

News Clips for June 18, 2009

Cruise News

Baltimore Sets Another Record for Most Cruise Pax on Single Sailing

For the second consecutive week, the Port of Baltimore set an all-time cruise passenger record for one sailing. This time, the record was set on a Saturday, June 13 cruise, again onboard the Carnival Pride, as 2,598 people departed the Cruise Maryland terminal bound for the Caribbean. This latest achievement bests last week's previous record by 21 passengers. Before last week, the previous passenger mark was established on August 15, 2004 as 2,284 individuals sailed from Baltimore onboard the Carnival Miracle.

In all 12 cruises that have sailed from Baltimore in 2009, each has sailed at 100 percent capacity or more. A ship's total passenger capacity is based upon the number of available staterooms at dual occupancy per room. When a family of four occupies a stateroom, the dual capacity for that room is exceeded.

In addition to year-round service provided by Carnival, other cruise lines sailing from the Cruise Maryland terminal this year are: Norwegian Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises. The Port of Baltimore will offer 79 cruises in 2009 with an expected economic impact of about \$152 million. Last year, 27 cruises left from Baltimore with an economic impact of nearly \$63 million. About 47,000 passengers cruised from the Port of Baltimore in 2008 when two cruise lines offered service. With four cruise lines this year, the Port expects about 165,000 passengers to cruise from Baltimore.

In 2010, the Port will offer a record 92 cruises, including additional year-round service from Royal Caribbean. The Port of Baltimore is the closest East Coast drive-to port from Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Indianapolis and Chicago. Baltimore is also within a three-hour drive from the New York City metro area. The Cruise Maryland terminal is only 2.5 miles from Baltimore's world famous Inner Harbor, 10 miles from BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, and little more than an hour from three other major airports.