

# Cruise TravelOnly *with Ken*

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## KEN'S MUSINGS...

### It's "Wave Season"

Wave Season happens each year between January and March, and this is when the cruise industry has great deals.

I am a broken record. I suggest over and over, that for not only the best price, but also the best value, you must book your cruise 12-18 months out.

Last minute deals are not something that you routinely find in Premium, or Luxury / Ultra Luxury cruise lines.

I am happy to chat about this with no obligation ever to book.

## What does "Luxury Cruising" really mean, and how is it different from Premium or Contemporary Cruise Lines?

In our latest YouTube video, TravelOnly with Ken explains what truly defines luxury and ultra luxury cruising, based on CLIA's official "New to Luxury and Ultra-Luxury Cruise Guide".

You will learn why luxury cruising focuses on quality over quantity, including smaller ships, higher staff to guest ratios, and more personalized service.

The video breaks down what is typically included in a luxury cruise fare, such as fine dining, beverages, Wi Fi, gratuities, and in some cases shore excursions or business class air.

I also explore what sets luxury dining, accommodations, enrichment programs, wellness offerings, and itineraries apart from contemporary cruise lines.

If you are new to luxury cruising and wondering whether it is worth the price, who it is really for, or how to choose the right cruise style, this video gives you a clear, practical framework.

Watch the full video on TravelOnly with Ken's YouTube Channel to see if luxury cruising fits your travel style. Link below:

[YouTube - Luxury Cruises Explained](#)

If you would like help comparing options or exploring whether a luxury cruise is right for you, get in touch for personalized guidance.

# ~ This is BIG ~

Northwest Passage Full Crossing - August 2027 Expedition Cruise

A 25-Day Journey where you can join the rare few who have voyaged through the Northwest Passage.

See full details here: [Northwest Passage - Full Details](#)



Watch HX Expeditions Short Video Below, Or Visit My Website:

[HX | Why Visit The Northwest Passage](#)

Take a look and get in touch. This is a journey of all journeys.

# So many cabin options...

## How do I choose the right one?

Your cabin may make or break your cruise experience. Here's how I guide my clients when choosing their stateroom:

### **Location matters - for many:**

- Mid-ship cabins are the most stable in rough seas.
- Forward cabins feel more motion and may be louder during docking and depending on deck level could be under or over the theatre.
- Aft cabins often have the best wake views but can be nearer to engine vibration on some ships. (Depends on Deck level)

### **Balcony or ocean view or inside cabin:**

- If the itinerary includes scenic cruising, like Alaska, Norway, or the Rhine River, a balcony may be worth it.
- For port-intensive trips, an ocean view or even inside cabin can be a smart value. We will talk about this at length.
- Are you on a warm or cold weather cruise? This could be a determining factor to your choice and if you would even use your balcony.
- Do you see yourself enjoying your morning coffee on the balcony, or are you like me/us and spend as little time in the cabin as possible?
- Having a balcony is a deeply personal choice - like window or aisle seats on the aircraft - and I will assist you to make the right choice for you.

### **Know your priorities:**

- Need quiet? Avoid decks above or below the pool or theatre.
- Love convenience? Book near elevators or your favorite venue. This is the same if you have mobility concerns.
- Prefer perks? Cruise lines have elevated cabin categories that can include exclusive dining, priority boarding, spa access, or other amenities.

### **Bigger isn't always better:**

- A well-located smaller cabin can feel more enjoyable than a large one in a noisy area, or if it is too far from elevators or your favourite spots on the ship.
- Bigger isn't always better for the ship size either. The bigger the ship the more "steps" you will do in a day, and don't underestimate the "commute time" from your cabin to the dinner venue.

### **Ask for guidance:**

- Every ship is different. What's a perfect spot on one ship may be less ideal on another.
- Also, what you want on an Ocean Ship may be different from a River Ship or an Expedition Ship.

Some of the comments above are "tongue in cheek", however I will review deck plans and layout differences with you honestly before I recommend a category.

If you're dreaming about a 2027/2028 sailing, now's the time to secure your cabin while the best locations are still open. Get your preferred cabin reserved before it disappears.