



Welcome aboard our annual winter Caribbean Cruise Tour sailing on the stylish Norwegian Escape from New York City, another great “no-fly” getaway. Get ready to escape the winter blues and pull out that sun hat as you prepare to set sail for paradise! Your tour manager is excited about the opportunity to make your holiday something to treasure and looks forward to delivering a professional and enjoyable tour. You can leave the usual travel hassles behind and just enjoy yourself. Below is the daily itinerary for your tour. With over 60 years in business and experience in tourism, I’m confident your tour with us will be fantastic!

-Sincerely, Greg Collins – President & CEO

Day 1: Friday, Feb 21 – Maritimes – Courtyard Marriott, Portland, ME

- Board our premium motorcoach at your scheduled departure location and time.
- Please arrive at least 15 minutes before departure so we can get you comfortably situated.
- All stops for passenger pick-ups will be brief (10-15 min.) and we ask that you remain on board unless otherwise instructed by your tour manager.

Tentative Pick-up Locations:

PEI: Charlottetown Mall TBA

- Royalty Crossing Mall, Charlottetown TBA

Nova Scotia:

- o Halifax, Sobeys Lacewood Drive **TBA**
- o Dartmouth Crossing, Hampton Inn **TBA**
- o Quality Inn, Halifax Airport **TBA**
- o Truro Heights Irving **TBA**

New Brunswick:

- o Aulac Big Stop – **TBA** 20 min rest stop
- o Moncton, Magnetic Hill McDonalds **TBA**
- o Saint John, Rte. #1 Irving **TBA** shuttle to meet main coach at Lincoln Big Stop
- o Fredericton, Lincoln Big Stop **TBA** 1 hour lunch

- The drive today will include a coffee break as well as an hour lunch stop at a location that is convenient to our route (See table above). Snacks and lunch are your expense.
- Our border crossings are pre-registered and you can expect minimal delays during our crossing.
- Please be sure to have your *VALID passport for entry into the U.S. Note: Please review the “important details” of this itinerary, as far as policies and your responsibilities relating to entry into the United States.
- We expect to arrive in Portland early this evening. For those interested in a little shopping, we will drop you off at the Maine Mall before we check in at the hotel. The coach will meet you again at a designated time and location your tour manager will advise you of for your short transfer to the hotel. Your bags will be waiting in your room and your tour manager will have your room key ready.
- The motorcoach, and any of you who prefer to relax at the hotel, will then continue on to South Portland’s Courtyard by Marriott Hotel. Your tour manager will check you in, hand out your room key and have your bag sent to your room. Dinner is on your own this evening.

Day 2: Saturday, Feb 22 – Portland, ME – Marriott Marquis, NYC (B) ***Broadway Show**

- Enjoy your complimentary hot continental breakfast at the hotel this morning. Your tour manager will handle group check-out; however, please be sure to cover any personal charges you may have incurred during your stay. Next, we depart early for New York City to ensure we maximize our time in “The Big Apple”.
- A coffee break and hour lunch stop at the Blue Colony Diner are scheduled **(your expense)**.
- Arrive at the stunning Marriott Marquis Times Square Hotel, located **in the heart of Manhattan**, late afternoon. Our signature group check in service is offered again today and we will have you relaxing in your room in no time! Your tour manager will check everyone in at the hotel, hand out room keys and have bags delivered to your room. Please note: baggage handling may take up to 1 hour, but you do **not** need to be in your hotel room when the bags are delivered.
- After some time to freshen up, board the coach for a night on Broadway (performance TBA). Meet your tour manager this evening for your transfer to your theatre. After the show has finished return transfers will be provided at no additional charge for those interested or enjoy a 10-minute walk to your 4-star hotel!
- Dinner and remainder of the evening are at your leisure.



Day 3: Sunday, Feb 23 – Embarkation from New York City, NY aboard Norwegian Escape (L, D)

- Enjoy breakfast at a location of your choice **(your expense)** before checking out of the hotel. There are different diners within walking distance from our hotel serving breakfast.
- After breakfast, board the coach for our professionally guided morning tour of NYC’s most notable attractions, including Grand Central Station, Rockefeller Plaza, and some more midtown Manhattan notables.
- Following our informative tour, we make our way to Manhattan’s Pier 80 to board the Norwegian Escape, where you will enjoy lunch on board **(included)**. Your tour manager will assist with your pier-side check in, conveniently completed in advance by your Collins Tours staff!
- Please note: Your luggage will be delivered to your stateroom as soon as possible. Not all cabins will be ready upon check-in, and checking into your cabin will not be guaranteed until after 3:00 pm.
- Be sure to head out on deck for the cast off and wave Bon Voyage as you sail down the Hudson River, passing Lady Liberty, gliding under the Verrazano–Narrows Bridge and cruising out into the Atlantic!
- Refer to the ship’s itinerary for the incredible options available for tonight’s dining and entertainment.



Day 4: Monday, Feb 24 – At Sea (B, L, Cocktail Reception, Group D)

- Refer to ship’s itinerary – Fun day at sea. Enjoy the ship’s fabulous amenities. Relaxing poolside is another great way to spend your first full day at sea as you head steadily towards warmer weather.
- This evening, enjoy a private cocktail reception for 1 hour with all your Collins Tours fellow guests. Your cocktail party will include light appetizers and open bar. **(Included)**. Following our reception, we enjoy a group dinner **(Included)**. Your tour manager will assist you in finding seating as our group has been assigned a section in the restaurant for dining.

Day 5: Tuesday, Feb 25 – At Sea (B, L, D)

- Another fun day at sea!
- Enjoy the ships fabulous amenities, including the pools and hot tubs at the Aqua Park, spa and fitness center, climbing walls, and three-deck sports court for fun and fitness combined! Relaxing poolside is another great way to spend your first full day at sea as you head towards warmer weather.
- Refer to the ship’s itinerary for a full list of today’s events and activities.
- Tomorrow, we will be in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic as our first port of call!

Day 6: Wednesday, Feb 26 – Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic (B, L, Group D)

- Today we dock in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic from 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Puerto Plata (or officially known as San Felipe de Puerto Plata) is the ninth largest city in the Dominican Republic located on the northern shoreline of the country known as the Amber Coast.
- Refer to the ship’s itinerary for a full list of today’s events and activities.
- Tonight, we meet for another group dinner in the ship’s dining room.
- Tonight, we sail for San Juan, Puerto Rico!



Day 7: Thursday, Feb 27 – San Juan, Puerto Rico (B, L, D) ***City Tour and Old San Juan – Collins Tours Optional Excursion**

- Today we dock in San Juan, Puerto Rico from 12:00pm – 8:00pm
- Meet your fellow group participants for an optional Collins Tours shore excursion. We will have an unforgettable best of San Juan excursion, not to be missed exploring this colonial gem of the Caribbean with its contrasts of old and new in Old San Juan, and adjacent neighborhoods. Visit the historical district of Old San Juan, see Fort San Cristobal before travelling to the “New City” which will take you to the Condado District filled with high-rise condos and luxury resorts. Stop at the Capitol Building for a photo opportunity. Return to Old San Juan where you will visit the famous Plaza Colón. **(Price TBA).**
- Tonight, we sail for Basseterre, Saint Kitts!



Day 8: Friday, Feb 28 – Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis (B, L, Group D) ***Optional Excursion**

- Today we are docked in Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm.
- Although founded by the French in 1627, St. Kitts is a very British paradise where cricket and tea are the norm. The dramatic mixed island landscape is rimmed in gold-sand beaches and dotted with well-preserved plantations left over from when the island was covered with sugar cane.
- Join Collins Tours for a private shopping and sightseeing tour! Today’s tour highlights include visiting important sites such as Independence Square (formally the location of the town’s slave market) before we make a brief stop at the Old Sugar Factory Ruins, the first Rum Distillery in the Caribbean. From here we make our way to Romney Gardens, get your cameras ready for this lush tropical garden. We then make our way to the famous Caribelle Batik Studios and then onto the Botanical Garden of Eden in Paradise. Lounge underneath a large 400-year-old Saman Tree that overlooks the Caribbean Sea! This is also a chance to shop at the boutique and gift shops. The next stop is the Village of Middle Islands to view the oldest Anglican Church in the Southern Caribbean. **(Price TBA)**
- Tonight, we meet for another group dinner in the ship’s dining room.
- Tonight, we sail for St. Lucia!

Day 9: Saturday, Mar 1 – Castries, St. Lucia (B, L, D) ***Optional Excursion**

- Today we are docked in Castries, St. Lucia from 11:00 am – 8:00 pm.
- Castries is known as a mecca for outdoor enthusiasts with thriving coral reefs and rain forest preserves.
- Meet your fellow group participants for an optional Collins Tours shore excursion. Get your cameras ready as we visit the Caribbean’s only drive in volcano with its bubbling Sulphur Springs! No visit to St. Lucia is

complete without viewing the seaside peaks, the majestic pitons. From there we will make our way to the islands only working plantation within a traditional village setting. **(Price TBA).**

- Tonight, we sail for Antigua!

Day 10 Sunday, Mar 2 – St. John’s, Antigua (B, L, Group D)

- Today we are docked in St. John’s, Antigua from 11:00 am – 7:00 pm.
- Take in the splendor of the city’s skyline, dominated by St. John’s Cathedral’s white baroque towers. Discover the grand St. John’s while sampling local cuisine, experiencing the Botanical Garden, admiring Antigua’s magnificent lighthouse, and exploring the historic Fort James.
- Tonight, we meet for another group dinner in the ship’s dining room. Your tour manager will assist you in finding our group seating once again.
- Tonight, we sail for Philipsburg in St. Maarten!

Day 11: Monday, Mar 3 – Philipsburg, St. Maarten (B, L, D) ***Optional Excursion**

- Today we dock in tropical Philipsburg, St. Maarten from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.
- With an area of only 37 square miles, the island of St. Maarten is the smallest landmass in the world to be divided between two governments. The southern Dutch half offers casinos, duty-free shopping and island culture. The French half is all subdued sophistication.
- Meet your fellow group participants for an optional Collins Tours shore excursion. **(Details and Price TBA).**
- Tomorrow we arrive in beautiful Tortola, British Virgin Islands.



Day 12: Tuesday, Mar 4 – Tortola, BVI (B, L, Group D)

- Today we are docked in Tortola, BVI from 6:00 am - 1:00 pm.
- Enjoy a free day in this tropical paradise. Discovered by Christopher Columbus himself in 1493, this exotic, peaceful island is home to both towering mahogany trees and white-sand beaches.
- Refer to the ship’s itinerary for a full list of today’s events and activities.
- Tonight, we meet for another group dinner in the ship’s dining room.

Day 13: Wednesday, Mar 5 – At Sea (B, L, D)

- Another fun day at sea!
- Enjoy the ship’s fabulous amenities, including the pools and hot tubs at the Aqua Park, spa and fitness center, climbing walls, and three-deck sports court for fun and fitness combined! Relaxing poolside is another great way to spend your first full day at sea as you head steadily towards warmer weather.
- Refer to the ship’s itinerary for a full list of today’s events and activities.

Day 14: Thursday, Mar 6 – At Sea (B, L, Group D)

- Refer to ship’s Itinerary for the list of today’s activities.
- Tonight, meet your tour manager and fellow passengers for our final Group Dinner aboard the Norwegian Escape.

Day 15: Friday, Mar 7 – Disembarkation in New York City – Hampton Inn by Hilton - Augusta, ME (B, Farewell Dinner)

- Ship arrives back in New York City this morning. After we are cleared to disembark, we will meet at a location TBA on the ship and disembark as a group. Once on shore, identify your luggage and proceed to our motorcoach before departing NYC.
- Lunch today is scheduled at a location convenient to our route (your expense) followed by a 20-minute rest stop before arriving at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Augusta, Maine.

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Tentative Itinerary – Southern Caribbean “No Fly” Cruise Tour 2025

- We expect a late afternoon arrival at the Hampton Inn Augusta. After we arrive at the hotel, we will meet in the lobby for a transfer to our Farwell Group dinner with a glass of wine or beer **(included)** at a restaurant nearby. Time to share stories and reminisce over the incredible new memories you made during our exciting mid-winter journey through the islands of the Southern Caribbean... and start planning your next group getaway!

Day 16: Saturday, Mar 8 – Augusta, ME – Maritimes (B)

- Enjoy your complimentary hot buffet breakfast this morning before checking out of your room.
- Board the motor coach for our morning departure followed by a brief coffee break and 1-hour lunch stop (your expense) along our route. Please use the restroom prior to departing our stop as the restrooms at the Duty-Free Store are very limited.
- We then report to Canadian Customs at our scheduled time. Once again, your tour manager will represent the group at customs. NOTE: Duty free allowance for this trip is \$800 per person. Please see your Canadian Customs and Immigration forms (handed out by your tour manager on your return) for amounts of Alcohol and Tobacco allowances.
- Time to bid farewell. Everyone will be returned to their **original pick-up locations**.

ESTIMATED RETURN TIMES

New Brunswick:

Lincoln Big Stop Irving: **TBA**, 20 min rest stop
Saint John Rte. 1 Irving: shuttle from Lincoln **TBA**
Moncton Magnetic Hill McDonalds: **TBA**
Aulac Big Stop: **TBA**, 30 min dinner stop if needed

PEI: Charlottetown Mall **TBA**

Nova Scotia:

Truro Heights Irving: **TBA**
Halifax Airport Quality Inn: **TBA**
Dartmouth Crossing Hampton Inn: **TBA**
Halifax Sobeys Lacewood Dr. **TBA**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

*Tour itineraries are a **guideline and may need to be adjusted** by Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd. or your tour manager. Itineraries can be impacted by unforeseen factors such as emergencies, weather, traffic, changes to event times, and/or any act of God. **Collins Tours is not responsible for any refunds, reimbursements, credits, or liable due to any changes in itineraries, modifications, or lost time in any one particular area due to any such unforeseen events described above.**

Hotel Contact information:

Courtyard by Marriott – 100 Southborough Drive, South Portland, ME (207) 253- 5005
Marriott Marquis Times Square – 1535 Broadway, New York, NY (212) 398-1900.
Hampton Inn by Hilton – 388 Western Ave, Augusta ME (207) 622 – 4077

- Customs and Immigration requires that **everyone have a Valid Passport**. U.S. Customs has the right to refuse entry to anyone with a past record. Please check with border agents to clarify your status before departing. Collins Tours and Consulting Ltd. are not responsible or liable for U.S. Customs refusal. Collins Tours and Consulting Ltd are not responsible for passengers return expenses or any portion of unused travel. It is the client’s responsibility to ensure that their status is in good order prior to leaving Canada.
- To simplify your shopping experiences, purchase American currency in advance, as many US banks will not exchange your money without a U.S. bank account.
- Collins Tour is not responsible for lost or stolen baggage or personal items.

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Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd – 303 Westmorland Rd. Saint John, NB – E2J 2G2 / www.collinstours.ca / (888) 636-8080

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- **REMEMBER:** Your Tour Manager handles: hotel check in/checkout procedures, overall group management (e.g. timely transitions, itinerary planning), and group representation at events, hotels, ferry terminals, and overall operation of each tour. We work hard to ensure that everyone enjoys his or their experience to the fullest. **Gratuities for your Tour Manager and driver are not included in your tour price.** Tipping is your way of saying “Thank You,” for a job well done. **Here are our guidelines on *Tipping Etiquette*:**
- Collins Tours Manager - Ranging from \$7.00-\$9.00 per person, per day
 - Bus driver-\$4.00-\$6.00 per person, per day.
 - Private city tour guides- \$3.00 per person, per day



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