Cruising into the Tropical Sun – Job Creating Cruise Ship Season

26 October 2017

The Darwin cruise ship season kicks-off today with the arrival of the Sun Princess.

Almost 2000 people will converge on Darwin for a day of site-seeing and shopping on their way from Perth to Sydney.

Minister for Tourism and Culture, Lauren Moss said cruise ships provide a welcome boost to the Territory economy during the quieter times on the Top End calendar. “The Territory Labor Government continues to work with Darwin City and Waterfront Retailers Association and Tourism Top End to provide a Territory welcome to visitors throughout the cruise ship season. There will be 43 cruise ship visits to Darwin between now and July, bringing with them almost 47,000 passengers to enjoy a taste of the Top End,” Ms Moss said.

The cruise ship industry is worth an estimated $87.6 million per year to the NT economy with highlights of this season including the arrival of the magnificent ocean liner Queen Mary 2 in March 2018.

This includes the return of the largest cruise ship to ever visit Australia, Ovation of the Seas in April 2018, which alone will deliver 4,000 passengers to our shores.

Eight cruise ships will visit Darwin from October to December 2017 and will bring over 11,000 passengers to Darwin as they reposition from Asia and Europe for the Australian summer season.

All ships will be in Darwin for the day arriving early morning and most will be departing at 6pm. Festive activities will be planned that include music and arts and craft markets and shopping bargains from traders to tempt the visitors.

The Sun Princess will berth at 7am and depart Darwin at 4pm.


Ovation of the Seas entering Darwin Harbour, Tauri Minogue Photography, Darwin Port
Ovation of the Seas in Darwin, Tauri Minogue Photography, Darwin Port
Water canon welcome for the Ovation of the Seas in Darwin, Tauri Minogue Photography, Darwin Port

NT Flag flying over the Ovation of the Seas, Tauri Minogue Photography, Darwin Port
Ovation of the Seas, Sunrise, Darwin Harbour, Tauri Minogue Photography, Darwin Port
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