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Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines' Black Watch commences cruise season from Newcastle

There is still a chance for Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines' guests to take advantage of some very tempting cruise deals from Newcastle this Summer, from just £59 per person, per night*, as 804-guest *Black Watch* commences her cruise season from the Port of Tyne on 18th June 2013.

Fred. Olsen is embarking on a series of six cruises from this convenient North East departure port from June to August 2013, on a variety of worldwide itineraries – from an eight-night 'Arctic Circle & Midnight Sun' cruise to a 15-night 'Canary Islands' sailing.

Guests taking advantage of these Summer 2013 cruise deals from Newcastle can also choose to upgrade with the popular 'all-inclusive' drinks package, for a special price of just £10 per person per night, which includes selected wines, spirits beers and soft drinks. What is more, premium branded drinks and cocktails are also available at half price.

Nathan Philpot, Sales and Marketing Director for Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, said:

"Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines' links with the Port of Tyne date back over a hundred years, and we are committed to offering our loyal Newcastle guests a selection of exciting worldwide cruises from right on their doorstep, 'Bringing the world *closer to you*'.

"According to the Port of Tyne, its International Passenger Terminal brings an additional £54 million into the North East's economy each year, supporting over 1,700 jobs in the regional tourism industry, and Fred. Olsen is delighted to be making a significant contribution to its continued success."

Cruise guests in the Newcastle area can choose from the following sailings

on *Black Watch* this Summer:

- W1311 13-night 'Estonia & St. Petersburg' cruise, ex Newcastle on 9th July 2013

This cruise calls first at Ålborg, one of Denmark's busiest trading centres, and home to Ålborghus Castle. Next, *Black Watch* heads for Warnemünde, the perfect base from which to explore Berlin and Rostock. After stopping at Saaremaa Island, Estonia's largest island, the cruise continues to Tallinn, where the city's spires, cobbled streets, castles and medieval and baroque architecture give it a real 'fairytale' feel.

Criss-crossed by a network of canals, the next port, St. Petersburg, is a highlight of the cruise, and guests can enjoy an overnight stop here to take in the many sights and treasures, such as the Hermitage, Catherine Palace and the impressive Peterhof's grand palaces and fountains. After stopping at Karlskrona in Sweden, *Black Watch* reaches her final port, the Danish capital, Copenhagen, before making the return journey to Newcastle.

Prices start from £767 per person, based on two adults sharing an inside, twin-bedded cabin, Grade 'I', and include accommodation, all meals and entertainment on board, and port dues.

- W1312 eight-night 'Fjords & Towns of Norway' cruise, ex Newcastle on 22nd July 2013

The first port of call is Ålesund, renowned for its Art Nouveau style architecture, surrounding fjords and towering peaks of the Sunnmøre Alps. The next stop is Olden, from where guests can visit the mighty Briksdal Glacier, before *Black Watch* heads for Skjolden and Flåm. The latter is a historic town bursting with natural attractions, from coastal landscape to steep mountains and crashing waterfalls; the best way to see it all is from its famous scenic railway.

The final stop is Bergen, with its historic wharf, famous fish market and surrounding fjords and mountains, ideal for exploring Hardangerfjord, Lysøen Island and Ulriken Mountain, before *Black Watch* returns to Newcastle.

Prices start from £632 per person, based on two adults sharing an inside,

twin-bedded cabin, Grade 'I', and include accommodation, all meals and entertainment on board, and port dues.

- W1313 15-night 'Canary Islands Cruise', ex Newcastle on 30th July 2013

This cruise calls first at charming La Coruna, whose streets and squares house many medieval churches, museums and restaurants. *Black Watch* then makes her way to the greenest of the Canary Islands, La Palma, which also displays the characteristic lunar-like landscape associated with this volcanic archipelago. Santa Cruz, the island's capital, is famous for its wooden balconies, cobbled streets, ancient buildings and gorgeous beaches.

After stopping at Santa Cruz in Tenerife, the ship moves onto Las Palmas, Gran Canaria, a bustling port with an historic old quarter, Vegueta. Arrecife in Tenerife is the next stop, before *Black Watch* makes its way to the colourful Portuguese capital, Lisbon, and then makes the return journey to Newcastle.

Prices start from £1,035 per person, based on two adults sharing an inside, twin-bedded cabin, Grade 'I', and include accommodation, all meals and entertainment on board, and port dues.

Fred. Olsen will be showing an even greater commitment to cruising from the North East in 2014, with a total of seven sailings from the Port of Tyne, from a 15-night W1406 'Voyage to the Arctic & North Cape' cruise in June 2014 to a 15-night 'Canary Islands' sailing in October 2014.

Fred. Olsen Cruise Line operates in the UK with four intimately sized ships for a more personal cruising experience.

Contacts



Georgina May

Press Contact

Public Relations Executive

Public Relations

georgina.may@fredolsen.co.uk



Lauren Gardner

Press Contact

Public Relations Manager

Public Relations

lauren.gardner@fredolsen.co.uk

07546807099