

# MEDCRUISE NEWS

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## Seatrade Med 2008

### Venice to host next Seatrade Med 2008

**MedCruise member Venice is hosting the next Seatrade Mediterranean Cruise & Ferry Convention which will take place at The Venice Passenger Terminal, from 9-11th December, 2008.**

Seatrade Med 2008 will feature major conference sessions on the dominance of the cruise industry in the Mediterranean, combined with the outlook for the ferry industry in these competitive waters.

Sandro Trevisanato, President of the Venezia Terminal Passeggeri S.p.A. commented, 'we are proud to host Seatrade Med in Venice,' adding 'this confirms Venice and the Veneto Region as one of the undisputed leading players in the global maritime sector.' Laurent Monsaingeon, president of MedCruise stated, 'MedCruise congratulates our member port Venice for having been selected to host the next edition of Seatrade Med. We are delighted that the event will be held on the grounds of Venice's Passenger Terminal, which is a state-of-the-art facility we are certain will please visitors and exhibitors alike.'

As a supporting organisation MedCruise will be



participating as an exhibitor and is planning its biggest ever MedCruise pavilion.

Venice has seen a rapid increase in cruise traffic over the past years and in 2007 is expecting to receive more than 980,000 passengers on over 440 cruise calls, representing a 4.4% increase in calls compared to last year and an 11% rise in passengers.

In response to the continued growth in cruise passenger traffic at the Adriatic port, new facilities were inaugurated late last year – a new 4,300sq mtr Terminal 117, the port's fourth dedicated cruise ship facility.

Meanwhile work on a fifth terminal is already underway involving the conversion of a large warehouse with a surface area of 13,000sq mtr located on Isonzo quay. It will be finished by the end of 2008. Built on two levels, it will provide two 7mtr gangways and be used mainly for home porting operations.

'Since 1997 when VTP was founded we have worked quickly to convert existing warehouses into multipurpose facilities which can also be

utilised for hosting meetings and conventions when not in cruise use,' says Roberto Perocchio, managing director of Venice Passenger Terminal. Other work recently carried out includes the resurfacing of the car parking facilities and a project of an additional parking area resulting in 2,500 more spaces available for port use and for the city.

The growth in volume of cruise passenger traffic at Venice also has important economic implications for the city. Recent research conducted by Venice University's IDEAS Centre, in collaboration with Risposte Turismo srl, revealed the total estimated value of direct spending by cruise passengers, 60% of whom spend at least one night in Venice on pre- or post-cruise stays, reached €148m in 2005.

Venice's singular appearance, its countless attractions and wealth of art treasures make it unique. Anyone participating in Seatrade Med 2008 should take the opportunity either pre- or post- show to experience its many attractions.



Venezia Terminal Passeggeri - venue for Seatrade Med

## MedCruise General Assembly Almeria 18th-19th October 2007

**On 18-19th October 2007, the MedCruise General Assembly will take place in Almeria.**

Over 60 professionals from more than 40 different ports will come together with cruise line executives and members of the international cruise media to discuss latest trends and issues and the Western Med Itinerary Conference, amongst other agenda items.

In 2007 Almeria will receive 56 cruise calls bringing more than 35,000 passengers.

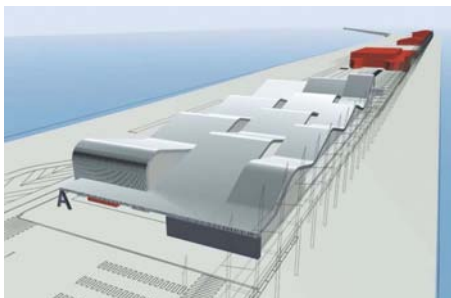
Cruise passengers calling at the Port of Almeria can take a variety of shorex including the ancient Muslim Alcazaba Castle, Cabo de Gata Natural Park and the charming little white village of Mojacar.



Almeria Port - welcomes delegates

## Barcelona

## Preparing to turnaround Genesis class



**B**arcelona Port is continuously improving its cruise facilities to keep pace with the accelerated growth of passengers brought by larger capacity ships entering the market.

There are six permanent turnaround terminals available at the port, with a total berthing capacity of over 2,500mtr. The private company Creuers del Port de Barcelona operates five of the terminals as public facilities open to all cruise companies, while Terminal D, Palacruceros, has been wholly financed by Costa Crociere Sp.A. and offers preferential berthing for Carnival Corp. ships.

Creuers del Port de Barcelona is currently building and financing the brand new Terminal A (pictured above), designed with the most modern requirements for mega ships carrying over 4,000 passengers, in terms of comfort, security, smooth and fast processing and luggage facilities. The Terminal will be ready by mid April 2008, in time for the new cruise season.

A 400mtr gangway will link Terminals A and B, enabling the handling of Genesis class ships under construction at Aker Yard, as half the passengers, some 3,000, will use Terminal A and the other half Terminal B.

Barcelona Port will receive nearly 800 cruise calls in 2007, compared to 714 ships in 2006.

The Port of Barcelona achieved another passenger record during the first half of the year. From January to June 2007, Barcelona received 618,680 cruise passengers, an increase of 33% compared with figures of year 2006. The forecast for the 12 months is an increase of about 15%, reaching 1.6m passengers thereby keep its lead position in Europe.

## Gibraltar

## Plans to expand alongside berthing



**A**t present, Gibraltar Port is capable of berthing alongside all ships that call, except for Queen Mary 2 which tenders. The Government is currently studying plans that will allow the larger ships under construction to berth alongside. There are also plans to expand the cruise terminal for the benefit of the greater number of passengers that will be travelling on the larger ships.

In March Capt. Cliff Brand took on the role of Chief Executive /Captain of the Port for Gibraltar. He started his seagoing career as a fisherman before joining the Merchant Navy, initially as an officer of the watch and progressing to master.

After a 12-year Merchant Navy career and a further period ashore in management, Brand joined the UK's Marine Accident Investigation Branch. During the eight years he spent at the MAIB he was responsible for investigating more than 60 serious accidents, many involving the loss of life.

In February 2005 he took up the post of Maritime Administrator for the government of Gibraltar, where he was head of the Gibraltar Maritime Administration, before taking up his current post.

Some 225 cruise calls are scheduled at Gibraltar in 2007. This is an increase over 2006 when 202 ships visited the Rock.

## Koper

## Eight maiden calls

**K**oper has witnessed an increase in cruise traffic in 2007. By the end of the season, 60 ships are expected to call. This is a huge 172% jump in traffic compared to last year when 22 ship visited. A total of 25,000 passengers will pass through the port this year and there are already 45 confirmed calls for 2008.

There has been maiden calls from eight cruise ships in 2007: Kristina Regina, Dalmacija, Veendam, Boudicca, Discovery, Spirit of Adventure, The Emerald and Arion.

The passenger port has been reconstructed with the addition of new facilities including a bus parking area, souvenir shops and market stalls selling local products at the quayside. Work on a new terminal is still ongoing and is due to be finished in 2008.





## Lisbon

## Centennial celebrations

**A new record is expected to be reached in Lisbon this year. The Port is due to receive in excess of 300,000 passengers, more than a 10% increase on last year when 271,000 passengers passed through the port.**

This year Navigator of the Seas called at Lisbon for the first time as well as AIDAdiva (pictured) and MSC Orchestra calling on their maiden voyages. When entering the Tagus estuary these ships were escorted by tugs equipped with cannons spreading water streams. As usual on first calls, the Port Authority offered the passengers and crew a welcome ceremony which included a musical performance and a small souvenir. More cruise ships will be coming to Lisbon for the first time later in the year, Norwegian Gem, Emerald Princess and Queen Victoria, and similar ceremonies are being prepared.

To mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Port of Lisbon Authority this year, a photography exhibition took place at the Rocha Conde de Obidos Cruise Terminal throughout the summer where visitors had the opportunity of seeing the Port Authority's magnificent photo heritage spanning the last 100 years.



## Malaga

## 5,000 cruisers simultaneously

**A total of 332 cruise calls are expected in 2007, an increase from 2006 when 229 ships called at the port.**

Construction of The Great Passenger Terminal, located at the Eastern Dock, is underway with the first phase completed this summer (pictured). The port will be able to receive more than 5,000 cruisers simultaneously, and a yearly total of 560,000 passengers. The new Terminal will make Malaga appealing as a homeport as modern technology for luggage handling and services are the key to its design. It will have two mooring points for ships over 300mtr and 17mtr depth. This will increase the Port of Malaga's mooring points to

eight. The total investment runs to €21.3m.

The Port of Malaga is located in the historical city centre, allowing visitors to reach many places very easily. The Alcazaba Arabic Fortress and Gibralfaro Castle lie at the top of the mountain offering beautiful views of the city. The Picasso Museum, the house where the artist was born, showcases some of his most important work. There are also several short trips available from the city centre. Ronda is an art lesson from prehistory to the present time, as is Antequera. Nerja with its amazing caves, exclusive Puerto Banus or the white village of Mijas are just a sample of the beauty of the area. A stone's throw away from Malaga are the cities of Granada, where the Alhambra

Palace can be visited, the Mosque in Cordoba or the Giralda tower in Seville. Also not far from the Costa del Sol's capital are Gibraltar and Morocco.



## La Goulette

## Two new berths to be constructed



**Passenger numbers are growing at the Tunisian Port of La Goulette. Expectations for 2007 are good with 450 calls expected to bring 600,000 passengers. This compares with 416 calls and 575,515 passengers in 2006. Two ships made their maiden calls to Tunisia this season: MSC Musica and Costa Concordia.**

At the beginning of 2007, Goulette Shipping Cruise took over the management and operation of the cruise business at the port of La Goulette with the objective to enhance performance and build on the services offered. To assist this process the company intends to build two berths of 640mtr in length and a traditional Tunisian-style tourist village of 6,500sq mtr in area.

Two small passenger terminals will be constructed alongside the two new berths which are planned to be operational during peak season 2009, according to Lotfi El Ajmi, training director of Tunisian Port Authority and MedCruise Board Member.

