

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CARNIVAL'S 'FUN SHIP' ELATION KICKS OFF NEW SEVEN-DAY CRUISE
SCHEDULE FROM GALVESTON TODAY**

One-of-a-Kind Program Includes Port Calls to Progreso/Yucatan, Cozumel and Belize

GALVESTON, TEXAS (09/28/03) – Carnival Cruise Lines' 2,052-passenger "Fun Ship" Elation inaugurated the line's first new seven-day cruise program from Texas when it departed from the Port of Galveston on Sunday, September 28, 2003. It became the newest and largest cruise ship to be based in Galveston year-round.

The sold-out voyage kicked off a new one-of-a-kind week-long schedule featuring port calls to Progreso/Yucatan and Cozumel, Mexico, and Belize City, Belize, which offer exceptional beaches and watersports, as well as interesting sightseeing opportunities, including ruins, pyramids and other archeological sites.

The Elation joined Carnival's 1,486-passenger Celebration, which was the first cruise ship to sail year-round from Galveston when it began four- and five-day Mexico service in September 2000. Including the Elation, Carnival expects to carry some 240,000 passengers annually from Galveston – the most of any cruise line.

"Response to 'Fun Ship' cruising from Galveston has been exceptional as consumers appreciate the convenience of sailing from this centrally located homeport, as well as the opportunity to enjoy pre- and post-cruise opportunities in this charming and historic city. We fully expect this popularity to continue with the Elation's new seven-day program," said Bob Dickinson, Carnival president and CEO.

Commented Steven M. Cernak, Galveston port director, "We are proud to welcome Carnival's Fantasy-class vessel Elation to Galveston's Cruise Terminal. In partnership with Carnival, the Port of Galveston is currently in the process of upgrading Terminal No. 1 and upon completion will be able to handle any vessel in the company's fleet.

"The Port of Galveston has established itself as the Western Gulf of Mexico's gateway for international cruise vacations. Our continued growth allows numerous options where passengers can cruise from the Port of Galveston on a long weekend cruise or relax on a vacation of longer duration. We have come a long way in less than three years. Our growth has been phenomenal but we will continue our efforts to maintain Galveston as the port of choice for our cruise customers."

The Elation, which was launched in 1998, encompasses 12 passenger decks housing three swimming pools, three restaurants and a dozen “themed” lounges and bars, including Duke’s, a live music venue that pays tribute to jazz legend Duke Ellington and New York’s “Cotton Club” scene; Mark Twain Library, which pays homage to the romantic Riverboat Era with scale models of famous vessels that plied the Mississippi; and the Mikado, a Japanese-inspired theater showcasing lavish Vegas-style revues.

Other features include a 2,400-square-foot enclosed play area – part of the line’s fleetwide top-rated “Camp Carnival” – which features a computer lab, arts and crafts center and indoor climbing maze.

Elation also includes a 12,000-square-foot health club and salon, full casino gambling, a jogging track, and a comprehensive golf program with professional instruction available both aboard ship and during golf excursions.

For additional information and reservations, contact any travel agent, call 1-800-CARNIVAL or visit www.carnival.com.

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Carnival Cruise Lines is a proud member of the exclusive *World’s Leading Cruise Lines*. Our exclusive alliance also includes Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Cunard Line, Costa Cruises, Windstar Cruises and The Yachts of Seabourn. Sharing a passion to please each guests, and a commitment to quality and value, our member lines appeal to a wide range of lifestyles and budgets. Together, we offer an exciting and enriching cruise vacations to the world’s most desirable destinations.

The Port of Galveston is a significant contributor to the strong economy of the Galveston-Houston marketplace. Annual business through the Port totals nearly \$12 million, with an estimated economic contribution to the region of more than \$500 million. The Port of Galveston is a landlord port, owned by the City of Galveston and managed by a City Council-appointed Board of Trustees. For more information on the Port of Galveston, visit www.portofgalveston.com.

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