

## MID-ATLANTIC INLAND PASSAGE CRUISE (INDEPENDENCE)

On this 8-day voyage, enjoy the tranquil beauty and pristine wilderness found along the Mid-Atlantic Inside Passage. This seldom traveled part of the Intracoastal Waterway offers spectacular examples of the East Coast's unique ecosystems and some of the best birdwatching in the country, all interwoven between historic towns and cities that have played pivotal roles in our Nation's development. Begin your journey in the enchanting city of Charleston, rich in Revolutionary and Civil War history. Led by our engaging expert guides, take a Historic Mansions Tour in Wilmington and visit the site of the Wright Brothers first flight in Kitty Hawk. Explore the Naval Station in Norfolk, the central hub of the US. Navy's Atlantic fleet. Stroll along the picturesque waterfront of St. Michaels, as we dock at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, a former shipbuilding village. End your journey in Baltimore and discover its maritime heritage and beautiful harbor. Along the way, enjoy the finest cuisine, our award-wining onboard enrichment programs, and the most personalized service available in cruising.



#### **ITINERARY**

## Day 1 Charleston, SC

The port city of Charleston is known for its cobblestone streets, gas-lit lamps, and pastel antebellum houses. The scene of Revolutionary War naval battles, legendary pirate tales, and Civil War sieges, the city is considered by many to be a living museum. Our experience in Charleston focuses on the city's role in the Civil War, culminating in a visit to Fort Sumter National Monument, the island fortress where the first shots of the Civil War rang out. You will also have time to visit Charleston's



famous Centre Market and stroll along the Battery, a waterfront lined with antebellum homes and gardens.

#### Day 2 Wilmington, NC

Founded in 1739, Wilmington prospered during its early years as a major port and ship-building center. Today, the city continues to flourish and boasts an outstanding reputation as a leader in preservation efforts. Explore Georgian, Victorian, and antebellum-style homes restored to their original grandeur. Stroll through beautiful gardens and city streets lined with shopping venues and seafood eateries.

## Day 3 Beaufort, NC / Morehead City, NC

Tour the meticulously restored town of Beaufort, NC, the third oldest town in North Carolina. Explore the 21-block historic district that includes a boardwalk lined with boats on one side and unique shops on the other. Just across the Newport River is Morehead City, a bustling port town, with a mix of fishing boats, art galleries, antiques, and a rich seafaring history.

### Day 4 Kitty Hawk, NC

In 1900, when Orville and Wilbur Wright were looking for a site for their aviation experiments, they sought a location with winds regularly over 15 mph, gentle hills for glider launching, a sandy surface for soft landings, and a remote location to avoid public attention. A citizen of Kitty Hawk wrote a letter to the Wright Brothers assuring them that Kitty Hawk was the ideal location. The rest is history.

#### Day 5 Norfolk, VA

Located at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, Norfolk has enjoyed a dramatic history dating back to 1607, when British settlers first arrived on American shores. Today, the city embraces its colorful past while thriving as a modern metropolis. Tall schooners share the surrounding waters with naval vessels and oystermen. Enjoy tours of historic districts, museums, restored homes, and the Norfolk Naval Station.

#### Day 6 St. Michaels, MD

Stroll along the waterfront of St. Michaels, or peruse the charming gift shops and boutiques on tree-lined Talbot Street. As we dock at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, the centerpiece of this historic shipbuilding village, you may gain a unique perspective into the design and construction of wooden boats while visiting the craftsmen who keep the tradition alive. St. Michaels is also a famous crabbing town with a proud waterman history that makes it both a beautiful town and a wonderfully unique place to visit.

#### Day 7 Baltimore, MD

Baltimore is a great American city, bustling with excitement, Colonial history, and a rejuvenated maritime spirit. Explore its history aboard the decks of celebrated ships and on the cobbled streets of the charming Inner Harbor. Visit Fort McHenry, where Francis Scott Key was inspired to pen "The Star-Spangled Banner".

### Day 8 Baltimore, MD

End your journey in Baltimore, one of America's finest cities. Spend an extra day to explore the Baltimore Aquarium and Civil War Museum.

#### Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.





## YOUR SHIP: INDEPENDENCE

YOUR SHIP: Independence

VESSEL TYPE: Coastal Cruise Ship

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 100

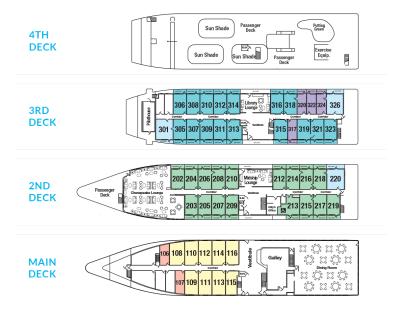
BUILT/REFURBISHED: 2010

The Independence is equipped with the largest staterooms in the industry with most suites featuring private balconies. Featuring the latest in navigation and safety technology, the Independence is fully stabilized, allowing American Cruise Lines to reach even more fascinating destinations in smooth comfort. Complete with an exercise area and putting green, the Independence offers guests a relaxed and casual atmosphere. Independence Amenities and Features: Complimentary wi-fi, Elevator access to all decks of the ship, Many lounges offer an atmosphere for every mood, Grand dining room accommodates all guests together, Open-air exercise area with views of passing scenery, Satellite tv and dvd player in all staterooms, Spacious staterooms are the largest on any crusie ship, Hotel-size private bathrooms with a full set of amenities, Private balconies, Twice daily stateroom service, Putting green on the top deck, Individual climate control, Evening entertainment focuses on music and history, Built in the USA, All american crew, Complimentary cocktail hour each evening, Onboard historians and naturalists, Culinary program featuring locally sourced ingredients, Personalized service, Open picture window





# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**





# **PRICING**

ADDITIONAL CHARGES: Port Charges. From 250 USD pp