

WINDSTAR[®]

CRUISES

180° FROM ORDINARY[®]

Windstar Debuts New *Signature Expeditions* Program Marking Long-Anticipated Arrival Back to Alaska for the Award-Winning, Small Ship Cruise Line



Windstar's new soft-expedition-style cruising gets guests onto the water right from their small ship, up close and personal with Alaska's wildlife and pristine natural habitats.

Seattle, WA, May 22, 2018 — Seattle-based Windstar Cruises' 212-passenger all-suite *Star Legend* is now sailing in Alaska through August, launching the small ship line's first endeavor into expedition cruising, with a kick off in Kenai Fjords National Park on May 18, this cruise marks a return to Alaska for the award-winning travel company after a 20-year hiatus from the region.

"We are thrilled to finally be back in Alaska having just launched our Signature Expeditions that embraces the natural beauty of the region, and allow for the most authentic, destination-focused experiences for our guests," commented Windstar President John Delaney.

Windstar offers a new, active and elegant choice for travelers, with its boutique brand of small ship cruising and experiential travel, including newly-announced [Signature Expeditions](#), which take guests on zodiac and kayaking adventures along Alaska's rugged natural coastline and gets guests closer, shows them more, and sends them home with once-in-a-lifetime photos and memories. The highly skilled and knowledgeable *Windstar Signature Expeditions* Team leads tours aboard rigid inflatable watercraft and expedition kayaks, as well as guiding guests on scenic hikes. The *Official Cruise Line of the James Beard Foundation*, guests will delight in the abundance of local seafood specialties on board and on small group tours ashore.

In Alaska, cruisers can choose from more than 25 different Windstar cruise departure dates in 2018 and 2019 for small ship cruises and Cruise Tours that include Denali National Park.



The ship arrived at Seward (Anchorage) for its maiden cruise in Alaska on May 17 and is currently on a 14-day itinerary that visits Kenai Fjords National Park, Sitka, Juneau, Icy Strait Point (Hoonah), Haines, Tracy Arm and Endicott Arm, Wrangell, Misty Fjords, Metlakatla, Ketchikan, and in British Columbia – Prince Rupert, scenic cruising of the Grenville Channel and Inside Passage, ending on May 31 in Vancouver, BC, marking its first arrival to that homeport for the season. *Star Legend* will sail on numerous cruises round trip from Vancouver and between Seward, AK and Vancouver, BC throughout the 2018 Alaska season. The ship will also make a special one-day visit to Seattle on June 27 for a special event on Lake Union, including a Zodiac naming ceremony.

For more images of Windstar's first few days in Alaska, including the debut of its new Signature Expeditions, visit Windstar's Facebook Page. Visit [Windstar Cruises](http://WindstarCruises.com) online, call 1-800-258-7245 or email info@windstarcruises.com for more information on the cruise line, Alaska Cruises and *Star Legend* ship.

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About Windstar Cruises

Windstar Cruises operates a six-ship fleet of small sailing and all-suite ships visiting approximately 270 ports annually sailing throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Costa Rica and the Panama Canal, Asia, Alaska and British Columbia, Canada and New England, and cruising year-round in Tahiti. Windstar's fleet is the market leader in small ship cruising with a total of 1,242 passenger berths calling on off-the-beaten-path and popular ports in more than 60 countries. The boutique cruise line carries 148 to 310 passengers on six small ships and takes travelers on cruises that are 180 degrees from ordinary. Windstar is known for immersive experiences and destination authenticity, port-intensive itineraries, exceptional award-winning service, and an innovative culinary program with culinary-themed cruise as the Official Cruise Line of the James Beard Foundation. Windstar Cruises is a part of Xanterra Travel Collection, an award-winning, globally diversified travel company offering once in a lifetime experiences in some of the most beautiful and iconic places on earth.

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