



**AMERICAN  
STAGE TOURS**

Presents...

***The Panama Canal on The Emerald  
Princess***

***Fort Lauderdale To Los Angeles***

***March 5 - 21, 2024***

***17 Days/16 Nights***

Come join us as we get away and soak up the sun-drenched weather of the Panama Canal. Sail between two oceans on a **Grand Panama Canal Cruise**. Explore and visit island gems in the Caribbean, lush rainforests in Central America, and the culturally diverse ports along the Pacific coast. The most impressive of all is the Panama Canal itself. You'll enter at sea level and then your ship is lifted 85 feet through three separate locks before entering the emerald-green expanse of Gatun Lake. Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime voyage as you transit this historic canal connecting the Atlantic to the Pacific.

**Tuesday, March 5** - Our American Stage Tours motorcoach will transport you from our Bay Area pick-up points to the airport where we will depart for **Fort Lauderdale, Florida**. Tonight our accommodations will be in Fort Lauderdale. The hotel is set on the famous 17<sup>th</sup> Street Causeway, near the city's prime attractions and just minutes from the beach.

**Wednesday, March 6** - The morning is free to explore the city or just relax. We will be transported from the hotel to the beautiful Emerald Princess, our home for the next 15 nights. Our ports of call will be Cartagena, Fuerte Amador, Puntarenas, San Juan Del Sur, Huatulco and Puerto Vallarta.

**Thursday & Friday, March 7 & 8** - These two days we are at sea. This will be a good day to get to know this beautiful ship in the Princess fleet. At 965 feet in length there is lots to keep you busy. Las Vegas-style Casino, Deluxe Show Lounges, Lotus Spa, Fitness Center, Four Pools, Duty-Free Boutique, Art Auctions and much more.

**Saturday, March 9** - Today we dock in **Cartagena**. This Spanish colonial port is Columbia's most fascinating city, full of monasteries, palaces and mansions. See one of the greatest 17<sup>th</sup> Century Spanish fortresses, the Castillo de San Felipe de Barajas. We will be in port from 7 am to 3 pm.

**Sunday, March 10** - Today we transit the Panama Canal. Since opening in 1914, the **Panama Canal** has been considered an amazing feat of engineering that is acclaimed the world over as one of man's greatest triumphs. The United States' canal project in Panama began in 1904 after a private French company failed, having lost millions of dollars and thousands of lives in the process. Ten years later, the Panama Canal was completed at a cost of \$387 million. One of the most monumental tasks that had to be undertaken was the eradication of malaria and yellow fever. The engineering problems included excavating a nine-mile-trough through the Continental Divide, damming a river to create the largest man-made lake of its time, and designing and constructing the massive sets of locks and gates. Water for the locks, around 52 million gallons per transit, is supplied by **Gatun Lake**, an immense artificial reservoir of 168 square miles. Surrounded by lush, impenetrable jungle, it is one of the most scenic portions of a Canal transit. We will transit the locks on the Caribbean side of the Panama Canal entering Gatun Lake and exit on the Pacific Ocean side.

**Monday, March 11** - **Fuerte Amador** (Panama City), situated at the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal, is a man-made peninsula extending out into the Pacific Ocean. The one-mile causeway was created by connecting four small islands with rocks excavated from the Panama Canal. There are several shops, restaurants, and other specialty stores centered around a large marina that serves as a tender dock. The causeway also affords a panoramic view of Panama City's impressive skyline and serves as the home for the Smithsonian Institute of Tropical Research. We will be in port from 6:30 am to 6 pm.

**Tuesday, March 12** - At Sea

**Wednesday, March 13** - Today we arrive in Costa Rica at **Puntarenas**. The largest province in Costa Rica, Puntarenas boasts fourteen national parks and reserves. Visit the Carara Biological Reserve, a paradise of rare birds where a dozen species of hummingbirds can be seen. We will be in port from 7 am to 7 pm.

**Thursday, March 14** - Today we stop in **San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua**. Nicaragua is the largest Central American nation and has stunning landscapes, vast cultural treasures, and an intriguing history. Until recent times Nicaragua was unfortunately known for the civil war (Sandinistas and Contras) that raged from the late 70's through much of the 80's. Today, the soldiers and guerrillas have given way sightseeing in a beautiful country. We will be in port from 7 am to 6 pm.

**Friday, March 15** - At Sea

**Saturday, March 16** - Welcome to Mexico's newest resort on the Pacific Riviera. **Huatulco** is a tropical Eden with crystalline waters, coral reefs, and uncrowded beaches. Inland, the rugged coast range is thickly carpeted with rainforest and coffee plantations. While Huatulco is still in its early stages of development, travelers may note that the resort has a different feel from other destinations on the Mexican Riviera. That's because large areas of Huatulco have been designated as an ecological reserve. Huatulco is located in the state of Oaxaca where the foothills of the Sierra Madre del Sur Mountains meet the Pacific Ocean. We will be in port from 8 am to 5 pm.

**Sunday, March 17** - At Sea

**Monday, March 18** - For centuries, **Puerto Vallarta** was a sleepy fishing village, then director John Huston chose the village as the location for his film "Night of the Iguana," starring Richard Burton and Puerto Vallarta was sleepy no more. The city's transformation into an international resort had begun. Today, the city has its own "Gringo Gulch," a haunt of the rich famous. Travelers are also drawn by the climate, the excellent shopping with great values on leather goods, jewelry and handicrafts, and mile after mile of palm-lined beaches. We will be in port from 8 am to 5 pm.

**Tuesday & Wednesday, March 19 & 20** - At Sea

**Thursday, March 21** - This morning we sail into the **Port of San Pedro**. Our motorcoach will be waiting to transport us back to the Bay Area to our original pick-up points. We will have a hosted lunch at Harris Ranch.

**Price Includes:** 1 night lodging in Ft. Lauderdale, 15 nights on the Emerald Princess, all meals on ship, luggage handling, sky cap gratuities, transfers to and from airport, transfers to and from hotel, air flight to Ft. Lauderdale, all air and port taxes, motorcoach transfer back to the Bay Area from Los Angeles, lunch at Harris Ranch, Love Boat Care Insurance and **All Standard Dining And Hotel Gratuities On The Ship Except Alcohol.**

<b>Mini Suite W/ Balcony</b>	<b>\$6645.00 Per Person, Double</b>	<b>\$10845.00 Single</b>
<b>Outside W/ Balcony</b>	<b>\$5245.00 Per Person, Double</b>	<b>\$7945.00 Single</b>
<b>Outside W/O Balcony</b>	<b>\$4795.00 Per Person, Double</b>	<b>\$7185.00 Single</b>

Deposit: \$1000.00 Per Person, Double. Balance Due November 20, 2023

You may cancel up to December 11 with no penalty. Hotel and cruise accommodations are arranged by Princess Cruises. We will be sailing on the Bermudan registered Emerald Princess. **A passport is required on this trip.** There are three formal evenings on the ship. You do not have to be in a Tux and evening dress. Nice pants outfit for the ladies and shirt, tie and jacket for the gentlemen is fine. You may also choose to eat elsewhere on the ship those nights. If a fuel surcharge is imposed by either the cruise line or airline we will have to pass the cost on to you.

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Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Tel# \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

My Roommate Is \_\_\_\_\_ Princess Captain Circle# \_\_\_\_\_

One Bed \_\_\_ Two Beds \_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Seating \_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Seating \_\_\_ Anytime Dining \_\_\_ Cabin Type \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name on Passport \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_