

## **Baltimore Sees Record Number Of Cruise Passengers**

### **Baltimore Sun**

Port sets record for number of cruise passengers in single year  
In 2010, 169,490 passengers embarked on cruises from the port

By Lorraine Mirabella, The Baltimore Sun

November 5, 2010

The port of Baltimore set a record this year for the number of cruise passengers through its terminal, officials said Friday.

In 2010, 169,490 passengers embarked on cruises from the port, topping the 167,235 port cruise passengers in 2009, which also had set a record.

The port expects to have a record 91 cruises this year, business that contributes \$90 million in economic impact to the state. Last year, the port offered 81 cruises, which generated about \$80 million to the economy.

The 2010 passenger numbers got a boost from a nine-day Caribbean cruise on Royal Caribbean's Enchantment of the Seas, which sailed from the port Thursday with 2,326 passengers.

The port expects to serve 220,000 passengers next year on 112 cruises leaving from Baltimore.

[lorraine.mirabella@baltsun.com](mailto:lorraine.mirabella@baltsun.com)

Copyright © 2010, [The Baltimore Sun](#)

### **Cruise Business News**

#### **Port of Baltimore sets cruise passenger record for second straight year**

WRITTEN BY TEIJO NIEMELÄ

SATURDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2010 05:11

For the second consecutive year, the Port of Baltimore has established a record for most cruise passengers handled in one year. The 2,326 passengers that embarke on November 4 on a 9-night Caribbean cruise onboard the Royal Caribbean ship Enchantment of the Seas pushed Baltimore's 2010 number for embarked passengers to 169,490. That number breaks the record of 167,235 embarked passengers that was set last year.

"Baltimore's geographic location, entertainment options, and the cruise terminal's easy access right off Interstate 95 continue to attract passengers in record numbers," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "With even more cruises on the schedule next year, we have every reason to believe that passenger totals will remain strong. "This is excellent news for Maryland's economy and the many jobs associated with the state's tourism industry." The Port of Baltimore will have a record 91 cruises this year. The total economic value to the State of Maryland of cruising from the Port of Baltimore in 2010 is expected to be about \$90 million, an increase of about \$10 million from 2009 when the Port offered 81 cruises. In 2011, the Port is scheduled to have 112 cruises and will

embark approximately 220,000 passengers.

Three cruise lines have operated from the Port of Baltimore in 2010: Carnival, Celebrity, and Royal Caribbean. The Carnival Pride offers year-round cruising to the Bahamas and the Caribbean. Royal Caribbean's Enchantment of the Seas sails from Baltimore to New England/Canada, Bermuda, the Caribbean, and the Bahamas. The Celebrity Mercury offers a winter cruising schedule to the Caribbean and the Bahamas.

The Port of Baltimore is within a six hour drive of 40 million people. It 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.

Maryland's median household income of \$70,545 is the highest in the U.S. Baltimore is also located within a four-hour drive of eight of the ten wealthiest counties in the U.S. The Baltimore-Washington DC-Northern Virginia region is recognized as one of the most affluent in the nation.

### **WJZ Channel 13 TV**

**Nov 6, 2010 12:10 pm US/Eastern**

Baltimore Sees Record Number Of Cruise Passengers

#### [Gigi Barnett](#)

Baltimore is fast becoming a favorite destination for cruise passengers. For the second year in a row, a record number of people have sailed out of Charm City. As **Gigi Barnett** explains, Baltimore's easy location is part of the reason why.

Baltimore's ship has come in. For the second year, a record-breaking number of passengers continue to sail out of the Port of Baltimore despite a sluggish [economy](#).

"It's been a real success [story](#)," said Port Authority Spokesperson Richard Scher.

Scher says several factors are creating the "perfect storm" situation. The biggest reason: Baltimore and its port are easy to access for millions of passengers who can save money by driving instead of flying to their ships.

"I think this is very good and it helps the economy and lets people know Baltimore does exist," said a passenger.

"We get a lot of folks that actually drive to the Port of Baltimore from as far into the midwest as Indiana and as far south as the Carolinas," Scher said.

Baltimore opened up year-round cruising two years ago. Before that, it was just a seasonal destination. Since then, the passengers keep coming. Last year, about 167,000 people sailed out of Baltimore. This year, that number is up by a little more than 2,000.

Scher says those visitors bring their dollars. The port expects to make about \$90 million from cruiselines this year. That's up by \$10 million from last year.

The port has already eclipsed other larger cruise towns like [Philadelphia](#), Boston and Norfolk.

"In terms of being a next level cruise port, we feel like with this cruise terminal and the demographics that we have in this region, we're right there," Scher said.

The port expects its record-breaking trend to continue well into 2011. More than 100 cruises are set to depart from Baltimore with about 220,000 passengers sailing out.

Three cruise lines operated from the port this year. They include Carnival, Celebrity and Royal Caribbean.

(© MMX, CBS Broadcasting Inc. All Rights Reserved.)

### **Baltimore Business Journal**

#### **Port of Baltimore cruises to passenger record in 2010**

#### **Baltimore Business Journal - by Scott Dance**

Date: Friday, November 5, 2010

The Port of Baltimore surpassed its previous record for cruise passengers Thursday, predicting continued growth for the industry here.

The 2,300 passengers aboard Royal Caribbean's Enchantment of the Seas brought the 2010 passenger total to 169,490 to date. In 2009, 167,235 passengers cruised from Baltimore.

The figure could rise again in 2011. Ninety-one cruises are scheduled to embark from the [Maryland Port Administration](#)'s South Locust Point Terminal this year, but that is scheduled to reach 112 in 2011.

The increase is expected to bring the tourism economic impact of cruising to \$90 million in 2010, \$10 million more than in 2009, when 81 cruises departed from Baltimore.

Three cruise lines operate in Baltimore: Carnival, which cruises year-round to the Bahamas and the Caribbean; Royal Caribbean, which offers trips to New England and Canada, Bermuda, the Bahamas and the Caribbean; and Celebrity, which offers a winter schedule to the Bahamas.