

# All Aboard the Love Boat...Getaway Style

— By Alisa Conaboy

**When I was a little girl, I was a big fan of “The Love Boat.”** Every Saturday night, like clockwork, my brother and I would battle it out, fervently arguing about each week’s potential love matches.

We were consumed with the on board romances—would Julie McCoy ever meet ‘Mr. Right’? When would Gopher finally settle down with the right woman? As a seven year-old, I seemed to have all the answers when it came to love.

As years went by, I became less sure about how to find “the one” and even less certain

where I might find him. I associated Cruises with old ladies and shuffle board not with potential romance.

Yet, when I was googling around for a vacation last year, my heart skipped a beat when I saw those two magic words —“cruise ship”.

“Club Getaway”, which runs its own resort in

Connecticut during the summer, was sponsoring their own three hundred person “Club Getaway Sports and Adventure Cruise” aboard an ocean liner that winter.

The Costa Magica, a 2,720 passenger ship, would be heading for Cozumel, Ocho Rios, Grand Turks and Grand Cayman. And my friends and I were going with them. When we boarded the gorgeous ocean liner, our fears of geeky guys or worse, “no guys”, began to melt away. We threw our bags in our giant shared suite and headed on deck to check out the scene.

We spent the next eight days eating, partying and running from one amazing activity to



**Making new friends is easy with all the sports, fitness classes and parties on board.**

another. There were exclusive Getaway off-ship excursions – we swam with stingrays in Grand Cayman, hiked Dunn’s River Falls and ended up drinking Red Stripe in a rasta bar in Ocho Rios. On board, we made new friends from around the

country and tried out tennis lessons, coed basketball, swing and salsa lessons, wine tasting and cooking classes. Other times we kicked back and relaxed with yoga, massage class and group gatherings in the hot tub. Each night began with our own pri-

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vate cocktail party. We all bonded over the delicious meals and danced ‘til the wee hours in the disco.

As for romance, I may not have met “the one”, but let’s just say there were a couple of moonlight kisses worthy of any good “Love Boat” episode. I’m definitely coming back this year to check out Club Getaway’s Sports & Adventure Cruise.



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