



Classic International Cruises

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Athena's 2010/11 Australian Summer Cruise Program Released

Classic International Cruises' Biggest Ever Season in Australia

A maiden visit by Athena to Christmas Island during the Christmas cruise and the first-ever return cruise from Western Australia to South Australia will feature in Classic International Cruises' longest-ever program in Australia next summer.

A new brochure for the 2010/11 Australian summer season has just been released, with Classic International Cruises' popular flagship, Athena, to be the only cruise ship to be based in Perth next summer, which will be the cruise line's seventh successive season in the west and the third for Athena.

The 600-passenger Athena will offer 13 cruises to and from Fremantle in WA for four months from November 14, 2010, to April 14, 2011 – the longest-ever summer season in Australia for Classic International Cruises, which has based its liners in Perth every year since 2004.

Cruises from two to 39 nights will be available next summer including a Christmas cruise from Perth to Christmas Island and Bali, an 11-night cruise from Perth to the seafood capital of Australia, Port Lincoln, as well as Kangaroo Island, Adelaide and Esperance – the first ever return cruise from WA to SA - an extended Asian cruise, popular short and weekend cruises around the WA coastline and two traditional line voyages between Europe and Australia.

Fares start from **\$445** per person, twin-share, for a two-night cruise aboard Athena, with children under 18 cruising for free on six selected cruises next summer, with only nominal taxes to pay. And supplements for solo travellers in selected cabins are as low as 25 per cent, instead of double. And Classic International Cruises is also one of the few cruise lines to allow single travellers to share cabins to lower the fare. The currency onboard Athena is Australian dollars, adding to the savings.

“Athena will be the only cruise ship based in WA next summer, underscoring our ongoing commitment to this growing market,” said Classic International Cruises Managing Director for Australia, Grant Hunter. “Classic International Cruises has served Western Australia every summer since 2004 after 15 years in which no ship at all was based in WA, and next summer we will again offer our highly successful formula of traditional cruising on a real ocean liner, affordable fares, attractive itineraries, fine cuisine, friendly and personal service and a warm and relaxed atmosphere that you only get on a smaller vessel,” Mr Hunter said.

“Between one third and half of all passengers on our cruises from Perth have sailed with us before, which underlines our appeal and success. We also enjoy strong and ever-increasing support from travel agents, especially in WA, who know that we only sell via agents and that we are in the west to stay. Classic International Cruises is committed to growing the WA market and we will continue to serve this market.”

Originally a transatlantic liner, the classic-styled Athena features traditional wooden deck chairs, marbled reception foyer, pool, fitness centre and sauna, five bars and lounges, nightclub, showlounge, casino, library, boutiques, cinema and two restaurants. The Portuguese-based Athena has 276 spacious cabins and each boasts a bath – a luxury only found in suites on the latest ‘superliners’. There are also 43 suites, including eight balcony cabins with jacuzzi baths.

Bookings or a copy of the 2010/11 Athena brochure, are available via travel agents or visit www.classicintcruises.com.

Details of 2010/11 program overleaf.../2

2010/11 Australian Summer Cruise Season for Classic International Cruises Aboard Athena

13 cruises will be offered:

Cruises to and from Fremantle

(Seventh consecutive summer season from WA for Classic International Cruises)

- 35-night line voyage from Rome to Fremantle, sailing November 14, 2010, from **\$5995** per person, twin-share
- 11-night Christmas cruise to Christmas Island and Bali, departing Fremantle December 19, 2010, from **\$2195** per person, twin share
- 3-night New Year's ocean cruise to 'nowhere', from December 30, 2010, from **\$755** pp, twin-share
- 5-night cruise to Albany and Esperance, dep Jan 2, 2011, from **\$1080** per person, twin share
- 3-night ocean cruise to 'nowhere' from January 7, 2011, from **\$655** pp, twin-share
- 11-night return cruise to Bali for an extended three-day stay, dep Jan 10, 2011, from **\$2095** pp, twin-share
- 2-night weekend ocean cruise to 'nowhere' from January 21, 2011, from **\$445** pp, twin-share
- 4-night Australia Day cruise to Albany, sailing January 23, 2011, from **\$890** pp, twin-share.
- 11-night return cruise from Fremantle to Port Lincoln, Kangaroo Island, Adelaide and Esperance, sailing January 27, 2011, from **\$2095** pp, twin-share
- 5-night cruise from Fremantle to Esperance and Albany, on February 7, 2011, from **\$995** pp, twin-share.
- 2-night weekend ocean cruise from Fremantle to 'nowhere' on Feb 12, 2011, from **\$445** pp, twin-share
- 20-night cruise from Fremantle on February 14, 2011 – Valentines Day – past Christmas Island and the spectacular Krakatau Volcano and to Singapore and ports in Malaysia and Thailand, from **\$3450** pp, ts
- 39-night line voyage from Fremantle to the UK, sailing March 6, 2011, from **\$6850** pp, twin-share

The 2010/11 brochure for Athena also includes details of the new 2010/11 summer season in the Far East for Classic International Cruises' 500-passenger Princess Daphne, which will offer nine return cruises in Asia from Singapore and Hong Kong.

* **Bookings via travel agents. For more information, visit www.classicintcruises.com**

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