## **Turnaround Cruises at Hakata**

Fukuoka City, where Hakata Port is located, is a compact livable city and has been listed every year as one of the top 25 most livable cities in the world by Monocle, the English magazine. The major reason that the city was chosen as the most livable city is its good access to land, sea and air transportation, which also makes Hakata Port attractive for cruise lines. The port is well connected with JR Hakata Station where bullet trains make a stop, and Fukuoka Airport with many international flights. This enables cruise passengers traveling from the neighboring areas to easily get to the port. Hakata Port is called by cruise ships as a turnaround port as well as a destination port.

In accordance with the opening of Chuo Wharf Cruise Center in 2015, various cruises and events at the center are scheduled such as a turnaround cruise of about 2,000 passengers by the foreign cruise line and a transit cruise that passengers can start/end their cruise at Hakata.

## Major Turnaround Cruises for the First Half of 2015 at Hakata (Including Transit Cruises)

- March 1, 2015 (depart Hakata) March 3, 2015 (arrive at Hakata) Nippon Maru 'Cruising Seto Inland Sea and Wakayama in spring'
- April 1, 2015 (depart Hakata) April 6, 2015 (arrive at Hakata) Nippon Maru 'Cruising Hachijojima Island with blooming flowers and Seto Inland Sea surrounded with cherry blossoms in spring'
- April 6, 2015 (depart Hakata) April 9, 2015 (arrive at Naha) NIPPON MARU 'Cruising Amamioshima Island and Naha in spring'
- March 29, 2015 (depart Tianjin) April 2, 2015 (partially end the cruise at Hakata) L'Austral 'Cruising Tianjin, Incheon and Jeju Island'
- April 26, 2015 (depart Hakata) May 1, 2015 (arrive at Hakata) Costa Victoria 'Cruising Taiwan and Ishigakijima Island'
- April 27, 2015 (partially start the cruise at Hakata) May 1, 2015 (arrive at Yokohama) Voyager of the Seas 'Cruising Jeju Island and Nagoya'
- June 19, 2015 (depart Hakata) June 22, 2015 (arrive at Hakata) Nippon Maru 'Flying to Hakata and Cruising Kyushu (Kamigoto, Gunkanjima Island and Amakusa)

To expand the cruise market, Hakata Port holds many seminars for citizens and training programs for companies. The port will make efforts to increase the number of turnaround cruises and become the major cruise port.

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