Cruise Details

Name:	The Fascination Of Central America
Reference:	HAPAGEUR2705
Operator:	Hapag-Lloyd Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	MS EUROPA
Regions:	Panama Canal
Departs On:	03 Apr 27
Departs From:	San Francisco, California
Arrives On:	27 Apr 27
Arrives At:	Miami, Florida
Cruise Nights:	24
Total Vacation Days:	25

Itinerary

Day 1: San Francisco, California (United States)

Arrives On: 03 Apr 27

Day 3: Santa Barbara, California (United States)

Between the Pacific beaches and the gentle hills of the Santa Ynez Mountains lies Santa Barbara, often referred to as the “American Riviera”. With its Mediterranean flair and breathtaking coastline, it captivates visitors. The Santa Barbara Courthouse, known for its impressive architecture and the panoramic views from its clock tower terrace, is one of the city’s main attractions, as is the colourful State Street, lined with boutiques and restaurants. Insider tips from Santa Barbara are the local wines and seasonal dishes that round off every visit deliciously.

Arrives On: 05 Apr 27

Day 6: Cabo San Lucas (Mexico)

Luxury and glamour have come to shape Cabo San Lucas and the scenic coast of Baja California – a refuge for Hollywood stars in the 1940s. World-class resorts, exclusive villas, relaxing spas and first-class golf courses dot the landscape. A particular highlight is the imposing arched rock El Arco at the southernmost point. Isla Espiritu Santo and Balandra Bay offer unforgettable experiences in nature, while snorkellers and divers are thrilled by the underwater world. Pacific waves make surfers' hearts beat faster, whereas the calm waters of the Sea of Cortez, known as the "aquarium of the world", invite you to relax and unwind.

Arrives On: 08 Apr 27

Day 8: Zihuatanejo (Mexico)

With its charming lanes and idyllic beaches, Zihuatanejo exudes authentic Mexican flair – the former fishing village has retained much of its originality. Those who prefer a more luxurious stay will find first-class hotels and golf courses in the nearby resort of Ixtapa. The beautiful beach of Playa Las Gatas, in the south of Zihuatanejo, with its clear water and soft white sand, offers idyllic snorkelling conditions. Fresh seafood is served at the beach bars, tempting you enjoy and live in the moment.

Arrives On: 10 Apr 27

Day 11: Puerto Quetzal (Guatemala)

A journey through scenic coffee plantations leads from Puerto Quetzal to the colonial city of Antigua: at an altitude of around 1,600 m (5,249 ft), it boasts well-preserved architecture and views of the Pacaya volcano, one of the most active volcanoes in the world. Puerto San Jose, where a black volcanic beach attracts locals and visitors alike, is also located near Puerto Quetzal. The area around Puerto Quetzal is an ideal starting point for exciting excursions and explorations of Guatemala.

Arrives On: 13 Apr 27

Day 13: Puntarenas (Costa Rica)

In Puntarenas, everything revolves around the beach, sun and fun. Leave the stress of everyday life behind and immerse yourself in a relaxed and laid-back atmosphere. The beaches are simply breathtaking. Enjoy endless sandy beaches where you can sunbathe and swim in the beautiful, clear water. But Puntarenas offers more than just beaches. Discover the fascinating wildlife in Manuel Antonio National Park. Observe monkeys, sloths and exotic birds in their natural environment. And don't forget your hiking boots to explore the many hiking trails through lush forests. There is always something to discover and experience in Puntarenas. So pack your beach bag, your sun cream and your thirst for adventure and prepare to be captivated by Puntarenas. You are sure to have an unforgettable time.

Arrives On: 15 Apr 27

Day 15: Port information not found

The daytime passage through the Panama Canal is a unique experience that takes visitors right through one of the world's most important engineering masterpieces. With its impressive locks, the canal connects the Atlantic and Pacific oceans and offers spectacular views of the lush tropical landscape. The famous locks of Miraflores and Gatun play a crucial role in the crossing and allow you to directly experience how nature and technology interact in a fascinating way. Sailing through the Panama Canal is more than just a passage – it is an insight into the heart of a global transport network that connects the world more closely together.

Arrives On: 17 Apr 27

Day 16: San Blas Islands (Panama)

Surrounded by crystal-clear water, Isla Aguja in the middle of the San Blas Islands is a paradise on earth. Nature lovers and adventurers will find pristine beaches, lush tropical vegetation and the tranquillity of the largely unspoilt surroundings – a perfect place to escape from everyday life. The colourful underwater world is perfect for snorkelling and diving, and rare bird species sing in the trees: enjoy the beauty of the Caribbean in its most pristine form.

Arrives On: 18 Apr 27

Day 17: Cartagena (Colombia)

A city full of history and zest for life lies on the Caribbean coast of Colombia: Cartagena de Indias, often referred to as one of the most beautiful cities in South America. Founded in 1533, the "queen of Colombia's coast" quickly developed into an important trading centre and is now a modern port with historical charm. Salsa beats, a gentle sea breeze and vibrant colours contribute to the atmosphere. The old town has cobbled streets, colonial buildings and exotic plazas to offer. At Plaza de Bolivar, behind the clock tower called Monumento Torre del Reloj, you can stop to sample local Colombian delicacies.

Arrives On: 19 Apr 27

Day 19: Puerto Limón (Costa Rica)

The Caribbean coast around Limon, which is considered one of the most unspoilt provinces of Costa Rica, is around 200 km (124 mi.) long and is blessed with long white sandy beaches and coconut trees. Further inland, the landscape is shaped by rainforests, mountains and mangroves. Parque Vargas, an urban jungle in the middle of the capital Puerto Limon, has special charm – and with a bit of luck, you might even catch a glimpse of sloths here. The region, including Puerto Limon, is still relatively undeveloped for tourism and shows Costa Rica from its authentic and

particularly appealing side.

Arrives On: 21 Apr 27

Day 21: Belize City (Belize)

A true idyll awaits travellers in Belize – turquoise waters, sandy white beaches and spectacular coral reefs make this Central American gem a unique place on earth. The Belize Barrier Reef, which extends for almost 300 km (186 mi.), is the second largest in the world and is home to more than 350 species of fish, including sharks and rays. Yet Belize also offers diverse flora and fauna ashore. Large parts are protected, and visitors can witness jaguars, pumas, howler monkeys and anteaters in their natural habitat. Over 500 species of birds, including toucans, make Belize a paradise for birdwatchers. In the jungle, the impressive Mayan ruins of Xunantunich await to be discovered.

Arrives On: 23 Apr 27

Day 22: Cozumel (Mexico)

Cozumel lies off the Yucatan peninsula lies – a paradise for beach lovers, divers and fans of culture alike. The island's dream beaches and colourful underwater world were made famous in the 1960s when Jacques-Yves Cousteau explored its fascinating coral reefs. Even today, many follow in his "footsteps" underwater and discover the breathtaking vistas below the surface of the water that make Cozumel a popular destination for divers. But the island also offers cultural highlights: the Mayan ruins of San Gervasio and El Cedral, dedicated to the goddess Ixchel, transport visitors to the mysterious world of this lost civilisation.

Arrives On: 24 Apr 27

Day 23: San Miguel de Cozumel (Mexico)

Arrives On: 25 Apr 27

Day 25: Miami, Florida (United States)

Arrives On: 27 Apr 27

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.
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