

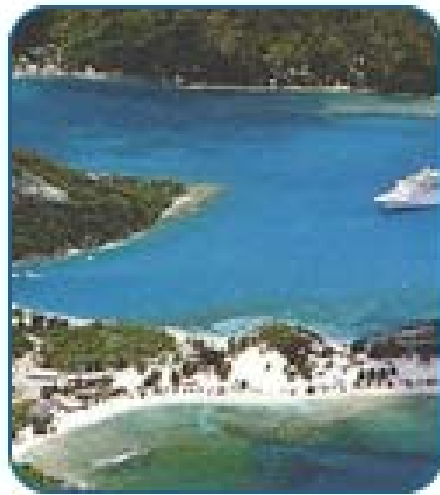
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LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE PRIVATE ISLAND DESTINATION !

About 70% of all Caribbean and Bahamas cruises stop at a locale known as the Private island. Many of these are, in fact, entire islands and usually owned or long term rented by the cruise line or company using them. Some are parts of an island which have beautiful beaches and the feeling of isolation.

All of them feature watersports and secluded beach properties as the attraction. Most, because of shallow waters, require tendering in from the ship but in this case the short tender ride is worth the inconvenience.

Royal Caribbean is building an 800' dock at LABADEE in order to allow all of its ships, including OASIS and ALLURE to discharge passengers without the use of tenders!



Pictured above is LABADEE, the RCCL private island on Hispaniola, There are 5 secluded beaches, a huge watersports area, a native market, two restaurants (no charge) and an unbelievable ZIP line which goes out over the water.

Princess private island has a dock and one is now in the final stages of completion at LABADEE, one of two private islands owned by Royal Caribbean.



Does it look like a half moon? Well this is Half Moon Cay, the Holland America island!

Once ashore, ships passengers can enjoy all of the traditional watersports plus shopping at native Huts and food and drink galore. Since the islands are cruise line owned and operated, all of the food is included in your cruise fare and the only extra charges are from a series of well stocked and staffed bars featuring exotic drinks as well as standard fare. When you do buy

anything on shore your ships id/key/charge card avoids the need to take money or credit cards ashore..

The islands are usually as popular or more popular than any other destination on a Caribbean cruise and some cruise lines are now scheduling two stops at the island on one itinerary just because of public demand.

Many of the islands have both adult and family beaches which allow for privacy for the older generation and a chance to howl for the younger ones.

Known by some exotic names such as Castaway Cay (Disney), Coco Cay (Royal Caribbean – Bahamas), Labadee (Royal Caribbean Hispaniola), Half Moon Cay (Holland America), Great Stirrup Cay (NCL), Princess Cay (Princess), they are all similar in conception and unique in design.

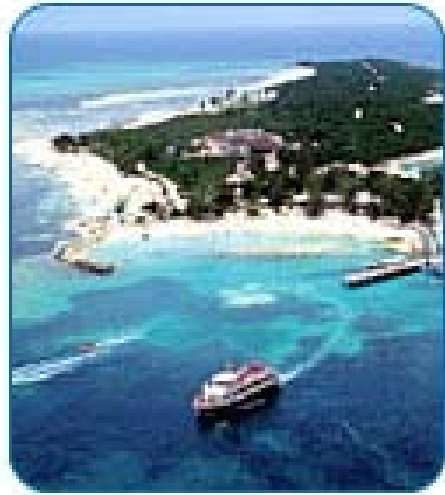


Some images from the Disney Island Castaway Cay

If you buy a cruise which includes a private island, be prepared for it to be the highlight of your trip!

By the way, if you decide against going ashore you will have the entire ship to yourself as we can guarantee it will be empty most of the day!

Top of next column is Coco Cay, the RCCL private island in the Bahamas. Look at the unlimited beach ops!



RCCL EXPLORER VISITS PORTLAND MAINE

Sailing from Cape Liberty in New Jersey, the EXPLORER of the SEAS is a regular visitor to Portland, Maine each fall. Two weeks ago, Andy & Louise Holmes and Debbie Washburn of the Edgcomb and Brunswick, Maine offices were guests of Melissa Ozkurt our regional Sales Manager aboard EXPLORER.



Andy Holmes, WWCH owner and Melissa Ozkurt RCCL (behind his right ear) and Debbie Washburn of our Brunswick, office depart the EXPLORER

Portland is one of the most popular destinations according to studies done by RCCL and the ship was full

on this 9 night New England and Canada trip.



The EXPLORER sails year round from Cape Liberty, NJ and is an easy drive to a cruise for all Northeast and Middle Atlantic residents. When not sailing to Maine and Canada she visits Bermuda and the Caribbean...



Andy's favorite spot on the ship is the frozen yogurt machine and he just couldn't pass up a strawberry cone (twice says Louise!)

DISNEY WONDER TO SPEND SUMMER IN ALASKA !

Over the past two weeks there has been some good news for the Alaska cruise market.

Until recently, most of the headlines surrounding cruising and Alaska have focused on 2010 capacity

reductions, lawsuits over the state's head tax and declining tourism revenues.

But in a welcome piece of news for the Frontier State, Disney Cruise Line last week said that it would offer an Alaska cruise season in 2011, operating seven-day cruises out of Vancouver on the Disney Wonder.

The ship will spend four months in Southeast Alaska and offer 18 departures calling in Juneau, Ketchikan and Skagway and visiting Tracy Arm fjord.

NO SMOKING NOW FOR SOME RENTAL CARS !

In a move started by BUDGET the rental car industry is joining the airlines in banning smoking from its vehicles. This is being enforced by a mandatory \$250 cleaning fee for violators!

IMAGES FROM THE NEW OASIS OF THE SEAS !

From the yard a TURKU Finland comes this picture of the OASIS awaiting installation of the multi story theatre. The ship will head for USA in late November and starts sailing its Caribbean itinerary on December 1, 2009.



Be careful when you enter the Rising Tide pictured below

Pictured below is Richard Fain CEO of Royal Caribbean and Vicki Freed the VP of sales as they test the Carousel located in Central Park aboard OASIS.



The Rising Tide Bar is on the Promenade level. The bar rises three decks up to the open-air Central Park neighborhood on the ship, which will boast 12,000 plants.



Hard hats in place the RCCL team inspects one of the two story "loft" suites another innovation on OASIS

And below is the Carousel but look behind and above it.. on any other ship those balcony cabins would be inside staterooms. On OASIS they open to open air and the central park venue.



Our December issue will be issued three days late in order that we might include a story from our owner on his first hand cruise on the OASIS pre-innagural over the Thanksgiving weekend. This article will include pictures and commentary,

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