



Which Royal Caribbean Ship Is Right for Your Family?

A fast ship-class picker for families and groups

The newest ship is not automatically the best ship. Match the ship to the kind of vacation your family actually wants.

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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.

Start with these 5 questions

Answer these before you compare prices. They will eliminate a surprising number of ships quickly.

- ☐ Do you want the ship itself to feel like a major destination?
- ☐ Are waterslides, surf simulators and headline attractions important?
- ☐ Will grandparents or mobility-conscious travelers prefer shorter walks and a calmer pace?
- ☐ Is the itinerary more important than onboard entertainment?
- ☐ Do you want lots of dining choices, or are a few reliable venues enough?

7220 Travel shortcut

If the kids would be genuinely disappointed without big attractions and multiple entertainment choices, start with Icon or Oasis class. If the destinations are the main event, do not overlook Radiance or Vision class.

Match the class to your travel style

ICON CLASS Best for families who want the ship to be part waterpark, part resort and part entertainment destination. Huge variety; higher sensory load and longer walks.	OASIS CLASS Best for families and groups who want neighborhood-style mega-ships, broad dining choices and major entertainment. Excellent when different generations want different things.
QUANTUM CLASS Great balance of technology, indoor activities and scenery-friendly spaces. Often a strong fit for Alaska or cooler-weather itineraries.	FREEDOM CLASS Strong Royal Caribbean energy without needing the newest mega-ship. Good for families who want familiar favorites and a somewhat simpler layout.
VOYAGER CLASS A solid value-oriented family choice on many itineraries. Enough activity to keep kids busy without the scale of Icon/Oasis.	RADIANCE CLASS Destination-forward, lots of glass and views, and a calmer feel. Great when scenery and ports matter more than thrill attractions.
VISION CLASS Smaller and more traditional. Best for travelers who value itinerary, simplicity and a more intimate ship over the newest attractions.	DO NOT FORGET Specific features vary by individual ship, even within the same class. Always check the exact ship, not just the class name.

Still between two ships?

That is exactly where ship selection gets tricky. Two Royal Caribbean cruises can have similar dates and prices but feel completely different once you are onboard.

- Send us your travel dates, number of travelers and children's ages.
- Tell us the 3 onboard experiences your family cares about most.
- Tell us whether ports, ship features or budget should win if there is a tradeoff.
- We will help narrow the fleet before you spend hours comparing deck plans.

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.

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