



19 Day Panama Canal Cruise Tour

Featuring Florida, Central America, Mexican Riviera, & California!

Tentative Tour Itinerary

March 29th - April 16, 2019

Your amazing high seas adventure begins today! Get set for the tour of a lifetime as you experience, first-hand, the engineering wonders of the Panama Canal (full day time transit of Canal), the world's greatest shortcut. Sail the canal while aboard the brand new Norwegian Bliss, during its annual spring repositioning cruise, from Miami to Los Angeles. Cruise the 77 km canal and visit some of the most exotic destinations on earth, including ports in Columbia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico and more! The Bliss, a breakaway plus class and NCL's newest ship, offers 20 delectable dining options, 13 bars and lounges, a casino, spa, pools, fitness center, and so much more, making it a destination all its own. Please review the following daily itinerary and call, email or visit our website if you have any questions. Your tour manager looks forward to making this an enjoyable and care-free getaway that will leave you...inspired!

Thursday, March 29th/19 – Day #1 Depart Maritimes- Arrive Miami (Welcome Reception)_

- Depart the Maritimes on your scheduled flight, (TBA) en route to Toronto, where you will meet your tour manager. The group will clear Customs in Toronto before boarding Air Canada flight for Miami. (Airfare included; bag fees are your expense).
- **PLEASE NOTE:** All passengers are required to pay \$26.25 for 1st checked piece of luggage (up to maximum of 50 lbs); **second checked bag is \$36.75 per pers.** Carry-on luggage is free, up to max. of 22 lbs per bag. Additional fees apply for overweight bags. Visit www.aircanada.com for more details. Any luggage fees are paid directly to Air Canada. Fees are charged on BOTH outbound & return flights.
- Once we have collected our bags in Miami, we board our coach and transfer to our hotel (Transfer fee included). During your transfer this morning we will also enjoy a complimentary 1.5 hour tour of the Miami area so you can get acquainted with the area and see some highlights of Collins Ave and South Beach area.
- Your tour manager checks the group in to your Miami hotel (hotel TBA), distributes your room key, and has your bag sent to your room (bag handling fee included; 1 bag per person). Please note rooms are not guaranteed until 3:00 p.m. While all requests for early check in have been made we cannot guarantee rooms until the hotel check in times. While rooms are being ready we will be enjoying Miami and South Beach area with our short locally guided tour. (included in cost)
- Take time to rest, or get out and enjoy the sunshine and spring air, before our 5:45 p.m. "Welcome Reception," at our hotel (TBA). This special get together will give you all a chance to get to know your tour manager and fellow Panama Canal enthusiasts (Enjoy one complimentary alcoholic or non alcoholic beverage and appetizers- price included).
- The remainder of the evening is free for you to create memorable Miami moments...your way!

Friday, March 30th/19 – Day #2 Board the new NCL Bliss (B, L, D)

- Enjoy a relaxing morning in "The Sunshine State," complete with a complimentary breakfast.

- Please be sure to cover any incidental charges (e.g. room service) you may have incurred before our transfer from our hotel to the cruise pier to begin our embarkation process for your amazing Panama Canal cruise tour onboard the brand new NCL Bliss.
- Your Collins Tours staff completed your cruise check in advance for you, so relax while your bags are sent to your assigned stateroom (bag handling fees included).
- All of our cabins may not be ready upon boarding, but lunch is! Enjoy your first meal aboard the Bliss at your leisure while you wait for all cabins to be cleaned and ready for your stay. (Included).
- All meals are included during your cruise, with endless options to satisfy any craving!
- Our ship sets sail today at 4:00 p.m. Plan to make your way out on the top deck to bid Bon Voyage to Miami as you set sails on an unforgettable experience on the newest ship at sea!

Saturday, March 31st/19 - Day #3 At Sea (B, L, Cocktail Reception, Group Dinner)

- Relax during your first day at sea, exploring the Bliss at your leisure.
- Check out the ship's daily program for featured shows and entertainment while cruising.
- This evening meet your fellow Collins Tours clients for a Collins Tours Cocktail party at sea (included) at (TBA) for 1 hour of complimentary alcoholic beverages and hot appetizers. Following our cocktail reception we will have our welcome dinner in the ships main dining room. (Price included).

Sunday, April 01st/19 - Day #4 At Sea (B, L, Group Dinner)

- Refer to the ship's itinerary for today's special events.
- It's another day in free-style cruising heaven, so live like the Norwegians...smile bigger, explore further and relax longer!
- At 5:30 p.m. meet your tour manager and fellow friends for another group dinner reservation in the main dining room. (Price included).

Monday, April 02nd/19 - Day #5 Cartagena, Colombia (B, L, D)

- The Bliss is scheduled to arrive in Cartagena, Columbia, the gateway to South America, at 7:00 a.m.
- History abounds in Colombia's Caribbean coast, and your day in this beautiful, historic, old-walled city will be one to remember.
- Perhaps a local leather specialty shop is your agenda? Or maybe you want to do a little "Romancing the Stone" of your own, and shop for emeralds in the city where the movie of the same name was filmed.
- The Bliss sets sail again today at 2:00 p.m., so plan your day accordingly. Security requires that passengers to **be back on board 1-hour before sailing, during all scheduled stops. Please check your local daily activity sheet and the disembarkation board before leaving the ship with updates on all ports of call.**

Tuesday, April 03rd/19 - Day #6 DAYLIGHT Transit of the Panama Canal (B, L, Group Dinner)

- Be sure you are up bright and early today to get the full experience of the 48-mile trans-isthmus passage, the canal that changed the history of travel and worldwide transport of goods.
- Taking "the world's best shortcut," you travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean in about 10 hours! The Bliss is one of the few ships that cruise **ALL the way through the lock system.**

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- Refer to the ship's itinerary for today's other special activities.
- This is where that balcony stateroom is worth every penny and the first cabin selection that sells out on all Panama Canal Cruise Tours! At 5:30 p.m. meet your tour manager and fellow friends for another group dinner reservation in the main dining room. (Price included).

Wednesday, April 04th/19 - Day #7 at Sea (B, L, D)

- Warm breezes welcome you to the Pacific Ocean today!
- Free day to relax and enjoy NCL's newest marvel and enjoy the amenities of your ship only an elevator ride away!

Thursday, April 05th/19 - Day #8 Puntarenas, Costa Rica (B, L, D)

- At 7:00 a.m., you dock in exotic Puntarenas, the "Pearl of the Pacific," and home to Costa Rica's most popular beach resorts, 14 national parks and reserves, exotic plants & animals...and coffee!
- Search for unique crafts and enjoy the cultural infusion as you stroll the streets of this seaside shipping town, located on the Gulf of Nicoya.
- For a fantastic experience, join Collins Tours on their private **optional 4-hour shore excursion** to the tropical rainforest at Carara National Park, for a chance to see crocodiles and monkeys in their natural habitat, visit the lush gardens at Santa Lucia Village, and learn about Costa Rican fishing and farming in Tarcoles and Ganado towns, Extra charge: **PRICE is TBA.**
- Bid farewell to Costa Rica at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 06th/19 - Day #9 At Sea (B, L, D)

- Enjoy the warm breezes as we sail the Pacific, in search of exotic destinations in Central America.
- Refer to the ship's itinerary for today's cruise highlights.
- Join your Tour Director and fellow travellers this evening for a Group Dinner.

Saturday, April 07th/19 - Day #10 Puerto Quetzal, Guatemala (B, L, D)

- The ship is scheduled to dock at 8:00 a.m. in Puerto Quetzal.
- Highlights in this port city include a charming market and educational visitor's center.
- Join Collins Tours private **optional 4.5-hour shore excursion** to historic city of Antigua, a 90-minute trek to where 17-century colonial facades beckon and Guatemala's history comes alive.
- Set sail today for Mexico at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 08th/19 - Day #11 Puerto Chiapas, Mexico (B, L, D)

- Welcome to Puerto Chiapas in Southwestern Mexico. This small fishing and agricultural center is home to Ancient Mayan ruins and lush tropical rainforest. For a fantastic experience, join Collins Tours on their private **optional 4-hour shore excursion**, price TBA, and additional information will be supplied in advance.
- We expect to dock at 8:00 a.m., giving you the day to explore at your leisure.
- Perhaps a visit to the archaeological museum in nearby Tapachula is on the agenda today? All excursions or activities you select today are on your own and extra charges would apply.
- We set sail again today at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, April 09th/19- Day #13 at Sea (B, L, Cocktail Reception Group Dinner)

- Enjoy another full day at sea exploring the new NCL Bliss.
- Be sure to check the ship's itinerary for today's special events. This evening let us gather again together for another Cocktail Reception with complimentary alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages, and hot appetizers as we toast the high seas together one more time! After your reception and please follow you tour manager to the main dining room to a 5:30 p.m. group dinner.

Tuesday, April 10th/19 - Day #12 Manzanillo, Mexico (B, L, D)

- You are scheduled to arrive in Manzanillo; at approximately 10:00 a.m. Join Collins Tours again on another private **optional 4-hour shore excursion**, price TBA, and additional information will be supplied in advance. Or take the next 8 hours to explore this beautiful coastal town, visit the local butterfly farm, tour a turtle and crocodile farm or soar through the rainforest canopy during a local zipline tour (on own, price not included).
- Cast off is set for 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 11th/19- Day #14 Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (B, L, D)

- Start your day in the Mexican Riviera!
- Our ship arrives in Puerto Vallarta at 8:00 a.m., leaving you with 7 hours to explore this cosmopolitan, sophisticated city, considered by many to be the highlight of their Mexican escapade. Opt for a private **optional 4-hour shore excursion**, price TBA, and additional information will be supplied in advance, or explore great beaches, a diverse and varied society, set amongst cobblestone streets and a wealth of both natural beauty and manmade pleasures!
- We bid farewell to Puerto Vallarta at 5:00 p.m.
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Thursday, April 12th/19- Day #15 Sea Day (B, L, Group Dinner)

- Enjoy another full day at sea exploring the new NCL Bliss.
- Be sure to check the ship's itinerary for today's special events. This evening, we will gather aboard the Bliss to share our adventures over a delicious meal at 5:30 p.m. in the main dining room (price included). Tonight you will receive information regarding disembarkation in Los Angeles.

Friday, April 13th/19- Day #16 Sea Day (B, L, D)

- Enjoy another full day at sea exploring the new NCL Bliss.
- Be sure to check the ship's itinerary for today's special events. Tonight enjoy your last evening at your leisure and take all the entertainment your ship has to offer!

Saturday, April 14th/19- Day #17 Disembark NCL Bliss, Los Angeles, California (B)

- The Bliss docks in Los Angeles at 8:00 a.m. and we expect to disembark by 9:00 a.m.
- After clearing Customs & Immigration, board our coach for a 3.5-hour professionally guided sightseeing tour of Los Angeles, including Hollywood, Rodeo Drive and more (tour price

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included; tip at your discretion-guidelines on tipping included in our, "Important Information" section).

- Lunch today will be on your own (your expense).
- We will check into our hotel (TBA) late this afternoon allowing you the remainder of the evening to explore this amazing city at your leisure.

Sunday, April 15th/19- Day #18 Los Angeles, California (B, Farewell Dinner)

- Enjoy another buffet breakfast (included) this morning. Today we will have an optional excursion available (TBA). Or if you choose not to join us for our optional excursion then you will have a free day to do as you please.
- Lunch today will be on your own.
Join us this evening at a wonderful local restaurant (TBA) at 6pm as we gather for our fabulous "farewell dinner" complete with wine or beer, just another signature service of Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd. Enjoy a delicious dinner while reflecting on the past 18 days and the amazing memories shared. Raise a glass and toast to your time together and start thinking about the next trip of a lifetime!

Monday, April 16th/19- Day #19 Return Home (B)

- We check out today after another delightful complimentary breakfast. Please have your luggage ready for pick up TBA. Enjoy complimentary motorcoach transportation direct to LAX international airport. Please refer to flight details (TBA) for departure times from LAX and arrival times back into your final destination.
- Fees to check your bag with the airline are **not included** in your tour price. See details on page one of this itinerary.
- We depart Los Angeles together on Air Canada (flights TBA). All clients will then board connecting flights from Toronto, or Montreal, to their final destination. See your flight details included in your **final tour package**.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ***Tour itineraries are a **guideline and may need to be adjusted** by CTC or your tour manager. All times may/are impacted by unforeseen factors, such as weather, traffic, changes to concert or sporting event times, modifications to the cruise itinerary by NCL, Acts of God, emergencies. **Collins Tours is not responsible for any refunds, reimbursements, credits, or liable due to any changes in itineraries, modifications, or lost time in any one particular area due to any of the circumstances as described above.**
- U.S. Customs & Immigration requires **everyone to have a Valid Passport**. They have the right to refuse entry to anyone with a past record. It is the client's responsibility to ensure all information/ documentation is in good order prior to leaving your destination.
- All prescription medication will need to be labeled with proper names of passengers prescriptions.
- Collins Tours & Consulting Ltd is **not responsible or liable** for U.S. Customs refusal and all passengers denied entry are responsible for their return expenses to original destinations, or any portion of unused or lost travel.
- Duty Free rules: You are allowed to claim \$800 per person for travel outside the country for more than 7 days.

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Florida/Panama/Central America/Mexico/California Cruise-Tour Itinerary

- To simplify your shopping experiences, purchase American currency in advance, as many U.S. banks will not exchange your money without an account. Debit cards must be VISA or MasterCard flagged in order to be accepted at U.S. stores.

REMEMBER: Your tour manager handles: hotel check in/check out procedures, overall group management (e.g. timely transitions, itinerary planning), and group representation at events, hotels, Broadway, Customs and Immigration, and overall operation of each tour. We work hard to ensure that everyone enjoys his or her experience to the fullest. Gratuities for your tour manager and driver are not included in your tour price. Tour director tipping guidelines are \$5-7.00 per person per day and \$2.00 per person per day for step on guides and 2.00 per person for bus drivers.



Thank you for traveling with Collins Tours!

We look forward to serving you with ALL your future travel plans

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