



We just returned from a cruise where we thought we got a good price because it was billed as last minute. However, when we checked with other passengers, we learned we had paid as much as 50% more than those who booked early. What's the best way to get lowest travel prices? *PNJ, New London CT*

A: Cruise lines often offer lower prices if you book within a week of departure, so they won't sail with empty cabins. However, you'll learn that the advertised low prices didn't include taxes, service fees and other add-on charges. Before you book a cruise, thoroughly research daily cruise advice and price deal sites on the internet and/or by dealing with your experienced local travel agent.