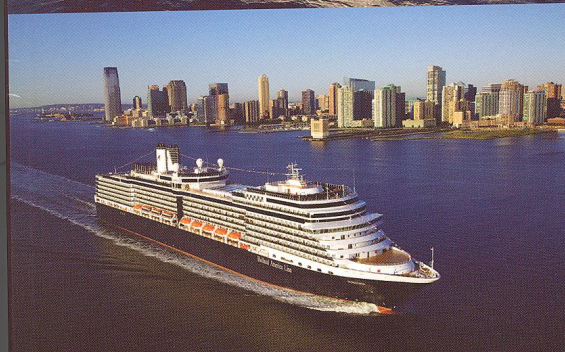
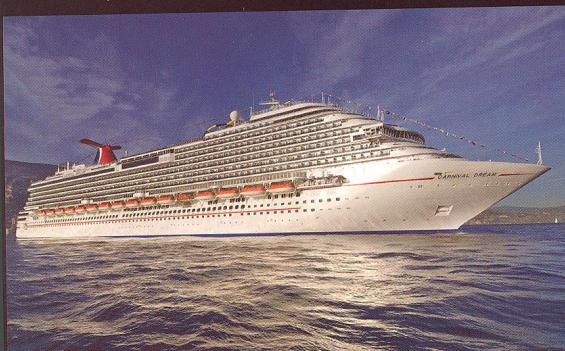


# INTERNATIONAL Cruise & Ferry REVIEW

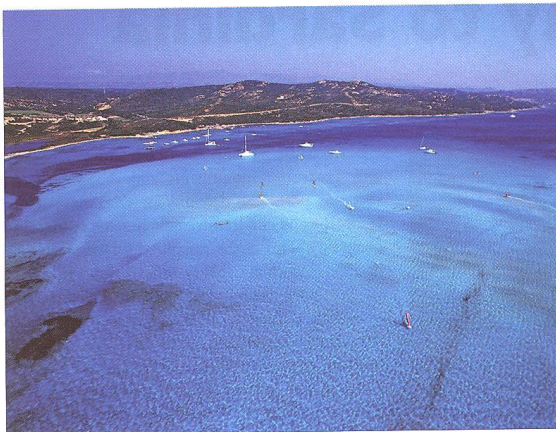


**Micky Arison details gameplan**  
**Pier Luigi Foschi reports on Costa's fortunes**  
**Kevin Sheehan outlines NCL's strategy**  
**Karl Holz returns to Disney Cruise line helm**  
**FCCA's Michele Paige unveils top priorities**





## South Corsica – a natural experience



### NEWS:

2010, the best season in Ajaccio:

- 246 calls;
- 13 maiden calls: Disney Magic, Celebrity Equinox, Independence of the Seas, Adventure of the Seas, Costa Luminosa, Costa Concordia, MSC Splendida, Le Boreal, Silver Spirit, Thomson Dream, Princess Daphné, Kristina Katarina, National Geographic Exploreur;
- 33 companies calling: 76 from Carnival (all companies of the group included), 39 from RCCL (all companies of the group included) 33 from MSC; and
- best months: May and August with 41 calls (11-month season).

**T**he time has come to protect and appreciate our nature to the full. For that, Corsica is a model in terms of environmental awareness and the island guards jealously its unspoiled, authentic and unique natural beauty.

Indeed, Mother Nature has been more than generous here, deploying all of her talents in creating an amazing diversity of exceptional places, a natural heritage boasting an infinite number of treasures.

So, for those who love to experience life in green and blue, Corsica really is the place to be.

The island combines an incredible range of mountain and marine landscapes that will be hard to beat anywhere in the world in such a small area.

With more than 2,000 plant species, five nature reserves and a regional nature park covering more than two-thirds of the territory, the island constitutes an exceptional natural sanctuary, which will enchant all visitors with its colours and scents.

### Extreme south

The Bouches de Bonifacio Natural Reserve covers 80,000 hectares and forms the French part of the Parc Marin International. Located between Corsica and Sardinia, this is the most important natural reserve of metropolitan France, comprising protected maritime and island zones such as the Natural Reserve of the Cerbicale Islands.

The incredible bio-diversity of the reserve is characterized by the cosmopolitan nature of its flora, which includes west Mediterranean and African plants. The reserve's scientists pay particular attention to all of the endemic Corsican and Sardinian species, as well as to the colonies of nesting seabirds, such as cormorants, Audouin's

gulls, stormy petrels or Cory's Shearwater.

Underwater, divers may easily admire specimens of groupers, brown meagres and sea fans.

### Centre and east coast

With its pine tree forests, mountain lakes, wild rivers and waterfalls, the island's hinterland also has many surprises in store to be explored.

The Regional Nature Reserve of Corsica, a classified territory with a large natural and cultural heritage, covers 350 000 hectares. The Reserve extends from the northwest to the Alta Rocca in the southeast.

To enable visitors to discover the Alta Rocca, the Regional Nature Reserve of Corsica has set up a hiking trail, Mare a Mare Sud, that links Porto-Vecchio to Propriano. This medium-altitude mountain trail is adapted to the most casual of hikers and goes through the most typical villages of the region. The Peaks of Bavella and the Forest of Ospedale, strong and magnificent, perfectly illustrate the concept of pure nature.

### West side

The Calanques of Piana, classified by Unesco as a World Heritage Site, are made up of red granite rock formations, which erosion has engraved into fantastic sculptures of all shapes and forms plunging into the sea and turning blood red under the red fires of the sunset. This place is a fantastic miracle of surrealist nature.

To continue the discovery on the sea, the Scandola Nature Reserve, Europe's only land and sea reserve, is accessible by boat trips departing from Porto, Cargese or Sagone.

### Beaches

Its 1,000-kilometre coastline and hundreds of powder sand beaches make Corsica a crystal clear water paradise for swimming, snorkelling and diving during seven months of the year, from April to October. Offering infinite possibilities for fun and relaxation, our pristine and preserved beaches make the island an ideal seaside destination for nature lovers.

Discover the charms of South Corsica, an environment to appreciate in every season. It has four ports of call – Ajaccio, Propriano, Bonifacio and Porto-Vecchio – with unlimited options.

In 2010 Island Cruises (with Escape) and Thomson Cruises (with Destiny) will arrive in Propriano.

Because of the quay extension with a fourth dolphin and much interest for shorex in the region, Propriano is definitively a new attractive option in South Corsica. ■