

# Princess Cruises Named as One of the Top Cruise Lines by Cruise Critic in its 11th Annual Editors' Picks Awards

December 5, 2018

Cruise Critic Editors Award Princess Cruises Best Itineraries, Cabins & Shore Excursions in the United States and in Australia, Best New
Cruise Ship - Majestic Princess and Best for Dining

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. (Dec. 5, 2018) - Cruise Critic<sup>®</sup>, the world's largest cruise reviews site and online cruise community, has announced the winners of its 11<sup>th</sup> annual <u>Editors' Picks Awards</u> and Princess Cruises won three awards in the United States- **Best for Cabins**, **Itineraries** and **Shore Excursions** and two awards in Australia - **Best New Cruise Ship - Majestic Princess and Best for Dining.** The awards recognize the best cruise lines of the year, as selected by Cruise Critic's global panel of impartial cruise experts -- highlighting the best ocean, river and luxury cruise lines across dozens of categories.

Princess Cruises in the United States was acknowledged in three categories, with knowledgeable accolades from Cruise Critic's Editors, including:

**Best Itineraries** (this is the second consecutive year Princess has won this category):

"When wanderlust calls, Princess answers. The line covers the map with its itineraries, ranging from the usual Caribbean and Mexico cruises, to more bucket-list options like Alaska, the South Pacific and Asia. What sets the line apart from its competitors, though, is its ability to bring the destinations onboard -- through food, enrichment, entertainment and even a new cocktail menu using local ingredients."

## **Best Cabins** (Ocean Category):

"Hard work pays off, and Princess' cabin investment is a shining example. The line's new Club Class mini-suites are nearly rolled out to the fleet, so more cruisers can take advantage of perks like an exclusive dining room and menu, and priority embarkation and disembarkation. Other ships have unveiled new layouts that maximize space, while Princess' Luxury Beds remain the most comfortable we've ever experienced."

## **Best Shore Excursions:**

"Princess uses strategic partnerships to bring its passengers more meaningful experiences in ports around the world through its Local Connections, Bon Appetit Culinary and Discovery Channel tour programs. From baking your own soda bread near Dublin to mixing a Benedictine cocktail outside of Paris to polo lessons in Buenos Aires, Princess' shore excursions can get you closer to the culture, no matter what port you're in."

And in Australia Princess Cruises was acknowledged in two categories, including:

# Best New Ship - Majestic Princess:

"Princess has quenched Australians' thirst for newer ships by sending its largest, latest and greatest to our shores. Introducing features never seen before on a local ship, Majestic Princess has an elegant, all-weather pool club and conservatory with a bar, hot tubs and enclosed cabanas; a glass walkway that extends over the ocean; a private karaoke room: bubble tea kiosk and restaurants created with Michelin-starred chefs."

#### **Best Dining:**

"Princess collaborated with top chefs from Michelin-starred restaurants to create the menus for its excellent new French and Cantonese restaurants on Majestic Princess, which also offers the novelty of poolside grills serving lobster, dim sum and noodle soups. Meanwhile, the whole fleet continues to shine at established venues, especially the Crown Grill steakhouse, the Chef's Table experience, Curtis Stone's Share and deluxe burgers at the Salty Dog gastropub."

"As the cruise industry continues to evolve, travelers are rewarded with extraordinary options and experiences," explains Colleen McDaniel, Senior Executive Editor of Cruise Critic. "Cruising already is one of the most groundbreaking travel industries, and cruise lines continue to raise the bar when it comes to guest experience – both onboard and in port. These are the absolute best experiences at sea, and what's most exciting is that there's even more to look forward to in 2019."

Cruise Critic boasts the world's largest online cruise community, with more than 350,000 cruise reviews, covering approximately 700 cruise ships and nearly 500 worldwide ports. These awards combine Cruise Critic editors' impartial cruise expertise – based on first-hand experiences and industry knowledge – to help travelers select the best cruise vacation from an increasing number of cruise options. For the full details of this year's winners, visit 2018 Cruise Critic Editors' Picks Awards.

Additional information about Princess Cruises is available through a professional travel advisor, by calling 1-800-PRINCESS (1-800-774-6237), or by visiting the company's website at <u>princess.com</u>.

#### **About Cruise Critic**

Cruise Critic® is an online cruise guide, offering a comprehensive resource for cruise travelers, from first-time cruisers to avid cruise enthusiasts. The site features more than 350,000 cruise reviews and hosts the world's largest online cruise community where travelers share experiences and opinions with fellow cruisers. Cruise Critic was the first consumer cruise site on the Internet, launched in October 1995 by The Independent Traveler, Inc., a subsidiary of TripAdvisor, Inc.

# **About TripAdvisor**

TripAdvisor, the world's largest travel site\*, enables travelers to unleash the full potential of every trip. With over 600 million reviews and opinions covering the world's largest selection of travel listings worldwide – covering approximately 7.5 million accommodations, airlines, attractions, and restaurants -- TripAdvisor provides travelers with the wisdom of the crowds to help them decide where to stay, how to fly, what to do and where to eat. TripAdvisor also compares prices from more than 200 hotel booking sites so travelers can find the lowest price on the hotel that's right for them. TripAdvisor-branded sites are available in 49 markets, and are home to the world's largest travel community of 455 million average monthly unique visitors\*\*, all looking to get the most out of every trip. TripAdvisor: Know better. Book better. Go better.

- \* Source: comScore Media Metrix for TripAdvisor Sites, worldwide, October 2017
- \*\* Source: TripAdvisor log files, average monthly unique visitors, Q3 2017

# **About Princess Cruises**

One of the best-known names in cruising, Princess Cruises is a global premium cruise line and tour company operating a fleet of 17 modern cruise ships, carrying two million guests each year to 380 destinations around the globe, including the Caribbean, Alaska, Panama Canal, Mexican Riviera, Europe, South America, Australia/New Zealand, the South Pacific, Hawaii, Asia, Canada/New England and World Cruises. A team of professional destination experts has created more than 150 award-winning itineraries, ranging in length from three to 111 days and Princess Cruises has been continuously recognized as "Best Cruise Line for Itineraries."

Princess Cruises continues its multi-year, "Come Back New Promise" - a \$450 million-dollar product innovation and

cruise ship renovation campaign that will continue to enhance the line's onboard guest experience. These enhancements result in more moments of awe, lifetime memories and meaningful stories for guests to share from their cruise vacation. The product innovations include partnerships with award-winning Chef Curtis Stone; engaging entertainment inspired shows with Broadway-legend Stephen Schwartz; immersive activities for the whole family from Discovery and Animal Planet that include exclusive shore excursions to onboard activities; the ultimate sleep at sea with the award-winning Princess Luxury Bed and much more.

Three new Royal-class ships are currently on order with the next new ship, Sky Princess, under construction scheduled for delivery in October 2019 and Enchanted Princess in 2020. Princess recently announced that two new (LNG) ships which will be the largest ships in the Princess fleet, accommodating approximately 4,300 guests with expected delivery in 2023 and 2025. Princess now has five ships arriving over the next six years between 2019 & 2025. The company is part of Carnival Corporation & plc (NYSE/LSE: CCL; NYSE:CUK).

#### **Newsroom:**

Additional media information is available at princess.com/news.

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