

THE CRUISING JEWELS OF 2008



to enjoy while on the journey.

The cruise line operators are once again getting ready for another amazing season. Cruising the world is gradually becoming a very attractive way of spending one's holiday. Tourists get to visit several destinations, without having to move all their luggage from hotel to hotel. Furthermore, another very appealing asset of sailing around the world is the overwhelming comfort and luxury one gets

Each year, the operators introduce new ships in order to attract more travelers. Of course, it is also a question of prestige. There are seven new ships to be introduced to the cruising public in 2008, and according to experts, they ought to be booked out soon after their majestic entrée on the market.

Carnival Splendor, already dubbed "the largest 'Fun Ship' ever constructed" will welcome first tourists on board at the beginning of July. More than 3,000 passengers have a unique opportunity to sail around the Mediterranean. The next destination for Splendor is northern Europe. However, in 2009, the Splendor is the first Carnival ship to sail around South America. The rates start at \$249 per person.

Another great opportunity for cruise enthusiasts who have a taste for true luxury is to sail on board the Celebrity Solstice. Spacious bathrooms, spa amenities, AquaSpa relaxation room, Persian Garden Steam room, or several amazing restaurants are only the beginning. Fares start at \$819, however the greatest asset of the Solstice are the \$1,099 verandah cabins.

Holland America will also introduce a new generation of ship: the Eurodam. The operator added one more deck and is attracting tourists by presenting three specialty restaurants and high-end shops. MSC Cruises will launch two new ships this year. One of them, the MSC Fantasia is a very luxurious ship, offering a VIP area with 99 staterooms. A thermal cave, four pools, five restaurants, and even a Formula One simulator should be the hottest attractions of this precious cruise liner.

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