



---

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**1999**  
**For Immediate Release**

**August 27<sup>th</sup>,**  
**Singapore**

---

**SUPERSTAR VIRGO ARRIVES IN SINGAPORE**

Star Cruises, "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*", is proud to announce the maiden arrival of the newest addition to the fleet in Asia-Pacific, the 76,800 gross ton world-class megaship, the **SuperStar Virgo** at **Singapore** on **Friday, August 27, 1999** at **2.00pm**. Her arrival will be witnessed by Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, Minister for Communications & IT and a large group of government officials, media and other dignitaries.

More than 5,000 travel agents, media and other trade professionals in the travel industry from Thailand, USA, Taiwan, Japan, Malaysia & European countries are expected to attend the showcase of **SuperStar Virgo** in Singapore. They will all be taken aboard for a first-hand experience with familiarisation tour of one of the world's largest megaships ever built this century.

"Costing US\$380 million, the 76,800-gross tonne **SuperStar Virgo** is more superior in design and finish than most cruise ships in the world. Her design and layout was further enhanced by US\$20 million as compared with the **SuperStar Leo** which in 1999 won 3 out of a possible 8 design awards conferred by "*Cruise & Ferry Info*", the leading cruise magazine in Europe. No other cruise ship won more than a single award", says Dato' K T Lim, Chairman of Star Cruises.

"Her arrival in Singapore in only about 10 months from **SuperStar Leo's** arrival here marks our commitment in delivering world-class cruise ships and re-affirms our leading position in Asia-Pacific," added Dato' KT Lim.

“Just like her predecessor, the **SuperStar Leo**, **SuperStar Virgo** will be providing affordable value-for-money cruises that are attractive to Singaporeans as well as foreign tourists. **SuperStar Virgo** is expected to carry more than 180,000 fly/cruise passengers a year; an improvement of 20% compared to the **SuperStar Leo**,” according to Dato’ KT Lim.

Although sister ships, the **SuperStar Virgo** is distinctly different in interior decoration, the Grand Piazza lobby and reception area has a rich Italianate feel. Its back-lit domed glass is a mosaic of colourful floral patterns in hues of red, yellow, orange, green and blue. Three golden stallions in an upright position symbolically guard the illuminated steps that lead to the three glass bubble elevators. Roman influence is further underlined by a pair of Roman statues flanking the horses. The reception area exudes a warm elegance with Renaissance-themed tapestries. All other areas are differently themed.

**SuperStar Virgo** will also feature the **first Indian restaurant, The Taj**, onboard any cruise ship in the world in addition to Japanese, Chinese and Italian *a la carte* restaurants. “This is in line with our commitment towards a multiple-dining and single sitting concept whereby passengers have a choice of **4 alternative restaurants** in addition to the two main dining rooms and the buffet serving western and eastern cuisines,” said Mr Colin Au, the President and Chief Executive of Star Cruises. “Star Cruises is the only cruise line which caters to the dining, cultural, language and other aspects of the different nationalities who are onboard with the most number of alternative restaurants onboard a ship in the world,” he added.

Star Cruises, “*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*”, is one of the five largest cruise lines in the world. By 2005, Star Cruises will have a fleet of 12 vessels with lower berth capacity of about 18,000 and an annual growth of 25% per year for next six years.

Star Cruises has also one of the youngest and most modern cruise fleets in the world with the highest safety standards. Its ships are based throughout Asia-Pacific with Singapore, Port Klang, Phuket, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taipei and Osaka/Kobe (early 2000) as ports of embarkation. Star Cruises' award-winning fleet has the best services afloat with the highest crew-to-passenger ratio reflecting the high standards of the hospitality industry in Asia-Pacific.

Star Cruises has offices in Asia (China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand); Australia (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth), Europe (Austria, Germany, Sweden and United Kingdom) and the United States of America. New offices will be established in the Philippines and Korea by the end of this year.

Star Cruises' completely new web-site is at [www.starcruises.com](http://www.starcruises.com) or [www.starcruises.com.my](http://www.starcruises.com.my) which provides more information on the cruise line and the itineraries.

- end -

For editorial please contact:

MALAYSIA

*Jane Poh*  
*Vice President, Corporate Communications*  
Tel : 603-309 2526  
Fax : 603- 301 1479  
e-mail : [sjpoh@starcruises.com.my](mailto:sjpoh@starcruises.com.my)  
Port Klang, Malaysia

SINGAPORE

*Benny Leo*  
*Public Relations Manager*  
Tel: 65-228 9850  
Fax: 65-220 6820  
Singapore

# **SUPERSTAR VIRGO SHIPBOARD FEATURES**

- ◆ 76,800 gross tons, one of the largest 10 cruise vessels in the world.
- ◆ 268m in length and 32.2m in width.
- ◆ Maximum speed: 25.3 knots.
- ◆ Cost : US\$ 380 million, built by Meyer Werft in Germany.
- ◆ 1,000 cabins with lower berth capacity of 2,000 passengers; 1,300 crew capacity.
- ◆ 70% of the outside passenger cabins have balconies.

## **RESTAURANTS & BARS**

- ◆ La Taverna – Mediterranean-styled alfresco café and beer garden, overlooking swimming pool. Extensive range of bottled/canned beer.
- ◆ Gelato Ice-cream Bar & Café – serving fresh juices, ice-cream, smoothies and desserts.
- ◆ Mediterranean Buffet & Terrace – indoor and outdoor restaurant with seating capacity 590, serving Asian and International buffet for breakfast, lunch, tea, dinner and supper. Separate kids seating area with tables, chairs and serving counter for kids.
- ◆ Samurai – Japanese restaurant with two teppanyaki tables, sushi bar and a tatami room, the first onboard a cruise ship.
- ◆ The Taj – colourful Indian-themed restaurant serving Indian and ‘halal’ food.
- ◆ Bellini – the ship’s main ‘quiet’ lounge, serving wine, liqueur, cocktails, coffee and tea.
- ◆ Blue Lagoon – in a Florida tropical setting serving Southeast-Asian food and light American snacks.
- ◆ Noble House – Chinese restaurant with two private rooms.
- ◆ Palazzo – intimate and palatial décor, fine-dining. Food is fusion of Italian and Chinese flavours.
- ◆ The Pavilion Room – large Chinese-styled family restaurant, seating capacity 300.

# **SUPERSTAR VIRGO SHIPBOARD FEATURES**

- ◆ Bella Vista – décor in rich blues and reds with tall-arched windows. Ship's largest restaurant with seating capacity of 636 serving Asian and Western set-menus.
- ◆ Celebrity Disco – interiors in dominant orange and purple, this disco will play contemporary dance music.
- ◆ Galaxy Of The Stars/The Observatory - 450-seat lounge with bandstand and dance floor. Snacks and cocktails served during the day.
- ◆ The Lido - two-deck 1,000 seat showroom with the latest digital audio and video equipment and revolving stage.
- ◆ Out Of Africa – 243-seat African jungle-themed fun pub, karaoke and café; with 8 karaoke rooms.

## **SPORTS, HEALTH & RECREATION**

- ◆ Sports Deck – featuring golf driving, basketball, football, volleyball and jogging circuit.
- ◆ Parthenon Pool – outdoor swimming pool with 4 jacuzzis.
- ◆ Jumbo Bolite Chess – outdoor giant chess board.
- ◆ Apollo Spa & Fitness – featuring male and female steam, sauna and massage sections, Aquaswim jet-current exercise pool and gymnasium.

## **GUEST SERVICES & PUBLIC AREAS**

- ◆ Grand Piazza – the lobby and front office area, 6-deck high atrium with a grand Italianate feel and three glass elevators.
- ◆ Library & Writing Room – for quiet reading and private studies.
- ◆ Mahjong and Card Room – room for mahjong and card games enthusiasts.
- ◆ The Promenade – outdoor boulevard for a relaxing stroll.
- ◆ Captain's Bridge – observation room of the ship's bridge operations.

# **SUPERSTAR VIRGO**

## **SHIPBOARD FEATURES**

- ◆ Two indoor boulevards with shopping arcades.
- ◆ Executive Business Centre – secretariat and business services.
- ◆ Boardroom and 8 other meeting rooms.
- ◆ Helipad – the only cruise vessel other than SS Leo to feature helicopter landing facility.
- ◆ View point – the ‘Titanic’ platform as in the movie.

### **TEENAGERS & CHILDREN**

- ◆ Neptune’s Wet & Wild – children’s fun pool with slides.
- ◆ Starlight Disco/Cinema/Video Arcade – for the young.
- ◆ Charlie’s Child Care – playland and nursery for kiddies.