

# stowaway

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The Cruise People Ltd



# Weekly Cargo-Passenger Services

A well-kept secret in these days of airport anxiety and worry about aircraft emissions is that it is still possible to book a regularly scheduled sea passage to most parts of the world. Since many container ship routes now carry passengers, many routes actually offer a sailing every week of the year. A tour of the ports tells us what's going on.

Southampton leads the way with four sailings a week to the Far East and the Med. CMA CGM The French Line sails every weekend for Hong Kong, with calls at Malta and the United Arab Emirates en route, and beyond at Shanghai, Ningpo and Yantian in China, a round voyage of 56 days. Another French Line service leaves Southampton weekly for Port Kelang, Malaysia, and five ports in North China, a round voyage of 63 days. Grimaldi Lines' EuroMed service leaves weekly for Italy, Greece, Turkey, Israel,

Cyprus and Egypt, with calls on the way back in Italy and Portugal, a round voyage of 35 days. And Grimaldi's EuroAegean service departs weekly for Portugal, Italy, Greece and Turkey, on a 28-day round voyage.

Tilbury hosts the lines sailing to Australia and New Zealand, and while not sailing weekly, these are still frequent. Thirteen ships, some German, some French, carry passengers in this trade, nine of them by way of Panama and four through Suez. As the Panama-routed ships also call at US ports, passengers need a full US visa to travel this way, as cargo ships are not covered by the visa waiver program. Visiting friends and relatives make this the most popular cargo-passenger route by far and it is necessary to book a year in advance to get the date one wants. Tilbury also boasts a sailing every ten days to Buenos Aires by Grimaldi Lines.



Liverpool is once again the hub for North America. The Merseyside port offers two sailings a week, one to Philadelphia and Richmond, Virginia (which is on the Amtrak line to Florida) and one to Montreal. The Philadelphia and Richmond ships carry passengers between April and October, but the Montreal ships will be withdrawn this spring, after which Montreal will be served every 28 days from the Mediterranean.

Thamesport now offers regular service to the Far East, a 56-day round voyage, as does Felixstowe, while the latter also has a new 49-day round trip to South Africa. From nearby, there is weekly service from Le Havre to Martinique and Guadeloupe, a 28-day round voyage, by The French Line. These ships carry the maximum twelve passengers each allowed on a cargo ship. Le Havre is easy to reach by the Louis-Dreyfus ferry service from Portsmouth.

Costs run around £75 per person per day for full board. One dines with the officers and usually shares their lounge. A swimming pool and exercise room are supplied, as are deck chairs. All cabins are en suite and all (except on Grimaldi) are outside. Many of the newer ships have double cabins that include a separate day room and bedroom. Most ships engaged in these services were built in the 1990s and 2000s and carry between five and ten passengers each. As there is no doctor on board there are age limits - usually 75 or 79, although Grimaldi will allow up to age 85.

To obtain further information call Dessy Raykova at The Cruise People Ltd on 020 7723 2450 or at [CruisePeopleDSR@aol.com](mailto:CruisePeopleDSR@aol.com)

## News from NSB

For many years now, NSB of Bremen has been one of our top suppliers of cargo ship voyages. Many of you will have travelled in the former Contship vessels to or from Australia and New Zealand. This issue, we have news on three fronts. In all ships, dining is with the officers and there is an indoor swimming pool and sauna.

### New Service to South Africa

For the first time since the loss of the Safmarine and P&O Nedlloyd, we again have a regular service from the UK to South Africa. The MSC GENEVA, with an Owners cabin and two Double cabins, now operates on this route, sailing every 49 days. The rotation is Felixstowe - Hamburg - Antwerp - Le Havre - Las Palmas - Capetown - Port Elizabeth - Durban - Capetown - Las Palmas - Felixstowe.

### Transatlantic Extension

The MSC ALESSIA has been extended until 2008 in her service between the UK



and the US Gulf, with a sailing every 40 days. She sails between Felixstowe, Antwerp, Bremerhaven and Le Havre, and Charleston, Freeport (Bahamas), Veracruz and Altamira (Mexico), Houston and New Orleans, returning to Felixstowe via Freeport, Savannah and Charleston. This ship features an Owners, a Double and a Single cabin.

### The Far East in a 100,000-tonner

Seven new 100,000-ton NSB ships now operate from Thamesport to the Far East. Carrying five passengers each in an Owners, a Double and a Single cabin, they sail directly from the UK. The route is

Thamesport - Taranto - Port Said - Tanjung Pelepas (for Singapore) - Kaohsiung - Shanghai - Ningbo - Yantian - Hong Kong - Tanjung Pelepas - Suez - Taranto - Hamburg - Rotterdam - Thamesport. The ships in this trade are operated by Evergreen Line, its UK affiliate Hatsu Marine and Italian subsidiary Lloyd Triestino, whose contribution is the LT CORTESIA, shown here arriving at Kaohsiung.

Please call Dessy Raykova on 020 7723 2450 or e-mail her at [CruisePeopleDSR@aol.com](mailto:CruisePeopleDSR@aol.com) for further information and bookings.



## Black Sea Opportunities in 2007

For those who have always wanted to see the Black Sea in style, there will be more opportunities than ever in 2007. The world's highest rated ship, Hapag-Lloyd Cruises' Europa, will offer a perfect opportunity on October 18 for 10 nights, with a circumnavigation of the whole Black Sea from Istanbul. Ports the Europa will call at include Trabzon in Turkey and Sochi in Russia, then four ports in the Ukraine

- Yalta, Sebastopol, Odessa and Ust-Danajsk - and calls in Bulgaria at Varna and Nessebur before returning to Istanbul.

This, the final Black Sea cruise of the season, will be preceded by four departures from top-end ultra-luxury operators:

Seabourn's Seabourn Spirit departs August 4 for 14 nights, Istanbul to Athens via Yalta, Sebastopol, Odessa and Nessebur, then two calls in Turkey and three in Greece.

Silversea's Silver Cloud departs August 26 for 12 nights, Athens to Istanbul via Sinop, Trabzon, Batumi, Odessa, Sebastopol, Yalta, Constantza and Nessebur.

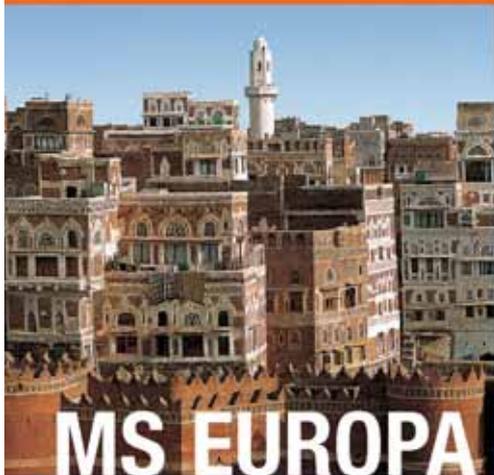
Regent's Seven Seas Navigator departs September 15 for 7 nights, Athens to Istanbul via Nessebur, Yalta, Sebastopol, Odessa and Constantza.

Crystal's Crystal Serenity departs on September 24 for 12 nights, via Constantza, Odessa, Yalta and Sochi.

Cruise-only fares for outside cabins in these ships start between £2,500 and £3,000 per person (balconies more).

Oceania Cruises will also be offering two premium plus Black Sea cruises in 2007. Their Nautica departs July 2 for 12 nights, Athens to Istanbul calling at Santorini and Kusadasi, and then at Yalta, Sochi, Sebastopol, Odessa and Nessebur in the Black Sea. She will also repeat this itinerary on September 2. Cruise-only fares in an outside cabin begin at £1,555 in this ship (balconies from £1,995).

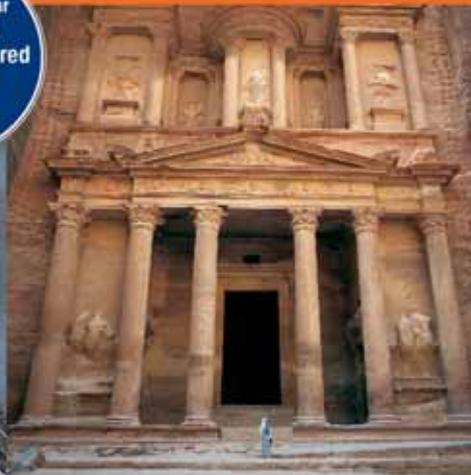
Call Gay Scruton on 020 7723 2450 or e-mail [CruisePeopleGS@aol.com](mailto:CruisePeopleGS@aol.com) for best fares and availability, but book now in order not to be disappointed



# MS EUROPA



For the 6th consecutive year MS EUROPA has been declared 5-star-plus by Berlitz Cruise Guide



## The World's Most Beautiful Yacht

- ★ Set course for the Wonders of the Ancient World
- ★ Cruise in Ultra Luxury with no more than 400 guests
- ★ Elegantly-appointed suites, most with private verandah
- ★ Enjoy Supreme levels of comfort and service
- ★ Indulge in Gourmet cuisine with Euro-Asiatic, Italian and International style
- ★ Pamper yourself in the Ocean Spa and fitness centre



# Palaces and Temples of the Enchanted Arabian Nights

Sail the World's Most Beautiful Yacht around the Arabian Peninsula. From the Lost City of **Urbar\*** to the historic port of **Aden\***, enjoy the breathtaking sights and sounds that will lead you into a secret world of the exalted past. Experience awe-inspiring **Petra\*** and then cross the Red Sea to visit **Luxor** and the **Valley of the Kings\***. Reflect on **Mount Sinai\***. Indulge in the pyramids of **Giza** and the **Sphinx\***, and absorb the culture of **Cairo**. \*Shore excursions are not included in the price of the cruise.

From Muscat/Oman to Limassol/Cyprus via Salalah/Oman, Aden and Hodeidah/Yemen, Aqaba/Jordan, Sharm el Sheik, Hurghada, Suez Canal and Port Said/Egypt

10 - 23 April 2007, 13 nights  
starting from € 6,540 (approx. £ 4,495) p. p. cruise only  
This cruise will be operated bilingual English/German

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**Stowaway** is available free and exclusively through cruise agent members of The Leading Cruise Agents of the UK.

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Isn't it High Time you were on the High Seas?