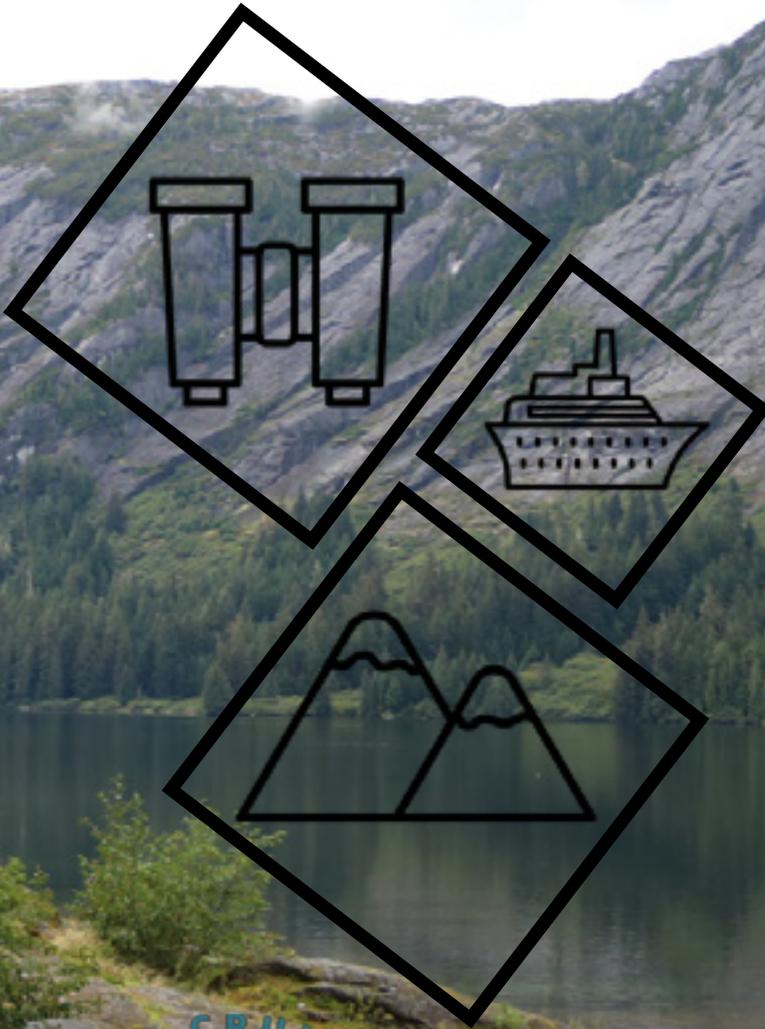


# Hand Book



**Crochet Cruises Guide and Check List Before You Go**



Soon we will be all on board Celebrity Solstice hookin' our way up to Alaska. This guide, is our handbook to let the scenic mountains & the calm ocean passages drift you away in awe.



# CRUISE PLANNERS

Your Cruise and Land Specialist

Sherry Leybovich, ECCS, LCS, CTA

## Official Planner of Crochet Cruises

- Cruise Consultant & Negotiator
- Cruise Ship Communications
- Cruise Tickets Reservations
- Pre-Cruise & Post-Cruise Coordinator
- Land & Sea Vacations & Excursions
- Personal & Group Vacations Planner



## Our Cruise Planner

Sherry Leybovich is our Cruise Planner on behalf of Cruise Planners. She has made these cruises possible by being our cruise consultant, booking agent, live event co-ordinator & so much more. Over the years, Sherry and ourselves have built a great personal and professional relationship and understanding that fits our goals with the Crochet Cruises. Based out of Florida, Sherry specializes in personal, corporate and group vacation planning. She was also voted as **Top 25 Travel Agent** in the United States, by a national publication "*Travel Agent*" magazine.



You can book any land or sea vacation through Sherry.

Website: [www.cruisesforu.com](http://www.cruisesforu.com)

Email: [sherry@cruisesforu.com](mailto:sherry@cruisesforu.com)

Toll-Free: 888-464-1827 x101

Local: 813-657-0844, Fax: 813-657-0854

On Behalf of The Crochet Crowd, we would like to **WELCOME YOU** and we are about to embark on an adventure to the great wilderness of Alaska, crochet, story telling and joyous times in meeting new friends, all having a good time on the [Crochet-Cruises.com](http://Crochet-Cruises.com).

This is our 5th bi-annual Crochet Cruise departing June 1st, 2018 from Seattle. This is your vacation infused with real-time crochet community members from around the world. We thank you sincerely for choosing to spend time with us on a 7 day crochet cruise to the great frontier of beautiful Alaska.

Your on board leadership team are **Michael Sellick** - *Creative Director and Video Host*, **Daniel Zondervan** - *Creative Director*, and **Diane Suder** - *On Board Assistant*. **Jeanne Steinhilber**, Community Chaperone and even our **Cathy Lund**, our Bookkeeper. We are also excited to have, As always, **Sherry Leybovich** with us on board the cruise too.

Our goal is to have some down time doing what we love by mixing and mingling with other crocheters. You will be HOOK'N THE HIGH SEAS with us while also experiencing the the inner passage way to the north, enjoying the ship on board entertainment and so much more.

Before we move on with the guide, we like to thank [JOANN.com](http://JOANN.com). We would like to recognize them as our official sponsor of workshop materials and gifts. This amazing relationship, we have had the opportunity to sift through the store and make your gifts bags even more fabulous then we have had in the past. **You might want to make sure your bring an extra suitcase... Just saying!**



Before We Raise the Anchor



JOANN



# Advance Notifications, Thoughts and Laughs

All cruisers will be getting notices from The Crochet Crowd in advance of the Crochet Cruises with any reminders and updates through the following media outlets:

1. Notices will be posted to our ***dedicated Facebook private group***. It's strongly advised to check in and be part our Facebook group once in a while to ensure you are in the know of potential changes. Other crochet cruisers are also sharing tips and advice as well. We understand that many may not use Facebook often; however, this is OUR primary means of communicating. Over the past, we have found it to be far more effective to reach the vast majority of you and engagement as been exciting. If you are not on the Private Facebook Page please contact [Jeanne](#).

2. You can always check our dedicated website, [Crochet-Cruises.com](http://Crochet-Cruises.com) for updates as well. This site gets update periodically.

3. Occasionally, a mass email ***may*** be sent out. We have found that email is not as effective tool, as many claimed that they did not get emails or it went to their junk folder and etc. We only send emails of high importance with hopes that everyone receives them. The same information will be posted on the Facebook private group page. We highly encourage all to check in once a while on Facebook, as well to check your spam/junk boxes if we have sent an email. This is your guarantee that you have the latest news.

4. This handbook will have the most important and helpful information before your adventures begin. It will address from **Project Linus**, shore excursions, and so on. Please read through. Sherry and everyone of the private Facebook pages are here to help with any questions. If this is your first time on a cruise, you are really are in for a real treat. Our past cruisers, Sherry and ourselves, will give the assurance that you are in capable hands.



# Online Check In

It is **strongly** advised you check in to provide your personal information to be ready for embarkation day, aka sail away day.

This allows the ship to have a complete manifest of all of the passengers on board the ship. The manifest is extremely important as it is required by US Coast Guard and is for your safety.

Doing this in advance saves a lot of time at the port terminal. All of the information you are entering online in advance is exactly what the crew will be asking of you while at the port. This will allow you to quickly check-in and get on with your Crochet Cruise much faster.

Online check-in can only be done once your room balance is **paid in full and 45 days before sailing date**. Here you can print your boarding passes and cabin luggage tags. You can also request cruise enhancements such as: Specialty dining, spa treatments, wifi packages, beverage packages etc. through the same link. Sherry will also be sending an email for your eTickets. Be sure to watch out for that closer to time.

You can also go directly to 'Check-in'. From there enter the information that is required.

[CHECK IN](#)

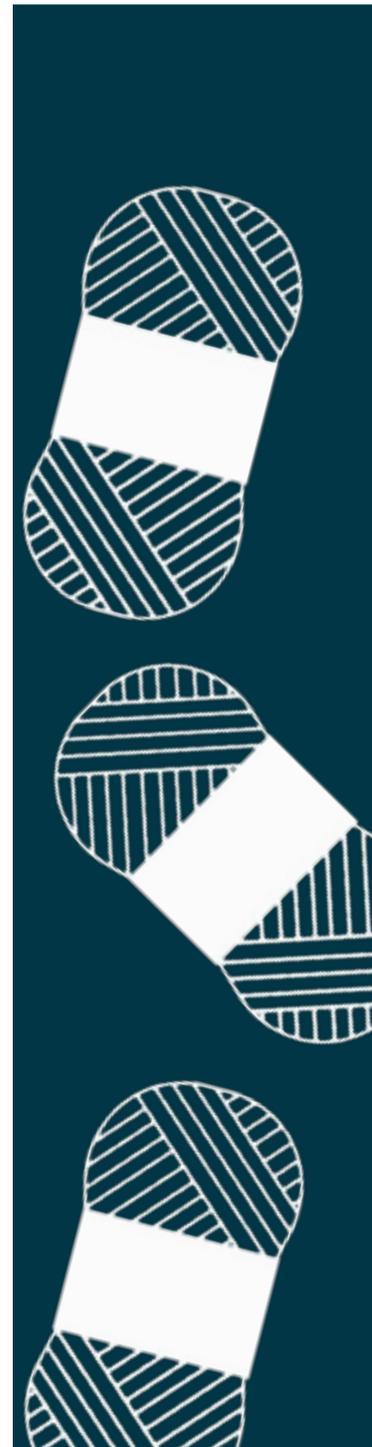
## Crochet Crowd Cruise Cancellations

In the unfortunate event that an emergency has arrived that you would not be able to cruise with us, please note that there are certain procedures to follow:

Your cruise tickets were arranged through our cruise agent. You will need to contact our agent, Sherry, to advise of the situation. A contract has been made with your cruise ticket purchases. Cancellation fees may apply. If a full refund cannot be offered due to the cruise line regulations, Sherry can check to see if you have any other options.

The Activity Administration Fee to The Crochet Crowd is non-refundable as stated in our registration. Certain expenses have already been paid in advance based on your commitment to go.

Any passengers who do not show up and/or cancel are not entitled to the gifts or course materials being given on board. All items are shipped directly to the ship from our sponsor. As per the sponsors' request and the cruise line guidelines, we will not be able to give gift packages to friends on the ship to passengers who have canceled, nor mail them out after the cruises completed.



# Airport / Transportation

It is your responsibility to arrange your flights and ground transportation to get to the hotel and ports. Contact Sherry for transportation options. We have a few.

Be sure to consider any air flight delays that may be beyond your control. Leave early enough to make it to port on time. The cruise ship will leave without you if you are not at the terminal for embarkation.

Embarkation of the cruise ship is between **11 am - 3 pm** on departure day. ***Do not be late. Do not arrange any flights earlier than 1 pm on the day we leave from the ship on the last day of the cruise.***

Transportation from the airport to our dedicated hotel must be arranged on your own. Grab a taxi, take the train or order a uber. You can also do [SuperShuttle.com](http://SuperShuttle.com) which is an excellent choice. You can book through them on their website. Please note that they have a 5 step email that you need to respond once you get off the plane. It is quite ingenious. Each responsive step insures you that you will meet your Super Shuttle in good time. Be sure to check your email.

We have arrange **Bus transportation** for our group to the Port from the Hotel for \$20 per person AND from the Port to the Airport at the end of the cruise for a fee of \$25. Please contact Sherry to reserve your spot. Book early, no exceptions for last minute bookings. We have a very large number of passengers and including luggage. Room and space will be crucial. So please book ahead. More information can be found here.

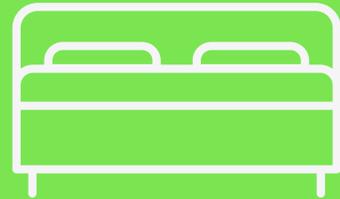
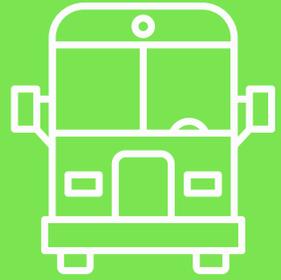
[Bus from Springhill Suites to Celebrity Solstice](#)

[Bus from Celebrity Solstice to Airport](#)

Those that are local, there is Pier Long Term parking available. More information on Pg 9.

## Hotel

Our dedicated and corporate rate hotel is the **Springhill Suites by Marriot located 1800 Yale Avenue, Seattle**. With complimentary breakfast, free wifi, it near the Seattle Space Needle and other major attractions. Please note that all cancellations must be made **no later 30 days prior** in order to avoid a 1-night room and tax penalty. We look forward to seeing you all in Seattle. [Click here](#) to reserve for our rate.



# Customized Crochet Cruises Badges



All Crochet Cruisers will be receiving a custom made badge with lanyard that is encouraged to be worn during our get togethers. Cruisers, you will get your badges at our first meet up at 8:30 pm in the conference room.

The badge will have the Crochet Cruises Itinerary for classes, stitch socials and gatherings on the back. The front will have your first name, for some with same name, the initial of your last name and the state or province you are from.

You can wear the badges at any time. It helps everyone to get to know each other, even when just meeting informally. These badges are great for putting in your ship card in and door prize tickets too.

**Please note, if you prefer a different name than your legal name or what is on your email, you need to email us at [Sherry@cruisesforu.com](mailto:Sherry@cruisesforu.com) and tell us your legal name, which cruise you are on, state/province and what to change your name to. You have until *May 1st, 2018* to give us the updates.**

For example, your full name might be Elizabeth, but maybe you prefer to be called Beth. Just let us know. Badges are shipped ahead of time and cannot be changed after May 5th, 2018. Please no names like happy hooker or knotty nicknames, we like everyone to be respectful.

You will find a personalized envelope from the Crochet Cruises in your cabin mailbox no later than 4 pm on embarkation day welcoming you.

Mikey loves to collect pins! ***Who will beat him this year?***

***Plus... We love seeing what crocheters did to personalize their crochet bags using tchotchkes.***



## Wake Up Happy Everyday

### Crochet Class on All Sea Days

10 am in the Botticelli Dining Room  
Sat 4th & Sun 5th, Community Yarn to be given in Class  
Mon 6th, Caron Cakes & Patons Glam Stripes  
Tues 7th, Bernat Maker Home Dec  
Sun 12th, & Mon 13th, Caron Simply Soft  
Tues 14th, Lily's Sugar'n Cream  
Wed 15th, Bernat Sox  
Thurs 16th, Bernat Maker Fashion

No classes while we are in Hawaii

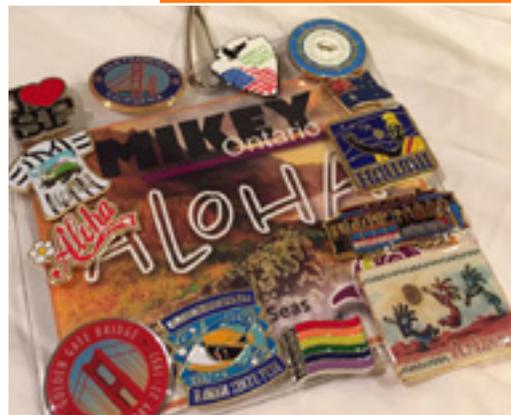
### Stitch Social on All Sea Days

1:30 pm in the Botticelli Dining Room  
Bring your project you like to work on & win some prizes

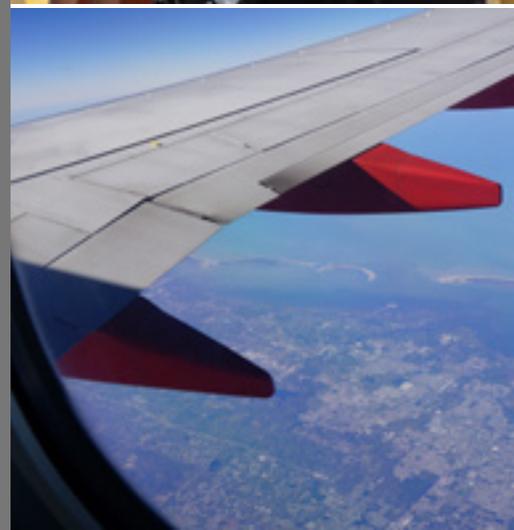
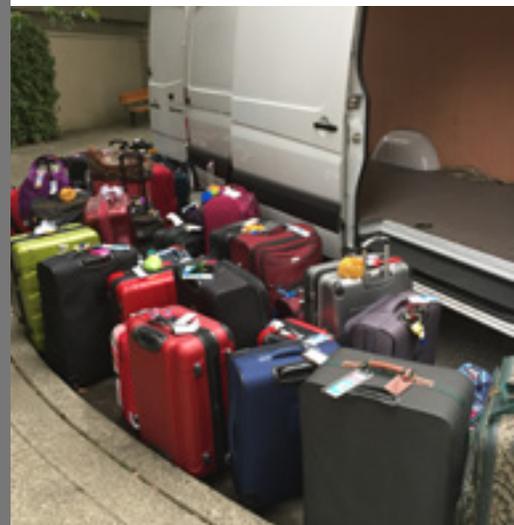
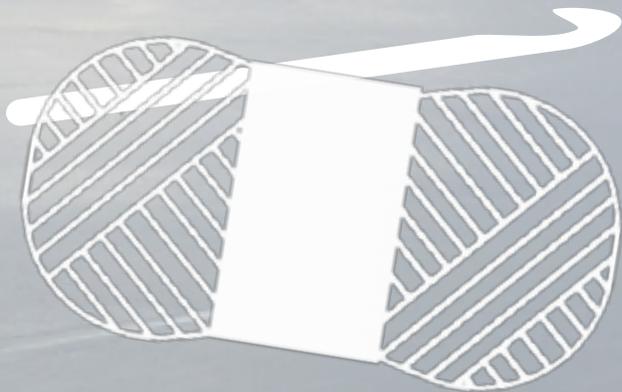
### Dinner & Socialize Every Evening

### Sleep with Appreciation Everynight

Emergency, Michael and Daniel, Stateroom: A614



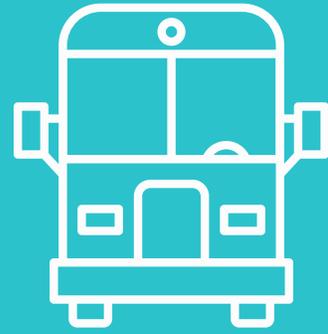
The Day Arrives...



# Departure Day - Port Check-in

Transportation from our dedicated hotel to the port has been arranged by Sherry and the hotel. Make sure you are on the list for the bus. Remember, this is **only for those staying** at the Springhill Suites in Seattle. That information can be found on Page 5.

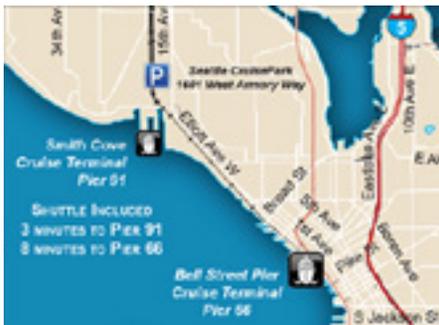
If you are driving to the port yourself, there is parking near the port with shuttle. **Republic Parking Northwest**. It is advised to reserve ahead. [Check their website.](#)



## [More Information on Seattle Cruise Terminal](#)

The Celebrity Cruise Terminal will be Pier 91. However do wait for your e-tickets to find out what terminal you will be arriving at. Things can change.

**Address to Pier 91**  
2001 West Garfield Street  
Seattle, WA 98199



## Have ID, Passport & Cruise Tickets Ready

Whether you are going to the port on a shuttle or driving to the port with friends & family, you must have all your ID (driver's licenses for US Citizens and passports for international guests) and cruise tickets ready to present. You will be asked to show your cruise tickets at the entrance of the pier terminal before they let you pass through. **Please NOTE, it is becoming mandatory for ALL passengers to have passports.** So don't argue, get it done and be happy that you have a passport. **For those on the train ride excursion, YOU NEED A PASSPORT!**



# Curb Side Checked Luggage

When you do the advance check-in completely online, you will be able to print your luggage tags to be affixed to your checked luggage. If you don't check-in online, crew members will check your boarding tickets and write you a luggage tag to put onto your suitcases on the spot.

There will be crew with carts taking your luggage when you arrive at the curb of the terminal, they are in uniform. Your luggage should have your name and cabin number on a tag affixed to the handle. Crew members will have staplers to affix your tag if needed.

If you have forgotten your luggage tag, the agent will check your cruise ticket and make you a quick luggage tag on the spot and attach to your luggage in front of you.

You will not see your luggage again until it magically arrives outside of your cabin door later on in the afternoon and/or early evening of embarkation day.

If you want to tip the curbside porter, it's usually about \$2 - \$3 per bag.

## Carry Ons

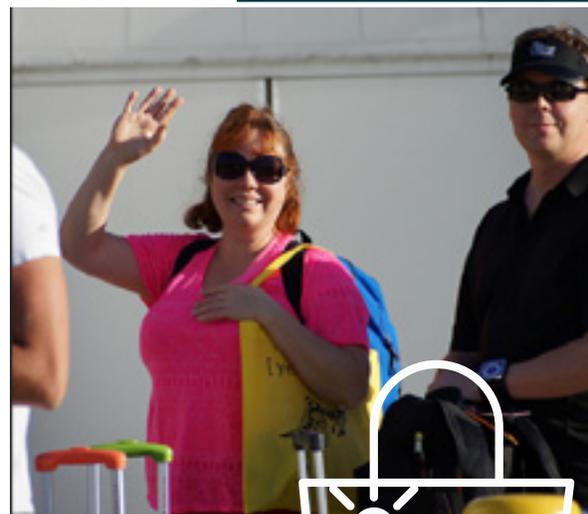
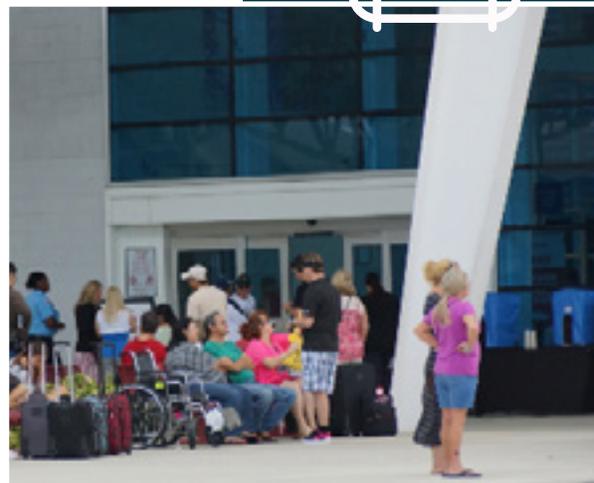
Small suitcases and carry on bags can be walked through security. Ensure that you have everything you need as you will not see your checked luggage for several hours. Keep medicine, valuables and critical items with you.

## Security

We all hate going through security but for the safety of the ship and everyone else, we all must pass through the metal detectors. Once in the terminal, you will be directed to a security check point. Follow the instructions and guides, smile, and be calm. You are much closer to the start of your vacation.

Throughout the process, there are members of the crew available to direct you if you are unsure. If you are unsure where to go, just follow the crowd, smile and wave like you know someone. ***Fake it or make it right? :)***

For ease of this process, please have just one carry-on, like a purse, or a tote bag. ***You will not be able to get into your cabin until about 2 pm.*** Truth be told, the most cranky passengers are the ones trying to carry everything themselves. We all hate dragging luggage. So the less you carry, the quicker you can get to the buffet.



# What is Allowed to Come on Board

## Bringing Alcohol or Beverages On Board

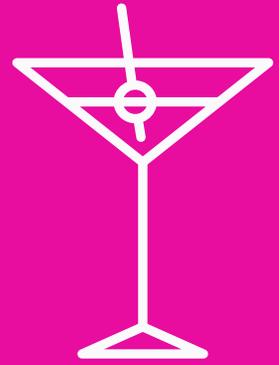
No beer or hard liquor may be brought on-board for consumption. If you wish to bring personal wine on board with you on the day you board your cruise, you may do so, **limited to 1 - 750ml bottles of champagne or wine per adult over the age of 21**. When enjoyed in any shipboard restaurant, bar or dining venue, each bottle shall be subject to a corkage fee of \$25. **Bottled water and soda is no longer allowed to be brought onto the cruise ship.**

If you bring other alcohol or more than you are supposed to, it will be confiscated and held for you to pick up at the end of your cruise. All luggage, including checked baggage is x-rayed. Alcohol or beverages in your checked baggage will be removed and held for you to be picked up at the end of the cruise.

## Crochet Hooks & Scissors

Scissors cannot be more than 4" long and **must be in your checked luggage only**. All checked luggage and carry ons are x-rayed. Scissors must remain in your checked baggage and not carried on with you.

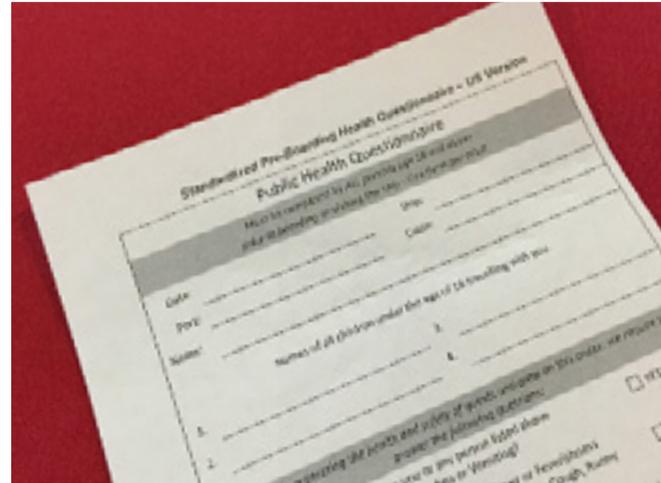
Crochet Hooks are classified as a weapon. **Hooks are to be in your carry on luggage with you for the security to inspect**. You shouldn't have any problems, just leave your scissors in your checked baggage and you will be fine. Add a small ball of yarn too.



# After Security

## Health Declaration Cards

After a small walk into the registration and waiting room, the first thing you must do is to **have pen ready**. You will need to fill health information before you check in. Basic information mostly asking if you have been sick in the past 30 days or so. Our advice, pump up the Vitamin C or any herbal preventative prior to the cruise. Get the body moving with a bit of exercise a few weeks before the cruise, increase your walk steps or be a bit more active. Traveling is stressful for the body especially if your body is not use to it.



## Check-in

You may be given a Plastic Zone Card to hold if the ship is not ready for the new group of passengers.

The Plastic Zone Cards are given in order of lowest to highest number upon arrival. This determines when you will be boarded on the cruise ship. Unfortunately, there is always a wait to get on board. The ship must go through security protocols before allowing any new passengers on board. This takes time. Therefore, while waiting after you have registered and checked in, have your crochet project ready and sit back and relax.



## Go to Check In Counter

If you have already checked in online, they are just going to ask you to provide your cruise tickets, verify credit info and see your official identification. Have everything with you just in case something online didn't go through properly.

They will also take your photograph that will be permanently assigned to your **'Ship Card'**. This ship card is like your Plastic ID and your spending account. Smile your best, you have made it through all that traveling to get there.

You do not use money on board the ship.

If you are setting up a Cash Account for your sail and sign cards, you will do so at the counter. Those accounts will be monitored and handled on the ship throughout your cruise.



# Sit & Wait

If you are early, you will just sit in the lounge and wait for instructions. Boarding the ship will usually start until around 11 am or later. The cruise line must have customs security clearance before allowing any new passengers on board.

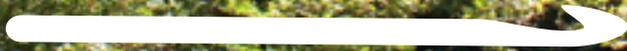


# The Gangway - Advance Assistance Notice

**\*NOTE\*** The gangway, the bridge that reaches to the ship, can be steep. It's a significant incline up and a bit of a walk. If you need assistance to go up the ramp or assistance to get off the ship, you need to make sure you contact Sherry, our agent, to have **those arrangements made in advance**. They have dedicated crew members helping passengers and you must be on the list to have help walking up or pushing up a wheel chair and etc.



Life  
Just  
Got  
Better...



# Welcome Aboard

**NOW the relaxation begins!** Celebrity *Solstice* is a fantastic ship, lots of decor, lounges and areas to hang out. **Your cabins will likely not be ready around 2 pm.** This gives you time to walk around and enjoy the many social areas that Celebrity has to offer.

You can also head to the buffet found on Deck 14 at the Oceanview Cafe. A great international market place with cuisines from around the world. Here you can relax and enjoy the comfort and relaxing atmosphere.

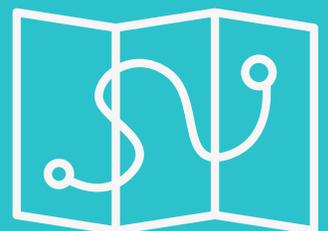
There are many social areas on this ship, such as restaurants, lounges, bars and outdoor areas including the pools and spas. During this time you might want to **upgrade your beverage program**, check out the spa programs or just relax and enjoy!

Our team will be wandering the ship with our manifest to place your VIP Crochet Cruise Welcome letter in your mailbox outside your cabins. Should be delivered by 4pm.



## Maps of Ship

You will be given a map of the ship at the terminal if you ask for one. You can view the map online at anytime. To get to our conference room head up to **Deck 14**, The Conference Room is around the front of the ship.



# Muster Station - Safety Drill for All Passengers

For those who never cruised before, a heads up; there is a muster station drill before the ship leaves. The ship will conduct a mandatory muster station drill with briefing around 4 pm on the day of embarkation. It is done before the ship leaves the dock to ensure all passengers are aware of the safety procedures and is a US Coast Guard requirement. A muster station drill is a brief instruction on life jackets and finding your muster station location.

All crew members will start wearing safety vests and directing you to your muster station around 3:30 pm. Your Muster Station will be noted on your ship card. (i.e. A4) If you are unsure where your muster station is, simply ask a uniformed crew member and they will guide you.

It is mandatory to attend this as the entire ship is searched to ensure all passengers are present during the muster. This lasts about 20 minutes. Please be mindful, don't talk during the announcements. It is for your safety and the passengers around you.

Once muster drill is finished, the ship resumes normal operations and begins to leave port shortly afterwards.

## Beverage Programs

There are additional packages that can be purchased on board during the first day. You should know, like most cruise ships, drinks such as soda, alcohol and specialty drinks are considered above and beyond.

If you feel you want to purchase drinks throughout your cruise, cut your costs by purchasing a beverage program. It can significantly reduce your costs if you plan on drinking anything beyond what is served at the buffet. Drinks beyond tap water at dinner in the evenings are extra charge.

Beverage options can be found on the cruise line website. Once you have checked in you can order the programs of your choice.



# Meals & Drinks

Breakfast, lunch and snacks are up to you to where you want to eat. You have choices of buffet and/or formal sit down dining. We do not have any assigned areas for dining other than the casual dining of our group at 6:00 pm.

## Special Dietary Needs

For those who require special meals such as gluten free. You will need to fill out a form with our Sherry, so the ship is made aware and takes appropriate action. They will take care of your dietary needs by preparing special meals for you during the formal dining.

During the everyday meals, there are always options for all dietary requirements. The ship is prepared for this and know it's important as well. Please note that the ship might put you with others that are sensitive to gluten during the main dining, so please stay at your assigned seating for the duration of the cruise. In such instances, our round robin seating will not apply to you. This is for you assurance you are being looked after.

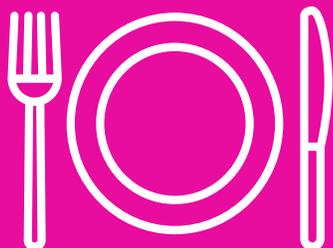
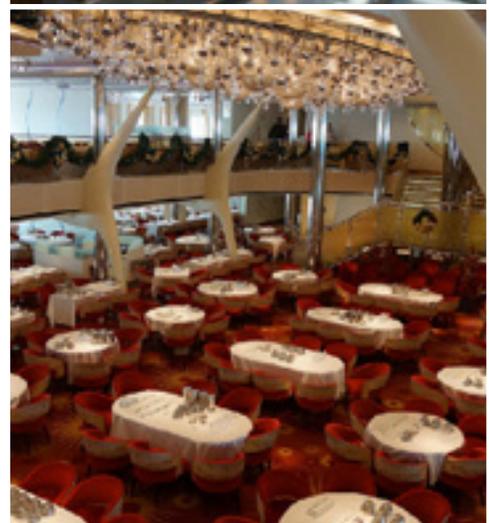
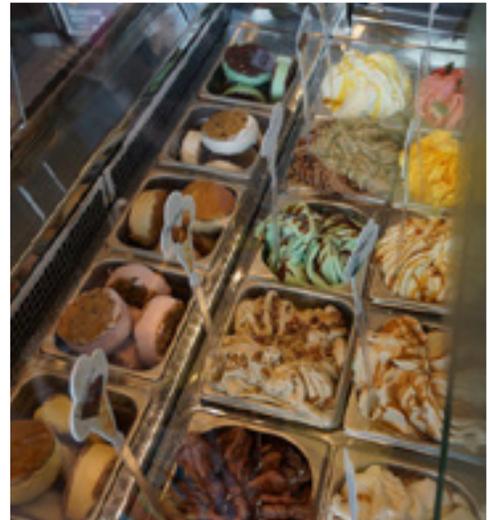
## 6:00 pm Traditional Dining

**You will not go hungry on board.** Our assigned seating time is at the Main Dining room on Deck 3 or 4, as a group is 6:00 pm each evening. DECK TBA on the ship when you arrive.

Celebrity will be assigning a dedicated area of the dining room. Guests in your cabin that are not part of our educational program will be sitting at your same table. Cabin mates that are together will also sit together. However, on the first night don't be alarmed if the seating is not perfect. Such as being with your friends that are in different cabins. Sherry will do her best to help everyone as much as possible. After the first day, we are round robin style. You can sit with anybody within our group.

The ship has many restaurants on board that are considered above and beyond the inclusive package. These restaurants are booked by passengers once on board and are extra charge.

We won't deny the restaurants are exquisite. Should you feel you want to book yourself and some friends to a fancy restaurant, feel free to do so. We will not be offended if you do not show up during traditional dining. This is your vacation. Be mindful of our activity times when booking should you wish also to attend our get together after dinner.



# Dress Codes & Cruise Elegant Nights

## Casual Attire During The Day

We suggest casual pants, shorts, tops, etc. For the ladies, and for men; shorts, polo shirts, t-shirts, etc. will do. We suggest you wear rubber-soled, low heeled or flat shoes for extra traction while on-board. The use of any footwear with wheels, including but not limited, to Heelys® shoes, are prohibited on board the ship. The Conference Room could be cool or hot. Depends on the ship.

## Meals Dress Codes

*Buffet:* Relaxed setting of casual attire at all times.

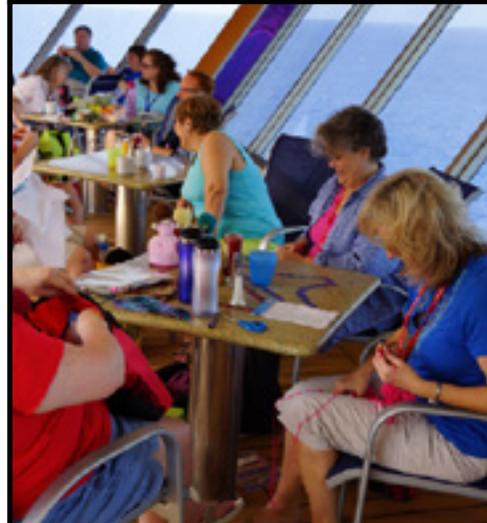
*Casual Dining Room:* **Ladies** can wear pants or skirts complimented with a sweater or blouse. **Men** can wear pants with a sports shirt or sweater. You can wear something more such a dress or casual suit coat if you want to.

*Cruise Elegant:* Twice during the cruise, there are two Cruise Elegant evenings. This is where the entire ship be dressed to impress. **Gentlemen** - Dress slacks, dress shirts. If you wish to wear suits and ties, by all means we invite you to do so. **Ladies** - Cocktail dresses, pantsuits, elegant skirts and blouses; if you'd like to show off your evening gowns, that's great too! Please don't feel this is a must, just look nice. **Celebrity no longer does tux or ball gowns.**

Not permitted in the dining room during the Cruise Casual Dinner for ladies and gentlemen: cut-off jeans, men's sleeveless shirts, gym or basketball shorts, baseball hats, flip-flops and bathing suit attire. You will be turned away at the door to either go back to your cabin to change or you can go to the buffet to eat where the setting is more relaxed.

## Dress Appropriately

Be mindful that it can be cold out in the ocean and to dress appropriately for weather we may encounter during the cruise, this includes land locations. Bring rain gear and good waterproof shoes!



# Cabins

Your cabins are cleaned twice a day. There are three assigned house-keeping staff to your cabins for the duration of the cruise.

Your cabins are cleaned in the morning.

The crew will return early evening to re-clean and turn down your bed.

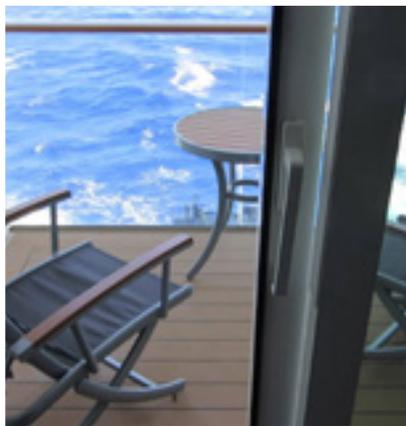
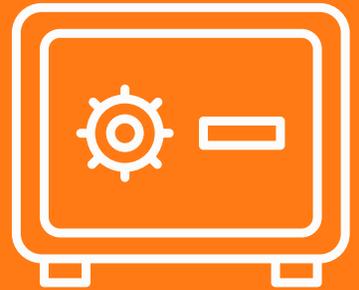
The room steward will leave a copy of the ship's schedule for the next day for you, to know what is going on during the cruise. Note that we are a private group, our events are not on the ship's official program for all passengers to see.

During port days, there will be bottled water left for you. ***That is not free.*** There is a charge for that. However, purchasing this water with may be cheaper than buying water in the port itself.

Do not leave any valuables lying around the room. There is an in-room electronic safe. Use it!

**Please note, if you are using a CPAC for sleep apnea, please inform Sherry. Celebrity needs to have the information so they can provide you with distilled water and an extension cord. Don't delay on this information.**

Decorate your cabin door? Yes, you can do that. You can only use Magnets. Tape and anything adhesive is forbidden. Let us know if you decorated your door, we will have a list that you can add your cabin number for others to see too once we are on the ship.



# Official Crochet Cruise Excursions

We have assigned excursions that you can book in advance. Sherry has arranged private tours just for The Crochet Crowd.

The tours range from sight seeing to train rides through the mountains. These are completely optional and carry an extra fee. Please note, that there are different tours to choose from, pick what you like best. Trust us, these tours are fabulous!!!

**Also, please!!!!!!** If you need a walker or a wheelchair, please tell Sherry. Even though that some shore excursions say they are wheelchair friendly, some of these wheelchairs take up space of a passenger to sit on the bus. The shore excursion directors just need to account for each seat space and make sure there is room to store this type of equipment.

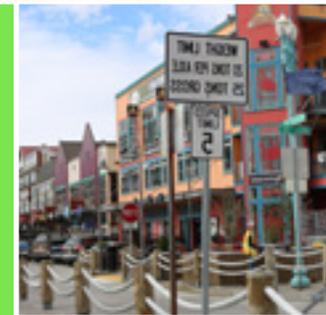
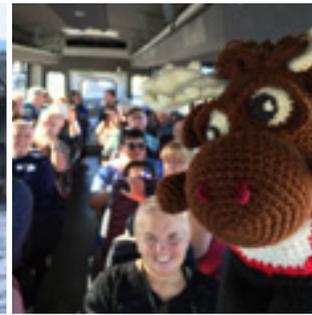
Also, some tours require strenuous walking and even climbing. Please ensure that the tour you choose is in line with your physical ability. *Please note: Deviating from the tour is strongly discouraged. If you get separated from the group, it is your responsibility to find your way back to the ship at your expense. The tour company, Cruise Planners and the Crochet Cruises holds no responsibility for your own detour.*

All Crochet Cruisers have to arrange the land trips with us in advance. Our trip sign up cuts off 30 days before the cruise. Sherry has already arranged private shuttles and guides, based on the people who have already booked. Once on the ship, you will not have the ability to sign up for our trips. However, you will have an opportunity to book land tours.

## [See Our Excursion For Alaska](#)

### Currency - Money at Port of Calls

All ports of call that we will be visiting accept US Dollars as form of payment. Some locations will accept Visa and Mastercard.



# Port of Call Days

For those who haven't cruised before, port days are the days we are docked in exotic locations where passengers can get off the ship and explore. **There are no costs to get off and back on.** Take your official identification with you as they check it at the security gate when you return.

There are no assigned classroom time during docked times at ports. The ship has minimal operations open as most of the passengers get off the ship. You will find the shopping, casino and some food service areas are closed while docked. Do not be late when returning to the ship on port days as the ship will leave without you. If you are tired, there is no obligation to show up for dinner or class. Maybe take a nap before dinner to refresh yourself.

In the unlikely event that something happens to you while in port, be sure to take the necessary documents such as photo ID, credit card and/or passport with you. Should you miss the ship for reasons beyond your control, you will have what you need to help you. Again travel insurance is always a good idea. However, we've yet to lose a crocheter and don't intend to this time either. But Diva Dan and Mikey have a story and of their near miss.

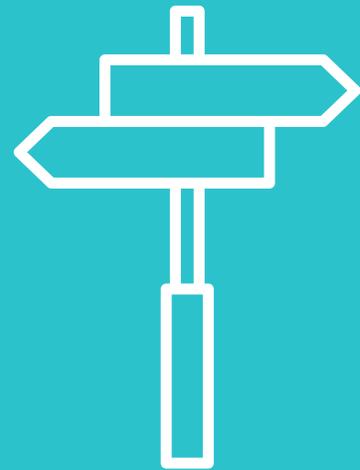
## Important Tips

You can get on and off the ship to explore the location where the ship is docked. Most of the ports, you can get off and walk around to explore without having to spend additional money. Take the time to experience the culture.

Stay in the main areas around the port and keep a buddy or group with you.

Keep your money and identification on you. If you can easily get your money out of your purse or pocket, you are at risk. A little bit of security goes a long way.

The ship closes it's doors **1/2 hour prior to departure.** Times are clearly stated on itineraries issued by the ship and announced by the Captain and Cruise Directors. **DO NOT BE LATE** because the ship will leave you behind. Times are always determined by **'Ship's Time'** not Port Time. So before you leave the ship, double check the time on the ship.



# Photographs

You will notice that photographers will be roaming the ship throughout the cruise. There is also staged backdrops set up in the evenings for each cruise. It doesn't cost anything to get your photo taken. You just never know they might take a really good shot of you and someone you care about.

Photos can be bought at anytime throughout the cruise that are on the wall ready for you. If you like a photo, be sure to purchase the night before the cruise ends. There are also deals, so watch out for them and save a bit of money.

There is also a formal photography service where you book a time and a designated area on the ship where you can pose for photos for professional quality photography. The grand stair case is a usually a popular photo backdrop.

You are welcome to take photos or videos of our classroom and group activities as they are happening. They make for good memories. Post to Facebook to make your friends at home jealous!

## The Crochet Crowd Cruise Group Photo

We will be arranging a group photo to be taken of our entire group. We will have an assigned time and this must be arranged while on the ship. **DO NOT BE LATE** for the photo. We will not be taking attendance to find out who is missing to wait for you.

We will be taking 3 photos which include sponsor, formal and fun.

We will let you know on the ship where the photo will be taken and what day it will be done usually on the last formal night before supper, or in the morning on the last full day.

We want to roam the ship to see the best spot to get a group photo and what the photographers can do for our large group. This is why we do not have this information ready for you yet.



# Cell Phones and Internet Services

Be sure to set your phone to airplane mode. You don't want to be surprised with hundreds of dollars in roaming charges when you get back home. Contact your cell phone provider to inquire on availability.

Internet services are provided on the ship. It is wireless and it is not free. If using the Internet, make sure you log out once done. Otherwise, the minutes will be used up. Once you run out of time, you need to buy another package. Use it wisely. Warning, it is SLOW!



## Power Sources

While on the ship, you may need to re-charge your devices. The ship has regular power outlets for North America. You do not need any adapters if you have North American plugs.

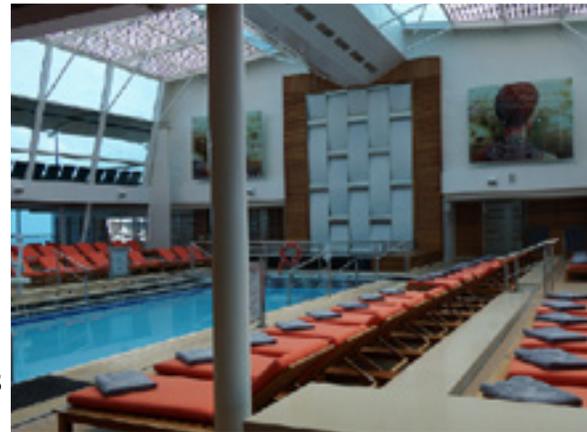
## Casino & Smoking Designations

Certain areas of the ship are designated for smoking. You will need to check on board where smoking is permitted. Celebrity has a no smoking policy in its casino, night clubs, and specific areas on the open decks.



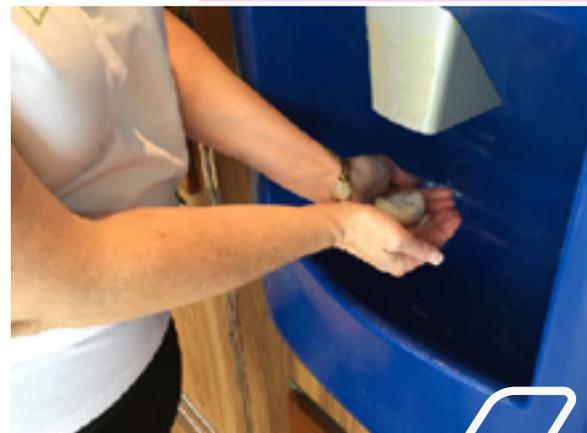
## Poolside & Deck Chair Etiquette 30 Minutes

You will lose your towel and anything else left behind by crew officials as there is a 30 minute allowance for being away from a lounge chair. The Pool Butler will remove your items as they are keeping a watchful eye so that everyone may enjoy their cruise. You will need to retrieve them at lost and found. Save the hassle and don't leave your stuff if you plan on leaving for an extended period of time.



## No Touching Policy

Cruise Lines strongly discourages passengers from touching each other. Getting sick on board a cruise ship is not fun and it's usually due to personal contact. There are hand washing stations. Use them!



While the ship crew makes great effort to keep surfaces and spaces clean, they recommend you keep hugging or touch to a minimum.



# Seasickness & On-Board Illness

With the advancements of ship design and stabilization, the engineering of the ship is to give the smoothest ride possible. Often enough, sometimes the movement of the ship is not caused by the waves or the wind but by the ship itself and the engine pushing through the waters.

Depending on ocean conditions and winds, the ship may rock ever so slightly. Your body will automatically adjusted to motion of the boat. Congratulations, you've just received your 'sea legs'! If you are sensitive to vertigo or motion sickness, you can take some pre-cautions in advance to help. See our below.

## Sick Bay & Doctors on Ship

The doctors on board the cruise ship are private doctors and charge substantial rates for their services. Please bring with you the medications that you believe you may need. Purchasing medications on board the ship is really expensive, even for just Aspirin.

If you are hurt and require medical attention. Please go to Customer Services and/or Sick Bay. Sick Bay is located at the bottom level of the ship. See ship map that is issued on board to find its location.

If requiring urgent medical care, there are emergency teams on board the ship that will be dispatched to your location by dialing a dedicated easy number on the ship.

## Consider Bringing the Following Medications

A mini emergency kit with band-aids and etc. is highly recommended.

- The Travel Patch - Prevents Sea Sickness with a patch that is put onto your skin behind the ear.
- Sea-Bands - Wrist bands that put pressure on your nerves in your wrist to prevent nausea.
- Pain relievers.
- Pepto Bismol (or similar type medications)

For personal prescriptions, the medications should be with their prescription packages from your doctor.

*Please Note: That cruise lines do allow services dogs with proper paperwork to be on the ship. On occasions we also have them in our class. PLEASE, if you are allergic to dogs you must be prepared and bring any allergy medications you have. Under the privacy act and medical issues, we can not disclose any information on such passenger.*



# Urgent Matters and Emergencies

Please report directly to medical or have the medical team dispatched to you. Kindly advise Michael Sellick, Daniel Zondervan Deck 9, Cabin 9366 or Sherry Leybovich Deck 9, Cabin 9295 of your condition.

The Crochet Crowd and affiliates are not responsible for damages or injuries during the Crochet Cruises. Again, you may want to purchase traveler's insurance in the unfortunate event of requiring medical attention.

Members of the leadership team will not be dispensing any type of medications to guests. It is the guests' responsibility to plan ahead. We are not trained medical professionals and will not assume the liability of such actions.





The  
Reason  
why we are  
together



# Welcome to the First Class

We will begin our Classes on the eve of embarkation right after Muster Stations. **5:00 pm in the Conference Room, Deck 14.** This first gathering we will be giving your activity bags. Then we head to supper and after words we start with Project Linus. **Bring Project Linus Squares to the 8:30 pm Class.**

## During Class You Need to Bring

Assorted Sizes of Crochet Hooks that you would typically use. Be sure a E, G, US 7, H, I, J K & L are part of your hooks. For Canadians and UK guests, that is a 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 5, 5.5, 6.0, 6.5 and 8 mm Crochet Hook.

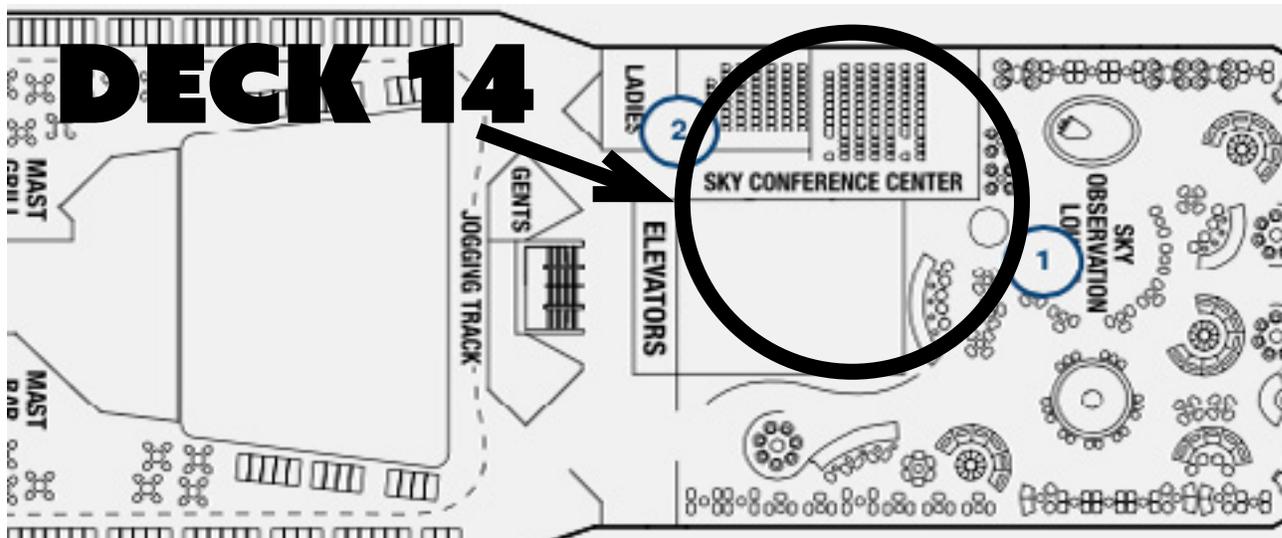
Darning Needle to weave in ends and/sew attachments.

Scissors, no bigger than 4" and it must be in you checked luggage for the cruise ship. Any bigger will be taken away due to security protocols.

## Classroom - Conference Room, Deck 14 Forward

Celebrity has assigned our party the Conference Room on Deck 14, forward of ship to use for a limited amount of time during our workshops.

- Do not leave any valuables in this room and we must return leave the room just like we found it.
- Please dispose of any garbage and/or used dishes to the appropriate area at the end of the class.
- You may NOT use this room in between our designated times due to the room being shared by other groups.
- You can bring your own beverages and snacks to the classroom. We will be providing coffee and snacks only on seas days.



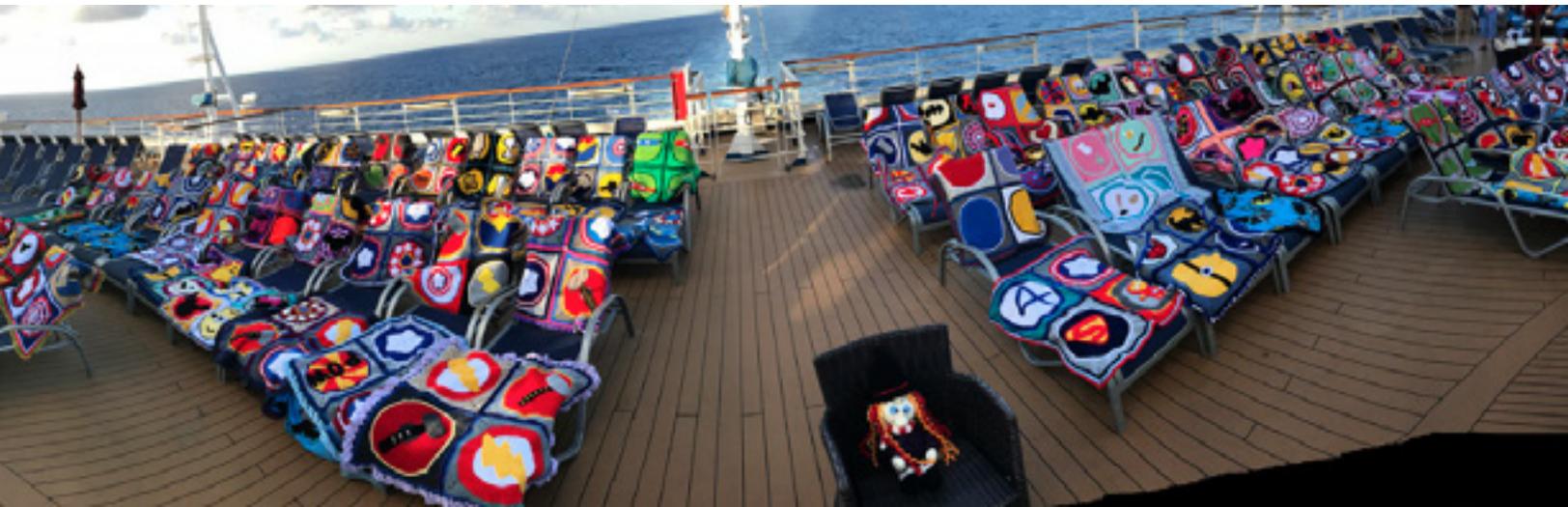
# Project Linus - Charity Project



For those that are new, we do a charity project for Project Linus. Each cruise, we make over 50 blankets that will be donated and given to families. This is our most important part of our cruises and we want you to all be part of it with love!

The beauty of our cruise community, we are all here to support each other with a mission to help Project Linus. We are looking forward to the eve of the cruises where we pile high all the creative squares that we have done.

**This is your homework before you get on board the cruise. We thank you for your support to Project Linus.**



# This Year's Project Linus

With more options to make blankets even better and thanks to [JOANN.com](http://JOANN.com), this is going to be exciting collection of Project Linus.

We decided for the theming of Project Linus to be '**The Frontier of Alaska**'. We thought long and hard on how to make this project easy enough for ALL to learn and we know for some, it will be a first time learning. Pick up the hook and enjoy the creative moments in this. We have a ton of videos on Corner to Corner (C2C) squares including for left handers. We picked C2C because for those that rather do something simple such a solid or variegated square you are most welcome to do so. For others, Diva Dan has created a number of graphs in the Alaskan theme. We are also thrilled that others chipped in to create their own graphs AND you are most welcome to do so.

Already, we are seeing some amazing and creative squares! NOW, don't fret about not be creative enough. Our Facebook Group is now filling up with ideas, and there is tons of support. We are here to help and give you ideas. If you see something you like, there is nothing wrong with using someone else's idea too and/or asking how they did their squares.

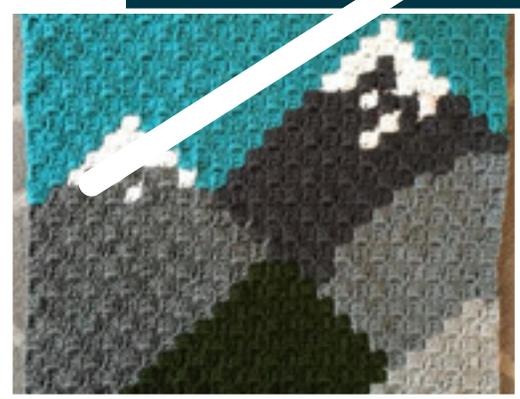
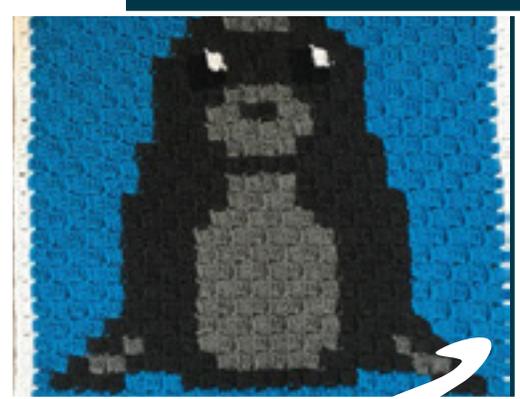
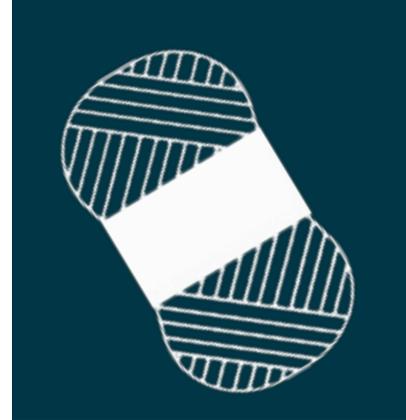
We ask that you do a minimum of **4 squares**. More Information on the size, yarn hook and the graphs can be found here.

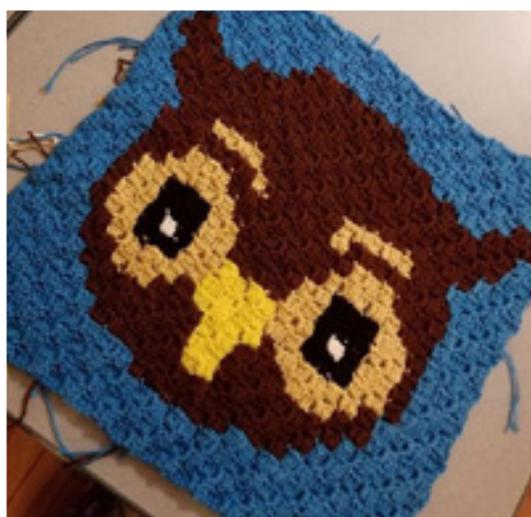
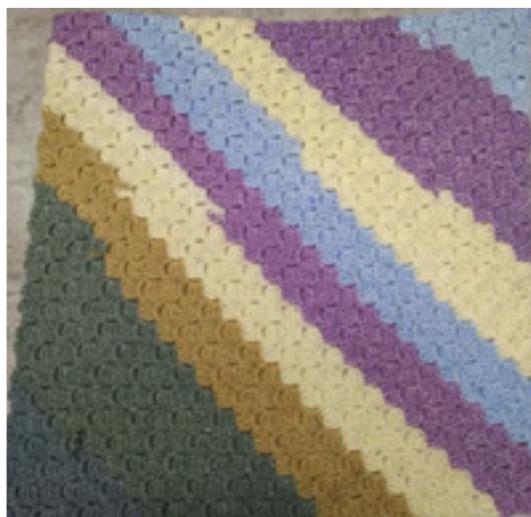
We have noticed on Facebook that some are doing more than 4 and that is fantastic. Having said that, for those that are a little nervous or are very busy with work and life, we completely understand if you are not able to do the minimum. **Please note this not a competition.** We have some die hard cruisers who feel very strong about their support for Project Linus. In the end the squares will all get mixed together and that is where the fun begins of the ship.

For our first class, please bring your Project Linus Squares as we are going to mix them all up as a group and begin to brainstorm the possibilities of making them into blankets and explore options.

For the actual patterns and video help to make these squares, plus the information about colour scheming. We like you to attempt your best and your proudest.

Once the afghans are finished, we would love to have some volunteers to carry them off the ship and take them to donate to Project Linus. We are flying home and will be unable to take them with all of our supplies home on the plane. We are hoping for guests that are driving and/or local to the port to be able to take them. Be sure to bring a spare clear **strong** recycle bags.





# Sound & Video System, Lighting

We will be using a wireless microphone system this year and overhead screen projection to make learning easier. We hope it works, you just never know.

It might be a good idea to bring a head lamp if lightening is an issue for you. The Conference Rooms are equipped with pot lights but sometimes they are just mood lighting only. We can not guarantee the best lighting.

## The Crochet Crowd Cruise Schedule

When we do the Crochet Cruises, we work on classes on ports days and sea days. There is not a lot of time & room choices for us that can accommodate everyone. NOTE: We do not have classes during the times we are docked. Be prepared that during port days we might have one in the morning before we arrive in port or in the evening after supper. Each class is 1 1/2 hr long.

There will be days that you will be tired. The good news and most excursions do not last the whole day; therefore, giving you time to have a quick nap before the evening starts. Pace yourself out during the week.

We have an assigned classroom time approved by Celebrity. If you are tired or have made other plans, you are not obligated to attend every scheduled meet up. This is your vacation. We want you to have a great time.

Also, please note that not all times will be perfect for everyone. There are some class times that are beyond our control due to other groups on board the cruise ship, ports of calls and entertainment that may use the same space. The cruise ships must make it work for everyone. Not just us. There are a lot of entertainment and amenities on board the ship going on at the same time. Choose what you want to do. This information will be on your badges once you arrive on the boat. If we get the approval in time from the cruise line, we can send you an update of class times.

You must be present at the class to get awarded the draws/gifts assigned for the class. Don't feel obligated to show up if you prefer to be somewhere else.

## Going Home Planning

You will be receiving supplies with your activity fee. You should plan on extra space in you luggage and/or to carry on luggage on the way home.

You are receiving supplies to finish projects being taught on the ship so you can complete them at home.



# Win for your Next Cruise with Us.

Each Cruise we offer a discount purchase to win for your next cruise with the [crochet-cruises.com](http://crochet-cruises.com). This year we are offering \$500.00 off to the lucky winner.

## ***How do you enter?***

Well, it's not that easy to just enter and draw a ticket... We want you to have fun and be part of the determination and enjoyment of wanting to win something soooo badly!

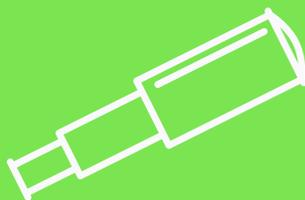
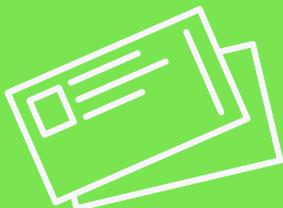
Here's the thing, it's a savager hunt, plus a version of crochet hunger games. It is a lot of fun, you can work as a team, but in the end only one can win!

On our last cruise, we had Luana our Hawaii amigurimi doll hidden through out the ship with only a clue, given each day to find her. You must search for our mascot to receive a card. Each day you get a different card. The next day with your card, you are part of the elimination round against your team mates or revivals. We could have one winner in the elimination round, a dozen or a non-elimination round, you'll never know. It's a lot of fun and a great ice breaker for the classes and stitch socials. Some of it crochet related. On the last day, we do our final draw.

This activity is only open to those participating in the crochet classes. It's a great way to meet, laugh, see the ship and truthfully, just have some good old fun! For Michael and I, we had a blast watching our group, using all their brain power to find Luana though out the cruise we did in Hawaii. Elf on the Shelf ain't got nothing on us! It made eating ice cream even more enjoyable!

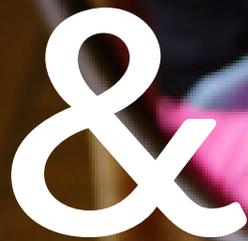
No sign ups needed. Just your enthusiasm and laughs.

## Who will be part of the FUN on the FUN Ship

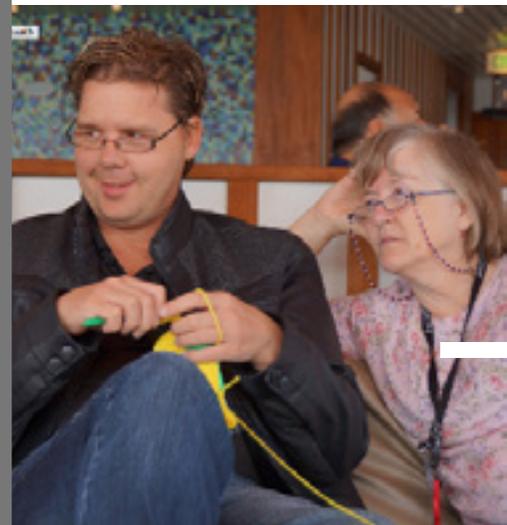




SMILE,  
Wake Up  
Happy



enjoy a having  
your crochet  
project in your  
hand



# Say Hello to Fellow Crochet Cruisers

Our leadership team will try to make great effort to remember all of the passengers. Please wear your Crochet Cruise Lanyard, we will be able to identify each other much easier. In the event that we walk by any crochet cruiser without saying hello or offer a genuine smile, it's not personal. We may have not seen you and/or don't recognize you. Just simply say hello and our brains will kick in! We are coordinating and sometimes deep in thought or moving from one place to another on a 'crochet-related' mission.

## Self Social Yourself

Please take the opportunity to self socialize throughout the cruise. While we offer an inclusive classroom safe space, it is your responsibility to mingle and get to know your fellow crochet cruisers.

Enjoy our classroom activities to talk with other crocheters and share your stories. **We strongly encourage you to not sit at the same location for each workshop or event.** While as humans, we tend to find our seats on the first event and gravitate towards sitting at the same space each time, it limits our opportunities to spread ourselves around to meet others.

We do not assign tables in our workshop space. We strongly encourage you as you arrive to sit with other crocheters with empty chairs at the same tables that are filling up instead of finding tables with no one sitting there.

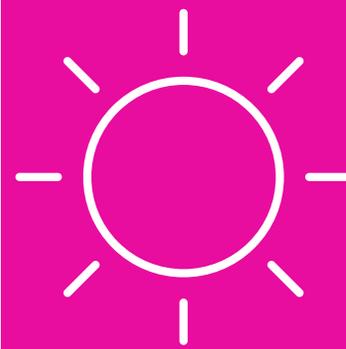
Don't exclude yourself. After the first evening, not all dining room tables fill up as cruisers skip the formal dinner for shows, specialty restaurants or for other reasons.

## Please Respect Privacy

While we are together as a group, remember that each and every person is on board may want some privacy or time to spend on their own or with family/friends. This is after all, your vacation and their's too.

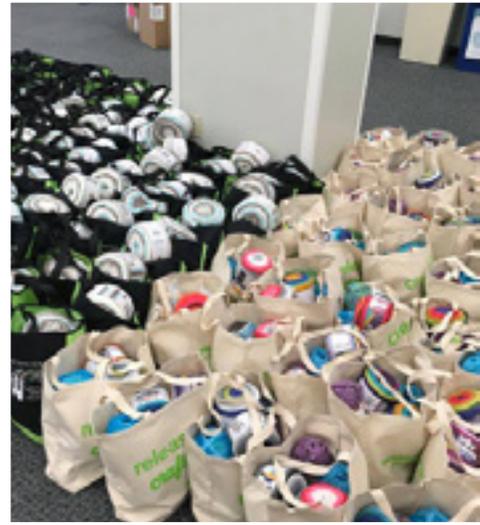
We have an open policy for the lounging deck to come and join the group without an invitation required.

If you see crocheters outside of the this lounging deck such as dining, lounges, ports and much more, be sure to ask permission before inviting yourself to sit with other crochet cruisers to be respectful. They may want their own personal time and we need to respect that.



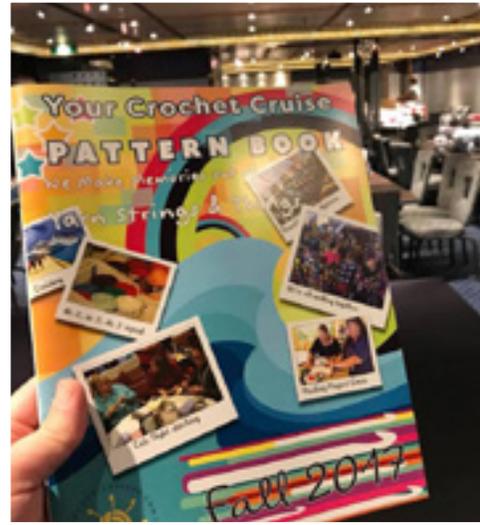
# Yarn and Course Materials

All yarn and course materials have been carefully chosen and sponsored by JOANN.com and TheCrochetCrowd.com There will be an array of yarns that you may or may not have tried before. The point of the Crochet Cruises is to try new things. If you do not like the yarn, suck it up buttercup! If you get a colour you don't prefer, just ask a neighbour or potentially bribe them with snacks if you need to. It's worked in the past. :) We do yarn exchanges too!



## Patterns on Board

The patterns chosen have been intentionally chosen to educate and learn new techniques or ideas. For each class we come up with an option. Mikey and Dela will only teach one. We will be creating a pattern book for you to enjoy, very much like what we did for our October Cruises. The class may break off into mini groups where a leader at the table may be helping with the pattern.



## Course Materials

The course materials were provided by JOANN.com and TheCrochetCrowd.com for those who participate with the Crochet Cruises.

We have agreed with our sponsors that gifts are to only be given to guests who actually participate.

Participants who attend all of our events will be receiving all of the available course materials.

Should a participant miss a class, they will forfeit the course materials allotted for the class. Course materials will not be given out to friends to give to friends who miss the classes.



## Non Active Participants

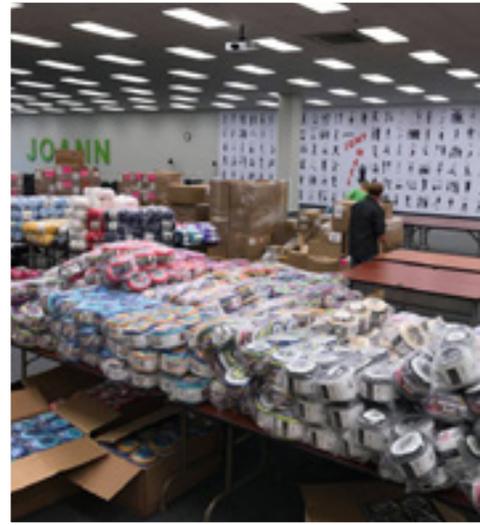
Only registered guests that are crocheting actively with our group will be receiving the course materials. Guests will forfeit their course materials for the duration of the cruise if they are not participating. Examples include:

- Showing up at the beginning of the class and leaving.
- Showing up but not crocheting or participating with our group.
- Spouses, friends or others sitting quietly who are not crocheting with our group.

### No Activity Fee Refunds

Each cruiser is given yarn, implements, workshop materials and instructional time that exceeds the value of the activity fee that was charged. In the event that you are not satisfied with the Crochet Cruises, there will be no refunds offered.

Please Note: The activity fee includes a portion of the costs for the course materials. The activity fee also covers administrative fees require to produce this event on the ship.



# Classroom Etiquettes

## Negative Nellies and Judging Judy's

With so much going on the ship plus crochet activities we have planned, you may experience exhaustion. Take time for you, but do not disrespect to others if you are feeling tired and are getting cranky. We might not like the pattern or the yarn but those issues are beyond our control to please everyone.

Give each other some space. The ship is very large and there is a lot of things happening. We have a lot of people and everyone has a different personality and etiquette styles. Just be mindful that each passenger is unique with a common interest of crochet.

**Please be aware.** When we get a full room of excited crocheters together, that room is NOISY. We ask kindly, when Mikey/ Diva Dan, Dela Wilkins or any crocheter cruiser are speaking to the class, please have absolute silence! If you have missed something during the class teaching, don't panic! Michael is excellent at reversing back and making sure everybody is on the same page.

Some may find it hard to concentrate when the room gets a little noisy but lets be honest, the conversations between people are what makes this cruise fun and enjoyable. Remember, it is about the connections and friendships that we are here to make. Crocheting is just another fun element to the enjoyment.

## Behavior Policy

As always, The Crochet Crowd focuses on positive creativity within our learning environment. It is easy to say something negative but please think before you speak. We all want to have a good time.

Disruptive behavior is behavior which may include speech or actions will result in the removal of a guest from attending any further workshops and events by The Crochet Crowd while on the ship. Actions may include:

- Disrespectful, offensive, and/or threatening.
- Interferes with the learning activities of other crocheters.
- Impedes the teaching abilities of The Crochet Crowd.
- Demonstrates a negative impact the learning environment.
- Disruptive behavior includes physically, verbally or psychologically harassing, threatening, or acting abusively toward an instructor, staff member, or another guest.



# Services Beyond Our Control

Generally, we are easy to please and are grateful for the services extended by any crew member. While we can control what happens in the classroom. We cannot control your experiences of what happens with the rest of your cruise. If you are unhappy with the services extended to you by the cruise line, please go to guest services to address your concerns. They will address the issue the best they can and within reason and regulations of the cruise line.



# Strictly No Soliciting on Board

The cruise line has a strict '**no soliciting policy**' in effect on board. You may not approach passengers to solicit, hand out materials or advertise The Crochet Crowd, Crochet Cruises or our sponsors. This is for the protection of all passengers and crew members. Members of the Crochet Cruises who are caught soliciting will be removed for any further activities for the remainder of the cruise and will not be able to cruise with our party in future cruises. However, if someone ask you about the group, you are more then welcome to tell them about us and our activity.



Our party on board is classified as a private function and not part of the over all ship's itinerary.



# No Additional Seats

Our assigned group on board is known to Celebrity. We may not invite any non-registered crocheters to be a part of our party while on the cruise. You cannot bring them to our workshops as we are assigned just enough chairs for our party. So basically, no party crashers!



# Final Words

We honestly cannot express how excited we get when it comes time to jump on board the crochet cruises with all of you. Over the years and working with Sherry, we have discovered a whole new and wonderful side of working and being together with our friends and soon to be new friends. We have developed amazing relationships, memorable laughs and, of course, we all came together as a open, passionate, and loving community. That community, we've strive to be caring and always with open arms because we all have our stories that make us who we are. We just need to listen and understand.

We always wanted to make crochet fun. To get it out of the box; that stuffy conference atmosphere and go have some fun, dance the night away, explore and have adventures with stories to share afterwards.

With our busy, busy schedule working with Yarnspirations, the Crochet Cruises is our get away to be inspired and energized about crochet but as you all know, organizing and hosting such an event is a lot of intensive work. A lot! Thanking our sponsors [JOANN.com](http://JOANN.com) is very important to us and we hope after the cruise you take the time to thank them sincerely via email.

We are sure that you will feel at home with us, after all, personally we are two guys that as we like to say, 'everyday people who just want to have some fun'. You may see us as YouTube celebs, but deep down, we are like you, passionate and a love for yarn and crochet.

Welcome to the Crochet Cruises June 2018! We will be seeing you all very soon in Seattle!

## Photos & Videos Consent

Upon purchasing the Crochet Crowd Activity Fee and as stated in our disclaimers on our website, photos and videos will be taken throughout the cruise and possibly used in future promotions and/or displayed on social media such as Facebook. We are very sensitive to respect and 'horrible' face shots. It happens to all of us. Diva Dan is one to be very concerned with those issues and takes care to edit photos with respect to all.

## Spelling and Grammar

The Crochet Crowd is controlled by Michael Sellick and Daniel Zondervan, Creative Directors and Video Hosts. You may find grammatical errors or typos in this document. While we try our very best and we are all human, a few errors may slip between the stitches which only makes this article more interesting. That's our excuse and we are sticking to it.



# check list

hotel

transportation  
to port

transportation to  
airport after cruises

shore excursions

air flights to/from  
Seattle.

parking

check-in  
with [Celebritycruises.com](http://Celebritycruises.com)

cruise purchases  
with [CelebrityCruises.com](http://CelebrityCruises.com), such as bev-  
eage programs, interent, etc.

print luggage tags

packed  
crochet hooks, darning needle,  
scissors, project for traveling,  
pens, highlighters, etc

project linus

square 4

more

t-shirt size

inform Sherry  
Dietary, medical needs and assis-  
tance for ship to be aware of.

name for badges  
for changes only

double check  
excited and ready to  
have some fun!

# Our Next Cruises

In 2019

Information can be found at  
[Crochet-Cruises.com](http://Crochet-Cruises.com)



Mardi Gras Party with The Crochet Crowd,  
Feb 10th, 2019  
Leaving New Orleans on Carnival Dream.

Let's celebrate and have a party! Mardi Gras Carnival style! Who does it best, why Carnival cruise line, of course! With a couple days in New Orleans and partying along the streets, touring the city, visiting and making masks, we are then off for a 7 day cruise on the western side of the Caribbean. Lots of crocheting, fun and don't forget to bring and wear your masks and beads because like our Halloween Cruise, it was a lot of fun!



Stars, Stripes and Stitches  
Jul 21st, 2019  
Leaving Cape Liberty on Celebrity Summit

Bring the family and have a blast, There is plenty of enjoyment for the whole family and, of course, lots of personal down time for you and your ball of yarn. We are having a before school party for all those teachers and families that want to bring along their families and join The Crochet Crowd. This is the perfect summer cruise to the beautiful pink sands of Bermuda and some New York City fun!



Panama Cruise from Miami to Los Angeles  
Oct. 25th, 2 week Dream Vacation  
Leaving Miami to San Diego on Celebrity

This is a dream vacation. Travel from Miami to San Diego visit the deep tropics, travel through the Panama Canal and what else do crocheters do? Of course, they sit back, relax and crochet for the entire time! Well almost....There will be lots to explore and discover 5 countries and the beauty they hold. Book fast, if the ship sells out, there will be no spots available. It has happened.

