

BALTIMORE SUN

Baltimore moves up on list of top ports for cruises

By Michelle Deal-Zimmerman

12:04 PM EDT, September 26, 2011

The Port of Baltimore ranks as the fifth-largest port for the number of cruise passengers on the East Coast, according to numbers released recently by the Cruise Lines International Association.

The ranking, based on data from 2010 when Baltimore hosted a record number of cruise passengers, is up a notch from 2009, when the port was ranked no. 6.

The top five ports on the East Coast, according to CLIA, are Miami, Port Everglades (Fort Lauderdale), Port Canaveral, New York and Baltimore, which saw 210,549 people sailing on cruises in 2010. That number surpassed Jacksonville's approximately 174,000 passengers and pushed Baltimore ahead of the Florida city on the list.

Nationally, CLIA ranked the Port of Baltimore at no. 12, up from no. 14.

According to the Maryland Port Administration, Baltimore is within a six hour drive of 40 million people, providing easy access for cruise travelers. It is the closest East Coast drive-to port from Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Indianapolis and Chicago and is within a three-hour drive from the New York City metro area.

Both Carnival and Royal Caribbean offer year-round cruises from Baltimore.

MARYLAND DAILY RECORD

Baltimore is fifth-busiest East Coast cruise port

Posted: 6:49 pm Mon, September 26, 2011

By Nicholas Sohr

Baltimore was the fifth-busiest cruise port on the East Coast in 2010, and the Maryland Port Administration is scouting locations to expand the growing business.

The Port of Baltimore's 210,549 cruise passengers were enough to bump the port up one spot last year, according to Cruise Lines International Association Inc. figures released Monday. Baltimore ranked behind only three ports in Florida — Miami, Port Everglades and Port Canaveral — and New York.

Nationwide, Baltimore was the 12th most-traveled cruise port, improving on its 2009 ranking by topping Jacksonville and Alaska.

Port officials hope to continue the ascent that began in 2009, the first year the cruise terminal was open year-round. Last year, 90 cruises left from Baltimore. There are 112 scheduled in 2011.

MPA spokesman Richard Scher said the administration has held "internal discussions" about opening a second cruise terminal. The Cruise Maryland terminal in South Locust Point has only one berth, limiting the ability to expand the schedule.

"We're pretty much at our limit right now," Scher said. "We've got some ideas on where we might want to place that terminal, but obviously cost is going to be a huge factor."

The expansion discussions have focused on North Locust Point, Scher said. That terminal, next to the current terminal and the entrance to the Fort McHenry Tunnel on Interstate 95, handles forest products and specialty cargo, such as wind turbine components.

"We think one of the main reasons we've had the success in cruises that we've had is because the cruise terminal is located right off I-95," he said. "It's easy to reach if you're going North-South and it's also easy to reach from the Midwest."

The expansion of the Seagirt Marine Terminal was financed by the MPA through a public-private partnership with Ports America Chesapeake. Ports America holds a 50-year lease on the terminal and is paying to add a new berth and cranes.

Scher said a similar public-private deal to expand the cruise business "would absolutely be something we would look at."

Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International sail from Baltimore to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, the Caribbean and New England.

About 61,000 passengers caught cruises in Baltimore in 2008, and 167,000 in 2009.

BALTIMORE BUSINESS JOURNAL

Baltimore ranked No. 5 for cruise passengers in 2010

Date: Monday, September 26, 2011, 2:28pm EDT

Scott Dance , Senior Reporter/Projects Editor - Baltimore Business Journal

The Port of Baltimore ranked No. 5 on the East Coast for the amount of cruise ship passengers it carried in 2010, up one spot from the previous year.

Passengers on Baltimore-based ships totaled 210,549 in 2010. That ranked the port ahead of such ports as Jacksonville, Fla.; Charleston, S.C.; and Norfolk, Va.

The port could climb the rankings again in 2011. The 2010 numbers were based on a record 90 cruises, while 112 cruises are scheduled for 2011. Carnival, Celebrity and Royal Caribbean cruise lines have ships based in Baltimore.

Ranking ahead of Baltimore were Miami; Port Everglades, Fla.; Port Canaveral, Fla.; and New York.

Baltimore ranks 12th among all U.S. ports for its cruise passengers, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

DUNDALK PATCH

Port Ranked No. 5 on East Coast for Cruise Passengers

More than 210,000 people set sail from the Port of Baltimore last year.

By Ron Cassie, September 26

Cruise business at the Port of Baltimore continues to grow with Baltimore now ranked fifth among East Coast ports for total number of cruise ship passengers.

Baltimore climbed one spot to No. 5 after a record-breaking 210,549 people sailed from the port in 2010, according to recently released statistics from the Cruise Lines International Association. In improving its ranking, Baltimore surpassed Jacksonville (approximately 174,000 passengers).

The top five cruise ports on the East Coast for passengers in 2010 were Miami, Port Everglades, Port Canaveral, New York and Baltimore, according to a press release from the Port of Baltimore.

"Baltimore's growing cruise business is a real success story for our state," said Gov. Martin O'Malley in a statement. "Our momentum is built upon having a cruise terminal with a unique location with plenty of onsite parking right off Interstate 95. This allows for easy access and attracts people from up and down the East Coast and from the Midwest. As a city, Baltimore is convenient, accessible and provides great hospitality for travelers before and after their cruise. These characteristics are key

reasons why Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International make Baltimore a home for their ships.”

Earlier this year, Carnival Cruise Lines inked a 5-year deal with the Port of Baltimore.

In 2009, the first year the Port of Baltimore offered year-round cruising, more than 167,000 passengers sailed on 81 cruises. In 2008, about 61,000 people sailed on 27 cruises that operated in the spring, summer and fall, according to a press release from the Port of Baltimore.

This year, the Port of Baltimore is offering a record 112 year-round cruises, sailing to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Caribbean, New England and Canada.

About 500 jobs in Maryland are generated by the port’s cruise business with an economic impact estimated at \$90 million, according to the Port of Baltimore.

AVENUENEWS.COM

Port of Baltimore's cruise ship popularity on the rise

Published: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 12:34 PM CDT

The Port of Baltimore moved up to No. 5 in the number of cruise passengers among East Coast cruise ports in 2010.

A report from Cruise Lines International Association noted that the fifth-place slot is up one notch from 2009.

Nationally, the port ranked 12th (up from 14th) after a record-breaking 2010 cruise year that resulted in 210,549 people sailing from the port on 90 cruises. The ranking indicated that the port moved ahead of Jacksonville, Fla., as well as the state of Alaska. “Baltimore’s growing cruise business is a real success story for our state,” said Gov. Martin O’Malley. “Our momentum is built upon having a cruise terminal with a unique location with plenty of onsite parking right off Interstate 95. This allows for easy access and attracts people from up and down the East Coast and from the Midwest. As a city, Baltimore is convenient, accessible and provides great hospitality for travelers before and after their cruise. These characteristics are key reasons why Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International make Baltimore a home for their ships.”

The ports raking ahead of Baltimore were Miami, Port Everglades, Port Canaveral and New York respectively.

In 2011 the Port of Baltimore has 112 year-round cruises scheduled from Carnival, Celebrity, and Royal Caribbean. Cruises sail to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Caribbean, and New England/Canada. Recently, Carnival signed a new five-year extension to continue offering cruises from Baltimore.

In 2009, its first year of year-round cruises, , more than 167,000 passengers sailed on 81 cruises. In 2008, about 61,000 people sailed on 27 cruises that operated in the spring, summer and fall. About 500 jobs in Maryland are generated by the port's cruise business, according to the state. The economic impact is about \$90 million.

CRUISEINDUSTRYNEWS.COM

Baltimore Jumps Higher in Cruise Ratings and Traffic

Tuesday, 27 September 2011

The Port of Baltimore handled the fifth-largest amount of cruise passengers among East Coast cruise ports in 2010, according to recently released numbers from the Cruise Lines International Association. Baltimore's fifth-place slot is one better than it ranked in 2009. Nationally, the port ranked 12th (up from 14th) after a record-breaking 2010 cruise year that resulted in 210,549 people sailing from the port onboard 90 cruises.

"Baltimore's growing cruise business is a real success story for our state," said Governor Martin O'Malley. "Our momentum is built upon having a cruise terminal with a unique location with plenty of onsite parking right off Interstate 95. This allows for easy access and attracts people from up and down the East Coast and from the Midwest. As a city, Baltimore is convenient, accessible and provides great hospitality for travelers before and after their cruise. These characteristics are key reasons why Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International make Baltimore a home for their ships."

In improving to its current ranking, Baltimore surpassed Jacksonville (approximately 174,000) and Alaska (approximately 128,000) for embarking cruise passengers in 2010. The top five cruise ports on the East Coast for passengers in 2010 were Miami, Port Everglades, Port Canaveral, New York, and Baltimore.

In 2011 the Port of Baltimore has a new record of 112 year-round cruises offered by Carnival, Celebrity, and Royal Caribbean. Cruises sail to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Caribbean, and New England/Canada. Recently, Carnival signed a new five-year extension to continue offering cruises from Baltimore. The first two years are financially guaranteed and there are three one-year options.

Earlier this year, the Port of Baltimore began using a state-of-the-art, climate-controlled enclosed passenger boarding bridge. The bridge is mobile and flexible to accommodate various sized cruise ships.

In the last three years, Baltimore has seen a marked increase in its number of cruise passengers. In 2009, its first year of year-round cruising, more than 167,000 passengers sailed on 81 cruises. In 2008, about 61,000 people sailed on 27 cruises that operated in the spring, summer and fall.

About 500 jobs in Maryland are generated by the port's cruise business. The economic impact is about \$90 million.

CECILWHIG.COM

Baltimore becoming popular port for cruises

Posted: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 1:36 pm

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