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OFFER - SAVE
£500
PER PERSON

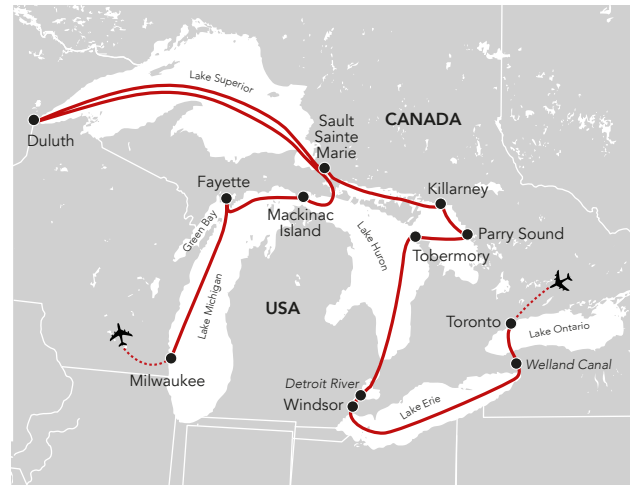
THE GREAT LAKES OF NORTH AMERICA

A VOYAGE FROM TORONTO TO MILWAUKEE
ABOARD THE HANSEATIC INSPIRATION

16TH TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024



The Great Lakes, with a total area of around 244,000 square kilometres dominate the North American landscape and, filled with the spirit of discovery that once led settlers to this region, this voyage takes you deep into this magnificent natural wonder of Canada and the USA. For this exploration we are working with our long-time associates, Hapag-Lloyd Cruises, who have made a number of cabins available for our passengers for this navigation of the Great Lakes. Their five-star vessel, the Hanseatic Inspiration, has been built to undertake journeys such as this and features retractable bridge wings so that it can pass through the locks between the lakes. Whilst on board you can watch the exciting manoeuvres from the many open deck spaces: traversing eight locks and around 20 bridges, this route demands expert precision from the Captain and crew and, in addition to the feats of nautical brilliance that are beyond the capabilities of most ships, you can be assured of excellent service, food and luxurious surroundings on board.



Setting sail from Toronto we will have the opportunity to transit the Welland Canal and, as Lake Erie is around one hundred metres higher than Lake Ontario, we will also travel through the Erie Canal, an engineering feat. We will sail to the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Lake Huron's Georgian Bay with its myriad of islands and miles of greyish-pink granite shoreline capped with conifers plunging into the emerald waters of the lake. Here you will discover the delightful harbour village of Tobermory and the charming town of Parry Sound, a paradise for nature lovers with its unique flora and fauna. Also visit the historic locks at Sault Sainte Marie, experience the old-world charm of Mackinac Island and step back in time at the Fayette Historic State Park that blends nature with the history of this 19th century industrial town. Visits to Detroit's Henry Ford Museum, Chicago, teeming with museums, history and marvellous architecture, and Milwaukee, including the Art Museum and Harley-Davidson Museum, also promise a rewarding insight into American city life.

The diversity of the Great Lakes will amaze you as this late summer journey offers stunning landscapes and natural wonders, picturesque villages and towns, visits to some of the most infamous cities of North America along with the opportunity to discover the fascinating history of the Native Americans, settlers and trappers. All of this is only possible due to the engineering capabilities of the Hanseatic Inspiration whose beautiful surroundings, spacious cabins and public areas will enable you to travel in the utmost comfort.



Toronto skyline and Lake Ontario



The Itinerary

Day 1 London to Toronto, Canada. Fly by scheduled flight. On arrival transfer to the Hanseatic Inspiration and embark. Sail late this evening.

Day 2 Lake Ontario & Lake Erie. Enjoy a day of cruising on scenic Lake Ontario and the Welland Canal. Consisting of eight locks over 27 miles the Canal has allowed large vessels to travel between the US and Canada since 1829. Later we cruise across Lake Erie whose history dates back to the end of the ice age some 13,000 years ago.

Day 3 Windsor & Detroit River. This morning we cruise down the Detroit River to the Canadian City of Windsor from where we can see the skyline of America's former Motor City, Detroit, on the opposite bank. An optional excursion will visit Detroit to learn about the roots of the automotive industry and the city's varied architecture. Follow in the footsteps of Henry Ford at the museum that bears his name and see the masterpieces of road and rails.

Day 4 Lake Huron & Tobermory. Enjoy the beautiful views as we cruise across Lake Huron this morning, arriving into the fishing town of Tobermory, on Georgian Bay, at lunchtime. Spend the afternoon exploring at your own pace, maybe admire the limestone coastline, small bays and Canadian wildflowers as we walk along the Bruce Trail.

Day 5 Parry Sound. A scenic approach through a small lagoon brings you to Parry Sound, which lies in a watery labyrinth with a distinctly Scandinavian feel. The marine walking trails are a great way to explore this town named after the polar explorer William E Parry and the nearby lake shore. Alternatively take an optional boat trip of the Thirty Thousand Islands which illustrate why the town is known as the gateway to the archipelago, as narrow channels lead past imposing limestone cliffs to hidden natural treasures. On an alternative optional excursion you can immerse yourself in a panoramic scene in Killbear Provincial Park, where the pink granite banks merge with the autumnal forest.

Day 6 Killarney. Spend the morning enjoying the island-studded scenery around Killarney. Here the unspoilt nature harks back to the time of the first trappers. The small coastal municipality is still an El Dorado for outdoor activities. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon cruising as we continue our journey across the expansive Lake Huron.

Day 7 Sault Sainte Marie. To experience vibrant culture surrounded by magnificent nature, we continue to Sault Sainte Marie where you have free time to explore. The city is divided not only by a river, but also by the border between Canada on one side and the USA on the other. Maybe walk to the historic locks or visit the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre, where you can see some of the restored aircraft and learn about the development of forest fire fighting techniques.

Day 8 Lake Superior. Find a spot to relax on deck or enjoy the ship's facilities as we sail across Lake Superior, the largest of the five Great Lakes measuring nearly 32,000 square miles in surface area.

Day 9 Duluth, USA. On the shores of the world's largest freshwater lake, Lake Superior, you will set foot on American soil in Duluth. There will be a choice of optional tours, including a city tour visiting the old rail depot which will bring the history of European immigrants to life. Alternatively see roaring waterfalls and high cliffs which connect the Gooseberry Falls and the Split Rock Lighthouse, which was built in 1910.

Day 10 Lake Superior. Spend the day on board as we sail across Lake Superior. Attend a lecture or two in the HanseAtrium Lounge and learn of the lake's history of trade from ancient times to the Hudson Bay Company trading furs in the 1600s.

Day 11 Mackinac Island & Lake Huron. Spend the day on Mackinac Island, a natural jewel of the Great Lakes and one of the most beautiful islands in the USA. Discover the small car-free idyll independently by bicycle or with



EXTEND YOUR TIME IN TORONTO

If you would like to spend some time in the Canadian city of Toronto before embarking the Hanseatic Inspiration, we hope to offer the opportunity to join a two night extension in the city. Our pre-cruise extension will include two nights hotel accommodation with breakfast, a city tour of Toronto and an excursion to Niagara Falls. If you would be interested in joining the extension, please register your interest at the time of booking and we will be in touch once the details are confirmed (subject to minimum numbers).

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY				
Cat	Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
1	Outside cabin	4, 5 & 6	£9895	£9395
2	Panoramic cabin	4 & 5	£10295	£9795
3	French balcony cabin	6	£10695	£10195
4	Balcony cabin	5	£11195	£10695
5	French balcony cabin	7	£10895	£10395
6	Balcony cabin	6 & 7	£11495	£10995
7	Balcony cabin	6	£11895	£11395
8	Balcony cabin	7	N/A	N/A
9	Junior suite with balcony	6 & 7	N/A	N/A
10	Grand suite with veranda	6 & 7	N/A	N/A
2	Panoramic cabin for sole use	4 & 5	£12695	£12195

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • 13 nights aboard the Hanseatic Inspiration on a full board basis • Mini-bar with soft drinks in your cabin restocked each day • Onboard team including lecturers • Gratuities • Transfers • Landing fees • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, shore excursions (further details of the optional excursions will be available to pre-book three months before departure and payment will be made on board), Canadian and US visa/visa waiver.

a carriage ride. While Victorian villas and the Grand Hotel recall the 19th century, Fort Mackinac serves as a reminder of the American Revolutionary War. Enjoy time to explore at your own pace and maybe pick up some of the famous Mackinac Island fudge.

Day 12 Fayette & Lake Michigan. Over breakfast we arrive in Fayette on the banks of Lake Michigan. During the industrialisation of the 19th century, the township of Fayette had one of the region's most productive iron smelters. A landing in Fayette Historic State Park will turn back the hands of time, the historic townsite, once a bustling iron smelting industrial community features more than 20 historic buildings. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon sailing.

Day 13 Milwaukee. A vibrant cultural scene has developed in Milwaukee, which was once a centre of brewing. The optional city tour with a visit to the Milwaukee Art Museum sheds light on the influence of the German immigrants of days gone by. One particular brand that was founded here has had an impact on the American way of life like no other – find out more at the Harley-Davidson Museum. Further south, you have the option to visit Chicago with its interesting mix of huge skyscrapers, diverse architecture and parks right on the shore of Lake Michigan.

Day 14 Milwaukee to London. Disembark this morning and transfer to Chicago airport for our scheduled flight to London.

Day 15 London. Arrive this morning.

SHIP TO SHORE

Please note that we will be at anchor at the following ports and will use tender boats or Zodiacs to transfer ashore: Tobermory, Killarney, Mackinac Island and Fayette.

HANSEATIC INSPIRATION



Lido Restaurant



Panoramic Cabin



Nikkei Restaurant

Operated by our German associates, Hapag-Lloyd Cruises, the Hanseatic Inspiration is a five-star expedition ship launched in October 2019. With a maximum of just 230 passengers, this unique vessel offers an informal and relaxed atmosphere on board with more open deck space than any other expedition ship. There is a qualified expedition team of naturalists who will accompany you ashore and provide informative talks in the comfort of the well-designed HanseAtrium, and a crew of 175 offering the most exquisite and attentive service on board.

Your Cabin/Suite

There are a total of 120 cabins and suites. All cabins/suites feature a comfortable sleeping area with separable beds, a heated wall in the bathroom, a rain shower, TV, a coffee machine and a mini bar with soft drinks refilled daily. They are also equipped with binoculars and Nordic walking poles and 24-hour cabin service is available. The Outside Cabins, Panoramic Cabins and French Balcony Cabins all measure between 21 to 23 square metres and the Balcony Cabins measure 27 square metres including the balcony. The Junior Suites are approximately 42 square metres including the balcony and offer panoramic views, a comfortable living and sleeping area and a separate dining area. They also benefit from the addition of a bathroom with two sinks, a steam sauna and butler service. The Grand Suites are approximately 71 square metres including a private veranda with space heaters. They feature a sleeping area with panoramic views and a comfortable living area as well as a separate dining area. Additional facilities include a bathroom with two sinks, free standing bath, rain shower, steam sauna, balcony access and butler service.

Your Space

The vessel has three spacious restaurants, two bars, a library, Sun Deck with swimming pool and pool bar, fitness room, hair salon and a small boutique. Whilst relaxing on deck and watching for passing wildlife, the excellent service team offer little touches like exotic fruit skewers and cooling cloth towels. There is also a hospital on the lower deck and it is in the HanseAtrium that the expedition team will hold lectures and briefings. The vessel has been designed taking inspiration from nature to reflect the expeditionary theme of the voyages and to provide interplay between the interiors and the world outside. Exciting vistas are guaranteed in the Observation Lounge thanks to the 180-degree panoramic view which can be enjoyed while relaxing with an aperitif at the bar and listening to the music. Another design highlight are the two extendable glass balconies on the Sun Deck from which passing wildlife can be viewed on the ocean surfaces. Guests will have the opportunity to visit the bridge whenever the local regulations and conditions allow, by prior arrangement with the officer on duty.



Main Restaurant



French Balcony Cabin



Observation Lounge

Your Dining

Highly trained chefs will surprise you every day with their skill and attention to detail. Diverse and classic delicacies will be available at every meal, whether you are enjoying a quick breakfast or a relaxed evening meal. There is a choice of three spacious open-seating restaurants including the Hanseatic Restaurant with its relaxed atmosphere, the Lido Restaurant offering both indoor and outdoor seating, and the Speciality Restaurant where you will be taken on a culinary voyage of discovery with Japanese and Peruvian creations. The Hanseatic Restaurant and Speciality Restaurant are à la carte whereas the Lido Restaurant offers a buffet-style service. Spend your days and evenings however you wish thanks to flexible mealtimes, a free choice of seating and attentive 24-hour cabin service.

Life On Board

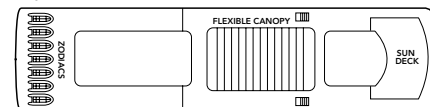
With your every need attended to, there is nothing to do but relax and enjoy the experience aboard the Hanseatic Inspiration. After a Zodiac excursion, you will be welcomed back on board with hot drinks and snacks, drinks will be handed to you as you stand on deck viewing magnificent scenery and the crew will think of everything and enhance your cruise in every way possible. Highly qualified, knowledgeable experts will accompany you throughout the cruise; discovering unknown territory and seeing amazing wildlife will be a lot more rewarding with an expert by your side. Whether a naturalist or ornithologist, their passion and enthusiasm will be conveyed through talks on board and during excursions. The onboard fleet of 17 Zodiac landing craft enables guests to reach every spectacular sight, no matter how remote and, due to their manoeuvrability, these inflatable craft allow us to truly immerse ourselves in nature.

For your Comfort, Safety & Security

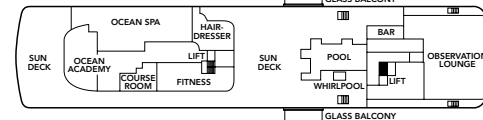
During construction of the Hanseatic Inspiration, the focus was on making her suitable for all ice conditions and she has been fitted with cutting-edge equipment and environmental technology. The vessel holds the highest ice class for a passenger ship – PC 6, and with a shallow draught, powerful engine and robust propellers, this is a sturdy ship with excellent manoeuvrability. All of these features allow access to remote islands and coastlines and make for one of the finest expedition vessels. *Please note that the Hanseatic Inspiration is a smoke-free ship. This applies to all interior public areas as well as on deck, including the private balconies and verandas.*

HANSEATIC INSPIRATION DECK PLAN

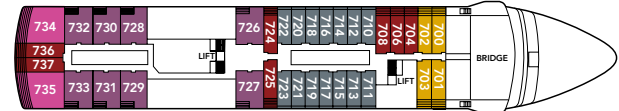
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DECK 8



DECK 7



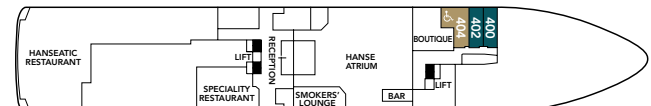
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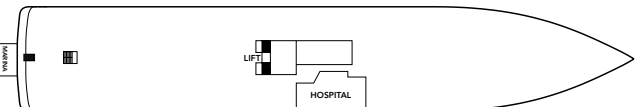
DECK 5



DECK 4



DECK 3



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