

A Passage To

# BRITISH HONDURAS

12 Days from \$1995 per person

April 6 - 17, 2012 & November 9 - 20, 2012

& A Special 'New Years' departure December 27, 2012 - January 8, 2013

By Train & Ship From Chicago to British Honduras (nee Belize), Guatemala and the 'Land of the Maya'



Join us on a journey from downtown Chicago to the jungles of Central America by train and Ocean Liner! We begin in great comfort with an evening departure from the Windy City to New Orleans over the Illinois Central Railroad where all guests enjoy included sleeping accommodations. Then an overnight in New Orleans before the centerpiece of our holiday, passage by ship to exotic Belize, formerly British Honduras, one of the most fascinating places on earth. With the second longest barrier reef in the world, lush jungles filled with jaguars, ocelots and wild monkeys, Belize is a place of stunning natural beauty, famed for its breathtaking Mayan ruins at Altun-Ha. During our port call in Belize City, there is time to tour these magnificent Mayan ruins, a 'must-see' sight for any traveler. Happily, Belize is not the only exotic port of call on our passage from New Orleans, we also visit Costa Maya in Mexico's Yucatan, popular Cozumel and delightful unspoiled Roatan, in Honduras, rarely visited by cruise ships and highly rated by our guests.

Of course, any good holiday should couple remarkable scenery with superb comfort and this holiday does this nicely. Aboard the 'City of New Orleans' train we enjoy included sleeping car accommodations with included meals in the dining car and what better way to begin a vacation than with cocktails at ninety miles per hour in the lounge car! In New Orleans, our guests enjoy an overnight First Class hotel stay with breakfast daily, a French Quarter sightseeing tour and, of course, a visit to famed Cafe du Monde for the best cafe au lait and beignets in the world. Our ship, the ms Norwegian Spirit features 11 restaurants, 11 bars & lounges, an excellent spa and fitness center, a casino and acres of open deck space. Because Norwegian Cruise Line operates 'Freestyle Cruising' you may dine when you like, where you like, with whom you like, there is no required dress code and a level of personal choice on how you enjoy your vacation is offered.

The one serious flaw with this holiday; it will sell out quickly so prompt reservations are encouraged.

## Including . . .

- ◆ Train travel aboard Amtrak's 'City of New Orleans' from Chicago to New Orleans and then from Memphis to Chicago after the cruise, an overnight journey over the storied Illinois Central Railroad in each direction. There is a club car to enjoy and all meals while aboard are included. Guests enjoy Roomette sleeping car accommodations aboard the train.
- ◆ An overnight stay in New Orleans at the superbly located Hilton Riverside with sightseeing tour and visit to Café du Monde before we sail. We have intentionally left large blocks of free time for you to enjoy 'The Crescent City'.
- ◆ 7-night West Indies cruise round trip from New Orleans aboard the Norwegian Spirit making calls at Costa Maya, Belize City, Roatan, and Cozumel. Naturally, all meals & entertainment are included.
- ◆ Coach train travel from Memphis to New Orleans aboard the 'City of New Orleans', a scenic day-trip.
- ◆ Overnight at the excellent Westin Memphis Beale Street along with welcome dinner at the famed Rendezvous Barbecue.
- ◆ Memphis sightseeing tour with the acclaimed 'Memphis Jones' and live musical entertainment as we tour the home of the Blues. We also enjoy the famous 'Duck March' at the Peabody Hotel during our time in Memphis.
- ◆ Hosted by professional tour manager with special cocktail parties & events throughout.



*Magnificent Aztec Ruins*



## UNCOMMON JOURNEYS TRAIN HOLIDAYS

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# Complete Itinerary and Fares

## Day 1 Union Station, Chicago Illinois

Guests are greeted at Union Station by our host and escorted to our train, the 'City of New Orleans' where cozy sleeping car accommodations await. Our train sails at 8:00 pm.

## Day 2 New Orleans, Louisiana (B, L) \*The New Years tour includes 2 nights in New Orleans - A nice bonus!

This afternoon we arrive in New Orleans, "The Crescent City", and are transferred to the Hilton Riverside Hotel just a short walk to the famous French Quarter. This evening is free for you to explore this colorful and lively city.

## Day 3 ms Norwegian Spirit (B, R, D)

This morning our guest enjoy a walking tour of the French Quarter with a stop at the renowned 'Cafe du Monde', famous for their café au lait and fresh, warm beignets sprinkled with powdered sugar. It's a delicious treat we never allow out guest to miss. Later this afternoon, our group boards the ms Norwegian Spirit to begin our adventure to the enigmatic land of the Maya. This evening is our 'Welcome Aboard' cocktail party.

## Day 4 At Sea (B, L, D)

Today you have your entire day to do as you wish. There is almost too much to choose from, but we suggest you first explore the Norwegian Spirit and discover its many splendors and treasures.

## Day 5 Costa Maya, Mexico (B, L, D)

This unspoiled coastal paradise in the Yucatán sprawls off the beaten path, with brilliant butterflies, exotic tropical birds, deer, monkeys – even jaguars are said to roam the remote parts of this pristine jungle.

## Day 6 Belize City, Belize (B, L, D)

Long before the 17th-century powers fought over Belizean sovereignty, a complex Mayan civilization flourished here. Today, many of the architectural treasures from that amazing lost culture remain for you to explore in virtually untouched verdant jungles.

## Day 7 Roatan (B, L, D)

Beautiful and unspoiled, Roatan is a peaceful, eco-tourist's dream, just 30 miles off the coast of Honduras. Teeming with marine life and home to some of the best pillar coral in the Caribbean, the pristine Belizean Reef is a diver's paradise. And the beauty of Tabyana Beach is always a sight to see.

## Day 8 Cozumel, Mexico (B, L, D)

The island of Cozumel off the tip of the Yucatan Peninsula continues to be known for its fantastic fishing, snorkeling and diving opportunities. Despite the growth of tourism in recent years, the island and its only town, San Miguel, retains much of its original warmth and charm.

## Day 9 At Sea (B, L, D)

## Day 10 New Orleans, Louisiana (B)

This morning we disembark the ship and head for breakfast at Brennan's, New Orleans' legendary palace of fine dining, with free time today to return for some 'lagniappe' or just a little more fun and enjoyment in this charming city. This afternoon we depart aboard 'The City of New Orleans', famous in story and song, headed for Memphis and our overnight stay at the Westin Memphis Beale Street.

## Day 11 Memphis, Tennessee (D)

We have all morning to sleep in before our city tour of Memphis with our great and good friend, Memphis Jones, who offers one of the most entertaining tours of Memphis you will ever have the opportunity to enjoy. Memphis Jones' will enchant you with song and story, accompanied by his fabled guitar. We also make a special visit to the legendary 'Peabody Hotel' to see their famous Duck March. Tonight, we enjoy our Farewell Dinner at the famous 'Rendezvous Barbecue Restaurant' with its wonderful Memphis BBQ and savory Southern treats. Later we board the train for overnight travel back to Chicago.



## Day 12 Union Station, Chicago Illinois (B)

This morning after breakfast we arrive in Chicago at 9 am allowing for easy, same day, connections for all Midwest destination points. Welcome home!



### Suite

**\$2,695. p.p.**

Suites can accommodate up to four guests, and include a sitting area, luxury bath and shower, two lower beds that can convert to a queen, with private balcony.



### Balcony Stateroom

**\$2,395. p.p.**

Balcony staterooms can accommodate up to three guests, and include a sitting area, two lower beds that can convert to a queen, with private balcony.

### Oceanview Stateroom

**\$2,195. p.p.**

Include a sitting area, luxury bath and shower, two lower beds that can convert to a queen, with private balcony.

### Inside Twin Stateroom

**\$2,095. p.p.**

Two lower beds that can convert to a queen.

### Economy Inside Stateroom (N)

**\$1,995. p.p.**

Two lower beds that can convert to a queen.

Port tax is \$195 pp. Fares listed are per person based on double occupancy. Single inside fares begin at \$2,495 and outside fares begin at \$2,995.



We have included Superliner Roomettes aboard the train and these are ideal for one or two passengers, with two comfortable reclining seats on either side of a big picture window. At night, the seats convert to a comfortable lower bed, and an upper berth folds down from above. Passengers who would like to upgrade to larger Deluxe Bedrooms with included shower and restroom facilities may do so for \$250 per person.

