



Classic International Cruises

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Classic International Cruises Announces New Far East Program For Princess Daphne in Summer of 2010-11

CIC's Biggest-Ever Ship in Far East

Classic International Cruises has announced that one of its five liners, Princess Daphne, will be based in the Far East from December 2010 to April 2011, doubling the line's presence in the Asia-Pacific region.

A new 32-page Asia brochure for the Australian market will be released on December 17 including nine, mostly round-trip cruises aboard Princess Daphne from Singapore and Hong Kong. Itineraries from seven to 17 nights are available with exotic destinations including China, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Korea, Brunei, Vietnam and India's Andaman Islands, with overnight stays planned in many ports.

Fares start from **A\$1135** per person, twin-share, for a seven-night cruise from Singapore and the currency onboard the Princess Daphne, which normally sails in Europe, will be in both Australian dollars and Euros. Each itinerary is different and can be sailed back-to-back with a 10 per cent discount to create longer voyages. Up to a quarter of CIC passengers have previously combined cruises in Asia.

Classic International Cruises, which this month begins its sixth annual summer season in Australia with its flagship, Athena, based in Perth and Adelaide, has offered numerous successful Asia cruise programs over the last decade using two of its smaller ships, Funchal and Arion, most recently in 2006. The 500-passenger Princess Daphne will be the line's biggest-ever vessel to be based in Asia

The 550-passenger Athena will again be based in Australia in the summer of 2010-11, doubling Classic International Cruises' presence in the region.

"In the summer of 2010-11, Australians will have the choice of sailing on Athena from local ports or flying to the Far East to enjoy a traditional ocean cruise aboard our beautiful Princess Daphne," said Classic International Cruises' Australian Managing Director, Grant Hunter.

"Over 45,000 Australians have sailed with Classic International Cruises as part of our annual summer season here since 2004 and up to 50 per cent of our passengers are repeat customers who love our mix of smaller ships, friendly, attentive service, relaxed atmosphere and fine dining. Princess Daphne will offer our loyal customers and new passengers our popular brand of classic cruising in the Far East. We expect our new cruises in the Far East to be very popular amongst Australians and other international passengers."

Registered in Portugal, refurbished in 2008 and once named Port Sydney, the 16,000-ton Princess Daphne boasts a deep hull for ocean cruising as well as five lounges and bars, elegant restaurant, gym/spa, library, casino, showlounge, spacious decks and 240 cabins including 73 suites – six of which offer private balconies. A high 90 per cent of all cabins offer ocean views, mostly through traditional portholes.

"The atmosphere aboard Princess Daphne and all our stylish, traditional liners deliberately reprises the traditional shipboard life of a bygone era," Mr Hunter said. "It's cruising as it was meant to be, with a sense of the ocean and all its mystery, adventure and nautical traditions. Our passengers love it."

Founded in 1982, Classic International Cruises carries 200,000 passengers a year, with the five-ship fleet (Athena, Princess Daphne, Princess Danae, Arion and Funchal) offering cruises in Europe, the UK, South America and, since 2004, Australia, with Asia to return to the line's line-up of cruises in 2010-11.

- *Details of Princess Daphne's Asia cruises and booking details follow....*

In the summer of 2010-2011, Princess Daphne will offer nine cruises in Asia:

- Nine-night round-trip Christmas cruise from Singapore on December 19, 2010, to four ports in Malaysia plus three days in Phuket, from **\$1455** per person, twin-share
- Nine-night return New Year's cruise from Singapore on December 28, 2010, to Vietnam, Brunei and Malaysia from **\$1580** per person, twin-share
- Seven-night round-trip cruise from Singapore on January 6, 2011, to Penang, Phuket, Langkawi and Kuala Lumpur, from **\$1135** per person, twin-share
- 11-night round-trip cruise from Singapore on January 13, 2011, to five ports in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam from **\$1650** per person, twin-share
- 13-night Bay of Bengal return voyage from Singapore on January 24, 2011, to ports in Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and India's Andaman Islands from **\$1940** per person, twin-share
- 14-night return cruise from Singapore on February 6, 2011, to Cambodia and up the coast of Vietnam from **\$2095** per person, twin-share
- 14-night one-way cruise from Singapore to Hong Kong, sailing on February 20, 2011, via Cambodia and Vietnam from **\$2085** per person, twin-share
- 17-night round-cruise from Hong Kong on March 6, 2011, to six ports in China, Korea and Japan from **\$2545** per person, twin-share
- 12-night one-way cruise from Hong Kong to Singapore on March 23, 2011, via six ports in China, Vietnam and Cambodia from **\$1790** per person twin-share

All itineraries are different and can be combined back-to-back with a 10 per cent discount to create longer voyages with a variety of ports.

Cruise bookings available via travel agents along with the latest discount flights to Asia. For more information, visit www.classicintercruises.com

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