



## **Windstar Cruises Implements the Next Phase of Its Degrees of Difference Initiative**

### ***Windstar Adds Amenities and Enhancements to Fleet***

Windstar Cruises is currently implementing its latest phase of its Degrees of Difference initiative featuring added amenities and enhancements to the fleet, which will be completed in stages, finishing the summer of 2010.

“The next phase of the Degrees of Difference initiative will take the ships to a new degree of excellence,” said Diane Moore, president of Windstar Cruises. “Our guests enjoy fine dining, luxurious accommodations, outstanding service, dream destinations and the feeling that they are sailing on their own private yacht. With this latest initiative, we look forward to delivering an experience that continues to raise the bar.”

#### **Fine Dining**

The Restaurant menus on all three ships will be reinvigorated with innovative new dishes from land and sea, bringing the flavors of the world to guest plates. This unique culinary dining experience will exhibit flavors of the destinations that Windstar Cruises visits.

*Wind Surf's* alternative restaurant Degrees now features a rotating menu reflecting the fresh and seasonal preparations of Mediterranean cooking. The menu highlights popular flavors of Mediterranean Rim cuisines showcasing the use of authentic ingredients and simple techniques. The spirited menu highlights the regional and local cooking reflective of the areas visited. Menu examples include: Tuscan shrimp and white beans; grilled lamb loin chops with green olives, preserved lemon and spinach; baked snapper with nicoise olives, tomato and basil; shellfish in saffron brodetto; pompano with rouille and toasted almonds; crepes with champagne poached pears and crème fraiche; and panna cotta with tangerines in dark rum syrup.

Other dining enhancements include the addition of a spa dining menu and redesigned menu holders with sleek and elegant lines.

#### **Yachtsmen's Discovery Wine Program**

An impressive 21 wines comprises Windstar's Yachtsmen's Discovery Wine Program showcasing a Wines By The Glass menu offering guests an outstanding choice of 14 distinct varietals/blends, drawn from the soils of 13 distinct appellations from Pacific Rim locales of California, Washington, Oregon, Australia and New Zealand. Ten white wines, ten red wines and one blush in the varietal categories of Chardonnay, Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling, Viognier, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Zinfandel and Vin Gris de Cigare are offered.

The carefully-crafted wine selections are from New World wine producers with well-established reputations for consistently producing high quality wines and who are thought of as innovators and leaders within their own regional or product focus.

Each glass is a generous 6-ounce pour and are priced from \$6.50 to \$14.50 per glass. Entire bottles are also available for purchase. Wines By The Glass will be available in the Lounge and The Restaurant on all three ships as well as in the Yacht Club and in Degrees on *Wind Surf*. Wine flights and wine tastings will also be offered.

#### **Spa Suite Accommodations**

For those looking for a retreat for the mind, body and soul, Windstar has introduced relaxing spa suites on *Wind Surf*. Each oceanview spa suite features a queen-size bed with fine, luxurious microfiber bed linens, lush spa robes, an elegant orchid flower arrangement, a spacious sitting area, two bathrooms, a flat-screen TV with DVD

player, and Bose SoundDock speakers for Apple iPods. In addition to the four plush fiber-fill pillows that come standard in each spa suite, guests will be able to choose specialty pillows from a pillow menu. Menu selections include a feather down firm support pillow, a gusseted hypoallergenic medium support pillow, an organic buckwheat hull and lavender pillow and a “snore-no-more” hypoallergenic foam core pillow.

In addition to Windstar’s L’Occitane bath amenities, rich emollient WindSpa products from O SPA London will be offered in each spa suite along with an aromatherapy essence which will be refreshed daily. Guests will also receive a nightly turn down gift such as organic lavender hand night cream, eye gel, or body cream from WindSpa.

Three unique tea collections by Tea Forté will be presented to guests to choose from for in-suite tea service. Collections include: sanctuary—teas for well-being; herbals—soothing artisan herbal teas; or exotics—adventurous blends. Each collection comes in an elegant ribbon box containing 20 silken tea infusers. Brewing service features contemporary, porcelain teaware and is available 24 hours a day through room service. Guests will also be able to indulge in a sumptuous platter of fresh fruit delivered daily to each spa suite.

To welcome spa suite guests, a festive cocktail party will be held in their honor in WindSpa’s reception area. They will also receive an invitation to Windstar’s signature “Spa Under the Stars” evening event which showcases a sampling of spa experiences with complimentary refreshments on deck under the stars.

For the ultimate in pampering, an array of decadent WindSpa treatments are included in the spa suites program featuring The OnboardSpa Company and their certified organic O SPA London products and services. Spa suite guests will also have the service of a private spa concierge in WindSpa.

Spa services that spa suite guests receive during their seven-day cruise include two 60-minute facials which are designed to soothe, nourish and restore skin utilizing the purest ingredients from nature. Guests can relax and rejuvenate during two 60-minute massages of their choice selecting from Balinese, Swedish, classic, or sports massage. Two grooming treatments of choice—manicure, pedicure or shave—are also included in the package. In addition, spa suite guests receive unlimited fitness, Pilates and Yoga classes.

### **Relaxation and Fitness Enhancements**

All guests will be able to enjoy new rejuvenating poolside spa treatments that take pampering to a whole new level. Offerings include a 30-minute reflexology session, a foot and ankle massage (complete with Himalayan salt scrub), an hour-long traditional sport massage or Swedish massage. Each treatment begins with a facial towel infused with Signature O SPA Essence – an exotic, organic aromatherapy blend with lemongrass, lime and cedar as guests indulge while enjoying views from the deck. Spa reservations are bookable in advance at [www.windstarcruises.com](http://www.windstarcruises.com)

*Wind Surf’s* Fitness Center and *Wind Star* and *Wind Spirit’s* Gyms are receiving new state-of-the-art fitness equipment including weight machines, treadmills, bikes and stair climbers from Technogym, a world leader in the design of fitness equipment.

### **Inspired Activities**

Water sports enthusiasts appreciate the up-close and personal views of the world’s most dramatic coastlines with Windstar’s complimentary waterskiing, windsurfing, sailing, ski-tubing and kayaking from the ship’s watersports platform located at the ship’s aft Marina Deck. Windstar has been investing in new watersports equipment on all three ships and new additions include an inflatable trampoline on *Wind Surf* and a flotation mat on *Wind Star* and *Wind Spirit*.

The ships’ library DVD collection of feature films has been expanded along with travel, adventure and discovery favorites for guests to use in their staterooms. A collection of new travel and guide books has also been added to the library. In addition to Windstar’s iPod program, where guests check out an iPod to listen to music during their sailing, Windstar will offer a Kindle program for booklovers for reading e-books and other digital media.

This year, Windstar's Signature Collection Host Series returned by popular demand allowing guests the opportunity to travel with luminaries in the world of food, wine, photography, art and sports. Windstar will continue to offer the program in 2010 and beyond and will also add enrichment and port lectures on sailings.

For those who love to shop, Windstar's Signature Shops will be refurbished and will showcase stylish product lines and unique items.

### **Personalized Shore Excursions**

Windstar Cruises now offers WSC Personalized Services which was designed to enhance and personalize Windstar vacations. Windstar guests now have a variety of services available to them to complement their cruise, allowing them to experience a cruise vacation that is personalized to their needs. WSC Personalized Services is a guest's personal concierge, assisting them with pre- or post-cruise arrangements along with any requests during their cruise.

WSC Personalized Services can provide: hotel accommodations, villas/apartments rentals, car rentals, rail tickets, transportation, bike rentals, golf tee times, car and driver, private tours, private guides, sightseeing, event tickets, city stopovers, customized shore excursions, restaurant reservations, airline arrangements, transfers, group services and pre- and post-cruise packages.

WSC Personalized Services utilizes an extensive list of local merchants and service providers where Windstar sails. The WSC Personalized Services team is well-traveled and experienced in concierge services and the art of trip planning and works within a guest's budget to fulfill their requests.

In addition to WSC Personalized Services, Windstar will also add personal iPod Discovery Walks in Italy, Croatia, France, Greece, Monaco, Portugal and Spain where guests can enjoy a guided tour of the destination on an iPod.

### **Enhanced e-Sail Docs**

In 2009, Windstar introduced its e-Sail Docs program to support its environmental efforts. Windstar guests who opt for e-Sail Docs, receive their cruise documents earlier and in a more convenient fashion since they are delivered electronically. Later this year, e-Sail Docs will reveal a new look and feel and include additional information on ship services.

### **About Windstar Cruises**

Windstar Cruises operates three sailing yachts known for their pampering without pretense and their ability to visit the hidden harbors and secluded coves of the world's most treasured destinations. Carrying just 148 to 312 guests, the luxurious ships of Windstar cruise to nearly 50 nations, calling at 100 ports throughout Europe, the Caribbean and the Americas. For more information including rates and itineraries contact Ask Mr Cruise at (+47) 23 62 82 00 or [post@askmrcruise.no](mailto:post@askmrcruise.no)

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