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Tweet: Emerald Cruises offers a Christmastime cruise for every type of traveller; www.emeraldcruiises.ca

Emerald Cruises Offers a Christmastime Sailing to Suit Every Type of Traveller

Book by December 23 to receive free drinks package in addition to savings up to \$4,000 per person

Vancouver, BC (December, 2020) – As we settle in for a cozy holiday season spent largely at home, travel lovers start to dream about future Christmas or winter holiday trips that span the globe. Luckily, Emerald Cruises' array of river and yacht sailings itineraries around the winter holidays offer something for just about every type of traveller, from those looking to explore a winter wonderland to balmy weather seekers alike:

- **The Christmas Connoisseur:** A river cruise calling on some of the most enchanting Christmas Markets in Europe is a dream come true for any Christmas enthusiast. Wandering through the gingerbread-inspired stalls, sipping mulled wine and shopping for traditional ornaments and unique gifts is the perfect way to usher in the holiday spirit while satisfying the desire to experience the timelessness of the holiday season in Europe. Don't want to miss even a single cozy evening spent by the Christmas tree? Not to worry—each river ship is fully decked out in elegant holiday regalia. Emerald Waterways' 2021 and 2022 [Christmas Markets sailings](#) range from five to 15 days with sailings along the Rhine, Danube and Rhône rivers.
- **The Adventurer:** Southeast Asia is not the most obvious Christmas destination, but that's just the point for the adventure-loving traveller. In fact, a [Mekong River sailing through Vietnam and Cambodia in December](#) allows for the chance to explore the holiday season through the lens of an ancient and fascinating culture. Festivities and decorations adorn the villages and cities along the exotic Mekong river, with the largest celebrations happening in Ho Chi Minh City, where Christmas Eve is a major holiday complete with a Vietnamese feast. You may even see multiple Santas zooming by on scooters. Bonus: balmy temperatures along the Mekong in December make this sailing extra attractive for those looking to escape the winter chill. Sailings and land packages of 13-21 days are available for the 2021 and 2022 season.
- **The Bucket Lister:** [A holiday sailing to the Holy Land onboard Emerald Cruises' soon-to-launch super yacht, Emerald Azzurra](#), offers the opportunity for intrepid travellers to check multiple items off their bucket list. The eight-day Holy Land at Christmastime sailing pays call on Port Said,

Egypt where guests can visit the Great Pyramids of Giza and enjoy a Felucca cruise along the Nile before spending two days in Haifa, Israel where guests can book a DiscoverMORE excursion to Nazareth or the Sea of Galilee. Perhaps the highlight of this sailing for bucket listers as well as historians and bible scholars alike are the two days spent in Ashdod, a city that plays a major role in the teachings of the Bible and still marks the starting point for pilgrimage to the Holy Land. From here, travellers can choose from excursions to Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Dead Sea and Tel Aviv—all bucket list worthy destinations.

Just in time for the holiday season, [Emerald Cruises is offering a free, Emerald Extended Drink Package](#) with any 2021 or 2022 Christmastime river or yacht cruise booking made by December 23, 2020. The Extended Drink Package includes a selection of wine, draft beer and soft drinks available throughout the day.

The free Extended Drinks Package is combinable with the current savings offers of:

- On **European Christmas Market river cruises**, savings of up to \$3,000 per couple
- On **Southeast Asia river cruises**, savings of \$4,000 per couple on itineraries of 13 or more days;
- On **Emerald Yacht Cruises**, Earlybird pricing of up to 20% off full fares.

In addition, on all these itineraries, guests will save up to an additional 10% off 2022 sailings, when paying in full 12 months prior to departure with Emerald Cruises' Super Earlybird promotion.

All bookings come with the line's flexible booking policy that allows guests to defer travel plans and transfer to an alternate departure date or itinerary up to 60 days prior to departure with no Emerald Cruises fees.

Those booking a 2022 cruise and looking for additional flexibility and security can purchase the new [Platinum Protection Plan](#), which provides coverage for guests who may fall ill or who's travel plans are affected by Covid-19. The Platinum Protection Plan allows for 100% refund of cruise fare when enacted up to 31 days prior to departure, and 70% refund when enacted between 15 and 30 days prior. This plan can be added to eligible river cruise bookings for \$395 per person and to Emerald Azzurra yacht sailings for \$495.

Emerald Cruises is the parent brand of Emerald Waterways and the newly formed Emerald Yacht Cruises. The *Emerald Azzurra*, the first yacht to launch under the Emerald Yacht Cruises brand, is a 100-guest super yacht that will ply the warm waters of the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Red seas. Emerald Waterways features nine branded Star-Ships offering river sailings in Europe and on the Mekong, as well

as a chartered river ship along the Volga River in Russia (MS *Nizhny Novgorod*). The brand offers contemporary deluxe ships, outstanding service and an incredibly inclusive pricing plan that has won them the honor of being named Best River Cruise Line for Value by the Cruise Critic Editors' Pick Awards for five years running.

Additional information can be found by contacting your local travel advisor; on Emerald Cruises' website, www.emeraldcruiises.ca; or by calling the consumer/travel agent reservations line at 844-626-4303. Digital brochure downloads are available on the website.

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EW-31 CAN-December 2020