



**Windstar Cruises Receives Accolades from Travel Industry Experts:
Named Gold Winner for Overall-Small Cruise Ship for the
Third Year Straight in the 2018 *Travel Weekly* Magellan Awards**



***Other Magellan Awards Include Gold Wins for the Boutique Line's
New Alaska Signature Expeditions and "Get Closer" Marketing Campaign,
as well as a Silver Win for the Grand Japan Cruise Itinerary***

Seattle, WA, September 11, 2018 — [Windstar Cruises](#) received several top honors in the 2018 *Travel Weekly* Magellan Awards, including being named a Gold winner for Overall-Small Cruise Ship with less than 500 passengers. It is Windstar's third consecutive year to receive that particular award for small cruise ships.

This news continues the boutique line's recent sweep of industry awards including the #1 rank in the 2018 *Travel + Leisure* World's Best Awards; being recognized as the Best Small-Ship Cruise Line in the *TravelAge West* WAVE Awards voted on by travel professionals; dominating the 2018 *Cruise Critic* Cruisers' Choice prizes with 20 awards including first place for service, public rooms, cabins and fitness; being named to the 2018 *Condé Nast Traveler* Gold List; and winning the *USA Today* 10Best Readers' Choice Award for #1 Boutique Cruise Line, among others.

"Being selected as a *Travel Weekly* Magellan Award Winner is an honor and achievement our staff and crew can be very proud of," said Windstar President John Delaney. "All of us at Windstar, on the ships and shore side, are on a shared mission to create the absolute best, most authentic, destination immersive, small ship cruising experiences for our guests. It is gratifying to see our efforts and commitment recognized by our industry peers."

The company's ground-breaking new [Signature Expeditions](#) program, which launched this summer in Alaska and serves up immersive adventures and active enrichment led by world-renowned scientists, also took Gold honors in the Expeditions-Shore Excursion category.

Additionally, Windstar's "Get Closer" marketing initiative was recognized on the Gold list for advertising/marketing campaigns. "Get Closer" effectively illustrates and narrates the story of how Windstar's personalized approach brings cruise guests closer to each destination and every port, with active adventures and authentic experiences, revealing new perspectives on the world. The campaign fulfills the Windstar promise that "no one goes so far to get travelers so close."

Finally, Windstar's [Grand Japan](#) itinerary earned a Silver nod in the Expeditions-Itinerary category. The Japan cruises, offered twice a year, has been incredibly popular particularly during prime cherry blossom season in the spring, and the lush region is gaining recognition for the changing colors in fall as well. During the all-Japan itinerary, the all-suite, 212-passenger *Star Legend* offers a rare circumnavigation of the Asian island nation reaching smaller, out-of-the way ports seeking destination authenticity so guests can really experience life like a local.

Officially announced in the October 29 issue of the magazine, the *Travel Weekly* Magellan Awards honor the best in travel and salute the outstanding travel professionals behind it all. The awards are judged by an industry panel consisting of top-notch travel experts, bringing more weight to the award than the five-pound gold and silver statuettes that accompany the titles.

A complete list of this year's winners can be found at www.travelweeklyawards.com/winners/.

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

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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 nearly 80 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 cruises 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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