



Maiden Calls to Hakata Port

Among several maiden calls scheduled at Hakata this year, two cruise ships recently called at the port for the first time.

(1) Maiden Call of Seabourn Sojourn

On Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016, a cruise ship, Seabourn Sojourn called at Hakata Port for the first time. Seabourn Sojourn is operated by a highly-acclaimed luxury cruise line, Seabourn Cruise Line and brought some 400 guests mainly from the US and Europe to Fukuoka City.

To commemorate the maiden call, the city held a welcome ceremony on board. During the ceremony, gifts were presented to the ship by Hiroshi Ishihara, Chief Executive of Port & Harbor Bureau of Fukuoka City, Isao Nakatsu, Vice Chairman of Kyushu Cruise Promotion Conference and Toshiyuki Kakugawa, Chairman of Hakata Port Promotion Association presented gifts to the ship. On the ship's departure from the port, Japan Marvelous, a Japanese musical band gave a performance.



Left: (from left) Toshiyuki Kakugawa, Chairman of Hakata Port Promotion Association, Isao Nakatsu, Vice Chairman of Kyushu Cruise Promotion Conference, Hiroshi Ishihara, Chief Executive of Port & Harbor Bureau, Fukuoka City, Hamish Elliott, Captain, Sigurd Darbakk, Staff Captain, Iliyan Stoyanov, Chief Engineer, Helmut Huber, Hotel Director

Upper right: (from left) Hiroshi Ishihara, Chief Executive of Port & Harbor Bureau, Fukuoka City, Hamish Elliott, Captain

Bottom right: Seabourn Sojourn before being berthed

■ Outline of Seabourn Sojourn

(Source: Cruise Ship Collection 2016-2017 published by Kaiji Press Co., Ltd.)

Gross tonnage: 32,346t LOA: 198.19m Draft: 6.40m

Total passenger capacity: 462 Ship registry: Bahama

Cruise line: Seabourn Cruise Line (Head office: America)

(2) Maiden Call of Crystal Serenity

On Sunday, April 10th, 2016, a cruise ship, Crystal Serenity called at Hakata Port for the first time. Crystal Serenity is operated by a luxury cruise line, Crystal Cruises and brought some 950 guests mainly from the US and Europe to Fukuoka City.

To commemorate the maiden call, the city held a welcome ceremony on board. During the ceremony, Masanao Nakazono, Deputy Mayor of Fukuoka City gave a welcome speech and presented gifts to the ship with Toshiyuki Kakugawa, Chairman of Hakata Port Promotion Association. On the ship's departure from the port, Japan Marvelous, a Japanese musical band gave a performance.



Left: (front) Crystal Serenity, (back) Asuka II

Upper right: (from left) Robert Bayfield, Chief Engineer, Toshiyuki Kakugawa, Chairman of Hakata Port Promotion Association, Josef Matt, Hotel Director, Masanao Nakazono, Deputy Mayor of Fukuoka City, Birger Vorland, Captain, Rick Spath, Cruise Director, Jan Rautawaara, Vice Captain

Bottom right: Crystal Serenity entering Hakata Port

■ Outline of Crystal Serenity

(Source: Cruise Ship Collection 2016-2017 published by Kaiji Press Co., Ltd.)

Gross tonnage: 68,870t LOA: 250.00m Draft: 7.60m

Total passenger capacity: 1,070 Ship registry: Bahama

Cruise line: Crystal Cruises (Head office: America)

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