



**PORT DE
OF QUÉBEC**

PRESS RELEASE

Notice to all media

For immediate release

An outstanding day for international cruises at the Port of Quebec

Quebec City, October 1, 2009 – Friday, October 2 will be an historic day for international cruises at the Port of Quebec. Over a period of 48 hours, over 13,000 cruise passengers will make Quebec City their point of departure or arrival.

Three large ships will tie up for the first time in Quebec City: the Princess Cruise line's Crown Princess, the Norwegian Spirit of the Norwegian Cruise Line, and Costa Atlantica, belonging to Costa Cruises. These three vessels will make Quebec City their point of departure or arrival for a number of itineraries.

Weighing in at 116,000 tons gross tonnage, the Crown Princess is the largest member of the Princess Cruises fleet to visit the Port of Quebec. Arriving at their final destination after a ten-day cruise from New York, some 3,000 passengers will have the leisure to discover all the charms Quebec's capital city has to offer. Nearly as many passengers will embark in turn for a trip to New York.

The Norwegian Spirit will put its particular stamp on Quebec City's international cruise experience by landing and embarking its passengers in only 12 hours. This 1,800 passenger vessel, linking Boston to Quebec City, will be berthed at Pier 103 because the cruise ship terminal at Pointe-à-Carcy will already be occupied by the Crown Princess.

The Port of Quebec is also very proud to welcome the Costa Atlantica of the cruise ship line Costa Cruises. Sailing the waters of the St. Lawrence for the first time in 2009, this Italian company chose Quebec City as the final destination of its 17 day cruise from Italy. Over 2,000 travelers finish their cruise in Quebec City, while the same number will board the ship for a seven-day cruise to New York. The Costa Atlantica will be moored at the Quai de la Reine pier (Canadian Coast Guard) on October 2 before transferring to Pier 103 (Anse au Foulon) for the rest of its stay in Quebec City and departing at 5:00 p.m. on October 4.

“I am very excited to see how central Quebec City is becoming to the planning of international cruise ship lines. The fact that the Norwegian Cruise Line, Costa Cruise Line, and Princess Cruises has made the Port of Quebec the point of departure and arrival for their itineraries proves that the Quebec Port Authority is able to welcome and meet the expectations of the biggest cruise ship lines in the world. Everything is in place to delight the 13,000 passengers who will pass through Quebec City this weekend. It is very promising for the future,” added QPA President and CEO Ross Gaudreault.

Quebec’s international cruise industry generates direct economic spinoffs of nearly \$80 million, with each passenger spending an average of \$118 daily per port of call. Quebec City is the busiest port of call for cruise ships visiting the St. Lawrence River, but also the final destination for a number of bigger vessels.

-30-

Source:

Patrick Robitaille
Vice President
Marketing and Development
Quebec Port Authority
Tel.: 418-648-4956

Canada 