

MedCruise News

Airam Díaz Pastor is appointed as the new President of MedCruise

Airam Díaz Pastor, the new President of MedCruise, together with a new Board of Directors were elected at the General Assembly in Toulon in October, shares his vision.

MedCruise with 70 port members, 32 associate members and representing 20 countries from 3 continents are continuously sharing best practices and offering its expertise to the whole cruise industry. In fact, this is one of the MedCruise values, the power to share and drive to the wealth of the Association and its members.

Seeing that, the MedCruise members, Board of Directors and the Presidency, which I have the honour to represent, developed an ambitious working plan to address the main challenges MedCruise needs to face:

- New trends in the shipbuilding and how to adapt cities and ports to this new reality that provides more business and employment to the local communities.

- Environmental issues such as supply LNG to cruise ships.

- New source markets such as Asia, where the Association is working since long time ago to attract Chinese cruise passengers to the MedCruise region.

- Regulations such as Schengen procedures, port reception facilities...

All of these challenges only could be

accomplished with the solid cooperation between cruise lines and MedCruise members. The kindly and extensive relationship between the Association and cruise lines executives is one of the values of being a MedCruise member. Cruise lines executives share their time with members in the MedCruise General Assemblies, B2B meetings, cooperate in the developing of studies, being each year and I am confident more and more in the future, our ideal and

natural partners in the cruise business.

MedCruise works as well with other partners such as ESPO or PIANC among others in matters of common interest to represent their members interests in a changing world and to assist them in the process to improve and growth.

MedCruise strongly believes together we will be successful, therefore the Association created working groups based on the main challenges. Each Board of Directors member has a special task related to

challenges (see box). I

am proud to work hand by hand with this BoD full of cruise experts from different ports this teamwork is what I consider is the MedCruise value and our great pride, the core to keep generating a sustainable cruise growth in the Mediterranean, Black Sea, Red Sea, Adriatic and Near Atlantic.

#portstogether.



Jordi Caballé Valls appointed MedCruise Secretary General



MedCruise was pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Jordi Caballé Valls as new Secretary General in mid-February 2018. Jordi Caballé, a well-recognised consultant

in port management and development, will provide his solid expertise in tax regulations and auditing to the association. Jordi has been involved in many seaport-industry-projects, developing knowledge and advising both private companies and public bodies such as ESPO, World Bank, and port authorities worldwide. He is also investigating port policies, port choice, and

port concessions as PhD Project in Economics & Business.

"It is an honour for me to be part of the world's biggest cruise port association. I will work very hard together with the President and the Board of Directors to achieve the goals of the association, which are our members' goals", said Jordi Caballé after being appointed as Secretary General.

Appreciating the productive work done for the Association in the past years, MedCruise would like to take this opportunity to thank Thanos Pallis (MedCruise SG, during the period 2013-2017) and Aimilia Papachristou (acting SG, during the period Jan-Feb 2018) for their contribution to the works of the Association.

March 2018

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MEDCRUISE BOARD 2018 and their responsibilities

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Airam Díaz Pastor

Senior Vice President, Membership / Finance
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Professional Development Director
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Partnerships / Events Director
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Valeria Mangiarotti

Black Sea Director
Teodor Patrichi

Cooperation with other associations Director
Theodora Riga

New Source Markets Director
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European Union Affairs Director
Thrasivoulos Stavridopoulos



MedCruise works with airports and cruise lines to create robust cruise supply chain

MedCruise port member Barcelona played a leading role in advancing discussions on how to best link aviation and cruising, during the BCN World Routes event held in Barcelona 23-26 September. Santiago Garcia Mila, Deputy Executive Director, Port of Barcelona was among the key participants at the round table "Cruise and Aviation 2020", that discussed how to make the most of the cruise growth opportunity, what is the best way for airlines and cruise companies, airports and port authorities to work together to create the best customer journey and the most efficient and cost effective working practices.

The other members of the panel were Kyriakos Anastassiadis, CEO, Celestyal Cruises &

Chair, CLIA Europe, and Oscar Oliver, General Director of CETMO and Former Commercial Director, Aeroports de Catalunya.

For more information, please contact:

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MedCruise leads Travel Agent Training @ Seatrade Cruise Asia Pacific 2017



MedCruise leads once again this year the Travel Agent Training programme that took place during Seatrade Cruise Asia Pacific 2017 event held 1-3 November, in Baoshan District, Shanghai, China.

The programme, which is sponsored by MedCruise, attended by travel agents from different regions of the Far East, who had the opportunity to discuss with MedCruise President Airam Diaz Pastor the richness of the Mediterranean destinations and the multiple opportunities offered in the Mediterranean and its adjoining seas.

MedCruise President initiated the discussions presenting the Med and its adjoining seas as a cruise destination and describing all those features that make the Mediterranean the best choice for cruising. He also updated travel agents on the prospects of cruising in one of the most interesting regions of the world, while the presentation was followed by an extensive network session.

"The message MedCruise spreads to the Chinese world is clear: there is nowhere else on this planet where one can cruise to so many different countries within such a short period of time and sample as many flavours, cultures and retrace the footsteps of history as one can in the Mediterranean and its adjoining seas", says MedCruise President Airam Diaz Pastor.

With China being a dynamic cruise market, an impressive number of Chinese will opt to cruise over the next few years. For MedCruise, the priority is to communicate to Chinese and Asian citizens the presence of a region that offers so many opportunities to maximise their satisfaction from cruising: The Med and its adjoining seas.

All delegates of the event received the latest MedCruise material on the cruising opportunities offered in its member ports, as well as a specially designed MedCruise newsletter in Chinese language.

MedCruise #PDC2017 marked with success

MedCruise members advanced their professional skills and knowledge during a most successful 2017 edition of the MedCruise Professional Development Course (PDC) that was held from 27 to 30 October 2017.

During three days cruising from Piraeus to Mykonos, Kusadasi, Patmos, Heraklion, and Santorini, the PDC participants had the opportunity to discuss best practices and attend a rich in terms of content programme. Sharing best practices, customer orientation innovation in the organisation, learning from the others, keeping employees engaged, prototyping the future, implementing change successfully, innovative thinking at work were discussed via during the first part of the course. The instructor was Jorge Bugallo (WIN+WIN Barcelona).

Chris Ashcroft (Cruise Insight) gave emphasis on the important points that a port should take in consideration when is marketing the port, while Serafin Blazquez (InterCruises) discussed in depth the cruise supply chain from the shore and port agency side.

The second part of the course has been concluded by Vassilios Gazikas (Celestyal Cruises) who gave a detailed presentation on the operational issues and the importance of specific information and port technical characteristics for the safe berth of the ship and the disembarkation and embarkation of the passengers and crew.

In Kusadasi, a MedCruise member port, the participants were welcomed by Aziz Gungor, General Manager of the Kusadasi port which is operated by Global Ports Holdings. The group had the opportunity to visit the cruise terminal

and be informed on the details regarding the daily operations. The professional development course, which is organised periodically and offered by MedCruise as part of the services to its membership, received excellent evaluations by its participants. The 2017 edition was realised with the kind collaboration of Celestyal Cruises in hosting the event on board Celestyal Olympia.



MedCruise promotes "Cruising the Med" @ International Cruise Summit 2017



The 2017 edition of the International Cruise Summit concluded in Madrid, with MedCruise and several of its member ports leading discussions on how best to secure the future of cruise activities in the Med and beyond.

The keynote speaker of the event was MedCruise President Airam Díaz Pastor, who presented the major challenges for the Mediterranean cruise ports and the MedCruise way to address them - while several MedCruise members joined the conference panels and actively participated in all aspects of the event.

In a speech that shaped the two-days discussions, MedCruise President Airam Díaz Pastor presented the excellent job that cruise ports in the Med and its adjoining seas are doing adapting facilities and destinations to current trends in cruising. He also stressed that the long-term engagement of cruise lines to destinations, and the improvement of the cooperation when scheduling / planning itineraries are two most important challenges faced by cruise ports in the Med. In this context, he emphasised the work of MedCruise to further develop its cooperation with cruise lines, with CLIA, while MedCruise advances partnerships with other port associations and stakeholders, in order to share practices and discuss common issues.

"A major priority in the MedCruise strategy is to improve the relationship between ports and municipalities. We must educate our local communities about the benefits of the cruise industry. We must also listen our neighbors needs, in order to avoid in advance unnecessary conflicts. Communication and collaboration is the key", stated Díaz Pastor before announcing that MedCruise will soon set up a new Working

Group dedicated to the issue, while it will increase its efforts to develop cruise awareness in the local communities.

The MedCruise President also announced the continuation of the pioneering strategy of MedCruise to create a 'cruise the Med culture' in Asia, and in particular China, and its expansion to traditional source markets, and the upgrade of the work of MedCruise at the international fora and European institutions, in order to promote the interest of Mediterranean ports views to decision makers and not least to provide concrete proposal in resolving major issues that cruise ports face, such as visas for third countries citizens cruising in Europe.

MedCruise representatives coming from a large variety of Mediterranean countries such as France, Gibraltar, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Turkey promoted cruise activities in the Med and its adjoining seas, highlighting the fact that this is a region made for cruising with great potential for further growth.

The Association also benefited from a special MedCruise corner placed within the ICS venue, which served as a special meeting point and point of reference for the wide distribution of MedCruise destinations material.

Every year ICS is attended by 400 cruise industry professionals, forming one of the main international discussion forums in the sector.

Among the cruise lines that attended ICS2017 are: Costa Cruises, Cruise & Maritime Voyages, Marella Cruises, MSC Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Ponant, Pullmantur, Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection, Royal Caribbean, Silversea, TUI Cruises and Virgin Voyages.

The event, organised by Cruises News Media Group, was held under the auspices and sponsorship of MedCruise.

MedCruise ports and destinations @ Seatrade Europe 2017



MedCruise was dynamically present at the 2017 edition of Seatrade Europe Cruise & River Cruise Convention, held 6-8 September 2017, in Hamburg, Germany.

The Association was present at the event with its own stand, actively promoting cruise activities in the Med and beyond.

The MedCruise booth hosted numerous business-to-business meetings between membership representatives and cruise industry professionals. For three successive days, the stand of the Association formed the meeting point of port representatives, cruise line executives, and other stakeholders, advancing cruise activities in the region.

The highlights of Seatrade Cruise Europe 2017 included a welcome reception organised at the MedCruise stand, an event attended by cruise professionals that provided excellent networking opportunities to its members.

MedCruise Associates

MedCruise Associate members enjoy enriched membership benefits.

- Inclusion in all key directories and promotional material
- Circulation of news and company profile to more than 2.000 cruise industry professionals
- Promotion via the MedCruise website & social media
- Representation at major Cruise events (+ free booking of meeting space and distribution of company's promotional material within the MedCruise booth)
- Scheduled Business-to-Business meetings with Cruise Line Executives (twice a year)
- Complimentary copies of the extended MedCruise Cruise Line Directory
- Free access to all MedCruise studies
- Professional Development Courses (registration cost entirely covered by MedCruise)
- Reaching new Source Markets (e.g. the Asian cruise market)
- Links with other Associations and Institutions
- Numerous networking opportunities

MedCruise and its members contribute at Italian Cruise Day

The 7th edition of Italian Cruise Day was held in the MedCruise member port of Palermo, on 6th October 2017, under the auspices of MedCruise.

The event formed once again the appointment for the Italian cruise industry to meet and discuss about the present and the future of cruising in the region.

MedCruise Secretary General Thanos Pallis,

along with several MedCruise members representing Italian Cruise Ports attended the event, exchanging views on the current state of the industry in Italy and the Mediterranean Sea.



ITALIAN CRUISE DAY

Palermo | 06.10.2017



MedCruise Diary 2018

52nd MedCruise General Assembly, Valletta 23-26 May



The 52nd MedCruise General Assembly will take place 23-26 May 2018 in Valletta, Malta. During the General Assembly meeting, MedCruise member representatives together with other esteemed guests will discuss the latest developments of the cruise sector.

Seatrade Cruise Med 2018, Lisbon 19-20 September



Seatrade Cruise Med is the major biennial cruise event focused on the world's second largest cruise destination - the Mediterranean. Hosted by MedCruise member Port of Lisbon.

Thanos Pallis departs MedCruise



Thanos Pallis transitions out of his role as

Secretary General of MedCruise, a position he held since April 2013.

In the interim, Aimilia Papachristou, MedCruise Advisor, will assume the role of

acting Secretary General for the Association.

Dr. Thanos Pallis, an academic maritime economist with experience in the port sector became Secretary General in 2013, taking over from Maria de Larrate, and served the Association for five years.

MedCruise would like to thank Thanos Pallis for his contributions to the team and wish him every success in his future endeavors.

MedCruise President Airam Diaz Pastor noted: "I would personally like to thank Thanos for his contribution to the Association and professionalism and wish him every success to his future projects".

MedCruise key contributor @ GreenPort Cruise 2017

The port-city relationships-stakeholder initiatives for sustainable growth of cruise ports, the sustainable cruise port infrastructure development and the port reception facilities: getting the buy-in from all port users are the three key issues discussed during the 5th Green Port Cruise Conference, which was held under the auspices of MedCruise in Amsterdam, on the 10th of October 2017.

MedCruise continues to be a key contributor in the core of the discussions. Mrs Valeria Mangiarotti, MedCruise assigned member for environmental issues, Marketing Manager of Port of Cagliari, discussed the key points for port-city relationships.

The improvement of the cruise port infrastructure in the Med was the theme of MedCruise Secretary General Thanos Pallis presentation. Cruise activities in the Med and its adjoining seas have experienced a remarkable growth with a total of 27,4 million cruise passenger movements and 13.500 cruise calls in 2016. This achievement would

not have been done without ports upgrading port infrastructure to meet the needs of cruise shipping. Thanos Pallis emphasised that port decisions to upgrade infrastructure are strategic market driven decisions, with long-term planning, securing financially the project, and most important completing environmental studies.

MedCruise Honorary President Stavros Hatzakos (Chairman, ESPO Cruise and Ferry Port Network) addressed a keynote speech setting the environmental contemporary platform of discussion of the cruise market stakeholders.



52nd MedCruise GA in Valletta

The 52nd MedCruise General Assembly will take place 23-26 May 2018 in Valletta, Malta.

During the General Assembly meeting, MedCruise member representatives together with other esteemed guests will discuss the latest developments of the cruise sector, as well as the implications and prospects of cruising in the Med and its adjoining seas.

In line with the MedCruise tradition, all regular and associate members will have a first class opportunity to discuss the developments in the region, while they will also devote time in B2B meetings and interactive Workshops with cruise line executives.



52nd
MEDCRUISE
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
VALLETTA
23-26 MAY 2018



51st MedCruise GA in Toulon

To grow cruising in the Mediterranean requires patience by the ports and destinations currently off the map due to geopolitical issues, Carnival Corp. & plc's Giora Israel told delegates at the 51st MedCruise general assembly, held in Toulon.

'These issues come and go away so to those ports in the Black Sea, Turkey, Tunisia, Egypt and Israel, it's going to take time but ships will

come back,' said the svp global port and destination development. He reassured 'we are evaluating the situation every day.'

According to Holland America Group's Bruce Krumrine, vp shore excursions, a key to growing the Mediterranean is the ability to 'engage our guests with local ports and destinations particularly those that are so well known.

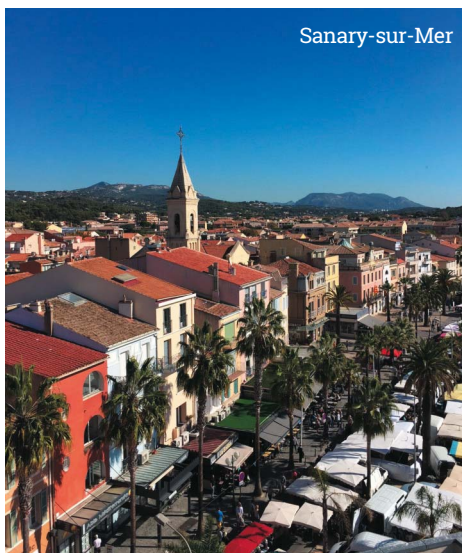
"The most powerful word in travel is "local,"

he added.

Royal Caribbean's Miguel Reyna, director port business development & asset management, sees great opportunities for Europe, including the Mediterranean, to grow as a destination but reminded that as a very high percentage of new ships coming in the next six years will have capacity for 2,000 or more passengers, it is important that infrastructure is prepared.



B2B meetings



Sanary-sur-Mer



L-R Carnival execs Bruce Krumrine, Giora Israel and Michael Nesta



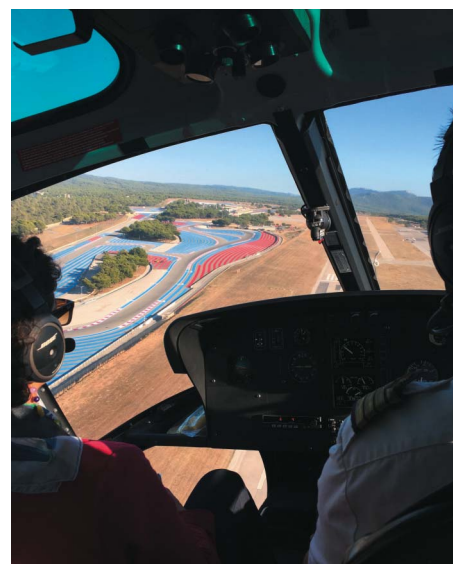
The colourful Toulon street market

V for Var and variety

Cruise line executives and international media attending the 51st GA were treated to a taste of some of the local shorex excursions offered by the hosts which included a tour of Toulon Bay by boat and visit to the cruise terminals and facilities both at La Seyne and in the town, followed by a walk through the local market stalls and their array of amazingly presented and tasty fresh vegetables, fruit, cheeses and flowers. The group then proceeded to the colourful town of Sanary-sur-Mer before a point-to-boat trip (typical fishing boat) – ahead of lunch. A trip to Mount Faron by cable car afforded a spectacular view of the bay and also entry to the newly restored Memorial Museum to the

liberation of Provence during World War 2. The full day tour finished with a visit to the racing circuit of Le Castellet which has been chosen as the venue for the Formula 1 French Grand Prix in June 2018. Cruise line execs and press were challenged to a kart racing competition at the Paul Ricard Circuit followed by a helicopter ride for an aerial view of the F1 racing track and surrounding countryside.

2016 saw a record 278 calls, 362,479 passengers and 32 different cruise lines visit the ports of Var-Provence. Smaller ports such as Sanary-sur-Mer, Bandol and Saint-Raphaël are emerging while Fréjus and Cavalaire accommodated their first cruise ships in 2017.



Canarian Ports



Puertos Canarios is developing a Business strategy with the aim of consolidating cruise traffic in the ports of Valle Gran Rey (La Gomera), and Gran Tarajal (Fuerteventura) and extend the offer to new destinations such as the new port of Tazacorte (La Palma). The promotion of this Business segment is part of this entity's objective to make profit on the port system of the Canary

islands.

Tazacorte - It's not coincidence that this island is known as "la Isla Bonita", or "pretty island". Home to almost intact nature resources, with landscapes of remarkable beauty. La Palma is the green island which reveals a multitude of colours beneath one of the best skies in the World in terms of astronomical observation. Our port is an excellent starting

point to visit the Caldera de Taburiente National Park, a huge crater, which dominates the northern part of the island.

Vueltas - A jewel of nature. That's how you will describe La Gomera. You'll have to make an imaginative effort to find the words to describe its landscapes, especially the green forest formed by species that disappeared in other parts of the World millions of years ago, but which have survived here and will amaze you. Our port, situated in Valle Gran Rey, leads you to the main tourist area, a big valley with the best beaches on the island. The port has good service of little ships, where you can live the experience of sailing with free dolphins and whales.

Gran Tarajal - An island with over 150 km of Sandy beaches and turquoise Waters, Discover vast natural landscapes and share the natural openness of its people. A place to enjoy numerous activities in the best conditions. That paradise has a name: Fuerteventura, the Beach of Canaries. The port of Gran Tarajal is closest to the touristic areas in the South of the island and the main attractions. On the East coasts of "Península de Jandía", are the Beach resorts Jandía Playa and Morro Jable. The western coast has some of the most beautiful beaches, the bay of Cofete, also used by surfers.

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Tangier

New member to MedCruise, Tangier is a major city in northwestern Morocco. It is located on the Maghreb coast at the western entrance to the Strait of Gibraltar, where the Mediterranean Sea meets the Atlantic Ocean off Cape Spartel. Many civilizations and cultures have impacted the history of Tangier starting from before the 5th century BC. Visitors will find that the destination is rich in history and that it constitutes a nexus for many cultures. Tangier City Port Conversion is currently underway, including the extension and modernisation of the Maritime Station with the aim of improving the reception and security for cruise and ferry passengers passing through Tangier City Port.

A new terminal is already dedicated to cruise activities and equipped with new scanners. A 150mtr long extension of the main cruise berth, Tango 5, is due to be finished by the end of 2018. This will increase the pier to 500mtr in length with a depth of between 9-11mtr.

A full day tour of Tangier is the most popular tour from the port, starting with a drive through Mohamed V avenue to initially form an idea about Tangier's western architecture. It was founded in the early 5th Century BC and unlike the rest of Moroccan

cities, Tangier was designated in 1923 an international zone for several years and was ruled by eight western countries. Arrive at one of the focal points of Tangier, the Spartel Cape, the North-Western extremity of Africa's Atlantic Coast at the entrance to the Strait of Gibraltar and where it is believed both the Mediterranean and the Atlantic seas meet. Drive along the Atlantic coastline to the Caves of Hercules, a place of stunning natural

beauty and great archaeological significance. Drive back to the Kasbah, beating heart of the city and perched uphill overlooking the Mediterranean, Spain, Gibraltar and the Medina, where you will enjoy a walking tour to discover the most interesting attractions of the city.

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Ancona

Ancona is situated in the middle of the Italian Adriatic coast and is a major passenger hub for ferry routes to Greece, Croatia, Albania and Turkey.

The port has berths of varying lengths up to 320mtr. Ancona is now leading the Central Adriatic Ports Authority comprising the ports of Pesaro, Falconara, Ancona, S. Benedetto, Pescara and Ortona.

2017 saw 28 cruise calls from 7 different cruise lines come to the port of Ancona bringing 52,086 passengers.

The town offers many sites to be visited, as the Old port area, close to the cruise terminal. A "red carpet" along the road brings tourists in an emotional walk in the history, discovering the ruins of the Roman port and the Arch of Trajan, a Roman Triumphal arch erected by the Senate and people of Rome in the reign of Emperor Trajan after he expanded the port of the city. The Arch of Trajan is surrounded by other monuments linked to the evolution of the port during the centuries, up to our days: in June 2017, the artistic fountain "La Fontana dei Due Soli" was inaugurated to celebrate the role of the port in the centuries as gate to the East.

The 2018 cruise schedule foresees 38 calls from 8 different cruise lines between March and November. The Welcome to Ancona institutional network ensures quality services tailored on passengers needs during their stay in the port and in the town: dedicated openings of monuments, exhibitions and information desks are available during the cruise season. The free APP Welcome to Ancona is also available to help passengers to prepare their visit and find information about transport, food and shopping.

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Azores



The most popular shore excursions from the ports of the Azores are nature-based trips. Furnas Valley, Fire Lake or Sete Cidades Lakes are the most requested tours, each one providing guests with thrilling experiences and amazing landscapes combined with local gastronomy.

The trip to Fire Lake and Furnas Valley gives guests the opportunity to visit the dormant volcanos, one of them with calderas, gardens and hot springs, amongst other interesting attractions. Furnas Valley is the most exotic of the scenarios on the island, with geiser and thermal pools.

2018 is shaping up to be a big year for the

islands, forecasts look to passenger numbers reaching 180,000, a big milestone for the Azores with 150 cruise calls expected, 10 of them newcomers to the shores.

Ships are getting bigger and days with 3 or 4 ships simultaneously berthed are becoming common. It's a big challenge to manage all the ships, passengers and tours, but the port authority is improving facilities to better accommodate cruise ships that need to berth away from the cruise terminal.

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Balearic Islands



Port of Palma, Mallorca is currently building a new terminal of almost 10,000sq mtr, for homeporting, it will be capable of handling the biggest ships in transit.

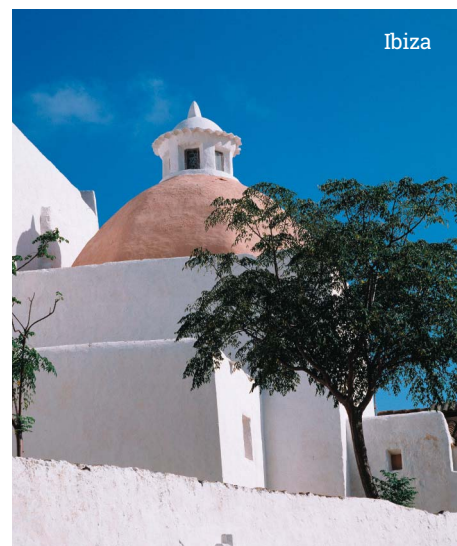
Work will be finished by April 2018. The port is also investing in an extension of the North Poniente Quay Esplanade (36,000sq mtr), and work will be finished on this project by 2019.

A Palma city tour (the Cathedral, Almudaina Palace, Arab Baths, Bellver Castle and Joan Miro Foundation) remains the most popular for guests calling the Balearic port, whilst diving and sailing shorex are top of the activity category, families like aquatic parks and anything gastronomic always proves popular.

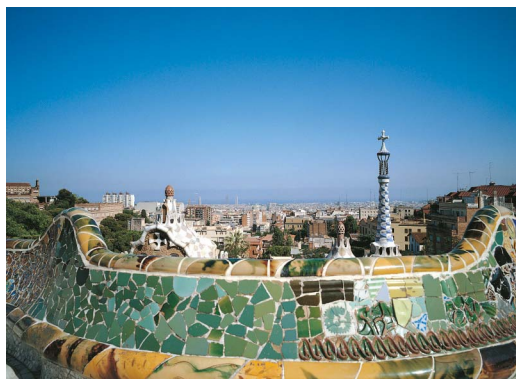
The five ports managed by the Port Authority of the Balearic Islands; Palma, Mahon, Ibiza, Alcudia and La Savina, are forecasting a rise in passengers in 2018. Bookings show there are 2,402,629 passengers on 863 calls due in the coming year compared to 2,111,568 and 819 respectively for 2017. This is a 5.37% increase in calls and 13.78% jump in passengers.

The port authority is currently working towards extending the season in Ibiza and Mahon by getting more ships to call in April, May, September and October, and to increase calls in the winter to Palma, from November to March.

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Barcelona



In 2018, Barcelona is expecting 800 calls and 2.8m passengers as it welcomes Royal Caribbean International's newest ship Symphony of the Seas and the newest MSC Cruises' vessels.

In April 2018 the new Terminal E, built by Carnival Corporation is expected to be operational. It is located on the Moll Adossat, after terminal D.

Cruise traffic in the 'low season' months of January to March and in November and December rose 13% last year.

Whilst Barcelona city provides a rich amount of attractions and is a popular draw for arriving cruise passengers, the number of those visiting treasures in the surrounding countryside such as Gaudi's Crypt in Santa Coloma de Cervelló, just 20km from Barcelona, is increasing.

A challenge continues to work in congestion and environmental matters related to cruise ships visiting the port by communicating how much work has been done by the cruise lines and port authority

in order to decrease these negativities and working with the City Hall in order to collaborate in finding good solutions for everyone, noted Mar Perez, head of cruise business at Port of Barcelona.

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Bari/Brindisi



Alberobello, one of the region's most picturesque towns, ranks among the most beautiful hamlets in Italy, listed on UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996, also thanks to its 1,400 trulli. The old town centre, which has also been awarded the Touring Club of Italy's Orange Flag, is entirely built of traditional drystone huts whitened with quicklime and capped by conical barestone roofs painted with symbols and topped with pinnacles of different forms.

Popular activities in the surrounding region include golf, horse riding, boat excursions, fishing, cycling through acres of quiet olive groves, just to name a few.

Another must-visit is Polignano a Mare, a beautiful spot on the Mediterranean Sea, famous for being the birthplace of the singer Domenico Modugno.

A new tour possibility

is 'Food & Wine experiences in Masseria'; a culinary experience including a cooking class on homemade 'small ear'-shaped pasta Orecchiette and extra virgin oil and/or Apulian wine tasting class.

In 2018, 214 calls are scheduled at the Port of Bari from January to December and 46 ships are scheduled to call at the port of Brindisi. MSC, Costa Crociere, TUI Cruises and AIDA Cruises are currently visiting both the ports of Bari and Brindisi on a weekly basis, while several luxury cruise lines such as Silversea, Windstar, Seabourn, Regent Seven Sea and Viking Ocean are visiting the ports of the recently formed Southern Adriatic Sea System because of the varied touristic offer. In 2018, Monopoli will receive 23 calls and Manfredonia 2.

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Burgas



During the last three years port of Burgas has seen a drop in cruise ship visits in line with the general decline in the Black Sea region due to the unstable situation in the Crimea and increased fees for crossing the Bosphorus.

Turkish and Middle Eastern geopolitical conflicts have also severely affected cruise traffic in Burgas and a drop in cruise traffic to Turkey is having a knock-on effect on Burgas, leading to concentrated efforts to attract calls from Greece instead.

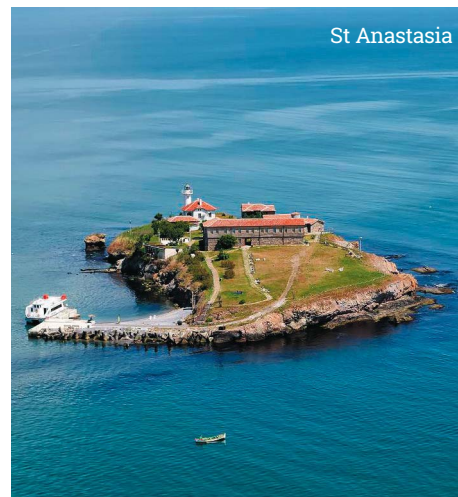
The port of Burgas is also preparing to feature on a new Black Sea route initiated by the passenger ship, Prince Vladimir.

At press time the Port of Burgas has no cruise called booked for 2018 and port officials are actively trying to see the return of ships to the Bulgarian port. Investment in improving existing infrastructure continues with the aim of attracting new cruise companies to the port.

A modern Expo Centre is currently under constructio, which will be used to host the MedCruise General Assembly in 2020.

The newest tour from the Port of Burgas is to the island of St. Anastasia, located in Bourgas bay in the Black Sea. There are regular tourist boats that leave from Magazia 1 passenger terminal. The complete restoration of the island was carried out by the Municipality of Burgas with funds from the EU Operational Program Regional Development 2007-2013. On the island there is a museum, restaurant and cafe.

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Cartagena

Located over the ruins of an impressive castle, the Fortress of the Sun, Lorca is known as a Baroque city. The city was the frontier between the Christian kingdom and the Muslim world of Granada.

The Espolon Tower is an interpretation centre that invites visitors to live a cultural experience through its history. Other important discoveries within the Fortress of Lorca, includes the well preserved remains of a Jewish Synagogue from the 15th century.

Other attractions are Spain's national Museum of Underwater Archaeology (ARQUA), an avant-garde building with a vast collection of pieces found at the bottom of the sea, and Caravaca de la Cruz, a small town located in the northwest region of Murcia. It was declared a holy city in 1998, making it the fifth holy city in the world. Caravaca was originally a Muslim settlement, but later was conquered by Christians. The baroque castle has a luxurious façade made from red marble and is surrounded by 14 towers to safeguard the shrine of Santísima Vera Cruz.

In 2018, Cartagena expects 140 calls by 60 ships and more than 200,000 passengers.

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Castellon



The most popular shore excursion at Castellón is the visit to the longest subterranean navigable river at Saint Joseph Caves in a village called Vall d'Uxó, but we are very excited with 'Castellón Train & Tapas', a new excursion that InterCruises has developed in the city centre and the maritime district.

Guests begin the day enjoying a delicious chocolate with 'churros' or typical 'figues albardaes', a delicious donut stuffed with figs, and then enjoy the experience in the market, attractive not only for tourists but also for the locals. Given a range of fresh and seasonal products, tourists can buy the most appetizing seafood they want to try and ask the establishment next door to cook it.

The increase will not be felt in 2018 but in 2019, where Castellón's efforts will materialise with five calls from Marella Cruises. Four vessels bringing around 1,500 passengers each will call at PortCastelló during the summer season. Oceania Cruises will also call once.

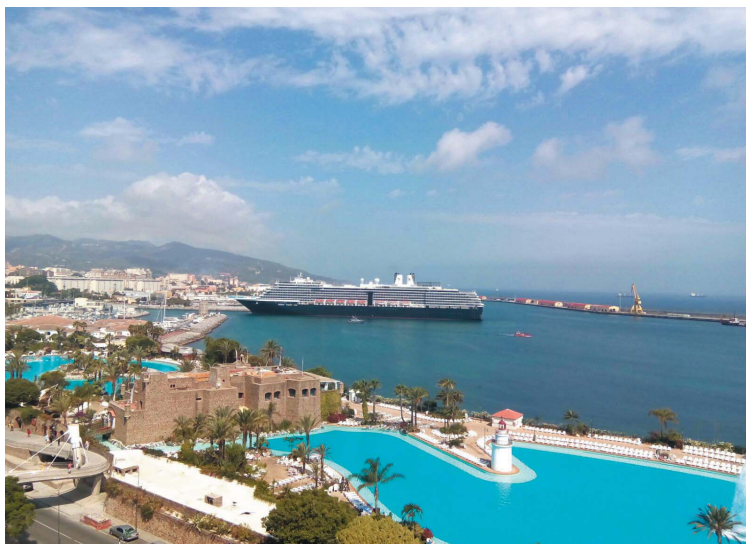
Saga Cruises' Saga Sapphire will visit in August while Fred Olsen's Boudicca and SeaDream Yacht Club's SeaDream I will visit Peñíscola in May and July respectively.

A new berth in the inner basin of PortCastelló, just a few metres walking distance to the waterfront, is being constructed to receive ships up to 160mtr in length and 7.5mtr draft.

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Ceuta



visitors is to the San Antonio viewpoint, situated in Mount Hacho, with wonderful views of the Strait of Gibraltar and the south coast of mainland Spain (provinces of Cadiz and Malaga), as well as a panoramic view of Ceuta. Next stop is the view from Isabel II, situated in Mount Garcia Aldave, where it is possible to see

the north coast of Morocco as well as another view of the city of Ceuta. Leaving Isabel II viewpoint, next stop is Benzu, situated 7km outside the city centre, and the view of Belioune's Bay, and the Sierra of Bullones situated in Morocco. As well as the views there are temples, monuments and other important places along the route.

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Port of Ceuta is investing in new facilities this year including new lighting, signposting, green areas and security systems that are being installed at the cruise terminal berth to improve effective boarding and disembarkation. The total cost of is €2.2m.

12 ships are booked to call in Ceuta in 2018, four of them maiden visitors.

The most popular tour is the Ceuta Panoramic View tour. The first stop for

Corfu



Corfu has confirmed 396 calls and 660,000 passengers for this year, in comparison to 410 calls and 645,000 passengers in 2017. Five ships are newcomers: Carnival Horizon, Marella Discovery 2, MSC Lirica, Seabourn Ovation and Viking Orion.

The port is investing in a tent-style terminal of about 1,000 sq mtr, dedicated to homeporting which is expected to be fully operational in June 2018.

Popular with visiting cruise guests in a leisurely tour which begins with a visit to the Old Town of Corfu, the island's capital. Here, guests will have the opportunity to enjoy a walking tour of the historic Old Town. With its Venetian forts and neo-classical housing, the old town was inscribed on UNESCO's World

Heritage List as a fortified Mediterranean port town of high integrity and authenticity. Admire the famous Esplanade - one of the largest squares in Europe.

The heart of the town, built on the side of a hill, contains a labyrinth of small alleyways criss-crossing larger, bustling streets abound with typical old craftsmen's workshops. The tour continues with a scenic drive through the lush green countryside to Paleokastritsa, famous for the crystal blue-green sea water of its beaches, the mysterious grottoes and the impressive rocks and bays. Time for a swim before returning to the port.

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Dubrovnik

Cruise traffic at the Port of Dubrovnik is expected to exceed 2017 figures, with 780,000 passengers on 490 calls projected for 2018. Last year, 539 ships called bringing 748,918 cruise guests.

The most popular shore excursion undertaken at the Croatian port is Dubrovnik Panorama and Sightseeing. This tour shows the finest sites of the Old Walled City as well as an opportunity to view it from above at a spectacular panoramic spot. You can visit the Franciscan Monastery with Europe's oldest pharmacy and the Rector's Palace which once used to be the seat of the government in the Dubrovnik Republic. The walk will lead you through the streets of the Old Town, you will then see other splendid buildings such as Onofrio's Fountain, St. Blaise's Church, Sponza Palace. This tour reveals why Dubrovnik is often referred to as the 'Pearl of the Adriatic'.

Another popular tour is the Three Islands Cruise, sailing through a chain of several small islands called the Elaphite islands. You will visit

the three largest and only inhabited islands. The first stop will be at Koločep with its ruins of ancient churches and patrician palaces; then onto the largest one, Sipan, known as the Golden Island due to its fertility. The final stop will be on the island of Lopud where you can visit the 15th century church of St. Mary. Lopud offers splendid opportunities for swimming and relaxing on its lovely sandy beaches.

Port of Dubrovnik is investing in a new passenger terminal in 2018 and is currently in its initial stages of development.

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Costa Brava Ports



The ports of the Costa Brava, namely Palamós and Roses, will attract more than 56,000 passengers and 60 calls in 2018 - the best ever for both ports which offer endless possibilities to enjoy the destination, from the surrealism of Salvador Dalí to cooking a delicious fish dish or cycling through medieval villages.

The most popular shore excursions, especially for those calling at Palamós, centre around Girona and its surroundings, Tossa and Barcelona.

Girona and the medieval towns and villages in the area - Pals, Peratallada and Monells - boast a rich history. Pals is classified as a Historical-Artistic Site and offers interesting windows, arches, wells, etc. from periods ranging from Romanesque to the 18th Century. Peratallada is a typical medieval fortified village, with defence walls enclosing irregular streets that converge onto the Main Square.

Tossa, is an ancient fishing village where prehistoric remains overlap with Roman Túrissa, medieval Tursa and modern Tossa, once a retreat for artists and intellectuals and now host to tourists and visitors.

Girona has become one Costa Brava's hottest shorex since appearing in season six of Game of Thrones. This historic walled city of cathedrals, churches, winding alleyways, and towering arches has changed little over the centuries. The city has the widest Gothic nave Cathedral in the world. Valuable art works are conserved in the interior, including the 10th-Century Beatus and the well-known Creation Tapestry, a masterpiece of the Romanesque textile art. Also you can admire the Arab Baths, a Romanesque-style building imitating the structures of old Muslim Baths, Monastery of Sant Pere de Gallinants, Church of Sant Felix, houses and bridges on the River Onyar, the Rambla de Llibertat, etc.

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French Riviera

One of the most popular excursions from the French Riviera ports is to explore the Côte d'Azur at leisure during a half-day sightseeing tour via a chauffeur-driven vintage automobile type 1935 Auburn, 1971 Buick, 1959 Chevrolet, Series IV Excaltur, 1932 Ford Model A, or a 1956 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud. Cruise guests can discover the Côte d'Azur between Cannes and Nice with a stop to Antibes, St Paul de Vence....and feel like they are in an

old movie...

351 ships are expected to call at the French Riviera ports, Cannes, Antibes-Juan les Pins, Nice and Villefranche sur Mer, in 2018 bringing 655,000 passengers. Four ships will be calling for the first time.

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Heraklion

Heraklion celebrated the official opening of its upgraded cruise terminal - with MedCruise svp Aris Batsoulis, joining the president and ceo of Port of Heraklion Authority, Apollon Fillippis at the ceremony.

The facility which has already received its first home-porting ships, includes a permanent tent construction covering 1.125sq mtr and providing all the required services, infrastructure and equipment for turnaround and transit calls.

Thomson Dream undertook 32 turnarounds last year.

Port of Heraklion is now ready to welcome further calls, with the investment expected to give a significant boost to cruise activities in Crete. Heraklion welcomed 239,000 passengers in 2016.

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Gibraltar



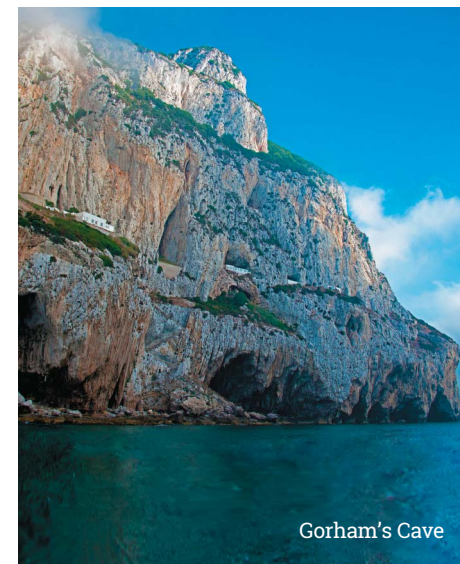
A total of 242 calls with 409,617 passengers are expected in Gibraltar in 2018, seven more calls than 2017, with the Mein Schiff 6, Carnival Horizon and World Explorer calling for the first time in April, May and June respectively.

The most popular shorex still remains the 'Rock Tour', which includes a visit to the impressive St Michael's Cave.

A new tour available is the 'Mediterranean Steps'. Located in the Gibraltar Nature Reserve, Upper Rock, this 1,400mtr walk starts at 180mtr and ends at 419mtr near the summit of the Rock, and offers incredible panoramic views of Gibraltar, Morocco and Spain, as well as an abundance of flora and wildlife along the way.

On the destination side, a new viewing platform has recently opened looking out toward the Gorham's Cave Complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Boat trips to view the caves from the sea are also available. The impressive Windsor Bridge in the Gibraltar Nature Reserve, Upper Rock is a 75mtr-long suspension bridge across a 50mtr-deep gorge and offers spectacular views of the city and Bay of Gibraltar. Plans are also afoot for a Skywalk offering jaw-dropping vertical views through a glazed floor at one of Gibraltar's most elevated points, as well as a new state-of-the-art wine storage facility with a wine tasting experience.

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Gorham's Cave

Huelva



Port of Huelva are striving to become a regular cruise port as a real alternative to other bigger ports, with access to Seville and the Portuguese Algarve. The aim is to make Huelva known as a 'hidden gem' with its heritage, white sand beaches, golf destination, nature, and 3,000 hours of sun a year.

One of the most popular tours from the Spanish port is 'The Route of Columbus', the excursion starts where the journey of Christopher Columbus started, La Rabida. In 1492, sailors from neighbouring towns sailed with Columbus for the Indies. Travel back to that time and get onboard the replica vessels

that were used for the voyage at the Muelle de las Carabelas wharf.

A new tour is 'The wonders of Jabugo', the village of Jabugo is prime area for world-famous Iberian ham. Located in the Sierra de Aracena and Picos de Aroche Nature Reserve, visitors will get to know how the Iberian pig is raised, the history of the farmhouse in the village and the locals will share the secrets of this gastronomic treasure. As a finale, there will be a tasting of the ham with wine.

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Koper



Port of Koper is forecasting a record cruise season in 2018 when it will break the milestone of 110,000 passengers and 85 calls representing an increase of 40% compared to last year. The season starts in February and will finish in late December. Maiden calls include MSC Poesia, Marella Discovery 2, Mein Schiff 2 and Seabourn Ovation. For TUI Cruises will be the first season calling Koper.

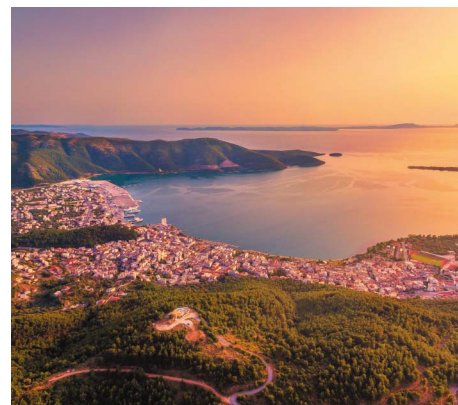
Slovenian tour operator, Atlas Exppress and the local tourist organization, organized a spectacular choir performance at Tito's square in Koper for Azamara Cruise Club passengers twice last year. World famous 'a

capella choir' Perpetuum Jazzile, performed traditional Slovenian and international songs. The musical event under the stars included traditional Slovenian culinary, wine and champagne. Passenger's experience was definitely exceeded and AzAmazing evening will be repeated four times this year.

At the end of December 2017, the port board Luka Koper named a new management Board, with five years term, headed by ceo Dimitrij Zadel and Metod Podkiznik as coo and Ms. Irma Gubanec as cfo.

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Igoumenitsa

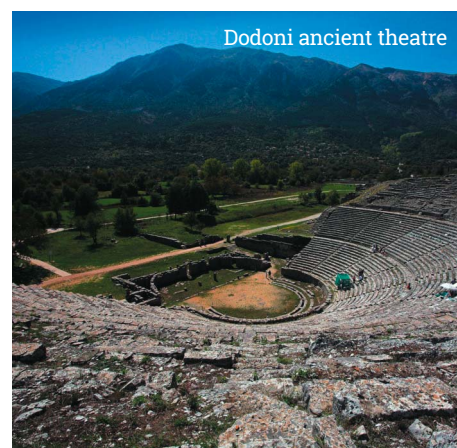


Port of Igoumenitsa is expecting 13 cruise calls in 2018, bringing 12,500 passengers. Azamara Pursuit, the newest ship operated by Azamara Club Cruises will be calling at the Greek port in its maiden year. The port welcomed eight calls in 2017 and 9,088 passengers.

The port has been investing heavily in infrastructure and has recently completed phase II of a development plan which included the completion of a 3,041sq mtr passenger terminal, a second for the port, which is already in use as well as a 371mtr long connecting platform. Future plans include the 2,324sq mtr passenger terminal no. 3, and a 197mtr long finger pier for the mooring of 300,000 dwt ships. Both of these projects are currently under construction.

Among the many highlights accessible from Igoumenitsa on full and half day tours are the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Meteora, the lakeside city of Ioannina and Dodoni ancient theatre (3rd century BC), Octavian's city of Nicopolis, the seaside towns of Syvota, Parga and Preveza and the eagle nest villages of Zagori. Epirus is a destination full of historic, religious and cultural attractions, and has some of the best beaches in the Ionian Sea. As well as natural attractions, there are alternative experiences on offer. For the adventurous there are organised activities such as trekking, hiking, river and mountain sports, paragliding, cycling and horse riding.

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Lisbon

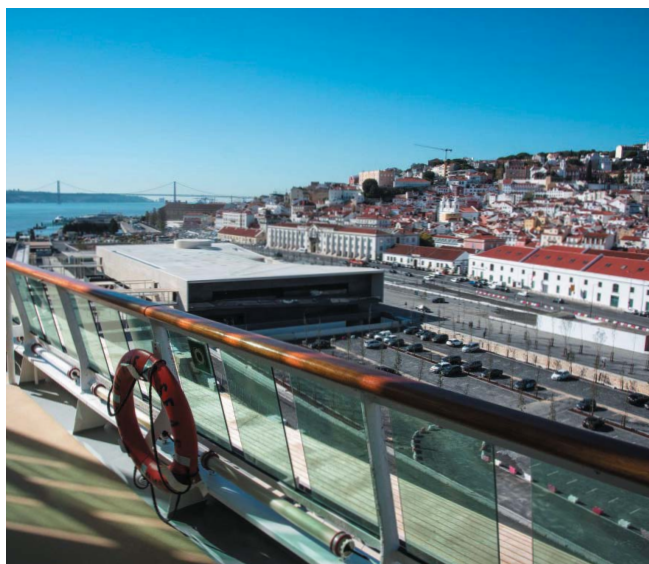
Lisbon hidden treasures is a new tour on offer from the port, taking visitors to one of Lisbon's best kept secrets: The Palace of the Marquis of Fronteira. After the estate passed through generations, it is still occupied by family members and therefore is a home filled with personal memories deeply connected to the history of Portugal. After

visiting the palace and its gardens, visitors will be taken on a panoramic ride through the city centre, with a stop at a local tavern for a Portuguese snack.

The port of Lisbon expects 350 cruise calls and around 600,000 cruise passengers in 2018. The port will welcome 17 new visitors: AIDAnova and Seabourn Ovation will call

Lisbon on their maiden voyages; the other callers are: AIDaperla, Marella Celebration, Marella Discovery 2, Marella Dream, Ocean Adventurer, Sapphire Princess, Marella Discovery, Carnival Horizon, Mein Schiff 6, Marella Explorer, Azamara Pursuit, Mein Schiff 1, Le Champlain, La Laperouse and MSC Seaview. For these new visitors the port authority is preparing special welcome ceremonies.

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Madeira ports



The most popular tour for passengers arriving in Madeira is the 'Excursion to Monte' which entails going up to the top of the mountain on a cable car and then descending in a toboggan. The cable car goes from the old part of Funchal to Monte in around 15 minutes. Enjoy a spectacular view of Funchal's bay and valleys from one of the 39 seven-seater cars. In Monte you can take the opportunity to visit the magnificent Monte Palace Tropical Gardens and also the Church of Our Lady of Monte where lays the tomb of the last Austro-Hungarian Emperor Charles I.

Most people use the toboggan to get back down to the suburbs of Funchal. Made primarily out of wicker and two wooden runners, these toboggans are driven by two men (carreiros) dressed in white, with straw hats and black rubber boots that are used as

brakes. This fast 2km long ride down steep and winding roads is thrilling and timeless attraction for both first timers, and repeat tourists, visiting the island.

A new excursion is 'Afternoon Tea at Belmond Reid's Palace'. Time for tea at 5 o'clock in the afternoon on the terrace of this British-style hotel set in verdant gardens overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. Over the years this luxury hideaway has honed the art of pampering, earning a reputation as one of the best hotels in Funchal.

298 cruise ships will visit Madeira in 2018 bringing 545,000 cruise guests including 11 new callers.

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Livorno



The most popular tour from Livorno is to the Venezia district and Fortezza Vecchia. The Venezia district is the historic heart of Livorno, designed in the 17th century the area has an island feel, criss-crossed by bridges and canals reminiscent of Venice. The excursion can be made easily by foot and concludes with a picturesque boat trip along the Medici canals offering a different perspective on the city. The Fortezza Vecchia (Old Fortress) is of historical importance and overlapping architecture from the 11-16th centuries is evident. The fortress plays host to shows and cultural events throughout the year.

A new tour available from the port is Bolgheri: landscapes and wine tasting. Bolgheri, 40 minutes from Livorno, and famous for its connections with Italian poet Giosuè Carducci, is famous for its wine. Visitors are invited to try the local wine, as well as oil, cheese and various meats, all local Tuscan products.

Another popular tour is of the Archaeological Parks of Val di Cornia (Baratti, Populonia, San Silvestro, Campiglia). The archaeological mines of San Silvestro contain unique examples of mining from the Etruscan era to the present day.

In 2018, Livorno is expecting 375 calls bringing 750,000 passengers. There will be several ships making their maiden calls including: AIDAsol and AIDAprima, Carnival Cruise Lines' Carnival Horizon, Azamara Club Cruises' Azamara Pursuit, Viking Ocean Cruises' Viking Orion and Hapag - Lloyd Cruises' Europa 2. MSC Cruises' MSC Opera will call 13 times performing partial turnarounds.

Port of Livorno's long term plans are to more than double the present space and piers, making available four dedicated berths and two new terminals at Calata Alto Fondale and Calata Orlando. The four fully-equipped berths will be available in the next five years.

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Marseille

In 2018 more than 1.7m cruise visitors are expected in the southern French city of Marseille, port of Provence. Marseille is now a favourite among tourists, attracted by its modern architecture with the famous MuCEM or its Terrasses du Port shopping centre, which invented the 'shopping with a sea view' concept. The must-see sights are the Vieux-Port (Old Port), Notre Dame de la Garde basilica perched on the highest point of the city (162mtr), the historic Panier district, Marseille's 'Latin quarter' and Le Corbusier's Cité Radieuse modern architecture masterpiece, a UNESCO heritage site.

Important for Marseille is the recommissioning of the giant No.10 drydock. Renovation of drydock 10, the largest of the Mediterranean Sea at 465 x 85mtr, was mainly inspired by the growing world fleet of mega-cruiseships - 65% of which operate in the Mediterranean.

The drydock was

built in 1975 as a supertanker facility but was mothballed in 2000 after the market shifted east. The new operator is Chantier Naval de Marseille (CNM) who has operated two other large drydocks at Marseille since 2010 - No.8 (320 x 50mtr) and No.9 (250 x 37mtr). Drydock 10 brings a massive new dimension to the repair base being able to welcome ships upto 550,000DWT.

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Messina



Messina is expecting 166 cruise ships in 2018 and around 371,600 passengers with highlights being 24 calls by MSC Seaview and nine calls by Crown Princess - both new visitors to the northeast Sicilian port. It is also hoping to approve plans for a new terminal in the coming months.

Popular with cruise visitors is the Regional Museum of Messina renowned for the Polyptych of Saint Gregory, signed by Antonellus Messanensis and dated 1473. The two-sided painting with Madonna and Child and Franciscan in adoration (recto) and Ecce Homo (verso), the extraordinary wooden crucifix of presumed Spanish origin, the marvellous Flemish panels and the precious art work collection of Antonello's school stand out, its two Caravaggesque alterpieces including the Raising of Lazarus and the Adoration of the Shepherds painted during the Lombard genius' stay in Sicily, between 1609 and 1610.

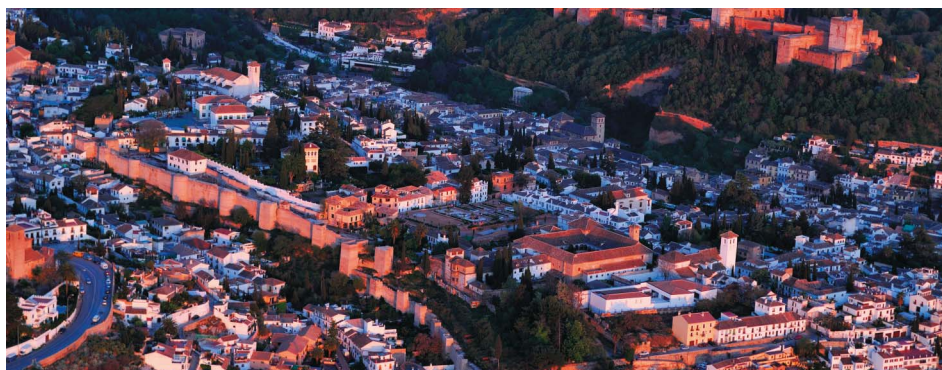
The enormous heritage taken from the rubble of the city centre destroyed by the earthquake in 1908, and from the collections of the XIX century Museo Civico Peloritano located in the former Monastery of S. Gregorio since 1890, was transferred to the open area of San Salvatore.

The rich collection of paintings, stone art works and artefacts, which are part of a complex and well-organized tour, reveal the cosmopolitan nature of the city's history, from the High Middle Ages to the early twentieth century.

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Motril-Granada



Silversea Cruises and Hurtigruten will send ships to Motril for the first time in 2018 when the port is expecting 27 cruise calls in total.

Most popular shorex is a full day tour to Granada and the Alhambra.

Granada, Spain's magical Moorish city, is located between the El Genil and El Darro Rivers, beneath the Sierra Nevada mountains. Her, sun and snow combine to create a city of enchantment and mystery. Granada itself is beautiful, and its remnants of stunning architecture quite superlative. Visit the cathedral, a masterpiece of Renaissance style constructed after the reconquering of Granada by the Catholics. Perhaps not surprisingly, it was built right over the top of Granada's largest mosque. You'll also visit the beautiful

Gothic-style Royal Chapel and learn about its many treasures. However impressive this is, it is fair to say that nothing in all of Spain compares to the wealth of architectural art found in the 14th-century Alhambra—a Muslim-Hispano complex of palaces and gardens. This breathtaking example of Muslim architecture is completely encircled by walls and towers, and inside are palaces, military buildings, a fortress, an administrative center, courtyards and fountains wrought in exquisite detail. Plenty of time is allowed for you to explore this remarkable structure whose mosaics, prism-style cupolas and Stone-cast latticework speak to profound grace and sophistication.

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Naples/Salerno/Castellammare Di Stabia

The port Network Authority Central Tyrrhenian sea represents the main regional ports of Campania Region, Port of Naples, Port of Salerno and Castellammare di Stabia.

A new excursion to visit Naples is 'Up and down in Naples', the best way to explore the city is on foot using public transport, including the funicular.

This new itinerary will take you up to the Vomero hill to visit the majestic Charter House of San Martino, where the most amazing collection of nativity Neapolitan scenes are kept, not to mention the breathtaking views that you will admire from the terrace.

Back down you will be astonished by the most colorful fruit and fish market of the city with its colours and vibrant life, where you can taste a masterpiece of local street food, the "Neapolitan Cuoppo" a mix of deep fried foods served in a paper cone bag.

The port of Salerno, situated in the heart of the Mediterranean, represents a strategic position for cruise traffic, that has become one of the most important sectors of business activity. The Maritime Station at Manfredi Pier, designed by architect Zaha Hadid, is a real work

of contemporary art and is the first stop in the discovery of its great tourist attractions. Other wonderful places can be reached easily from Salerno, such as: the Amalfian coast (Atrani, Ravello, Positano) the National Park of Cilento and the Vallo di Diano with Archeological areas of Paestum.

The Port of Castellammare Di Stabia is now dedicated to pleasure boating 28 km from Naples, it is very close to Pompei

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Palermo



The recently established Port Network Authority of Western Sicilian Sea includes the ports of Palermo, Termini Imerese, Trapani and Porto Empedocle. The new president, Pasqualino Monti, has earmarked growing the four ports' cruise business as a key strategy.

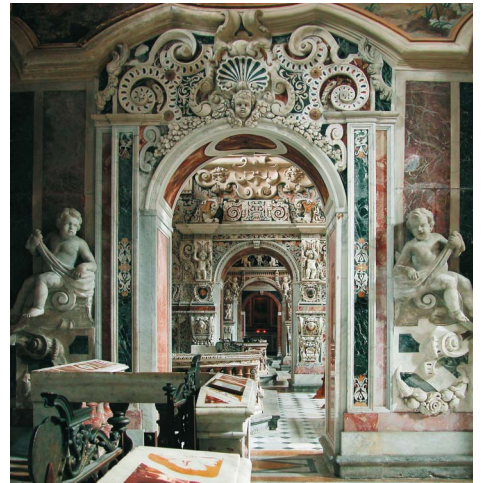
Palermo is expecting 171 cruise calls this year bringing 520,000 passengers including a debut by Viking Cruises' Viking Star and Marella Cruises. Trapani will receive around 55 calls and Porto Empedocle about 20.

A long awaited redevelopment plan for Palermo's waterfront, including the building of a new cruise terminal on Sannuzzo quay, positioned alongside (and south of) the Vittorio Veneto berth, which today hosts the Stazione Marittima is moving forward.

A competition to design the new cruise terminal and a new multipurpose terminal on Piave's quay, today hosting old grain silos, has recently been launched.

Situated east of Palermo, Termini Imerese is an industrial port which already hosts smaller cruise ships. The plan is to undertake dredging to improve operations and at the port of Trapani, on the western tip of Sicily, and Porto Empedocle, near Agrigento there are plans for deepening the berths and upgrading the passenger terminals and services to accommodate smaller cruise ships.

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Piraeus

Sounio



The Best of Athens is very popular for cruise visitors and starts with a brief city drive from Piraeus into Athens covering the main points of interest and passing by the Temple of Olympian Zeus, Hadrian's Arch, the National Gardens, the tomb of the Unknown Soldier, guarded by the 'evzones' dressed in their traditional costume, the Parliament, the Presidential Palace and the Panathinaikon Stadium where the first Olympics of modern times were held in 1896.

Their first stop of the day is usually at the Acropolis site on which is the Parthenon, a major temple built in honor of Goddess Athena. Her statue decorates the centre of the temple and it was made of ivory and gold.

Tours usually continue with visits to the

Athens National Archaeological Museum and the Acropolis Museum, where thousands of ancient artifacts are displayed and are considered to be among the greatest museums of the world. Traditional Greek specialties are widely available at the ancient area called Plaka which is surrounded with pedestrian streets, picturesque houses, shops and numerous cafes.

Piraeus recorded 576 calls and around 1,055,000 passengers in 2017. Due to the continued adverse geopolitical situation in the eastern

Mediterranean, vessel bookings are only slightly improved and as a result cruise calls and passenger traffic for 2018 are expected to increase marginally compared to 2017.

The Port of Piraeus is planning to increase its cruise port infrastructure including the creation of two additional berths which will be able to facilitate the berthing of new generation cruise ships with lengths of 390mtr and 350mtr respectively. Additionally two new cruise terminals will be constructed, one on the new pier and another at the pier of Agios Nikolaos, in order to provide upgraded services to cruise passengers.

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Portofino



8 ships are scheduled to call at Port of Portofino in 2018 bringing 55,000 passengers. 2017 saw 79 ships calling with 35,203 passengers. There will be a host of cruise lines making their maiden calls at the port this year; Compagnie du Ponant, Fred. Olsen Cruise Line, Princess Cruises, Pullmantur Cruises and Viking Ocean Cruises.

A popular tour from Portofino is hiking in the Portofino Regional Park. It's an area rich in biodiversity, and can be explored through an extensive network of trails. It is possible to hike all year round on the coastal paths that run like balconies overlooking the coast or in the forests and higher areas that provide shade during the hotter months.

Another favourite shorex is a visit to San Fruttuoso via private boat or ferry, a beautiful and secluded fishing village south of Portofino with 10th century Abbey and painted houses, handicrafts, welcoming beachfront trattorias, and underwater statue of Christ.

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Sardinian Ports



Sardinian ports is a collection of seven ports; Olbia, Cagliari, Golfo Aranci, Porto Torres, Oristano, Portovesme and Santa Teresa. 250 calls are scheduled for 2018 bringing in 600,000 passengers.

The Molo Rinascita provides Cagliari with a dedicated cruise quay, it stretches 480mtr long on the Western side and 450mtr on the Eastern side, with a depth alongside of 12mtr; the two berths are served by a new cruise terminal.

The Port of Olbia has 4 available berths, included in the Isola Bianca's wharf. It consists of a Maritime Station of 7,300sq mtr, planned to welcome up to 1,000 passengers a day. The port is only 900mtr from the City Centre and 3 minutes from the Costa Smeralda airport.

Port of Porto Torres has recently renovated the Civic port, it consists of the West Pier (200mtr long), the Segni Customs Dock (300mtr



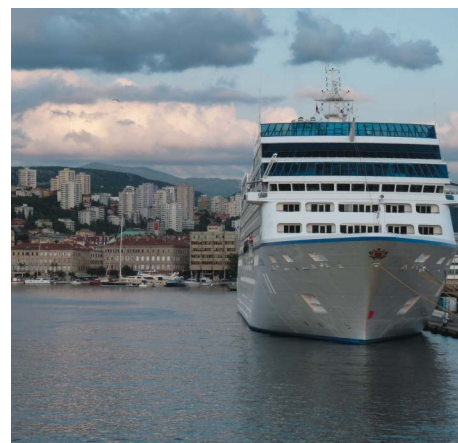
long), and the deep water dock (400mtr long).

Port of Oristano is located at the centre of the Gulf of Oristano. It has an advantageous geographical position and by its technical features, like direct connections with the main road and railway networks, easy mooring operations, deep seabed and an ideal distance from the city of Oristano or Santa Giusta.

North of Olbia lies the Port of Golfo Aranci, it is nationally appreciated because of its ideal position, embarking and disembarking operations' speed and deep water that makes it possible to dock large tonnage ships. There is a renewed Maritime Station with welcoming services and a train station 100mtr away.

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Rijeka



One of the most popular Rijeka shore excursions is to discover the rich history of Rijeka old town and the Trsat, a medieval fortified town and once home to one of the oldest Croatian noble families - the Frankopan family. Trsat is an unavoidable landmark as the oldest Marian shrine sanctuary in Croatia. A wonderful view of Kvarner Bay extends from Trsat.

Rijeka has multiple docking and tendering options for cruise vessels, dependent on the size and draught of the ship. Port facilities at the Maritime Passenger Terminal are capable of accommodating a small and medium size cruise ship, and simultaneously one large cruise ship at the Container terminal facilities. Both terminals are positioned within walking distance from Rijeka's historical town and its ancient treasures and friendly ambience. Rijeka easily fits into Mediterranean itineraries especially for open jaws and is a new, exciting option for port collectors. In 2018, six cruise lines and seven ships will be calling for the first time.

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Sete



The number one shore excursion from the French port of Sete is to Carcassonne, on the UNESCO World Heritage List, it is a city with more than 2,000 years of history and is the largest and best-preserved fortress in Europe. Visiting Carcassonne is like stepping back in time to the Middle Ages, and knowledgeable guides recount stories of the fortress with enthusiasm. Visitors never forget the sight of its fairytale towers and walls rising above the horizon.

Cruise activity in Sete is booming, 20 cruise companies currently send their ships to Sete and in 2018, 70 cruise calls are booked, bringing

more than 100,000 passengers on 27 different ships, including nine newcomers.

Sete is now well known in the industry for being able to receive larger ships, with excellent port facilities. The main challenge is to provide enough coaches and qualified guides for the excursions and visits. To this end, the Cruise Club, gathering touristic and economic authorities and companies is a proactive organisation coordinating stakeholders, identifying challenges and finding solutions.

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Souda/Chania



The town of Chania is a crossroad of religion and civilization, offering fascinating historic and natural destinations. Popular are excursions to museums (Archeological Museum, Maritime Museum and Museum of Typography), archaeological sites (Ancient Hellenic city of Apta), monasteries (Monastery of Ag. Triada), natural botanical parks, traditional Cretan villages or even a city tour and a guided walk through the narrow streets of the Old Harbour.

For beach lovers Elafonisi, Balos and Falasarna are awarded among the best beaches in the world.

A few minutes away from the harbor (7-15 km) there is Agii Apostoli (St. Paul's beach), Platanias and Ag. Marina's beaches with

various water sports available including parasailing.

Souda port-Chania is anticipating similar cruise business this year as in 2017 when 84 ships brought 128,067 passengers.

The Port Authority of Chania Prefecture/Port Authority of Souda has implemented a renovation program for the cruise terminal and is working on a new 2,000sq mtr passenger terminal and quay extension, in order to provide berthing for at least mid-size and mega vessels at the same time and hopes to complete this project in the next three years.

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Sibenik



Sibenik expects 115 calls in 2018, and the number of passengers to rise year-on-year from 28,000 to 37,000 passengers. This is a result of the new Zablace anchorage. Situated only 5km from the city centre it offers anchorage for larger ships outside the St. Anthony Channel. This channel is the biggest challenge for the port of Sibenik. The location of the new anchorage is parallel to the village of Zablace with existing port and transport infrastructure for cruise ship tenders and buses. It offers a great addition to the new Vrulje Quay in the Port of Sibenik which can accommodate ships of LOA up to 240mtr.

This year, once again, Port of Sibenik Authority will receive bigger cruise ships: P&O Cruises' Aurora (LOA 271mtr) and Oceana (LOA 261mtr) and Cunard's Queen Elizabeth (294mtr). First time callers include Queen Elizabeth; as well as Viking Ocean Cruises, who this year will have three maiden calls: Viking Star, Viking Sky and Viking Orion.

Krka National Park is a 109sq km area of natural and cultural value, including preserved ecosystems. Krka river runs from the foothills of Dinara mountain to the Adriatic sea near Sibenik. A truly wonderful place full of waterfalls, lush green land and karstic canyons.

More than 1 million tourists visited the waterfalls of the Krka River in 2017. The Krka National Park is open for visitors all year round, and can be toured by water, by road or by foot on many hiking trails.

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Split



travelled through the port of Split.

In 2018, 282 cruise ships bringing more than 280,000 passengers are expected in the Croatian port. Maiden visitors are AIDA Cruises' AIDAaura, Marella Cruises' Marella Discovery 2, TUI Cruises' Mein Schiff 2 and Viking Ocean Cruises' Viking Orion.

Port of Split is not only a great tourist destination in itself, full of wonderful historic sites, rich in culture and vibrant. It is a rare place in

Mediterranean where you have historic old town centre, vibrant beach with restaurants and coffee shops, museums full of wonderful historic exhibits, live daily traditional a cappella music (klape) and folk dance shows, natural park with hiking and bike trails, all in easy walking distance from the quays. Don't also forget the area's great winemaking tradition and local cuisine specialities.

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In 2017, Port of Split completed the construction of two new cruise berths on the outer side of the breakwater. The berths accommodate cruise ships with a maximum length of 320 mtr and 270 mtr respectively, with 10.5 mtr maximum draft, significantly increasing the capacity to handle large ships and raise the level of service, safety and security for passengers. The total amount of the investment, ex- VAT, amounts to €23m

Last year a record-breaking 5 million passengers and more than 775,000 vehicles

Tarragona



The most popular excursion from Tarragona is the visit to the Roman Tarraco, a UNESCO World Heritage site, with a satisfaction rate of 9 out of 10. Two other tours that have sold very well are Reus, with its modernist heritage, a city where the architect Antoni Gaudi was born and the other excursion most popular with families is PortAventura World and Ferrari Land, theme parks.

In 2018, Tarragona is forecasting 55 calls representing a grow of almost 50% compared

to 2017 and a plus 56% rise in passengers to 80,000.

A new cruise berth has been approved in the port development plan which will be ready around 2020.

In 2017, Costa Cruises based Costa neoRiviera in Tarragona for a maiden season of partial turnarounds which was a big success.

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Taranto (Port Network Authority of the Ionian Sea)



As Puglia, the heel of Italy is becoming more and more popular, Taranto, in all likelihood, is the destination of your next holiday under the Italian sun.

Thanks to its new Multipurpose Service Center, Taranto will be ready - in 2018 - with a passenger terminal to welcome and accommodate sea travellers visiting the Ionian City. In addition to the two national airports - respectively 90 and 75km from Taranto - the airport of Grottaglie is only 20km from Taranto and directly connected to the seaport thus giving Taranto the chance to become a home port.

The Ionian city - founded in 706BC by Spartan warrior Falanto - became the capital of Magna Grecia, the cultural and commercial centre of a civilisation envied by the Romans. The top attractions for history lovers, are the local Archaeological Museum, housing several Greek artifacts, and the Aragonese Castle, built in the 15th century.

Among the wide variety of shorex available the most popular among cruise passengers in 2017 has been the dolphin watching boat tour, which has allowed sea-life lovers to explore the sea and have a close encounter with the dolphins living in the waters of the gulf of Taranto, thanks to the guide of expert researchers from a local association.

Awarded European Capital of Culture for 2019, Matera is the new shorex destination within reach of Taranto, in the nearby Region of Basilicata. You will feel like travelling back in time while visiting this 9,000 year old city - one of the most ancient dwellings in the world - where people lived in caves until the middle of the twentieth century. Nowadays the famous 'Sassi' have been renovated and made into boutique hotels and fancy restaurants.

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Toulon-Var-Provence

From March 2018, Toulon will be connected to Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport with the opening of a new service by Air France between Toulon and Paris offering four flights a day (2 from each) using 70 seat Embraer 170s.

The opening is in response to customer expectations by offering companies the opportunity to conquer new markets as well as boosting the business and tourism sector of Toulon and its region.

The project for a new 400mtr long cruise berth in the heart of city has recently taken a different and positive turn as the Mayor of Toulon announced last December that the project is now to be located in a bigger area, still downtown Toulon, in front of the former naval site, which will allow for the development of nautical, technical and logistics to cater to larger cruise ships.

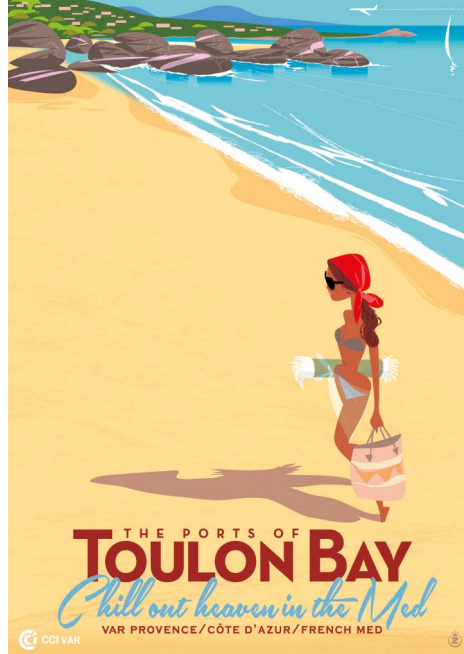
Centrally located in the Western Med and nestled at the heart of the most beautiful and best sheltered bay in the French Med, Toulon, capital of Var Provence, is known as a safe and quality alternative to cruise in the French Med.

Located at the heart of both Provence and the French Riviera, Toulon offers a wide range of tour options in these two worldwide marquee destinations. Working closely with the Cruise Club, new exclusive and experiential tours are developed every season.

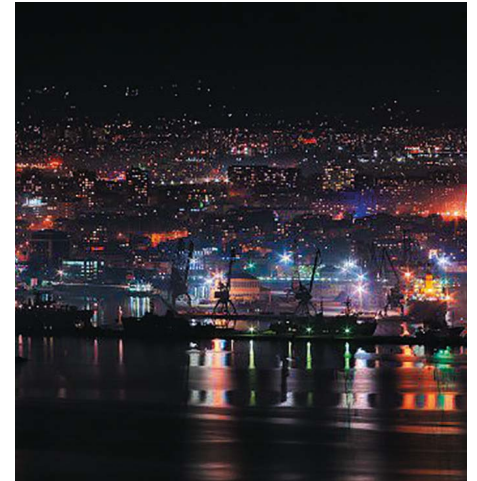
Var Provence is the second tourist destination in France in terms of visitors

welcomed and has more than 300 days of sun per year, preserved and green landscapes, 400 kilometers of coastline with white sandy beaches and translucent turquoise waters.

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Varna



Varna is visited annually by over 1 million tourists. Among the most popular tours organised for cruise passengers is the opportunity to attend golf master classes and off-road adventures in the unique Golden Sands Natural Park.

Culinary masterclasses are also very popular with groups and families. This provides visitors the chance to learn some of the secrets of the incredible Bulgarian cuisine and to become acquainted with life and culture in a Bulgarian home.

Among the most sought after nature trips are a visit to Durankulak Lake, for wild bird watching and visit to Balchik Botanic Garden. Port of Varna is also a starting point for the Varna Highlight Walking tour, which is very informative for newcomers to the city.

Cruise ship calls have waned in recent years due to the Black Sea situation but during this time the passenger terminal has undergone a refurbishment with the entire area landscaped and a number of new recreation facilities added.

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Valencia



A new excursion from the port of Valencia - the Religious Art Route - is becoming popular with visitors. The shorex starts with a stop at the Cathedral, with the obligatory visit to the Holy Grail where you can find out how the popular relic came to Valencia. The tour includes stops at other churches including the recently restored Saint Nicolas, called the Spanish Sistine Chapel with its most impressive paintings. The tour is completed with a visit to the Museum of Fine Arts, the second

biggest art gallery in Spain where you can find, amongst others, treasures and religious paintings from the 16th to 19th centuries.

Figures forecasted for 2018 show a growth in passenger numbers at Valenciaport, 195 calls are expected to bring 425,000 passengers. Last year, 203 ships called bringing 411,317 passengers. This represents a growth of more than 3%.

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Valletta



Mizzi said, 'Government is committed to continue to work with the Valletta Cruise Port to ensure our offering is competitive and that our product continuously improves.'

Stephen Xuereb, ceo of Valletta Cruise Port and coo of Global Ports Holding, said, 'this marks a momentous milestone for Valletta Cruise Port, currently celebrating its 15th anniversary, and Malta.'

Valletta Cruise Port, operator of the sea passenger terminals and Valletta Waterfront and a subsidiary of Global Ports Holding celebrated 700,000 cruise passenger movements in November 2017.

A lucky guest, who arrived in the Port of Valletta aboard MSC Meraviglia, was selected as the 700,000th passenger and given the opportunity to return to Malta in the near future with a 3-day break inclusive of flights for two persons, courtesy of the Malta Tourism Authority.

The Minister for Tourism, the Hon. Dr Konrad

Valletta welcomed over 770,000 passengers aboard 342 cruise ship calls in 2018.

P&O Cruises and TUI Cruises use Valletta for homeporting, the latter for seven consecutive seasons.

Valletta is hosting the 52nd MedCruise General Assembly between 23-26th May 2018, and is also celebrating the title of European Capital of Culture.

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Zadar



the later changes have diminished the remarkable significance of its forts. The defence of the city on the peninsula still preserves an extraordinary accumulation of walls and structures upgraded over time: monumental Land Gate – a master piece of the high Renaissance, strong city walls and bastions which demonstrate the 'alla moderna' military architecture.

In July 2017, the 'Venetian Works of Defence between the 16th and 17th centuries' situated in Croatia, Italy and Montenegro was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List. The particular components are: the fortified city of Bergamo, the fortified city of Peschiera del Garda and the city-fortress Palmanova in Italy; the defensive system of the city of Zadar and the Fortress of St. Nicholas in Šibenik-Knin County in Croatia, and the city of Kotor in Montenegro.

Zadar was the military and administrative centre of the Adriatic part of the Republic of Venice, and the centre of navigational routes between Venice and Corfu, Greece. It is located on a peninsula fortified by the city walls with a series of bastions and curtain walls and an outer fortress overlooking the land. Neither of

This is great news for Zadar but also for other MedCruise destinations in Adriatic Sea such as Šibenik, Kotor, Trieste and Venice.

Zadar Port Authority is constructing a new terminal building and it is expected to be finished by the end of March 2018. The tender documents for the selection of the concessionaire who would operate the terminal building were published last November and submissions had to be made by February 15, 2018.

In 2018 Zadar port is expecting about 140 calls bringing 160-170,000 passengers, this is an increase on the 2017 when 104 ships brought 137,667 passengers.

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Venice



The most popular shorex undertaken by guests on ships visiting Venice are: tour of the Doge's Palace & St. Mark's Basilica, including Ponte dei Sospiri ('Bridge of Sighs'); tour of Burano and Murano Islands with their lace-producing and glass-blowing traditions; gondola tour; and walking tours exploring some of Venice's lesser-known, but celebrated sites such as Jewish Ghetto, Campo San Polo, Campo San Rocco, Rialto Bridge, Basilica di San Giovanni e Paolo, San Basilio and the Greek Orthodox District.

2018 is expected to be consistent with last year, with 473 calls already scheduled and an estimated 1,422,000 cruise passengers. Out of 36 cruise ships deployed in Venice, five are new this year.

Venice continues to face the challenge of finding an alternative route for large cruise ships to reach the port facility of Marittima avoiding sailing in front of St. Mark's Square and along the Giudecca Channel. Alternative solutions are under scrutiny. To that extent, Venezia Terminal Passeggeri S.p.A. along with the fleet commanders of Costa Cruises, MSC Cruises and Royal Caribbean Cruises successfully carried out joint simulations in the second half of 2017 between Netherlands (CSMART Center in Almere), Denmark (at the Force Technology Institute in Copenhagen) and Italy (Centro per la Simulazione della Navigazione in Venice) aiming at testing the access to the port facility of Marittima via Vittorio Emanuele III, a port channel used in the past by the commercial traffic.

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Viking Cruises' Viking Orion



American chemist and recently retired NASA astronaut Dr. Anna Fisher will serve as the godmother for Viking Cruises' fifth ocean ship. Viking Orion, named after the prominent constellation and in honor of Fisher's contributions to NASA's Orion exploration vehicle project, will debut in July 2018.

The 930-passenger newbuild is being fitted out at Fincantieri's Ancona shipyard. Fisher attended the float out ceremony in October 2017 and assisted with several maritime traditions.

Viking Orion will spend its maiden year sailing in the Mediterranean before making its way to Asia, Australia and then Alaska.

Marella Cruises - new livery



Not new tonnage to the Med but sailing under new livery and new name Marella Cruises' Marella Discovery 2 (the former Legend of the Seas) will cruise in the Aegean round trip from Corfu from June to October 2018, and will also call at Medcruise ports of Kusadasi and Pireus during her seven

day itinerary. Marella Explorer (former TUI Explorer) will be based in Palma, Majorca from May to October 2018 calling at MedCruise ports of Civitavecchia and Barcelona on one seven day cruise rotation and MedCruise members Palermo, Naples, Livorno, Villefranche and Palamos on alternating weekly itineraries.

Symphony of the Seas – world's largest cruise ship



Royal Caribbean International's newest ship Symphony of the Seas being delivered by STX France is launching in April 2018.

The 230,00gt Symphony will claim the title of world's largest cruise ship and offer 28 more staterooms than current record-holder Harmony of the Seas.

Symphony of the Seas will spend an inaugural summer season in the Mediterranean, sailing from Barcelona and Civitavecchia (Rome) for Palma de Mallorca, La Spezia, Marseille and Naples. The ship will then arrive to PortMiami in early November to begin seven-night Caribbean itineraries.

Symphony of the Seas will offer all the features of Harmony of the Seas, including seven neighborhoods, varied dining, Bionic Bar robot bartenders powered by Makr Shkr, Broadway-caliber entertainment, the waterfront AquaTheater, the Perfect Storm trio of waterslides and Ultimate Abyss, the tallest slide at sea.

Symphony also will introduce the next generation in family accommodation at sea. The two-level Ultimate Family Suite will include a cinema room with popcorn machine, in-room slide, LEGO wall, air-hockey table and whirlpool on the balcony.

Also debuting: Hooked, the first seafood brasserie in Royal Caribbean's fleet, offering expansive views whilst dining; El Loco Fresh Mexican for fresh and flavoursome Mexican bites, Playmakers Sports Bar & Arcade, Sugar Beach sweet and ice-cream shop.

Bionic Bar will have robotic bartenders serving drinks and the Rising Tide Bar transporting guests from the Royal Promenade to Central Park and AquaTheatre where new aqua and acrobatic show 'HiRo' will be shown, and hit musical Hairspray which will headline the Royal Theatre.



AIDA Cruises' AIDAnova



Of the sixteen ocean-going ships sailing into the global cruise fleet in 2018, many are headed to Mediterranean adding MedCruise ports to their itineraries and include the world's first fully LNG-

powered cruise vessel (AIDAnova) which will embark on a series of 'pre-premiere' cruises in the second half of November prior to her official christening and repositioning to the Canary Islands.

On December 2, 2018 AIDAnova is scheduled to depart Hamburg bound for the Canary Islands to

AIDA's new flagship will be the world's first cruise vessel that can operate entirely on LNG,

cutting nitrogen oxide emissions by 80% and carbon dioxide emissions by 20% in comparison to a cruise ship of the same size operating on HFO.

Scenic Eclipse



Helicopters and submarines are features on the 6-star ultra-luxury mega yacht Scenic Eclipse, carrying just 228 guests, (200 in the polar regions of Arctic and Antarctica), which launches in the Mediterranean on August 31, 2018.

Scenic will be the first to offer guests a level of luxury, discovery, safety and world-class innovation never before bundled into a

ship of this size. Its 10 dining options, 5,900ft² Spa Sanctuary, staterooms that range in size from the generous 345ft² Verandah Suites to the 2,660ft² two-bedroom Penthouse Suite, eight spacious bars and lounges offering unlimited complimentary beverages, butler service, and numerous pools, allow for pampering usually found only in top resorts.

Ponant pair



Ponant's Le Lapérouse and Le Champlain, the company's first two Explorer-series newbuilds, will debut this summer. A new itinerary between Malta and Sicily aboard Le Champlain honours Valetta, European Capital of Culture, in 2018.

Each of the 131mtr ships has 92 cabins and will be fitted with a multi-sensorial underwater lounge. Flying the French flag they will be fitted with the latest technology and certified 1C (ice class). They're designed to meet the Cleanship standards of Bureau Veritas.

Flying Clipper

While the expedition ships are at the smaller end of the size range, the smallest new ship is a sail-cruise vessel, Flying Clipper, at 8,770gt. It's a replica of 1912's France II, the largest square-rigged tall ship ever built and will debut later this year from Croatia's Brodosplit yard.

The vessel will have 150 cabins, including 34 balcony cabins and four owner's suites, a two deck main restaurant, a watersports platform at the stern, an 18ft dive pool spanning two decks, and two other deck-top pools. At 8,770gt with space for 300 passengers and 140 crew, the new ship will be Star Clippers' biggest. It will fly the Malta flag.

Flying Clipper will have 35 sails totalling more than 6,350 square meters. A restaurant spanning two decks in the light-filled atrium will accommodate all passengers for open-seating dining and a glass Dive bar for younger guests will occupy several compartments of the ship. It will rely on wind power and sails whenever possible.



MSC Cruises' MSC Seaview



The 154,000gt MSC Seaview, is the sister of 2017's MSC Seaside and will be first of its class to sail in Europe. At 323mtr long and featuring a maximum capacity of 5,179 guests, the ship is due to come into service in June 2018, six months after first in class MSC Seaside debuted in December 2017 with a

voyage from Trieste, Italy to year-round homeport Miami.

MSC Seaview will sail her inaugural 2018 summer season in the Mediterranean, visiting Genoa, Naples, Messina, Valletta, Barcelona and Marseille.

HAL's Nieuw Statendam



Nieuw Statendam is due for delivery Dec. 1, 2018, the second Pinnacle-class ship—sister of 2016's 99,500gt Koningsdam—is under construction at Fincantieri's Marghera yard.

Nieuw Statendam is scheduled to be

delivered at nearby Venice. Then, after arriving at Civitavecchia (Rome), the ship will sail December 5 on its premiere voyage with passengers—a 14-day trans-Atlantic crossing to Fort Lauderdale.

Carnival Horizon



Carnival Horizon continues the 133,500gt Vista series, with new highlights like a Guy Fieri barbecue/craft brewery and Carnival's first teppanyaki venue and Dr. Seuss-themed WaterWorks.

The attraction builds on Carnival Cruise Line's distinction as the family cruise leader, carrying nearly 800,000 kids a year, and its Seuss at Sea program, an exclusive partnership with Dr. Seuss Enterprises that features themed youth, family, dining and entertainment experiences.

Located on Deck 12, Carnival Horizon's Dr. Seuss WaterWorks will offer two slides. The Cat in the Hat, featuring an enclosed raft slide offering more than 450 feet of twists and turns, has an entrance resembling The Cat's famous red and white hat with the distinctive color pattern carried throughout the slide in alternating translucent and opaque sections.

The 133,500gt Carnival Horizon is in the final outfitting stages at Fincantieri's Marghera yard.

The ship is on schedule for its inaugural cruise from Barcelona, April 2.

Seabourn Ovation

Following its delivery in spring 2018, Seabourn Ovation (sister of late 2016's Seabourn Encore), will embark on an 11-day inaugural voyage departing May 5 from Venice to Barcelona. Cruises through the Adriatic and Mediterranean follow, with calls at destinations in Croatia, Montenegro, Greece, Malta, Italy, France and Spain.



MedCruise News



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Constantza, Romania

Corfu, Greece

Costa Brava Cruise Ports, Spain

Cyprus ports, Cyprus

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French Riviera ports, France

Genoa/Savona, Italy

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Huelva, Spain

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Kotor, Montenegro

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Sicilian Sea), Italy

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