

SUSTAINING OCEAN HEALTH

The Cruise Industry's Commitment to Protecting and Preserving Marine Environments



The cruise industry is committed to preserving the health of the world's oceans. Sustainability lies at the heart of all we do. Every day, the global cruise industry is hard at work helping to protect the environment and preserve marine life.

The global cruise industry partners with researchers and NGOs to protect and revive marine life.

- In 2018, Silversea launched a partnership with ORCA, one of the UK's leading marine conservation charities, supporting the collection of critical sightings data on whales, dolphins, and porpoises.
- Holland America Line teamed up with NOAA and the University of Alaska Southeast to offer guests a unique experience to view humpback whales and other wildlife aboard small research vessels. While guests gain an understanding of the local wildlife from guides, plankton samples, feeding patterns, and other data is collected and used to further the organizations' understanding of the species and habitat.
- Norwegian Cruise Line is helping restore severely degraded coral reefs in the Great Stirrup Bay, Cayman Islands. Norwegian supports local efforts to grow reef fragments in nurseries which will help renew local reefs, as well as working with researchers to collect crucial data and implement proven restoration techniques.
- At Disney's Castaway Cay island in the Bahamas, researchers are engaged in a multi-year project studying long-spined sea urchins in an effort focused on restoring health of coral reefs in the area.

Cruise industry leaders work to promote sustainable fisheries.

- The Port of Montreal worked with the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fish Habitat Management Branch to restore more than 28 hectares (68 acres) of fish spawning, nursery, feeding and protection grounds for fish near the port-owned Boucherville Islands Archipelago.
- Royal Caribbean, in partnership with WWF, conducted Fishery Improvement Projects in Peru and Ecuador, establishing better standards for mahi-mahi fishing in the region, and helping achieve Marine Stewardship Council certification.

The cruise industry supports efforts to advance environmental education and strengthen support for healthy, sustainable oceans.

- Since 2014, Carnival Foundation has supported The Nature Conservancy's Mapping Ocean Wealth initiative, which helps to establish the value of ocean ecosystems to the local economy, security, and way of life. MOW data and research helps support a range of projects from designing marine protected areas to restoring critical resources like seagrass and mangroves.
- Royal Caribbean is investing in whale shark conservation and sustainable tourism development in Donsol, Philippines, along with WWF. RCL-supported programs include environmental education programs at Donsol's elementary schools and research into the whale shark habitat and population. The sharks are a major ecotourism attraction in the region.

The cruise industry uses advanced technology and leading practices to protect sensitive marine environments.

- CLIA's Waste Management Policy prohibits the discharge of untreated sewage at sea, anytime, anywhere, around the globe.
- CLIA Cruise Lines must process all sewage through treatment systems that meet or exceed international requirements prior to discharge.
- Ships that sail in the Baltic Sea and Alaskan waters meet an even higher waste discharge standard.