

# Travel Outlook

## Atlantic crossing by big ship is still popular



**Vince Egan**  
Travel  
Thomson News Service

regular attractions including the Golden Door Spa at Sea.

Another Cunard luxury liner, the 24,492-ton Vistafjord, will do a leisurely 18-night transatlantic crossing, departing from Fort Lauderdale April 23, and calling at several ports before arriving in Naples.

Vistafjord will also offer a special 14-night cruise around the British Isles commencing July 21, keyed to Cunard's 150th anniversary.

### CROWN PRINCESS

Princess Cruises of Los Angeles will launch the 70,000-ton Crown Princess this spring at the Fincantieri shipyard in Monfalcone, Italy. The inaugural season of the 1,596-passenger flagship will begin with a number of cruises in European waters this summer, to be followed by her first transatlantic crossing - an eight-day voyage departing from Southampton Sept. 13, bound for New York.

Features of Crown Princess include a domed observation lounge and entertainment complex, two swimming pools, health club and, it is claimed, more space per passenger than any other ship of her size.

The same company's 44,348-ton Royal Princess (which, when launched in 1984, became the Love Boat of TV fame) will carry out two

transatlantic crossings this year. On April 16, she will sail out of San Juan, Puerto Rico, on a 10-day voyage to Barcelona on Spain's Mediterranean coast. Entertainment headliner will be maestro Artie Shaw, with his "new" orchestra under the direction of Dick Johnson.

After a summer of cruises in the seas bordering Europe, Royal Princess will have yet another big-band transatlantic crossing. The Woody Herman orchestra, directed by Frank Tiberi, will be the star attraction on the voyage departing from Barcelona Oct. 31 and arriving in Fort Lauderdale 10 days later.

### UNDER SAIL

Crown Princess won't be the first brand-new ship to cross the Atlantic in the coming season. Club Med I, a 10,000-ton, computer-assisted, five-masted sailing ship - heralded as the world's largest sailing vessel - will set sail from Guadeloupe in the French West Indies on April 29, arriving at Cannes, France, 18 days later.

After a season of week-long cruises off the Riviera, she will

depart from Cannes Sept. 9 for Guadeloupe. Her 425 passengers will be free to sit at any table in the dining room, and there will be a no-tipping policy.

A second shipping company will be observing a major anniversary on the North Atlantic this year; Hapag-Lloyd of Germany is 100 years old in 1990, and its 33,819-ton Europa will sail Oct. 31 from Venice for Curacao, Dutch West Indies, with stops at Guadeloupe and other Caribbean ports.

Among other ships making occasional transatlantic voyages in the coming months are Sun Viking, Royal Viking Sun, Royal Viking Sky, Crown Odyssey, Golden Odyssey and Stella Solaris.

### SNOW GOLF

Here are notes on news of current interest to travellers:

-Finnair is staging a Santa Claus Arctic Golf Tournament, March 16 to 18 at a nine-hole course on the frozen Kemi River at Rovaniemi, capital of Finnish Lapland.

-The season for maple-syrup festivals in Eastern Canada is almost at hand. One typical festival, out of several, takes place March 9 to 11 at the village of Warkworth, Ont., on the Trent Canal system.

-In Ottawa, the National Gallery is exhibiting 138 works from three suites of prints by Marc Chagall, until April 15.

This is shaping up as a peak year for, of all things, transatlantic travel by ship.

That's right, ship. There may not be enough sea-going travellers to cause the airline industry to worry, but the choice of ships will be exceptionally broad and unusually interesting for those who have the time and inclination to cross the Atlantic the slower, old-fashioned, relaxed way.

Pride of place belongs to the 67,139-ton Queen Elizabeth 2. She has kept up the North Atlantic tradition ever since the late 1960s, and three years ago underwent a \$200-million renewal.

Her normal route is between New York and Southampton, a four-night crossing, with occasional diversions to such ports as Boston, Baltimore and Fort Lauderdale. Since this year marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of Cunard Line, QE2 will be offering gala crossings in July, with outstanding entertainment programs in addition to her



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### On The TAX SCENE

FILING EARLY

QUESTION: I promised myself I would file my tax return early this year. Aside from avoiding the last-minute rush before the April 30 deadline, are there any other advantages in filing early?



Mark Bulicki

ANSWER: There are several advantages: Your return will probably be processed more quickly, your refund (if any) will be paid sooner and if you make an error you have time to correct it before the deadline and avoid possible penalties.

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