



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Ministry of Tourism

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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MSC to continue 'cruising' to Trinidad

As Trinidad's bumper 2018/19 Cruise season continues, the MSC Preziosa - the largest Cruise ship which visits this country docked in Port-of-Spain last Wednesday for the traditional Crest Exchange.

A Crest Exchange is the traditional presentation of gifts during a ship's maiden voyage to a country.

Tourism Minister Honourable Randall Mitchell met later with the Captain and other officials of the MSC Preziosa.

Apart from the presentation of gifts, a major highlight of the event was a commitment from Captain of the MSC Preziosa, Master Corrado Iaconis that the vessel will continue to call on the port of Port-of-Spain. He said however that passengers have requested that the vessel should also cruise to sister-isle Tobago.

Speaking during the Crest Exchange on board the MSC Preziosa at the Cruise Ship Complex, Port-of-Spain, Captain Iaconis said the passengers love to sail and visit Caribbean islands, including Trinidad.

The MSC Preziosa has a passenger capacity of more than 4,300, with more than 11,000 passengers having visited Port of Spain this season. A total of passengers 3,815 passengers visited Port-of-Spain on Wednesday with 549 participating in pre-booked tours to popular tourist sites including Maracas Beach, Maracas Waterfall, Caroni Bird Sanctuary and the Asa Wright Nature Centre. Other passengers also participated in independent tours and visits to downtown Port-of-Spain and other places of interest.

Among the guests who attended Wednesday's ceremony were Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism Richard Madray, who said he was pleased to have the MSC Preziosa visit Trinidad.

Also present for the brief ceremony were, Chairperson of Tourism Trinidad Limited, Janelle Penny Commissioning, CEO Camille Campbell and the Port Authority Chairman, Retired Colonel Lyle Alexander.

The MSC Preziosa will make six additional fortnightly visits, until the end of the 2018/19 Cruise season in April. It brings passengers from Europe, Brazil and the United States.

The Cruise line is next scheduled to return to Trinidad on Wednesday January 23, 2019.

Photo captions: (1) Tourism Minister Randall Mitchell is greeted by MSC Preziosa Captain Master Corrado Iaconis. (2) MSC Preziosa Captain Master Corrado Iaconis, Ministry of Tourism Permanent Secretary Richard Madray, Tourism Trinidad Limited's Chairperson Janelle Penny Commissioning and CEO Camille Campbell chat with MSC Preziosa Captain Master Corrado Iaconis after the Crest Exchange.

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