjordur, Akureyri, Seydisfjordur, Iceland; Torshavn, Faroe Islands and Geiranger, Alesund & Flam, Norway.

River Cruises – 2019

AMA WATERWAYS

Enchanting Rhine 11-Night River Cruise, Apr 7, Zurich to Amsterdam. Visit ports in Strasbourg, France; Breisach, Ludwigshafen, Rudesheim, and Cologne, Germany. Includes 2 hotel nights in Zurich and Amsterdam.

AVALON WATERWAYS

Reflections on the Seine 9-Night River Cruise, May-Sep, Roundtrip Paris. Visit ports in Conflans, Vernon, Rouen (Normandy) and Le Havre, France.

CRYSTAL RIVER CRUISES

Treasurers of the Danube 10-Night River Cruise on the Danube, Mar-Oct, Roundtrip Vienna. Visit ports in Durnstein, Melk & Linz, Austria; Passau, Germany; Bratislava, Slovakia; Budapest, Hungary.

TAUCK RIVER CRUISES

Budapest to the Black Sea 11-Night River Cruise on the Danube, May-Aug, Budapest to Bucharest. Visit ports in Pecs, Slovenia; Vukovar, Croatia; Belgrade, Serbia; Ruse, Bulgaria; Constanta, Romania. Includes 2 hotel nights in Budapest and Bucharest.

UNIWORLD BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISES

Portugal, Spain & the Douro River Valley 10-Night River Cruise, Mar-Nov, Lisbon to Porto. Visit ports in Coimbra, Porto, Regua, Vega de Terron, Barca D'Alva & Pocinho, Portugal. Includes 3 hotel nights in Lisbon.

VIKING RIVER CRUISES

Holland & Belgium in Bloom 9-Night River Cruise, Mar-Apr, Amsterdam to Antwerp. Visit ports in Haarlem, Hoorn, Rotterdam, Kinderdijk, Nijmegen & Maastricht, The Netherlands; Antwerp, Belgium.

Unless otherwise noted, fares are cruise only, per person rates based on double occupancy; subject to availability and capacity controlled by the cruise line. Amenities apply. Government fees, taxes and airfare are not included unless specifically stated in offer.



Regent
SEVEN SEAS CRUISES®



Live Life Luxuriously

Enjoy every day, exactly as you wish while exploring the world's most beautiful places— with everything included, from flights to excursions and from fine wines and premium spirits to gourmet restaurants. Allow Regent Seven Seas Cruises to take care of every detail as they take you to over 450 destinations worldwide aboard their luxuriously appointed and perfectly sized ships with no more than 375 suites.

Choose Now, Cruise Later

Beginning with voyages departing on or after May 1, 2019, guests will be free to use their available Shipboard Credits prior to boarding their next voyage. Guests can apply their credits to a wide variety of experiences like Regent Choice Shore Excursions and Executive Collection Private Car Tours available fleet wide or Culinary Arts Kitchen Classes aboard Seven Seas Explorer and Seven Seas Splendor.

Experience Cruising as it was meant to be

2019 – Mediterranean Bliss

Barcelona to Rome 11-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Voyager, Apr 5, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 62 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Valencia, Palma de Mallorca & Mahon, Spain; Port-Vendres, Marseille, Corsica, France; Monte Carlo, Monaco; Portofino, Florence, Sardinia, Italy.

Rome to Jerusalem 10-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Voyager, April 16, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 61 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Amalfi/Positano, Sicily, Italy; Valletta, Malta; Athens, Rhodes, Greece; Ephesus, Turkey; Limassol, Cyprus & Jerusalem, Israel.

Venice to Rome 10-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Explorer, April 30, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 55 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Ravenna, Sicily, Capri, Gaeta, Florence & Portofino, Italy; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kotor, Montenegro & Corfu, Greece.

Barcelona to London 12-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Explorer, May 20, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 78 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Cartagena, Malaga, Seville, La Coruna & Bilbao, Spain; Lisbon & Oporto, Portugal; Bordeaux, & Paris, France.

Athens to Venice 12-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Voyager, June 3, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 75 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Athens, Mykonos, Lesbos, Santorini, Gythion & Corfu, Greece; Istanbul & Ephesus, Turkey Kotor, Montenegro & Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Venice to Monte Carlo 10-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Voyager, June 15, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 45 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Split & Dubrovnik, Croatia; Tirana, Albania; Corfu, Greece; Sicily, Sorrento/Capri, Rome & Florence, Italy; Saint-Tropez, France.

Monte Carlo to Barcelona 7-Night Cruise on the Seven Seas Voyager, June 25, Includes Free Business Class Air & Up to 32 Free Excursions. Visit ports in Saint-Tropez, France; Portofino, Rome & Sardinia, Italy; Palma de Mallorca & Ibiza, Spain.

You really can have it all aboard Regent Seven Seas Cruises



Best of Germany

Linda Waynick **INSIGHT VACATIONS**
The Art of Traveling in Style

Be captivated by the old-world charm of Rothenburg and Nuremberg, marvel at the soaring peaks of Bavaria and admire the Baroque splendor of Dresden.

Embark on a journey of cosmopolitan cities, picture-book towns and breathtaking natural scenery, as you explore iconic highlights of Bavaria, cruise beneath the fairy-tale castles of the Rhine and watch skilled clockmakers in action in the Black Forest.

All over Germany they like to make their own entertainment with rousing songs and dances in taverns and beer gardens – so join in. There are colorful carnivals in Spring, spectacular fireworks displays during Summer and wine or beer festivals like Munich's Oktoberfest, in Autumn. Berlin's nightlife is legendary so be sure to take in a show at one of the city's 50 theatres.

The Viktualienmarkt, Munich's open-air food market just behind the Marienplatz, is a favourite with the locals. Grab a meal from one of the vendors and enjoy it outdoors in the sunny square.

Take the elevator to the top floor of Berlin's historic Reichstag building for a walk along the spiral ramp inside Norman Foster's spectacular glass dome, and enjoy panoramic views of the city. If the sea is more your speed, sail back in time on a voyage by paddle steamer along the River Elbe to Dresden's gorgeous Pillnitz Castle and pleasure gardens - the perfect example of the Chinoise style.

From \$2,650 per person, this 10-Day Tour is available April to October 2019. Call a travel advisor at Warwick for a more detailed itinerary.



Pacific Coast Adventure

Laura Ellis **GLOBUS**

A sampling of Seattle, the beautiful Oregon coast, and San Francisco make this magnificent journey along the Pacific Coast one you'll remember. Start your Pacific

Coast tour in charming Seattle, end in San Francisco, and overnight also in Portland, Newport, Coos Bay, and Eureka. Sightseeing in Seattle, Portland, and San Francisco includes the must-see sights, such as a visit to Seattle's Pike's Peak Market where you can shop and dine like the locals and Portland's International Rose Test Gardens, the largest rose garden in Portland.

Enjoy some of the spectacular scenery waiting in Oregon, including Oregon's oceanside sand dunes, with wind-sculpted sand dunes stretching 500 feet above sea level; the beautiful Multnomah Falls; and the many majestic views and scenic lighthouses along the Oregon Coast. Also experience a cruise on Oregon's scenic Rogue River. Follow the path just as Rogue River pioneers have done since 1895, when road access did not exist. You'll also have the chance to experience wildlife, pristine wilderness and fascinating mail boat history. Another out-of-the-ordinary adventure Globus has arranged is a traditional Coquille Indian salmon bake.

In California, view the world's tallest trees in spectacular Redwood National Park and along Avenue of the Giants, a quiet 2-lane road that winds through some of the world's most spectacular scenery with ancient redwood trees. You'll even have the opportunity to see an 1,800-year-old redwood!

From its vibrant cities to its spectacular scenery, this Pacific Coast tour is sure to delight all of your senses!

From \$2,799 per person, this 9-Day Tour departs June to September, 2019. For a detailed itinerary, give Warwick Travel a call.



Agent Spotlight:

Amy Hill

Amy joined our staff at Warwick Travel in February of 2012. She started in the travel industry after moving to Virginia from her home state of Pennsylvania in 1996. Over the past 22 years, she has worked as a front-line agent and a manager in a previous agency.

Her travels have taken her to California, Arizona, New York, Florida (Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando and St. Augustine), Alaska, Mexico, the Caribbean and London, England, Costa Rica, the Canadian Rockies, Italy, Greece and Croatia. Cruising and all-inclusive vacations are also a passion of hers. Amy is a specialist in independent travel itineraries, as well as escorted tours and cruise, and continually updates her knowledge and training with various cruise lines and destinations.

Her greatest moments as a travel counselor, other than her own travels, have been when her clients come home to tell her what a memorable vacation they experienced. Amy prides herself in making sure all the details are taken care of so her clients can travel worry-free.

Her greatest love in travel is working with families and groups, having herself traveled with family and loved ones of all ages many times over the years. Alaska, Costa Rica and the Canadian Rockies are her favorite destinations, both for their natural untouched beauty, plentiful wildlife and outdoor activities.

Warwick Travel is proud to have her as a member of our team. Please give her a call and stop by to see her for assistance in planning your next vacation.

Golden Myanmar and the alluring Irrawaddy

By Nancy B. Alligood, CTC, Warwick Travel Service

Mingalarbar—Hello! What an awesome adventure I recently experienced with a group of Warwick Travelers on the alluring Irrawaddy River in Myanmar (formerly Burma), a Southeast Asian nation of more than 100 ethnic groups, bordering India, Bangladesh, China, Laos and Thailand.

Buddhism is practiced by more than 90 percent of Myanmar's population. The Buddhist life of peace, loving kindness and wisdom is just as relevant today as in ancient times. This was true throughout our visit in their country. Its people were warm, friendly, thoughtful, considerate—always smiling.

Yangon, (formerly Rangoon), the country's largest city, is home to bustling markets, parks, lakes and the towering gilded Shwedagon Pagoda, dating to the sixth century.

In Yangon, our tour guide Myo spent three days with us, exploring the city and experiencing their food, culture and warm hospitality. Plus, a visit to the local craft market was a must!

Next, we flew to Bhamo and were transferred by trishaw (an Asian three-wheeled vehicle with pedals) to our riverboat, where we met Mark, our cruise director, and his amazing crew with whom we would spend the next 11

days cruising south on the Irrawaddy.

The next morning, Myo took us to the village of Kyn Daw, where more than 7,000 stupas surrounded the monastery. A stupa is a Buddhist commemorative monument, housing cremated remains or sacred relics associated with the Buddha or other saintly persons. We visited a school and a Buddhist nunnery to present the nuns with food. Unlike monks, nuns have to collect and cook their own food.

In Katha, we saw a colorful market offering fish, meat and produce. We visited the former British Club, featured in George Orwell's 1934 novel *Burmese Days*, still in use although no longer as a club.

As we continued our cruise down the Irrawaddy, we encountered a series of cliffs surrounding a narrow channel. The river rewards travelers with iconic views and fascinating ancient treasures along the way.

Cruising on to Mandalay, we visited Amarapura to view the famous U Bein Bridge, a three-quarter-mile bridge built in 1783 of reclaimed teakwood from the old royal palace in Inwa. We took a sampan ride on Taungthaman Lake for memorable views of the sunset behind the iconic bridge.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF WARWICK TRAVEL

Above: The Buddha in the Soon U Ponya Shin Pagoda

Left: Myo, our tour guide, in Mandalay

In Mandalay, we visited a tapestry and woodcarving workshop and saw skilled artisans at work. At a gold-leaf workshop we saw how gold is prepared to adorn the great Buddhist shrine at Mahamuni Pagoda, the most revered shrine in Mandalay. Due to the continued application of gold leaves, officials estimate the gold is approximately six inches thick. We visited Kuthodaw Pagoda and Shwenandaw Monastery, the only remnant of former King Mindon's "Golden City" to survive the bombing of World War II.

The Southeast Asian Buddhist monks and nuns shave their heads and wear saffron robes, a tradition going back 25 centuries to the time of historical Buddha. When we visited temples,

pagodas, stupas or any sacred place, certain attire was required, and shoes and socks remained outside.

We stopped in Sagaing, a religious site with pagodas dotting the hillsides. We visited the Kaungmudaw Pagoda with its golden egg-shaped dome and stopped at a silversmith workshop to observe local artisans turning silver into beautiful works of art.

Cruising on to Shwe Pyi Thar, a typical farming village, we took a walking tour and learned how the locals make candy from the sap of a toddy palm.

Bagan, our final stop, presented a sunrise visit to some of the more than 2,200 pagodas, temples and monasteries, making it one of the world's greatest archaeological sites. The day ended with an ox cart ride to a temple, ascending to the top to a beautiful sunset.

The Irrawaddy River has shaped Burma's history—it is the country's economic lifeblood and inseparable from Burmese spiritual life. Myanmar is carving a more prosperous path to the future, although it continues to have its political problems.

Visiting the "Golden Land" of Myanmar far exceeded my expectations. While the sights were awe inspiring, the people captured our hearts. This was one of my best trips, one I will forever remember! ◀

Nancy B. Alligood, CTC is general manager/owner of Warwick Travel Service, Inc. and can be reached at 757-599-3011 or at n_alligood@warwicktravel.com.



A journey on the great Irrawaddy rivers offers a tapestry of fascinating sights, colorful cultures, and ancient traditions.

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Explore the best of Myanmar, known as "The Golden Land," on this captivating river cruise along the Irrawaddy River.

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14 Days | Yagon to Yagon
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*Restrictions apply. Applies to select departures only. Please contact Warwick Travel for full details.
†Terms and restrictions apply. Prices per person and based on double occupancy. Does not include airfare. Please contact Warwick Travel for full details.



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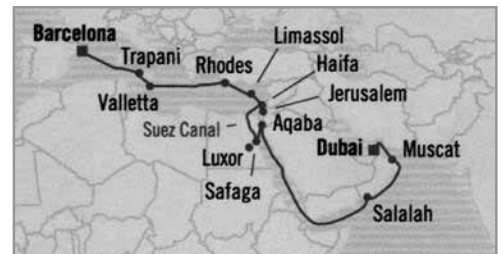


Gerry's Adventures

Gerry Siekirski

2019
April: Oceania Nautica "Footsteps of History"

Join Gerry & Zee on a 21-day voyage, April 29 to May 18, Dubai to Barcelona, calling on ports from Dubai to Oman, Jordan-Petra, Egypt-Luxor, 2 nights Israel, Cyprus, Rhodes, Malta, Sicily & Barcelona. \$800 shipboard credit, free internet per stateroom, prepaid gratuities and air included. A \$750 per person deposit will hold your cabin for you! We already have a "Fun Group" on board. Almost "Sold Out" as it sails late April. Call Gerry immediately for details.



September: Cruising the Adriatic and Dalmatian Coasts "CROATIA"

Join Gerry & Zee on an 11-day small ship adventure September 18 on the newly built yacht the MV Karizma. Only 18 cabins and we already have 10 cabins travelling with us!

Enjoy 2 nights in a Dubrovnik resort before boarding "our yacht" to explore the islands on the Croatian coast. We will visit Korcula the birthplace of Marco Polo and trace the footsteps of this famous explorer. Great cruise/tour prices starting at \$3299 per person and includes shore excursions, onboard dinners complemented with local wines and complimentary WIFI.



\$400 deposit per person will hold your cabin, only 8 cabins left and it is a year away. \$55 shipboard credit if deposited by December 1st.

Call Gerry today for a flyer on this exciting adventure!