

# BARCELONA CRUISE PORT

*Monthly newsletter*



## BARCELONA TAKES A CURTAIN CALL AS CRUISE SHIPS START THEIR CROSSING VOYAGES

*Text & Photos by Victoria Plank*

As the weather starts to turn and everyone prepares to go back to work after the summer holidays, at Barcelona Cruise Port we prepare ourselves for our second peak season of the year.

The cruise port is one big anomaly compared to the rest of the city and whilst the streets begin to empty of travellers, we handle an average of over 200.000 guests between September to November. Normally our busiest time, guest numbers this year are much lower but nonetheless, November marks the end of our season and the start of the cruise crossings.





Cruise Crossings refer to the voyages ships make in November where they leave the colder Mediterranean seas in favour of the warmer waters of the Caribbean until it's time to return in spring.

Over the course of the month, we have said goodbye to a total of 10 ships as many cruise lines undergo this trans-Atlantic migration. A special mention to the recently inaugurated MSC Seashore, who was only launched this summer.

She left Barcelona on the 2nd of November, and after spending 15 weeks with us as her homeport she now calls into Miami as her main port of call.

However, it is not all goodbyes – Barcelona is still a popular winter destination for MSC with the MSC Fantasia and MSC Grandiosa

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expected to call with us all throughout the Christmas holidays.

Viking Ocean Cruises is also a regular with us at Barcelona Cruise Port as we routinely have different vessels of their fleet docking with us. This year we have hosted the Viking Sea , the Viking Sky and the Viking Jupiter. Viking Ocean Cruises mainly dock overnight at our terminals, allowing guests to explore Barcelona at all hours.

As we slowly bid farewell to 2021 and start to prepare the new year, we want to wish all the ships embarking on their transatlantic crossing a safe and enjoyable journey after their season with us.

We look forward to hosting them again soon. In the meantime, we work to incorporate new operational requirements into our daily procedures in order to improve both guests and cruise line experience alike.

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*"Now that the ships are starting the next part of their itineraries , it is time for us at Barcelona Cruise Port to reflect upon this year's season and plan for the expected rebound of cruising in a post COVID 19 era."*