

## Windstar Cruises Celebrates Travel Advisors in May with Four Free Cruise Giveaways and Bonus Commission

**MIAMI, FL, April 29, 2024** – May 1 is National Travel Advisor Appreciation Day, and small ship line <u>Windstar Cruises</u> is celebrating with exclusive perks and new programs that last beyond the month of May. Windstar knows that behind every seamless vacation is a dedicated travel advisor who deserves special appreciation for making it all happen.

During the month of May, travel advisors who make a new booking or complete Windstar's online training program will automatically be entered for a chance to win one of four free cruises for themselves and a guest. Advisors can boost their chances with each booking (2024 new bookings made during the month of May are worth five entries; each new booking for 2025 and beyond counts for two entries). Advisors who complete Windstar's Star Specialist Online Learning Program in May 2024 also earn five entries.

Beyond the giveaway, Windstar is also offering a bonus perk all month long. Travel advisors can earn a \$100 commission bonus for each cabin booked for a new-to-Windstar guest during the month of May.

"During Travel Advisor Appreciation Month, we are celebrating the contributions of our advisor partners," says Dianna Rom, Windstar's Vice President of Sales. "Advisors are very successful in bringing new-to-cruise guests to the brand, which is something we've been seeing in large numbers since the cruise industry opened back up in 2021. Their expertise enriches the experiences of travelers and helps ensure happy guests sailing on our ships."

To further support travel advisor partners throughout the year, Windstar is announcing two new developments. Beginning in June 2024, all booking commissions will be paid 29 days prior to the cruise departure rather than after departure.

In addition, travel advisors who are investing their time to learn about the brand by becoming Windstar Cruises Star Specialists will have the opportunity to earn back the cruise fare of their eligible FAM trip in the form of a future commission payment.

"Travel advisors are vital to our success at Windstar," explains Windstar Chief Commercial Officer Janet Bava. "We are happy to report that with a major upgrade on our reservation system nearly complete, we'll be able to pay commissions to our advisors earlier. Our valued partners have requested this in our conversations, and now we'll be able to fulfill it. Our success is tied together, and we must support each other."

Bava also said the line is launching a consumer campaign with messaging on the value of booking a Windstar cruise through a travel advisor.

Windstar's six ship fleet of boutique sailing, and all-suite yachts carry 148-342 guests and specialize in port-intensive itineraries mixing popular places on people's bucket lists with smaller, scenic and less-visited towns easy to explore from the ship. The line recently announced the addition of two new small ships joining its fleet in December 2025 and December 2026.

For more details and entries, visit Windstar's Advisor Hub.

Photos available here.

###

## Contacts:

Sarah Scoltock, Director of Public Relations, Windstar Cruises / <u>sarah.scoltock@windstarcruises.com</u>
Sally Spaulding, Account Director, Percepture / <u>sspaulding@percepture.com</u>

## **About Windstar Cruises:**

With a fleet of six boutique all-suite and sailing yachts, each carrying between 148 to 342 guests, Windstar Cruises, voted #1 boutique cruise line, offers an intimate experience like no other. Passengers can explore enchanting destinations across Europe, the Caribbean, Costa Rica, the Panama Canal, New England, Eastern Canada, South America, and the South Pacific. Plus, Windstar operates year-round in Europe and will offer two unique ship experiences in Tahiti starting in 2027. Windstar will introduce two new ships to its Star Class starting in December 2025 - the *Star Seeker* and *Star Explorer*.

At Windstar Cruises, it's not just about travel – it's about creating experiences that resonate with the soul. With port-intensive itineraries, iconic destinations, exceptional service, and an innovative culinary program, every moment with Windstar is an opportunity for discovery and delight.

Windstar Cruises is proud to be part of the Xanterra Travel Collection®, a distinguished group of global hospitality and travel companies with a legacy that spans over a hundred years operating our country's iconic national parks, including Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Glacier, Death Valley, and many others. Xanterra Travel Collection®, is owned by The Anschutz Corporation, the ultimate owner of the Broadmoor, Sea Island, and entertainment giant AEG, Anschutz Entertainment Group.