



MEDCRUISE

NEWS

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MedCruise General Assembly, December 11th, 2008, Venice

New president and board of directors elected



Giovanni Spadoni (4th from left) was elected president of MedCruise at the association's General Assembly held during Seatrade Med. A new board of directors (above was also elected), including (l to r): Aldo Babic (Koper), Carla Salvadó (svp, Barcelona), Enrica Capretti (Venice), Giovanni Spadoni (president), Jose Torrado (vp, Ceuta), Haluk Sayman (Alanya), David Stupelman (Sochi), Valeria Mangiarotti (Cagliari) and Snijezana Papes (Rijeka).



Nearly all MedCruise port members were represented at the 3rd MedCruise general assembly, which took place in Venice on December 11th, 2008. During the meeting, which was hosted by Venezia Terminal Passeggeri SpA, a new board of directors was elected (see page 2 for welcoming messages from the new president, senior vice president and vice president), which will serve for a three-year period.

MEDCRUISE BOARD 2009-2011 and their responsibilities

President	Giovanni Spadoni		
Senior vice president	Carla Salvadó	Barcelona, Spain	Promotion/External Relations/Western Med-Atlantic
Vice president	José Torrado	Ceuta, Spain	Finance/Professional Development
Director	Haluk Sayman	Alanya, Turkey	Statistics/Eastern Med
Director	Valeria Mangiarotti	Cagliari, Italy	Environment
Director	Malcolm Morini	Civitavecchia, Italy	Security/Website
Director	Yiannakis Kokkinos	Cyprus	Economic Studies/Port Finance
Director	Aldo Babic	Koper, Slovenia	Benchmarking/Membership
Director	Snijezana Papes	Rijeka, Croatia	Events/Press Officer
Director	David Stupelman	Sochi, Russia	Black Sea
Director	Enrica Capretti	Venice, Italy	EU Relationship/Adriatic Sea

President's message

Giovanni Spadoni

It is a great honour for me to assume the MedCruise presidency, following such charismatic figures as the four past presidents. For the first time, the MedCruise president doesn't hail from a public port authority or chamber of commerce. I am the director of a passenger terminal, owned by public shareholders and continuously dealing with the market. My predecessors bear evidence that public entities can be managed very successfully following the laws of the market, and our members, by my election, sent a message that our association must continue to be market-driven and reality-based.

During our almost-13-year history, MedCruise has worked hard to establish a strong network and to obtain visibility and recognition. Now is the time for the new Board of Directors to profit from this achievement and keep expanding the association's influence and involvement with our partners, such as the cruise lines and other industry and port associations. The association is strong,



animated by common and shared aims, and together we will work on the new challenges we commonly face.

During my term, the new Board will continue to provide our members with important services, such as workshops between ports and cruise lines, MedCruise

events and promotional opportunities, updates on new and proposed security legislation, professional development seminars, statistics and economic studies.

Thanks to all the work done in the areas mentioned above, our prior president and Board left the association in great condition, and we need to maintain a proven formula, yet adding new challenges. For this reason, the new Board added work tasks on important matters such as the environment, benchmarking and port finance.

The new Board and I will also ensure a strong voice is given to the regions – the wonderful variety of diverse and fascinating cultures extending from the Azores to the Black Sea. The regions are the real strength of our association and our regional diversity is reflected in the composition of the MedCruise Board of Directors, guaranteed in MedCruise's Constitution.

With the on-going collaboration amongst all our very devoted members, I am certain MedCruise will continue to grow strong and serve as a catalyst for the success of the cruise industry and our ports.

Promotion/External Relations/Western Med-Atlantic

Carla Salvadó, Senior Vice President – Barcelona, Spain

It was an honour to be elected as senior vice president of MedCruise and it is with pleasure that I am able to serve our association on the very important tasks of promotion and external relations.



It is on several fronts that MedCruise puts forth its promotional efforts.

In addition to a Yearbook & Who's Who and the quarterly newsletter you are currently reading, MedCruise also publishes a quarterly Destination newsletter, both of which are mailed to leaders in the cruise industry and to key players in the passenger shipping and tourism sectors.

I am also responsible for maintaining and enhancing MedCruise's relations with

other industry associations, such as Cruise Europe and other sister port associations, and the European Cruise Council, the Cruise Line International Association and other important players in the cruise industry.

As a representative of the port of Barcelona, I've also been assigned to represent the interests of the Western Med and Atlantic region within MedCruise.

Finance/Professional Development

José Torrado, Vice President – Ceuta, Spain

As vice president, I am responsible for the association's finances and for its ongoing efforts in providing the membership with professional development opportunities.



As director of finance, I will ensure that through our audit process we keep a tight control over our income and expenditures and maintain our approved annual budgets.

Regarding professional development, during my last term, MedCruise established its first professional development course entitled "ports and passenger shipping". The purpose of this four-day course was to enhance our port managers' skills in developing first class cruise ports. We brought the port

managers to work together with cruise line managers and other industry experts on cruise port development case studies using the industry's best practices.

MedCruise will continue offering this course to its member ports, with the clear intent of improving the efficiency of our cruise ports, the careers of our port managers, and enhancing our relations with cruise industry experts.

Cyprus

Cypriot ports push ahead with expansion plans

One of the strategic aims of Cyprus Ports Authority is to maintain and increase the role of Cypriot ports as centres for passenger and cruise traffic.

Today, Lemesos, the main Cypriot port, is the home port of several cruise operators. By mid-February, 2009, cruise ships had declared their intention to visit Lemesos during 2009.

Lemesos has plans for a new passenger terminal, partly funded by the EU, which will cover an area of 7,000sq mtr and is expected to cost some €17m. It is due to be completed in 2011.

A project to redevelop Larnaka port and Larnaka Marina into a dedicated passenger port for Cyprus, is reaching its final stages. It will be implemented on a Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis through international tenders. Evaluation of the technical aspects of the tenders is already completed and currently the evaluation of the financial element is in progress. The selection of a successful bidder will take place in 2009.



Palermo

€25m expansion to start soon

The Port Authority of Palermo is investing around €25m on upgrading its existing passenger terminal facilities and in particular on transforming the Maritime Station into a Cruise Terminal with a new interior design including new passenger lounge, restaurants and cafes, a shopping centre and passenger boarding gangways equipped with security gates. The work will start at the end of this year and is forecasted for completion by 2011.

Palermo is expecting 190 ships and 440,000 passengers in 2009, slightly down on last year's traffic when 223 ships called bringing more than half a million cruise visitors.

New arrivals include MSC Fantasia, Costa Pacifica and AIDAdiva.

In terms of winter calls, this past season has been busier than the previous year with 30 ships calling between November 2008 and March 2009, up from 21.



Gibraltar

330,000 passengers expected in '09



Port of Gibraltar received 222 cruise calls in 2008 with 308,989 passengers compared with 227 calls and 275,993 passengers in 2007. This represents a slight decline of 2.2% in the number of calls but an increase of 11.9% in the number of passengers.

The largest number of passengers arriving on a single ship was on August 12 when RCI's Independence of the Seas called with 4,222 passengers. She made nine calls in 2008 and is scheduled to visit ten times this year. 242 calls have so far booked with an estimated passenger count of 330,000.

Maiden calls are due to be made by Sky Wonder (with 28 weekly calls), Dawn Princess, Tahitian Princess, Ruby Princess, Crown Princess, National Geographic Explorer, Costa Luminosa, Celebrity Equinox, MSC Orchestra, Zenith and Saga Pearl II.



MedCruise at Seatrade Med in Venice

Seatrade Med 2008 took place in Venice last December. The MedCruise pavilion spearheaded a strong representation from the Mediterranean and adjoining seas, with 30 member ports and destinations from the Azores in the west to Sochi on the eastern shore of the Black Sea. MedCruise was principal supporter of the event.



Sochi's David Stupelman and Elena Miasoyedova address the press



R-L: French Riviera Ports' marketing manager Anne-Sophie Peyran, Mike Kazakoff of UBM, owner of Seatrade Med, and Caroline Valadie, cruise supervisor for Nice/Villefranche, as Cannes is announced as the venue for the 2010 Seatrade Med



Venice's Perocchio accepts Port of Year Award



Seatrade Insider editor Mary Bond and Seatrade's managing director Chris Hayman present Laurent Monsaingeon Med Personality of the Year

In his last event as MedCruise president, Laurent Monsaingeon was chosen as Seatrade Mediterranean Cruise Personality of the Year at the Seatrade Insider Cruise Awards 2008 ceremony. Additionally, Venezia Terminal Passeggeri won Port of the Year and Malta & Malta Tourism Authority won Destination of the Year, whilst Cartagena and Ponta Delgada were shortlisted finalists, as was associate member Tura Turizm.

'It's quite an honour to be given this award', Monsaingeon stated, 'as it has been an honour and a privilege to serve all my

friends and colleagues that represent the many cruise ports of the Mediterranean and its neighbouring seas through MedCruise. Our association is strong thanks to our ports' enthusiastic energy, active participation and commitment to quality.'

Med ports and destinations came under the spotlight at one of the conference sessions where both Malaga and Venice were singled out for their recent infrastructure investments.

Royal Caribbean's John Tercek called Venice's investment policy 'a very sound approach' and an example of long-term thinking, whilst Costa Crociere's Elisabetta De Nardo confirmed that Adriatic ports have paid

appropriate attention to development.

De Nardo advised ports to focus on multipurpose services and activities, optimise processes and work more closely with lines to exchange know-how.

Recent Mediterranean growth has opened opportunities for emerging regions such as the East Med and the Black Sea, panelists said. Monsaingeon agreed, stating that the 'upcoming MedCruise region is the Black Sea.'

Shoreside power (cold ironing) was also discussed by the Seatrade panel following the announcement that Civitavecchia will provide the Mediterranean's first high-voltage shore connection for cruise vessels.



Social events also included a gala evening sponsored by MedCruise associate member Bassani at Palazzo Pisani Moretta. Guests were greeted by traditional Venetian Commedia dell'Arte characters.



On the last day of the event Giovanni Spadoni, commercial manager of terminal operator Porto di Livorno 2000, took part in a panel discussion on Shorex together with Princess Cruises' Bruce Krumrine, Abercrombie & Kent's David Vass, Kuoni Travel's Teresa Broccoli, Silversea's Darius Mehta and MSC's Nicola Cesaro.

Congestion in the ports and at marquee attractions was a common theme expressed by several speakers. Spadoni described the results of a study that identified critical stages in the shorex process to test on-shore logistics and make recommendations that would minimize adverse impacts on historic resources and passenger experience.

In an eventful day for Spadoni he was elected the new MedCruise president at the general assembly which took place in the afternoon.



On the MedCruise pavilion several members offered hospitality namely: Toulon-Var-Provence invited participants to savour chestnuts and truffles provided by chefs of the 'Maîtres Restaurateurs Varois' association (above), Sochi brought some Russian delicacies, Constantza offered Romanian wine and cheese and the French Riviera, a champagne cocktail reception to announce the 2010 Seatrade Med will be in Cannes.



At the environment session, MedCruise vp Valeria Mangiarotti called for cold ironing technology 'to be universal or at least globally compatible' and to be developed in collaboration with ship owners as well as ports.

Rijeka

New terminal and cruise berth opens June



Croatia's biggest port of Rijeka is undergoing a major expansion of its facilities called Rijeka Gateway Project, and includes the construction of a new passenger terminal building and cruise berth which is expected to be fully operative by June.

The new passenger terminal constitutes an investment of €12.8m, including around €4m in the new building, another €4.5m on a new berth and more than €2m on a new Port Control centre.

The total length of berth is 400mtr with a 7.5mtr draught, capable of handling ships up to 180mtr long and 2,000 passengers.

The new passenger facilities, which are situated in the centre of the city, will be the focal point of the new Rijeka waterfront.

Excursions vary from island cruises, tours in towns and villages (with Mediterranean architecture, local fairs, evening gatherings in squares and numerous cultural events), to gastronomy and magnificent views from national parks (Risnjak, island of Brijuni, Plitvice lakes, Northern Velebit) and Ucka nature park.

Split

A dozen ships welcomed this winter



Croatian port of Split will welcome Ocean Village's Ocean Village Two, Thomson Cruises' Thomson Celebration and Holland America Line's Oosterdam this year among 249 cruise calls already planned. Last year, 123,139 passengers and 255 ships called including a first (and last) transit stop by Cunard's long-serving liner QE2.

Winter cruising is increasing in the Adriatic and between November 2008 and March 2009 Split will have had a dozen ship calling at the port.

Expansion work at St Dujice's Pier (berth 18) alongside the main terminal building will be completed by 2010. The extension will increase the number of ships Split can accommodate simultaneously with the addition of two new berths, one of 150mtr in length and one measuring 148mtr.

Sibenik

New passenger terminal planned

The port of Sibenik is one of the oldest and best-sheltered ports on the Croatian side of the Adriatic coast.

Located on the Krka river estuary, the

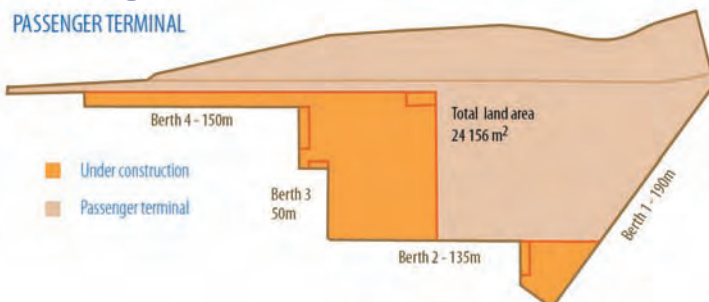
port is naturally sheltered from the elements and is accessed through a 2,700mtr long channel which is up to 130mtr wide.

In 2009, 63 ships will call in Sibenik including one new visitor: Fred Olsen's Black Watch.

The Port Authority is planning to invest €14m in extending and reconfiguring the Vrujke Quay which should be completed in 2011. A second expansion phase includes the construction of a new passenger terminal building.

The most popular tourist attractions in and around Sibenik are St Jacob's Cathedral in the town's square, the 12th century Fort St. Michael and Krka National Park (right), a land of lakes, waterfalls and caverns, including the famous Roski Waterfall, located only 10km from Sibenik. In 2008, 700,000 people visited Krka National Park. There's also the Krka Monastery, which dates back to the 14th century, and the Visovac Monastery, in the middle of gleaming Lake Visovac.

In addition, Kornati archipelago National Park is an amazing group of islands. It would be hard to find any other place with so many cliffs, capes, small and big islands, coves and bays.



Ceuta

Retail therapy and relaxation

Ceuta, located on the North African coast, is anticipating a small increase in cruise calls in 2009 with 30 ships scheduled to visit. Last year 25 cruise ships brought 17,000 passengers to the port's cruise terminal, including two calls in the winter months of November and December.

Thomson Destiny, Norwegian Jade and Saga Ruby will be among new visitors this year at the passenger terminal, which can accommodate ships over 220mtr in length and

up to 2,000 passengers. The terminal is ideally located just 100mtr from the city centre. Ceuta has the added bonus of offering a duty free shopping, a big pull for cruise operators and passengers alike!

For those looking for a more relaxing time during their port stay, the Mediterranean Maritime Park leisure complex has no equal in the south of Europe. Close to the beautiful yachting harbour, with its lakes, waterfalls and magnificent gardens, it is a great place to go swimming, walking or simply to relax.



Barcelona

2m passenger milestone

Barcelona Port Authority surpassed the 2m passenger milestone in 2008 with the arrival of 2,069,651 cruisers on 887 calls.

Of these, more than 55% began and/or ended their trip in the Spanish city. This result confirms the port authority's forecast of reaching over 2m passengers for the first time last year, a record actually achieved in November. Cruise tourists in 2008 increased 17% on the previous year, when 1.7m passengers arrived and the number of calls rose by 8%.

These figures confirm Barcelona as the leading cruise port in Europe and fifth worldwide, behind Miami, Port Canaveral, Port Everglades and Cozumel. Part of the success is due to a growing number of ships lengthening



their Med deployment with lines such as MSC Cruises, Costa, Royal Caribbean International and NCL, amongst others, operating in the Med in the winter months.

Port of Barcelona currently has seven terminals exclusively dedicated to cruise passengers. The port has announced it is planning to build a new passenger terminal at the Moll Adossat quay 'in the near future'.

Malaga

Homeport traffic increasing



Malaga is investing €12.5m on building a second berth alongside its new passenger terminal, able to take 350mtr long ships, which should be operational by summer. Costing some €14m, the first phase, completed in 2007, included a new south berth and terminal building designed to host two mega ships simultaneously.

Last October, work started on constructing new access roads to this area of the port, which are expected to be ready for 2010. This is costing a further €12.6m.

Medium size and smaller cruise ships can berth at two piers close to the city, enabling passengers to walk to the historic centre.

In 2008, passenger numbers increased over 20% year-on-year, reaching 352,875 on 268 ships. Further annual growth of 27.5% is expected this year with 450,000 passengers due to visit Malaga, which provides access by road to Granada in 60 minutes, Cordoba in 80 minutes, or Seville in 2 hours, and by high speed train to Madrid in only 2.5 hours.

In 2009, 12 new ships will be added to the port's growing list of visitors. Among them is MSC Cruises' new flagship MSC Fantasia and Pullmantur's Zenith, which has chosen Malaga as a homeport during the autumn. Costa Luminosa and Carnival Dream will also make maiden calls during this year.

Pullmantur, Vision Cruises and MSC all used Malaga as a homeport this winter and as a result 95 calls were registered between November 2008 and March 2009, representing an increase of five on last winter.

Associate membership growing

MedCruise has 20 associate members:

- European Cruise Council
- Turisme de Barcelona (Barcelona)
- Afrimar Tunisia (Tunisia)
- Agena Tramp (Sete)
- Bassani (Venice)
- BC Tours & Shipping (Barcelona)
- Hugo Trumpy (Livorno)
- Inflat World Wide (Sochi)
- Inter cruises Shoreside & Port Services (Barcelona)
- Karavanmar Cruise Services (Alanya)
- MacAndrews Cruise and Travel (Barcelona)
- MH Bland (Gibraltar)
- Mirco Santi (Venice)
- Navlomar Maritime (Constantza)
- Olive Branch Tours (Morocco)
- P&B Agencies (Barcelona)
- Plaisant & Co Ship Agency (Cagliari)
- Samer & Co Shipping (Trieste)
- Top Class (Monaco)
- Tura Turizm (Sinop)

Any company wishing to become an associate member of MedCruise please contact Jose Campos at email secretariat@medcruise.com

MedCruise will hold its 34th General Assembly in Cartagena on May 28th-30th, 2009

Next stop Cartagena



MedCruise Yearbook presented at Seatrade Med in Venice



The MedCruise 2009/10 Yearbook & Who's Who – a directory of cruise ports & professionals in the Mediterranean and adjoining seas was published in December 2008 and presented for the first time at Seatrade Med in Venice.

The yearbook contains information on the 53 members and representing more than 70 ports throughout the region,

located in 20 countries and three continents. It also includes information on the 20 associate

members and an insert provides a review of the new board of directors 2009–2011 and their respective responsibilities.

The yearbook will be distributed during Cruise Shipping Miami in March 2009. If you would like to receive a copy, or more copies for your offices and/or ships please contact MedCruise at secretariat@medcruise.com

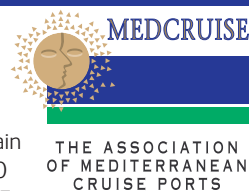
MedCruise Members

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ■ Alanya | ■ Monaco |
| ■ Alicante | ■ Moroccan ports |
| ■ Almeria | ■ Naples |
| ■ Azores | ■ Palamos |
| ■ Balearic Islands | ■ Palermo |
| ■ Barcelona | ■ Pescara |
| ■ Bari | ■ Piraeus |
| ■ Batumi | ■ Portoferraio |
| ■ Cagliari | ■ Portuguese ports |
| ■ Cartagena | ■ Ravenna |
| ■ Castellon | ■ Rijeka |
| ■ Catania | ■ Sete |
| ■ Ceuta | ■ Sevastopol |
| ■ Civitavecchia | ■ Sibenik |
| ■ Constantza | ■ Sinop |
| ■ Cyprus ports | ■ Sochi |
| ■ Dubrovnik, Korcula | ■ Split |
| ■ Egyptian ports | ■ Tarragona |
| ■ French Riviera ports | ■ Toulon–Var–Provence |
| ■ Gibraltar | ■ Trieste |
| ■ Koper | ■ Tunisian ports |
| ■ La Spezia | ■ Valencia |
| ■ Lattakia | ■ Valletta |
| ■ Livorno | ■ Venice |
| ■ Malaga | ■ Volos |
| ■ Messina | ■ Zadar |

Contacts

MedCruise

José Campos
Secretary General
Portal de la Pau, 6
08039 Barcelona, Spain
Tel: +34 607 87 87 50
Fax: +34 93 306 88 17
secretariat@medcruise.com
presidency@medcruise.com



MedCruise News

Editor: Mary Bond
Editorial Assistant: Libby Isted
Production Editor: Fiona Hockey
Seatrade Communications Ltd
Tel: +44 1206 545121
Fax: +44 1206 545190
mary@seatrade-global.com

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