



Royal Caribbean Cruise Planning Timeline

What to do from booking day to embarkation

Cruise planning gets much easier when the right tasks happen in the right order. Save this timeline and work from the top down.

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Planning a Royal Caribbean cruise?

Use this guide to narrow the choices. When you want help matching the ship, itinerary and stateroom to your family, 7220 Travel can take it from there.

Presented by 7220 Travel - Family and Group Travel Experts

Updated September 2026. Cruise offerings, prices and policies can change.

Get the foundation right

AT BOOKING

Verify names, itinerary, cabin, dining preference and deposit terms. Discuss travel protection and passport/visa needs.

AFTER BOOKING

Plan flights, pre-cruise hotel, transfers/parking and any pre/post-cruise nights.

3-6 MONTHS OUT

Review shore excursions, dining, beverage packages, internet and any high-priority onboard experiences.

AROUND 60 DAYS OUT

Reconfirm documentation, flight details, medical/mobility needs and whether any special-needs forms should be submitted.

Turn the reservation into a travel plan

45 days before sailing

- ☐ Complete app check-in when available.
- ☐ Choose terminal arrival time.
- ☐ Verify guest information and required documents.
- ☐ Review remaining Cruise Planner reservations.

2-3 weeks before

- ☐ Start packing by category.
- ☐ Download/save travel documents offline.
- ☐ Confirm hotel, transfers/parking and flight details.
- ☐ Review port plans and all-aboard expectations.

The week before

- ☐ Finish carry-on packing.
- ☐ Check weather.
- ☐ Review prohibited items.
- ☐ Confirm medications and refill needs.
- ☐ Share the family meeting plan.

Embarkation day

- ☐ Arrive in assigned window.
- ☐ Complete safety requirements.
- ☐ Register children.
- ☐ Confirm must-have reservations.
- ☐ Unpack enough to reduce clutter.
- ☐ Enjoy the cruise.

Want us to keep the moving parts organized?

The timeline is simple. The decisions inside the timeline are where families lose time - ship choice, cabin choice, packages, dining, flights and excursions.

- We can build the planning calendar around your actual sailing date.
- We can help decide which reservations should be prioritized.
- We can keep pre-cruise hotel and transportation from becoming afterthoughts.
- You get one organized plan instead of a dozen disconnected booking confirmations.

READY TO PLAN YOUR CRUISE?

Tell us who is traveling, what matters most, and what would make the trip feel worth it. We will help narrow the Royal Caribbean choices and build the trip around your family.

7220travel.com

307-314-2517

dave.engel@7220travel.com



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