

#### \*\*\*\*SPECIAL NEWSLETTER\*\*\*

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# PASSENGERSHIPS CRUISING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN (3)

Pictures / Text : Piet Sinke ©

The Mediterranean is a popular area for cruising in Europe, a lot of cruise vessel are operating on several routes and visiting the most popular ports in Italy, Greece, Croatia, Spain and North Africa. You can find in the Mediterranean large cruise vessels for mass entertainment or smaller ones for more cozy cruising with less passengers onboard, but with a lot of attention of the staff onboard. The cruise season normally ends during November when the most of the vessels are shifting to the Caribbean until spring arrives again in Southern Europe.



The Norwegian registered **SEABOURN LEGEND** moored in the port of Monaco, this in **1992** build vessel sailed previous under the names **Queen Odyssey** and **Royal Viking Queen** and can handle 212 passengers in 106 cabins and a crew of 145 persons.

This vessel was used for the film Speed 2 of director Jan de Bont with the actress Sandra Bullock

The air conditioned suites have a bedroom area and a living room area which offer TV's & VCR's, private safes and refrigerators and fully stocked bars in all staterooms. All staterooms outside cabins with picture windows.

There is an outdoor pool, 3 whirlpools, a Library, card room, Casino, a complete health spa with massage,



Top: The **SEABOURN LEGEND** departing from the port of Monaco

sauna, steam room, herbal body wraps and a gymnasium. Shops and boutiques, laundry/dry cleaning service, self-service launderette, beauty salon, and medical facilities.



A new way of cruising are the sailing vessels, not for hardworking people but pleasure only, the sails are operated fully computerised so nobody have to pull on anything, only push the buttons.

Left the WIND SPIRIT anchored offshore Monaco, the WIND SPIRIT is build during 1988 and build by Ateliers et Chantiers du Havre for a cost of \$ 34 M.

The vessel is equipped with 74 cabins for up to 159 passengers.

Windstar's sleek ships, with computer-directed sails, pioneered modern luxury sailing. The award-winning WIND STAR, WIND SPIRIT, WIND SONG and WIND SURF between 148 and 312 passengers, in spacious modern staterooms and suites. Sailing under its banner phrase "180 degrees from ordinary," Windstar offers luxury and superb cuisine, yet with a casual, intimate ambiance and relaxed dress code. Windstar guests leave their ties and formal wear at home

The **WIND SURF** was build under the name **LA FAYETTE**, was renamed during 1980 in **CLUB MED 1** under which name she sailed until 1989 when she was renamed **WIND SURF** 



Top: the **WIND SURF** anchored off Monaco.



Another operator which operates sailing vessels is the Monaco based STAR CLIPPER cruises which operates 3 sailing vessels, named the ROYAL CLIPPER, STAR CLIPPER and STAR FLYER. The vessel are sailing under the Luxembourg flag

Left: The ROYAL CLIPPER anchored off Monaco

Inspired by the legendary Tall Ship, Preussen, the new Royal Clipper has the proud distinction of being the largest and only five-masted sailing ship built since her predecessor was launched at the beginning of the last century. With her complement

of 42 sails, **Royal Clipper** is a splendid sight to behold. You might think she was an apparition from the grand age of sail, but **Royal Clipper** is as new as tomorrow. She boasts state-of-the-art navigation systems and all the comforts of today.



Star Clipper and her sister ship Star Flyer are as fleet as the wind and as graceful as swans. These are true clipper ships, reflecting their proud heritage in every inch of polished brass and gleaming brightwork.

Left and below:
The STAR CLIPPER
offshore Monaco
Note: See the smoke from
the aft Stack
Photo: Danny Spaans

Step aboard these unique

vessels and discover a new age of sail, where the traditions of the past are happily married to the comforts and amenities of the present. **Star Clipper** and **Star Flyer** are modern cruise ships in every way, created for comfort-loving passengers who also love the traditions and romance of the legendary era of sailing ships. **Star Clipper** and **Star Flyer** are both 120 mtr long and each carries just 170 quests in pampered comfort.





Life aboard is blissfully relaxed, much like traveling on a private yacht. You'll never feel confined, as each ship offers pleasingly spacious accommodation and expansive teak decks with ample space for relaxing and play. In fact, you'll find that these ships offer more outdoor space per passenger than most conventional cruise ships.

Left: In this night shot the **STAR CLIPPER** moored in the Port of Monaco

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One of the latest additions to the Princess cruises fleet is the **GOLDEN PRINCESS** which is at the picture anchored (in Dynamic Positioning mode!!) off Monaco, The vessel left Southampton on May 16, 2001, for her maiden voyage to Barcelona. **GOLDEN RPINCESS** offers her 2,600 passengers the same unique design and innovative features that made her sister ship, **GRAND PRINCESS**, one of the most popular cruise



vessels sailing today - along with a few exciting additions. The ship's wedding chapel features an exclusive Wedding Cam, enabling friends and family back home to view passenger nuptials. Princess is the only line to offer at-sea weddings conducted by the ship's captain. **GOLDEN PRINCESS** also debuts the first AOL Internet Café, one of the largest cyber facilities at sea

featuring 25 computer stations. And passengers can choose to have portraits taken at their convenience, and enjoy a host of photographic services, at the F/X Digital Photo Center, the first complete professional digital photography studio in the industry.

Another recent addition to the cruise fleet is the **SILVER WHISPER** operated by **SILVER SEA cruises**, this ship is a sistership of the **SILVER SHADOW** and is build during 2000, the vessel are registered in Nassau at the Bahamas, The officers onboard are Italian and the total crew is 295, the cruise speed is 21 knots.





maintain the continuity of its award- winning fleet.

The SILVERSEA cruise vessels are operating worldwide including the Mediterranean, the above picture of the **SILVER WHISPER** is made at the IJmuiden locks after a visit of the vessel to the Port of Amsterdam.

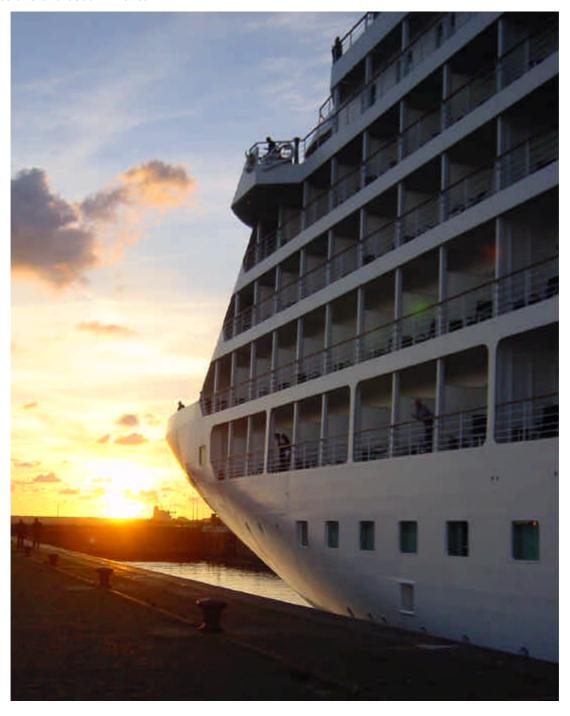
The names **Silver Shadow** and **Silver Whisper** tie-in perfectly with cruising - they are unobtrusive, as are the ships themselves, an important characteristic as the line navigates the world 's intimate harbours and waterways.

At approximately 28,000 tonnes and accommodating a mere 388 guests, **Silver Shadow** and **Silver Whisper** are the smallest ultra-luxury ships currently build. The line made a deliberate decision to keep the ships small to

The **Silver Shadow** started sailing in September 2000, and the **Silver Whisper** was christened in the Port of Genoa on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001, after commissioning the vessel crossed the Atlantic for here debut in the United

States where she arrived September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2001 for the first time. Silversea has taken its successful design of elegant, all-suite, ultra-luxury ships to the next level by incorporating guest suggestions and technological innovations to create two extraordinary vessels designed to carry Silversea's tradition of all-inclusive luxury and style into the new millennium.

**Silver Shadow** and **Silver Whisper** joined the line's two existing ships, the 16,800 ton, 296 guest sister ships **Silver Cloud** and **Silver Wind**. With this fleet expansion, the line can now offer extended deployment in some of the world's most popular cruising areas such as the Mediterranean, Northern Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South America.



One of the older vessels which changed name several times is the **DELPHIN**, this vessel



is one of a serie of 5 roll on/roll off cruise ships build during 1975 at the Wartsila yard for the former Soviet Union , The **DELPHIN** was commissioned as the **BELORUSSIYA**, in 1993 she was renamed in **KAZAKHSTAN II** under which name she sailed until May 1996 when she was renamed in **DELPHIN** , this 21306 DWT vessel is sailing a present for Delphin Seereisen and can carry maximum 536 passengers in 237 cabins.



At both pictures the vessel is arriving and anchoring off Monaco Sept 2002.

During the Russian service her sisterships were named : GRUZIYA – AZERBAIYDZHAN – KARELIYA - KAZAKHSTAN

#### Technical details of the vessels mentioned above :

Name	built	built at	Length	Width	Draft	Passengers	Cabins
Seabourn Legend	1992	Schichau	134 m	19.2 m	5.1 m	212	106
Wind Spirit	1988	Chant Le Havre	134 m	15.8 m	4.1 m	159	74
Wind Surf	1989	Chant Le Havre	187 m	20.0 m	5.0 m	413	193
Royal Clipper	2000	Gdynia Poland	133 m	16.0 m	5.6 m	228	
Star Clipper	1992	Belgium	111 m	15.0 m	5.6 m	182	79
Golden Princess	2001	Fincantieri	308 mtr	36.0 m	11.0 m	2600	

Silver Whisper	2001 T. Mariotti	186 mtr 24.8 mtr 6.0 mtr 388	
Delphin	1975 Wartsila	156 mtr 22.0 mtr 6.2 mtr 536 237	

Name	GRT	Speed	Power	Operator
Seabourn Legend	9.975	16	7.280 kW	Seabourne Cruise Line
Wind Spirit	5.736		sail + 1.400 kW	Windstar cruises
Wind Surf	14.745	15	sail + 3.680 kW	Windstar cruises
Royal Clipper	5.061	14		Star Clippers
Star Clipper	3.025		sail + 1030 kW	Star Clippers
Golden Princess	109.000	22	93.970 hp	Princess Cruises
Silver Whisper	28.258	21	15.600 hp	Silversea
Delphin	16.214	21	18.000 hp	

# **Pictures / Text : Piet Sinke ©**

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