



CRUISE VACATION GUIDE

Getting Ready • Getting There

Entertainment Preview • About Your Ship



AUCKLAND TO SYDNEY MARDI GRAS CRUISE

Holland America Oosterdm | February 20 – March 3, 2013



Down Under.

We'll soon be onboard Holland America's *Oosterdam* for the largest gay cruise to ever sail into Sydney! All of us here at Atlantis are ready and waiting to show you the time of your life. This booklet will help you with your final planning and guide you as to what to expect onboard.

In our eleven days onboard, we'll journey through the best of two countries, culminating in the world's largest gay celebration! The best in Australian and American entertainment awaits while Holland America and Atlantis' superb teams of experienced hosts, entertainers, and crew are excited and ready to entertain while on your vacation.

Whether you've traveled with us many times or have never sailed before, please take a few minutes to read this guide, as it contains important information to prepare for your vacation. We've created a diverse program with many options both onboard and ashore. At this time we suggest that you review your flight reservations, make sure your passport is up-to-date, and that your Atlantis reservation details are correct.

Have a safe flight and get ready for an extraordinary journey. We look forward to seeing you in Auckland and onboard the *Oosterdam*.

Best Regards,

Rich, Brandon, Malcolm & Your Atlantis *Oosterdam* Team

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Cruise Itinerary

Day	Date	Port	Arrive	Depart
Wednesday	February 20	Auckland		4 pm
Thursday	February 21	Scenic Cruising (White Island)	10 am	Noon
Friday	February 22	Wellington	12 pm	7 pm
Saturday	February 23	Akaroa	7 am	6:30 pm
Sunday	February 24	Dunedin	8 am	5 pm
Monday	February 25	At Sea		
Tuesday	February 26	At Sea		
Wednesday	February 27	Melbourne	2 pm	overnight
Thursday	February 28	Melbourne		6 pm
Friday	March 1	At Sea		
Saturday	March 2	Sydney	10 am	overnight
Sunday	March 3	Sydney		Noon

Itinerary Notes

Please note that all arrival and departure times are approximate and may change without notice.

To let you enjoy the Mardi Gras parade and party, we have negotiated a late departure on Sunday that will begin at 9:30 am and will continue until around noon. If you are flying back to the USA on 3 March, please notify us onboard and we will assist with appropriate scheduling.

Itinerary Changes

Atlantis and Holland America have carefully planned this itinerary for maximum enjoyment of all our ports and the ship. Although we do our best to adhere to published ports and times, unforeseen weather and/or sea conditions may force us to alter the itinerary during your cruise.

In the unlikely event of an itinerary change while sailing, we will communicate our new plan both through ship wide (outside of cabin) announcements and through an updated *Daily Program*. Neither Atlantis nor Holland America shall be held liable for any damages resulting from any itinerary change according to your Passenger Ticket Contract.

Get Organized Now

Register Online and Book Shore Excursions Now

If you have not already done so, please register online for this cruise to obtain a full copy of your cruise documents from Holland America. Please visit the following link to register

www.hollandamerica.com/cruise-vacation-planning/OnlineCheckIn.action

There is also a link on the atlantisevents.com site. You will need both your HAL booking number from your cruise ticket and your passport number to register. Please note that the HAL Booking Number is different from the Atlantis Confirmation Number. You can find this number both on your cruise ticket or look it up from the Atlantis site.

You may also book shore excursions at this time from the same site.

Review Your Travel Documents

No paper documentation is required to board this cruise since all records are stored electronically. All you need is your passport and a valid credit card for incidentals. A copy of your cruise ticket may be downloaded from the Holland America web site (HAL.com) once you have registered for your cruise. Luggage tags may be downloaded as well or may be picked up at the pier upon arrival.

Please review your Atlantis confirmation to be sure you are booked correctly for all elements of your vacation. Also note that your acceptance of both the Atlantis Terms and Conditions and the HAL Passenger Ticket and Contract constitutes acceptance of the conditions contained therein.

Documentation Requirements

A valid passport is required for all guests, along with a visa to enter Australia. If you have not already registered for your Australian Visa, please do so immediately. You can do this through your airline, travel agent, or online at:

www.eta.immi.gov.au

Please note that it is your responsibility to have the necessary documentation before boarding the ship. Failure to provide proper and valid documentation will result in denied boarding, and no refund will be provided.

What To Pack

On Board Clothing

Atlantis emphasizes a casual, comfortable atmosphere with no specified dress code. Sportswear, beachwear, and casual resort attire is appropriate at all times.

There are no formal nights, and absolutely no need for a jacket and tie.

We do suggest that no shorts or tank tops are worn in the Main Restaurant at dinner (it does look a lot better, folks!), but that's only a request. Shorts and tank tops are not permitted at any time in the Pinnacle Grill restaurant.

On Shore Clothing

You really need to bring a little bit of everything, as the weather on this cruise varies from hot summer to cool shore conditions. It might rain a bit as well. We recommend sturdy sportswear and comfortable shoes. The weather in the South Island of New Zealand will be cool, so please bring some long pants a light water-resistant jacket. In Sydney, it will be hot and you'll want some beach clothing if you're staying in town a few days.

Both New Zealand and Australia are very casual countries with an emphasis on the outdoors. People dress practically.

Our Party Themes

Our theme parties might warrant something special, but these, of course, are always optional. You'll be comfortable with or without an outfit. All events are outside on deck.

- **Really South Pacific Party** - You've just arrived far, far, away on an island of restless natives, bush country explorers, British colonials, and lonely sailors. Welcome to the deep south Pacific, where anything could happen when they all get together.
- **Classic Disco T-Dance** - The spirit of the 70s lives for a few brief hours in the afternoon. Artificial fabrics, excess facial hair, and obnoxious chains welcome.
- **Way Down Under Party** - The Sydney Spirit lives in a night to celebrate all things Australian. From Priscilla to Crocodile Dundee, you'll soon find out that the reality beats cultural exports. But tonight is for the extremes, so dress outback hunter, drag impresario, Sydney surfer, barrier reef diver, or plain old Adelaide tourist.
- **Atlantis White Party** - A classic in all-white. All-night. Easy or fancy, smart or sexy. It's all up to you.
- **Bondi Beach Ball** - There's never a worry on the world's most famous beach. Dig your toes in for an afternoon of casual silliness in our last t-dance as we sail into Sydney. Swimwear essential, sunglasses required. Attitude not allowed.

Miscellaneous Packing Advice

Bring plenty of sunblock, as the sun can be seriously intense. Also, bring your own basic toiletries as the onboard stores are not open when in port.

Getting Ready

Weather Forecast

The weather on this cruise will range from around 80F in Sydney and Auckland to around 65F in Dunedin. Rain is always a possibility, but we do our best to avoid it when sailing. It will feel cooler onboard the ship due to wind.

Money Matters

The current exchange rates are as follows:

Australian Dollar \$1 USD = \$0.97 AUD

New Zealand Dollar \$1 USD = \$1.20 NZD

We do not recommend exchanging money prior to your departure. There are currency exchanges and ATM machines conveniently located in the arrivals area of both the Sydney and Auckland airports. You will always get a better exchange rate in the country you are visiting.

If you plan on making major purchases, use a credit card to get the best exchange rate.

Baggage Essentials

Most airlines allow two checked bags and one carry-on piece of luggage. Check with your carrier for specific allowances. The standard limit is 50 lbs. per piece. Excess or overweight bags may incur a substantial surcharge, so please plan accordingly.

Do not place any valuables, especially your passport, in checked luggage. If you are taking any medications, please make sure you bring them in your carry-on, in their original prescription containers, to avoid delays in customs. Do not carry illegal drugs at any time.

Please be sure each piece of luggage has a luggage tag listing your name, and complete address. Affix the preprinted cruise luggage tags only before heading to the pier.

What if the Airlines Lose My Luggage?

If your luggage does not arrive in Auckland with you, please do all of the following:

1. Get a complete report from the airline, including a receipt and tracking number for your luggage. Make sure that you tell the airline that you are boarding Holland America's *Oosterdam*, and tell them that the ship sails at 4 pm.
2. Upon arrival on the ship, go immediately to the main reception where they will make a copy of your lost baggage report. The ship will attempt to track your luggage and follow up directly with the airlines.
3. Be patient. Depending on the airline it might arrive in Auckland. Our port agents, in concert with the ship, will attempt to deliver any lost luggage directly to your room. If your luggage does not arrive, they will keep you informed with the latest news from your airline.

Please understand that neither Holland America nor Atlantis has lost your luggage. We can only assist you in recovering your luggage from the airline and in communicating with them. Ultimately, the airline is responsible to you for any loss or inconvenience you encounter.

Check-In and Embarkation

Princes Wharf, Auckland

The port in Auckland is called Princes Wharf and is located in central Auckland.

Getting There by Taxi

It will take only a few minutes from virtually any major hotel to get you to the port. Taxi fares vary, but should be around \$15NZD. The port is around a 45 minute drive from the airport. Taxi fare should be around \$65.

When Should I Check In?

Embarkation begins at 1:00 pm. You may arrive to the ship anytime between 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm. All guests must be onboard by 3:30 pm.

The *Oosterdam* sails at 4:00 pm sharp on February 20, 2013.

What do I Need to Check In?

Since your reservation is completely electronic, all you need is valid passport and credit card to check in for this cruise. You will then be issued your stateroom key, which will serve as your room key, charge card, and identification card for boarding and re-boarding the ship.

Upon arrival to the port, you will check in, pass through security and your luggage will be transferred by porters to your stateroom. Please carry any documents and valuables in your hand luggage.

If you have created a *Signature Preferred Boarding Pass* on the Holland America web site, check-in will be considerably expedited.

Onboard the Oosterdam

Personal Funds & Shipboard Charges

The currency onboard is U.S. Dollars. Holland America ships operate on a cashless system. You can validate your Holland America Charge Card with your Visa, MasterCard, Novus, or American Express card, or sign for payment by cash or traveller's check. Guests can then sign all onboard services and purchases to their account. At the end of the cruise, you will receive a completely itemized statement.

For your convenience, the ship has an onboard ATM machine that dispenses U.S. currency. Bank debit cards on the PLUS and CIRRUS networks are accepted along with the following credit cards: American Express, Discover/Novus, MasterCard and VISA are accepted. Fees will be charged per transaction.

Customs & Immigration at Sea

At each port of call, customs and immigration officials will board the ship and must clear it before we are allowed to go ashore. Normally, this occurs without your knowledge or participation. Occasionally, passengers are called for inspection for a variety of reasons. In these cases, please follow the instructions provided to assure that we are able to disembark in a timely manner in each port.

Alcoholic Beverage Restrictions

Holland America Cruises reserves the right to limit or refuse alcoholic beverages to be brought aboard the ship for consumption during your cruise vacation. Any alcohol brought onboard or purchased onboard will be held in secure storage and delivered to your stateroom on the last night of the cruise.

Shore Excursions

You can pre-book shore excursions in advance on the HAL web site (hollandamerica.com) until February 17, 2013. Upon arrival to the ship, you will receive tickets for your pre-booked excursions in your stateroom.

You may purchase additional shore excursions onboard, subject to availability, at the Shore Excursions Desk.

Atlantis has worked closely with HAL to enhance and develop excursions that will be fun and exciting for our group. Many of the excursions are "exclusive" to Atlantis guests, although in some cases the tours may be mixed with guests from other cruise ships. If you are in doubt, please inquire with Shore Excursions before booking.

Power & Water

The ship has both 110 (US standard) and 220 (European) voltage power outlets in the rooms. All the water onboard is filtered and potable. We do not recommend drinking tap water in any of the ports we visit, although ice is generally safe.

Bottled water is available for purchase from all bars.

Each stateroom is equipped with a hair dryer.

Laundry & Dry Cleaning Services

Laundry, dry cleaning, spot removal and pressing services are available for a reasonable fee. Laundry bags and service request forms are in your room. Ask your cabin steward for details.

There are no irons in staterooms as they constitute a fire hazard.

Gratuities and Tipping

All standard gratuities have been prepaid for this week, so there is no tipping required or expected at any time. All cabin stewards, waiters, and other personnel have been compensated at levels that are customary for a charter of this size. No additional tipping is needed but may be extended at your discretion if the service is exceptional.

A 15% gratuity is automatically added to all bar purchases and spa service charges.

Smoking Policy

For the comfort of all of our guests, designated smoking and non-smoking areas are available throughout the vessel. All dining areas are non-smoking. All showrooms are non-smoking. Smoking is permitted only in the casino and on certain open decks. As a courtesy to our guests, ship personnel will thoroughly enforce the smoking policy.

Smoking is not permitted at any time in any stateroom or on the balconies onboard.

Please note that Atlantis and/or HAL reserves the right to change the smoking policy at any time depending on guest requirements.

If You Have a Problem or Question

Both the Guest Relations Desk and the Atlantis Information Desk can handle most any difficulty you may encounter. Generally, issues relating to your stateroom, the ship, schedules, or billing should be directed to the Guest Relations Desk. Questions regarding entertainment, service, special requests, or anything else should be directed to the Atlantis Information Desk. Questions about excursions should go directly to the Shore Excursions Desk.

If the Atlantis Information Desk is unattended, please feel free to ask any Team Atlantis member and we will be happy to assist you.

Spa Services

The *Oosterdam* features an exceptional full-service spa, offering a wide range of services including massage, facial, aromatherapy, hairstyling, and much more. Appointments for these services should be made early in your cruise, as many of the services book up early. All spa services are an additional charge which can be signed to your stateroom.

Spa appointments will open on Wednesday afternoon, immediately following the boat drill, in order to be fair to all our guests. The spa will be open earlier that day for tours and same-day appointments.

Medical Services

Should you require medical attention while on board, an infirmary staff is available to assist you 24 hours a day. A doctor is available to render services at a customary charge. The infirmary is capable of providing treatment for minor matters which may arise during your cruise and are capable of assessing and stabilizing most medical emergencies. Should you require treatment for a serious condition which requires hospitalization, then arrangements may be made to transfer you to a medical facility ashore. While at sea, the ability to transfer you to a shore side facility may be limited or delayed by weather or logistical considerations. If you are currently suffering from a serious medical condition, please consult with your personal physician prior to sailing. Holland America's doctors are independent contractors.

If you should come down with a contagious disease, or even suspect a contagious disease, it's compulsory that you report it to the ship's infirmary for the safety of everyone on board. Should you be on any medication, or want the medical staff to be aware of any special needs, please contact the infirmary. This will ensure that they will be prepared should you need assistance.

In rare instances, the medical staff may determine that your medical condition will require you, and possibly your roommate, to be quarantined in your stateroom to protect the health of our other guests. While both HAL and Atlantis will make every effort to make you comfortable in such a situation, we are unable to compensate lost vacation time due to quarantine.

As always, we highly recommend travel insurance to assist with unforeseen costs and reimbursement for missed vacation time due to illness of any type.

Atlantis Cruise Essentials

Atlantis Roommate Share Program

If you are participating in our roommate share program, you have been assigned a roommate based on smoking preferences. Your roommate's name may appear on your confirmation, but is subject to change. This program is offered only as a convenience for our single travelers, and as such no roommate changes are permitted for any reason.

Upon arrival, you will find a detailed letter in your stateroom with advice on how to best enjoy your cruise together. As the ship is completely full, we do not have the capacity to offer share program guests single rooms, even as an upgrade purchase.

Finally, any roommate share guest who does not adhere to our code of conduct may be asked to leave the ship in the next port. In such cases no refund nor travel assistance will be provided.

Special Events for Singles

We host several special events throughout the week for our single guests, ranging from cocktail parties to special singles-only dinners. Please see the *Daily Program* for information on specific events. There's a singles event essentially every day.

Daily Schedule

The Atlantis version of the *Daily Program* will be delivered to your stateroom each night with a complete schedule for the following day. All activities, shows, and event times are described in this newsletter and handy pocket card. Please remember that this is our primary method of communicating with you, so read it daily. Changes and/or updates from our original schedule are common during a cruise, particularly in case of inclement weather.

You can also find an interactive version of the daily program on your television. Our cruise directors also host a daily update show that's both informative and entertaining.

Team Atlantis & Information Desk

Our Team Atlantis is on hand throughout the ship to host and assist with every aspect of your vacation. Please don't hesitate to ask any of us if you have a question or require assistance. We are available 24 hours a day, and are always wearing Atlantis name badges.

We also offer a general information desk located adjacent to the Guest Relations Desk. The desk is open daily and is your central resource for Atlantis-related information. Hours vary and are posted in the *Daily Program*.

Atlantis Publicity Photos

We will have a photographer and video crew aboard to document our voyage and assist us in creating our future collateral materials.

Atlantis does not use "random" shots for our publicity, so if you do not wish to be seen in our photos, please feel free to tell our photographers as they set up the shot.

Gatherings for Special Interest Groups

We celebrate the diversity and diverse interests in our community with several casual get-togethers for the following groups:

Bears & Cubs - A social gathering for bears, friends, and admirers

The Lure of Leather - For guests and friends that enjoy leather

Women of Atlantis - Our female guests and their friends

Friends of Bill W - Daily meetings

POZ - Daily meetings

Guns & Hoses - Cops and firemen

Active & Veterans - Military gathering

Friends of Barney - Gay parents

These get-togethers are casual, non-hosted meetings throughout the week. See the *Daily Program* for dates and times.

Atlantis Souvenir Video

We will be producing a souvenir video for all our guests onboard. This video will be available approximately four months after the trip returns.

You are, of course, welcome to purchase the Holland America's "Cruise in Review" video while onboard, but please note that this video is not produced by Atlantis and carries an additional charge.

Future Atlantis Vacation Sales

During the last few days of your cruise, we will offer a chance to reserve a future Atlantis vacation with a special onboard booking discount. Details will be delivered to your stateroom.

No Solicitation Policy

Atlantis does not allow our guests to solicit other guests for any service or business while onboard our cruises. Please respect our other guests' right to enjoy themselves in an advertising-free environment.

Any guest that violates this policy by distributing materials, voicemails, or other sales communications to our guests will be subject to a \$2500 fine applied directly to their onboard account. Thank you for your understanding.

Dining Information

Open Seating at Dinner

As always, Atlantis features open seating at all meals. Although your stateroom card may show an “assigned” a dining time, you can completely ignore it and dine at your leisure during posted hours.

Main Dining Room

Breakfast	7:30 to 9:30 am (port days)
Brunch	10:30 am to 2:00 pm (Sea Days only)
Lunch	12:30 to 2:00 pm
Dinner	6:30 to 10 pm

Lido Buffet Restaurant

Breakfast	7:30 am to Noon
Lunch	11:30 am to 2:30 pm
Deli & Salad	11:30 am to 5:00 pm
Dinner	6:30 to 9:30 pm
Late Night snacks	12 am to 4 am (most nights)

Terrace Grill

11:30 am - 6:00 pm

Pinnacle Grill

Dinner 6 to 10 pm
(reservations required, available for same-day dining only)

There is an extra charge for dining in the Pinnacle Grill.

Please note that all restaurants are smoke-free.

All of these dining times are approximate, and may change slightly according to our port times and onboard events. Additional dining options are listed in the *Daily Program*.

Team Atlantis will be on hand at the main restaurant to seat you, answer questions, and host tables. We always encourage you to join other guests for meals. It's the best way to meet people! Both Atlantis and HAL will do our best to honor special seating requests.

Please be patient during peak hours as there may be a slight wait in the main restaurant. We recommend dining before 8 pm or after 9 pm to avoid any waiting in line. We have scheduled the dining times to allow you to enjoy our shows either before or after dinner.

Room service is available 24 hours a day at no additional charge. See the menu in your stateroom for a complete selection and ordering instructions. Please recognize that the staff handling room service has limited capabilities. If you're looking for a quick snack, we highly recommend the Lido Buffet, which is open almost 24 hours a day.

Pinnacle Grill Restaurant

For the ultimate special occasion, treat yourself to the Pinnacle Grill, featuring an extraordinary menu of outstanding classic and modern creations.

Reservations are essential, and may only be made for same day dining. In fairness to all our guests, reservations must be made in person, and only one reservation per stateroom will be accepted daily. Each restaurant is equipped to handle parties no larger than eight (and only a few tables are this size), and larger groups will not be accepted. Please respect these policies so that the maximum number of our guests may enjoy these unique dining experiences.

Suite guests may reserve three advance visits, through the concierge. See the Holland America *Daily Program* for details and booking times.

Shorts, T-shirts, and tank tops are not permitted in this beautiful restaurant.

An extra charge for dining applies.

Special Occasions

We are at your service for any special celebration! Whether it's a birthday, anniversary, or other event, we want to make it memorable! Please see either an Atlantis or Holland America team member and we'll help you make it unforgettable.

Singles Dining

Traveling solo doesn't mean you have to eat alone. Whenever you enter our restaurants, Team Atlantis will gladly seat you with our other guests. Also, we're creating several special singles dinners, along with a designated meeting place for single guests to gather for drinks before dinner every night. See the *Daily Program* for specific times and locations.

Special Diets

We ask that you submit any special dietary requests in writing directly to Holland America at least one week prior to sailing. Once onboard, please speak with the Maitre D' of the restaurant regarding any special requests.

Please note that since this cruise is "open seating", it is your responsibility to notify the server and/or Maitre D' of any special requests you have made every time you dine.

Vegetarian and low fat options are available at each meal.

Entertainment Preview

Our *Daily Program* containing the complete entertainment and event schedule will be delivered to your stateroom each evening. Here's a preview of Atlantis' featured entertainment.

Wednesday Auckland

Sailaway Cocktail Party Lido Pool Deck 4 pm
Join your new friends as we sail away from Auckland for an unforgettable start to your cruise. Hosted by Malcolm & Team Atlantis.

Cruise Orientation Theater 8:00 pm
It's a long journey, and we're here with a brief overview and chance to ask any questions about the next 11 days. Only about 30 minutes, but worth a visit.

The Dame Edna Experience: Jonathan Hellyer Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
London's award-winning cabaret show stars the multi-talented Jonathan Hellyer as you-know-who with a spin you'd never expect. A fantastic start to an international adventure.

Thursday Cruising White Island

Dog Tag T-Dance Poolside 5:30-7:30 pm
The fun begins with Atlantis' most infamous afternoon party. A little green, red, or yellow can go a long way. Find out how and join in the fun.

Gay Comedy Showcase Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
Atlantis presents some of the world's leading gay (and gay-popular) comics, together on one fabulous stage.

Really South Pacific Party Poolside 11 pm
We're south, way south of the equator where things just might be a little upside-down. Watch out for restless natives and other surprises.

Friday Wellington

Dream Park Production Show Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
A spirited production show that takes you on a musical journey through the eyes of a magical carnival. One of our favorites!

Saturday Akaroa (Christchurch)

Miss Richfield 1981 Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
Australia certainly does drag one way, but there's nothing quite like Miss Richfield 1981. Her new show, titled "*Sweet & Sour Richfield*" offers a unique look at the practice of out-saucing and our international relations with the far east...

Sunday Dunedin

Classic Disco T-Dance Poolside 5:30-7:30 pm
The music we all started out with is back and better than ever. If you weren't around for it then, now's the time to learn.

Nightlife Production Show Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
The hottest clubs in the world come alive onstage with a production from our own troupe of singers and dancers!

Way Down Under Party Poolside 11 pm
Calling all drag queens, outback explorers, reef divers, surf bums, and Sydney city slickers for a party to celebrate all things Australian. Now if we could only find that dance remix of Waltzing Matilda...

Monday At Sea

The Academy Awards Theater 1 pm
We'll broadcast the Oscars live from L.A. in the theater, including our own red carpet parade and an oscar balloting contest with prizes.

An Evening with Bruce Vilanch Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
Broadway star (*Hairspray*), standup star, and writer of virtually every funny thing said on the Oscars for the past 20 years with a hilarious look at the world.

Pacific Heat Poolside 11 pm
No dress code. Just a night of dancing for all...

Tuesday At Sea

Surprise Guest Star Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
This one has to be kept under wraps so tight that we can't even provide a clue...

Atlantis Classics Party Poolside 11 pm
Step back to a time when dance music could truly be called "classic" with the best of the 80s, 90s and more. Our musical roots!

Wednesday Melbourne

Night out in Melbourne Around Town
We're working with the local promoters to create a memorable evening in one of the world's most vibrant cities. Since most people will be off the ship, we will not have a show this evening.

Thursday Melbourne

Trevor Ashley Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
Australia's biggest drag star (and award winning actor for his role in *Hairspray*), brings his hilarious and brilliant characters to life.

Atlantis White Party Poolside 11 pm
The world's biggest all-night, at-sea party is the perfect warm-up to Mardi Gras...

Friday At Sea

Bondi Beach Ball T-Dance Poolside 5:30 -7:30 pm
We'll bring a taste of one of the world's most famous beaches to the high seas for our last t-dance under the sun. Swimmers, sunnies, singlets, and no attitude please!

Zoe Badwi in Concert Theater 8:30 & 10:30 pm
Australian singing sensation, best known for her smash hit "Release Me" performs live in concert!

Brad Loekle's Last Laugh Theater 11:45 pm
Brad has the last word and a lot more laughs before we arrive in Sydney for the main event!

Saturday Sydney

Arrival into Sydney On Deck 9 am
Yes it's early, but there are few arrivals into a city as beautiful as this. Let's make an entrance together!

Mardi Gras Parade! Oxford Street 6 pm
Make your way to the streets for the world's largest and most spectacular gay and lesbian parade. Parade starts at 8 pm, but there's plenty of eye-candy and entertainment to keep you busy. Full details will be provided onboard.

MardiGrasLand Party Fox Studios 11 pm
The world's biggest and most diverse gay party. Need we say more?

More Entertainment Notes

Additional Performers Onboard

Atlantis entertainment happens throughout the ship, and all day and night. Look for some exciting shows from the following Atlantis entertainers:

Matt Yee - An over-the-top cabaret singer featuring boas, wigs, and original music

Courtney Act - One of Australia's most famous drag queens

Shauna Jensen - Powerhouse Australian singer and pop star

David Hernandez - American Idol finalist and luscious male vocalist

Brian Kent - San Francisco based up-and-coming cabaret star

Brian Nash - Super-popular piano bar entertainer

Darren Mapes - Australian piano bar entertainer

See the *Daily Program* for exact times and locations of these performers. You'll also see a few surprise shows from Team Atlantis and some of our other entertainers.

DJs and Dance Parties

We're thrilled to have three of the world's top DJs onboard the *Oosterdam*:

Wayne G London / San Francisco

Paul Goodyear Sydney / San Francisco

Joe Gauthreaux New York

Each has their own unique style and has been selected for their particular sound. We know that you'll enjoy the variety of music offered during the week.

Please respect your fellow passengers when returning to staterooms late at night.

Movies and Video Entertainment

Atlantis and Holland America have tailored the cinema and in-room entertainment specifically for Atlantis. You'll find a variety of first run movies, new gay movies, and a few classics. And yes, there are some appropriate adult movies on pay-per-view.

Keeping In Touch

Before Sailing

If you need to reach Atlantis prior to your cruise, you may contact us at 310-859-8800. Our office is open day of departure until we sail for emergencies.

You can also contact Holland America Cruises at 1-877-932-4259.

Satellite Telephone Access

You can make ship-to-shore calls from your stateroom, 24 hours a day. The cost is \$7.95 per minute and will automatically be charged to your onboard account.

Friends and family can reach you 24 hours a day via Holland America's Satellite Service. Have them call 866-HAL-SHIP (866-425-7447) from the U.S.A., or 1-732-335-3278 from the rest of the world. The cost is \$7.95 per minute and can be billed to their American Express, MasterCard, or Discover cards. (From outside the U.S.A., additional long distance charges will apply).

Internet Access - Holland America Cruises Online

There is an internet cafe on Deck 5 open 24 hours a day. Please note that the public computers do not have file sending or receiving capabilities. We found that the internet cafe was very busy, so highly recommend bringing a laptop if you need to access the internet regularly during your vacation.

Cellular at Sea Onboard Phone Service

The *Oosterdam* is specially equipped to allow your mobile phone to work onboard. Please note that roaming charges apply, and will be billed directly by your home carrier. We recommend checking with your carrier prior to sailing for exact rates.

This access only works while at sea. When in port, the local land operator's roaming charges will apply. Again, check with your operator to see what roaming options exist.

Auckland Pre Cruise

Hotel in Auckland

We are using the following hotel in Auckland for our pre-cruise program:

The Langham Auckland
83 Symonds St
Royal Oak, Auckland 1001, New Zealand
+64 9 379 5132

Your Atlantis Travel Confirmation (e-mailed under separate cover) has your complete booking details. There is no individual confirmation number, simply reference that you are part of the Atlantis group and make sure you ask for a welcome letter upon arrival.

Breakfast is not included at the Langham, but may be purchased at the hotel.

Airport transfers from the airport to the hotel are not included in your package. Taxis are plentiful and will cost around \$65NZD.

Hospitality Deck in Auckland

We will staff a hospitality desk at the Langham hotel during the following times:

February 18 10 am - Noon & 5 - 7 pm

February 19 9 - 11 am & 5 - 6 pm

February 20 10 am - Noon

Welcome Party February 19 in Auckland

All guests are invited to our "Official Sail Away Party" at the Langham hotel on Tuesday, February 19, from 6 to 8 pm.

Casual. Cash Bar

Auckland Pride Festival

Auckland's Gay Pride festival is happening during the weekend prior to our cruise. If you're spending any time in Auckland before the cruise, please take a look at the following:

www.aucklandpridefestival.org.nz

Transfers to the *Oosterdam* on February 20

If you booked your hotel through Atlantis, we will provide transfers to the ship on Wednesday, February 20. Complete details will be in your arrival letter. Please note that we do not have the capability to offer transfers to guests that did not book their hotel through Atlantis.

Sydney Post Cruise

Overnight in Sydney

We arrive in Sydney on the morning of March 2, and will be docked at Darling Harbour Wharf 5 from Bangaroo Wharf 5, very close to Circular Quay. From there, you can literally walk or take a taxi to most of Sydney with ease. We'll provide gay maps of Sydney, along with a full set of recommendations prior to our arrival

The night of the Parade there are many road closures, but it's still relatively easy to get around. We have a special plan to get you to your grandstand seats, and details will be provided onboard.

Disembarking in Sydney

We have arranged a "late" departure with this cruise on the morning of Sunday, March 3. You can disembark at your leisure anytime until noon.

If you are flying out on Sunday, March 3, we strongly suggest taking advantage of Holland America's group transfers to the airport onboard. Rates and information will be sent to your stateroom during the cruise, or inquire at the Guest Relations Desk.

Since most of you are staying in Sydney, we strongly recommend departing somewhat early if you want to find a taxi to your hotel. There are not all that many taxis on a Sunday morning in Sydney!

Glamstand Seats

If you purchased Glamstand Seats through Atlantis for the Parade, we will distribute the tickets onboard during the last few days of the cruise. All of our seats are in one large block. Transfers are not included and we'll outline the options to get there once we arrive.

Sydney Post Cruise Hotel Program

If you are booked with Atlantis on our post-cruise hotel program, we will disembark the ship last, around 11:45 am. Transfers to the hotel are provided, and your luggage will be transferred directly to the Sheraton on the Park or Hilton Sydney. Complete details on this program will be sent to your stateroom the last few nights of the cruise.

Our host hotels in Sydney are:

Sheraton on the Park Hotel

161 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000, Australia
+61 2 9286 6000

Hilton Sydney

488 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000, Australia
+61 2 9266 2000

Sydney Mardi Gras

Mardi Gras Parade & Party

Sydney Mardi Gras is the largest gay event in the world, with a monthlong celebration culminating on the parade and party you'll experience on March 3. Details about all their events, including ticket purchases can be found at:

www.mardigras.org.au

We highly recommend seeing the parade from the "Glamstand" reserved seating as there will be more than 500,000 people on the parade route. Unless you arrive around 4 pm (for an 8 pm parade) you won't have a great viewing position. Seats were still available as of February 9.

All Atlantis Glamstand ticket holders will have a unique opportunity to walk the parade route to our seats just before the parade begins! This exciting walk is optional and details will be provided onboard.

The MardiGrasLand party is an all-night event featuring superstar DJs, surprise performers, and five distinctive dance venues. It's one of the few events in the world that truly has something for everyone. We'll give you more details onboard about enjoying the party onboard. We've designed our late disembark on Sunday to make sure you truly get the most out of this sensational event.

Finally, Sunday afternoon and evening there are several events including the Mardi Gras "Laneway" party. We can assist onboard with recommendations on this as well.

Additional Recommended Events

There are several other events in Sydney on Sunday, March 3 that extend the Mardi Gras weekend. Here are two of our favorites:

Daywash

Daywash is an afternoon party held at a club called "Chinese Laundry" which attracts a very festive crowd from noon until 10 pm. Details can be found at: www.Daywash.com.au, and you can purchase discount tickets at:

www.greentix.com.au/events/273738/DAYWASH-MARDI-TIME
Please use the checkout code "Atlantis" (case sensitive).

Finale

The last party of the weekend is at the world-famous Home nightclub and features DJ Danny Verde, performances by Sharon Needles and a host of talented local DJs. It starts Sunday night at 10 pm and goes late, late, late. Worth a visit if you have the energy.

Atlantis has arranged a special discount for the party using the following link:

www.finaleparty.eventbrite.com/?discount=atlantis
Complete details can be found at www.inthedark.com.au/events/sharonanddanny/

Atlantis Team

Our Atlantis team is made up of our full-time employees and part-time talent working together to create an exciting cruise experience for you.

Team Atlantis

Rich Campbell - President

Brandon Reily - Producer

Malcolm Neitzey - Cruise Director

John David Bernal

Jeremy Hilborn

David Quon

Danny DaSilva

Marino Maranion

Chris Sugden

Vince Dwyer

Allan McGavin

Our Entertainers & Technical Team

Courtney Act

Brian Kent

Craig Bythell

Trevor Ashley

Brad Loekle

John Finen

Zoe Badwi

Darren Mapes

Kyle Garner

Wayne G

Brian Nash

Bryan Holcombe

Joe Gauthreaux

Shawn Pelofksy

Poncho Lucero

Paul Goodyear

Miss Richfield 1981

Jonathan Hellyer

Bruce Villanch

David Hernandez

Matt Yee

Shauna Jensen

Questions?

Please ask your travel agent, call our office (800-628-5268), or e-mail us at:

CruiseInfo@atlantisevents.com

We look forward to seeing you onboard!
Bon Voyage.