



Press Release

MV WERFTEN Lays Keel for the First “Global Class” Ship for Dream Cruises

At 204,000 gross ton and 2,500 suites and cabins, she will be the largest cruise ship ever built in Germany, with the most advanced digital technology.

Rostock, September 11, 2018 | The keel laying ceremony for Dream Cruises' Global-Class flagship took place at MV WERFTEN's Rostock shipyard today. The first section measuring 22 meters long, 26 meters wide and weighing 410 tons, about half of the full keel, marks the start of construction of the largest cruise ship ever built in Germany.

Approximately one thousand shipyard employees, partners, and guests from the worlds of business and politics accepted the invitation to the event. Prime Minister Manuela Schwesig, Minister of Economic Affairs Harry Glawe, Genting Hong Kong's Executive Chairman Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay, Group President Colin Au, Dream Cruises President Thatcher Brown and MV WERFTEN's CEO Peter Fetten placed the traditional lucky coins before the 95-meter high gantry crane lowered the section into place.

"The construction of cruise ships is challenging, but above all it offers great opportunity for MV WERFTEN and opens up new opportunities for many suppliers in our state as well. I am delighted that all three locations – Wismar, Stralsund and Warnemünde – are benefiting from the shipyards' new path," said Prime Minister Manuela Schwesig.

"The Global Class is designed from the keel upwards for the Asian sourced market, which requires more exciting public areas and larger cabins than traditional cruise ships and, supported by the world's leading technology and digital systems for Asians, who are more used to digital technology," says Tan Sri KT Lim.. "Owning the shipyard means greater flexibility in incorporating the latest technical advancements for MV WERFTEN to build the best cruise ship in the world.", he added.

Peter Fetten, Managing Director at MV WERFTEN added: "We are creating something truly great. After an intensive engineering and design phase, today's keel laying marks the next stage of the manufacturing process of MV's first giant, its dock assembly. We would like to thank all of our employees and partners for the work already completed on this ambitious project and look forward to the continued successful collaboration with Genting and Dream Cruises."

Production of this 204,000 gross ton ship, which will be 342 meters long and over 46 meters wide, will take place in parallel in Wismar and Rostock. The 220-meter-long midship will be manufactured in Rostock. It will be moved to Wismar in 2019, where the bow and stern, as well as the superstructures, will be mounted. The 2,500 passenger cabins produced by MV WERFTEN Fertigmodule in Wismar will also be installed in Wismar. A total of around 600 companies will be involved in the construction process.

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The Global Class ships were designed for the rapidly growing Asian cruise market and will join the Dream Cruises award-winning fleet, allowing Dream Cruises to offer cruises all over the world and become “Asia’s Global Cruise Line”. Amenities will include a theme park, including a roller coaster with virtual reality, a Cineplex, Asian spa in addition to a Western spa, ample shopping facilities as well as authentic Asian and international dining experiences and fast food restaurants. The 2,500 cabins accommodate up to 5,000 passengers on a twin share basis and can cater up to 9,500 passengers, during peak holiday periods, with sufficient life-saving facilities and width of fire stairs.

About Dream Cruises

Genting Hong Kong brings nearly 25 years’ of Asian cruise industry experience in creating its new cruise line – Dream Cruises.

Dream Cruises aims to be a pacesetter in the cruise industry globally, meeting the needs of the ‘emerging generation’ of confident, independently-minded and upwardly-mobile Asian travellers and families. Dream Cruises offers inspirational journeys, which are Asian at heart and international in spirit.

Purpose-built for the China and Asia market, Genting Dream, the first ship of the fleet, debuted in November 2016, with her sister ship World Dream joining the fleet in November 2017, offering guests the highest levels of service and spacious comfort in the region.

Accommodations in the Dream Class ships reflect both size and choice for travellers with over 70 per cent of staterooms featuring private balconies and over 100 connecting rooms catering to extended families and groups. Distinguished by its European style butler service and special all-inclusive guest privileges, The Palace, a luxurious ship within a ship concept, will indulge travellers in lavish suites and an aura of exclusivity.

With the finest Asian and international dining, exceptional service, enthralling entertainment and inspirational experiences, Dream Cruises aims to redefine vacation travel with a transformational journey at sea.

Since its launch, Dream Cruises has been recognized as one of “The Top 10 Large Resort Ships” by the 2018 Berlitz Cruising and Cruise Guide; “Asia’s Best Cruise Ship” by the 2018 Asian Cruise Forum, “Best Preferred Cruise Brand for Families” by the Global Times, “Best New Ship” by the 2017 Travel Weekly Asia and many more awards received than any other cruise line in Asia.

Production has also started in Germany on two new Global Class ships that will join the fleet in 2021 and 2022 and they will feature more and better features than the two Dream Class ships. All the ships of Dream Cruises are “Made in Germany”, a country known to produce the best quality products in the world, including cruise ships.

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About MV WERFTEN

MV WERFTEN comprises of three shipyards in Wismar, Rostock and Stralsund in the German state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (MV), has a staff of 2,600 and some of the largest docks and covered fabrication facilities in Europe. The yards are located in a region with an excellent transportation and logistics infrastructure and have direct access to the Baltic Sea. Further investments in a laser thin-plate welding line, cabin manufacturing, state-of-the-art software and other automation have been made to make MV WERFTEN one of the most efficient cruise ship builders in the world.

In their 70-year history, the three shipyards have designed, produced and fitted out around 2,500 sea-going newbuilds, including two AIDA cruise vessels, Premicon river cruise vessels and Stena Line ferries. MV WERFTEN, headquartered in Wismar, is constantly investing in innovation and new technologies as well as employee training to guarantee excellent "made in MV" quality.

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