



MEDCRUISE NEWS

QUARTERLY SEPTEMBER 2004

ISSUE 5

MedCruise pavilion at Seatrade Med 2004 in Genoa 3rd-5th November

Your gateway to culture, history and scenic treasures

MedCruise will be participating as an exhibitor at the Seatrade Med Cruise & Ferry Convention in Genoa between November 3-5, 2004. The 600 sq mtr pavilion will house 22 exhibition stands representing 28 member ports.

13 ports will have 12 sq mtr stands: Sochi, Volos, Baleares, Tunis, Valletta, Barcelona, Cartagena, Venice, Bari, Ancona, Alicante, Sete and Toulon. There are six 22 sq mtr stands for Portoferraio/Livorno, French Riviera ports, Genoa, Gibraltar, the Sicilian ports of Messina, Palermo and Catania and Valencia. The ports of Croatia (Dubrovnik, Korcula and Split), Naples and Piraeus are each taking bigger stands of 30, 32 and 48sq mtr, respectively.

At Seatrade Med 2004, MedCruise will present its new Member Yearbook 2005-06, which contains information on 43 members,



representing 56 ports located in 15 countries, plus the main destinations accessible via these ports. A pocket-sized fold-up map of the region with member information will also be distributed.

The day before the event, on November 2, MedCruise will hold its 25th General Assembly in Genoa. In the evening, MedCruise will sponsor a dinner for all Speaker's at the Seatrade Med conference.

MedCruise president Juan Madrid and two



■ Madrid - speaking

Board members will be participating as speakers at Genoa: Juan Madrid in the Winter Cruising in the Med session (November 4, morning); Laurent Monsaingeon in the Security session (November 4, afternoon) and Stavros Hatzakos on the panel devoted to The Cruise Industry and the Community (November 5, morning).

Come and visit the MedCruise pavilion on Stand 500 at Seatrade Med to find out why the Mediterranean is your gateway to culture, history and scenic treasures.

Board View – Laurent Monsaingeon, Director Security

Port security has become important in the light of 9/11, 2001 terrorist attack, and the new regulations that have been issued at international (IMO), European (EC) and national levels.



The major challenge to each and all of our ports is to be 100 % compliant with the ISPS code, and:

- give to our cruise companies, ships and passengers the best possible "state of the art" security that will fit with the regulations AND their expectation;
- keep our destinations and port facilities in the spirit of tourism-oriented experience: our passengers are coming for the security, but also for the atmosphere and the quality. Our cruise passengers are not containers!

Our job is to make sure that all member ports have the possibility to train, learn and organize themselves in this delicate balance; and that MedCruise is a respected partner of international organizations, regarding the implementation of new regulations adapted to international cruise activity in our beautiful Mediterranean destination. Laurent Monsaingeon is from the French Riviera Ports.

Barcelona

Meet Port of Barcelona's cruise team



■ L to R: Juan Madrid, Sandra Yunta, Joaquim González, Lluís Casadó

Juan Madrid is the Commercial Director of the Port of Barcelona. He's been working in the Port for 32 years. He was in charge of the Cruise Division until he was nominated Commercial Director in 2000, controlling amongst others, the Cruise Division.

Since then, Sandra Yunta, has been the Cruise Manager directly dealing with shipowners and ship agents and controlling the marketing and promotion of the cruise port.

Joaquim González is the Security Manager and he has worked for years to implement all security measures requested by several international institutions, such as IMO, European Union, etc...positioning Barcelona as the first port having security measures for cruise vessels and terminals.

Nowadays, the Port of Barcelona's security plan conforms with ISPS Code to SOLAS, and contributes with special security measures to cruise ships.

Lluís Casadó is the Port Operations Manager and is responsible for day-to-day matters as well as for assigning the berths and organizing the supply of services.

Sète

Quality of welcome

Sète's 2004 cruise season began in April and will end in November with a total of 17 stopovers. The first ship to visit was the 240mtr long Norwegian Dream on April 27, which anchored off Sète and the 1,748 passengers were transported by tender to the harbour station.

New visitor this year was Thomson Spirit which made four calls. Its stopover on August 24 took place during Sète's annual Saint-Louis festival. Throughout the day, passengers were able to enjoy the festivities, especially the famous water jousting tournament on the Canal Royal (pictured). The ship did not weigh anchor until after the firework display, to the great pleasure of the passengers.

The new cruise terminal on the Quai d'Alger, close to the town centre, complies with the norms of the ISPS code and therefore offers all required security.

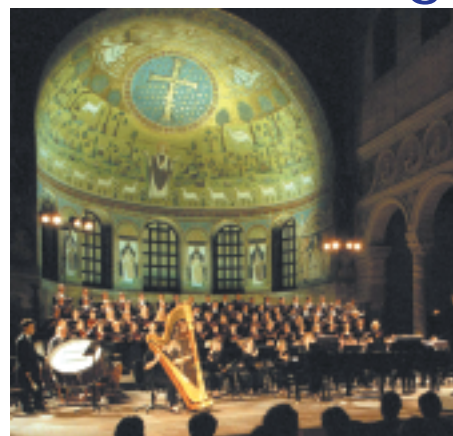
For visiting passengers there is a huge variety of places to visit says the Sète Cruise Club. Many groups choose to visit Montpellier and the Château de Flaugergues, Pézenas, Carcassonne, the Camargue and Aigues-Mortes. Touring Sète is becoming increasingly popular with cruise passengers.



For 2005, Sète Cruise Club is working on a schedule of around 25 stopovers, with one objective: the quality of welcome. You can find out more on Sète's website: www.sete-cruise.com or visit our stand during the Seatrade Med show in Genoa.

Ravenna

Taking ships up to 261mtr long



■ Ravenna Festival Concert at St Apollinare's Church in Classe

The Port Authority of Ravenna is pleased to announce that following completion of the enlargement of the Marina di Ravenna curve, thereby facilitating navigation by larger and longer vessels, the maximum overall length of vessels that can access and moor at the port, is increased to 261mtr. Maximum beam and draught currently in force are 35mtr and 31ft, respectively.

In June the Port Authority of Ravenna became the proud owner of the "Ferry & Cruise" (T&C - Traghetti e Crociere) Terminal. It extends over an area of 130,000 sq mtr and has 440 mtr of wharves with a canal bed depth of 10.5mtr. It has three berths with a maximum draft allowed of 31ft.

However the Port Authority has already embarked on a project for the construction of a new and larger passenger Terminal at Porto Corsini. In view of its position i.e. on the right side of the breakwater entrance, this new Terminal will result in reduced berthing times, possibility to host larger and longer vessels and will constitute ideal surroundings for those cruise passengers who want to hop off the ship and land on the beautiful sandy beaches of Marina di Ravenna, where in addition to worshipping the sun, they can also enjoy shopping or local gastronomic specialties, do sport or just have fun dancing at local bagnos.

The Port Authority of Ravenna has also set up a new Cruise section on its website (www.port.ravenna.it) which includes Technical Information on anchorage, accommodation and terminal facilities and Tourist Information including excursion options.

Kusadasi

World Bank to finance new passenger terminal

The Port of Kusadasi has been managed by Ege Liman Isletmeleri A.S. a private operator (Ege Ports), since July 2004, when the Government of Turkey transferred the management of the port to Ege Ports under a 30 year agreement.

In its first year of private operations, Ege Ports has made numerous improvements and enhancements to facilities and services at the Port of Kusadasi.

It became the first port in Turkey certified compliant with the International Ship and Port facility Security Code (ISPS Code). Safety enhancements include the acquisition this April of a new-build 40 bollard tugboat. The company was also certified ISO 9001 compliant in May 2004.

In cooperation with the City of Kusadasi, Ege Ports will be undertaking extensive changes to the existing Port and its surrounds, including the construction of a modern passenger terminal building; improvements to existing piers and fendering systems; the construction of shops to enhance services to cruise passengers; and the enhancement and beautification of the shoreline and city board walks around the Port



of Kusadasi (see planned expansion pictured).

The construction of the new passenger terminal facility and enhancements to the Port's berthing facilities will be financed by the International Finance Corporation the private sector arm of the World Bank Group (IFC), which signed an agreement in June of this year to lend US\$18m to Ege Ports.

Meantime Kusadasi is developing new tours and attractions for visiting cruise passengers to improve their onshore tour experience.

Ege Ports is looking forward to welcoming all of our cruise operator clients and friends back to Kusadasi in 2005.

Ancona

New terminal ready May 2005

At the beginning of 2005 Ancona will have a new Cruise Terminal located in the centre of the port, only 200mtr away from the historical part of the city.

The Terminal will be alongside one of the biggest quays in the port, with an area of 20,000 sq mtr that will be completely renovated to accommodate cruise services.



■ *Costa Classica will be the inaugural visitor at Ancona's new terminal*

The area will be divided in 3 parts:

1. Mooring and passengers transit, facing quay nr. 15 which is 220mtr long and 35ft in depth. This area will have a moving staircase to facilitate passengers embark and disembark;
2. Service Area, with 2,000 sq mtr covered terminal, fully equipped for check in and transit (air-conditioning, bar, 200 seats, toilets, deposit for luggage, ticket offices, telephones, etc.);
3. Monitored Parking Area of 16,000 sq mtr.

The Cruise Terminal will cost approximately €1m and will be ready in May 2005, when Costa Crociere's Costa Classica, will call Ancona port. Almost 500 passengers will be able to embark in Ancona. Costa Classica will then continue to Croatia and the Greek islands for 7 days, coming back to Ancona once a week till October. Other cruise lines will also be able to use the new terminal.

Monaco



From June 21 to September 22, a total of 82 cruiseships called at Monte Carlo.

During the Formula One Monaco Grand Prix from May 15 to 23, 12 cruiseships visited.

In 2005, Monaco is expecting 306 calls bringing 237,500 passengers.

Oceania Cruises chose Monaco to christen its latest vessel Insignia. The ceremony took place on March 28th. Insignia godmother was Virginia Watters, wife of Oceania chairman Joe Watters (both pictured right). Among the inaugural guests was Prince Albert of Monaco. The 648-passenger ship called 17 times at Monaco this summer.



Genoa

Terminal upgrading continues



The refurbished cruise and ferry Terminal 'Ponte Caracciolo' was inaugurated in June. After one year of work, the old terminal has been completely modified. It can offer now two floors (1,600sq mtr. and 600sq mtr) for passengers embarking and disembarking. Waiting areas total 1,200sq mtr with all the necessary comforts for passengers: modern toilets, bar, Info point, hospitality desk and air-conditioning. New areas have been dedicated for luggage storage and for shops and duty free.

On the marine side, the berth has been extended to 18 mtr wide and a new parking area will serve buses and taxis.

Work has also started for improving passenger circulation at the cruise Terminal Ponte dei Mille (pictured). The historical terminal (built between 1924 and 1930) which was rebuilt in 1991, was renovated before this summer: new plasma monitors were installed in the waiting areas and a new internet point was located at the entrance of the terminal. All luggage conveyors have been removed and the luggage pick-up area is now bigger, being able to handle baggage for 1,500 passengers.

During the second half of 2004, the waiting areas will undergo further improvements. Four escalators will be installed between the ground and first floor in order to facilitate passenger movement.

Works for the extension of the bus parking area serving the terminal will start very soon.

Anyone wishing to visit the cruise and ferry terminals during Seatrade Med in Genoa, please mail your request to mail@smge.it or ask at the stand of Stazioni Marittime at the MedCruise Pavilion.

Tarragona

New cruise and megayacht facilities

Tarragona is planning a second maritime station to provide facilities for cruise vessels, since its current maritime station will be integrated within the new megayachts marina that is currently under construction.

The port has selected a 7.3hectares area (pictured) at the confluence of the Lleida and Aragón quays, which is the closest area of the port to the city centre, and adjacent to the new megayacht marina.



The new facility will have two berths. The berth at Aragón quay will be about 350mtr long and there will be a second berth at Lleida quay for small vessels of about 170tr long, both with a maximum depth of 12.4mtr, so two cruise vessels can be accommodated simultaneously.

The dimensions of the terminal have not yet be finalised but one of the proposals is to refurbish an old existing warehouse at the confluence of thequays. If this proposal is chosen, the project could be ready for the start of the new summer cruise season in 2005.

With this investment, the Port Authority of Tarragona wants to provide a facility serving cruise traffic to the same standard as those at the new marina which will serve megayachts.

Volos

Projects for today and tomorrow



A new modern and fully equipped passenger terminal at the central pier, the upgrading and extension of the central quay, the construction of a covered (above ground) parking facility, the completion of a fully equipped marina for leisure craft and the supply of new port equipment are just some of the new projects under development at the Greek port of Volos situated at the innermost point of the Pagestic Gulf midway between Athens and Salonica.

The infrastructural works, including the new equipment, means a big investment and new facilities to meet the needs of today and tomorrow.

The Port of Volos - the starting point of the greatest nautical adventure in ancient mythology, Jason and the Argonauts expedition - has a vital role to play in the new adventure of development for the third millennium.

Being consciousness of its responsibilities towards society and the users of its port services it is undertaking major investment and development to meet the modern trends of the maritime sector to make the Port of Volos the centre of development in the heart of Greece.

Dubrovnik

Looking for partners

With the realisation of a major refurbishment and reconstruction of the port area, the Port Authority of Dubrovnik plans to re-affirm Dubrovnik as one of the most important Mediterranean cruise ports.

Its business strategy is targeted at promotion and development of the passenger port of Dubrovnik, with special emphasis on the importance of cruise.

Upon completion of the project, the Croatian port will be able to accommodate three large cruise vessels simultaneously. Financed by the proceeds of a €25m loan granted by EBRD, work is due to start next summer. The first phase will comprise dredging work, the straightening of the quay wall and extension of the berth to create a new

operational quay of 1,000mtr in length. This work will take place from September 2005 through to end 2006.

At the same time, and as part of the second phase of the project, the civil works will be carried out including construction of a hotel/casino, passenger terminal, public garage, shopping centre etc. according to the BOT or PPP model. Potential partners for the project are invited to invest at the port of Dubrovnik.



French Riviera

Value and service – top priorities

French Riviera ports of Cannes and Nice-Villefranche received 177 calls bringing 187,788 passengers during the three summer months of June-August.

Last year cruise traffic at the two ports grew by 14% compared to 2002 with a total of 460,356 passenger for the year.

A new cruise pier at Port of Cannes allows ships up to 150mtr to berth. This was designed in consultation with experts from Seabourn Cruises and Star Clippers. Star Clippers regularly uses Cannes for turnarounds throughout the summer.

A bilingual guide (English/French) dedicated to ship's captain who call in Nice port or Villefranche Bay is available. Its pocket size (15 x 10 cm) is very practical.

The port of Nice is France's leading port in terms of activity per hectare so it's necessary to respect certain rules concerning safety and operations, in order to have a very secure and regulated call.

All of the rules are detailed within this booklet plus practical information and advice, to help make your stay as pleasant as possible. It contains quay specifications, facilities, tides, position of mooring buoys, water sports zone plus responsibilities in case of emergency, rules related to noise, waste treatment, refuelling and useful numbers.

The French Riviera Cruise Association is always looking to improve the value in the destination and service to the cruise lines. It has highlighted embarking/disembarking operations (especially in Cannes), luggage handling and port/airport shuttles as priorities.

It also conducts a passenger-oriented service survey every year and implements an improvement plan based on the survey results.



Malaga

Five calls in one day



Wednesday September 8, 2004 was a very busy day for Port of Malaga which had visits from five cruiseship: Regatta, Silver Cloud, Costa Romantica, Paloma I and Hanseatic (pictured). Such an event was a great challenge both for the port facilities and for the town itself.

The calls presented Malaga with a great chance to promote itself as a cruise destination, not just the town's old buildings

but also the welcome given by the local community and service provided.

The port's 2,500mtr long quay provides excellent docking facilities making it an ideal stopover for calling cruiseships. The quays are close to the city so it takes passengers just five minutes to get to all the major tourist attractions including the Picasso Museum, the cathedral, Gibralfaro castle, Roman Theatre and the Alcazaba.

A new passenger terminal is expected to be operational by 2005.

Island Cruises

Spanish experience



Island Cruises is introducing a new Med itinerary on Island Escape for summer 2005. In addition to its regular seven day Mediterranean Spirit and Mediterranean Essence cruises out of Palma, a third western Med cruise, Mediterranean Charm, will be offered four times in April, June, September and October.

Island refers to the new itinerary as a cruise

that discovers the best of Spain, old and new. From Palma, the first call is at Ibiza Town, then onto the mainland with calls at Alicante, Malaga (for Granada and Alhambra Palace) and Cadiz (for Seville). Finally the Rock of Gibraltar adds a British touch to this largely Spanish experience.

Island Escape spends the rest of the summer alternating cruises from its Palma base to Sicily, Naples, Livorno, Toulon and Barcelona or Corsica, Civitavecchia, La Spezia, Nice and Menorca.

Costa Crociere

Costa Magica on show

The new flagship of Costa's fleet, Costa Magica, will be the centre-stage star of Seatrade Med Cruise & Ferry Convention in November.

The 105,000gt will be seen for the first time at a grand preview presentation on November 3, the opening day of the show, at which a 19-piece Glen Miller Orchestra will play a special charity concert.

The ship, a sister to Costa Fortuna delivered last year, is the largest Italian passenger vessel and can accommodate up to 3,470 guests.

Most of the 1,358 cabins - 63% - are external and of these 60% have a private balcony overlooking the sea.

Built for winter Med cruising, the main swimming pool deck, shaped like an amphitheatre, is very sheltered, while the stern swimming pool can be used under all weather conditions due to its retractable glass roof.

Upon delivery, Costa Magica will carry out an 8-day inaugural cruise in the Aegean followed by an 11-day maiden voyage in the East Med - calling Naples, Alexandria, Limassol, Rhodes, Marmaris, Piraeus and Katakolon - departing Savona on November 10 and 18 respectively. She will then repeat the maiden voyage itinerary throughout the winter, barring special Christmas/New Year cruises, until end-April 2005.



MSC Cruises

Sophia Loren christens MSC Opera

Italian actress Sophia Loren christened MSC Cruises' second new build, MSC Opera on Saturday 26 June. Celebrations took place throughout the weekend, and the sultry star drew a large crowd.

The ship was christened in the port of Genoa and a low key affair was staged as requested by Sophia with monies that would have been spent on a spectacular launch going to cancer research.

Italian owned MSC Cruises is part of the MSC Group of Companies, the world's second largest container operator. MSC Opera has a total of 878 cabins and suites making it the largest ship in the MSC fleet. Of this there will be 28 suites with balcony and 172 balconied cabins.

Like her sister ship, the MSC Lirica, she has been designed to offer the same intimate and friendly atmosphere that is characteristic of all MSC ships. Her Art Deco interior and contemporary Italian design offers a high level of comfort and state of the art facilities. Passenger amenities include: 14 decks, lounges, Virtual Reality Centre and Internet café with 16 terminals, 2 restaurants, pizzeria, grill, theatre, nightclub, shopping gallery, children's club, gym, sauna and steam room, 2 swimming pools and 2 whirlpools.

MSC Opera has spent the summer sailing seven night itineraries in the Med from Genoa to Naples, Palermo, Tunis, Palma, Barcelona and Marseille before returning to Genoa.



Carnival Cruise Lines

'Fun ship' Med sailings



Carnival Cruise Lines will sail its first-ever Med programme onboard the new 100,000gt Carnival Liberty next summer.

Carnival Liberty's seven-port 12-day Mediterranean cruises which operate round-trip from Civitavecchia starting July 20 through to October 12, 2005.

MedCruise member ports feature strongly in the itineraries with visits to Naples, Italy; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Venice, Italy (two-day call); Messina, Sicily; Barcelona, Spain; Cannes, France; and Livorno, Italy.

Star Clippers

Med trio



Star Clippers will once again deploy its three clipper ships in the Med next summer.

This year for the first time the Croatian coast was added to Royal Clipper's itinerary on a series of 10 and 11 night cruises between Civitavecchia and Venice. Star Clippers says the Adriatic's appeal and the longer itinerary proved very popular and it intends to increase the programme from eight to 12 cruises in 2005 due to strong demand. The itineraries include four/five Croatian ports, including MedCruise member ports, Dubrovnik and Korcula.

Star Clipper will also offer some 10 and 11 night sailings next year in the West Med out of Cannes where it will be based between June and October offering mainly 7-day itineraries either in Tyrrhenian or Ligurian waters.

Star Flyer, meanwhile, will return again to the Eastern Med between May and September, operating seven day roundtrip Athens cruises calling Greek Islands and Turkey and four Athens to Istanbul and return itineraries.

easyCruise

Nice and easy



Another first for the Med in 2005 is the launch of new start-up easyCruise, the no frills cruise line operated by easyGroup founder Stelios Haji-Ioannou (above). Initial summer 2005 sailings will take place in the West Med with Barcelona, Mallorca and Genoa all mentioned as likely ports of call. There will be no homeport as such as passengers will be allowed to embark and disembark at any port of their choosing - so-called hop-on, hop-off cruising.

easyCruise's first vessel will be the 180-passenger easyCruise 1, built in 1990 as the former Renaissance Two and soon to undergo a complete refurbishment in the Far East.



MedCruise in North Africa



MedCruise President Juan Madrid participated at a Port Conference held by the Office de la Marine Marchande et des Ports and the Association of North African Ports in Tunis on June 8th, 2004.

Juan Madrid gave a presentation on the cruise market in the morning and chaired the afternoon session where some tour operators spoke of their experiences. There were representatives from the following countries: Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Sudan and Morocco.

The conference was opened by a representative of the Ministry of Transport, the President of the Office de la Marine

Marchande et des Ports (Tunis) and the Executive Secretary of the Association of North African Ports.

The conference was closed by a representative of the Ministry of Tourism.

MedCruise secretary-general Carla Salvado, who also attended the conference, said it is clear that the North African ports are taking the ISPS Code requirements seriously and that they are aware of the importance of the cruise market for their region and are trying to increase the number of calls.

Juan Madrid and Carla Salvado took the opportunity to speak to those ports represented about the benefits of joining MedCruise.

Port of Volos

New Board Member

Dimitrios Georgiadis from the Port of Volos was elected as a new Board Member at the last general assembly held in Alicante June 1st-3rd. Georgiadis has written a statement on the Role of Small Ports in the MedCruise 2005/06 Yearbook, which will be distributed at Seatrade Med. He says, 'modern small ports can offer a faster service, easier approach and embarking/disembarking, quick and easy check-in/out with no hardship for the passenger and less cost for port services and facilities.'



■ MedCruise will be exhibiting at the next Seatrade Cruise Shipping Convention in Miami between March 14th-17th, 2005.

■ MedCruise has become an Associate member of the UK Passenger Shipping Association, providing networking opportunities with the Association's 32 cruise and 19 ferry members through seminars, conferences, business meetings and social events. As an Associate Member MedCruise is featured on the PSA website www.the-psa.org, along with a direct link to our own website, www.medcruise.com.

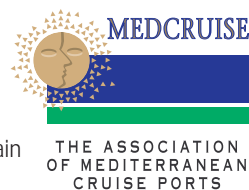
MedCruise Members

■ Alanya	■ Monaco
■ Alicante	■ Naples
■ Almeria	■ Palamos
■ Ancona	■ Palermo
■ Balearic Islands	■ Piraeus
■ Barcelona	■ Portoferraio
■ Bari	■ Portuguese ports
■ Cagliari	■ Ravenna
■ Cartagena	■ Sete
■ Catania	■ Sevastapol
■ Ceuta	■ Sochi
■ Cyprus ports	■ Split
■ Dubrovnik, Korcula	■ Tarragona
■ French Riviera ports	■ Toulon, St Tropez
■ Genoa	■ Trieste
■ Gibraltar	■ Tunis
■ Israeli ports	■ Valencia
■ Kusadasi	■ Valletta
■ La Spezia	■ Venice
■ Livorno	■ Volos
■ Malaga	■ Zadar
■ Messina	

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Published by Seatrade Communications Ltd