PRODUCT FEATURES

What is included with Cloud Cruiser Express?

Cloud Cruiser Express provides 2 different portal experiences, each with different functionality:

- Windows Azure Pack Portal (WAP) – Designed for ease of use and quick access to tenant cost information, the Azure portal provides tabular cost reports that are searchable and sortable.

- Standard Cloud Cruiser portal – Provides a full suite of standard reports, advanced reporting, budgets, alerts, and pricing.

Can I create my own reports from within Cloud Cruiser Express?

Reports can be run for different tenants and date ranges and exported to Excel or PDF from within the WAP portal. The Cloud Cruiser portal provides a wider selection of out-of-the-box reports, as well as the ability to create any custom report using available metadata.

Can I do showback and chargeback using Cloud Cruiser Express?

Yes, Cloud Cruiser Express provides fully-automated showback, chargeback, and billing for environments using Windows Azure Pack.

Do I have the ability to add or change rates for my services?

Yes, Cloud Cruiser Express includes the full range of pricing options, including fixed, variable, tiered, promotional, discounts, scheduled pricing, and more. By default, the standard rates for Windows Azure public cloud will be defined in the system, however all rates can be customized by the administrator.
Are there limitations to Cloud Cruiser Express?

Express is limited to smaller deployments of VMs, databases, and website instances and supports Windows Azure Pack only. The product does not support customization of any extract-transform-load scripts so must operate in a pre-configured environment, including standard account structure and fixed data collection.

What is included in Cloud Cruiser that’s not included in the Express version?

Cloud Cruiser is a fully scalable, heterogeneous, financial management platform. It enables customers to support environments of unlimited size. It also supports heterogeneous environments that may include other public or private cloud platforms, such as AWS, VMware, HP, OpenStack, and more. As well, Cloud Cruiser can support additional data sources, including storage management systems, databases, applications, and other financial data.

Another major feature included in the premium version of Cloud Cruiser is an advanced decision support platform which provides customer and service analysis, profit management, rate modeling and more.

A more complete comparison of the two products is included below.
**Is Cloud Cruiser only for administrators or can my tenants view their cost information as well?**

Administrators are able to view summary and detailed cost information for any and all tenants. If the appropriate privileges have been granted, a tenant can log in to the WAP portal or the Cloud Cruiser portal and view the tenant’s own cost information.

**Can an administrator set prices or perform other tasks from within the WAP portal?**

No, the WAP portal only provides reporting capabilities. It is not intended to replace the Cloud Cruiser experience, rather to provide quick access to high-level cost information. The administrator has access to a much larger set of financial management capabilities from the Cloud Cruiser portal, such as pricing, budgets, alerts, invoicing, and more than a dozen out-of-the-box reports.
How do I install Cloud Cruiser Express?

Installing Cloud Cruiser Express is a quick 3-step process, which includes installation of the Windows Azure Pack (WAP) components and the Cloud Cruiser backend. The third step is the linkage between the two systems.

3-Step process is as follows:

1) Install Windows Azure Pack, which includes the Cloud Cruiser Express extension by default
2) Install Cloud Cruiser Express on a separate virtual machine and provide the location and credentials for Windows Azure Pack
3) Within the WAP portal, provide the location and credentials for Cloud Cruiser Express so that the two systems can communicate

Specific installation instructions can be found in the Cloud Cruiser User Guide.

How long does the installation take?

The product generally installs in less than 10 minutes.
Are there any prerequisites to installing Cloud Cruiser Express?

The customer must have the following prerequisites in place before installing Cloud Cruiser:

- Java JRE or SDK 7
- MSSQL Server Express or a fully licensed version of MMSQL Server with administrative rights

Where do I install Cloud Cruiser Express?

Cloud Cruiser Express should be installed on a separate VM and you must register the endpoint from within the WAP portal.

I already installed Windows Azure Pack without Cloud Cruiser. How do I add Cloud Cruiser Express now?

In the MS Web Platform Installer (WebPI), install the Cloud Cruiser extensions from the Products list.

Which Cloud Cruiser components should I install from the WebPI?

Install Cloud Cruiser for Windows Azure Pack: Admin Site and Cloud Cruiser for Windows Azure Pack: Tenant Site. If you have a distributed Azure Pack environment with the Admin Site and Tenant Site on separate machines, install each Cloud Cruiser extension on its respective machine.

What info do I need to gather about my environment to configure Cloud Cruiser Express?

To complete the Cloud Cruiser Express installer, you'll need:
The hostname of the Azure Pack Usage API server
- The password you've set for the UsageClient account on that machine
- The hostname and port for your SQL Server database server
- The username and password of a DBA account on that instance

To connect Azure Pack to Cloud Cruiser Express after installation, you’ll need:

- The URL to the REST API endpoint of your Cloud Cruiser Express Portal, which by default is http://<hostname>:8080/rest/v1/wap
- The ID and password of a Cloud Cruiser Express user with the Post Usage Data role

**How do I provide access to my tenants so they can view their cost information?**

In any Public plan, add the Cloud Cruiser service.

**Where can I find more information about the installation process?**

The online help in the QuickStart tab of the User Costs module in Windows Azure Pack includes a short video to guide you through the overall process. In addition, a Cloud Cruiser Express Guide is included with the installation file which provides detailed installation instructions. You can also find more information, videos, and tips & tricks online at [www.cloudcruiser.com/support](http://www.cloudcruiser.com/support).
UPGRADE

Where do I go to upgrade from Express to Cloud Cruiser?

The upgrade process can be initiated from either portal:

1) WAP portal – Click on the Upgrade tab on the top of the page within the ‘User Costs’ window

2) Cloud Cruiser portal – Click on the Upgrade tab on the left pane.

Both options route to an Upgrade page which verifies some customer information and submits a request for a Cloud Cruiser representative to follow up within 24 hours. Once you purchase an upgrade license, we will configure your system for the full Cloud Cruiser product. No additional installation is required.

How much does it cost to upgrade to Cloud Cruiser?

Cloud Cruiser licenses are sold on a per-VM basis and can be purchased from either Cloud Cruiser or a certified reseller. You won’t be charged for the initial licenses provided as part of the free Windows Azure Pack bundle. A Cloud Cruiser representative will work with you to determine pricing based on the customer’s specific requirements.
SUPPORT

Does Cloud Cruiser Express include technical support?

Cloud Cruiser Express is intended to be a low-friction installation and most customers will find all the information they require in the User Guide provided with the installation file. You can find more information, videos, and tips & tricks online at www.cloudcruiser.com/azurepackhelp.

Should you need further assistance, you may contact Cloud Cruiser at support@cloudcruiser.com.