# MEDCRUISE NEWS

### BRINGING THE MED TOGETHER

September 2012 | Issue 37



### MedCruise moves

MedCruise headquarters has moved to Greece.

To contact the President, Stavros Hatzakos and the Secretary General, Maria de Larratea:

### MEDCRUISE

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## MedCruise heading to Marseille

edCruise will have a strong presence at Seatrade Med Cruise & Superyacht Convention 2012, taking place 27-29th November 2012, and hosted by Marseille Provence Cruise Club.

The Association of Mediterranean Ports is also holding its 41st General Assembly the day before the event

Housing over 30 exhibition stands, the MedCruise pavilion at Parc Chanot will showcase the following ports: Dubrovnik, Venice/Ravenna, Heraklion/Souda/Chania, Igoumenitsa, French Riviera Ports, Porto di Livorno 2000 / Portoferraio, Naples, Corfu, Brindisi, Var Provence, Balearics, Malaga, La Goulette; Tunisia, Valencia, Leixos, Lisbon, Azores, Palamos, Black Sea Cruise Ports; Odessa, Palermo/Messina, Koper, Valletta, Cartagena, Barcelona, Sete, Cagliari, La Spezia, Trieste, Piraeus, Bari and associate member Aloschi & Bassani.

Cruise line speakers already confirmed include

Kerry Anastassiadis, ceo, Louis Cruises, David Dingle, ceo, and Giora Israel, svp, Carnival, Manfredi Lefebvre d'Ovidio, chairman, European Cruise Council and chairman, Silversea Cruises, Eduardo Lopez-Puertas, vp, Pullmantur, Crystal Morgan, director, Princess Cruises, Neil Palomba, chair, ECC's Ports and Infrastructure Sub-Committee, and coo MSC Cruises, Jean Emmanuel Sauvee, ceo, Compagnie du Ponant and John F. Tercek, vp Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.

MedCruise also has a high profile at the Conference with Stavros Hatzakos, president, MedCruise, and general manager, Piraeus Port Authority, Roberto Perocchio, managing director, Venezia Terminal Passeggeri, Carla Salvado, marketing & cruise director, Port of Barcelona, Jacques Truau, president, Marseille Provence Cruise Club, John Portelli, ceo Valletta Cruise Port and Virginia Quintairos, director Mediterranean, for associate member, Intercruises Shoreside & Port Services all participating.

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### MedCruise at ECC in Brussels

At the annual European Cruise Council meeting held in Brussels on 25 and 26th June, 2012, Cruise lines spoke of the challenges the industry is facing ranging from new limits on the sulphur content of marine fuels to high and volatile fuel prices to rising port costs at a time when cruise prices are falling. This last issue was one focus of a meeting between port and cruise line executives on the opening day where President Stavros Hatzakos participated as a speaker representing the MedCruise Association. MedCruise director Carla Salvado and ex-director Roberto Perocchio also participated as speakers representing Port de Barcelona and Port of Venice, respectively.





MEDCRUISE

OF MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE PORTS

# MedCruise welcomes

### Corfu, Greece



orfu is one of the prime tourist destinations of Greece mainly due to its beautiful green countryside and spectacular beaches. The island was once the summer resort of Empress Sissy of Austria, Kaiser Wilhelm of Germany and other royalty before World War I.

Corfu town, the capital of the island, has retained its medieval architectural heritage mainly of Venetian origin, with some French and English influence, and has been named a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Due to its strategic position on the entrance of the Adriatic it has been amongst others under Venetian, French and English occupation. What remains of this period are the town's two magnificent fortresses and a lot of state buildings some of which are today used as museums.

Corfu boasts the biggest museum in Europe of Chinese and Japanese art housed at the former palace of the British high commissioner in the Ionian Islands, plus an archeological museum, a museum of religious art, and a museum of local history found in the former Greek royal family's summer residence.

The town offers ample opportunities for shopping or enjoying a coffee at the esplanade which is a copy of the rue de Rivoli in Paris.

Corfu's terminal is in walking distance

from the city (cruise terminal to old town is 1,600mtr) and offers regular bus service to the town, taxis, a duty free shop and internet access.

Corfu has an International airport with direct connections to many European cities and the port authority aims at attracting more ships to choose Corfu as a home port.

The port can accommodate up to 5 ships simultaneously. Under construction are another two to three berths, hopefully operational by the summer of 2013. A new modern terminal is also planned.

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### Kotor, Montenegro



ocated along one of Montenegro's most beautiful bays is Kotor, on the UNESCO World Heritage site list. This old maritime centre lies beside a beautiful stretch of water known as the southern most fjord in Europe and is full of monuments as well as shops, cafés and

restaurants.

Throughout the city the buildings are criss-crossed with narrow streets and squares. One of these squares contains the Cathedral of Saint Tryphon (Sveti Tripun) from the 9th century, a monument of Roman culture. The Church of Saint Luke (Sveti

Luka) from the 13th century, Church of Saint Ana (Sveta Ana) from the 12th century, Church of Saint Mary (Sveta Marija) from the 13th century, Church of the Healing Mother of God (Gospe od Zdravlja) from the 15th century, the Prince's Palace from the 17th century and the Napoleon's Theatre from the 19th century are all treasures that are part of the rich heritage of Kotor.

Kotor is mentioned as a port in historical documents from the 12th century. The port is located in the far south coast of the Bay of Kotor, at the foot of the hills Pestingrad and Vrmac. In 2011 Port of Kotor received over 180,000 passsengers.

Port of Bar is a part of a modern city Bar with wide boulevards, surrounded by Mediterranean vegetation. Bar is the biggest tourist and nautical centre at the entrance of the Adriatic Sea. The city offers nearby tourist sites, restaurants, shops, sports facilities and a dock.

MedCruise contact Mladen Lucic: mladen.lucic@luckauprava.gov.me

# three new members

### Brindisi, Italy

he southern Adriatic port of Brindisi, situated in the Apulia region, one of Italy's newest tourist frontiers, has homeport aspirations and is planning to build a new cruise terminal.

Cruise volumes through the port are on the rise, with 44 calls booked for this year including Seabourn Quest and Seabourn Spirit, Thomson Majesty, Azamara Quest, Azamara Journey, Discovery and Holland America's Prinsendam.

The recent selection of a consortium – comprised of Royal Caribbean, Venezia Terminal Passeggeri, Marinvest and Bassani Adriatico - to operate the new cruise terminal to be built at Costa Morena East will add to the port's momentum.

Its bid included impressive forecasts for growth at the Puglia port, with 100 calls and 188,000 passengers anticipated within five years and 130 calls for 210,000 passengers, 42,000 of which homeporting, within a decade.

The natural beauty of the Salento area provides ample opportunities for



excursions, and the nearby city of Lecce (pictured) is one of the great treasures of the Italian baroque.

MedCruise contact Maria Difilippo: maria.difilippo@portobrindisi.it

## MedCruise participates at the Seatrade Turkish Cruise Forum, Izmir

The growing momentum for cruise tourism in Turkey and opportunities for local sourcing, highlighted the Seatrade Turkish Cruise Forum held in Izmir in early July, where MedCruise president Stavros Hatzakos participated as a honoured guest and speaker.

Turkey last year welcomed 2.5m passengers to its shores. In addition, 50,000 Turkish cruise passengers joined ships, a figure set to rise 30% to 65,000 in 2012, making Turkey one of Europe's fastest growing source markets.

In the first six months of 2012, Turkey handled 300 cruise calls, carrying 355,000 passengers, according to Ekrem Demirtas, president of the executive board, Izmir Chamber of Commerce, who discussed how

the country is looking to grow its cruise business at the event in Izmir's Swissotel Grand Efes

'Tourism is important as it creates peace,' said Ertugrul Gunay, Turkey's minister of culture and tourism. 'We are seeing Greece, Turkey and the Black Sea emerging as cruise destinations and if we [work together], the Aegean Sea will become the most popular cruise arena in the world, outstripping the

Caribbean.

Hatzakos echoed Minister Gunay's statement concerning the growth potential for the eastern Mediterranean. 'MedCruise has been in existence for 16 years and we have 100 ports as members. Most of our newest members have come from either Greece, Turkey and the Black Sea and with the rising fuel prices we are expecting to see more itineraries in the Aegean and Black Sea starting and finishing from within the region.'

Hatzakos spoke of the strong synergies between Greece and Turkey: 'Around 20% of all passengers visiting Piraeus Port either have come or are going to Turkey showing the good co-operation between the two.'



Hatzakos receives gift from Minister Gunay



# Bari used as film location

Situated in the 'heel' of Italy on the Adriatric coast, Bari is famous for its beaches, old town and fabulous food. Bari is the commercial and administrative capital of Puglia as well as a bustling university town. On a tour of the city a must-see landmark is the 12th-century Basilica dedicated to the city's patron, Saint Nicholas.

Moving outside the town, popular excursions include Matera and the Neolithic caves of Sassi that were inhabited until 1952. Sassi's surreal surroundings have provided the location for many movies, such as Mel Gibson's controversial film, "The Passion of the Christ", which was shot here.

It is possible to visit a furnished Sassi cave museum or a church cave. This and



the Alberobello, located in the Murge region, are both UNESCO World Heritage sites.

Alberobello, an hour's bus ride away from Bari, is famous for its distinctive rounded stone houses with pointed conical dome roofs, known as 'Trulli". A walking tour through the streets of this unusual village, with a visit to St. Antonio, the only 'trullo' church in the world is a fascinating experience.

### MedCruise contact Anna Carlucci: a.carlucci@aplevante.org



## Naples offers breathtaking beauty



aples and its famous blue bay is a 'must-visit' city. Naples offers a mix of breathtaking beauty, exciting architecture and life in the fast lane.

Outside the city are Pompeii and Herculaneum, archaeological sites that preserve the memory of Vesuvius' eruption in 79AD. Or travel to Sorrento, renowned for its beautiful classical architecture.

A tour of the city must include the famous Posillipo district, situated high on a hill and the famous Principe Umberto I's Gallery, San Carlo Theatre, Piazza Plebiscito and San Lorenzo Church tucked away in the historic centre of the ancient Greco-Roman city.

Just one hour away, via pretty coastal villages, is Sorrento with its narrow old streets

and historic buildings. Don't miss its Cathedral and the famous San Francesco's Church. On a full day tour it is then possible to reach Pompeii, for a visit to this famous archaeological site.

Completely buried by lava, rubble and ash during the catastrophic eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79 it then lay hidden and perfectly preserved for almost 1,700 years before being accidentally rediscovered in the mid-18th century and then subsequently being excavated.

The many artefacts that were found will give you a glimpse of the lives the ancient Romans lived.

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# Get immersed in history and culture in Palermo

alermo is the capital of Sicily, an island famous as a holiday destination.
Situated in the plain of Conca d'Oro (Golden Shell) and lying between two headlands, the area has been ruled by many civilisations over the centuries, including the Romans, Carthaginians, Byzantines, Greeks, Arabs, Normans, Swabians and the Spanish.

Today, due to its colourful past, Palermo offers an intriguing mix of cultures and a day spent here on a cruise stop enables passengers to be immersed in history and culture.

One of the city's key monuments is the Palatine Chapel. Commissioned by Roger II of Sicily in 1132 it took eight years to complete. The building houses breathtaking mosaics covering the ceiling and the dome. Other architectural must-see's, include the Norman Palace, Teatro Massimo and the Cathedral. Another stop should be the Capo Market, Palermo's largest fresh produce and fish market.

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# Cagliari's rich historical and artistic heritage

ardinian capital of Cagliari is poised to exploit its rich potential. Cagliari had a bumper 2011, handling some 167 calls and 253,000 passengers as ships were diverted from a troubled North Africa. This year's complement will be a more traditional 75 calls. But with plans afoot to develop a new deepdraught terminal, and Royal Caribbean recently securing a 15-year concession to operate the cruise terminal, the line is promising homeport status within three years.

The city of Cagliari has a rich historical and artistic heritage. It is worth visiting the fortified quarter of the Castello, that is situated on a rock dominating the city with it's castle,

the medieval Bastione di Saint Remy, the Elephant Tower and the Saint Pancras Tower, and Saint Mary's Cathedral, situated in the beautiful Piazza Palazzo.

Also the Cittadella dei Musei deserves a visit, formed by a wide central court with buildings all around in which there is the national archeological museum, housing a rich Phoenician-Punic collection, the Museum of Siamese art and the Clemente Susini Waxworks.

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## Koper - cruise port for all seasons



n ancient Mediterranean town, Koper lies on the northern coast of the Istrian peninsula in the Adriatic Sea. With its mild winters and warm and dry summers, Koper is a great year-round port for cruising.

Step by step the facades of the buildings and their interiors reveal the millennial

history of Koper, once Iustinopolis, Capris, evoke the era of the Venetian Republic, the golden age of the Gothic and Renaissance - up to the present moment.

The climax of the summer in Koper – with open air festivals and long light nights make it a cruise port for all seasons.

Enjoy the local handicrafts, taste the typical local dishes like the jota (a soup with pickled cabbage), the bobii (corn soup), polenta (corn porridge), cod, the fish soup, fish specialities and the typical local wines.

Slovenia offers a patchwork of landscapes: high mountains with lakes, wooded uplands, green valleys and a coastline.

Must-see attractions from Koper on a day visit are the Lipica stud farm, the old town of Piran, the Postojna Caves and Predjama Castle and Ljubljana, the capital of the this small country.

MedCruise contact Bojan Babic: bojan.babic@luka-kp.si

# Constantza has largest harbour in Romania

ocated on the Black Sea shore, Constantza is the second biggest city in Romania after Bucharest with 350,000 inhabitants.

In ancient times it was called Tomis, and the city was settled in the 6th century BC by Greek merchants as a sea port. It was later developed by Romans and renamed after the Emperor Constantin I. Constantza is also the town where the Roman poet Ovid spent his years in exile, and where he died.

After more than 300 years of Turkish rule, the modern development of the city began and today it is the biggest harbour of Romania. There are several synagogues and mosques, an Orthodox cathedral, and a statue of Ovid, as well as many Roman and Byzantine remains, like the ruins of the ancient Greek fortress of Histria.

For cruise passengers visiting the city for the



first time of special interest is the Archaeological Museum which houses 24 sculptures of exceptional artistic value including the marble white bust of Issis, the Glykon Serpent, the Thracian Cavalryman and others. The Roman Ediphicium has a 700 sq mtr mosaic floor dating back to the IV century AD.

The major resort near Constantza is Mamaia, situated just to the north between a magnificent 4.5 mile long beach of fine sand and a lake. Events here include the Fashion TV Summer Festival, which started this year and will continue each year between May-August and the Antic Festival due to take place 15–18 August 2013.

MedCruise contact Teodor Patrichi: tpatrichi@constantza-port.ro



Corina Martin, president of the National Touristic Agencies Association and Radu Mazare, Mayor of Constantza at the 2012 Fashion TV Summer Festival

# of surprises

he beauty of the coast and villages are, undoubtedly, the main attraction of the area; however, La Spezia has in store a few surprises. A walk along the promenade reveals a great panorama of the whole bay, with the Alpi Apuane dominating the view.

Another scenic spectacle can be admired from S.Giorgio's Castle, renovated over time and recently restored to house the Museo Civico Formentini an interesting archaeological collection.

Among the other museums, noteworthy are the CAMeC – the centre for modern and contemporary art - exhibiting a vast collection from the early 20th century, and



the Museo Civico Amedeo Lia, with masterpieces from Sebastiano del Piombo, Tintoretto, Tiziano and Pontormo.

Lerici and Portovenere are must-see destinations. The symbol of Lerici is the impressive Castle, one of the most interesting defence buildings of the region, from which one can enjoy an unobstructed view to Palmaria Island.

Art, nature and the sea are the three elements that set apart Portovenere, with its small port at the bottom of the old town and the colour of the houses.

### **MedCruise contact Monica Fiorini:** monica.fiorini@porto.laspezia.it



# La Spezia - full Igoumenitsa dates back to 4th Century BC



reece's coastal resort of Igoumenitsa is built on the remains of a settlement dating back to the 4th century BC. Today it is possible to visit the ruins of a 2,500 seat theatre and two temples.

The town and port are a hive of activity with frequent ferry links to Italy and other European destinations. Its steep and winding streets are interesting to explore with ruins of medieveal towers and beautiful churches at every corner.

Located on the shores of the Mediterranean with the foothills of the mountains as a

backdrop Igoumenitsa is in the heart of the Thesprotia region, with its many valley farms, rugged countryside and beautiful beaches.

Must-see tourist attractions include the monasteries of Meteora and Metsovo, the picturesque villages of Syvota & Perdika, the ancient theatre of Dodoni and city of Ioannina and Parga and the Oracle at the Gates of Hades.

MedCruise contact Ana Piroti: apiroti@olig.gr

## Patras Archaeological Museum a must see

he Archaeological Museum of Patras, which opened its gates to the public in July 2009, is modern, spacious and very interesting and has a distinct point of view, by presenting the archaeological finds of Achaia in a smart, fun and educative manner.

It consists of three major rooms and their relating themes bring to light the funerary customs, the private and public life of the ancient inhabitants of Patras. The permanent exhibition follows the style of all modern museums of the world, which means that many of the exhibits are not "locked" inside window cases but are "liberated" so that all visitors of all ages can approach them within breathing distance. There also video walls, where slides are projected, offering interesting information. Educational programs are also prepared

especially for children.

Mosaics in excellent condition have been transported inlay by inlay from the Roman villas were excavated to the museum. Tombs and a sarcophagus have also been moved from their original location. Unique finds, such as parts of a Roman residence, a middle class home of the Roman times and a luxurious private bath are also housed in the museum.

The understanding of the life and interests of people in antiquity are completed by special reference to weaving, fishing, hunting, house decoration, hairstyles, make up, jewellery, clothing and toys. The museum is open every day apart from Mondays.

MedCruise contact Dionissia Almira: programsecr@patrasport.gr



## Star Clippers returns to Western Holland America Med in 2013

Tar Clippers' Royal Clipper, the 227passenger flagship of the fleet, returns for another season of western Mediterranean itineraries in 2013. The ship sails new seven-night round-trip Venice cruises that visit ports in Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia. Royal Clipper also sails seven-, 10- and 11-night cruises to Italy, Portugal, Morocco, Spain, France and Greece. Three- and four-night jaunts roundtrip from Venice and round-trip from Civitavecchia are available, too.

In addition to Star Flyer's northern Europe itineraries, the ship explores Spain and North Africa on seven-night sailings from Lisbon, Portugal, and Málaga.

The 170-passenger Star Clipper offers the most diverse itineraries of the season, with sailings across the Mediterranean. The ship's western Med itineraries cruise round-trip Monte Carlo, between Monte Carlo and Civitavecchia, between Monte Carlo and Barcelona, and from Barcelona to Málaga. These sailings visit ports in France, Italy and Spain, including the French Riviera and Balearic Islands.

The ship returns to Greece and Turkey on seven-night itineraries that explore these two countries. On longer nine-, 10- and 11night sailings between Venice and Piraeus or between Civitavecchia and Piraeus, Star Clipper calls at ports in Croatia, Montenegro



and Italy, including an evening sail past the still-active Stromboli Volcano.

## Royal Princess to debut in Med

rincess Cruises' Royal Princess, under construction at Fincantieri's Monfalcone yard and scheduled to enter service in June 2013, will debut with a schedule of Mediterranean cruises. At the helm will be Capt. Tony Draper, leading a senior officer team with more than 100 years of seagoing experience.

The 3,600-passenger Royal Princess is a prototype ship and will sport a number of new features for Princess, including a dramatic over-water SeaWalk, a 50% larger atrium and a new Princess Live! television

studio. All outside staterooms will have halconies

The line's classic Mediterranean itineraries—'Grand Mediterranean' and Greek Isles—are joined by three new sevenday Mediterranean routes from Venice, Piraeus or Civitavecchia that can be combined into 14- or 21-day voyages. Pacific Princess, will operate 13 Holy Land departures, including opportunities for overland exploration in Israel and Egypt and will offer three Black Sea sailings, each with two days in Istanbul.



# Line adds new routes, new ports



olland America Line will deploy seven vessels in Europe next year, the same number as in 2012, but is adding new routes and seven new ports. Maiden calls include MedCruise members Alanya, Turkey; Alcudia (Mallorca), Spain and Igoumenitsa, Greece; A total of 20 overnight stays are planned at cities such as Barcelona, Venice, and Istanbul.

New routes include Ryndam's seven-day 'Turkish Explorer,' round-trip Piraeus, with calls that enable passengers to experience the highlights of Turkey and Greece.

The seven-day 'Homeric Quest,' also aboard Ryndam, sails round-trip Piraeus and includes five Greek ports.

Eurodam's new 11-day 'Mediterranean Odyssey,' round-trip Civitavecchia with an overnight stay at Piraeus, calls at Greece including Corfu along with Messina and Naples in Italy.

Noordam's 11-day 'Adriatic Explorer,' between Civitavecchia and Piraeus, focuses on ports of the Roman and Greek empires and gives overnights at Venice and Piraeus.

Prinsendam's 16-day 'Mediterranean Explorer' sails from Barcelona to Piraeus and features intimate ports such as Sète and Toulon, France; Brindisi, Italy; and Igoumenitsa and Hydra, Greece, and Kotor (Montenegro).

Returning routes include seven- to 12day cruises throughout the Mediterranean from ports like Marseille and Dubrovnik on Nieuw Amsterdam.



# MEDCRUISE NEWS

### BRINGING THE MED TOGETHER

# MedCruise part of EU 'Sustainable Cruise' project

osta Crociere said the 'Sustainable Cruise' project co-funded by the European Commission via the 'LIFE+' programme, the EU's funding instrument for innovative or demonstration environmental projects, is well under way.

Costa is managing the project it proposed and jointly presented to the EU with Centro interuniversitario per lo Sviluppo della Sostenibilità dei Prodotti (Academic Research Center for Sustainable Product Development) and the Italian enterprises VOMM, Contento Trade, Design Innovation, RINA Services and MedCruise.

The project aims to provide stimulus for the implementation of the EU Directive on waste



on board ships and to create incentives for waste reduction, recycling collection and reuse.

The 114,500gt Costa Pacifica was chosen for the pilot project involving the use of innovative techniques and methods for several types of waste—packaging, biodegradable (organic) waste and paper—with specific objectives regarding reduction at  $\bar{\text{th}}\text{e}$  source and recycling.

The project's scope goes beyond shipboard application and includes coordination with European port waste disposal facilities so as to increase opportunities for recycling and reuse, with a specific brief to promote a Euro-Mediterranean network of ports fostering cooperation in waste management. This is where Medcruise is particularly involved.

Costa's Ernesto Gori, vp quality standards compliance and auditing, expressed pride in his company's participation in 'a landmark experiment which will lead to even higher standards in the treatment of shipboard waste.'

Further information and regular updates are at www.sustainablecruise.eu.

# French Riveira's Nice hosts green day



hore power, environmental practices, new legislation and technology and innovations for reducing energy use are among the topics to be addressed at the International Day of Sustainable Development and Passenger Ships on October 1st, 2012 in the port of Nice.

Organised by the French Riviera Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Alpes Maritimes General Council in partnership with the European Cruise Council and MedCruise, the meeting will bring together professionals from the maritime and port industry for a

conference, exhibition and ship visit.

The conference will examine the environmental management of passenger ships in urban ports, with speakers from ECC, MedCruise, STX France, Schneider Electric, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd., Corsica Ferries and SNCM, among others.

Topics will include economic, environmental and societal issues of passenger shipping, changes in environmental legislation, the French Riviera context, technology and innovations for managing fuel consumption, case studies on the ports of Toulon and Gothenburg and a shore power project in the port of Nice. An environmental visit on board Liberty of the Seas will be led by Rich Pruitt, associate vp, environmental compliance and maritime safety for RCCL. Participants will see the ship's advanced wastewater treatment plant, the solid waste sorting area and waste disposal systems.

The conference will take place at the Port of Nice's Infernet quay, Terminal 2.

Please note that Maria de Larratea, Secretary General, MedCruise is now located at 10 Akti Miaouli Str. 185 38 Piraeus, Greece

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### MEDCRUISE

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