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Harvey's Cruise News



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Port time squeeze

15 December 2010



Princess Cruises' director of market planning, development and itineraries, Crystal Morgan, has urged ground handlers at cruise ports to operate key tours faster and more efficiently to ease the impact of cruise lines shortening their stays in ports.

Speaking at the Itinerary Expansion session at the Seatrade Med conference in Cannes, Morgan also called for greater flexibility in tour durations, "so we can arrive later and/or leave earlier."

"The rising cost of fuel – which we expect to continue – is forcing us to look at reducing our stays in some ports. The other option is to cut some ports out altogether and we would rather not do that," she said.

The introduction of the Emissions Control Area in Northern Europe and, from 2012, around North America is also likely to impact on itinerary planning, she said. "We will have to judge whether it is more cost-effective to have a ship in Canada or the Caribbean."

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