

***Seabourn Sun* Arrives in Galveston for Port-of-Call Visit**

The *Seabourn Sun* of the Seabourn Cruise Line fleet visited Galveston Island in mid-November and in early December on port-of-call visits during Seabourn's Golden Gulf of Mexico itineraries. Six hundred passengers and four hundred and sixty crew members were on board for each cruise.

Three shore excursions were offered for cruise passengers. The excursions include a Historic Galveston tour to include the Railroad Museum and the Lone Star Flight Museum, an excursion to Moody Gardens, and a trip to the Nasa Space Center.

Cruise visitors to Galveston were greeted by Galveston Historical Foundation volunteers dressed in Dickens finery, costumed characters from the Nutcracker production at Moody Gardens, and other volunteers from the Galveston Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Park Board of Trustees, Moody Gardens and the Galveston Historical Foundation. The Galveston Convention and Visitors Bureau shuttled cruise passengers to the Strand area where they were offered the opportunity to discover the many shopping and entertainment possibilities of the Historic Strand District.

The *Seabourn Sun*, christened in 1989 by actor James Stewart, is 669 feet in length, 95 feet across and requires a draft of 23 feet. The *Sun* was refurbished and rebranded in November 1999. The cruise ship has eight guest decks and 383 staterooms to accommodate the 758 guest-capacity. The vessel was previously named the *Royal Viking Sun* and under that name visited Galveston Island in 1991.

“The Port of Galveston was very pleased to welcome the *Seabourn Sun* to Galveston Island,” stated Katherine D. Moore, Port Director. “This vessel called previously at the Port of Galveston as the *Royal Viking Sun* prior to the renovation of Galveston’s cruise terminal. Port-of-call visits confirm Galveston’s value in the West Gulf of Mexico as the Homeport and Destination Cruise Port of Choice.”

As the *Royal Viking Sun*, the elegant 38,000-ton ship consistently ranked among the top mid-sized cruise vessels in the world. She was the highest ranked cruise ship in the prestigious Berlitz® Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships for nine years running. Designed for longer cruising, she offers her guests an unbeatable combination of impeccable service, fine cuisine in a single seating dining room, sumptuous surroundings and spacious accommodations. After a \$15-million refurbishment program, Cunard Line’s *Royal Viking Sun* re-entered service November 26, 1999 as *Seabourn Sun* under the Seabourn Cruise Line banner.