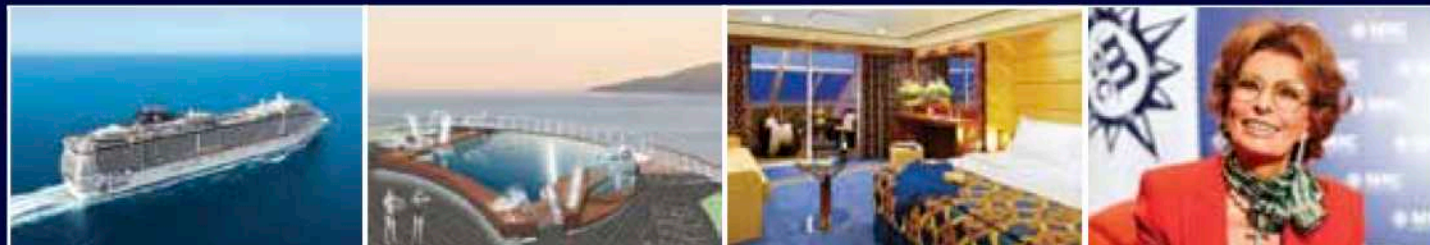




MSC Divina...a divine addition to the MSC Cruises fleet.

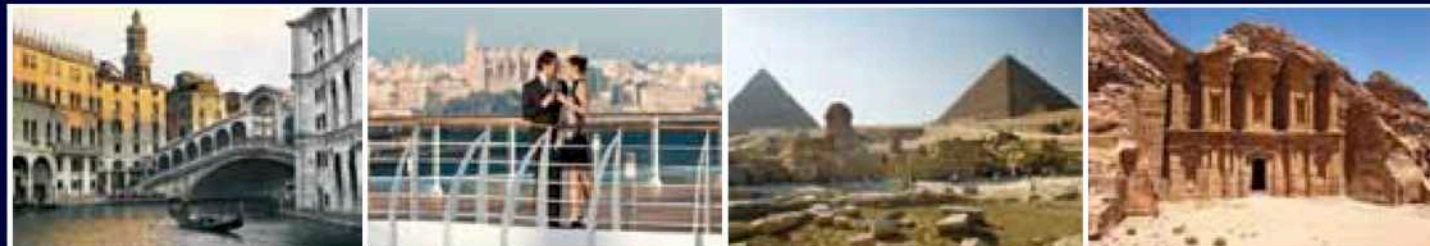


MSC Divina, named in honour of screen legend and MSC Cruises "Godmother" **SOPHIA LOREN**, was christened in Marseille on May 26th, 2012. She joins our fleet of 11 luxury ships and her home will be the Mediterranean. Choose from 7 and 11 night cruises, or our **GRAND MEDITERRANEAN** 14 night cruises combining MSC Divina & MSC Splendida, discovering both the East & West Mediterranean.

- 7 night Mediterranean cruises from **\$939**pp*
- MSC Yacht Club - a luxury upgrade from **\$2809**pp*
- 11 night Mediterranean cruises from **\$849**pp*
- MSC Divina & MSC Splendida from **\$1598**pp*

BONUS! FREE TRANSFER on Grand Mediterranean cruises from Venice to Genoa on day of disembarkation / embarkation

Red Sea Renaissance - fabulous fly/stay/cruise package.



DEPARTS AUSTRALIA 30 OCTOBER 2012

Fly to Venice with Emirates and experience the romance of this lovely city, before embarking on a 15 night cruise odyssey on board MSC Armonia through the Mediterranean via Crete and Turkey. A once in a lifetime journey through the Suez Canal on this fabulous fly/stay/cruise package will lead you to the rubies of the Red Sea. Excursions to the Pyramids, Valley of the Kings and Petra are all included. Fly home to Australia with Emirates. Includes transfers, taxes and more.

18 night fly/stay/cruise package from **\$4828**pp*

CRUISE FARES INCLUDE • On board meals • Entertainment • Port charges • Captain's cocktail party • Gala dinners • Children's club

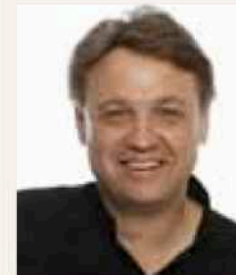
CALL MSC CRUISES ON 1300 028 502 OR VISIT YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT.

*Conditions apply. Valid new bookings only. Prices are per person AUD twin share. MSC Divina fares based on lowest season departures. Full terms and conditions can be found at www.msccruises.com.au. All details correct as at 01/05/12. All prices, itineraries & inclusions are subject to availability and change or withdrawal at any time without prior notice. MSC Cruises (Australia) Pty Limited ABN 55 003 526 725 Lic # 2TA003126 as General Sales Agent for MSC Crociere S.A.



CRUISE COMMUNITY

CRUISE PASSENGER PROFILE



NAME: PETER MARTIN
JOB: MARITIME PILOT/NAVIGATION SPECIALIST
BACKGROUND: CAPTAIN MARTIN IS ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S FEW TRULY TITLED 'MASTER AND COMMANDERS' AND HIS 30-YEAR MARITIME CAREER INCLUDES COMMANDING A WARSHIP AND SAILING AS A NAVIGATOR IN THE SYDNEY-HOBART YACHT RACE. HE ALSO LECTURES ON BOARD CRUISE SHIPS.
SEA DAYS: MORE THAN 400 MONTHS

You were a navigation specialist and ships' pilot during your 23 years in the Royal Australian Navy. During this time, did you experience ports in ways not open to the average cruise passenger? I had some great experiences in the smaller ports of Papua New Guinea. It's such a beautiful country and I'm pleased to see it now opening up as a cruise destination.

What did you enjoy most about your time in the Royal Australian Navy? Having command of a warship, working with a highly motivated, professional team, and doing a worthwhile job for my country. Piloting [warships] into ports around the world was definitely a highlight. Currently, you pilot vessels through the Great Barrier Reef, the Great North East Channel, Clarence Strait and Hydrographers Passage. Which area do you enjoy the most?

The passage via the Torres Strait has ships passing close to reef features and islands that make for spectacular views at sunrise and sunset, where the blazing red sun casts a wonderful array of colours over an area rich in natural and human history.

You have a Masters degree in Defence/Strategic Studies and have worked for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. You have an avid interest in Australia's maritime history and you lecture to passengers on cruise ships. On what ships have you lectured?

I have lectured on the ships of cruise lines Prestige, Regent, Carnival, Star,

Holland America and Discovery, and on smaller, local lines.

On what subjects do you lecture?

While I'm a professional seafarer, my lectures are not just focused on maritime matters. I usually introduce the maritime world while providing a political, social and geographical overview of Australia. I present lectures on Australia's indigenous history, our relationship with our neighbours from a maritime, economic and political perspective, and aspects of Australian culture.

I introduce passengers to navigational history and to tools used by navigators through the ages.

Which topics interest you the most?

Australia's culture as a maritime nation and how it has impacted on our political and historical development is of particular interest to me. However, I also thoroughly enjoy conducting lectures on navigation and the more interactive noon and evening sextant classes with passengers.

What has been your favourite cruise?

There's nothing like gliding through Milford Sound, New Zealand, when the rugged terrain is newly snow-capped. I recently cruised with Regent Seven Seas to Milford Sound when the weather was perfect. I was presenting bridge commentary at sunrise. There was not a ripple on the water; the sunlight splashed across the snow-capped mountain; and the ship glided through the Sound as in days of old.

YOUR RIVER CRUISE QUESTIONS ANSWERED



BY CHRISTIAN SCHWEITZER, THE AUSTRALASIAN MARKETING MANAGER FOR THE GLOBUS FAMILY OF BRANDS, WHICH INCLUDES AWARD-WINNING RIVER CRUISE LINE AVALON WATERWAYS

Do river ships have single cabins, do they attract the dreaded single supplement, and are the cabins on the outside of the ship?

One of the many wonderful features of river cruising is the absence of inside cabins. Unlike most ocean ships, all river cruise ships offer staterooms on the outside, meaning all passengers can enjoy the views that are one of the highlights of river cruising. The staterooms are all designed for dual occupancy, so the pricing reflects this, with supplements applying for solo travellers. However, occasionally Avalon Waterways waives these supplements, so it's always a good idea to keep an eye out for special offers. Or, better still, travel with a friend to share the experience (and the cost).

Our family has taken three ocean cruises and my husband and kids always feel queasy when the sea is rough. Do you ever experience swells on river cruises?

Rest easy, there is no risk of seasickness when you take a river cruise. Rivers don't experience the swells or choppiness that can be found at sea. On a river cruise you can just sit back and relax as your ship glides along the waterways, under historical bridges, alongside castles and wineries and through medieval villages, with no concern about motion sickness.

Please email sally.macmillan@cruisepassenger.com.au or post questions on Facebook, www.facebook.com/CruisePassenger. The best questions win a year's subscription to Cruise Passenger magazine for you or a friend!