

Cruise Travel Only *with Ken*

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KEN'S MUSINGS...

In recent months I have been putting much more energy into building out the articles and resources on my consumer website. My goal is to create a place where travellers can easily find clear, practical information about cruising and travel in general.

My articles tend to focus on what is news worthy currently in the travel industry, while other articles cover topics that every traveller eventually encounters, including passports, flight disruptions, travel preparation, etc.

I want the site to be a useful resource that travellers can return to when they are planning their next journey.

If you have not visited the blog recently, take a look at my recent content additions.

The link to my blog/website:

Scroll down to "Featured Travel Stories"

<https://kengraham.travelonly.com/>

The Luxury And Upper Premium Cruise Pricing Secret Most Travellers Discover Too Late

Cruises should be something you plan far in advance, but many travellers still assume the best prices appear closer to departure. In the luxury and upper premium cruise world, the opposite is usually true.

Over the past year I have watched several sailings increase dramatically in price. In some cases the exact same cruise, same ship, same cabin category, and same sailing date, rose by ten to eighteen thousand dollars simply because the booking was made later.

The difference was not the itinerary or the experience. It was timing.

Luxury and Upper Premium Cruise lines release their voyages with the lowest pricing, and often the best perks such as free land, 2For1 land, free air, etc., when the inventory first opens. As cabins sell and availability shrinks, the fares move up through several pricing tiers. Waiting rarely unlocks a better deal. It usually means fewer cabin choices, fewer incentives, and a higher price.

In this newsletter I will share a few real booking examples that show just how dramatic those increases can be.

If you are looking to book into the luxury or upper premium category of cruise lines - river, ocean, or expedition - the best time to book is now, and be looking out at least 12-18 months.

Book Now Or Book Later?

The information that I will share below is not only my knowledge and advice as a Travel Advisor that specializes in cruise vacations, but also my personal experience.

The three examples laid out below, are three cruises that I am personally booked on this year, and next, and that I booked 18 and 24 months before the sailing date.

I am going to name cruise lines, because this is factual pricing data that can be backed up from our booking date on the cruise line invoice, and the pricing that currently shows on the cruise line consumer website.

The first is AmaWaterways - The Mekong River with a pre and post cruise land package and a sailing date of January 2027.

- This cruise now costs CAD ~\$10,000.00 more
- Originally booked in February 2025 for the sail date of January 2027
- We paid CAD \$19,468.00 per cabin for a 19-day land and river experience
- One year later - February 2026 - same sailing / same inclusions - CAD \$29,682.00 per cabin

NOTE: When inventory was initially released there was a 2-For-1 deal on the land portion, which is an incredible savings by itself. Additionally, lower priced cabins were also available, which are the first to sell out.

See my video here: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/TcxBHnwMG40>

The next two are very similar scenarios and are Viking Ocean itineraries. One is the British Isles Explorer and the other is Viking's Australia and New Zealand.

The British Isles Explorer we booked in July of 2024 for the sailing in April of 2026, and now the cost is CAD \$15,000.00 more.

The Australia New Zealand we booked in December 2024 for the sailing in December 2026, and now the cost is CAD \$18,000.00 more.

See both my videos here:

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/fU5cW5kSK6M>

https://www.youtube.com/shorts/RqjDkw_-_VQ

My Message is: Today, there are great deals for cruises that don't sail for another 18-24 months, and many hard-core cruisers that love the upper-premium and luxury lines know this.

If you are thinking of a cruise, don't wait... talk to me today.

~Get In On This Early~

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](#)

The sailing date of this cruise is 17-Months from now.

Pricing for this cruise will only go up, and I have contracted pricing that is currently lower than HX's Consumer Booking Site.

This is a prime example of the above - don't wait - book now, because even my contract pricing is not guaranteed to last.

Our HOST - HX Expeditions



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.