

DOCKSIDE OBSERVER

CRUISE CONTINUES TO GROW AT THE PORT OF BALTIMORE

The cruise business at the Port of Baltimore continues an upward trend. In September, Governor Martin O'Malley announced that the Port of Baltimore handled the fifth-largest amount of cruise passengers among East Coast cruise ports in 2010 with 210,549 passengers sailing from the Cruise Maryland Terminal. This moved Baltimore's ranking up one slot from 2009. Nationally, the port ranks 12th, up from 14th in 2009.

Carnival recently signed a new five-year extension to continue offering year-round cruises from Baltimore. It is a two-year guaranteed agreement with three one-year options.

Carnival will continue with 7-Day Bahamas and Eastern Caribbean itineraries. They have added one Bermuda sailing to their 2012 schedule.

Royal Caribbean has requested berthing rights at the Port of Baltimore through October 2013. They will continue offering sailings to the Bahamas, Bermuda, the Caribbean and Canada/New England. For 2012 they have added a Bermuda/Northeast itinerary which will visit Kings Wharf, Bermuda; Boston, MA; and Newport, RI.

“Baltimore’s growing cruise business is a real success story for our state,” said Governor O’Malley. “Our momentum is built upon having a cruise terminal with a unique location with plenty of onsite parking right off Interstate 95. This allows for easy access and attracts people from up and down the East Coast and from the Midwest. As a city, Baltimore is convenient, accessible and provides great hospitality for travelers before and after their cruise. These characteristics are key reasons why Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International make Baltimore a home for their ships.”

Much of the success for the growth in Baltimore can be attributed to the hard work of the many travel partners who book cruises out of Baltimore for their clients. Many of these partners have themselves taken cruises out of Baltimore and can attest to the ease of reaching our location as well as the superior customer service provided at our terminal. Our cruise team works together with our travel partners providing presentations and collateral information at cruise trade shows and other opportunities throughout the Mid-Atlantic area.

Cruise Maryland’s 2012 schedule as well as directions, parking, and local tourism information can be found at cruisemaryland.com.



THE PORT OF BALTIMORE DEDICATES A NEW PASSENGER BOARDING BRIDGE



In April at the Port of Baltimore’s Cruise Maryland Terminal, Maryland Secretary of Transportation Beverley Swaim-Staley unveiled a new passenger boarding bridge which was dedicated in her honor.

“Governor O’Malley’s wise investment in the Port of Baltimore continues to pay dividends,” said Secretary Swaim-Staley. “Our goal is to provide customers with a first class cruise experience from departure to return. By investing in our cruise facilities we are delivering on that commitment. This new passenger boarding bridge will add another positive element to the overall cruise experience that our customers will enjoy at the Port of Baltimore.”

a rotunda and includes telescopic walkway tunnels. It measures 471 feet in length, is ADA compliant and is built to withstand wind gusts up to 90 miles per hour. Passengers now have uninterrupted cover from the time they enter the cruise terminal until they board the ship. Heating and air conditioning ensure the passengers are comfortable regardless of the weather.



HOTEL SPOTLIGHT

RADISSON PLAZA LORD BALTIMORE

The Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore hotel occupies a stunning Art Deco building located in the heart of downtown Baltimore.



Only three blocks from the Inner Harbor this location is a short walk to many of Baltimore's famous attractions including the National Aquarium, the Science Center, and sports stadiums. This beautiful hotel offers spacious rooms and suites featuring complimentary high-speed internet access and newspapers, cable TV, movies, and in-room coffee.

Stay in shape at their fully-equipped fitness center featuring treadmills, free weights, elliptical, life cycles and a sauna. A self-service business center and concierge service is also available.

The Radisson Plaza Lord Baltimore is the perfect place to stay before or after your cruise and offers a special package for cruise guests, which includes overnight accommodations, complimentary self-



parking and a breakfast buffet on the morning of departure to the Cruise Maryland Terminal. Enjoy modern conveniences and unbeatable services at this historic hotel. For reservation information you may contact them at 410.538.8400 (toll free 800.395.7046) or visit their website at www.radisson.com/lordbaltimore.

WELL TRAVELED

"When preparing to travel, lay out all your clothes and all your money. Then take half the clothes and twice the money." ~ Susan Heller

The Maryland Port Administration publishes its Dockside Observer quarterly to bring you news related to cruising from the Port of Baltimore and other items of interest.

Publisher:

Maryland Port Administration, Cruise Marketing Department

Cruise Manager:

Cynthia Burman, cburman@marylandports.com

Editor:

Carol Vassallo, cvassallo@marylandports.com

Visual Communications Designer:

Michele Nickoles, mnickoles@marylandports.com

VISIT BALTIMORE

There's always something new and exciting to do in Baltimore.

Now, through January 29, 2012, experience the **Charm City Food Tour**. Get a taste of the ethnicity of Baltimore by immersing yourself in some of the cuisines of many historic neighborhoods such as Fells Point, Little Italy, and Mt. Vernon. Sample foods that are still being prepared as they have been for many generations, as well as cutting edge cuisine. Visit www.baltimorefoodtours.com for information.

Are you a history buff? The Maryland Historical Society presents **Divided Voices : Maryland in the**

during the war. The exhibit will also include significant military and personal artifacts, some of which have never been on display to the public. These artifacts will be changed annually to portray each year of the war. Visitors may take a narrated, round trip train ride to the original site of Camp Carroll, the largest Union encampment in Baltimore. Information on this exhibit which will run through May 2015 can be found at www.borail.org.

If you're curious about the universe, a visit



Civil War. This exhibit explores the impact of the war on the people of Maryland. The story is told in three parts; the romantic war, the real war, and the long reunion. This exhibit runs through April 2015. Visit www.mdhs.org for the schedule.

to the Davis Planetarium at the Maryland Science Center is in order. The Planetarium is currently running several shows including ~ **The Sky Live!** which allows you to learn about the phases of the moon, which planets are visible, and how to locate constellations. **Dark Matter** explores those empty spaces between the stars and galaxies as we attempt to understand their existence. For the younger crowd **One World One Sky** follows Big Bird and Elmo from Sesame Street as they take an imaginary trip to the moon to explore the night sky. Information on these programs can be found at the Maryland Science Center's website, www.mdsci.org.



Continuing the history theme, the B&O Railroad Museum celebrates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War with **The War Came by Train**. The B&O was the major line separating a divided country during this war, which was the first conflict where railroads played a major role. The National Landmark Roundhouse will host the largest exhibit of Civil War railroad equipment in the world featuring locomotives and rail cars that served

WANDERING AROUND WASHINGTON

The holiday season is almost upon us and what better way to spend some time together than at **Harbor Holidays**. Enjoy time with family and friends strolling the streets of National Harbor in Washington, DC. On Friday nights in December many of the merchants offer free services. At 7:00 p.m. each Friday evening the National Harbor Holiday Tree will be lit, followed by a fantastic fireworks display. Visit www.harborholidays.com for all of the information.

The Smithsonian American Museum and the Renwick Gallery present **Something of Splendor : Decorative Arts from the White House**. The exhibit runs through early May 2012 and tells the story of how the presidents and their families work, live, and entertain within the walls of the White House. The exhibit features furnishing, ceramics, textiles, metal and glass from the permanent collection of the White House. Many were made by the most celebrated craftsmen of their time. Visit www.americanart.si.edu for more information on this precious exhibit.

Also at the American Art Museum is **The Great American Hall of Wonders** which celebrates the innovation of nineteenth century America. The exhibit features paintings, objects, and drawings by prominent artists including Winslow Homer, Charles Willson Peale, and Albert Beristadt, all of which represent subjects that helped shape America during that time period. Explore this legacy from our founding fathers who believed in the inventiveness of the American people.

Each December, **Wreaths Across America**, carries out a special mission to “remember, honor, and teach” by placing wreaths on the graves of veterans at over 600 cemeteries across the United States for the holiday season. On Saturday, December 10 this tradition will continue at the Arlington National Cemetery in D.C. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor those who gave their lives so that we could enjoy our freedom. Last year at Arlington more than 5,000 volunteers helped place wreaths in only 3 or 4 sections of the cemetery, however this year every hero at the cemetery (over 220,000) will receive a wreath. It is truly a privilege to be able to honor our war vets, especially during the holidays. Visit wreathscrossamerica.org for more information on this truly wonderful event.



CRUISE SMART TRAVEL TIPS

Whether you are a first-time cruiser or a veteran these travel tips always come in handy.

- Pack a power strip ~ Most cruise cabins have limited power outlets and with the number of electronics that people travel with these days, having enough outlets is a high priority.
- Love to shop? Remember to pack an extra bag or two for those souvenirs and trinkets that you pickup while shopping at the various ports of call. This helps to avoid cramming new purchases into what are probably already full bags. Simple foldable fabric bags are a good choice and pack easily.
- Storage space in a cabin is limited. One of the best tips is to purchase an over-the-door shoe holder which can be hung from the bathroom door with suction hooks. This is great for all types of items, such as make-up, sunblock, bathroom toiletries, and heck, even shoes!
- Speaking of sun block ~ don't forget to pack an ample supply. Many first-time cruisers don't realize the strength of the sun in the Caribbean. Also remember to bring protection for your head and SPF lip balm too.
- Don't want to be late for breakfast or miss the sunrise? Remember to pack an alarm clock, especially for those passengers who book inside cabins. No sun to peek through your window and wake you up. You can get a wake-up call to your cabin, but it's still helpful to have the clock visible.





First-time cruisers are often concerned with motion sickness; otherwise known in cruise jargon as seasickness. While this is not fatal by any stretch of the imagination, it can make for an uncomfortable cruise experience. Because each voyage is different depending on sea conditions, even veteran cruisers can be affected.

For those with known motion sickness issues it is recommended that you ask your physician to prescribe the Transderm Scop, which is a patch that you wear behind your ear. It should be applied about eight hours before you cruise and is effective for up to three days. Be sure to discuss any possible side effects with your doctor.

Over-the-counter options include Bonine and Dramamine which are oral medications, usually taken daily and are effective for a 24 hour period. There are usually less potent medications available for children. Read the label carefully for side effects and discuss with your physician. Some ships will provide these free of charge at the purser's desk. Keep

in mind that visits to the ship's infirmary will incur costs so plan ahead.

For those who prefer drug-free options, there are wrist bands available in most pharmacies which have a plastic bead embedded in elastic which when worn on the wrist presses against the Nei-Kuan pressure point and is effective in reducing or eliminating the effects of seasickness.

Studies have shown that ginger can alleviate seasickness. Some passengers sip ginger ale while others try gingersnap cookies, or ginger capsules which can be purchased at most pharmacies.

Remember that what works for one person may not work for you. Consider all of these suggestions based on past experience with motion sickness to see which one would work best for you.