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Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines unveils its new ‘Worldwide Cruises 2016/17’ brochure, bringing guests closer to 253 destinations in 84 countries

Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines has launched its new ‘Worldwide Cruises 2016/17’ main brochure, featuring its most ambitious and unique cruise programme ever. In 2016/17, Fred. Olsen’s fleet of four smaller, more intimate ships – *Balmoral*, *Braemar*, *Boudicca* and *Black Watch* – will be visiting no fewer than 253 destinations in 84 countries around the globe – more than ever before!

In keeping with Fred. Olsen’s aim of ‘Bringing the world *closer to you*’ – taking

guests right to the heart of the destination – the front cover of the new ‘Worldwide Cruises 2016/17’ brochure showcases a variety of the exciting and exotic destinations that the cruise line visits, such as the Norwegian fjords, Venice, Peru and the Caribbean, in the brand’s stylish, eye-catching ‘mosaic’ design.

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

“We are very excited to be launching our new ‘Worldwide Cruises 2016/17’ brochure, as it brings to life the vast array of destinations that we visit and the unique cruise experiences that we offer.

“As a brand, we have a clear focus on ‘Bringing the world *closer to you*’: we are ‘closer’ to the market, with more regional departures; ‘closer’ to the destination, with our smaller, more intimate cruise ships; ‘closer’ to our global partners, offering our guests the best possible experiences in ports around the world; and we are ‘closer’ to our guests, with award-winning customer service across our fleet.”

Fred. Olsen’s *Black Watch* and *Boudicca* will be embarking on two epic ‘Grand Voyages’ in January 2017, visiting a total of 67 ports in 38 countries between them.

Black Watch will be taking in the exotic destinations of Hanga Roa (Easter Island), Bora Bora, in French Polynesia, and three stops in New Zealand – Auckland, Tauranga and Wellington – on a 107-night ‘Around the World’ cruise.

Boudicca will be offering a 77-night ‘South American Discovery’, which includes stops in Brazil’s Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires, in Argentina, as well a cruise of the Chilean fjords and a maiden call at Laguna San Rafael.

Fred. Olsen’s new ‘Worldwide Cruises 2016/17’ brochure includes a record 23 maiden calls:

Arendal (Norway), Baltimore (Maryland, USA), Fort William (Scotland, UK), Tasiilaq (Greenland), Pyramiden (Svalbard), Holy Loch (Scotland, UK), Laguna San Rafael (Chile), Isla de San Andrés (Colombia), Gloucester (Massachusetts,

USA), Klaksvik (Faroe Islands), Charlotte Amalie (St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands), Falmouth (Jamaica), Banana Coast (Trujillo, Honduras), Tampa (Florida, US), Rosslare (Ireland), Aabenraa (Denmark), Rovinj (Croatia).

In addition, there will be six 'mystery' maiden calls, which will only be revealed to those guests who book a place on Fred. Olsen's first-ever 'Maiden Call Mystery Cruise'.

Fred. Olsen's new 'Worldwide Cruises 2016/17' brochure also highlights the 20 'adults only' (18+) cruises that it is offering in 2016/17, for guests who would rather cruise with people of a similar age. These adults-only voyages include *Braemar's* 11-night 'Great British Cruise' and a 14-night 'Portuguese Islands & Cities' holiday aboard *Balmoral*.

Amongst Fred. Olsen's top selling cruises for 2016 are 'Arctic Explorer' (adults only), 'Fred.'s Favourite Fjords', 'German Waterways', 'Exploring the Fjords of Greenland' (adults only), 'Caribbean Fly-Cruises', 'Rio Carnival & River Plate' (adults only), 'Spring Sun Island Hopping' (adults only), 'Old England to New England' (adults only), 'Maiden Call Mystery Cruise' (adults only), 'The Wonders of Spitsbergen', 'Lochs of Scotland', 'Rivers of France & Spain', and 'Sun, Sea & Monaco Grand Prix' (adults only).

The top five best sellers for 2017 are 'Central America & Mardi Gras' (adults only), 'The Best of the Caribbean' fly-cruise, 'Canaries & Madeira Winter Warmth', 'The Caribbean with Panama & Venezuela' and 'Amazon River Adventure' fly-cruise.

Fred. Olsen will be sailing from a total of ten convenient, regional UK departure ports in 2016/17: Southampton, Dover, Harwich, Tilbury, Falmouth – a new addition – Liverpool, Newcastle, Rosyth (for Edinburgh), Greenock (for Glasgow) and Belfast.

Fred. Olsen 1,350-guest flagship, *Balmoral*, will be sailing from Newcastle for the very first time in 2016/17, with a record 11 departures, representing a 45% increase in capacity. *Balmoral's* cruise season from the Port of Tyne – the first time that she has ever been based outside Southampton – will commence on 21st May 2016, with a 'Five-Night Fjords' cruise. Other departures include a five-night 'Norwegian Festival & Fjords' cruise, visiting Bergen during the 'International Festival'; a 10-night 'UK Castles' sailing, which offers guests the chance to visit Balmoral and Braemar Castles, both of

which lend their names to Fred. Olsen ships; and an 11-night 'Spain, Portugal & Guernsey' cruise.

Fred. Olsen's *Boudicca* will also be cruising from the port of Falmouth for the first time in 2016/17 – offering guests in the South West of the UK a 12-night 'Canaries & Portugal Spring Break' (adults only) and a ten-night 'Land's End to John O'Groats' voyage.

Fred. Olsen will be reconfirming its commitment to the port of Liverpool in 2016/17, with a total of 15 cruise calls on board *Boudicca*, including a 16-night 'Rugged & Rural Canada' journey and an 18-night 'Canaries Christmas & Funchal Fireworks' sailing.

Fred. Olsen will also be reinforcing its reputation as the 'local, global cruise line of choice' in 2016/17 with a 50% increase in sailings from Tilbury, with a total of six departures, including an adults-only nine-night 'Cruising the Fjordland' voyage and a seven-night 'European Cities & Waterways' experience.

Fred. Olsen is pleased to have been awarded the 'Gold Trusted Merchant' status by independent review site Feefo in 2015, for the second year in a row. This accreditation is based on genuine customer feedback and, to date, Fred. Olsen has received over 11,000 reviews, with 95% of these being in the 'Good' or 'Excellent' categories.

For further information on Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines, visit the website at www.fredolsencruises.com Book online, call Reservations on 0800 0355 242 (Monday – Friday, 8am – 8pm; Saturday, 9am – 5pm; Sunday, 10am – 4pm), or visit an ABTA travel agent.

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

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