

Q: I'm a newly-divorced single guy. I'm still in good physical and financial shape at age 57, and would like to get my personal life kick-started again. Someone suggested I sign up for a single seniors cruise. Is that a good idea?



A: This fact alone should get you to sign up. Did you know that passenger lists on single cruises average 70 percent women and 30 percent men? But first, there are some situations you should consider.

Many cruise lines charge what they call single supplements for a cabin occupied by just one person. For example, if the charge is \$1,500 per cabin, where two people pay only \$750 each, a single occupant may have to pay the entire fee. However, to entice singles, some cruises will waive some of that extra charge. Crystal Cruises reports it can offer select sailings where you can be alone in a cabin and pay just 25 percent more. Not that you'd want to be alone for the entire voyage.

Another option is to sign up to share a cabin, and the cruise line will match you with another passenger, presumably of the same sex. Of course, once you're on the high seas, and get really well acquainted with other singles, who knows who will share what with whom?

Senior single cruises are specifically designed to get people to mingle. There are all kinds of mix and match social activities, such as dances, quiz shows, sports events and shore excursions encourage friendship and romance. Round-robin dining requires passengers to move around to different tables for each meal, and that further enhances the get-acquainted mood.

Unique with all cruises, when you're at sea, you're sure to be swept up with the feelings most passengers get. It's the "we're all shipmates having this adventure together" mindset, and it greatly enhances friendships and warmer relationships in single seniors cruises.

To get started, click into Travelocity.com, Orbitz.com and Expedia.com, and look for single senior cruise offers. You'll be surprised with the variety, number of days and quality of those that seem to be designed specifically just for suddenly single you.

So, what the heck are you waiting for? Cruise prices haven't been this favorable in decades. Go for it!