



PRESS RELEASE
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STAR CRUISES ANNOUNCES RE-DEPLOYMENT OF SUPERSTAR GEMINI

Star Cruises, "*The First Global Cruise Line*" and "*The Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific*" will re-deploy the **SuperStar Gemini** which is presently homeported in Singapore to serve a new cruise sector which will be announced at a later date. **SuperStar Gemini** is scheduled to depart Singapore on **19 May 2002**.

Star Cruises has offered cruisers, already booked and affected by SuperStar **Gemini's** redeployment, comparable Singapore-based cruises - with accommodation upgrades (subject to availability) as well as other 'extras' - aboard the larger and more luxurious **SuperStar Virgo**. Passengers who have booked their cruises already are encouraged to contact their travel agents and Star Cruises for further details.

Star Cruises will also address travel agent commissions affected by this change.

For the last 7 years, the **SuperStar Gemini** has served as a pathfinder vessel having successfully developed the 7-night itinerary along the Andaman Sea and Straits of Malacca from her base in Singapore which had proven to be popular with the western/caucasian markets. It has also generated interest in the fly cruise markets in Asia-Pacific.

The redeployment comes at a time when Star Cruises is reviewing its itineraries in Asia and seeking new destinations in the Asia-Pacific. In line with this, Star Cruises had recently announced a **6-day/5-night Bangkok-Ho Chi Minh City** itinerary on the

SuperStar Capricorn on selected departures until 2003 with early indications revealing a strong level of interest.

Since the introduction of **SuperStar Virgo** in 1999 and her predecessor, the **SuperStar Leo** in 1998 to Asia - with Andaman Sea/Malacca Straits itineraries which almost mirror those of **SuperStar Gemini** - there has been a noticeable shift of cruisers from **SuperStar Gemini** to the larger ships in both the Star Cruises and NCL fleets. This shift is attributable to the more luxurious appointments of the larger ships, the larger number of recreational options and the choice of wider cruising itineraries.

"It is not difficult to comprehend why the **SuperStar Virgo** is preferred by our passengers given her larger size, better facilities, myriad of options, relatively younger age and trend and preference towards megaships today. With the deployment of **SuperStar Gemini** coupled with the current booking trend, it is envisaged that the 7-day predominantly caucasian markets will migrate over to the megaships both in the Asia-Pacific and the United States where the Star Cruises Group has ships homeported in the key cruising markets such as the Caribbean, Alaska, Hong Kong and the Baltics" said Mr. Chong Chee Tut, Star Cruises' Chief Operating Officer.

"The increased visibility of Star Cruises' sister brand, NCL, and demand for its products have also to an extent lessened the demand for **SuperStar Gemini** – a factor which had an impact on our decision," added Mr. Chong.



SuperStar Gemini

ABOUT STAR CRUISES

Star Cruises is the fourth largest cruise line in the world presently operating a combined fleet of 19 ships with over 24,000 lower berths, with cruises to destinations and islands in Asia-Pacific, North and South America, Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Mediterranean, Bermuda and Antarctica under the Star Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Orient Lines and Cruise Ferries brands. By end 2002, with the one ship currently on order, Star Cruises will have over 26,000 lower berths. Star Cruises is represented in more than 20 locations worldwide with offices in Australia, New Zealand, China, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom and the United States of America. For more information on Star Cruises and NCL, please visit www.starcruises.com and www.ncl.com

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