

AMSTERDAM'S HIGH STYLE • FREIDA PINTO'S MUMBAI

Condé Nast Traveler

TRUTH IN TRAVEL

AUGUST 2011



Land ho! Portofino, Italy

CRUISE
SPECIAL

DREAM SHIPS!

INSIDER GUIDES:
PARIS
SECRETS OF THE SEINE

NEW YORK
THE HOT NEW HOOD

8 NEW CRUISE
SHIPS TESTED

11 TOP CRUISE
ITINERARIES

5 EYE-POPPING
PORTS OF CALL

10 RULES FOR
BOOKING
THE PERFECT
CRUISE

+

*The Beauties of
Luang Prabang*
*The Greatest
Mystery of the West*



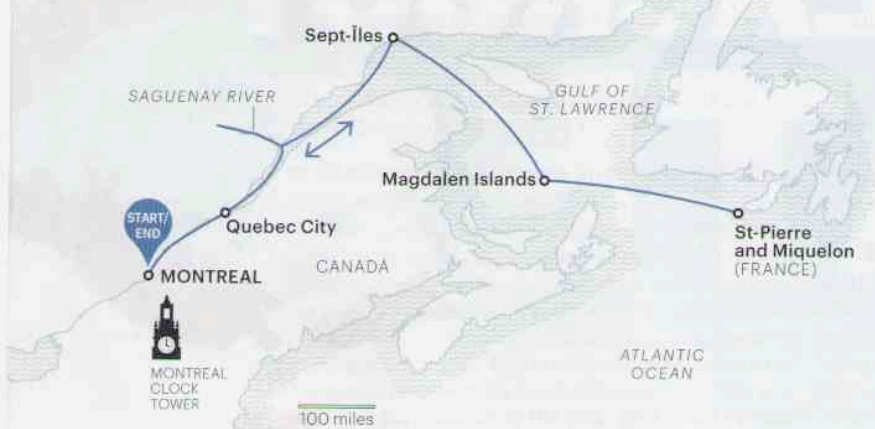
Perrin Report

SECRETS EVERY SMART TRAVELER SHOULD KNOW BY WENDY PERRIN

Dream Cruise Itineraries for 2012

The 11 sailings that top Wendy Perrin's travel wish list

TURNED OFF BY COOKIE-CUTTER CRUISES? The ones that sail to overbuilt ports and force you to cut your sightseeing short or miss the local nightlife because you must race back to the ship before it sails at 5 P.M.? Me too. My favorite itineraries provide ample time in off-the-beaten-path ports that together present a tasting menu of the best of a region. Here are my top picks for 2012. Questions or comments? I'm at perrinpost.com or wperrin@cntraveler.com.



St-Pierre's Pointe aux Canons lighthouse.

1

Montreal Round-Trip

CRYSTAL SYMPHONY

SEPTEMBER 30;
7 NIGHTS

crystalcruises.com

From \$3,055
per person,
including airfare

Many cruise ships sail from Montreal, but few stop at the small island villages of the Gulf of St. Lawrence that, thanks to their isolation from the outside world, have developed their own Francophone culture, dialect, food, and music. This cruise actually visits France—since St-Pierre and Miquelon still belong to the French Republic—at the perfect moment for vibrant fall foliage, too.



Boi Bumba in Parintins.

2

Iquitos, Peru, to Bridgetown, Barbados

SEA DREAM II

MARCH 4;
20 NIGHTS

seadream.com

From \$16,999
per person

Always wanted to explore the Amazon on a small boat without sacrificing creature comforts? On this 112-passenger ship, you can view the action on the river from the air-conditioned Top of the Yacht Bar; sightsee while you eat, since meals can be taken outdoors in the shade; and even sleep under the stars on the Bali-nese beds on the top deck. Tour the riverside city of Parintins, home to the colorful Boi Bumba festival, and use the *Sea Dream II*'s mountain bikes to wheel around the small local villages. Then recover from the rain forest with a few days in some of the Caribbean's most delightful lesser-known ports.