

Tipping & Gratuities

One of the best things about cruising is the convenience of being able to sign for all your expenses, excluding stamps and tips to your stateroom and dining room staff. Casino chips, slot tokens and bingo cards can also be obtained on a casino room charge. You can settle your shipboard account on the day of disembarkation after reviewing the itemized statement delivered to your stateroom.

Most lines accept U.S., Canadian and British currency and traveler's checks, Visa, MasterCard, Discover/Novus, the JCB Card, Diners Club/Carte Blanche and American Express/Optima. Personal checks drawn on the U.S., Canadian or British banks are generally accepted with the proper approval and identification with a limit of \$250 (U.S.) on a personal check. Casino room charges for obtaining chips and tokens in the casino are usually limited to \$1500 per day, to the total limit of \$5000 per cruise, unless prior arrangements are made. There is usually a hefty processing fee applied to all casino room charges. These advances are billed to your shipboard accounts.

Express Check – Out

As do the finest hotels, the cruise lines offer a quick and easy express checkout service. Just bring your credit card (any of those listed above) or personal check and identification to the Purser's Desk, if not taken at embarkation check-in or pre-registered before the cruise (exotic cruises only), as early as possible during your cruise.

Tipping

Effective January 2002, some cruise lines have implemented an automatic gratuity program. A charge of \$10 per person per day for Dining and Stateroom Personnel will be automatically added to the passenger's shipboard account. We are confident passengers will find the services onboard exemplary and should a passenger wish to reward a staff member for service "above and beyond", they may do so by adding to the automatic gratuity. Similarly, if a passenger feels the service levels fall short of his/her expectation, then they may subtract from the automatic gratuity amount simply by visiting the Purser's Desk onboard and requesting the change. It is important to remember passengers will be able to increase, decrease or remove the automatic gratuities at their discretion. Gratuities for other shipboard staff such as Casino dealers and Spa Personnel is at the passenger's discretion. Please note that a 15% gratuity is automatically added to all bar tabs.