



**VICTORY CRUISE LINES® PARTNERS WITH NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE GREAT LAKES
FOR LAKE LORIAN® LECTURER PROGRAM**



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New Albany, Ind. (Oct. 14, 2024) – Victory Cruise Lines, committed to all-inclusive, small ship, coastal cruising on The Great Lakes and Canadian Coasts, is partnering with the National Museum of the Great Lakes to develop a LakeLorian® program beginning with the 2025 season. The LakeLorian will lead lectures, host discussions and answer questions throughout the journey across these mighty bodies of freshwater. With equal parts knowledge and passion for the Great Lakes, LakeLorians will be selected and provide exclusive programming in collaboration with the renowned National Museum of the Great Lakes in Toledo, OH.

“The Victory Cruise Lines team have been valued proponents of the museum for a number of years and we are excited to partner with the cruise line to enhance their enrichment program with training and education for their LakeLorians,” shared Kate Fineske, executive director of the National Museum of the Great Lakes. “With this unique collaboration, the *Victory I*® and *Victory II*® will be floating extensions of our institution and we look forward to sharing the science and history of The Great Lakes together.”

The Great Lakes hold a treasure trove of information worthy of a dedicated lecturer. The LakeLorian will share and enlighten guests on the uniqueness of each port in the Great Lakes and be a welcomed storyteller of the region, versed in its history and the support of The National Museum of the Great Lakes for expertise. The LakeLorian will hold daily Lake Chats in The Tavern or The Compass Lounge to provide information about the town or city in which Victory Cruise Lines is visiting for the day. In addition to the daily lectures, each sailing will feature an exclusive lecture highlighting a current exhibit at The National Museum of the Great Lakes.

“I visited the National Museum of the Great Lakes earlier this year with our Vice President of Operations Bill Annand and immediately understood why there was so much enthusiasm behind this partnership,” shared John Waggoner, chairman and founder of Victory Cruise Lines. “Our guests are looking to not just

visit ports in the region but learn as much as they can about the Great Lakes and this partnership is a wonderful addition to the guest experience.”

Victory Cruise Lines will mark the inaugural season with a special New England & Canada 2025 Reunion Cruise Portland to Toronto departing April 16, 2025. Hosted by John and Claudette Waggoner, the 10-night cruise through the St. Lawrence Seaway and Canadian Maritimes will reunite friends from past voyages featuring notable guest entertainers including Greg and Lindy Pendzick and Michaelyn Oby.

Victory Cruise Lines voyages along magnificent coastlines, journeys through seaways and lakes, navigates hidden harbors and calls on downtown marinas with ease.

- **Victory Cruise Lines** is the ONLY coastal cruising product on the Great Lakes that docks at Navy Pier in Chicago.
- **Victory Cruise Lines** offers 36 voyages on the Great Lakes in a single season.
- **Victory Cruise Lines** has the MOST coastal cruises in a single season that hit ALL 5 Great Lakes in ONE cruise, 33 voyages.
- **Victory Cruise Lines** is the ONLY coastal cruising product that includes a 1-Night Pre-Cruise Hotel at a premium property plus ground transfers to the ships for ALL voyages.

Great Lakes itineraries feature the following voyages for the 2025 season:

ULTIMATE GREAT LAKES –All 5 Great Lakes

Chicago to Toronto

9-Night Cruise, 10-Night Cruise + Pre-Cruise Hotel

25 Voyages – April through September 2025

Chicago, Illinois; Lake Michigan; Escanaba, Michigan; Mackinac Island, Michigan; Sault Ste. Marie (Soo Locks), Michigan; Lake Superior and Lake Huron; Detroit, Michigan; Lake Erie; Cleveland, Ohio; Niagara Falls (Port Colborne), Ontario; Lake Ontario; Toronto, Ontario

ULTIMATE GREAT LAKES – All 5 Great Lakes

Milwaukee to Toronto

9-Night Cruise, 10-Night Cruise + Pre-Cruise Hotel in Chicago

6 Voyages – May through August 2025

Chicago, Illinois; Transfer to Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Lake Michigan; Escanaba, Michigan; Mackinac Island, Michigan; Sault Ste. Marie (Soo Locks), Michigan; Lake Superior and Lake Huron; Detroit, Michigan; Lake Erie; Cleveland, Ohio; Niagara Falls (Port Colborne), Ontario; Lake Ontario; Toronto, Ontario

ULTIMATE GREAT LAKES & ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY– All 5 Great Lakes

Chicago to Montreal

11-Night Cruise, 12-Night Cruise + Pre-Cruise Hotel

3 Voyages – September and October 2025

Chicago, Illinois; Lake Michigan; Escanaba, Michigan; Mackinac Island, Michigan; Sault Ste Marie (Soo Locks), Michigan; Lake Superior and Lake Huron; Detroit, Michigan; Lake Erie; Cleveland, Ohio; Niagara Falls (Port Colborne), Ontario; Toronto, Ontario; Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence Seaway; Montreal, Quebec

GREAT LAKES & THUNDER BAY– 2 Great Lakes + Green Bay Overnight

Roundtrip Chicago

14-Night Cruise, 15-Night Cruise + Pre-Cruise Hotel

2 Voyages – May and June 2025

Chicago, Illinois; Lake Michigan, Mackinac Island, Michigan; Marquette, Michigan; Houghton, Michigan; Duluth, Minnesota; Thunder Bay, Ontario; Lake Superior; Sault Saint Marie (Soo Locks), Michigan; Lake Michigan; Green Bay, Wisconsin (Overnight); Muskegon, Michigan; Chicago, Illinois

Each Victory Cruise Lines voyage includes 1-night pre-cruise hotel stay with complimentary ground transfers between the hotel and ship and from the ship to the airport; all oceanview accommodations, some with veranda; an included shore excursion in every port from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland to the Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation in Detroit; acclaimed cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner served in multiple venues plus culinary events throughout each cruise; gourmet selections including freshly prepared lobster and regionally-inspired dishes; unlimited beverages including an extensive wine list, choice spirits, local craft beers and specialty coffees; open bars and lounges throughout the vessel; unlimited Wi-Fi; live, daily onboard entertainment and enrichment with our own LakeLorians®; hiking sticks.

Victory Cruise Lines fares are all-inclusive and based on double occupancy from \$5,799 per guest. Fares include Inaugural Season Savings of \$1,000 per guest. Contact your travel advisor or call 1-855-556-7193. Visit www.VictoryCruiseLines.com.

About Victory Cruise Lines

Debuting in April 2025, Victory Cruise Lines® is committed to delighting travelers with the joy of all-inclusive, small ship, coastal cruising on The Great Lakes and Canadian Coasts. Comprised of the *Victory I*® and *Victory II*®, the 190-guest ships are purpose-built to cruise on all five Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence Seaway, and the French-Canadian Maritimes. Service and cuisine. Entertainment and enrichment. Discovery and adventure. Explore legendary lakes and coastal ports showcased with captivating insight and intimate perspectives with Victory Cruise Lines, Discover Beyond®.

About the National Museum of the Great Lakes

Founded in 1944, the Great Lakes Historical Society has been preserving our shared cultural history by publishing a quarterly journal *Inland Seas*® since 1945; by operating a maritime museum since 1952; by offering educational programs to the general public since 1956; by conducting underwater archeological research across the Great Lakes since 2001; and by managing the Col. James M. Schoonmaker Museum Ship since 2014 and Museum Tug Ohio since 2019. The opening of the National Museum of the Great

Lakes enables the Great Lakes Historical Society to continue its mission to preserve and make known the important history of the Great Lakes.

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