

# THE MAGNIFICENT **GREAT LAKES**

THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER & NORTH AMERICA'S FIVE GREAT LAKES **ABOARD THE LUXURIOUS M.S. SAINT LAURENT** JULY 8-17, 2016

INTRODUCING THE M.S. SAINT LAURENT





Welcome aboard the M.S. Saint Laurent, a superbly designed boutique vessel that captures the unparalleled intimacy, tranquility and grace of small-ship cruising. Featuring a beautifully appointed interior and only 105 contemporary staterooms, she radiates modern sophistication as she glides along the crystal-clear waters of the Great Lakes. And with outstanding cuisine, complimentary beverages, stylish details and luxurious public areas and lounges, the newly refurbished Saint Laurent offers her guests a memorable, unique sanctuary at sea.

Immerse yourself in the glorious scenery and history of North America's Great Lakes—the largest freshwater ecosystem in the world—from the plush comfort and refined elegance of the M.S. Saint Laurent. Admire towering, rugged bluffs, untouched deep-green wilderness and historic ports on a tranquil odyssey along the St. Lawrence River and all five majestic Great Lakes. Behold the thunderous power of Niagara Falls from the remarkable perspective of a Hornblower vessel. Take in postcard-perfect vistas while navigating the shimmering waters of Georgian Bay, a striking natural setting with lush, pine-dotted islands. Encounter the pristine beauty and rich native heritage of Manitoulin Island, the largest freshwater island in the world. Experience the Victorian atmosphere on idyllic Mackinac Island, where horse-drawn carriages trundle past gingerbread-trimmed houses and lovely gardens, and charming shops tempt visitors with decadent fudge. Explore the legendary Soo Locks at Sault Ste. Marie, and step aboard a 1917 Great Lakes freighter turned magnificent maritime museum. From Montreal to Chicago, this ten-day cruise reveals North America's most treasured waterways and landscapes like you've never seen them before.

# PROGRAM INCLUSIONS:

- Scenic 10-day voyage aboard the luxurious 210-guest M.S. Saint Laurent
- Select complimentary expert-led shore excursions
- All meals and beverages, including coffee, water, juice, soft drinks, beer, wine and cocktails (excluding premium brands)
- Daily cocktail hour featuring cold canapés and bar snacks one hour prior to dinner
- Private Go Next reception, including hot and cold canapés and beverages
- An experienced Go Next program manager
- Smart-casual attire throughout your journey no formal wear required
- Attentive service from a caring staff of 85 to ensure a remarkable voyage
- Informative and enriching lectures from carefully selected onboard speaker
- Comprehensive pre-departure information

# **NOT INCLUDED:**

- Airfare
- Round-trip transfers
- Passport
- Gratuities
- Port taxes and fees
- Premium excursions (Individual Pursuits)

Prices are based on double occupancy and subject to change.

# **STATEROOM CATEGORIES**

Outside Stateroom Private Terrace

\$8,399

Outside Stateroom Promenade Access

\$7,699

**Outside Staterooms** 

\$7.199

\$6.999

\$6,599

\$6,299

\$5,799

\$5,499

\$4,999

Inside Stateroom

\$4,499







# **ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1: MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Embark on your luxury cruise aboard the M.S. Saint Laurent in Montreal, a graceful city that blends North American charm with European charisma. A UNESCO City of Design and home to Mount Royal—the three-peaked mountain from which the city takes its name—Montreal is both a cultural and natural gem.

#### DAY 2: SAILING THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER & LAKE ONTARIO

#### DAY 3: NIAGARA FALLS (WELLAND CANAL) & SAILING LAKE ERIE

Disembark near the historic, 27-mile-long Welland Canal, first built in 1824 to allow ships to pass around just below Lock 1. Next, traveling by deluxe motor coach, take in magnificent vistas as you pass through the area's fertile agricultural vineyards. Then witness the thunderous power of majestic Niagara Falls, one of the world's most astounding natural wonders. Board a state-of-the-art Hornblower cruise vessel and experience a thrilling, up-close perspective of the famous Horseshoe Falls, with its breathtaking misty spray. Afterwards, travel the scenic Niagara Parkway on the ridge overlooking the river. Enjoy lunch at a charming local restaurant before returning to the ship.

#### DAY 4: DETROIT, MICHIGAN (WINDSOR, ONTARIO)

On the way from Lake Erie to Lake Huron, stop in Windsor, the "City of Roses." Canada's Automotive Capital and the original home of the Ford Motor Company, Windsor also boasts lush, spacious parks and elegant gardens. Transit the bridge to Detroit and delve into intriguing American culture at the renowned Henry Ford Museum. Highlights of the museum include the presidential limos, including the car which carried JFK on that fateful day in Texas, the bus Rosa Parks rode in that sparked the Civil Rights movement, and the chair from Ford's Theater which Abraham Lincoln was sitting in when assassinated. Return to Windsor for a short panoramic tour before returning to the ship (time permitting).

### DAY 5: SCENIC SAILING OF LAKE HURON

#### DAY 6: LITTLE CURRENT, MANITOULIN ISLAND (GEORGIAN BAY)

Delight in a scenic early morning cruise of Georgian Bay. whose verdant, pine-fringed coasts, towering, rugged cliffs, and diamond-blue waters have inspired some of Canada's most celebrated painters. Arrive at the small town of Little Current and travel by motor coach to Manitoulin Island, the world's largest freshwater island. Enjoy commentary highlighting its rich native and nautical history as well as local daily life, before stopping at the Immaculate Conception Church. A spiritual focal point of the native community, this uniquely designed church brings together the beliefs and customs of both the native Ojibwe culture and the Catholic Church. Following your visit, enjoy an interpretive tour of the Old Mill Heritage Center Museum and Art Gallery, housed in a historic pulp mill. Browse the arts and crafts shop and take part in a Native American smudging ceremony. Back in Little Current, return to the ship or explore the community's quaint downtown shops, docks or waterfront parks at your leisure.

#### DAY 7: SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO/MICHIGAN (IZAAK WALTON BAY & LAKE SUPERIOR)

Arrive at Sault Ste. Marie, the oldest city in the Midwest, originally established in the 17th century as one settlement by Jesuit missionaries on both sides of the lake. Disembark on the Canadian side and transfer to the U.S. side, where the Valley Camp Museum Ship awaits. Built by American Ship Building, Co. in 1917, this former ship is now home to the world's largest Great Lakes maritime museum. Explore the cargo's rich collection of photography, paintings, shipwreck artifacts including lifeboats from the sunken Edmund Fitzgerald, models and fascinating nautical exhibits. Then visit the mighty Soo Locks—one of the world's largest and busiest locks—enabling ships to travel between Lake Superior and the lower Great Lakes. Uncover the history of this engineering marvel at the Soo Locks Visitors Center, before stopping at the River of History Museum as well as Sault Ste. Marie's historic Water Street.

#### DAY 8: MACKINAC ISLAND (LAKE MICHIGAN)

Step back into the 19th century on Mackinac Island, a naturally resplendent island located at the ends of the Straits of Mackinac, between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. A national historic landmark steeped in Victorian-era charm, Mackinac Island has a no car policy and transportation is only by bicycle or horse and carriage. Embark on your excursion aboard a horse-drawn carriage and gain insight into the island's compelling history at Michigan's oldest building, Fort Mackinac. Behold the imposing stone walls and cannons of this impressive fort, built atop a soaring cliff by British soldiers in 1780.

#### DAY 9: SCENIC SAILING OF LAKE MICHIGAN

#### DAY 10: CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Disembark the M.S. Saint Laurent in Chicago, Illinois, a magnetic cultural hub situated at the southwestern tip of Lake Michigan. The third-largest city in the United States, the "Windy City" beckons visitors with its photogenic urban skyline, superb museums and art galleries, sprawling parks and inventive culinary scene.

Itinerary and sightseeing are subject to change.

## FEATURED ONBOARD LECTURER

Frederick Stonehouse has authored over thirty books on maritime history and has been a consultant for both the U.S. National Park Service and Parks Canada. He has been an "on-air" expert for National Geographic, History Channel and Fox Family, as well as many regional media productions. Awards for contributions to maritime history have been received from



Underwater Canada, Our World Underwater, the Association for Great Lakes Maritime History and the Marine Historical Society of Detroit. Fred teaches maritime history at Northern Michigan University and is an active consultant for numerous maritime projects and programs.