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Celebrate Carnival Time in Tenerife with Fred. Olsen Cruise Lines

Fred. Olsen's cruise ship, Boudicca, will be in Santa Cruz, Tenerife on Carnival Day next year – 12th March 2011. Guests on cruise D1103, departing from Southampton on 6th March 2011, will have a unique opportunity to experience all the colour and excitement of the Carnival – the biggest and most spectacular outside Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

Tenerife's Carnival dates right back to the 1600s, and is a spectacle not to be missed. It begins on the Friday before Shrove Tuesday, and ends on Ash Wednesday, and activity on the island centres on the capital, Santa Cruz. The event is one long, spectacular party; there are colourful floats, a Carnival Queen, and groups of entertainers:- 'murgas', comedians; 'comparsas', dancers; and 'rondallas', singers. Everyone works for months in advance to create this stunning event, which now aspires to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The events open with a procession through the streets of Santa Cruz, with much music and dancing, and end with the ceremonial 'El Entierro de la Sardina' – or 'Burying the Sardine'! Feast your eyes, and join in with the colourful activities of carnival on this cruise.

The full itinerary is of 14 nights, departing and visits Leixoes (for Oporto) in Portugal, then Arrecife (Lanzarote), Santa Cruz (Tenerife) – where the carnival takes place – San Sebastian (La Gomera), Santa Cruz (La Palma), Funchal (Madeira), and Vigo (Spain), before returning to Southampton.

In addition to the music and colour of the Carnival, this cruise has a musical theme, as it is one of Fred, Olsen's 'Music and Laughter' cruises, with the superb Abba tribute band, Abba Arrivals, performing live. It is also a Flagship Golf cruise, which means keen golfers can opt for an additional package, that combines golf ashore with professional tuition aboard, for an extra £375 per player.

Prices for this very special cruise start at £1,444 per person, based on two adults sharing an outside twin cabin, Grade 'E'. Prices include all meals and entertainment on board, and port taxes.

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

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