



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

SUPERSTAR LEO MAKES MAIDEN CALLS
TO SANYA, DANANG AND XIAMEN
AND BEGINS NEW CRUISE SEASON

Star Cruises, “*The First Global Cruise Line*” is pleased to announce the new cruise season for ***SuperStar Leo*** from her homeport in Hong Kong between **April 2nd** and **September 24th, 2000**. ***SuperStar Leo*** completed her maiden calls on **April 6th, 2000**, calling at **Sanya, Danang** (Vietnam) and **Xiamen** (China) on **April 3rd, 4th and 6th, 2000** respectively.

During the maiden calls, familiarisation tours organised onboard provided first-hand experience to travel agents, tour operators, travel trade-related professionals and members of the local and international media, of ***SuperStar Leo's*** extensive features and facilities.

“***SuperStar Leo*** has just concluded her very successful Zhanjiang/Halong Bay and Haikou Cruise on March 29th, 2000. During her cruise season, she was well received by both the people of China and Vietnam. We expect similar response this time round as the new itineraries are equally exciting, if not better,” said Mr. Colin Au, President and Chief Executive of Star Cruises.

“A 40,000-grt luxury cruise vessel will commence cruises between Haikou, China and Vietnam in the fourth quarter of 2000 while ***SuperStar Taurus*** will begin calling at Shanghai from July onwards. The increase of cruise traffic to China underlines Star Cruises’ believe in China’s tremendous cruise tourism potential.”

SuperStar Leo will be making 26 calls to these destinations bringing in 2000 passengers per week which translates into 52,000 passengers in six months. This will certainly augur well for the local economy which stands to benefit from the new demand for shopping, sightseeing and pre-and post-cruise stays,” added Mr. Au.

“Cruisers will find ***SuperStar Leo’s*** extensive facilities and appointments luxurious as she is the first megaship to arrive and cruise on a regular itinerary in Asia-Pacific,” Mr. Au added further.

SuperStar Leo

SuperStar Leo, at 76,800 GRT, 268m long and 32.2m wide is one of the biggest and most powerful cruise ships built in modern time, at just under 59 megawatts of installed power, delivering a speed of 25.3 knots. She has 1000 cabins and 1300 crew with a lower berth capacity of 2,000 passengers. She features a spectacular 7-storey atrium, 1,000-seat showroom, 16 food and beverage outlets, Tivoli Pool Deck and all the facilities of a world-class cruise ship.

SuperStar Leo is the winner of 3 out of 8 design awards conferred by “*Cruise and Ferry Info*”, the leading cruise magazine in Europe for “Outstanding Cruise Saloons”, “Outstanding Cruise Cabins” and “Outstanding Cruise Sundeck.

SuperStar Leo will commence her **regular cruises from her homeport in Hong Kong from April 2nd, 2000** offering **6-Day/5-Night, 4-Day/3-Night and 3-Day/2-Night cruises** to Sanya and Xiamen in China and Danang in Vietnam.

SANYA, HAINAN ISLAND

Located on the southern-most tip of Hainan Island, Sanya enjoys a mild tropical climate with abundant sunshine throughout the year. This excellent seaside city boasts numerous stretches of sandy white beaches with crystal clear waters that attract thousands of visitors all year round. Sanya is also renowned for her flourishing pearl cultivation industry.

DANANG, VIETNAM

Formerly known as Tourane under French rule, this important port in central Vietnam during the 19th century offers fascinating cultural and historical places of interest namely the Cham Museum, Cao Dai temple, Ho Chi Minh Museum. The pristine beaches at China Beach and cave temples of Marble Mountains remain favourite tourist spots.

XIAMEN, CHINA

Steeped in history that dates back to 3,000 years, Xiamen offers a picturesque mix of sightseeing options which include 1,000-year old Buddhist temples, ancient fortresses, spectacular mountains, caves, parks and historic monuments. Xiamen is also the cultural and academic centre of Fujian Province and one of China's most vibrant cities.

Following the acquisition of NCL Holdings, Star Cruises is now "*The First Global Cruise Line*" and the equal-third largest cruise group with a fleet of 20 ships and over 21,000 lower berths. By 2004, with the five ships currently on order, Star/NCL will have 25 vessels with about 35,000 lower berths.

Star Cruises also has one of the youngest and most modern cruise fleets in the world with the highest safety standards. Presently, Star Cruises' 11 ships are based throughout Asia-Pacific with Singapore, Port Klang (Malaysia), Phuket, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Taipei and Kobe 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, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand); Australia (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth), Europe (Austria, Germany, Sweden and United Kingdom) and the United States of America. With a number of branches in some countries such as China, India and Australia, Star Cruises is represented in 25 locations worldwide.

The NCL group operates a fleet of nine ships under three brands. ***Norwegian Cruise Line***, with six ships, offers mainstream cruises in the Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Bermuda, and the Exotics. ***Orient Line***, with two ships, offers destination-oriented

cruises in Europe in the summer months and worldwide, as far as Antarctica, in the fall-through-spring. Both NCL and Orient Lines market primarily in North America but also extensively in the UK, Europe, South America, and Asia. **Norwegian Capricorn Line**, with one ship, is an Australian-based joint venture offering South Pacific cruising to the Australian market.

Star Cruises' completely new web-site is at www.starcruises.com or www.starcruises.com.my which provides more information on the cruise line and the itineraries.

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