



Windstar Takes the 2018 *TravelAge West* WAVE Award for Best Small-Ship Cruise Line



Other Recent Accolades Include Global Traveler Best Adventure Cruise and Affluent Traveler Best Specialty Cruise Line

Seattle, WA, June 18, 2018 — [Windstar Cruises](#) received the 2018 *TravelAge West* WAVE Award for Best Small-Ship Cruise Line at last night's gala held at The Ritz-Carlton, Marina del Rey. The annual black-tie event brings together representatives from across the travel industry with West Coast travel agents to celebrate the best across many categories from air, hotel, and rail, to cruise line entertainment, family travel and more. Winners are determined by a rigorous process that includes a careful analysis of product offerings, on-site visits, travel agent surveys and intensive research.

For 2018 *TravelAge West* established a travel agent advisory board which brought additional insight and perspective to the deliberations of the venerated publisher's editorial board. WAVE Award winners represent the leaders in providing superior products, amazing customer service and good relations with the travel agent community. The combination of these professionals from the publishing and travel trade world in determining top performers, makes these awards particularly coveted in the industry.

"Windstar Cruises is very excited to win the WAVE Award for the best small-ship line," said Windstar President John Delaney. "*TravelAge West* is a respected institution in the travel trade; they bring true depth and breadth of experience to the evaluation of nominees and the selection of winners, and we are particularly gratified to receive this endorsement."

Windstar has been recognized with many awards and honors over time as a cruise line best for adventure, romance, and dining. Most recently **Windstar was named *Global Traveler* magazine's Best Adventure Cruise**

Line as part of their sixth annual Leisure Lifestyle Awards. The winners were recently feted at a cocktail reception on the rooftop of Sofitel Los Angeles at Beverly Hills in May. *Global Traveler* conducted a survey of its readers with open-ended questions for the best in many categories of leisure, luxury and lifestyle travel.

Windstar also was named by The Affluent Traveler Collection as the Best Specialty Cruise Line. Voted on by Affluent Traveler agents, the award will be highlighted in *The Affluent Traveler's* Summer/Fall issue, which emphasizes some of the world's finest travel experiences.

Exploring the world by small ship allows guests aboard Windstar Cruises to go more places, see more things and connect more authentically with local culture than is possible on a traditional cruise ship. The small ships of Windstar offer a yacht-like feel for passengers in addition to being able to navigate smaller waterways. To create travel experiences that are truly 180 degrees from ordinary, Windstar also offers features that enrich each itinerary. More than 45 percent of Windstar's cruises include late-night or overnight port calls which allow guests to connect more fully with local cultures and everyday customs; *Signature Onboard Barbecues* and *Signature Beach Parties* in some of the world's most spectacular locations – like the mouth of the Panama Canal or a Norwegian fjord – and Destination Discovery Events create lasting highlights for guests. Combined with an exceptional culinary program, shipboard spa and fitness amenities, and expert insight into the destinations visited, the Windstar experience is the perfect way for cultural explorers to see the world.

To learn more about authentic small ship cruising with Windstar, contact a travel professional or Windstar Cruises by phone at 800-258-7245, or visit www.windstarcruises.com.

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Download images at: <https://windstarcruises.webdamdb.com>

About Windstar Cruises

Windstar Cruises operates a six-ship fleet of small sailing and all-suite ships 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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