



**MAYAN RUINS OF TULUM**

# NEW ORLEANS / WEST CARIBBEAN

**New Orleans • Cozumel • Roatan • Harvest Caye, Belize • Costa Maya • Norwegian Pearl®**

This vacation offers so many things to do and see. **New Orleans**, the fabulous “Big Easy” with all of the history and charm.

Cruise over 60 miles of the winding **Mississippi River** to the Gulf of Mexico.

All four ports of call were centers of the **Mayan** culture. Mayan civilization began more than 2,000 years ago and reached its zenith between A.D. 300 and 900. At the time Europe was suffering through the Dark Ages, the Mayans enjoyed a creative life more advanced than any of their contemporaries in the known world.

**A VALID PASSPORT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS TOUR**

Optional Excursions are available in port. In **Costa Maya**, visit the Kohunlich Ruins; in **Roatan**, visit the Dolphin Encounter; in **Harvest Caye**, visit the Mayan archeological site of Nim Li Punit; in **Cozumel** you can take a ferry to the Mayan ruins of Tulum, spectacularly sited on sea cliffs.

Our ship, the **Norwegian Pearl®**, will provide a fabulous variety of food and fun as we relax from our full days of shore activities and our two days at sea.

The train made famous in the song, **The City of New Orleans**, will provide our comfortable, first-class trip from Chicago to New Orleans and back.

Days 1-2 ..... Chicago to New Orleans  
 Days 3-4 ..... Norwegian Pearl  
 Day 5 ..... Cozumel, Mexico  
 Day 6 ..... Roatan, Bay Islands  
 Honduras

Day 7 ..... Harvest Caye, Belize  
 Day 8 ..... Costa Maya, Mexico  
 Day 9 ..... At Sea  
 Days 10-11 ..... New Orleans to Chicago

# TOUR DATE(S):

2018

Fri, Mar. 16 to Mon., Mar. 26

# TOUR PRICE:

All prices are per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

**\$2,395 - 11 Days**

Upgrades:

Roomette on Amtrak + \$375

Bedroom on Amtrak + \$495

Ocean View Stateroom + \$100

Balcony Stateroom + \$375

**SINGLE \$3,045**

Upgrades:

Roomette on Amtrak + \$750

Ocean View Stateroom + \$200

Balcony Stateroom + \$750

**FLY OPTION - Fly to / from New Orleans.**

9 Days

Price: \$2,145

Single \$2,795

America by Rail will be happy to arrange your flights. Air is not included in above price.

# YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by Amtrak, Norwegian Cruise Line and connecting motorcoach.
- Reclining coach seat on Amtrak for two nights.
- Inside stateroom on the Norwegian Pearl cruise ship for seven nights.
- First-class hotel accommodations for one night.
- Sightseeing tour in New Orleans.
- Baggage handling, taxes and tips.
- 27 meals.
- All gratuities are included; rail, cruise and motorcoach.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

**NOTE: Refer to deposit and cancellation policy for Rail / Sail Tours on Page 130.**

NEW ORLEANS / WEST CARIBBEAN RAIL / SAIL

## Day 1: Depart Chicago

**N**ew Orleans / West Caribbean Rail / Sail members will meet their Rail / Sail vacations Tour Director in Chicago's Union Station throughout the day. At approximately 7:30 p.m., we'll board the Amtrak train made famous in the song, The City of New Orleans, departing at 8:05 p.m. Relax in your reclining coach seat with leg rest. Roomettes or Bedrooms are available at an additional cost.

Dinner in the dining car is included this evening. **D**

## Day 2: New Orleans

Both dining car meals today are included beginning with breakfast this morning. We'll be rolling through the Mississippi Delta area this morning. We're scheduled to arrive in the Crescent City by 3:32 p.m.

Our home in New Orleans is the Hampton Inn Downtown French Quarter. You're in one of the most attractive cities in the world. Take full advantage of all there is to see, to do and to taste. **B & L**

## Day 3: Embarkation

This morning you're free to rest or pursue those activities that are of particular interest to you. Enjoy coffee and beignets (a special doughnut-like pastry) at the famous Café du Monde. Wander through the exquisite shops and galleries along Royal Street.

At noon we'll transfer from our hotel to the beautiful Norwegian Pearl®, our fantastic home for the next seven days and nights. Get settled, enjoy a buffet lunch and spend the afternoon

exploring this beautiful ship. We're scheduled to set sail from New Orleans at 4:00 p.m.

One of the highlights of this voyage will unfold over the next few hours as we cruise over 60 miles down the winding Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico. **CB, L & D**

## Day 4: At Sea

Do as little or as much as you care to aboard the beautiful Norwegian Pearl. This ship is a jewel on the high seas, filled with innovative features and luxurious amenities. Swim in one of the sparkling pools, shop the Galleria boutique or get a massage in the Mandara Spa & Salon. Dine in one of the dining rooms or specialty restaurants. Head to the internet café or library. Tee up at the driving range. There is a jogging track and state of the art fitness center for those looking to work off some of the fantastic cuisine. Catch up on your favorite team at the Sports Bar. Grab a latté at the Java Café. Try your luck at the Pearl Club Casino featuring a variety of table games, slots (including nickel slots for the not-so-high roller), video poker, etc.

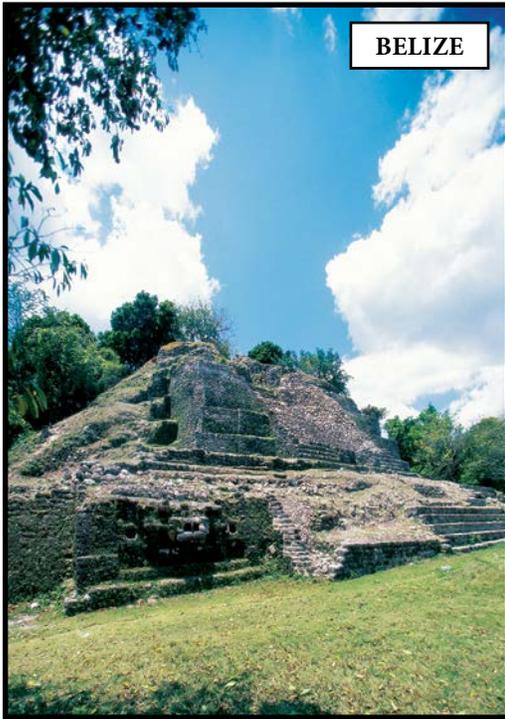
Other daily activities include bingo, craft-making, art auctions, pool games, trivia contests, wine and cocktail tasting; and that traditional cruise favorite, shuffleboard! Of course you can always just cuddle up with a good book as the ocean drifts by. The evening entertainment is stellar. Don't miss the colorful Broadway-style production shows in the theater. **B, L & D**

## Day 5: Cozumel, Mexico

Once the destination of Mayan women,



CB-CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST · B-BREAKFAST · L-LUNCH · D-DINNER



BELIZE

playing homage to Ixchel, Mayan goddess of fertility, today it's ranked among the world's premier dive spots.

*Just a ferry ride away: the Mayan ruins of Tulum, spectacularly situated on the sea cliffs.*

*Other optional shore excursions include: Cozumel Highlights & Shopping, Mayan Ruins Beach Break; Tulum Mayan Ruins; Discover Best of Mexico, Past & Present, Dolphin Encounter, Clear Kayak & Beach Snorkel Combo. B, L & D*

## Day 6: Roatan, Bay Islands, Honduras

One of the Honduras Bay Islands, Roatan is a hidden gem with some of the most beautiful white beaches and the best snorkel and diving spots in the Caribbean.

*Optional shore excursions include: Underwater Museum & Reef Snorkel, West Bay Kayak & Snorkel, Maya Key Private Island Retreat, Best of Roatan Island, Dolphin Encounter. B, L & D*

## Day 7: Harvest Caye, Belize

Belize is ideal for eco-tourism. With diverse ecology consisting of jungles, rainforests, swamps, coral reef and so on, travelers can find solace and adventure in Harvest Caye's stunning landscape.

*Optional shore excursions include: Mayan Temple & Spice Farm tour; Mayan Temple of Nim Li Punit; Lagoon Wildlife & Mangrove Estuaries, Monkey River boat ride; Belize Airboat Adventure; Mayan Wellness Therapy Trail. B, L & D*

## Day 8: Costa Maya, Mexico

The quiet side of Mexico; here, along an unspoiled coastal paradise, archeology buffs discover Mayan ruins shrouded in magic and mystery.

*Optional shore excursions include: Chacchoben Mayan Ruins, Glass Bottom Boat & Snorkel, Kohunlich Mayan Ruins, Catamaran Cruise & Snorkel, Paddleboard & Beach Break, Dolphin Swim Adventure, Beach Getaway. B, L & D*

## Day 9: At Sea

This is the last full day of our Rail/Sail vacation at sea. Enjoy this opportunity to participate in many of the optional activities onboard or relax with a good book on deck with the invigorating salt air. B, L & D

## Day 10: New Orleans

Following our disembarking from the Norwegian Pearl, we'll begin a two-and-a-half-hour sightseeing tour of the Greater New Orleans area. The tour will include the St. Louis Cemetery III where the above ground burial system will be explained, beautiful City Park, the Lakefront area, the uptown section with its antebellum and new homes, Tulane University, Audubon Park and the French Market.

We'll stop en route for an "on-your-own" lunch. Our tour will end at the New Orleans Union Station where we'll depart at 1:45 p.m. on the northbound City of New Orleans. You'll again have a reclining coach seat and leg rest and the same on-board amenities experienced on our southbound trip. Sleeping accommodations are available at an additional cost. You'll want to spend some time this evening reminiscing with your fellow vacationers about the great experiences you shared during the past ten days. B & D

## Day 11: En Route to Chicago

Following a full-course dining car breakfast, we'll arrive in Chicago's Union Station at 9:00 a.m. Vacationers will depart for home destinations throughout the day. Those returning to Eastern home cities will have time to take an optional Gray Line sightseeing tour, to shop or to visit some of Chicago's major attractions. Some members will fly home. B

*"MY THIRD CRUISE AND THE BEST ONE YET. VERY PLEASED WITH THE SIZE OF THE STATEROOM. OUTSTANDING FOOD AND SERVICE."*

MARILYN M.  
BATTLE CREEK, MI



ROATAN

# GENERAL INFORMATION RAIL/SAIL TOURS

## REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due at time of reservation, \$100 of which is non-refundable. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

## TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

For cancellations received within 90 days of departure the following per person penalty applies:

- 76-90 days prior to departure: 25% of total tour cost.
- 61-75 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost.
- 31-60 days prior to departure: 75% of total tour cost.
- 30 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Air cancellations after ticketing are subject to the carrier's policy.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours.

All pricing is per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

## TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

### TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour.

### TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains. Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

### CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Rail / Sail tours include inside staterooms (double occupancy) on cruise ships. Upgraded staterooms may be available at an additional cost.

### HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

### SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a single cost.

### SIGHTSEEING / ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

### MEALS

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants / trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

## BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. An overnight bag is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

## TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

## TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sightseeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

## TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities for the America by Rail Tour Directors are at your discretion; \$3-\$10 per person per day is the industry standard. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

## RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender, passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

## HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

America by Rail will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. Any type of disability requiring special provisions must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. America by Rail is not required to provide participants with personal devices, such as wheelchairs or individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses, or to provide services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting or dressing. Accordingly, all participants are responsible to participate without assistance of the America by Rail Tour Director or other attendant. Tour Directors are prohibited from providing physical assistance or accommodations (beyond normal civil courtesies, such as holding doors open for passing). It is recommended that participants requiring assistance, including those requiring the use of a mobility device, be accompanied by a travel companion who will be responsible to provide required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour. Those travelling with oxygen are required to advise America by Rail at least two weeks prior to departure. Amtrak requires all equipment, including oxygen concentrators, must be able to operate a minimum of four hours without available onboard electrical power (in the event of a power disruption onboard). Oxygen equipment must be

Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) listed. The total weight of all tanks may not exceed 120 lbs. Within this limit, no more than 2 tanks 50 lb each, or no more than 6 tanks 20 lbs each

## SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

## PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions. A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed. It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

## RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

## AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and / or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A.

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