



Mardi Gras Selected As Name For Largest Carnival Cruise Line Ship Ever Constructed

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America's Cruise Line Revealed Name During Episode of America's Game®, Wheel of Fortune

MIAMI, Dec. 5, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- In a nod to Carnival Cruise Line's rich history as America's Cruise Line, the line announced today that it will name its new XL-class ship to be delivered in 2020 *Mardi Gras*™, bringing back to the fleet the name of the first Carnival Cruise Line® ship that entered service in 1972 and started the wave of cruise vacation popularity in the United States.

In keeping with its tradition of fun, Carnival revealed the name to a nationwide television audience on the popular game show Wheel of Fortune on its signature Puzzleboard at the conclusion of the broadcast.

Mardi Gras will be the largest Carnival Cruise Line ship ever constructed and the first in North America to be powered by Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), part of Carnival Corporation's green cruising platform. At 180,000 tons, the new *Mardi Gras* will be more than six times the size of its namesake.

Currently under construction at Meyer Turku in Finland, the 5,200-plus lower berth vessel will offer a variety of never-before-seen innovations and attractions.

Itineraries for *Mardi Gras* will be announced in January and go on sale later that same month. Carnival Cruise Line fans who want to be the first to book on *Mardi Gras* can get a head start by clicking [here](#) where they can register to get a "first to know" alert and special promotional offer when itineraries are opened for sale.

The original 27,000-ton TSS *Mardi Gras*, a converted trans-Atlantic ocean liner purchased by entrepreneur and Carnival founder Ted Arison, ushered in the modern-day cruise industry when it set sail on its inaugural voyage in 1972, helping to transform cruising from an experience once reserved for the elite into a mainstream vacation accessible and affordable to everyone.

"Our first ship *Mardi Gras* was a historic vessel, introducing a brand new style of cruising to the vacationing public. What better way to pay tribute to our company's nearly 50-year history of creating wonderful vacation memories than by naming this groundbreaking vessel after our original and beloved 'Fun Ship,'" said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line. "The new *Mardi Gras* will follow the trailblazing lead of her predecessor, introducing features and technological innovations that have never been seen before on a cruise ship while setting a new standard for seagoing vacations."

Carnival previously announced that the ship will be based in Port Canaveral, Fla., which will feature a new state-of-the-art terminal. A second XL ship will start construction in 2020 and be delivered in 2022 to mark the 50th anniversary of Carnival Cruise Line's founding.

To learn more about Carnival Cruise Line, visit [Carnival.com](#). For reservations, contact any travel agent or call 1-800-CARNIVAL. Carnival can also be found on: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

Journalists also can visit Carnival's media site, [carnival-news.com](#) or follow the line's PR department on Twitter at [twitter.com/CarnivalPR](#).

About Carnival Cruise Line

Carnival Cruise Line, part of Carnival Corporation & plc (NYSE/LSE: CCL; NYSE: CUK), is "The World's Most Popular Cruise Line®" with 26 ships operating three- to 24-day voyages to The Bahamas, Caribbean, Mexican Riviera, Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, New England, Bermuda, Cuba, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia. The line currently has three new ships scheduled for delivery – the 133,500-ton Carnival Panorama™ set to debut in 2019, the 180,000-ton *Mardi Gras* in 2020 and an as-yet-unnamed 180,000-ton ship in 2022.

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