

## DAILY SHIPPING NEWSLETTER SPECIAL EDITION



### OOSTERDAM (PART 1)

Text / Photo's : Piet Sinke



July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at 08:00 hrs in the morning the brandnew passenger liner for the Holland America Line named **OOSTERDAM** arrived at Maas pilot station, the pilot tender **Enterprise** with onboard pilot **Peter Zanen** and a TV team of **TV RIJNMOND** proceeded from the port to the location of the **OOSTERDAM** to board the vessel.



After the pilot and the TV team boarded the **OOSTERDAM** the vessel proceeded towards the Waterweg entrance where hundreds of people were waiting for the vessel to pass along the Waterweg despite the rain.



Left :  
The **OOSTERDAM** passing Hoek van Holland inward, escorted by the Ter Heyde lifeboat **BRUINVIS**, using the ships whistle a lot.

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The **OOSTERDAM** is the second vessel of the 4 ships of the **VISTA Class**, the first vessel was the **ZUIDERDAM** and the last two will be named **WESTERDAM**, and officially the last vessel is not named yet, but rumours are going that it will be **NOORDERDAM**.

At 85,000 tons, Holland America's "**Project Vista**" series of premium ships are the largest ever built for the company. They also boast a passenger space ratio of 46, keeping the company firmly placed as the leader in premium cruising.



The Vista-class ships feature innovative "**exterior elevators**," located on both sides of the vessel and vertically transversing 10 decks, providing guests with panoramic sea views. The ships also include a wide range of spacious accommodation categories. About 85 percent of the staterooms feature an ocean view, with approximately 80 percent of those offering private verandas.

The 400 million dollar, 285 mtr long ships build upon the hallmarks of the Holland America brand, displaying extensive multi-million-dollar art collections and a signature Waterford Crystal centerpiece in the ship's atrium.

The vessels feature numerous dining options, from elegant full-service meals to casual Lido service and an upscale gourmet restaurant. The ships also will continue other trademark features of Holland America ships, including the Explorers Lounge, Ocean Bar, an exterior covered promenade deck encircling the entire ship, a large Lido pool with a retractable dome, and Holland America's signature "Crow's Nest" observation



lounge.

**Left** : Before the **OOSTERDAM** was christened in Rotterdam captain **Hans van Biljouw** (right) received from the harbourmaster of Rotterdam the Harbour Master Plaque, and the harbour master received from the captain a painted plate as a remembrance of the visit of the **OOSTERDAM** to the city of Rotterdam.

**Right** : also **Mae Elmar** of Cruise Rotterdam, who organized the most of the activities spoke to the



press and explained why she was happy that the two vessel **OOSTERDAM** and **ROTTERDAM** were moored at the Wilhelminakade for this few days.



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Left : Mr **A.Kirk Lanterman** , chairman and CEO of the Holland America Line, spoke to the press and explained that the Holland America Line experience difficulties to get Dutch officers for the vessels in the fleet, which is at present 12 vessels and two under construction at present 242 Dutch officers are sailing with the company, a meeting was scheduled with nearly 300 young people for the next day to explain more about sailing on cruise liners and make them more interested in a seafaring job.

After a excellent lunch in the **Pinnacle Grill** restaurant onboard we got a tour through the vessel with the interior designer of the vessel **mr Dingelmans** . which showed us the **CASINO** (right) and the **Queens theatre** (below)



Top : Mr **Dingelmans**

Left : a view at the **ROTTERDAM** from the "crows nest" in the front of the vessel, which can accommodate 270 persons.





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**Top** : the Gymnasium



**right** : the Thermal suite.



**Left** : Hydro pool at the Lido deck

**Below** : 2 pictures of the swimming pool at the Lido deck with the penguins as decoration at the swimming pool area.





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One of the most luxurious cabins onboard are the 2 **PENTHOUSE SUITE's**, which are attached to the **PENTHOUSE VERANDA** with a private pool.

( Photo's : Holland America Line )



and going down a few decks more the vessel is equipped with 461 **DeLuxe Verandah Outside** rooms as shown at the picture left and below .



In total the **OOSTERDAM** has 924 cabins from the **PENTHOUSE VERANDA SUITE** which is 1000 square feet with a 318 square feet Veranda till the standard inside cabin of 185 square feet without a verandah.

The maximum capacity is 1848 passengers.



Top : The OOSTERDAM during seatrails — photo : Holland America Line

# **OOSTERDAM**

## **PART 2**

**WITH OTHER INTERIOR PICTURES AND  
CHRISTENING CEREMONY WILL FOLLOW  
SOON !!**