



Small Ship Cruise Operator Windstar Cruises Plans to Resume Cruising in September 2020

Wind Spirit returns to cruising in Tahiti first, followed by other yachts later in 2020/2021

SEATTLE, WA, May 19, 2020 – Small ship cruise operator [Windstar Cruises](#) announced today the 148-guest *Wind Spirit* will be its first yacht to resume sailing after suspending operations further due to the ongoing impact of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. *Wind Spirit* will resume sailing in Tahiti with its first cruise departing on September 3, 2020.

“We have taken extraordinary measures to operate our yachts safely,” said Xanterra and Windstar Cruises CEO Andrew Todd. “While we look forward to welcoming guests aboard again, we believe this further suspension of operations is the responsible action to take. We have laid plans for a resumption of small ship cruising beginning in September.”

148-guest *Wind Spirit*: Resumes sailing September 3, 2020 in Tahiti on previously scheduled itineraries.

342-guest *Wind Surf*: Returns November 29, 2020 sailing in the Caribbean on previously scheduled itineraries before heading to the Mediterranean in April 2021.

148-guest *Wind Star*: Resumes sailing January 16, 2021 with Costa Rica and Panama Canal sailings and then heads to the Mediterranean in April 2021.

Windstar’s Star class all-suite yachts are undergoing a major renovation adding additional suites, new restaurants, an expanded pool deck and other amenities. Due to the pandemic, the shipyard in Italy closed for several weeks and is now on a reduced workforce schedule to provide a safe working environment for their employees. As a result, completion of the Star class ships will be delayed.

312-guest *Star Breeze*: Due to the delay, sailings in Asia, New Zealand and Australia are canceled. *Star Breeze* will begin sailing October 27, 2020 in the Mediterranean before moving

to the Caribbean in December 2020 to pick up sailings from *Star Legend* and *Star Pride*. Then *Star Breeze* will offer a few new Caribbean itineraries until June when it heads to Alaska. A new 10-day Alaskan Splendors sailing was added on June 3, 2021 after which it resumes its previously scheduled Alaska itineraries.

312-guest *Star Legend*: Due to the delay, some sailings are canceled and others will be picked up by the *Star Breeze*. *Star Legend* begins sailing March 1, 2021 in the Mediterranean and will pick up some sailings previously scheduled for *Star Pride*.

312-guest *Star Pride*: Due to the delay, some sailings are cancelled and others will be picked up by *Star Breeze*. The *Star Pride* will begin sailing July 5, 2021 in Northern Europe.

Guests on cancelled cruises will receive a Future Cruise Credit valued at 125% of all monies paid on the booking to Windstar Cruises. Guests who prefer a refund can request their FCC be converted to a refund equal to the amount paid on the Windstar booking once they receive their FCC. Guests will have 24 months to book and embark on any available Windstar cruise using their Future Cruise Credit. Windstar Cruises will protect Travel Advisor commissions on the affected bookings following the normal policy for cancelled bookings.

Windstar's reservations team is reviewing all affected bookings and will send a letter outlining details to guests with cancelled cruises and also to those with only a change in which Star class ship they'll be aboard. The reservations team appreciates the patience and understanding of guests and travel advisors as they work through this process.

Windstar's [Travel Assurance Booking Policy](#) allows travelers to cancel their cruise up to 15 days prior to departure and receive a 100 percent future cruise credit based on money paid on the booking to be used on all sailings through December 31, 2021.

The health and well-being of guests, crew, land-based employees and people in the communities visited is always a top priority. During this temporary pause in operations, Windstar's staff is reviewing and updating its [health and safety practices](#) including enhanced sanitation protocols, health screenings, additional medical staff on board, expanded dining times with outdoor dining, and crew training.

Windstar operates a fleet of six small yachts carrying from 148 to 342 guests and is known for visiting small ports and hidden harbors around the world.

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About Windstar Cruises

Windstar Cruises operates a fleet of six boutique all-suite and sailing yachts carrying 148-342 guests. Small ship cruises sail throughout Europe, the Caribbean, Costa Rica and the Panama Canal, Asia, Alaska and British Columbia, Canada and New England, Tahiti and the South Pacific, Mexico and U.S. Coastal, Australia and New Zealand. Windstar launched the *\$250 Million Star Plus Initiative* to transform three Star Class ships with new suites, restaurants, and a world-class spa and fitness center. The award-winning line is known for immersive experiences, destination authenticity, port-intensive itineraries, exceptional service, and an innovative culinary program 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. To learn more about authentic small ship cruising with Windstar, visit www.windstarcruises.com.