

## Holland America Line resumes Asia cruises

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For the first time in two-and-a-half-years, cruising will return to Japan.

The government of Japan reported on November 15 it is ready to start receiving international cruise ships again to allow tourists to enjoy the wonders of cruising to the country's many ports.

Following the announcement Holland America Line's Westerdam is preparing for a series of itineraries in early 2023 that will let guests explore lands where ancient temples and cultures steeped in tradition mix with soaring skyscrapers and bustling capitals.

"We're grateful for the work that the Japanese authorities have done to allow for a return to cruising," said Gus Antorcha, president, Holland America Line. "Holland America Line's guests love longer voyages to unique parts of the world, and we'll be sailing to some incredible locations as our season in Japan and the rest of Asia begins."

Westerdam, currently sailing in Australia and New Zealand, starts the Asia season

following a January drydock in Singapore. Beginning February 3, the ship sails a series of Far East voyages showcasing the diversity of countries visited while celebrating histories that have been thousands of years in the making.

Sailing roundtrip from Yokohama, Japan, or Singapore, or between Yokohama and Singapore, cruises are 11 to 14 days and can be combined to form nonrepeating Collectors' Voyages.

Countries explored include Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand and Malaysia. Five different itineraries are offered including Indonesian Discovery; Japan, Taiwan & The Philippines; Japan Explorer; Japan Discovery and Southern Japan. Overnight calls include Singapore; Kobe and Osaka, Japan; and Phuket, Thailand.

The season concludes on April 24 with a 14-day North Pacific Crossing from Yokohama to Seattle, Washington where Westerdam will homeport for its Alaska season.

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