

Chamber Cruise FAQ's

We are excited to set sail for the Chamber Cruise to Mexico in 2025! Make your plans to join us for this inaugural voyage. We hope this list of questions will be helpful to answer all your questions about the 2025 Chamber Cruise.

Through our partnership with Cruise Planners, one of our members, the Chamber will receive a portion of proceeds from each booking. What a wonderful way to have fun, connect with community and support the work of the Chamber. Win-Win! We love bringing members and supporters together and the Chamber Cruise is one more way for us to bring community together.

Please check out the FAQ's. If you have any further questions about the Chamber Cruise, please contact our travel partner:

Cruise Planners
Peter Weeks
peter.weeks@cruiseplanners.com
210-560-1325

You can learn more about the 2025 Chamber Cruise at https://www.isleseattravel.com/GroupRegistrations/view/12
4218.

Get ready to set sail!

• **Galveston Port Parking** - Royal Caribbean has a brand new cruise terminal in Galveston with it's own parking lots. Parking is available now for anyone that wants to pre-pay if they do plan to leave their vehicle at the terminal. Go to https://www.portofgalveston.com/ and select our ship, Mariner of the Seas. Next, select our departure date, which is 04/05/25. All of the parking options will populate. The north premium lot is closest to the terminal doors and is covered parking. Should you need to park at the regular north lot, the south lot or pier 14, shuttles will be available to bring you to the terminal with your luggage.



- **Payments** At the time of booking, a \$100 per person deposit is required. The remaining balance isn't due until January 5, 2025, which means you can pay off your remaining balance gradually up until that date. If you'd like me to set up a specific payment plan, please let Peter know!
- **How many people can fit in a cabin?** The rooms that we specifically have on hold for the Chamber Cruise will only hold 2 people. However, that doesn't mean other occupancies cannot be booked and included in the group still. They have rooms on the ship that hold 1 to 5+ people.

- What is included in the cost of the cruise? Taxes, port fees, multiple complimentary dining venues, and basic drinks such as water, tea, regular coffee and some juices.
- What type of add-ons are there for the cruise? There are all sorts of things you can add to elevate your cruise experience! Royal has alcoholic and non-alcoholic drink packages, dining packages for specialty dining venues, a Wi-Fi package, a wide variety of spa services and even a VIP pass called "The Key".
- What is the deposit and when is it due? Deposits are \$100 per person for interior, ocean view and balcony rooms. They are due at the time of registration.
- What are the cancellation fees? If you have booked using a group inventory room and it is prior to the final payment date, there are no cancellation fees. If you have booked a room outside of the group due to a different number of occupancy and then moved into the group, the initial cancellation penalty will be the cost of the deposit. Upon final payment date, ALL bookings are subject to penalties based on time of cancellation.
- Can one person in the room cancel and the remaining people keep the cabin? Yes! However, if it is a double occupancy room and one person cancels, the remaining person will be responsible for paying 200% of the cruise fare minus the taxes and port fees for the second person.
- When is the final payment due? All payments are due no later than January 5th, 2025.
- What is "The Key"? The Key is Royal's ultimate VIP pass. For more details, click here:
 https://www.royalcaribbean.com/faq/questions/what-are-the-bene-fits-of-the-key-program
- **Are there service gratuities?** Yes! Royal Caribbean does charge service gratuities. They will range from \$90 to \$102.50 per person based on the cabin category. Gratuities collected are distributed to crew members, including dining, bar and culinary services staff, stateroom attendants, hotel services teams as well as others onboard who work to enhance the overall

cruise experience. They can be pre-paid or paid after boarding the ship on the departure date up to the final night onboard.

- Are there any extra fees? Potentially, yes. In the event you decide to pre-pay for any drink packages, dining packages, room service or mini bar items, an 18% gratuity will be automatically added to the total cost of each. If you do not pre-purchase any of these and want to pay as a la carte for any of these, the 18% gratuity will still apply to each individual purchase. Additionally, a 20% gratuity is automatically added to all pre-cruise and onboard spa and salon purchases.
- Is there travel protection available? Absolutely! You will have multiple options available as far as travel protection. Royal Caribbean works specifically with Aon Travel Insurance, while our agency partners closely with Allianz. We can quote you during the booking process, and the cost will be based on the cost of your trip.
- What are my next steps once I'm booked? We recommend creating an account directly on Royal's website http://www.royalcaribbean.com if you haven't already sailed with them at least once before. After you've done that, you can start managing some of the aspects of your cruise on their website directly or on their smartphone app! If you have already sailed with Royal in the past, please let us know. We will ensure your Crown & Anchor number with Royal Caribbean is added to your booking.
- When do I check in for my cruise? With Royal Caribbean, you typically sign into your account and check in 45 days prior to your cruise departure date. The exact date will also be shown on your Royal phone app. During your check-in process, you will have a few things to fill out including travel documentation info based on whether you'll be using your passport or birth certificate, a specific time to show up at the Galveston cruise terminal, provide a selfie for their facial recognition, and a credit card for your onboard charging.
- How do I charge things onboard the ship? By using your Sea Pass! Your sea pass doubles as your room key card and as your onboard charge card. You'll receive your sea pass outside your cabin once it is ready! We usually recommend people to use regular credit cards for charging and not cards necessarily affiliated with your banks as the ship tends to authorize cards as the total amount of charges on your account starts to accumulate.

- What time will the cabins be ready? Cabins are typically ready around 1:30pm to 2pm. This allows the cabin stewards to ensure all the rooms are clean and presentable to guests before they enter! If the cabins happen to be ready ahead of time, someone from the ship will make an announcement.
- When is my dining time? The group has been set for the late dining time each night, which is 7:30pm. It has been requested by the group leaders that everyone dine together, but it is not required. If you desire a different dining time, we will do our best to accommodate. You may even wish to experience one of the specialty dining venues at an extra cost one evening.
- Is there a dress code for dinner? Partially, yes! While the dining room is casual, they do ask that swimwear is not worn to the main dining rooms. For this 5-night cruise, there will be one "formal" night in the dining room, which will be the second night. Suits and ties, tuxedos, cocktail dresses or evening gowns are recommended but not required.
- **Will there be a workshop on board?** We are working on a workshop so stay tuned for more details!