



461 Water Street, Warren, Rhode Island 02885

www.blountsmallshipadventures.com

GENERAL FACTS

OVERVIEW

In operation since 1966, our small ships go where the big ships cannot. From slipping under low bridges, navigating narrow locks of waterways like the Erie Canal, and docking with the yachts in Bahamian outer islands, only Blount takes guests to the small, unspoiled corners of the tropics.

SCHEDULE & ITINERARY

Blount Small Ship Adventures offers overnight small ship cruises in the United States, Canada and Cuba, with itineraries ranging from 7 to 16 days. View complete schedule on www.blountsmallshipadventures.com.

FLEET

Grande Mariner

Commissioned: 1998

Refurbished: 2010

Passenger Capacity: 83

Grande Caribe

Commissioned: 1997

Refurbished: 2009

Passenger Capacity: 83

SHIP SPECIAL FEATURES

BOW RAMP

Invented by Luther H. Blount, our patented bow ramp allows passengers to disembark directly from the ship and secluded beaches and in the heart of small ports and destinations. It is the ultimate in convenience and ease.

RETRACTABLE PILOT HOUSE

Another Blount innovation, this feature allows our vessels to slip beneath low bridges and transit locks that typically exclude cruise ships. As a result of this feature, our ships are the only overnight cruising vessels able to navigate places like the historic Erie Canal.

CABINS

Our ships offer four categories of classic small ship cruising cabins. Each features private facilities and individually controlled air conditioning systems, which continuously feed in fresh air. Smoking is restricted to outside decks so all cabins are smoke-free.

Our vessels have been recently refurbished with new décor in cabins, lounges, dining rooms and upgraded washrooms and shower facilities.

GLASS BOTTOM LAUNCH

This unique attraction provides passengers with a diver's-eye-view of the world beneath the waves without getting wet! The launch is available on our Caribbean and Central America itineraries.



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GUEST LECTURERS

Our cruises not only show passengers the beauty of the destination we visit, but we teach guests about their unique history, culture, and wildlife as well. Our guest lecturers and local experts provide engaging discussions to give guests an insider's perspective.

DINING

Single-seating meals with an open seating policy allows for the freedom to meet many traveling companions. With 83 passengers aboard, guests can meet and dine with nearly everyone over the course of a trip. Our chef-prepared meals are delicious, healthy, and often reflective of the region being visited. Beverages and snacks are available around the clock with select house wine and beer included at lunch and dinner. Dietary restrictions can be easily accommodated.

BIKE & KAYAK RENTAL

Onboard bikes allow travelers to explore independently when in certain ports. Simply reserve a bike when onboard, or perhaps, enjoy a different vantage point of a destination where kayaking is available; packages include instruction and a guide for an additional price. Ask a Reservation Specialist for a list of itineraries.

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Our photography workshops feature group instructional sessions and Q&A with a professional photographer throughout the entire trip. Learn about light and composition, the functions of a camera, and how to compose a perfect image. Our onboard expert ensures guests' cruise memories will be beautifully captured and perfectly preserved in spectacular photographs. (Available on select itineraries)

BYOB

Guests are invited to "bring your own bottle" (BYOB), just like a private yacht. This unique alcohol policy gives passengers the freedom to enjoy their preferred beverages without a costly bar tab at the trip's end. Mixers, snacks, barware, refrigeration and bottle storage space are provided around the clock. Select house wine and beer are included during lunch and dinner.



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GRANDE CARIBE SHIP PROFILE

LENGTH:	184'
BEAM:	40'
DRAFT:	6'6"
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	83
PASSENGER CABINS:	44
COMMISSIONED:	1997
FLAG:	United States
BUILT BY:	Blount Industries, Inc., Warren, RI USA

Cruise in comfort on the majestic *M/V Grande Caribe*. Choose from four categories of cabins, all featuring private facilities and individually-controlled air conditioning. Additional features include a panoramic vista-view lounge, a welcoming dining room where chef-prepared meals are served, and a sunny top deck for relaxing and socializing.





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GRANDE MARINER SHIP PROFILE

LENGTH:	184'
BEAM:	40'
DRAFT:	6'6"
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	83
PASSENGER CABINS:	44
COMMISSIONED:	1998
FLAG:	United States
BUILT BY:	Blount Industries, Inc., Warren, RI USA

Relaxation and adventure are both yours to enjoy on the *M/V Grande Mariner*. Four categories of cabins offer private facilities and individually-controlled air conditioning. Admire the view from the panoramic vista-view lounge, enjoy chef-prepared meals in the welcoming dining room, and mingle with new friends on the sunny top deck.





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COMPANY HISTORY

For as long as anyone in Rhode Island could remember, the Blounts had been in the oyster business. And by the summer of 1938, business was good. The workers were busy. The family oyster beds were thriving. And every morning, shellfish went out by the crate to eager buyers around the state.

The hurricane of '38 changed everything.

The wind blew. The waves roared. And when the clouds finally rolled away, E.B. Blount & Sons Oyster Company, and the oyster beds were in shambles. But for one student at Wentworth College in Boston, it created the foundation for a new legacy. The student's name was Luther Blount. And because of the hurricane, oysters were no longer in his future.

So Luther moved back to Rhode Island, and promptly invented a way to steam clams that was so effective, his brother Nelson's company was supplying raw materials for Campbell's Soup's Clam Chowder in no time.

By 1947, Luther had become the Vice President of E.B. Blount and Sons. But the fact that his family still hadn't returned to the oyster business weighed on him. He saw the land where the oyster processing plant once was. He saw that it hadn't been touched since the hurricane. And it gave him an idea.

Luther went to work. Over the next few months, on the place where the family business used to stand, he built an oyster boat. It was his first ship, but it would not be his last. Luther kept on building. By 1964, he had built over 100 vessels. He even had a few patents to his name — patents that would one day become the signature of Blount Cruise ships.

While he built everything from dinner boats to the Circle Line ships that take tourists around the Statue of Liberty, it was the time he spent with family, sailing the waters of New England, where Luther found his biggest inspiration.

For years, the Blounts had spent their vacations aboard the family boat, sailing, fishing, and enjoying the water. Often, they brought guests. Then, the guests started bringing friends. The trips became longer. And as word spread, the vision behind what would one day be called Blount Small Ship Adventures started to take shape in Luther's mind. And when Luther had a good idea, it didn't take long to bring it to life.

Soon enough, a cruise line was born, with cruises unlike anything else on the water. Part improvised adventure, part well-oiled machine, they felt like a Blount family vacation. Except now, they sailed to distant places Luther had seen while delivering the boats he built to clients. The places he fell in love with.

Every time they left Rhode Island, they sailed with a simple motto, coined by Luther in 1966: to "go where the big ships cannot."



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It was on his cruise line that the inventor in Luther truly came alive, one patented creation at a time. His patented bow ramp made it possible to walk directly from ship to shore, instead of being ferried by smaller ships into port. His patented retractable pilot house — combined with the shallow draft of his ships — made cruising down narrow waterways, under low bridges, and through places like the Erie Canal possible. They were innovations cruisers had never seen before. And they're still every bit as innovative today.

Back home, Luther worked tirelessly to bring the oysters back to Rhode Island, starting with Narragansett Bay. He donated to a local university, charging them with cultivating new oyster beds. He even bought an island to help the cause. The goal remained simple and clear: rebuild what Rhode Island had lost, so many years ago in the storm.

But most of all, Luther kept exploring. Kept discovering. And kept searching for adventure, perched on the bow of his ships. When Luther passed away in 2006, he left a legacy, a family, and a fleet dedicated to the possible. So, it's no surprise that three of Luther's daughters became part of the family business. Of course, in many ways, they'd been there all along.

Luther's daughters Marcia and Julie became President and Vice-President of the Blount Boats shipyard. And his daughter Nancy, who had worked by his side since 1979, took the helm of Blount Small Ship Adventures.

Today, you'll still find the Blounts sailing, building ships, and working to restore the oyster beds in Rhode Island. You'll still find them bringing people filled with curiosity to world's unique places. And today, aboard a Blount Small Ship Adventure, you'll still find the legacy of Luther. A legacy built on taking travelers a little further. Helping them see a little more. And experiencing what getting away can really mean.

It all started with a hurricane, with a family business, scattered in pieces across a Rhode Island shore. It's the story of a born inventor, bold explorer, and one-time oysterman. And the cruise line that bears his name.

It's the story of Blount Small Ship Adventures. And the next chapter will be written the moment you step onboard.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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