

MedCruise members discuss “Guidelines for Cruise Terminals”



Barcelona), Chairman of the PIANC International Working Group that developed this major project over the course of the last four years, revealed to the MedCruise membership the just completed study that embodies a flexible design approach so that terminals can be adapted to the various current and future needs of cruise companies.

Following the presentation, MedCruise members had the opportunity to engage in an extended Q&A session, while each member also received a copy of the study that provides technical guidelines for assisting the development of cruise port facilities. Based on the newest trends in cruise ships and the industry in general, the document covers all areas involved in the operation of a cruise ship: waterside drivers, apron area, terminal building

On Friday, September 23rd, MedCruise members had an excellent opportunity to discuss best strategies to invest in cruise terminals, during a special session held in Santa Cruz de Tenerife on the occasion of Seatrade Cruise Med 2016.

During the session, MedCruise members also discussed in detail the results of the most recent PIANC study on cruise terminals investment, planning & design.

Invited by MedCruise, Mr. David Pino (Port of

MedCruise destinations in centre of attention at Seatrade Cruise Med 2016

Hosted by the MedCruise member Port Authority of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Seatrade Cruise Med 2016 took place from 21 to 23 September at the International Trade Fair and Congress Centre in Santa Cruz de Tenerife.

In aggregate, more than 130 MedCruise member representatives travelled to Tenerife to participate at this major biennial cruise event, representing more than 70 MedCruise members, 34 of which also joined the MedCruise Pavilion as exhibitors.

The 740sq mtr MedCruise Pavilion turned into a hive of activity with various press conferences, presentations and receptions drawing dozens of attendees, including cruise line executives attending the three-day event.

MedCruise President Kristijan Pavic was among the key note speakers in the opening session of the conference that was running alongside the exhibition, setting the shape of cruise activities in the Med.

Amongst MedCruise speakers were also Carla Salvado (Honorary President), Aïram Díaz Pastor (Director & Ports of Tenerife), Anne-Sophie Peyran (Director & French

Riviera), Thanos Pallis (Secretary General), André Velho Cabral (Azores), Luis de Carvalho (B&A Europe), Mark Robinson (Intercruises), and Andreas Stylianopoulos (Navigator).

Immediately after the conclusion of the Seatrade event, MedCruise members gathered once again to celebrate the 49th General Assembly of the Association.



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and ground transportation area.

In view of the importance to the cruise industry of port security and operational and financial aspects, special emphasis has been laid on these two topics.

This report has been drafted by an international working group (WG 152) set up by PIANC in 2012. The main objective of the work was to provide a guideline for the functional design of cruise terminals, by reviewing the needs of modern cruise ships and evaluating the ship/port interface and the port facilities involved.

MedCruise and CLIA join forces to strengthen relations between cruise ports and lines



MedCruise and CLIA joined forces at Seatrade Cruise Med 2016 to strengthen professional relations and promote interaction between cruise ports and lines.

MedCruise worked closely with CLIA to organise a high-level common event that was held on September 20th, the day before the beginning of the major Seatrade event.

A series of meetings held towards this 'MedCruise VIP & CLIA Diamond Cocktail and Dinner' event further advanced the collaboration between the two Associations.

Partnership project with Princess Cruises advances

Based on the willingness of both MedCruise and Princess Cruises to enhance and further develop their close relationships and collaboration, a partnership project was initiated in 2015.

This joint project gave the opportunity to 17 MedCruise port members to promote their destinations and further extend their professional horizons, via a number of initiatives aiming to reach the guests of



Holland America Group.

During the summer the project moved to the next phase, entitled "Local Connections".

The MedCruise ports participating in the project were asked to provide specific material promoting the destination, such as visual assets, fun facts and top things to do lists. The aim of gathering this information is to create a "Let Princess be your guide to..." brochure for the Mediterranean destinations. The project will continue, involving more MedCruise member ports and further actions.

MedCruise adds expertise to European Sustainable Shipping Forum (ESSF)

MedCruise attended the Sixth Meeting of the European Sustainable Shipping Forum's Sub-group on Port Reception Facilities, held on October 4th, in

Brussels, Belgium, discussing the objectives of the revision of the EU 2000/59/EC PRF Directive as these have been defined.

The Association was represented by Mrs

Valeria Mangiarotti, assigned member for environmental issues, Port of Cagliari.

The overall objective of the Directive on port reception facilities is to "reduce the discharges of ship-generated wastes and cargo residues into the sea, especially illegal discharges, from ships using ports in the Community, by improving the availability and use of port reception facilities.

The specific policy objectives of the revision of the EU Directive 2000/59/EC PRF are:

- To ensure the availability of adequate facilities
- To provide effective (cost) incentives to deliver waste at port reception facilities
- To remove barriers to effective and efficient enforcement
- To harmonise and update definitions and forms
- To clarify the rules for exemptions



MedCruise contributes at Italian Cruise Day

The 6th successful edition of Italian Cruise day held on Friday, September 30, 2016, at the MedCruise member port of La Spezia. MedCruise President Kristijan Pavic formally represented the Association sharing views with MedCruise members and other cruise professionals on the current state of the cruise industry in Italy and the Mediterranean Sea.

The state of the industry and the recent Italian ports reform were among the main topics of Kristijan Pavic keynote speech. "MedCruise is the platform for the challenges ahead to be discussed. We invite Italian PAs to take advantage of MedCruise experience, knowledge, network, tools and activities. [...] The test for all is to allow for cruising in the Med and its adjoining seas to sustain as the most exciting way of

vacations. We also want to create the background for socially responsible growth", emphasised MedCruise President.

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.



Shaping discussions at GreenPort 2016



Cruise port infrastructure, port projects on renewable energy and transport systems, and the reduction of emissions from cruising, are the three key issues discussed during the 4th GreenPort Cruise Conference, which was held under the auspices of MedCruise in Venice, Italy.

MedCruise has been a key contributor in the core of the discussions. Among others, participating in the first session, Valeria Mangiarotti (MedCruise assigned member for environmental issues,

Marketing Manager of Port of Cagliari) discussed the ongoing reform of the Port waste Reception Facilities (PRF) Directive 2000/59.

In the second session, MedCruise Honorary President Carla Salvadó (Director of Cruise Marketing, GPH) presented green initiatives that are already implemented as best practices in Kusadasi, Bodrum and Antalya cruise ports.

The evaluation of the Directive and the assessment of effectiveness and efficiency are a work in progress for MedCruise and its members and working together to develop proposals that will improve the simplicity of the legislative framework and reduce its regulatory costs. The same time the dissemination and implementation of green best practices are in great importance and ports working together to achieve greener ports.

Discussing latest issues at International Cruise Summit

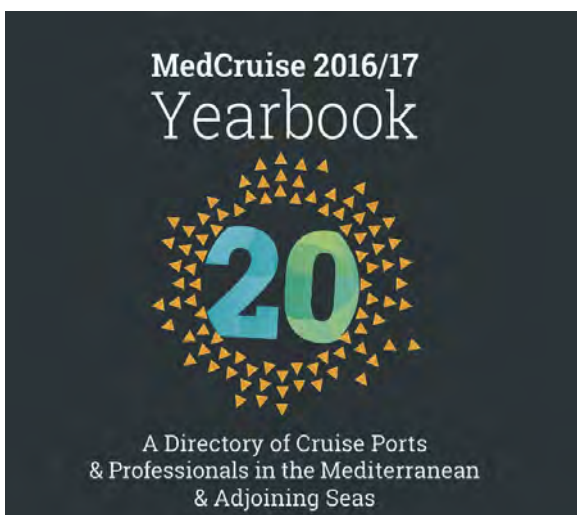


MedCruise representatives and members promote cruise activities in the Med and its adjoining seas during the sixth edition of the International Cruise Summit (Madrid, 22-23 November).

MedCruise President Kristijan Pavic, who is among the speakers of the Summit, shall join the panelists in discussing the recent developments in the cruise industry and its future prospects, highlighting the vital role of cruise ports, as well as that of MedCruise in promoting the Mediterranean cruise industry in emerging markets, such as Asia.

The event, organised by CruisesNews Media Group, is held under the auspices of MedCruise.

Yearbook 2016/17: reaches cruise line executives



The '20 Years' edition of MedCruise Yearbook was widely distributed at the MedCruise booth in Tenerife during Seatrade Cruise Med 2016, while all conference delegates received a hard copy inside their conference bag.

The updated MedCruise directory -that is also available online- provides important technical data about the cruise ports in the Med and its adjoining seas, as well as descriptions of the destinations and associate members. It also serves as a "Who is Who" with photos and vital contact information.



MedCruise will be participating at the following events worldwide in 2016/17

4th Airport Chief Executives' Symposium (ACES), Athens
12 December, 2016



ACES - Athens
4th Airport Chief Executives' Symposium
Hotel Grande Bretagne, 12 December 2016

Conference on the Development of Cruising, Volos
19-21 January, 2017

Seatrade Cruise Global, Fort Lauderdale
13-16 March, 2017



5th MedCruise Professional Development Course
April, 2017

ITB China & CETCOM Conference 2017, Shanghai
10-12 May, 2017



4th Posidonia Sea Tourism Forum, Athens
23-24 May, 2017



50th MedCruise General Assembly, Gibraltar
14-17 June, 2017



Seatrade Europe 2017, Hamburg
6-8 September, 2017



Italian Cruise Day 2017, Palermo
October 2017



51st MedCruise General Assembly, Toulon
October/November, 2017

50th MedCruise General Assembly to be held in Gibraltar



The 50th MedCruise GA will take place 14-17 June 2017 in Gibraltar. During this 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.

For more information on the forthcoming MedCruise event, stay tuned!



#PortsTogether: Revealing the state of Med ports to the cruise world

PORTS TOGETHER

20 MedCruise Years

In a major attempt to detail the contemporary characteristics of the cruise port industry in the Mediterranean and its adjoining seas, MedCruise conducted a key survey aiming to highlight the characteristics, and challenges that the MedCruise member ports are facing.

The outcome forms a special report that details the current state of the cruise port

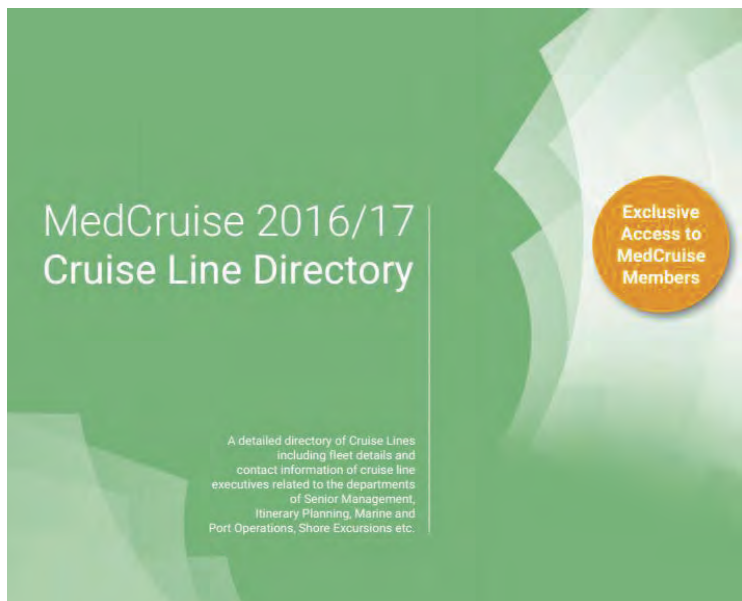
industry in the Mediterranean and its adjoining seas.

Highlights of the fact-finding survey are part of "Ports Together", a special publication that marks the 20 years of MedCruise. Being a snapshot of the cruise ports today, it also serves as a reference to how far the cruise ports in the Med has gone in the last 20 years. Enjoy the reading!

MedCruise membership enjoys access to updated Cruise Line Directory

The updated MedCruise Cruise Line Directory 2016/17 will be soon available to the MedCruise membership.

All the members of the Association are offered exclusive access to MedCruise Cruise Line Directory, which forms a detailed directory of all major cruise line companies including fleet details, as well as contact information of cruise line executives related to the departments of Senior



Management, Itinerary Planning, Marine and Port Operations, Shore Excursions etc.

Mercy Ships - Charity of Choice



MedCruise has officially adopted Mercy Ships as its charity of choice, in a move designed to help the humanitarian aid and development organisation raise awareness of its vital work in developing nations.

Having recognised the work being carried out by Mercy Ships, MedCruise aims to raise awareness of the need for greatly improved access to essential surgery in developing nations.

Mercy Ships relies almost entirely on volunteer crew to operate its 16.000 tonne floating hospital. These volunteers spend anything from a month to a lifetime using their skills to help those who are less fortunate.

European Cruise & Ferry Port Network discusses the way forward



MedCruise participated at the fourth meeting of the Cruise and Ferry Port Network, organised within ESPO, discussing the next steps of the network uniting cruise ports from all over Europe and the adjoining seas.

Following meetings in Brussels, Copenhagen and Rotterdam, this most recent meeting was held on October 11th in Venice, Italy, under the Presidency of Stavros Hatzakos, General Manager of the Port of Piraeus and MedCruise Honorary President.

Participants were updated among others on the latest developments, following discussions of cruise ports associations with DG MARE as regards the future of the Pan-European Cruise Dialogue.

MedCruise continues to actively contribute in the Network of European Cruise and Ferry Ports set within ESPO, providing input and disseminating the Network's advancement on the mentioned issues in due time.

MedCruise China Strategy: taking the next step



Beyond The Horizon of Zheng He Branding the Mediterranean in China

Since 2015, MedCruise is working on an extensive China Marketing Plan to benefit MedCruise members. This focuses on the fact that the region itself represents a high degree of attraction, combining different elements such as history, nature, culture and gastronomy, all much appreciated by Chinese tourists.

As part of this plan, MedCruise has created a Chinese website (www.medcruise.cn) aiming to emerge the Mediterranean as the mostly preferred cruise destination among Chinese cruise tourists, while the active presence of MedCruise members on WeChat (Chinese social media) forms also a crucial part of this plan.

In November 2016, MedCruise in collaboration with Chinese Friendly completed the first stage of this strategic marketing plan and are currently discussing the next step, which shall include active presence of MedCruise destinations on Weibo (also known as the Chinese version of Twitter), gaining thus the attention and trust of Chinese bloggers and general public.

www.medcruise.cn

WeChat User: MedCruise



Developing the supply chain for cruise industry: MedCruise links ports with airports

MedCruise member ports recognise the need for the different cruise stakeholders to set up a supply chain and work together to develop cruise activities in the Med, its adjoining seas and beyond.

In this context, MedCruise will participate at the 4th Airport Chief Executives' Symposium (ACES-Athens) scheduled to take place on December 12th, 2016, in Athens, Greece. Discussions of this annual high-level conference will focus on the cruise industry perspective, the airports' and the ports' synergies and their impact on the various destinations

MedCruise Secretary General Thanos Pallis will be among the keynote speakers of the event, presenting the challenges and



ACES - Athens 4th Airport Chief Executives' Symposium

Hotel Grande Bretagne, 12 December 2016

opportunities currently faced in the cruise port industry mainly when it comes to port/city relations.

CLIA Europe Secretary General Raphael von Heereman will also be among the keynote speakers, while several cruise line executives shall join the other panelists discussing "The Cruise Lines Perspective".

New members appointed

MedCruise represents more than 100 ports in 20 countries

- 72 regular members
- 34 associate members
- >100 ports
- 20 countries

MedCruise welcomed 6 new members in 2016

New Regular members 2016

Port of Ancona
Port of Varna

New Associate members 2016

Alfaship
Kyriakakis Travel
Mediterranean Unique Experience
Var Provence Cruise Club

MedCruise member representatives swept Seatrade Cruise Awards 2016



Mehmet Kutman chairman and ceo, Global Investment Holdings was named Seatrade Cruise Personality of the Year. Award accepted by Emre Sayin, ceo Global Ports Holding pictured with Per Bjornsen (right) head of V. Ships Leisure, award sponsor.



The Seatrade Lifetime Achievement Award for Services to Cruising went to Erkunt Oner, ceo and founder of Tura Turizm pictured with Mary Bond, managing director for publishing, Seatrade, and presented by Seatrade gm Andrew Williams.



Supplier of the Year winner: B&A Europe (Bermello Ajamil & Partners Europe) Luis de Carvalho, CEO. B&A Europe coined the term 'Atlantic Corridor' and helped put the region covering the Azores, West Iberian coast, Canary Islands, Madeira Islands, Morocco, Cape Verde islands, West and Central Africa on the cruising map. In 2015, the region welcomed over 3.5m passengers.



Innovative Shorex Award winner: Inter cruises/ Hidden City Tours for their 'Barcelona Walking Tour Guided by the Homeless.' Christian Bové, manager, Barcelona collected the award. This tour, creating jobs for Barcelona's homeless, was expanded in 2016 featuring on many TUI Cruises' calls in Barcelona. The walking tour of the city's gothic quarter exclusively employs and trains guides who are homeless.

Celebrating its 10th edition, the Seatrade Cruise Awards 2016 were celebrated in MedCruise port member of Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain.

MedCruise regular members and associates swept this year's awards including B&A Europe (Supplier of the Year), Inter cruises (Innovative Shorex of the Year) and Ports of Tenerife (Port of the Year finalist).

The Seatrade Lifetime Achievement Award for Services to Cruising was handed to Mr. Erkunt Oner, ceo and founder of Tura Turizm and MedCruise member representative, while MedCruise regular member Global Ports Holding (GPH) was honoured with the Cruise Personality of the Year award that went to Mr. Mehmet Kutman, ceo Global Ports Holding.

Feeling proud of the valuable contribution of its members to the cruise industry, MedCruise would like to congratulate all of this year's Seatrade Cruise Awards winners and finalists!



Port of the Year finalist: Ports of Tenerife (Port Authority of Santa Cruz de Tenerife). Ricardo Melchior, president, collected the award. The Port Authority's new cruise terminal opening this summer has been developed by listening and working closely with cruise lines to achieve the best design according to their needs, security and the port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife's commercial strategy.



MedCruise sponsored the Environmental Initiative Award, which was won by Old City Harbour Tallinn for their Micro-Tunnel construction.

Ancona



In 2017 the port of Ancona expects 40 cruise ships to call. MSC Cruises continues to be the main operator, with 18 calls of MSC Sinfonia between June and October. Oceania Cruises' Riviera is also returning in 2017. There are 3 maiden callers: Serenissima and Golden Iris, the latter of Mano Cruises, plus Ponant Cruises' Le Lyrial, built in the shipyard of Ancona and delivered in 2015.

Conero natural park and the bay of Portonovo is one of the most popular excursions from Ancona and is just 20 minutes away from the port. The area includes the Monte Conero, the only mountain along the Adriatic coast between Trieste and the Gargano. The park is characterised by wonderful beaches, with a rich fauna that includes dolphins and sea turtles. The area is also rich in history, including

Roman archeological sites, the Romanic church of Santa Maria in Portonovo, and the medieval town of Sirolo. The land is also known for excellent wine production, with several vineyards located in the area of Camerano for the production of the internationally renowned Rosso Conero.

The port authority has started the development process for a new terminal suitable for handling Oasis-class ships. The estimated costs of €20m are needed to build the new quay and the related access road and parking, while the terminal is expected to be built with private funds. The port authority plans to have the terminal ready by 2021.

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Azores



The ports of the Azores are aiming for another record year for 2017 with 165 cruise calls expected, bringing 152,000 passengers and of those ships 11 will be newcomers. Compared to the figures for this year when 125 ships are expected, bringing 130,000 passengers, and of those 10 were maiden callers.

Shore excursions from Ponta Delgada, Praia da Vitoria Port and Horta ports mainly focus on nature based trips. Furnas Valley, incorporating Fire Lake is the most requested shore excursion and provides guests with a

thrilling experience and amazing landscapes combined with local gastronomy. Furnas Valley is found upon 1,766 volcanoes, nine of which are still active. Underground, almost three hundred volcanic cavities, including, caves, ravines and cracks, have been surveyed.

The ports of Azores are investing in a small port in one of the islands - Velas, in São Jorge Island. Further details will be announced soon.

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Balearic Islands



The five ports of the Balearic Islands, Palma, Alcudia, Mahon, Ibiza and La Savina, are all expecting more (or the same) amount of ships to call in 2017 as this year. Palma will receive 559 calls, Alcudia 14, Mahon 102, Ibiza 187 and La Savina 3. Overall Balearic ports received 749 calls in 2016 and are expecting 865 next year. Passenger numbers have risen from 1,886,728 to 2,059,481 – a significant 9% increase.

From Palma, a tour of the city of Palma can take 1/2 or whole day. From Alcudia, take an excursion to Palma (only 45 minutes by bus) or Alcudia's churches and sanctuaries route and the Roman City of Pollentia. From Mahon, take a trip to 'Talayotic Menorca', where there are more than 1,500 archaeological sites in 70sq mtr. Visitors will have the opportunity to visit these sites with a tour guide. This tour includes a cheese tasting.

From Ibiza, for overnight ships, sail to Formentera, the smallest of the Balearic Islands. A turquoise island of beaches of fine sand, with beach clubs for sunbathing, routes for trekking or cycling and lighthouses. For short calls, Ibiza's rich heritage has earned the recognition of Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 1999. This rich heritage is represented by Dalt Vila, the old city that crowns the port and whose streets invite the traveller to wander slowly.

At Palma, work is underway to extend Poniente Norte wharf, with an investment of €23m and a surface of 36sq mtr. Likewise, APB has a plan for the construction of the new terminal 6 at Dique del Oeste, with an investment of €16m and a surface of 9.5sq mtr. Terminal 6 has been designed to specifically receive the largest cruise ships.

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Formentera

Barcelona



Barcelona port plans to increase its efforts to promote turnaround traffic in 2017. For the 2016 season turnarounds increased from 55% to 61% and figures are expected to rise next year.

For 2017 Barcelona expects 2.75m passengers on 800 calls. It will also receive 12 new ships.

Work is ongoing on the new Carnival Group's cruise terminal at Adossat Quay, Terminal E, that will be ready in 2018. It is an

investment of €20m and will provide a 10,000sq mtr area and capacity for 4,500 passengers. It will be used by seven of Carnival's 10 brands. The company already operates Terminal D.

The other six cruise terminals of the port are managed by Creuers del Port. They are constantly working to improve their services in order to maintain the highest levels of quality.

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Brindisi

The Port of Brindisi is expecting approximately 10 ships and 100,000 passengers to call in 2017. New ships visiting the port will be Seabourn Cruises' Seabourn Encore and Seabourn Odyssey, Ponant Cruises' Le Lyrial, Crystal Cruises' Crystal Serenity, and Premiere Cruises' Serenissima.

The area of Salento, just 30 minutes-drive from the port, is an undiscovered land of cultural and historical interest. Also Ostuni, the so called white town, is only 20 minutes from the Port. Or you can also reach, in 1-hour drive both Alberobello, 'trulli' capital and UNESCO world heritage site, or Taranto,

ancient capital of Magna Grecia with its newly opened and world famous MarTA Museum.

Last year, Brindisi inaugurated a new cruise terminal, housing ticketing area, baggage handling, Customs and Border Agency area and security operations. The project was developed by the Port Authority of Brindisi at an investment of €300,000 and involved the renovation of an existing building located in the heart of the port.

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Bari

Passenger numbers visiting Port of Bari are on the increase. For 2017, there will be 400,000 passengers visiting the port, 30,000 more visitors than last year.

Puglia's trulli houses have become some of the most popular tourist attractions in southeast Italy. Alberobello is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a unique town of charming, narrow streets where the inhabitants live in 'trulli', small conical-roofed houses initially built without the



use of mortar and with only dry stones piled one on top of the other and crowned with limestone roofs. Many of the homes are still lived in, creating an enchanting atmosphere. This town can be visited from Bari as either a full or half day excursion.

Over €10m will be invested on infrastructure at the Port of Bari by expanding the Cruise Terminal, in order to create new areas and optimise the existing ones. Total area of the terminal will increase to 8,000sq mtr on three floors. There will be added security controls and new passenger footbridges.

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Cagliari

Cagliari Cruise Port (CCP) officially opened its new cruise terminal on July 21 this year. An investment of €1m, financed by CCP and partly from the European Fund JESSICA (Joint European Support for Sustainable Investment in City Areas), the terminal is located on Rinascita pier at the centre of a 10,000sq mtr area and offering an indoor space of around 1,000sq mtr with ample room for handling luggage for local turnaround operations. The new terminal will be managed by a consortium comprising Royal Caribbean, Venezia

Terminal Passeggeri and Aloschi & Bassani who have signed a concession for 15 years.

This year Cagliari is expecting over 100 calls and almost 300,000 passengers, with a 40% rise in passengers in 2017. Costa Pacifica is a weekly caller from March to November and Costa Diadema from May to September while MSC Armonia will call weekly from June to end October. The last call of 2016 is Swan Hellenic's Minerva on Christmas Eve.

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Cartagena



In 2017, port of Cartagena expects 145 ships, 10 of them maiden calls, and around 225,000 passengers. There will be an increase of 20% both in the number of ships and the number of passengers from 2016 figures.

Visit one of the most typical ranches of Cartagena's countryside! Passengers will be able to see horses from the Pure Spanish breed that are born, raised and tamed in this ranch. The horses found here are descendants of the Andalusian horse that are strongly built, compact yet elegant, with long, thick manes and tails. A demonstration of the Spanish

horsemanship and an amazing sevillanas performance will be given to demonstrate the art of dressage. After the performance enjoy delicious tapas accompanied by wine from the region.

Infrastructure works that are currently taking place at Port of Cartagena is a 144mtr long extension of the Cruise Terminal, providing a berth of over 700mtr long. The works will be carried out during a period of 14 months, and the investment will be of €4.6m.

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Burgas



The renovation of the oldest indoor port warehouse, Magazia 1, at Burgas is now completed. The facility is transformed into a maritime museum and cultural centre with functionality for a second passenger terminal. Constructed in 1903 by engineer Adolf Gerard, Magazia 1 is one of the oldest buildings at the port of Burgas and is constructed using the same technology as the Eiffel Tower.

There are currently two ships booked to call at port of Burgas in 2017 bringing 4,500 passengers. This is expected to increase in the foreseeable future. During the last two years there has been a decline in cruises to the Black Sea region due to the unstable situation in the Crimea and increased fee for crossing the Bosphorus. Port of Burgas does have a new ship calling next year, Mano Maritime's Golden Iris will call.

St Anastasia is an island in the Burgas bay, it is located 6.5km southeast of Burgas. The island is a popular tourist attraction and there are regular connections that leave from the passenger terminal. The complete restoration of the island was completed in 2013 and carried out by the Municipality of Burgas with EU funding. On the island is a museum complex, restaurant and café.

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Castellón



Port Castellón received two calls this year, the same number as in 2015 although passenger numbers have risen from 366 to 1,100. Holland America Lines' Prinsendam called again and operates in Castellón almost every year, plus this year Silversea Cruises brought Silver Cloud on a maiden visit.

A new tour is to a lovely little town called Alcora, where you can spend the day learning how to and making your own hand-made pieces of pottery, at the time as listening to the Ghost film soundtrack 'Unchained

Melody'. Passengers who enjoyed this tour said that they returned to the ship much more in love with their husbands than before!

There are no plans for more infrastructure at the moment and the port is conscious that passengers don't want to lose time dealing with busy port infrastructures, so makes a strong effort in providing free shuttle buses from the port to the city centre every half an hour for any cruise line calling at Castellón.

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Ceuta



A new walking tour of Ceuta is available starting at the Plaza de Africa where the Monument to the fallen in the War of Africa is located. The war took place between 1859-60 and the remains of the military that fought are buried in a crypt beneath the monument. The next stop is the Palacio de la Asamblea, where construction began in 1914 and was inaugurated in 1927 by King Alfonso XIII. Other points of interest on the tour are the Catedral de Santa Maria de la Asuncion, an old mosque that was turned into a church bringing Christian worship to the city as a result of the conquest of Don

Juan I from Portugal in 1415; the Basilica Tardoromana, the museum was created at the discovery of the remains of the late-roman basilica. They are the only IVth century Christian remains on the south of the Mediterranean.

15 cruise ships called in 2016 and there are 15 booked for 2017 as well. €2.2m is earmarked for improving lighting, signposting, green areas and security at the cruise terminal.

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Civitavecchia

Roma Cruise Terminal (RCT) announced it has signed an agreement with the Itinera/Zambonini consortium for the construction of a new 10,000sq mtr cruise terminal in the port of Civitavecchia. Work on the €20m terminal is scheduled to start next month and the building is expected to be completed in 2018.

The ground floor will house the passenger and luggage screening area as well as luggage hall. The first floor includes 60 check-ins, a VIP area with separate check-in counters, a bar and restaurant and ample seating space. Offices for terminal users are located both on the ground floor and the first floor.



Two boarding bridges and a 200mtr walkway will facilitate embarkation and disembarkation of passengers. The bridge will also serve to separate passengers from the vehicular flow on the quays.

John Portelli, RCT's general manager said 'we are looking forward to the start of the construction of the new terminal. The new terminal will further consolidate the primary role of Civitavecchia, the port of Rome at the forefront of the cruise industry.'

Designed by Studio Vicini of Genoa, cruise lines were asked to submit their suggestions which were subsequently incorporated in the final design of the terminal.

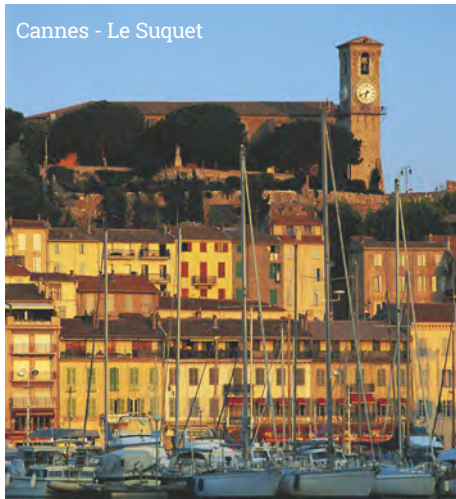
RCT is jointly owned by Costa Crociere, Marinvest and Royal Caribbean Cruises and has been responsible for cruise operations in the port of Civitavecchia since 2007. This year, RCT is expecting to handle around 2.3m passengers and 836 cruise ships.

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French Riviera

Cannes - Le Suquet



The four ports of the French Riviera, Cannes, Antibes, Nice and Villefranche sur mer expect 373 cruise ships bringing 721,000 cruise passengers in 2017. There are a number of maiden callers due: Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse, Hapag Lloyd Cruises' Europa 2, Oceania Cruises' Sirena, Ponant Cruises' Le Lyrial, and Royal Caribbean International's Jewel of the Seas and Freedom

of the Seas. These figures show a 70% increase for Villefranche sur mer, Nice also has a small increase and Cannes is stable.

A new tour on offer is a 'Stroll through Antibes & a visit to the Absinthe Bar'. Arriving in Antibes, cruise guests can walk along one of the largest harbours in Europe, known as Port Vauban, where the rich and famous anchor their super yachts. Antibes was founded by Greek merchants in the 5th century BC and is one of the oldest cities in France. The historic part of the city is a maze of small, flower-bedecked streetscapes with Roman and medieval sections. Its 16th-century ramparts overlook the Mediterranean Sea and still protect the heart of the Old Town. After a visit to the historic area, the discovery of the well-known Absinthe Bar will offer refreshment. This cavernous establishment is a world away from the vagaries of modern times, hidden in a 9th-century vaulted cellar, complete with a Roman well. To accompany this famous Absinthe - a wormwood-based alcoholic beverage, some regional delicacies such as tapenade or pissaladiere will be offered.

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Genoa



The Port of Genoa is set to handle 1 million cruise passengers on 220 cruise ship calls in 2017. New ships scheduled to call in Genoa are MSC Cruises' MSC Meraviglia and Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse.

Cruise passenger throughput is expected to drop slightly, by approximately 5%, compared to the current year. However, 2016 is set to be a record year for Genoa's cruise traffic, and Genoa will continue to rank amongst the Top 4 Italian cruise ports to exceed the 1 million threshold.

A popular half-day shore excursion is a visit combining both a guided walking tour through Genoa's extensive pedestrianised historic city centre and a trip to the Aquarium located in the vibrant old port area. Cruise passengers can step back in time with a stroll through the old town: an eclectic labyrinth of medieval cobblestoned passageways, home to

a wealth of sumptuous Renaissance and Baroque 16th and 17th-century palazzi built by the rich mercantile families, and today listed amongst the premier UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Highlights also include the 13th-century Palazzo Ducale - the former residence of the Genoese Doges - and the Romanesque Cathedral of San Lorenzo. Whilst the modern Aquarium is the largest in Europe and boasts a rich, underwater universe full of rare mysterious species, in addition to popular attractions such as dolphins, sharks, penguins and seals.

Estimated investments of €2.2m in new equipment at the Stazioni Marittime passenger terminals for 2016 include the installation of new gangways at the Ponte Doria Cruise Terminal.

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Cyprus

Kolossi Castle



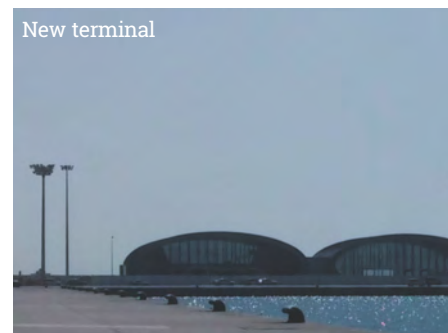
From Lemesos port, visitors may visit the Kourion, where one of the island's most important archaeological monuments is located, the Temple of Apollo. An absolute must for those who love history and antiquities. The excursion then continues with a visit to Kolossi Castle and the UNESCO World Heritage Omodos village. The excursion finally ends with shopping and a break at Lemesos old city. Other excursions leaving from Lemesos port include Kykkos Monastery, one of the largest and most famous in Cyprus, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and home to one of the three surviving icons painted by the Apostle Luke.

From Larnaca port, excursions may combine walking along the sandy beach of Larnaca up to Larnaca Castle, a visit to St. Lazarus church and the Salt Lake, which is home to 85 species of water-birds, the significant stone build church of 'Angeloktisti' and then a visit to Ayia Napa and Protaras, both of which are popular tourist resorts. Different excursions from Larnaca port include a visit to Nicosia Town, combining walking to Laiki Geitonia, where visitors can choose to taste traditional Cypriot food and Mediterranean cuisine and visits to the Archbishop's Palace, the Byzantine Museum, the Library of the Archbishopric, the Folk Art Museum, the National Struggle Museum, as well as to Agios Ioannis Cathedral within the old city walls.

The new €14.4m passenger terminal at Lemesos is recently completed. The Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works has issued a tender for the submission of ideas aiming to establish Larnaca port and marina into a major cruise destination.

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New terminal



Gibraltar



Gibraltar port expects 257 cruise calls in 2017 bringing over 400,000 passengers. Of these, some are inaugural calls. These numbers are an increase of the figures from 2016 when 225 calls and 350,000 passengers called at the Rock.

The Gorham's Cave complex was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Status in July 2016. Shore excursions are being planned to showcase this newest attraction. The cave,

named after Captain A. Gorham of the 2nd Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers, is considered to be one of the last known habitations of the Neanderthals in Europe. They are our closest extinct human relative, with Europeans having up to 2.5% of their DNA. Symbolic rock engravings were discovered in 2012.

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Huelva



A popular tour from Huelva is to the Doñana National Park: an environmental jewel and one of the most important protected natural areas in Europe. The tour will take visitors to the north of the Park in a truck, visiting two of the most important ecosystems of Doñana: the forests and marshes. Several stops will be made during the tour, and will visit the former royal hunting private area, Coto del Rey, a magnificent area crowned by the territory of lynxes and eagles. A nature guide will explain everything about the fauna and flora in this area, and several stops will be made to get pictures of this unforgettable

moment. Last stop will be to visit El Rocío Village, a village known by its unique pilgrimage, which attracts hundreds of pilgrims every year.

The port of Huelva has halted its project for a new terminal to reduce possibilities of increasing costs, and instead is purchasing an automatic gangway to improve the embarkation/disembarkation of passengers for an investment of €1m.

The port is expecting seven cruise calls in 2017 bringing in 13,006 passengers.

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Igoumenitsa

Port of Igoumenitsa is expecting 12 cruise calls in 2017, and Silversea Cruises has chosen the Greek port as a new destination to visit. Nine ships called at Igoumenitsa in 2016, meaning a small increase year on year.

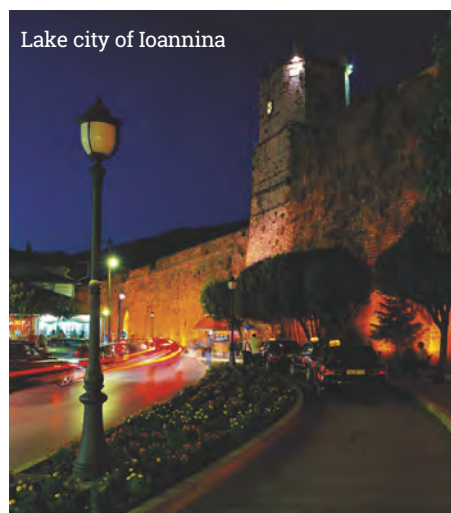
The recently completed Egnatia highway that starts at Igoumenitsa port and cuts right through the massive mountain ranges of



Epirus has made it possible for cruise lines to safely and speedily access a totally new dimension of Greece. Epirus is an astounding region that combines virgin alpine landscapes with green plateaus, rivers and valleys. Steeped in history, with sites and monuments covering all ages of man, Epirus is also rich in local culture, traditional stone built architecture, unusual arts & crafts, as well as special gastronomic interest. The charming lake city of Ioannina, the traditional market town of Metsovo and the pinnacle village cluster of Zagori offer unique travel experiences that combine history with culture and natural beauty. Also, close to Ioannina, is the fascinating archaeological site of Dodoni, one of the main centres of the Ancient Epirot League.

The completion of Phase II of the port's development project will result in an enhanced infrastructure. The works are already 90% completed. Works of Phase II still to be completed include the completion of 2,324sq mtr. Passenger Terminal 3 Building that will serve Schengen Agreement controls and serve cruise ships.

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Koper



Port of Koper is currently planning for a cruise terminal building. The aim is to be ready for the 2018 season. The building will include all necessary facilities to offer an excellent service for cruise lines and passengers.

In the middle of the summer a promenade connecting the cruise terminal and the city was widened plus reconstruction of old walls and a new modern and fast elevator to increase the passenger experience.

For 2017, 20 ships with a total of 60 calls and 75,000 passengers will visit port of Koper, all of

them in transit. Maiden visitors to the port will be Viking Ocean Cruises' Viking Star and Viking Sky, Holland America Line's Westerdam, Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse and Princess Cruises' Sea Princess.

The assortment of excursions available in Koper is quite wide. The most visited organised tours are the Koper Walking Tour, a visit to Ljubljana, the capital city, and a trip to Lake Bled.

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Kotor



Port of Kotor is expecting three maiden callers for 2017; Viking Ocean Cruises' Viking Sky, Princess Cruises' Majestic Princess and Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse. 448 ships are booked to call in total for next year.

The most popular shore excursion is the 'Montenegrin tour'. Leaving from Kotor, the tour takes visitors to Cetinje, and up the mountain Lovcen. There it is possible to visit churches and a monastery, and also a famous Museum. The tomb and monument of Duke of Montenegro Petar Petrovic Njegos is located in Lovcen.

Another popular shore excursion is on open bus tour to Perast, an old town in Boka Bay where it is possible to visit two islands, Old Lady of the Rocks and St. George.

A modern terminal facility costing €721,746 became fully operational last year. The berthing area and anchorages are covered by video surveillance as part of NATO's Entity Code NCAGE issued to the Port of Kotor by the Ministry of Defence of the Montenegro Government.

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La Spezia



Currently, 153 cruise ships are expected to call at the Port of La Spezia in 2017, bringing 520,000 passengers. These figures compare well to the numbers achieved this year.

The most popular shore excursion from La Spezia is to Florence, Pisa and the Cinque Terre.

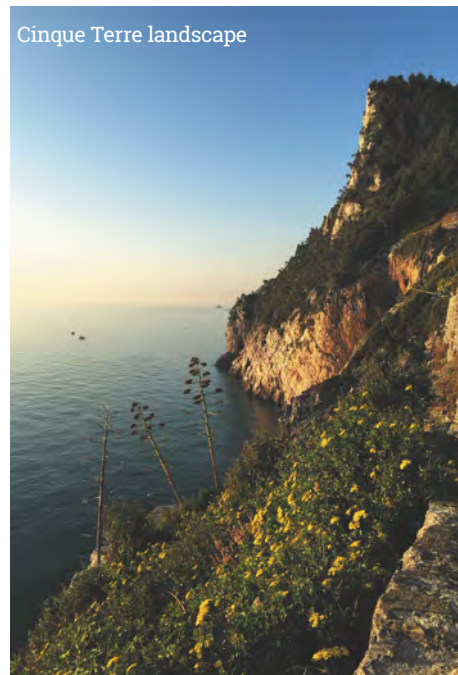
In late 2015 a new cruise terminal, Golfo dei Poeti - Cinque Terre Cruise Terminal Port of La Spezia, opened: with an internal surface of about 1,500sq mtr it can accommodate passengers in transit and for boarding, offering wide spaces for the operations and logistics.

New ship visitors expected in 2017 are: Royal Caribbean International's Freedom of the Seas, MSC Cruises' MSC Orchestra, P&O Cruises' Britannia, Cunard Cruise Lines' Queen Victoria, and Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse.

La Spezia Port Authority is involved in a project for a new urban waterfront, which will include a new cruise area. Plans are currently being developed for two new berths of 393mtr and 339mtr, and at the same time, work is taking place on the production of a new cruise terminal.

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Cinque Terre landscape



Lisbon

The port of Lisbon expects 320 cruise calls and about 535,000 passengers in 2017, representing an increase of 2% compared to 2016 figures. There will be seven maiden callers; Viking Ocean Cruises' Viking Sky, Royal Caribbean International's Freedom of the Seas, TUI Cruises' TUI Discovery 2, MSC Cruises' MSC Meraviglia, Cruise & Maritime Voyages' Columbus, Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse and Princess

Cruises' Caribbean Princess. The port authority is preparing special welcome ceremonies for these occasions.

Lisbon Cruise Terminals (LCT), a privately owned company that operates the cruise terminals of the Port of Lisbon, is building the new Lisbon Cruise Terminal which is planned to enter into full operation in early 2017. Resulting in an overall investment of €22m, the new terminal will feature a total area of 13,000sq mtr. With this new terminal, the port aims to grow in calls and passengers, estimating that the current traffic of more than 500,000 passengers could double in the next ten years. The new facility will provide the port with a capacity to grow to 1.8m passengers and will promote the growth of turnaround operations, which will result in a greater impact on tourism in the region, with more benefits for the economy.

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Livorno

The port of Livorno is expecting 349 calls and 700,000 passengers in 2017 including six new ships and three ships in partial turnaround: Silver Muse (5 calls), AIDAPERLA (17 calls), Majestic Princess (4 calls), Norwegian Joy (1 call), Seabourn Encore (5 calls), Viking Sky (2 calls), MSC Armonia (17 partial turnarounds), Arethusa (16 partial turnarounds) and Hebridean Sky (1 partial turnaround). Figures for 2016 show 404 cruise calls bringing



in 810,000 passengers, about 16% more than 2015. For 2017 season it is expected a 10% drop in number of calls and in passenger numbers with respect to 2016.

A popular shore excursion from the port of Livorno is the tour of Bolgheri and the Wine Road, located 40 minutes from port. The famous Viale dei Cipressi leads the visitor to the village of Bolgheri, celebrated in a poem by famous Italian poet Carducci. After visiting the craft shops and wine bars, visitors travel to the vineyards where they have the chance to taste local delicacies such as Olive Oil, honey, bread and cheeses. To promote the potential of the Livorno territory, as an alternative to the classic Tuscany tour, Porto 2000 presented, at Seatrade Cruise Med in Tenerife, a new marketing project called 'WHY LIVORNO', which will be launched at Seatrade Cruise Global in Fort Lauderdale next year.

The three-year plan, approved at the end of 2013, has expanded the passenger port, including the whole Alto Fondale and Calata Orlando piers, providing three more dedicated cruise berths for ships over 300mtr in length; this expansion, which involves a huge investment, is subject to the completion of the infrastructure to relocate the commercial berths, so cargo and passenger traffic are separated. The first step of the project will be completed by 2017 and within five or six years all should be completed, but the commercial piers will still be used for cruise in the meantime.

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Malaga



Port of Málaga has new dedicated cruise berths and terminals, providing easy access for ships and passengers. Facilities have become a standard of quality in cruise services at the national level by being the first port in Spain to obtain a Quality Service Certification in Cruise Traffic.

289 calls are confirmed for next year. 7 of them are new calls. This figure means an increase of 16% related to 2016.

As a Gateway of Andalusia, Málaga offers

the opportunity to visit the main emblematic places in the region. A highlight is the city centre of Málaga: 85% of cruise ship passengers visit the city, attracted by an interesting walking tour of history, monuments, museums, gastronomy and a great variety of shopping.

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Marseille



The Joliette Cruise Terminal (J4)

The Port of Marseille (GPM) has a dedicated cruise dock and three cruise terminals, the largest of which is operated by a private consortium, Marseille Provence Cruise Terminal.

Seven mega cruise ships can be handled at the port simultaneously. Ships may also dock at the Joliette (J4) Cruise Terminal, close to the city centre and the MuCEM esplanade. This terminal is reserved for small or medium-sized

luxury cruise ships (200mtr). To improve access to the dock for the largest cruise ships, the Port is currently widening the northern pass, an investment of €35m. The dismantling of the Mourepiane breakwater in 2016 has already made access easier for the largest ships in high winds. The work is due to be totally completed in 2017.

Another, much rarer asset – and a decisive factor for shipowners – is Marseille's Forme 10

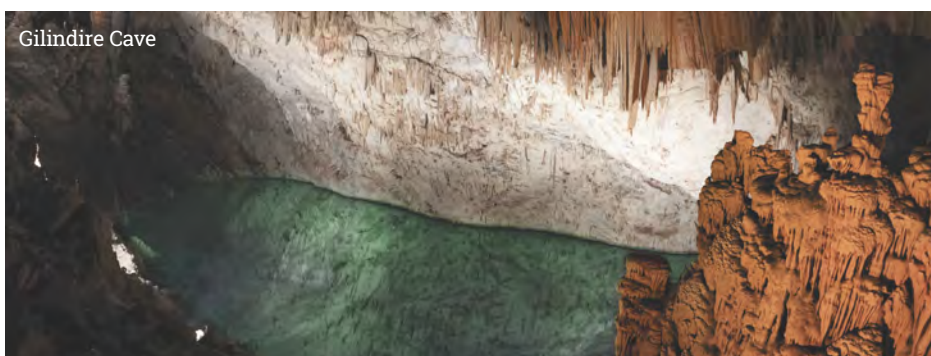
dry dock, the largest in the Mediterranean. Capable of handling cruise ships up to 400mtr in length, the dry dock allows shipowners to schedule maintenance stops while reducing disruption to operations to a minimum. A group of industrial and commercial partners will operate the no.10 dry dock once ongoing refurbishment work has been completed in 2017.

During a half day, 3-hour tour, visitors will get the chance to discover unforgettable highlights: By bus from the Old Port to Notre Dame de la Garde Basilica and its panoramic point of view driving along La Corniche up to Prado promenade, then the renovated Palais Longchamp, and la Canebière street. The tour ends at the Vieux-Port which has been entirely revamped by the English architect Norman Foster, and the J4 esplanade with the MuCEM, Villa Méditerranée, the Regards de Provence Museum, all inaugurated on the occasion of Marseille-Provence 2013.

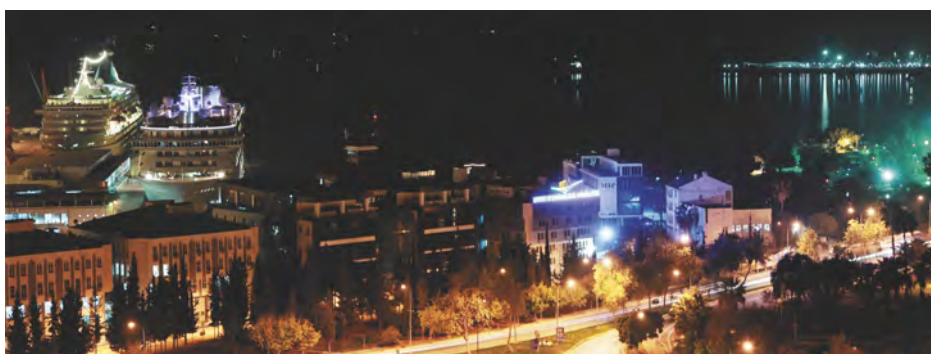
490 cruise calls are expected for 2017 bringing 1.5m passengers. New callers will be MSC Cruises' MSC Meraviglia, Silversea Cruises' Silversea Muse, TUI Cruises' Discovery II, Seabourn Cruises' Seabourn Encore and Seven Seas Cruises' Seven Seas Explorer.

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Mersin



Gilindire Cave



Gilindire Cave is located approximately 7.5km southeast of Sancak Point and Kurtini Creek in the Aydıncık district, part of the Mersin Province. Gilindire Cave was discovered by a shepherd in 1999. When the state-owned Mineral Research and Exploration Co. (MTA) undertook exploration works in the cave, they discovered the lake at the end of the cave, 450mtr from the entrance. According to a survey by experts, the cave was formed in the beginning of the transition phase after the last glacial climate change of the Quaternary Period, when the Mediterranean Sea rose 70mtr, flooding the bottom of the cave. The change in the hydrological regime helped preserve the cave formations such as stalagmites and stalactites. Due to being under water, they have remained unaffected by atmospheric changes to the present day. The lake's water is brackish to a depth of 12mtr, while deeper water is saline.

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Messina

For the 2017 cruise season, Port of Messina is expecting 147 calls carrying 383,157 passengers. AIDA Cruises' AIDAaura (1 call), MSC Cruises' MSC Meraviglia (23 calls), Norwegian Cruise Line's Norwegian Spirit (16 calls), Princess Cruises' Majestic Princess (2 calls) and Regent Seven Seas Cruises' Seven Seas explorer (1 call) are all first time callers to the port. The port of Milazzo is expecting 15 calls and 5,254 passengers. Of the ships calling, CroisiEurope's La Belle de l'Adriatique, and Phoenix Reisen's Artania and Amadea are maiden callers.

Driving along the highway and the coastal

road, passengers will reach Santa Teresa, the largest town between Messina and Taormina. From there a picturesque road runs inland to Savoca, a village in a saddle between two hills. Its scenic beauty and historical-artistic heritage makes Savoca, one of the most attractive places in the environs of Taormina. At the entrance of the village there is the 'Bar Vitelli', which has a collection of local artisans' tools and photographs taken when Francis Ford Coppola shot some scenes of 'The Godfather'.

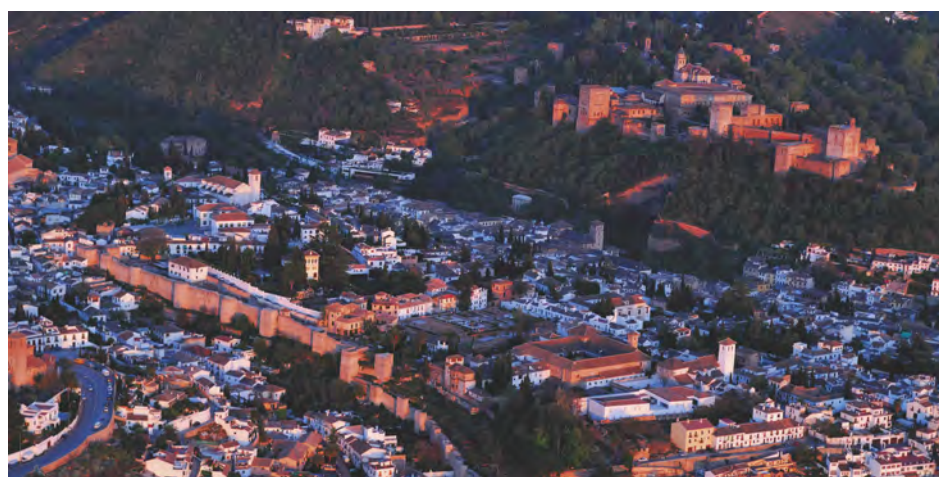
After a short stop at 'Bar Vitelli', passengers start walking along the village's main street which climbs the hill, with several Churches of 15th and 16th centuries (Chiesa Madre, Santa Lucia, San Michele), ruins of a Norman castle and a magnificent view of the Sicilian coast-line, Strait of Messina, Italian mainland and villages perched on the surroundings hills.

Port of Messina has recently completed the design of its new terminal.

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Motril-Granada



Port of Motril is expected to receive 46 cruise calls bringing in 7,600 passengers in 2017. Of those ships, Variety Cruise' Panorama II will be a maiden caller to the port. This is an increase of 1,500 passengers (18%), and growth of 24 calls (52%) on 2016 figures.

Port of Motril is the closest port for the Alhambra Palace and Gardens, only 35 minutes away. The Alhambra is a place and fortress complex of the Moorish rulers of Granada in southern Spain occupying a hilly

terrace on the south-eastern border of the city of Granada. Once the residence of the Muslim rulers of Granada and their court, the Alhambra is now one of Spain's major tourist attractions exhibiting the country's most famous Islamic architecture. The palace is open year round and there are plenty of guided tours available.

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Odessa

Cruise calls are on the rise, once again, at Port of Odessa, 13 ship calls bringing circa 13,700 passengers are expected for 2017 compared with only five calls and 1,137 passengers this year. So far, no new bookings or cancellations have been received, but the hope for the situation to be improved remains.

The most popular tour in Odessa is the half day sightseeing tour. Starting at the famous Prymorsky Boulevard. Its beauty lies in the early 19th century buildings, the shady promenade, the park tumbling towards the sea and the sweep of the Potemkin Steps. The 193 steps, built between 1837 and 1841, descend from a statue of the Duke de Richelieu in a Roman Toga. At the eastern end a Pushkin statue and a British Tiger Gun, captured in 1854



during the Crimean campaign, stand before the pink and white colonnaded Odessa City Hall.

Further along from the City Hall is the impressive building of the world-known Opera & Ballet Theatre designed by Viennese architects Felner & Gelmer in the 1880s in the Habsburg Baroque style of the day, with a number of Italian Renaissance features.

Continue to the main temple of Odessa and Kherson Diocese - Uspensky Cathedral, and witness its five impressive domes and marvellous interiors.

From the cathedral the tour makes its way along the tree-lined Odessa streets to the Palace of Count Pototsky, housing Odessa Fine Arts Museum. Its maze of over 15 rooms on 2 floors has treasures reflecting the development of national art from icon painting of the 15th century to contemporary painting, graphic art, sculpture, and decorative art. The Museum was inaugurated in 1899 on the initiative of the Odessa Society of Fine Arts and houses one of the largest collections of Russian and Ukrainian masterpieces in the Ukraine.

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Palermo



In 2015 Palermo was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List for its Arab-Norman architecture. A stroll through the town guarantees a look at the many buildings that make up this list; the Cathedral, the Royal Palace, the Palatine Chapel, the Churches of St. Giovanni degli Eremiti, the Church of Martorana, the Church of St. Cataldo, Ponte dell'Ammiraglio, The Zisa Palace and the Cathedral of Monreale and its cloister. A little further afield, only forty minutes from the port, is the town of Cefalù. It is a popular destination in Sicily, thanks to its Norman dome, cloister, and picturesque port.

Works at the new cruise terminal at Palermo have been temporarily suspended due to a project variance. Once finished the project will have cost €28m. Other completed works include equipping Piave quay with a scanner and new security system to welcome passengers. There are also plans for a new dredging project.

140 cruise calls are due for 2017 with calls from Disney Magic, Aegean Odyssey and Norwegian Spirit.

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Portofino



For the 2017 season Port of Portofino is expecting a total of 88 cruise calls and approximately 44,962 passengers. This is an increase of 10 ship calls from 2016.

A popular excursion from Portofino is hiking in the Portofino Regional Park: Portofino is not only a picturesque village; it's also a Regional Park that includes the Portofino Promontory. It's an area rich in biodiversity, it is a paradise of Mediterranean vegetation that can be explored hiking an extensive network of

trails. Hiking is for sure one of the best things to do in Portofino: it is possible to hike all year round on the magnificent coastal paths that run like balconies overlooking the coast or in the forests of the interior and the higher areas that provide shade during the hotter months. It's a walk in a unique environment both for the flora and for the geological conformation.

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Piraeus



Piraeus port is expecting more than 50 ships and 1.5m passengers in 2017. TUI Cruises' Mein Schiff 5, Princess Cruises' Majestic Princess, Seabourn Cruises' Seabourn Encore, Silversea Cruises' Silver Muse, Holland America Line's Veendam and MSC Cruises' MSC Poesia will be new visitors.

Piraeus, the port for Athens, gives endless choices concerning shore excursions of all durations, 4 hours, ½ day, full day or overnight duration.

The classical and still most popular 4 hour shore excursion remains the visit to Acropolis which is considered the crowning jewel of Athens. On top of the Acropolis is the Parthenon, the 'architectural masterpiece of the golden age' and then a stroll in the neighborhood of Plaka for shopping.

Other popular destinations are Athens and Cape Sounion with lunch, Athens and the new Acropolis museum, with its spectacular café and restaurant. Acropolis of Ancient Corinth and the Canal Cruise, and Delphi, the museum and the theatre.

Last summer a third passenger station 'Alkimos' became fully functional, 1,250sq mtr is available for the arrivals hall and 800sq mtr for the departures.

The new cruise Pier Saint Nikolaos has been recently inaugurated, and provides an extra berth for ships over 250mtr. With the completion of this project the total berth positions for cruise ships mooring in the port of Piraeus has risen to 10.

The construction of a fourth passenger station is underway, due to be opened in early 2017. Finally, in 2017 the extension of the cruise terminal towards the southern end will commence, with a scope of creating 3-4 new berths for cruise ships up to around 350mtr long.

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Rijeka

Norwegian Cruise Lines' Norwegian Jade made a surprise maiden visit to the Croatian port of Rijeka in October, bringing the number of inaugural calls to the port this season so far to eight.

A ninth inaugural call is expected in November with Princess Cruises joining the rapidly growing list of cruise lines discovering this relatively new-on-the-cruise-scene Croatian port option.

Rijeka has seen 13 calls so far this season with an additional two calls remaining – the last being Swan Hellenic's Minerva on Dec 6.

And 2017 sees yet more inaugural calls planned - with an additional five ships from eight separate cruise lines making maiden calls at Rijeka.

'This is an incredible achievement and naturally we are very proud, especially when you consider that in 2015 we had just two cruise lines visiting,' as per information from the Port of Rijeka Authority

Worth noting is 'The European Capital of Culture 2020' project, as it will highlight Rijeka as a Port of Diversity.

'The Port of Rijeka Authority will be working with local communities, businesses, cultural bodies and tourism operators to maximize the year's celebrations and ensure that cruise guests are able to maximize their shore side experiences.'

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Savona



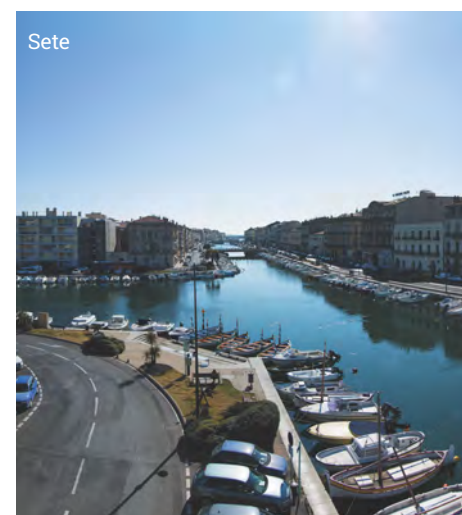
After the launch of the second Palacrociere terminal in 2014, directly managed by Costa Crociere, the Port Authority has concentrated its investments in the dredging of the port area. The works, located at the entrance of the port area, began in May 2016. The total area concerned is of 20,000sq mtr in order to achieve 8.5-9.5mtr of draft. The work will take about five months and will cost €380,000. The works will make entering the port a lot easier for the biggest cruise ships. The port of Savona is expecting 980,000 passengers to call in 2017.

Costa Cruise and the Ligurian Regional

Administration have announced a new walking tour available to passengers specially designed as a journey of discovery of the town and its products. The tour will include visits to the Baroque Cappella Sistina, the Priamar Fortress and the landmark Torre del Brandale. Guests will be accompanied by professional guides who speak the languages of all on the tour and who will explain the history of these monuments. The tour also includes stops to try the local focaccia and amaretti.

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Sete

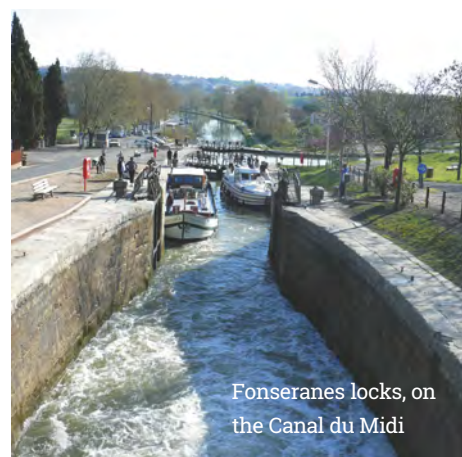


50 cruise calls and 45,000 passengers will call at Port of Sete in 2017. Maiden callers are; AIDA Cruises' AIDAaura, Royal Caribbean International's Brilliance of the Seas, Celebrity Cruises' Celebrity Constellation, Ponant Cruises' Le Lyrial, Seabourn Cruises' Seabourn Encore, Thomson Cruises' TUI Discovery and Holland America Line's Westerdam. Cruise activity at Sete is booming. Compared with figures from 2016 cruise calls will be up 37% and passenger numbers up 100%.

€12m is being invested for the refurbishment of Fonseranes locks, on the Canal du Midi, a very popular shore excursion and one of the five UNESCO World Heritage Site reachable from the port. The canal is a stunning attraction with its tranquil waters shaded by plane trees and fascinating architecture along the way. The 240km long canal runs from Toulouse to the Thai Lagoon near Sete and was built in the 17th century to link the Atlantic to the Mediterranean. Shaded by more than 10,000 trees, passengers can take a barge trip from the nine locks at Fonseranes and experience a peaceful mini-cruise through the Languedoc countryside.

The brand new 'H' quay, allowing the port to welcome the largest ships, is now complete, at a cost of €45m.

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Fonseranes locks, on the Canal du Midi

Tarragona



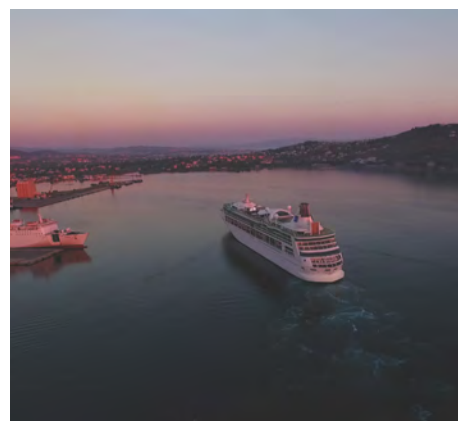
4 2 cruise ship calls will visit Port of Tarragona in 2017 bringing approximately 52,000 passengers. A new ship visitor will be Costa Cruises' Costa neoRiviera during the summer, every Friday from June to September. This is a considerable increase from calls in 2016 with 22 ship calls bringing 13,000 passengers.

Tarragona is well known for its human towers, known as Castells. It is a tradition, in Catalonia, that dates back to the early 1700s. These human towers are built at festivals and in 2010 were declared by UNESCO to be amongst the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. An excursion is now on offer so cruise passengers can experience first-hand what it's like to be a part of a castell. The visit includes an inside look into the world of the colles, or teams, before becoming a part of a colla and therefore the castell.

Future investment at Tarragona will be a new cruise berth, at Prats quay. This is expected to be completed by 2020.

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Souda/Chania



C hania is an ideal destination for cruise visitors, there are a lot of shore excursions dedicated to guests with limited time to spend, providing a unique variety of historical, cultural, environmental & gastronomical sites around the Port of Souda and Chania town. The most popular attraction is the Chania Venetian Old Port which is included in a majority of shore excursions provided by cruise lines. Also the Samaria Gorge excursion is a good choice for the passengers who want to get a taste of a unique experience in Europe of a natural and environmental reserve. In addition, 7km from the port, on a hill lies the ancient city of Aptera, famous for the 4th century BC antiquities, roman water tanks, an open theatre and the remains of a 19th century castle.

The Port Authority of Chania Prefecture/Port Authority of Souda has implemented a renovation program (for this year and the next cruise season) for the cruise terminal facilities in order to meet international standards. The new renovated facilities are the expansion of the passenger terminal, the new improved ISPS procedures, and the new open air recreational area for passengers and crew. The estimated budget for the above was more than €1.5 million.

Souda port is expecting 65 cruise calls in 2017, bringing more than 120,000 passengers. Three cruise lines, with five ships will be maiden callers.

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Tenerife



T he city of La Laguna is the only UNESCO World Heritage Site in the Canary Islands. The original urban layout has remained intact since the 15th century.

La Laguna is 10km away from the port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife and it is easily combined with natural landscapes such as Anaga, a Biosphere Reserve in Santa Cruz de Tenerife; or El Sauzal for wine tours; or La Orotava, the valley that astonished Alexander von Humboldt. La Laguna is a city full of convents and churches, charming small shops and plenty of tapas bars to enjoy the local wine and food. La Laguna was designed with shipping instruments and a straight line and a walk around the old town reveals the

geometric layout of its streets, inhabited by old mansions and small palaces featuring facades of intense colours or stone porticos.

There will be a 9.5% cruise passenger increase according to figures for 2017, with 511 cruise calls booked bringing in 956,322 passengers.

Tenerife's new cruise terminal was presented during Seatrade Cruise Med 2016 in Santa Cruz de Tenerife. Some features are: Total surface: 8,473sq mtr, Check in area: 2,538sq mtr, Desks: 50, Luggage area: 3,300sq mtr, Berthing line: 395mtr.

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Thessaloniki

About 25 cruise vessels with 20,000 passengers will visit the Port of Thessaloniki in 2017. Figures will be similar to this year.

A new popular shore excursion is the city walking tour. Thessaloniki, with a history of more than 2,500 years, has been a crossroad for different nationalities and faiths, the traces of which are still to be seen in the city's many monuments – the distinctive features of its historic centre as well as in the stories and traditions of its people. There are many must-see sites, Vergina, the capital of the ancient Macedonian Kingdom is a

UNESCO World Heritage Site. The archaeological site includes the tomb of Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. The archaeological site of Dion at Mount Olympus, the homeland of the twelve gods of ancient Greeks, and the nearby Archaeological museum are also worth visiting. Athos Peninsula with twenty monasteries and a monastic population is a unique site.

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Toulon



100 cruise calls and 280,000 passengers are expected for 2017, amongst them, six will be new ship visitors. This is a small decline on last year's figures, -33% calls and -10% passengers.

In 2016 a new cruise terminal has been completed in La Seyne sur mer and the ferry/cruise Terminal downtown has been completely refurbished.

A new shore excursion available is a guided tour of the international renowned racing circuit Paul Ricard and a ride on the Karting Test Track (KTT), this can be combined with a visit of the neighbour famous medieval hilltop village of Le Castellet.

The Circuit Paul Ricard is a world renowned racing circuit created in 1970, welcoming 14 F1 Grand Prix of France, 22 Bol d'Or and 12 Moto Grand Prix until 1999. Following a large program of renovation, the Circuit offers 167 possibilities of track from 826mtr to 5,861km. On the shore excursion it will be possible to have a guided tour of the Circuit: the Paddock, the Pit Building Hall, the Track Video Control Room, the Telemetry Room, the Medical Centre and the security lane, as well as enjoying a ride on the Karting Track, followed by lunch in the 'High Speed Club' Brasserie.

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Tunisian ports

Tunisia returned to the Mediterranean cruising map in early October as La Goulette Cruise Terminal received its first call of the year and welcomed 300 passengers from Hapag Lloyd Cruises' Europa.

Tourism in Tunisia fell sharply following two separate fatal terrorist attacks in the first six months of 2015, but during the interim period Tunisia's cruise and tourism executives have continued to engage with the cruise community hoping for a return of business activity. Most recently Tunisia exhibited as part of the MedCruise pavilion at Seatrade Cruise Med 2016 in Tenerife.

La Goulette was Europa's second stop on a classical music-themed 14-day itinerary that started in Barcelona, and will include 11 more stops in Algeria, Morocco, Spain and Portugal.

As usual, a warm welcome was given quayside to the passengers who were greeted by riders on camels and presented with jasmine. Local performers provided Arabic

music and dancing displays. An exhibition of local handicrafts was popular with passengers who then proceeded on a half day excursion to discover the ruins of Carthage, Carthage Museum, the village of Sidi Bou Said and the Medina of Tunis.

In the afternoon, a reception was held in the village with the help of tourism and port authorities in honour of the captain of the ship, its staff and passengers.

Tunisian tenor Hassan Doss sang in the La Goulette Cruise Village theatre followed by a cocktail reception and a tasting of Tunisian sweets.

As the ship departed for onward sailing to Skikda in Algeria every passenger was given a goodbye gift of a bottle of Tunisian wine offered by the National Office of Tunisian Tourism.

Viking Cruises are scheduled to make six calls at la Goulette between January and March 2017.

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Valencia



Throughout 2016, the Port Authority of Valencia and Tourism Valencia have increased their marketing efforts among cruises lines in order to let them know about the new commercial strategy 2016 - 2020. Figures currently stand at 192 calls and 400,000 passengers calling in 2017 but bookings are still being taken and numbers will rise.

Port of Valencia proudly presents a new excursion 'Valencian Silk Road', Valencia was a great power from the 15th century onwards thanks to the silk trade. Mulberry trees were cultivated in the surrounding region of the Huerta valenciana, while in the city the silk fabric was produced. Valencia was the end point of a trade corridor, which linked East and West and the production of this material gave rise to one of the most prosperous industries.

Part of the historical legacy left in Valencia by the silk trade can be discovered visiting the new Silk Museum and the interior of the Silk Exchange (Lonja de la Seda), a Gothic building that has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1996. The silk tradition has also continued through to today, and one of its most famous manifestations is the Valencian costumes that falleros and falleras (those taking part in the Fallas) wear for various special occasions.

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Zadar



Zadar port has seen a significant rise in passenger numbers in recent years and it seems the numbers are still growing. From 2012, passenger numbers have increased from 20,000 to a record 130,000 in 2016. Numbers look to be similar for 2017 with more growth planned for 2018.

In 2015 Port of Zadar completed the infrastructure works in the new port area of Gazenica, and port operations began in April 2015. Infrastructure requirements have been met to enable all sizes of cruise ship to call, and to allow better and faster access to the Croatian national parks and destination attractions. It is expected the construction of the new terminal building will be completed by the end of 2018, which aside from local and international ferry traffic, will be able to accept and organise home port operations.

Krka Waterfalls, Plitvice lakes, Island of Pag, Zadar City Tour, Ancient City of Nin – wine tasting tour and Kornati Islands are the most popular excursions. A new tour is available called 'The way around the Long Island'. Witness the magnificence of Golubinka cave and 'Dragon's Eye' at the Brbiscica bay, jump from the cliffs into 'deep blue', snorkel at The Great White Stone beach, enjoy 'picigin' game at Sakarun, ride through the military ship tunnels and stop for Bozava village sightseeing. Don't miss the sunset at the Zadar Sea Organ. All in one day, in just one tour.

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Valletta



The new Malta to Malta cruise itinerary of P&O Oceana which is due to commence in 2017 was announced. During 2017 over 100,000 passenger movements will be handled through this fly and cruise programme on 27 calls, with a further 10,000 passenger movements on 5 further calls visiting Malta on port of call.

According to projections Valletta will reach the absolute record of 700,000 passenger movements in 2016, an increase of 4.4% over the previous year. Furthermore cruise passenger data indicates that the record success registered by the cruise industry last year will continue also into 2017.

"Malta is a vibrant destination and this is

reflected in our port and ongoing developments in the Maltese Islands," says Stephen Xuereb, CEO of Valletta Cruise Port and COO of Global Ports Holding, majority shareholders of Valletta Cruise Port. "Valletta Cruise Port has created a destination within a destination with the original project. We are currently taking stock of how we can further improve our key infrastructure and services. It is this journey of discovery that will allow us to continue excelling in what we offer, and together with other stakeholders reinvent ourselves to keep abreast of new developments."

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In contact

Meet the personalities representing MedCruise ports and destinations in the marketplace.

Guido Vettorel, development and promotion manager, Port of Ancona

Graduating in International Politics in 2005, Guido started working in ports in 2008, after 2 years abroad when he also completed his studies at the Sorbonne University in Paris. After first working at the port of Venice, Guido moved to Ancona in 2011 focusing on marketing, passenger services and EU funding. Since 2011 he has developed the framework of the 'Welcome to Ancona' initiative to provide and improve tourist services to cruise and ferry passengers. 'The challenge of the 'Welcome to Ancona' initiative is to develop and grow the tourist potential of Ancona and its surrounds to ensure sustainability, high quality standards for visitors and added value for the local community.' His pastimes include: travelling, socialising and discovering the local traditions of the Marche region.



Radovic Ljubo, assistant to ceo, Port of Kotor

For 6 years Radovic was an executive director of Port of Kotor, 2006-2012, in a period of dynamic growth for cruising in Montenegro. Now he is assistant to CEO,

responsible for developing and investments.



Radovic was born and raised in Kotor, graduating in Belgrade in Traffic and Transportation, becoming an engineer. Previously he was an executive director of the National Agency for Road Construction, director of Institute for Culture in Kotor and Secretary for Culture in Municipality of Kotor.

Mar Pérez, head of cruise department, Barcelona Port Authority

Mar has worked in port of Barcelona's cruise department since March 2009, responsible for relations with cruise lines, ship agents and the port's cruise terminal managers. Mar holds a degree in Art History and a Master's degree in marketing from the University of Barcelona. She first joined the port authority in 1998, working initially in public relations, marketing



and commercial departments. Nowadays she is the Head of the Cruise Department at the Barcelona Port Authority and she is member of the Board of Directors of Medcruise.

Mar says 'In my opinion the biggest challenge, not only facing the Port of Barcelona but a great number of the ports of the Mediterranean region, is to reconcile and to strengthen the relationship between the city and port.'

Francisco Toledo, president, PortCastelló

Francisco Toledo is a Professor of Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence at Jaume I University in Castellón, a university from which he was the rector, the highest ranking faculty member between 2001 and 2010. He has just



completed his first year of tenure in PortCastelló. He is reactive to the activities in the cruise business in Castellon port so he is optimistic about the future of the destination and reveals to increase cruise ship calls is one of the objectives he has set.

Jesús Peña, planning manager, Malaga Port



The economist, Jesús Peña, has 20 years experience in the port sector. In the last five years, he has specialised in cruise traffic, working in the sector as a Planning Manager at Málaga Port Authority.

"The Port of Málaga and the Tourist Offices of the destination (Málaga, Costa del Sol and Andalucía) are working together in order to improve figures as a homeport and during the low season (winter and summer). In order to achieve these goals, we are offering competitive port fee discounts of up to 40% for cruise lines as well as a variety of shore excursions to meet the passengers' requests" Jesus says.

Stavros Hatzakos, general manager, Port of Piraeus

Stavros Hatzakos has worked at Port of Piraeus for more than 33 years and has served in various managerial positions. Since 1993, he has been responsible for the international relationships of the Port. He has served as General Manager since 2011. Since 2015, he is also a member of the board of Hellenic Tourism Organization.



Stavros is a founding member of MedCruise. Having previously served as MedCruise vice-President, in 2011-2013 he was elected President of the Association. He is now member of the board as Honorary President. He is also chairman of the Cruise and Ferry network of ESPO, in which all cruise associations are present.

Airam Díaz Pastor, commercial director, Port Authority of Santa Cruz de Tenerife

Airam Díaz is the Commercial Director of the Port Authority of Santa Cruz de Tenerife which manages five cruise ports.

In 2011, he joined the Port Authority after his position as Commercial Executive of Grimaldi Group and other companies related to the maritime and logistic business.

He has a masters degree in Law and Maritime



Business by the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya and a Bachelor of Science, International Trade and Marketing by the University of Wales, Seatrade Cruise Masterclass performed in Cambridge University.

His wide range of responsibilities in the Port Authority are related to different maritime business areas such as cruises, bunker services, container terminals, ships repairation,

marinas, offshore and oil platforms, logistic services. He is an active member of the IAPH, ESPO and is the member of the MedCruise Board of Directors responsible for Projects & Studies, besides his work in the Cruises Atlantic Islands association to promote the Canary, Cape Verde and Madeira Islands area as a cruise destination. He has been heavily involved in the construction of Tenerife's new Cruise Terminal, which opened recently.

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