



PRESS RELEASE

17th September, 1999

For Immediate Release

SUPERSTAR EUROPE COMPLETES SEA TRIALS
AND COMMENCES ONE-WEEK FAMILIARISATION CRUISES

Star Cruises, "The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific" is pleased to announce **SuperStar Europe's** successful completion of a series of rigorous sea trials. She will commence her familiarisation cruises in Singapore from the **17th September, 1999 to 25th September, 1999.**

SuperStar Europe, the former MS Europa was voted "The Best Cruise Ship in the World" in 1997 by the authoritative Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships. She is the fourth SuperStar series vessel to join Star Cruises' growing stable of world-class ships and the most luxurious cruise ship in the world. Facts and pictures of **SuperStar Europe** can be viewed via www.starcruiises.com

Weighing 37,000 gross tonnes with 339 cabins with a passenger capacity of 678, **SuperStar Europe** will embark on her 6-Day / 5-Night relocation cruise to Laem Chabang, Bangkok from **26th September, 1999 to 1st October, 1999.** This *exotic island paradise cruise* will call at Tioman Island, Redang Island, Ko Samui and Hua Hin.

Refurbished at a cost of more than US\$15 million with enhanced facilities and features, **SuperStar Europe** will be based at her homeport in Laem Chabang, Bangkok from 1st October, 1999. On top of her world-class dining, entertainment and recreational facilities, she will also feature a new Video Arcade and Library. The Hair and Beauty Salon has been relocated and refurbished to Deck 2. The Clipper Bar, after refurbishment, will have an extended and new modern buffet line.

As part of the re-fit programme, the ship's stability has been improved. Her safety features are also enhanced with the addition of sprinkler systems and smoke detectors.

SuperStar Europe has one of the most spacious cabins on any cruise ship with a regular stateroom measuring up to 226 sq. ft. and 452 sq. ft. for an executive suite. She offers yet another new class of luxury presented by Star Cruises. Six new suites have been added on Deck 10 while six others on Deck 9 have been upgraded with balconies.

SuperStar Europe will commence her regular **Indo-China cruises** from **1st October, 1999** where she will call at Ho Chi Minh City, Con Son Island and Phu Quoc Island in Vietnam and Ko Samui in Thailand.

Her much anticipated arrival follows the successful showcase of **SuperStar Leo** recently in Laem Chabang. The Thais' response to the **SuperStar Leo** showcase then was overwhelming and attended by more than 1,500 agents, media and trade professionals. **SuperStar Europe** has thus far attracted the same encouraging response, having signed on 17 Preferred Sales Agents (PSA) who will promote the cruises in the Thai market.

As cruising gains popularity in Thailand, the arrival of **SuperStar Europe** will augur well for the Thai tourists as they will be able to cruise year round on the regular cruise itineraries and conveniently out of Laem Chabang, the gateway to bustling and vibrant Bangkok.

"The mass influx of foreign cruisers through fly/cruise packages will increase tourism traffic to Bangkok. The Thai economy will definitely benefit from the spin-offs generated, as well as from cruise passengers who are very likely to extend their vacation in Thailand," says Mr. Colin Au, President and Chief Executive of Star Cruises.

"Star Cruises' long term commitment to the Thai market is reflected by the establishment of a new dedicated passenger check-in terminal of 1,200 sq. m. in Laem Chabang which will provide comfortable waiting areas, a VIP lounge and car-park space for 200 cars. Passengers can look forward to a smoother and efficient embarkation process," 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 the corresponding period.

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.starcruiises.com or www.starcruiises.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@starcruiises.com.my

Port Klang, Malaysia