



कोचिन पत्तन प्राधिकरण
Cochin Port Authority



Press Release

Cochin Port hosts Europa 2 – marks the revival of cruise business

The arrival of Europa 2 not only marks the beginning of the cruise season at Cochin Port after a span of two years but also the maiden visit of a cruise ship at the brand new cruise terminal Sagarika at Ernakulam Wharf of Cochin Port.

“The cruise business was the first fatality of the pandemic across the globe. Therefore, the revival of cruise business augurs well for local economies since cruise business is the most prolific segment of the tourism industry and generates significant employment” noted Dr.M.Beena, IAS, Chairperson, Cochin Port Authority. The Government remains focused on promoting cruise tourism and this is supported by a slew of business promotion measures such as extension of rationalized cruise tariff till September 2023, easing of Immigration procedure, etc, she added.

She informed that during the current cruise season (September 2022 to May 2023), Cochin Port will play host to 20 international cruise calls (Financial year April 2022- March 2023: 16 calls & 9 coastal). Of these 20 calls, Cochin would be the first port of call of five cruise calls and there would three ships on their maiden call to Cochin, viz., m.v.Borealis, m.v.Amera and m.v.Le Champlain.

Dr. Beena, said that although Cochin Port is not gaining financially by hosting cruise ships, it remained committed to promoting cruise tourism as it helps in spurring up economic engagements in the hinterland of Cochin and ensured employment opportunities for the tour operators, guides, taxi-autorickshaws, souvenir shops, etc and foreign exchange earnings.

m.v.Europa 2 arrived at Cochin from Mangalore, carrying 257 guests onboard. The guests are predominantly from Germany and from Italy, Switzerland and Austria. The vessel will sail at 2200 hrs to Patong, Thailand.

India Tourism and DTPC, Ernakulam have made elaborate arrangements at the newly built Sagarika cruise terminal to the welcome the guests and offer them an experience of lifetime.



The guests onboard m.v.Europa were welcomed by performing artists and women dressed in traditional attire with shingari melam accompaniment. Immigration Deptt. have deployed additional manpower to facilitate expeditious immigration clearance. Cochin Customs, Port Health Organisation, Kerala Police and the CISF have all teamed up with the Port Authorities to ensure hassle free handling of the guests and to make the trip a memorable experience.

In a formal ceremony at the Sagarika Cruise Terminal, Sri Vikas Narwal, IAS, Deputy Chairperson, Cochin Port Authority exchanged plaque with Capt. Christian van Zwamen , Master, m.v.Europa 2 as a mark of traditional welcome. Smt.Rekha Nair, Asst. Director (Seaport Immigration), Dr.K.A. Shyamini, Port Health Officer, Vipin R. Menoth, Traffic Manager, Capt. Joseph Alapatt, Dy. Conservator, Goutam Gupta, Adviser (Business Development), Thuraipandian, Chief Mechanical Engineer, SK Sahu, Financial Advisor, Dr. Muthukoya, Chief Medical Officer, Niraj Patel, Dy. Commandant, CISF and other senior officials were present.

The guests are visiting Kochi city, tuk tuk tour, harbour cruise, Alleppey backwater trip. Besides the fully equipped brand new cruise terminal Sagarika, the DTPC is providing pre-paid taxi and autorickshaw counters, tourist information desk of India Tourism, free wifi and buggies to transport the guests to and from the ship to the terminal.

Vessel: m.v.Europa 2

Line: TUI Cruises

Nationality: Malta

LOA: 225.38 m

Draft: 6.53m

Air draft: 40.02m

GT: 42830 tons

Berth:Q8

Berthing at: 0600 hrs

Departure: 2200 hrs

Last port/next port: Mangalore/Patong, Thailand

Route: Male-Kouda Finolhu-Mumbai-Goa-Mangalore-Cochin-Patong-Kohong

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