



January 19th – 26th, 2008

Eastern Caribbean

Chess Moves 3™



Expand your skills. Chat with the experts. Join our community of kindred spirits on this exotic journey.

The speakers and staff on Chess Moves 3 are: GM Joel Benjamin, GM Pascal Charbonneau, GM Larry Christiansen, and IM Irina Krush.

Beginner/Intermediate Classes

The Chess Moves 3 Conference

The conference fee is \$895 and includes all courses and course materials; entrance fee and participation in the USCF-rated tournaments; one Simul for each "rated group" (under 1400 and over 1400); and the Bon Voyage Cocktail Party. GM Pascal Charbonneau and IM Irina Krush will be available during the rated tournaments for analysis of your games!



GMs Joel Benjamin and Larry

Practical Opening Tips for White

Speaker: **GM Larry Christiansen** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): up to 1400

Opening theory in chess is a science unto itself. For professional players, often the opening analyses ends at move 7 or even move 30 at times. That's a very difficult task for anyone! Even constant study of openings is no guarantee that you will get an advantage out of an opening.

If Black plays accurately, Black and White will equalize. On the other hand, there are numerous solid openings which lead to interesting games without the need to memorize a multitude of variations. In this course, we will cover:

- Opening principles
- The most popular club-level openings
- Tricky, tactical-based openings

Practical Opening Tips for Black

Speaker: **GM Larry Christiansen** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): up to 1400

A Black opening is one move behind, giving you less leeway in your approach. While White can almost get away with purely following the basic opening principles, when you play Black you've got to know exactly what you are doing. You'll learn how to choose your opening based on your personality and style:

- Choices against the King Pawn start
- Choices against the Queen Pawn start

Opening Disasters

Christiansen will deliver two concurrent tracks while our cruise ship is sailing between ports. (One track will be aimed at beginner-to-intermediate players, with a rating up to 1400; the other track will be for more advanced players.) Except for the two tournaments offered to everyone, and participation in either of our Simuls, our program is classroom based. Attendees, however, may move freely — at any time — from one track to another. Our itinerary has about three (3) "sea days" allowing for, at least, 25 hours of lectures and play!

Making new chess friends was a pleasant surprise ... the organizers, Neil and Randal — great job! The maiden voyage was a great pleasure and the first of many for chess enthusiasts!

Frederick Long, M.D.
<Flong at columbus.rr.com>

This cruise and the chess classes were definitely a word class event. I wish I could have done it before as it really encourages me to stick to chess and work to improve my game. The choice of the GMs was great as each had a different personality and gave a specific perspective of the game. It is something I will remember for a long time and I have already started planning for the next Chess Moves cruise. Thanks again Neil.

Marc Elbet, M.D.
<marc.elbet at btinternet.com>

Speaker: **GM Joel Benjamin** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): up to 1400

You don't have to put in long hours studying opening theory, but you must develop a sense of sound, principled opening play. Examples of openings gone horribly wrong will illustrate the deadly sins that cause such calamities. The culprits will include:

- Running around with the queen
- Failure to castle promptly
- Inattention to threats
- Improper or slow development

Exploiting Structural Advantages

Speaker: **GM Joel Benjamin** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): up to 1400

Philidor spoke the truth centuries ago when he said, "pawns are the soul of chess." The placement of the pawns often confers an advantage to one side. Understanding how to make these advantages stand up can bring players lots of extra points. Structural advantages are long-term in nature and require patient handling. This class will feature exploitation of various advantages, including space, weak squares, and weak pawns.

Understanding Pawn Endings

Speaker: **GM Joel Benjamin** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): up to 1400

Failure in the endgame can spoil an otherwise well-played game, and pawn endgames provide the foundation for all other endings. We will build from basic positions to more complex ones, focusing on essential concepts like opposition, zugzwang, the pawn "race," and triangulation. Other pieces occasionally join the picture as we explore liquidation into pawn endings and transformation into queen endings.

Rook Endgame Essentials

Speaker: **GM Larry Christiansen** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): up to 1400

In practical play, about 50% of all endgames are Rook endgames so we'll devote time to learning important and common Rook endgames. In this class you will learn:

- To win a "won" Rook endgame
- To save a difficult-looking Rook endgame to a draw
- Why it is usually best to keep behind the passed Pawn vs. in front or on the side
- To work with the Philidor position
- To work with the Lucena position, and how to build bridges
- How to approach positions with one extra passed Pawn on one side and a couple of Pawns each on the other side
- How to handle the exceptions — for instance, even when two extra Pawns will not win



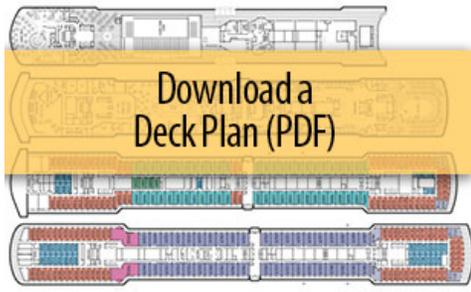
Inside Staterooms - \$799



Inside Staterooms - \$799



Outside with Balcony: \$1,299 - \$1,399



Deck Plan of Our Ship (pdf)



Superior Suite - \$1,899



Full Suite - \$2,899

Pricing & Booking Information

(Full details:

http://www.geekcruises.com/booking_b/cm03_booking.html)

Course Fees: \$895. Only passengers booked through Geek Cruises will be admitted.

Deposit: \$400 per person, due at time of booking.

Cabin Type:	Cruise Rate (p.p.)
Better Inside:	\$799 [GS* & PC* avail.]
Standard Outside:	\$1,099 [GS avail.]
Better Outside:	\$1,199 [GS & PC avail.]
Outside w/ Balcony:	\$1,299
Better Out. w/ Bal.:	\$1,399 [PC avail.]
Full Suite:	\$2,899

Cruise prices are per person and subject to change.

*PC — Physically Challenged;
GS — **GUARANTEED SHARE (GS)** Fares: This plan is for passengers who are coming on a Geek Cruise by themselves and wish to share a cabin with another Geek Cruises passenger in an inside or outside cabin only. The prices are the same as the per person double occupancy rates. Share Passengers who smoke are not to do so in the cabin, unless okayed by fellow roommates. We try to match passengers with someone close in age, whenever possible.

3rd and/or 4th Person Rate:

ages 2 and older, \$550;
under 2 years old, \$450.

Single Occupancy:

150% for inside and outside cabins and 200% for cabins with a balcony (i.e., Mini-Suites and above).

Advanced Classes

Bishop v. Knight

Speaker: **GM Joel Benjamin** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): 1400 – 1900

When is one better than the other? This course will examine positions that favor each minor piece and good moments to swap one for the other. Grandmaster Benjamin will share insight on piece values gained from his experiences working on the Deep Blue project.

The Art of the Exchange Sacrifice

Speaker: **GM Joel Benjamin** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): 1400 – 1900

Effective use of the Exchange Sacrifice is a skill that often divides masters from lower-rated players. Combinations that lead to checkmate or material gain may be easily understood, but purely positional sacrifices do not have to be mysterious. This course will use classic examples to explain these and other key elements of such sacrifices:

- Transformation of pawn structure
- Central control
- Piece activity
- Pawn compensation

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Port Charges, Taxes, & Gratuities:

Port charges (of \$160 per person) are included; taxes are \$73.25 per person and are additional. Holland America also charges, onboard, \$10 per person per day for gratuities.

Full payment is due on October 15, 2007

(or, if you book after October 15, at the time of booking).

Foreign Shipping Fees and Additional

Payment Information: There is a foreign shipping charge of \$60 (to cover the shipping of your cruise tickets, via FedEx) per foreign residence (\$35 per Canadian residence). There is a \$25 charge for returned checks.

Pre- and Post-cruise Hotel Stays:

Sightsee Ft. Lauderdale from your base, [Hollywood Beach Marriott](#), and/or meet and greet your fellow Geek Cruisers at our pre-cruise reception (see below). Transfers to/from the ship, and all taxes, are included in the prices below. All prices are PER PERSON.

	1 night	add'l nights
Shared double	\$159	\$119
Single	\$279	\$249
3rd/4th person	\$39	\$39

NOTE: Holland America will not accept any booking unless a fully completed Reservation Form is accompanied with a per-person deposit:

<http://www.GeekCruises.com/>

[booking_b/cm03_booking.html](http://www.GeekCruises.com/booking_b/cm03_booking.html).

Have questions? Want to book voice-to-voice? Please give us a call: 650-787-5665



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The Art of Attack

Speaker: **GM Larry Christiansen** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): 1400 – 1900

This course is geared toward intermediate players who wish to hone their chess attacking skills and increase their understanding of tactics. In this class, we will go over two different approaches to attacking chess:

- More-structured attacks (examples from Botvinnik and Kasparov)
- Personal intuition (examples from Shirov, Topalov, and Tal)

Making a Chess Plan

Speaker: **GM Larry Christiansen** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): 1400 – 1900

One of the most difficult tasks in chess is to make a plan. To pick the right plan is even harder. In chess, there are short and long term plans. This class will give you the knowledge of what hints to look for in different types of positions based on the Pawn structure and other variables.

Winning Won Games

Speaker: **GM Larry Christiansen** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): 1400 – 1900

Gaining a winning position is just half the battle. Actually overcoming your opponent's stubborn resistance and forcing resignation is an essential skill for the complete chess player. This class is designed to improve this vital skill or "technique" by:

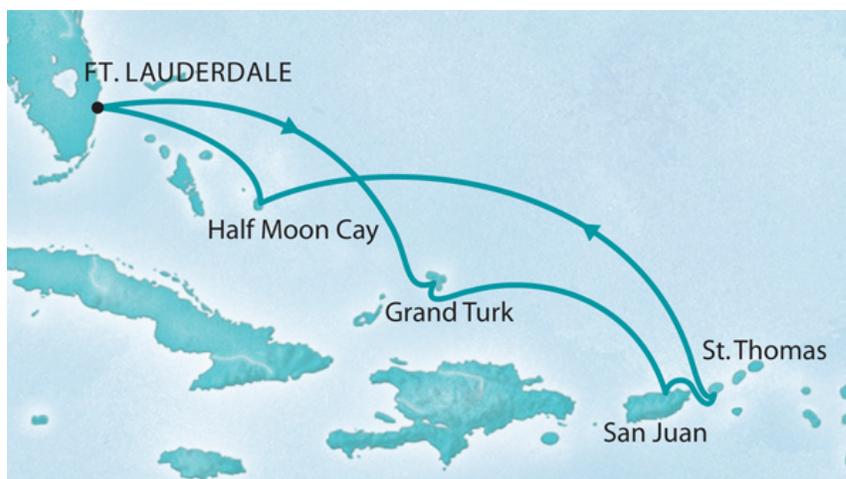
- Understanding how to evaluate positions so that you know when, and when not, to take risks to close out the "won" games
- Comparing your options: finishing the "won" games in style versus taking the sure bet

Use Your Imagination!

Speaker: **GM Joel Benjamin** (90 minutes)

Audience (Player Rating): 1400 – 1900

Surprising continuations abound in chess, waiting to be found by minds open to subtle and unconventional possibilities. Using examples from my own career, I will take you through the process of discovery of tactical combinations, positional maneuvers, and strategic plans. The imaginative solutions may seem the province of the grandmasters, but average Joes can train to look for hidden treasures, too



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DAY	TIME	PORT / EVENT / PROGRAM SESSION(S)
JAN. 19 SATURDAY	7pm	FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA BON VOYAGE COCKTAIL PARTY
JAN. 20 SUNDAY	8:30am – 10am 10:30am – Noon 1:30pm – 3pm 3:30pm – 5pm 6pm – 7:30pm	Round 1 of USCF-rated tournament* (45-minute time control) Practical Opening Tips for White • Bishop v. Knight Opening Tips for Black • The Art of the Exchange Sacrifice Opening Disasters • The Art of Attack Under 1400 Simul
JAN. 21 MONDAY	7am – 3pm 3pm – 5:30pm 6pm – 7:30pm	GRAND TURK, TURK & CAICOS ISLANDS Over 1400 Simul Round 2, 45-minute time control*
JAN. 22 TUESDAY	8:30am – 10am 10am – 11pm	Round 3, 45-minute time control* SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO
JAN. 23 WED.	8am – 5pm 6pm – 8pm	ST. THOMAS, U.S.V.I USCF-rated Blitz Tournament (7-minute time control)
JAN. 24 THURS.	8:30am – 10am 10:30am – Noon 1:30pm – 3pm 3:30pm – 5pm 6pm – 7:30pm	Round 4, 45-minute time control* Exploiting Structural Advantages • Making a Chess Plan Understanding Pawn Endings • Winning Won Games Rook Endgame Essentials • Use Your Imagination! Final Rounds, Blitz Tournament
JAN. 25 FRIDAY	8am – 4pm 4pm – 5:30pm 6pm – 7:30pm	HALF MOON CAY, BAHAMAS Round 5, 45-minute time control* Awards, Prizes, and Farewell Party
JAN. 26 SATURDAY	7am	FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

*Our Swiss USCF-rated Class Tournament will be five (5) rounds with a 45-minute time control. Our USCF-rated Blitz Class Tournament will be Round Robin with a 5-minute time control. Both tournaments will offer cash awards and there is no entrance fee.