




Cruise Incentive Agency

The Best Things in Life at Sea.

Welcome to the CIA Informer

Did You Know?

- Cunard have announced that they are going to build a successor to QE2, to be named Queen Elizabeth.
- An hour flying usually equals 24 hours sailing for a ship.
- Celebrity Cruises will be featuring a 22,927 sq. ft. grass lawn on its new Celebrity Solstice. The real grass deck will offer bocce ball, croquet and golf putting - plus a nice area to have a nice pick-nick with wine and cheese.
- Sea Cloud Cruises are building a new Sail Ship that will boast over 42,000 sq. ft. of sails and will carry just 136 guests.

Inside this issue:

Short Cruises Round Trip Seattle	2
The new Seabourn Odyssey	2
NCL Freestyle Cruising	3
2 New Mega-Yachts for Ponant	3
Fulfilling the Brief	4
Adieu QE2	4

Welcome to the latest edition of the CIA Informer.

If you can't decide between organising a great event in one of Europe's most dynamic capital cities or taking a cruise, why not do both?

Denmark's reputation as a top quality destination has long held sway with savvy planners and, owing to Copenhagen's exceptional compactness, you can combine unique venues and exciting programmes with the beauty, and majesty of a Baltic cruise, sailing to Oslo and the Norwegian Fjords or St Petersburg.

Copenhagen, Scandinavia's largest and most vibrant

city, as well as offering a wide range of hotels and meeting venues also offers the chance to combine one destination with a visit to two countries, as Denmark and Sweden are connected via the magnificent Øresund Bridge.

Copenhagen's award winning port right in the heart of downtown Copenhagen also has the advantage of being just 20 minutes away from the International airport.

Several cruise line's will have ships based in Copenhagen throughout the summer season.

Choose from a variety of sailing's that not only make calls into Copenhagen, but also visit Tallin, St Petersburg, Helsinki and Stockholm.

There are a wide choice of ships to choose from in the region accommodating from 200 guests up to 3,000. Contact us for further ideas and cruise itineraries.



QUEEN MARY 2, 2 & 4 NIGHT OPPORTUNITIES

Next to the QE2, Queen Mary 2 is probably the most famous ocean liner in the world.

In July 2008 she will undertake a 2 and 4 night cruise, round trip from Southampton, which are sure to sell out fast.

2 Night Cruise

14 July - Southampton
15 July - Cherbourg
16 July - Southampton

4 Night Cruise

28 July - Southampton
29 July - At Sea
30 July - Hamburg
31 July - At Sea
1 August - Southampton

Queen Mary 2 offers a wide variety of accommodation ranging from standard ocean view cabins, to spectacular duplex suites. Prices start from £299 per person. Contact us now for a group quote.





Seattle



Nanaimo

3 & 4 NIGHT CRUISES, ROUND TRIP SEATTLE.

Seattle is just an 8 hour flight from London, and offers a wonderful alternative for something different.

The Emerald City of the Pacific Northwest, Seattle is known for its stunning waterfront. "Catch" a salmon at Pike Place Market, ride to the top of the Space Needle, sample a local microbrew in funky Fremont, or down a cup of java in the coffee capital of the world.

From Seattle, cruise to **Nanaimo**, the second largest City on Vancouver Island. It's fondly known as the "Hub, Tub and Pub City" because of its

association with its Bath Tub racing and numerous "watering holes" in Old Nanaimo.

Next port is **Victoria, BC**. You'll see many signs of Victoria's British heritage in this one-time colony. Double decker buses, "high-tea" and cricket are all part of life in the "City of Gardens", and its Victorian architecture only adds to the feeling.

On the 4 night cruise you will also enjoy a leisurely day at sea and time to enjoy the facilities your ship has to offer.

Departures operate in **September and October 2008**



with sailings on Fridays and Monday's. Contact us now for further details and prices.

INTRODUCING A NEW SEABOURN FLAGSHIP.

"The 225 suites are spacious sanctuaries - all with ocean views and 90% with private verandas"

Aboard the new **Seabourn Odyssey** every whim is indulged, every luxury at hand for **450 guests**. Seabourn's newest, largest ship will have the same warm, yacht-like ambiance as her sisters, with a ratio of virtually one crew member for each guest. At the same time, she defines a new generation of ultra-luxury travel for groups of all sizes.

Although three times her sister yachts in size, she carries only twice the number of guests. The 225 suites are spacious sanctuaries - all with ocean views and 90% with private verandas. Each is over 296 sq. ft. with a sitting area for in-suite dining, walk-in

wardrobe and bathroom with separate shower and bath, even twin sinks.

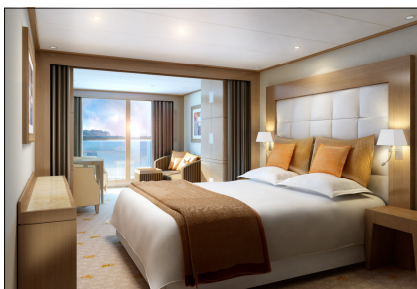
Dining reflects the brilliance of celebrity chef/restaurateur Charlie Palmer. The glamorous main restaurant offers open seating. More casual alternatives include the Veranda Café with indoor and outdoor seating; Restaurant 2 featuring innovative menus; and the *al fresco* Patio Grill. And an open bar throughout the ship assures camaraderie.

Sail into the world's largest ports and the exclusive yacht harbours mega ships pass by. Snorkel from the ship's own marina and water ski from her

private motorboat. Unwind at the fantastic spa. Savour the rewarding feeling of belonging to a private club that is Seabourn yachting life.

Seabourn Odyssey will enter service in June 2009 and will be offering itineraries in the Mediterranean before moving to the Caribbean in the winter of 2009/10.

And, to prove Seabourn's commitment to the ultra-luxury market, a further two sister ships have been ordered which will enter service in 2010 and 2011.



WELCOME TO FREESTYLE CRUISING WITH NCL.

If you think that cruising is very regimented, with guests being told when and where they have to eat and what they must wear, then think again!

NCL has introduced **"Freestyle Cruising"** across its entire fleet.

So what is Freestyle Cruising? Well, in a nutshell, it means that you can dine when you want, with whom you want and in a different restaurant each night. With up to 13 different restaurants to choose from, you can create a real "dine-around" experience for your groups.

Choose from one of the traditional restaurants or take your

pick from a Steakhouse, Sushi, Teppanyaki, Latin and Asian restaurants. Comfort food, such as macaroni cheese and chilli, is also available 24 hours a day at one of the buffets.

Attire onboard is "Freestyle" too. Choose to dress casually or dress up to the nines in black tie or evening dress - it's entirely up to you.

NCL has the youngest fleet in the world and many of the ships boast up to 11 different bars and lounges. There's even four lane bowling alleys on some.

Entertainment is second to none, with lavish theatres

offering nightly West End style shows.

If you want to mellow down the pace a little, then how about cocktails in the piano bar or a little moody jazz.

If you're looking to party the disco in Spinnakers is the place to be.

With an NCL ship there really is something for everyone. The ships are all things to all people, so even your most demanding and diverse groups are very well catered for.

Onboard an NCL ship, it's pretty much whatever floats your boat!



A Wide Choice of Destinations and Durations.

2 night programme out of the UK or round trip Barcelona? 7 nights in the Caribbean? No problem!

NCL offer a great choice of itineraries from Alaska to South America and Europe to Canada and New England.

For 2008, NCL have some very tempting 2 night cruises that are ideal for client entertaining or rewarding employees.

There's a choice of four different departure dates; three out of the UK and one from Barcelona.

Round Trip UK

27 June - Southampton
28 June - Le Havre
29 June - Southampton

11 July - Southampton
12 July - Zeebrugge
13 July - Southampton

9 August - Dover
10 August - Amsterdam
11 August - Dover

Round Trip Barcelona

5 September - Barcelona
6 September - Nice
7 September - Barcelona

There's also a great selection of cruises in the Caribbean from October through to April. Here's an example of just one:

Sun - Miami
Mon - Cruising the Caribbean
Tue - Roatan Bay, Honduras
Wed - Belize City
Thu - Cozumel
Fri - Cruising the Caribbean
Sat - Great Stirrup Cay
Sun - Miami

Contact us now for exceptional rates, availability or other itinerary suggestions.

TWO NEW MEGA-YACHTS FOR PONANT.

Ponant Cruises have announced plans to build two new mega-yachts.

These elegantly trim vessels are mega-yachts (140 meters long) that accommodate a limited number of guests in **130 all-outside cabins** and suites including 75% with balconies. They will be delivered in the second quarter of 2010 and are to be French flagged.

As new additions to the current

fleet (including Le Ponant, Le Levant, and Le Diamant), these ships will offer a unique cruise experience and first-class quality service sailing to uncommon destinations.

Both vessels will be operating mainly in new geographic areas. The first will sail to Asia (China, Japan, Vietnam, and Indonesia), Alaska, Polynesia and Oceania, with the second travelling to South America

(including Antarctica), the Mediterranean, the Baltic, Greenland, Canada, the Great Lakes, and the Caribbean. Both ships will be able to visit quaint harbours and destinations that remain inaccessible to larger cruise ships.

*"130 all-outside
cabins and suites,
75% of which
have balconies"*



The Best Things in Life at Sea.

The Cruise Incentive Agency
4 Nash Close
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 3TL

☎ + 44 (0) 20 8641 7056
✉ graham@cruiseincentiveagency.com
💻 www.cruiseincentiveagency.com

Pause for Thought

"Own only what you can carry with you; know language, know countries, know people. Let your memory be your travel bag". Alexander Solzhenitsyn



FULFILLING THE BRIEF.

Client Brief: 4 night programme ex UK for 480 delegates, double occupancy, twin beds (as delegates share). Meeting room for 480 required and a restaurant to accommodate everyone in a single sitting.

CIA Solution: Initial investigations into putting this as a group onto a 2,000+ passenger ship from Southampton proved difficult. Charter would have to be the only option

The solution came rather unexpectedly from Saga. They had the perfect size ship, **Saga Rose**, which ticked all the boxes. All cabins had twin beds and there were many single ones too; the Restaurant onboard could accommodate everyone comfortably in a single seating and the main Ballroom had a capacity for 520.

What was even better, Saga were prepared to create a special 4 night itinerary for us by changing one of their published sailings. Hat's off to Saga for this and getting the programme within budget.



Single Seating Dining in the Restaurant



Saga Rose is a "Country Club at Sea"



ADIEU QE2 - A TRUE QUEEN OF THE SEAS.

RMS Queen Elizabeth 2 is in her final year of service with Cunard Line.

Having been sailing the world for nearly forty years, she is the longest serving Cunard liner in their history.

And now, a decision has been made to retire QE2 to Dubai where she will embark on a new career as a hotel and convention centre - October 2008 will see her final voyage from Southampton.

QE2 came into service in 1969 at a time that the Boeing 707 made its first Transatlantic flight, clipping the time from New York to England from 5 days to just hours. Many people thought that QE2 would not be a success on such a competitive route, but Cunard's perseverance and, combining regular Transatlantic crossings and cruises, QE2 became a firm favourite across the world.

She has carried over **2.1 million passengers**; sailed more than **5.5 million nautical miles** (that's more than any other ship and the equivalent to travelling to the moon and back 13 times); completed **25 world cruises**; went to war for her country, and is the fastest passenger vessel in operation (in fact, QE2 can go faster backwards than many cruise ships can go forward)!

Although transatlantic air travel was competition to the QE2, one of the best partnerships was with Concorde. The ultimate trip of sailing on the QE2 and then returning on Concorde will always be seen as the only way to cross.

We salute the QE2 as she sails on her last commercial voyages, and wish her every success in her new role and home port of Dubai.

God Save the Queen!

