



News Release
FROM AMERICAN CRUISE LINES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Cruise Lines to Feature Lewis and Clark Theme Cruises aboard *Queen of the West*

Available in April 2012, retrace the footsteps of the Journey of the Corps of Discovery

GUILFORD, CT – November 29, 2011 – American Cruise Lines (www.americancruiselines.com), the leader in small ship cruising, announced today the planned offering of Lewis and Clark theme cruises aboard the magnificent *Queen of the West*, an authentic 120-passenger paddlewheeler operating on the Columbia and Snake Rivers of the Pacific Northwest.

Available this April, between Portland, Oregon and Clarkston, Washington, American Cruise Lines will offer an unforgettable journey along the legendary rivers that helped shape the West aboard the authentic paddlewheeler *Queen of the West*. On this unique itinerary, passengers will follow in the footsteps of the legendary explorers Lewis and Clark, and their monumental expedition while discovering the natural wonder, native lore, pristine wilderness, and rich history along this epic course. Guests will discover ancient lands of Native Americans; marvel at the technological miracles of the river's lock system, where a series of seven locks takes you 780 feet above sea level; and cruise from the lush valley of the Columbia River Gorge to the high desert inland canyons.

“The spring is really the ideal time for this cruise – the days are longer and the scenery is just breathtaking that time of year,” said Timothy Beebe, Vice President, American Cruise Lines. “Experiencing this beauty aboard the country’s only overnight authentic paddlewheeler, *Queen of the West*, makes for a truly unique cruising experience that allows people to experience the Pacific Northwest in a completely different way.”

Onboard lecturers and entertainers will bring the stories of Lewis & Clark’s Corps of Discovery to life while the crew provides passengers with the highest standards of service. On shore, tour guides and regional experts lead the way as guests retrace the steps of the two famed explorers, visiting sites made famous by their path of discovery.

Highlights of the theme cruise include:

- Featured guest speaker, Todd Weber –A highly celebrated, river-running historian, brings tales of the patriots, fur traders, Indians and explorers of America alive through his period clothing and colorful presentation.
- Dinner with Lewis & Clark evening – Impersonators will accompany guests during a special evening of fine dining, entertainment, trivia and more.

- A special screening of Ken Burns' Lewis & Clark documentary, "Lewis and Clark - The Journey of the Corps of Discovery."
- Guided tours of sites throughout the Lewis and Clark National and State Historic Park, including Fort Clatsop, Salt Works and Netul Landing.

For those seeking the exceptional in both quality and service, a casual environment, the camaraderie of like-minded travelers, all in the intimacy of a small ship, it can be found on American Cruise Lines' *Queen of the West*. The authentic paddlwheel, built in 1996 with a Victorian theme, recently underwent a multi-million dollar renovation to make it even more comfortable and accommodating than before. From the all-American crew ready to anticipate every need, to first-class chefs preparing menus inspired by regional specialties, the Lewis and Clark Expedition will meet the greatest of expectations.

Queen of the West's deck plan can be found [here](#) and reflects a new library on the third deck, the enlargement of a number of staterooms, and the addition of more single staterooms. Aimed at providing the most comfortable and elegant atmosphere for passengers, *Queen of the West* boasts newly designed and custom built furniture, fresh interior décor, enlarged staterooms and spacious private balconies.

About American Cruise Lines

American Cruise Lines, the largest U.S. cruise company, operates the newest fleet of small ships in the industry and offers more than 30 unique itineraries along the inland waterways and rivers of the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, the Mississippi River System and East Coast of the United States, from New England to Florida. To learn more about American Cruise Lines, visit our Website at www.americancruiselines.com or call (800) 814-6880.

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