

FAMILY & MULTIGENERATIONAL TRAVEL

Family Travel on Holland America Line

According to Cruise Line International Association, family cruising is one of the fastest growing segments of cruising. Holland America Line attracts more than 25,000 kids and their families aboard its 13 ships every year. With a range of activities for children, teens and adults, the premium line especially attracts multi-generational groups.

When choosing a Holland America Line cruise for a family vacation, there's always something for each member of the family to do — from kids to grandparents — either together or separately. For example, families can play together in one of the ship's swimming pools. Go to a live show or movie. Or just enjoy being together as a family again.

Since even the closest families need time apart, a cruise allows the grown-ups to go dancing, take in a show, visit the casino, or sample the ship's fine dining, while kids can take advantage of Club HAL or teen's activities.

Family Reunion Program

Special Family Reunion Program pricing is available on all Holland America Line cruises. The reduced fare group rates are applicable for families booking eight staterooms or more on any cruise and includes the following amenities:

- ❖ Special group pricing
- ❖ Fountain Soda Card for every member of the family (good for 20 glasses of fountain soda and a souvenir cup)
- ❖ One family photo per stateroom
- ❖ Lunch for the entire family in the alternative Pinnacle Grill Restaurant

The Head-of-the-Family Reward is applicable for families booking eight or more staterooms. It includes the amenities listed above plus:

- ❖ One stateroom in the group to receive a complimentary upgrade from an outside stateroom to a verandah stateroom.

For parents traveling with children in the same cabin on individual fares, Holland America Line offers reasonable third and fourth berth cruise fares. Actual price will depend on itinerary and cruise length.

Kids and Teens Facilities & Activities

- ❖ The Club HAL program has been expanded to include ages three to 12 and all ships also have a teen program for ages 13 to 17. Since teens crave a special place to call their own, Holland America Line created The

Loft — a teens-only lounge designed to resemble a New York artist's loft so teens have an adult-free zone to enjoy music, games, movies and "hanging out." Most ships also feature The Oasis, a teens-only sun deck area.

- ❖ Younger cruisers enjoy supervised, age-specific activities through the expanded Club HAL designed for kids ages 3 to 12. The younger ones can enjoy a fanciful area where paintbrushes serve as pillars, enormous pencils adorn the wall, a paint bucket is a play area, and a huge tape dispenser serves as a slide. Creative activities take place at art tables and movies play on a big-screen television. Sample activities include kids Olympics, tie-dying t-shirts, candy bar bingo, arts and crafts, pajama party and storytelling.
- ❖ Older kids, ages 8 to 12, have an area featuring arcade games, air hockey, foosball, Karaoke, family-safe Internet access (minimal charge similar to Explorations Cafe) and Sony Playstations. Among the fun for older kids is golf putting, deck sports including dodgeball, karaoke, swim party, and video games.
- ❖ Teens, ages 13-17, can enjoy The Loft, which connects via a special passageway to a secluded, teens-only sun deck on most ships called The Oasis. The Oasis features a waterfall and wading pool, juice bar and plenty of space to relax and mingle with other teens. In the Loft, teens can try their steps at Dance Dance Revolution (DDR), their voices at Karaoke and their skills at various intelligent board games, thanks to a partnership with Cranium. Other activities include karaoke, volleyball, teen disco, and ping pong tournament.
- ❖ Club HAL and teen activities operate all day during sea days with breaks for meals. Programs also operate on port days if kids and teens sign up the day before. A complete set of daily programs are handed out at the gangway upon embarkation for kids 3-17 years old.
- ❖ In addition to Club HAL and teen programming, kids programming and cartoons air on the in-cabin television on the Cartoon Network and the Holland America Line entertainment channels. Age appropriate movies are screened in Club HAL facilities for any kid to attend.
- ❖ Holland America Line has launched a kids and teen Culinary Arts Center activity program to bring the joys of cooking to the younger set. The program incorporates dishes from breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks in complimentary classes lasting 45 minutes each. All kids, tweens and teens are welcome to attend.

The preparations range from simple to teen sophisticate. Kids under eight years old will learn to make Bear Tracks (Alaska theme cookies), Fruit Leather (fruit roll-ups), Ice Cream Sandwiches, Salad People Art, and Denali Peaks (Alaska Theme Scones). Kids eight and over will delight in making Soft Pretzels, Granola Bars, Pita Chips and Hummus, and Saltwater Taffy.

Dining

In addition to award-winning menus with everything from “light and healthy” items and ethnic cuisines to vegetarian dishes, Holland America Line offers special menus for kids in the Dining Room, the Lido Restaurant and the Terrace Grill. These menus include kid favorites such as hot dogs, sandwiches, lasagna, pizza, tacos, fish and chips, burgers, chicken dippers and spaghetti. Young and older cruisers alike especially enjoy the ice cream and dessert bar in the Lido Restaurant. Evenings, parents with younger children may choose casual Lido Dining in the Lido Restaurant during the early evening. Here, tasty yet simple main courses are served tableside while salads and desserts are served buffet style.

Babysitting

Babysitting services are available from 10 p.m. until 12 midnight during Club HAL After Hours for children three years and up. Cost is \$5 per hour per child. At other times and for children under the age of three, limited babysitting is available through the Front Office on a volunteer basis. The cost is \$8 per hour for the first child and \$5 per hour for each other child.

Infants

Holland America Line welcomes infants older than six months. By advance request through Holland America Line’s Ship Services Department, guests may arrange commercial baby food, diapers and refrigerators for a nominal fee. A limited number of high chairs, booster seat and cribs are available at no charge. In addition, the line’s Club HAL children’s program schedules Toddler Times for kids under the age of three to play in the children’s facilities. Parents must stay with youngsters at all times.

Safety & Security

Club HAL and the teen program have an open door policy. Children may come and go as they please, however each child through seven years old must be signed in and out of the activities. Tweens and teens may come and go as they please, choosing which activities they want to attend. Guests may meet the Club HAL and teen staff during embarkation or on the first night of each cruise at an orientation meeting for parents and children.

Holland America Line’s Club HAL and teen program directors and counselors are permanent, full-time employees. All have college degrees with more than half focused on education studies. Most staff also have experience in education or related fields such as child development, recreation or leisure studies. The number of Club HAL staff aboard is determined by the number of children and teens in each age group sailing on the cruise.

Each ship has an on-board infirmary staffed by a licensed physician and three registered nurses. The infirmaries are equipped with emergency medical facilities and a well-stocked pharmacy. Security staff regularly patrol the ship.

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