



Dream Cruises debuts “Discover Taiwan” itineraries on Explorer Dream

For the post-COVID-19 era, guests can enjoy the ultimate “vacation away” style travel experience with an international cultural exchange journey at sea

Hong Kong, 25 September 2020 – The first international cruise company to resume operations, Dream Cruises re-started its operations of Explorer Dream on July 26 in Taiwan with island-hopping itineraries out of Keelung to Penghu, Matsu, Kinmen and Hualien. With twenty two sailings successfully completed in the past two months, over 25,000 guests have treated themselves to a long-awaited holiday at sea, enjoying a “vacation away” style travel experience with Dream Cruises. In response to the overwhelming market response to the island-hopping itinerary, the company has now launched brand new “Discover Taiwan” cruises on board Explorer Dream, with 1- to 5-night itineraries from Keelung to Anping in Tainan, Penghu, Kaohsiung and Hualien, as well as sightseeing cruises to view the “Milky Sea” that surrounds Guishan Island in Yilan and the Keelung Islet. Guests can discover the beauty of Taiwan under the new norm of post-COVID era cruising with total peace of mind.

Mr. Kent Zhu, President of Genting Cruise Lines said, “We are proud that Explorer Dream, the first cruise ship to resume operations after the global industry shutdown, has been operating in Taiwan for nearly twomonths without any incident and has garnered high scores in terms of passenger satisfaction. As global travel continues to be put on a hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are seeing a pent up demand among travel enthusiasts to satisfy their wanderlust. We are confident that our “Discover Taiwan” cruises on Explorer Dream will bring about a new trend of the “*vacation away*” style travel experience without having to leave home, through which they can explore the beauty of Taiwan by sea, and with total peace of mind.”

Explorer Dream’s “Discover Taiwan” cruises include a 5-night itinerary from Keelung to the four scenic destinations of Anping in Tainan, Penghu, Kaohsiung and Hualien, allowing travelers to visit some of the most iconic destinations on the main island and outlying islands without the hassle of packing and unpacking or catching connections. The voyage is also a golden opportunity to enjoy the spectacular Penghu Bay International Light Festival from a panoramic and unobstructed vantage point at sea.

For those who prefer shorter trips, 4-night and 3-night cruises to Penghu, Kaohsiung and Hualien, or 2-night getaways to Anping in Tainan are available, where the cruise terminal will be transformed into a traditional market featuring local delicacies and specialty souvenirs. Other highlights of the “Discover Taiwan” itineraries include a 1-night cruise around the Keelung Islet and Guishan Island in Yilan, known for its “Milk Sea”, a natural phenomenon caused by the combination of seawater and a saltwater hot spring; as well as a 2-night sightseeing cruise to the turquoise waters surrounding Ishigaki Island.

A cruise holiday on board Explorer Dream allows travel enthusiasts to take in scenic destinations in Taiwan while enjoying panoramic views of the ocean and skies, perfect for a unique treat to be shared with friends and family during festive occasions. In collaboration with the Korea Tourism Organization, Dream Cruises will host a series of Korean-themed festivities aboard Explorer Dream from September 30 to October 6, starting with an authentic *Chuseok* Korean harvest festival



experience with traditional Korean delicacies, dance and music on the mid-autumn festival sailing, which will also feature traditional Chinese mid-autumn festival customs, such as lantern riddles and mooncake making workshops. Guests who sail on Explorer Dream's inter-island cruise to Anping, Tainan departing on October 9 will celebrate the Double Ten Day long weekend with a spectacular fireworks display in the skies above Yuguang Island of Tainan on October 10.

Guests can further experience the world with unique international activities on board Explorer Dream. Oktoberfest festivities will take place on October 7-8, where guests can enjoy traditional Bavarian dance and music, delicacies such as bratwurst and pork knuckle, as well as interactive activities like beer drinking contests and the giant beer pong.

To celebrate the National Day of Spain in mid-October, guests can experience flamenco dance and Sangria tutorials, as well as traditional *Tapas*, the country's famous bite-sized morsels of Spanish delicacies. Guests will be invited to don their favorite polka dot or traditional Flamenco outfits to join Explorer Dream's Flamenco Night, where they can indulge in traditional Spanish cuisine, music and professional performances of flamenco dance.

Festivities in October will wrap up with a big Halloween party on October 30-31, where guests will be in for spooky "monstrous" surprises, and children can get ready for trick-or-treating at sea with complimentary face painting. Diwali celebrations will take place on November 13-14, where guests will learn traditional dances, as well as enjoy interactive workshops on paper lantern making and Mehndi Hand Coloring.



Highlights of Explorer Dream's "Discover Taiwan" itineraries include a 1-night sightseeing cruise to view Guishan Island in Yilan, known for its "Milk Sea", a natural phenomenon caused by the combination of seawater and a saltwater hot spring.



Stringent food safety and hygiene protocols have been implemented aboard Explorer Dream. Self-service at buffet restaurants have been suspended, all food and beverages are served to guests



by crew members wearing face masks & disposable gloves instead. Guests are guided by onboard signage to practice social distanced queuing in public areas and dining outlets



Onboard amenities, including the theatre, operate at reduced capacity with social distancing in place.

To safeguard the health and safety of guests, extensive preventive measure will be in place throughout the ship including social distancing measures with theatres and recreational facilities operating at reduced capacity, sanitization of the theatre before and after each show, cleaning and disinfection of all toys, games and Little Dreamers Club facilities at least twice daily and after every use, as well as disinfection of recreational equipment once every 2 hours and before guest usage.

All of Genting Cruise Lines' ships, including Explorer Dream, allow for 100% external fresh air to be filtered and supplied to each passenger cabin as well as on board public areas ensuring a constant and healthy flow of fresh air throughout the cruise ship. As confirmed and endorsed[#] by Dr. Chen Jia-kun, Associate Professor, Institute of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, National Taiwan University, Explorer Dream is equipped with a positive pressure system that allows the continuous exhaust of air to the outdoors, which ensures that only filtered fresh air can enter the interior of the cruise ship; every stateroom and public area is also equipped with standalone air ventilation systems, as well as separate vents for fresh air supply and exhaust, which guarantees that the air will not re-circulate and prevent cross-contamination between staterooms and public areas.

Please download hi-res images at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1sc3NIZLEsv5CN9u7w36uD6f7CxTkTjCB?usp=sharing>

[#] Source: COVID-19 Progress Debrief by College of Public Health, National Taiwan University on July 28, 2020: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yt153om-WVk> (Chinese only).

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About Dream Cruises

Genting HK brings 26 years' of Asian cruise industry experience in creating its new cruise line – Dream Cruises. Featuring a complete fleet of quality, German built vessels for Asian sourced passengers, Dream Cruises aims to be a pacesetter in the global cruise industry, meeting the needs of the 'emerging generation' of confident, independently-minded and upwardly-mobile Asian travellers. Dream Cruises offers inspirational journeys, which are Asian at heart and international in spirit.

Purpose-built for the Asian market, Genting Dream, the first ship of the fleet, debuted in November 2016, with her sister ship World Dream joining in November 2017, offering guests cruising from Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Singapore the highest levels of service, as measured by crew to passenger ratio, and most spacious comfort as measured by gross tons per lower berth. Further expanding the Dream Cruises family, Explorer Dream joined in 2019 with homeports in Shanghai, Dalian and Tianjin during summer and Australia and New Zealand in winter. Construction has also started in Germany on the 208,000 gross ton Global Class ship that will join the fleet in 2022.

Dream Cruises has been recognized by the Berlitz Cruising and Cruise Guide 2020, ranking Genting Dream and World Dream once again in the world's top ten Large Resort Ships – the only two highest ships to homeport year-round in Asia. Dream Cruises' third ship, Explorer Dream, also made her debut in the Berlitz Cruising and Cruise Ships 2020 guide under the "Mid-Sized Ship" category in the Top 20 position.

Dream Cruises was also recently awarded 'Best Luxury Cruise Line' at the Annual 30th Travel Trade Gazette's (TTG) Travel Awards 2019 and 'Best Cruise Line – Cuisine', 'Best Cruise Line – Entertainment' and 'Best Cruise Line – Family' by the Travel Weekly Asia Readers' Choice Awards 2019.

For media enquiries, please contact:

(Mr) Desmond Chung
Corporate Communications & PR
desmond.chung@gentingcruiselines.com

(Ms) Edith Poon
Corporate Communications & PR
edith.poon@gentingcruiselines.com