

FROM SEA TO SEA: SAILING THE PANAMA CANAL
October 15 to 28, 2014
From Miami to San Diego aboard *Crystal Symphony*

Building on three remarkable and wonderful voyages aboard the renowned Crystal fleet to Norway and the Polar Ice Cap (2010), the Iberian Peninsula (2011), and New Zealand and Australia (2012-13), we are now proposing a voyage through the Panama Canal for fall of 2014. We had such a great time on the last voyage that some of us immediately decided before the end of the voyage to return, and have made a booking on the *Crystal Symphony* for this year.

We chose this particular itinerary for the chance to navigate the Panama Canal, a lifetime dream of mine. Ports of call include: Grand Cayman, British West Indies; Cartagena, Colombia; Zihuatanejo and Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.

In the four ports of call, you will have the option of participating in our own private excursions. These will be organized, as always, to focus on architectural sites one might not otherwise have access to. For example on Grand Cayman, we will be organizing an insider visit to the new town designed there by my former architectural firm Moore Ruble Yudell.

Crystal is among the best cruise lines in the world. I was an art instructor aboard the nearly identical sister ship, *Crystal Serenity*, in 2004, and although somewhat doubtful about the experience of being on a cruise, being more accustomed to traditional ocean liners and tramp freighters, I was pleasantly surprised to find the experience exceptional in every way. While a relatively large vessel (although considered small for cruise ships), the ships are intimate and never crowded, even when filled to capacity. Cabins are spacious and comfortable, and there are plenty of traditional open teak decks on which to promenade in an effort to undo the damage caused at table. Service and food are exceptional and one can always choose from among the traditional dining room, Italian and Japanese restaurants (the latter created by famed chef Nobu Matsuhisa) as



Crystal Symphony transiting the Panama Canal.



Cartagena is on the list of UNESCO World Heritage sites, and offers a many layered glimpse into the past of an important colonial trading port.

well as informal dining on deck.

We are planning for this to be an intimate group of kindred spirits so that we can enjoy meals together in our small group (as well as to have the flexibility for private time) and organize our own shore excursions and other activities like sketching and going off to see important architectural sites, not to mention just catching up with each other! The 13-night cruise originates in Miami and ends in San Diego.

All details are available from this [link](#). *

In order to be part of this group, Tom Vise at Vista Travel must handle your booking. Fares for the cruise only are from \$5,010 per person double occupancy and \$6,340 for single. These fares include all port taxes and are now all inclusive for drinks, wine at dinner, specialty restaurants, and gratuities on board, so in effect this price would be all-inclusive for the 13-night package.

Booking should be made with a per person fully refundable (up to 180 days prior) deposit of 10% as soon as possible. Bookings made up until February 28 will receive the above discounted fares.

Since availability of cabins at this price is limited (as is the ideal size of our group), you are encouraged to secure your booking by contacting Tom Vise at 617 588 4233 or by email at tomv2012@comcast.net.

I hope you can join us, and please let me know as well of your interest and if you have any questions.

* For link: <http://www.crystalcruises.com/panama-canal-cruises/miami-to-san-diego--4224>