

# Maiden call of SuperStar Gemini highlights dual arrival of Star Cruises ships to Kota Kinabalu.



*SuperStar Gemini*



*Passengers disembark to a traditional welcome*

**7 June 2006** - Star Cruises, the Leading Cruise Line in Asia-Pacific, announced the maiden call of SuperStar Gemini at the Kota Kinabalu Port, Sabah in East Malaysia this morning. The call also coincided with the arrival of SuperStar Virgo earlier in the morning making it a first for two Star Cruises ships to berth at the port on the same day.

Colourful traditional welcomes by the Sabah Tourism Board greeted both ships upon arrival with passengers being garlanded by traditional hand-beaded necklaces as they disembarked to join specially organised shore excursions in Kota Kinabalu.

The arrival of SuperStar Gemini from Nha Trang in Vietnam at 10 in the morning was witnessed by the Deputy Chief Minister/Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment, Sabah, Tan Sri Datuk Chong Kah Kiat together with more than 250 invited guests comprising members of the travel trade, corporate representatives, tourism officials and media. This was followed by a special welcome reception onboard SuperStar Gemini, after which guests disembarked for a ship tour and lunch onboard SuperStar Virgo.

Kota Kinabalu is the second of two new destinations in East Malaysia featured in the new season itineraries on SuperStar Gemini, having made her maiden call to Kuching on 12 May 2006. Three more calls are scheduled for Kota Kinabalu on 28 June, 26 July and 13 September 2006.

“Kota Kinabalu is another fascinating destination in East Malaysia that offers a varied choice of highlights that appeal to the different passenger profiles on SuperStar Virgo and SuperStar Gemini”, said Mr. Chong Chee Tut, Star Cruises’ Chief Operating Officer.

Added Mr. Chong, “This is part of our ongoing efforts to provide more options for holiday-makers to experience cruising in the region”.

Over 2,200 passengers comprising an international mix from more than 20 countries including Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, India, New Zealand, United Kingdom and Hong Kong to name a few disembarked from both ships to enjoy the many attractions that Kota Kinabalu has to offer.

SuperStar Gemini will depart for Kuching at 8 pm followed by SuperStar Virgo's return to Singapore an hour later.

### **More on SuperStar Gemini**

SuperStar Gemini at 19,093 gross tonne is a world-class cruise ship with international and Asian dining, entertainment and recreation facilities. Her facilities include a swimming pool, restaurant and bars, hair salon, spa, well-appointed Karaoke rooms and many more that can cater to all types of passengers, young and old, singles and family members. She has 400 cabins with a passenger capacity of 800 (based on lower berths).

### **About Star Cruises**

Star Cruises, the third largest cruise line in the world is a global cruise brand with a combined fleet of 22 ships in service including 2 to be delivered, with about 35,000 lower berths, cruising to destinations and islands in Asia-Pacific, North and South America, Hawaii, Caribbean, Alaska, Europe, Mediterranean, Bermuda and the Antarctica under the Star Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, NCL America, Orient Lines and Cruise Ferries brands.

Star Cruises is represented in more than 20 locations worldwide with offices in Australia, China, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and the United States of America.