

GENTING CRUISE LINES

Dream Cruises Celebrates Re-start of Cruise Service with Return to Taiwan

Special Inaugural Event to Launch New “Island-Hopping” Voyages on Explorer Dream



Special guests at the inaugural ceremony included (from left to right) Mr. Chuang Jen-Hsiang, Deputy Director General, Taiwan Centers for Disease Control; Mr. Lin Yu-chang, Mayor of Keelung City; Mr. Chen Shih-chung, Minister of Health & Welfare; Ms. Sally Riu, Vice President of Sales – Taiwan, Genting Cruise Lines; Mr. Lin Chia-lung, Minister of Transportation and Communications; Captain Christian Aalbers and Mr. Edwin Chung, Hotel Director of Explorer Dream. The senior management of Genting Cruise Lines also took part in this historical moment via web link.



The island-hopping itinerary of Explorer Dream will depart from Keelung and call into the popular ports and islands of Peng Hu, Matsu Island and Kinmen as well as Hualien, where Taiwanese guests will again be able to enjoy refreshing short getaways on carefree ocean voyages.

GENTING

CRUISE LINES

Keelung, Taiwan, 26 July, 2020 – Dream Cruises celebrated the re-start of its cruise service and return to Taiwan during a special inaugural ceremony to commemorate Explorer Dream’s new “Island Hopping” itineraries created specially for the Taiwan market. Dream Cruises will offer new cruises calling into the popular ports and islands of Peng Hu, Matsu Island and Kinmen as well as Hualien, where Taiwanese guests will again be able to enjoy refreshing short getaways on carefree ocean voyages.

The landmark event was attended by a number of important guests from Taiwan including the Minister of Transportation and Communications, Mr. Lin Chia-lung; the Minister of Health & Welfare, Mr. Chen Shih-chung; the Mayor, Keelung Government, Mr. Lin Yu-chang; the Director General of Maritime and Port Bureau, MOTC, Mr. Kuo Tien Kuei; the Deputy Director General of Taiwan Centers for Disease Control, Mr. Chuang Jen-Hsiang; business partners, the media and representatives of Genting Cruise Lines.

“It is a great honour for Genting Cruise Lines to continue its long and fruitful partnership with Taiwan which began over 20 years ago, as we begin on the road to recovery together due to the COVID-19 pandemic and which will bring hope to the global cruise industry as well,” said Mr. Kent Zhu, President of Genting Cruise Lines.

“We could not have done this alone and I would like to acknowledge the great encouragement we have received from all the various Taiwanese authorities – namely the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, which demonstrated their immense support of the travel industry; the Ministry of Health & Welfare, for their trust and confidence in us; the Ministry of the Interior for their continuous assistance; and the warm hospitality and advocacy from the City of Keelung – and our travel partners and all of our media friends who have been instrumental in making this day happen,” Mr. Zhu continued.

With the backing of local authorities and through their vision to reinvigorate the local economy and the tourism industry, Dream Cruises’ innovative island-hopping cruises on board Explorer Dream will highlight the physical and geographic beauty of Taiwan, allowing travellers to enjoy a long awaited holiday at sea to scenic destinations along the coastline and outlying islands with total peace of mind. These cruises will also showcase the very best that Taiwan has to offer in terms of its culinary heritage as well as its entertaining cultural heritage.

For a taste of Taiwan, collaborations have been forged with the Council of Agriculture to provide local produce on board Explorer Dream and a new order-to-home service for their “2020 Top 100 Premium Agricultural Products” on the ship. Additionally, guests can sample local brands including Sharetea, Taihu Beer, Tien Hsia San Chueh Noodle Cuisine, Formosa Chang, SunnyHills and Mark’s Teppanyaki from Marriott Taipei for everything from bubble tea to local craft beer and popular Taiwanese cuisine.

To offer a truly authentic experience that is close to home, local travel experts have been recruited as Dream Ambassadors, who will offer assistance and guidance to on-board guests in their native languages.

Guests will also see the debut of the new Flexi-Feast dining concept which allows unprecedented flexibility for a completely customized dining experience at sea by allowing passengers the freedom to choose from a wider choice of venues and to dine at their leisure. As well, Flexi-Feast will provide additional peace of mind for guests by helping to ease bottlenecks at certain venues for a more spacious and more comfortable environment

GENTING

CRUISE LINES

on board and provide better social distancing by seating guests across all restaurants instead of concentrating on a few inclusive outlets.

In preparation for welcoming its first passengers on board, over the past months, Genting Cruise Lines has completely re-examined and enhanced all of its health, hygiene and operating protocols to ensure the safest environment for everyone on board including thorough sanitization and disinfection and enhanced hygiene practices for guest cabins and crew member quarters, public areas and recreational facilities; social distancing in dining, entertainment and public areas; safe food and beverage handling procedures; and, 100% fresh air ventilation in staterooms and public areas.

Prior to Explorer Dream's arrival in Taiwan, Genting Cruise Lines had also worked with DNV GL, the largest classification society in the world, to adapt their health care "Certification in Infection Prevention (CIP) for the Marine industry (CIP-M) and Explorer Dream is the first cruise ship in the world to receive the CIP-M certification, a further testament to the effectiveness of the enhanced preventive measures developed by Genting Cruise Lines.

In accordance with Taiwan's regulations prior to resuming sailing, Explorer Dream observed strict quarantine procedures with the crew has completing a total of 21 days of isolation and passing all COVID-19 testing. In preparation for her inaugural sailing, the ship also underwent a thorough deep cleaning in accordance with EU standard. To ensure the seamless execution of preventive measures both on board and on shore, the crew participated in an outbreak simulation drill under the guidance of the Taiwan Centers for Disease Control and with consultation by medical experts from the Taiwan Public Health Association.

"The restarting of the cruise industry is a remarkable achievement which was made possible by the Taiwan authorities' swift and effective handling of the COVID-19 crisis and their foresight in resuming the tourism industry to benefit all the ports, the economy and the lifestyle of the people of Taiwan," added Mr. Zhu. "Looking forward, we believe the development of cruise bubbles between Taiwan and neighbouring regions that also have their pandemic situation under control, such as the outlying islands of Japan, can further initiate the next phase in the re-establishment of international tourism and spur the economic recovery for a post COVID-19 world."

GENTING CRUISE LINES



(Right) Ms. Sally Riu, Vice President of Sales – Taiwan, Genting Cruise Lines presented a ship model of Explorer Dream to (left) Mr. Lin Chia-lung, Minister of Transportation and Communications in commemoration of the inaugural sailing.



(Right) Ms. Sally Riu, Vice President of Sales – Taiwan, Genting Cruise Lines presented a ship model of Explorer Dream to (left) Mr. Chen Shih-chung, Minister of Health & Welfare in commemoration of the inaugural sailing.

GENTING CRUISE LINES



(Right) Ms. Sally Riu, Vice President of Sales – Taiwan, Genting Cruise Lines presented a commemorative souvenir to (left) Mr. Lin Yu-chang, Mayor of Keelung City.



The landmark event was attended by government officials and business partners, in celebration of Explorer Dream's inaugural sailing of the island-hopping cruise.

GENTING CRUISE LINES



Automatic hand washing stations are available aboard Explorer Dream, as part of the cruise liner's continuous efforts to implement stringent preventive measures of the highest standards.



For a taste of Taiwan, guests can sample local brands including Sharetea, Taihu Beer, Tien Hsia San Chueh Noodle Cuisine, Formosa Chang, SunnyHills and Mark's Teppanyaki from Marriott Taipei for everything from bubble tea to local craft beer and popular Taiwanese cuisine.

GENTING CRUISE LINES



Collaboration has been forged between Dream Cruises and the Council of Agriculture to provide local produce on board Explorer Dream and a new order-to-home service for their “2020 Top 100 Premium Agricultural Products” on the ship.

Please download hi-res images at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qrtwrvtm38zirii/AADxyCaxKlwZDMVEUmhLNX3Qa?dl=0>

###

About Genting Cruise Lines

Genting Cruise Lines is a division of Genting Hong Kong comprising of three distinct cruise brands – Star Cruises, Dream Cruises and Crystal Cruises – providing a range of products from contemporary cruises to ultra-luxurious vacation experiences spanning the sea to air.

Founded in 1993, Star Cruises established the Asia-Pacific as a popular, world-wide cruise destination and, with its current fleet (SuperStar Aquarius, SuperStar Gemini, Star Pisces and The Taipan), continues to pioneer the contemporary cruise market in the region.

Launched in 2015, Dream Cruises delivers the highest level of guest service and spacious comfort in the region. Genting Dream which debuted in November 2016 and World Dream, in November 2017, were developed specifically for the China and Asia market, and provides passengers with inspirational journeys at sea that are Asian at heart and international in spirit. Explorer Dream, launched in April 2019, will further fuel Dream Cruises’ global aspirations. Production is currently underway in Germany on two new Global Class ships that will join the fleet beginning in 2021.

By sea, river, land or air, Crystal has redefined the way the world views luxury travel. The world-renowned Crystal Experience – featuring global journeys with Crystal Cruises, Crystal River Cruises, Crystal Yacht Expedition Cruises, Crystal AirCruises and Crystal Air – continues to entice the world’s most discerning travelers with incomparable luxury and unparalleled personal service.

Through its family of brands, Genting Cruise Lines offers the widest and most imaginative spectrum of cruise products for the modern traveller, catering to all segments, geographies, life stages and travel styles.

About Dream Cruises

Genting HK brings 26 years’ of Asian cruise industry experience in creating its new cruise line – Dream Cruises. Featuring a fleet of quality, German built vessels for Asian sourced passengers, Dream Cruises is

GENTING CRUISE LINES

the 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 first 208,000 gross ton Global Class ship, Global Dream, and also the second Global Class ship, which will join the fleet in 2021 and 2022 respectively.

Since its launch, Dream Cruises has been recognized by the Berlitz Cruising and Cruise Guide 2020 ranking Genting Dream and World Dream in the world's top ten Large Resort Ships – the only two highest rated 4.5 star ships operating in the region.

Dream Cruises was also recently awarded 'Best Cruise Operator' at the Travel Trade Gazette's (TTG) Travel Awards 2018 and "Best Cruise Line – Cuisine" and "Best Cruise Line – Entertainment" by the Travel Weekly Asia Readers' Choice Awards 2018 and "Best New Cruise Ship" for World Dream at the 12th Annual TTG China Travel Awards 2019.

About Explorer Dream

Built with German craftsmanship, Explorer Dream measures 268 meters in length and 32 meters in width and a total gross tonnage of 75,338 tons with 928 cabins for a lower berth capacity of 1,856 passengers. The signature, luxury "ship within a ship" enclave of Dream Cruises - The Palace, provides an unprecedented "True Asian Luxury" experience to discerning travelers in China and Asia, boasting an industry leading staff to guest ratio, a majority of its suites at over 40 square meters, as well as Proprietary Butler Training endorsed by affiliated company Crystal Cruises – The World's Most Awarded Luxury Cruise Line.

A generous variety of culinary options is available to cater for every taste – from inspired Asian flavours to exquisite Western delicacies. Acclaimed Australian Chef Mark Best will extend his influence on to Explorer Dream with his Seafood Grill by Mark Best serving up the ocean's bounty in a spectacular al fresco setting. Signature Dream dining favorites will also take pride of place on the new ship including Umi Uma for Japanese delights, Silk Road for traditional Chinese fare, Blue Lagoon for Southeast Asian comfort food and Palm Court for informal refreshments and breath-taking views. For adventurous foodies, the all new Mozzarella Ristorante e Pizzeria will tantalize with a modern fusion of classic Italian dishes and pizzas with a Japanese twist.

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