



American Cruise Lines Announces Independence Day Cruises in 5 States

July 4th cruises offer unique celebrations

GUILFORD, CT – March 9, 2015 – American Cruise Lines (www.americancruiselines.com), operator of the newest small cruise ships in the United States, announced today the special events of its 2015 Independence Day cruises. Each of the cruises sailing over the July 4th holiday will offer festive activities that showcase the beautiful regions cruised around the U.S.

Heartland Celebration Cruise July 4th

Guests enjoy a complimentary night on the *Queen of the Mississippi* on the 4th of July, while guests experience the renowned Dueling Barges Firework Display that will light up the New Orleans skyline, just a few hundred down river. It is the perfect way to start the Heartland Celebration Cruise, a 15-day journey offering the best of summer on the Mississippi. Features include shore excursions to Elvis Presley's home in Graceland and the Frogmore Plantation in Natchez.

Lower Mississippi July 4th

A complimentary pre-night hotel stay begins this July 4th Memphis to New Orleans cruise. Independence Day in Memphis includes everything American. We will bring guests along Beal Street to enjoy any number of jazz performances and world famous BBQ. During the cruise aboard the brand new *American Eagle*, highlights include live music and exciting shore excursions including a tour of Oak Alley Plantation and a visit to the Civil War battlefields in Vicksburg.

Columbia & Snake Rivers July 4th

The Independence Day celebration on the Columbia River begins with a lunch picnic at Fort Vancouver, one of the oldest outposts in the American frontier. Later we enjoy the largest firework displays in the region from the decks of the *Queen of the West*. This cruise includes a complimentary pre-night stay that allows guests to take in the sights of beautiful Portland, OR before their cruise even begins. This cruise also includes exciting guided shore excursions to Mount St. Helens, the Columbia River Gorge and the 620-foot waterfall at Multnomah Falls.

New England Islands July 4th

We have put a unique twist on Independence Day aboard the *American Star*, where more than 150 musicians and artists offer a spectacular show in the heart of the town's historic district. The

celebration begins with a complimentary pre-cruise night in scenic Providence, RI and the option to board the ship early in order to maximize time at the folk festival. Guests travel on the *American Star* through the rustic beauty of the New England Islands. Sites also include a narrated tour of historic Nantucket Island and a visit to the Herreshoff Marie Museum in Bristol.

Maine Coast and Harbors July 4th

Fittingly, guests enjoy celebrating Independence Day on our ship, the Independence. On the 4th, there is a banquet of barbeque for lunch and a dazzling fireworks show over Frenchmen's Bay and it's all enjoyed from the comfort of the ship's deck. This cruise features guided shore excursions including a tour through Acadia National Park, free tastings at the Atlantic Brewing Company, and a tour of the famous Maine Coast Botanical Gardens.

About American Cruise Lines

American Cruise Lines is the largest U.S. cruise company and operates the newest fleet of riverboats and small cruise ships on more than 35 itineraries around the country. The line is known for working closely with guests and travel agents before, during, and after a cruise to create a highly personalized cruise experience. Long established and deeply experienced in cruise travel, American Cruise Lines has most recently received world-wide recognition as the first line to revive paddlewheel river cruising in America. To learn more about American Cruise Lines, visit www.americancruiselines.com, or call (800) 814-6880. Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/americancruiselines or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/american_cruise.