

NEW ISRAEL OVERNIGHT ON CRYSTAL HOLY LAND CRUISE

Ultra-luxury line Crystal Cruises will introduce its first ever overnight visit to Ashdod, Israel to its aptly named "Ruins & Relics" Mediterranean itinerary. The expanded call in Israel, along with an overnight stay in Egypt, gives luxury travellers the opportunity to more fully immerse themselves in the ancient cultures of the Holy Land, including such archaeological wonders as the Great Pyramid, King Herod's tomb and Pompeii and Herculaneum. The 12-day cruise aboard Crystal Serenity departs Athens for Rome 19 October, also visiting Naples and Sicily, Italy and Valetta, Malta.

Ashore, guests have dozens of options to visit significant historic sites where Christian, Jewish and Islamic religions were founded. Suiting most any interest, Crystal Adventures offer a birds' eye view of Masada or Mount Etna from a helicopter, visits to Israel's Western (formerly Wailing) Wall and Temple Mount, and even three-night excursions to the Rose City of Petra. Archaeology buffs can visit sites including the excavations at Pompeii and Caesarea, the priceless treasures of King Tutankhamen and Athens' lofty Acropolis.

"The destinations featured on this voyage offer more than five millennia of history and culture to explore," says Diane Patrick, managing director, Wiltrans International, Crystal Cruises' general sales agent. "Given our guests' penchant for enriching exclusive and unforgettable travel experiences, the additional time to enjoy the rich heritage of the destination is significant."

On board, experts in world affairs, including former White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater, will host enriching presentations and workshops.

Per person, promotional Two-for-One cruise fares start at US\$5,160, double occupancy, and include US\$1,000 per person 'All Inclusive – As *You Wish*' shipboard credits.

Crystal Cruises has been voted the "World's Best" by the readers of *Travel + Leisure* and *Condé Nast Traveler* magazines more than any other cruise line, resort or hotel in history. In the latter publication's February issue, Crystal Serenity was again voted the Best Large-Sized Cruise Ship in the World.

For more information and Crystal reservations, contact Wiltrans International on 1800 251 174 (Australia), 0800 446 376 (New Zealand) or travel@wiltrans.com.au