FIRST ANNUAL BON VOYAGE AWARDS ANNOUNCED FOR CRUISE INDUSTRY BESTS

From General Excellence to Best Food and Entertainment, 35 Categories Rated By Expert Panel

NEW YORK, NY, July 28, 2014 – With the cruise industry enjoying many exciting innovations and unprecedented levels of popularity, *Bon Voyage*, a year-old digital travel magazine published by <u>Cruiseline.com</u>, today announced its first annual editor's choice awards.

In 35 General Excellence, Cabins and Food, Entertainment and Destination categories, *Bon Voyage* rated just about every angle of interest to first-time and repeat cruisers, from the best ships for singles and food lovers to the best value on the high seas and best ports around the world.

"We were so inspired by the amount of quality cruising on the market today that we wanted to acknowledge the excellence in a formal way," said Sherri Eisenberg, editor-in-chief of *Bon Voyage*. "We firmly believe that our winners deserve the accolades we've bestowed upon them. In fact, it was no easy feat to accomplish; we originally thought we would give out 10 or 20 awards, but found so much to celebrate that we are handing out 35 in our inaugural year."

To judge the crème de la crème, *Bon Voyage* convened a panel of its top cruise writers — "travelers who eat, sleep, and breathe ships," per Eisenberg (a former senior travel editor of *Brides* and cruise editor at *Travel + Leisure* and *Travel Holiday*), to discuss what impressed them most. The team included Heidi Sarna (a 20+ year cruise writer and author of *Frommer's* cruise guidebooks), Ted Scull (a travel writer who has penned several books on transatlantic crossings), Lisa Cheng (a former editor at *Travel + Leisure* turned avid cruiser), and Donna Heiderstadt (a former travel editor at *Modern Bride* who traded her honeymoon expertise for cruising).

And the winners are:

General Excellence

Best Mainstream Line

Gold: Disney Cruise Line Silver: Celebrity Cruises Bronze: Princess Cruise Line

Best Premium Line

Gold: Oceania Cruises Silver: SeaDream Yacht Club Bronze: Azamara Club Cruises

Best Luxury Line

Gold: Crystal Cruises Silver: Seabourn Cruise Line Bronze: Silversea Cruises

Best for Couples

Gold: SeaDream Yacht Club Silver: Celebrity Cruises Bronze: Paul Gauguin Cruises

Best for Singles

Gold: Norwegian Cruise Line Silver: Carnival Cruise Lines

Bronze: Cunard Line

Best for Multigenerational Families

Gold: Disney Cruise Line

Silver: Royal Caribbean International Bronze: Lindblad Expeditions

Best Service

Gold: Crystal Cruises

Silver: Seabourn Cruise Line Bronze: Disney Cruise Line

Best Value

Gold: Holland America Line Silver: Carnival Cruise Lines Bronze: MSC Cruises

Best New Ship

Gold: *Norwegian Getaway*Silver: *Regal Princess*Bronze: *MSC Divina*

Best Refurbished Ship

Gold: Carnival Sunshine Silver: Crystal Symphony Bronze: Star Pride

Cabins and Food

Best Mainstream Cabins

Gold: Disney Cruise Line Silver: Holland America Line Bronze: Carnival Cruise Lines

Best Premium Cabins

Gold: Oceania Cruises Silver: Cunard Line

Bronze: Windstar Cruises

Best Luxury Cabins

Gold: Silversea Cruises Silver: Seabourn Cruise Line Bronze: Crystal Cruises

Most Innovative Cabins

Gold: Celebrity Reflection Sea View Suite

Silver: Oceania Marina and Oceania Riviera Ralph Lauren Suite

Bronze: Royal Caribbean's Allure of the Seas and Oasis of the Seas Oasis Duplex

Best Food

Gold: Crystal Cruises

Silver: Seabourn Cruise Line Bronze: Oceania Cruises

Most Improved Food

Gold: Carnival Cruise Lines Silver: Princess Cruises

Bronze: Norwegian Cruise Line

Best Free Takeaway Fare

Gold: Carnival's Blue Iguana Cantina Silver: Carnival's Guy's Burger Joint Bronze: Holland America's Dive In

Entertainment

Best Onboard Daytime Activities

Gold: Royal Caribbean International Silver: Norwegian Cruise Line Bronze: Disney Cruise Line

Best Onboard Evening Entertainment

Gold: Disney Cruise Line Silver: Norwegian Cruise Line Bronze: Carnival Cruise Lines

Best Nightlife

Gold: Celebrity Cruises Silver: Carnival Cruise Lines Bronze: Norwegian Cruise Line

Best Water Parks

Gold: Royal Caribbean International

Silver: Disney Cruise Line Bronze: Norwegian Cruise Line

Best Services for Children (Under 3)

Gold: Disney Cruise Line

Silver: Royal Caribbean International

Bronze: Cunard Line

Best Services for Children (Age 3 - 12)

Gold: Disney Cruise Line

Silver: Royal Caribbean International Bronze: Carnival Cruise Lines

Best Services for Teens

Gold: Royal Caribbean International Silver: Norwegian Cruise Line Bronze: Disney Cruise Line

Destinations

Best for Beaches

Gold: French Polynesia Silver: Eastern Caribbean

Bronze: Bermuda

Best for Culture

Gold: Western Mediterranean Silver: Eastern Mediterranean

Bronze: Baltic

Best for Food Lovers

Gold: Western Mediterranean

Silver: Southeast Asia

Bronze: Eastern Mediterranean

Best for Nature Lovers

Gold: Galapagos Islands

Silver: Alaska

Bronze: Australia/New Zealand

Best Caribbean Port

Gold: Tortola Silver: Aruba Bronze: St. John

Best Alaska Port

Gold: Juneau Silver: Sitka

Bronze: Anchorage

Best Eastern Mediterranean Port

Gold: Venice, Italy Silver: Istanbul, Turkey Bronze: Santorini, Greece

Best Western Mediterranean Port

Gold: Barcelona, Spain Silver: Portofino, Italy Bronze: Valenica, Spain

Best Baltic Port

Gold: Copenhagen, Denmark Silver: St. Petersburg, Russia Bronze: Helsinki, Finland

Best Asian Port

Gold: Shanghai Silver: Hong Kong Bronze: Kyoto, Japan

Best South Pacific Port

Gold: Sydney

Silver: Bora Bora Bronze: Easter Island

About Cruiseline.com

Cruiseline.com launched in December 2012 as an independent, objective guide to cruises. With over 50,000 reviews to date, the site simplifies the task of choosing a cruise with unbiased opinions from fellow passengers. Unlike other cruise communities, Cruiseline.com guarantees the authenticity of thousands of verified reviews, and uses member opinions to rank the best cruises, ships and itineraries with a "Sail Score."

For more information and to join the conversation, visit: www.Cruiseline.com. To read *Bon Voyage* visit: www.BonVoyageMag.com.

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