

ASSOCIATED PRESS

100 cruises sailed from Baltimore in 2012

Wednesday - 1/30/2013, 4:25pm ET

(this version picked up from ABC2 News, WTOP, Businessweek, Cumberland Times News and Washington Post)

BALTIMORE - Nearly a quarter million passengers set sail from Baltimore on cruises last year.

State officials announced Wednesday that the more than 240,000 passengers were second only to the year before when more than 251,000 passengers set sail from Baltimore. A total of 100 cruises left the port in 2012.

Cruise ships began making year-round stops at the port in 2009. Gov. Martin O'Malley says the total economic value to the state from cruises at the Port of Baltimore is about \$90 million. And about 220 direct jobs are generated by cruise activity.

Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International offer year-round cruises from Baltimore. The ships sail to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Caribbean, and New England/Canada.

CRUISE INDUSTRY NEWS

Baltimore Reports Strong 2012 Cruise Year
on 30 January 2013.

Governor Martin O'Malley announced today that 240,676 people sailed on 100 cruises from the Port of Baltimore in 2012. That marks the second highest total passenger count for one calendar year behind the 251,889 that sailed in 2011 on 105 cruises.

"Since beginning a year-round cruising schedule in 2009, the Port of Baltimore has continued to make waves as one of the hottest cruise ports in the U.S.," said Governor O'Malley. "The port's cruise business is a major economic generator for our state, bringing in tens of millions of dollars and generating hundreds of jobs. Looking ahead to this year, we expect this momentum to continue as we await the arrival of a new ship to serve our market."

The total economic value to the State of Maryland of cruising from the Port of Baltimore is about \$90 million. Approximately 220 direct jobs in Maryland are generated by cruise activity.

Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International offer year-round schedules from Baltimore. Cruises sail to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Caribbean, and New England/Canada.

In May Royal Caribbean will replace its Enchantment of the Seas cruise ship in Baltimore with the newly renovated Grandeur of the Seas. The Grandeur of the Seas has completed a \$48 million revitalization that will include many new options and upgrades that are available on its two largest class ships, including new dining options, entertainment venues, renovated staterooms and technological upgrades.

The Port of Baltimore handled the fifth-largest amount of cruise passengers among East Coast cruise ports, 11th largest in the U.S., and 20th most in the world in 2011. In 2011 the Port 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.

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 and is within a three-hour drive from the New York City metro area. The Cruise Maryland terminal is 2.5 miles from Baltimore's world famous Inner Harbor and 10 miles from BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.

Maryland's median household income of \$68,845 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.

BALTIMOREPOSTEXAMINER.COM

Port of Baltimore produces strong year for cruising

240,676 Passengers Sailed in 2012: Second Highest to 2011 Record Year

January 30, 2013

(Cruise Critic website picked up this version)

(BALTIMORE, MD) — Governor Martin O'Malley announced today that 240,676 people sailed on 100 cruises from the Port of Baltimore in 2012. That marks the second highest total passenger count for one calendar year behind the 251,889 that sailed in 2011 on 105 cruises.

"Since beginning a year-round cruising schedule in 2009, the Port of Baltimore has continued to make waves as one of the hottest cruise ports in the U.S.," said Governor O'Malley. "The port's cruise business is a major economic generator for our state, bringing in tens of millions of dollars and generating hundreds of jobs. Looking ahead to this year, we expect this momentum to continue as we await the arrival of a new ship to serve our market."

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BALTIMORE SUN

Port cruise ship traffic dips slightly in 2012

Still second-highest count since 2009

By Candy Thomson, The Baltimore Sun

12:18 PM EST, January 30, 2013

Cruise traffic at the port of Baltimore last year dipped slightly from 2011, snapping a four-year string of increases.

Port officials said Wednesday that 240,676 people sailed on 100 cruises out of Baltimore, the second-highest count since year-round service started in 2009. In 2011, 251,889 passengers sailed on 105 cruises, a nearly 20 percent increase over the previous year.

Cruise traffic is worth about \$90 million in total economic value to the state and is responsible for about 220 jobs.

The East McComas Street cruise terminal services Royal Caribbean International and Carnival Cruise Lines. Most Baltimore cruises are seven-day trips to the Bahamas and the Caribbean, although some ships travel to New England and Canada.

In May, the port will see a changing of the guard as Royal Caribbean replaces its 989-foot Enchantment of the Seas with the slightly smaller, but recently refurbished Grandeur of the Seas. Grandeur received a \$48 million upgrade and has been cruising the Mediterranean. Shipboard improvements include five new restaurants, technological upgrades and stateroom renovations.

MARYLAND DAILY RECORD

Port of Baltimore saw 100 trips from cruise ships last year

11:19 am Wed, January 30, 2013

Posted: 11:19 am Wed, January 30, 2013

By Alexander Pyles The Daily Record

Daily Record Business Writer

ANNAPOLIS — Fewer passengers cruised from the Port of Baltimore last year than they did in 2011, but the total was still the second-highest in the cruise terminal's four-year history of year-round operation.

Cruise ships made 100 trips carrying 240,676 people from Baltimore last year, the port said Wednesday. In 2011, 105 trips carried 251,889 passengers. Both numbers indicate that ships were leaving Baltimore close to capacity.

Despite the year-over-year decline, the port served more passengers than all but four other East Coast cruise terminals, ranked No. 11 nationally and 20th in the world, according to the port.

Two cruises leave the port each week — one operated by Royal Caribbean and the other by Carnival Cruise Lines. The port said Royal Caribbean in May will replace its Enchantment of the Seas ship with Grandeur of the Seas, which has just undergone a \$48 million renovation that added new dining options, entertainment venues, renovated staterooms and some technology upgrades commonly found on the cruise line's largest ships.

Carnival signed a five-year extension in 2011 to continue weekly cruises from Baltimore. Royal Caribbean is committed through mid-2014.

AAPA ADVISORY

Baltimore: More than 240,000 Cruise Passengers in 2012

February 4, 2013

The Maryland Port Administration reports 240,676 people sailed on 100 cruises from Baltimore's Cruise Maryland Terminal in 2012, second only to the 251,889 that sailed in 2011 on 105 cruises in 2011.

The total economic value to the state of Maryland of cruising from the Port of Baltimore is about \$90 million. Approximately 220 direct jobs in Maryland are attributed to cruise activity.

Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International offer year-round schedules from Baltimore. Cruises sail to the Bahamas, Bermuda, Caribbean and New England/Canada. In May, Royal Caribbean will replace its Enchantment of the Seas in Baltimore with the newly renovated Grandeur of the Seas. The Grandeur of the Seas has completed a \$48 million revitalization that will include options and upgrades available on its two largest class ships, including new dining options, entertainment venues, renovated staterooms and technological upgrades.

Baltimore is within a six hour drive of 40 million people. The Cruise Maryland terminal is 2.5 miles from Baltimore's Inner Harbor and 10 miles from BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport.

DUNDALK.PATCH.COM

Baltimore Port Enjoys Near-Record Cruise Numbers

With nearly 241,000 passengers sailing out of Baltimore on 100 cruises, 2012 was the second-busiest since year-round cruise scheduling began in 2009.

By Marge Neal

February 7, 2013

The Port of Baltimore continues to be a popular launching place for passenger cruises, according to numbers released recently by port officials.

In 2012, 240,676 people sailed on 100 cruises that originated at the port, according to a statement from port officials.

Those numbers add up to the second-highest total passenger for one calendar year, surpassed only by the 251,889 passengers that sailed out of Baltimore in 2011 on 105 cruises.

"Since beginning a year-round cruising schedule in 2009, the Port of Baltimore has continued to make waves as one of the hottest cruise ports in the U.S.," Gov. Martin O'Malley said in the prepared

statement. "The port's cruise business is a major economic generator for our state, bringing in tens of millions of dollars and generating hundreds of jobs."

About 220 direct jobs are generated by cruise activity at the port, and the total economic value to the state of the cruise industry operating out of the port is about \$90 million, according to the statement.

Carnival Cruise Lines and Royal Caribbean International offer a year-round schedule from Baltimore that includes trips to the Bahamas, Bermuda, New England and Canada.

In May, Royal Caribbean will replace its Enchantment of the Seas ship with the newly renovated Grandeur of the Seas, according to officials. Thanks to the \$48 million upgrade, the ship will offer new dining options, entertainment venues, renovated staterooms and upgraded technologies.