# Life aboard a cruise ship: Christine Kesteloo shares her unique journey



Christine Kesteloo, a woman who has voyaged across an impressive 106 countries, has become a prominent figure on social media by sharing her unique lifestyle living on a cruise ship. For over a decade, Christine, originally from the United States, has been residing on cruise liners for half of the year alongside her husband, who serves as the chief engineer of the ship. The couple divides their time between life on the water and their home in The Netherlands.

Living on a cruise ship comes with a range of benefits. Christine enjoys complimentary food and accommodation every day through her husband's employment. As the spouse of a crew member, she is afforded the privilege of staying onboard without incurring costs, a benefit she often highlights in her TikTok content, which has garnered more than 980,000 followers. Furthermore, she receives a 50% discount on additional purchases such as soft drinks, alcoholic beverages, onboard shops, the spa, and internet access.

Christine detailed her living arrangements during her time on the vessel, explaining, "We live on a cruise ship. We always have the same cabin that is assigned to Pete's position on the ship, and in my opinion, we have the best cabin in the whole entire ship." She commented on her dual role by saying, "While I live on the cruise ship I live as a guest but also as crew," which allows her to experience many of the advantages of both positions, albeit with some restrictions.

One notable limitation Christine faces involves gambling. She mentioned, "I am not allowed to sit at a slot machine and play my heart until I win because it would look a little weird if I, as the wife of the chief staff engineer, won like a big jackpot." This rule highlights the expectations placed on crew members and their families, particularly regarding behaviours that could be perceived as inappropriate.

Despite relishing the perks of her lifestyle, Christine maintains an awareness of the guests around her. She emphasised her commitment to respect during her time on the ship, stating, "If the pool is packed, I make sure to get off and give the guests a seat, it’s just the right thing to do." Furthermore, she follows protocol when disembarking at ports of call, ensuring that she allows passengers to disembark first before she follows about an hour later.

Christine's adaptation to life both at sea and on land was addressed in a recent interview with The Mirror. "Pete has been at sea for 30 years and I've been at sea for 12 years,” she explained. “After all that time I literally don't need to adjust to land legs vs sea legs, I don't feel the difference. It doesn't bother me anymore."

Christine Kesteloo's experiences aboard a cruise ship reflect a lifestyle filled with unique advantages, underscored by her commitment to honouring the cruise experience of fellow passengers. Her story provides insight into the world of cruise living, showcasing its perks and peculiarities in equal measure.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.businessinsider.com/how-i-live-on-cruise-ship-free-with-husband-2023-11> - This article supports Christine's lifestyle, living on a cruise ship for half the year due to her husband's role as a chief engineer, and highlights the benefits such as free accommodation and food.
* <https://www.upworthy.com/eating-on-a-cruise-ship-ex1> - This article corroborates Christine's challenges with the constant temptation of free food on cruise ships and discusses her strategies to manage these temptations.
* <https://www.businessinsider.com/living-on-a-cruise-ship-what-its-like-cost-photos-2022-4> - The article details Christine's financial expenses while living on the ship, including internet costs, tips, and specialty dining, providing insight into her lifestyle costs.
* <https://www.instagram.com/christinekesteloo/> - Christine Kesteloo's Instagram profile showcases her social media presence, where she shares pictures and experiences related to her lifestyle.
* [https://www.tiktok.com/@dutchworld\_americangirl](https://www.tiktok.com/%40dutchworld_americangirl) - This TikTok profile is associated with Christine Kesteloo, where she shares her experiences living on a cruise ship, offering insights into her daily life and interactions with the crew and passengers.