

MARGARITAVILLE at Sea Islander



Margaritaville at Sea Islander: A Cruise That Completely Changed Our Expectations



I recently sailed aboard the Margaritaville at Sea (MVAS) Islander with my Special Events Director, Danielle, on what was intended to be a scouting mission — and instead, it turned into a cruise

that truly impressed us on every level.

We were there to fully evaluate the ship in preparation for our upcoming #TEAMHANDPAY Takeover this December, where the entire casino will transform into one massive MHP VIP Experience. What we didn't expect was just how quickly the Islander would win us over.

From the moment we stepped onboard, every preconceived notion about Margaritaville at Sea was completely debunked.

Incredible Value at a Competitive Price

One of the biggest standouts of the Islander is just how much you get for the price. Margaritaville at Sea offers a highly competitive cruise fare while still delivering excellent food, strong entertainment, attentive service, and a fun, lively atmosphere. This is especially important for our MHP fans, because it makes cruising with us accessible to many who truly want to be part of our group experiences, but may not play at an ultra-high VIP casino level required to qualify for traditional comped cruises. MVAS bridges that gap beautifully — offering a quality cruise experience that doesn't feel watered down, yet doesn't require unrealistic qualification levels.

Food That Rivals Specialty Dining — Without the Upcharge



Let's talk about the food — because it was outstanding.

From the first day, we enjoyed consistently delicious and beautifully presented dishes across the ship. The burgers

were crave worthy, the Mexican offerings were packed with flavor, and the main dining room impressed night after night. The best part? It was all included in the cruise fare. No specialty dining charges, no hidden food upgrades — just genuinely good food done right.

Service That Felt Personal, Not Performative

The service aboard the Islander was easily one of the cruise's greatest strengths. The crew was warm, attentive, and genuinely engaged. From the first day, many staff members remembered us by first name, greeting us like familiar guests rather than cabin numbers.

We later heard that within the cruise industry, Margaritaville at Sea is known for treating their employees exceptionally well, and it absolutely shows. Happy employees translate into better service, and the hospitality onboard felt sincere and consistent throughout the entire cruise.

A Casino That's Built for Comfort and Play

The casino aboard the Islander was a standout and a major reason we're excited for our December takeover.

The space is spacious and thoughtfully laid out, with slot machines not crowded together, allowing for comfortable play and smooth flow. Even during busy times, the casino never felt overwhelming.

Just as important, the casino is 100% non smoking, creating a clean, fresh, and comfortable environment — especially for guests who want to spend extended time playing.

The table games area features modern décor, giving the casino a sleek, updated feel that's energetic without being chaotic. From an event perspective, it's an ideal setup for group activations and a fully immersive MHP VIP casino experience.

Nonstop Fun with Zero Boredom

From sunrise to late night, there was always something happening onboard. Morning Zumba, daily trivia, line dancing, and nightly parties kept the energy high and the vibe fun.

Whether you wanted to be active or simply enjoy the social atmosphere, boredom was never an option.

Adults Only Tiki Pool Is a Total Vibe

One of our favorite areas onboard was the adults only pool, featuring what may be the best tiki bar and seafood on the ship. The vibe here was relaxed, social, and noticeably calmer — the perfect place to unwind.

What really stood out was the poolside drink service. Waitstaff stopped by frequently to take orders, which is surprisingly rare on most cruise ships due to crowds. The service here was efficient, friendly, and consistent.

Comfortable Rooms & Thoughtful Details



Our staterooms were very comfortable and thoughtfully designed, with attention to detail that didn't go unnoticed — including towel animals, quality toiletries, and tasteful décor.

Those small touches made the rooms feel welcoming rather than generic.

Jimmy Buffett-Inspired Décor Done Right

The Jimmy Buffett theme was woven throughout the ship beautifully. Instead of feeling gimmicky, it delivered a polished Key West island vibe, with subtle design elements and fine details that tied everything together.

Why This Matters for MHP Guests

Our experience aboard the Margaritaville at Sea Islander didn't just meet expectations — it raised the bar. It confirmed that this ship is the perfect setting for what we're building with the December MHP Takeover. Fun. Energetic. Comfortable. Accessible — yet still VIP.

If our preview sailing is any indication, #TEAMHANDPAY are in for an unforgettable experience, and we cannot wait to take over the casino and make it truly ours.

Janice
-VP of Marketing

