



“Happy Birthday” Costa Diadema: All The Latest Of “Italy’s Finest” To Celebrate The Flagship Of Costa Cruises

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The latest in gastronomy, hospitality and entertainment to celebrate Italian excellence on board the Costa Diadema.

Genoa, 8 October 2015 – **Costa Diadema**, the flagship of the Costa Cruises fleet, will celebrate her **first birthday** on **7 November 2015**. On this special occasion, the Italian cruise company will unveil **lots of novelties to honour Italy’s excellence** and to make onboard vacations even more memorable.

The Costa Diadema has always offered her guests Italy’s finest in terms of quality, passion and hospitality. Thanks to these new proposals, gastronomy, entertainment and hospitality will be enriched with a unique Italian style.

What’s new with the Costa Diadema includes a new corner, as of January 2016, entirely dedicated to Costa-style **Gourmet burgers**: a real taste corner inside the Corona Blu restaurant, where everyone who loves hamburgers, which have become part of the Italian tradition, will find, at dinner time, very high quality 100% Italian Fassona beef, together with fresh vegetables and Italian cheeses. For example, guests can savour a hamburger with Porcini mushrooms and Taleggio cheese, a bacon cheeseburger with caramelized onions or a beef hamburger with smoked provola cheese. Of course, there will also be a tasty vegetarian option. The gourmet burgers will be served on a plate with side dishes, and also combined with Italian craft beers.

Starting in December 2015, families with children can enjoy a cruise with yet another comfort: all the delicacies of the new regional menus, including vegetarian dishes, children’s favourite foods and a selection of Vegan dishes, will be available not only in the ship’s main restaurants but also in the central **self service** area of the Corona Blu restaurant. This truly convenient option will allow families to eat promptly with their children without giving up the quality of the dishes created by Costa chefs.

Another novelty involves the exquisite Italian ice-creams of Agrimontana: they can be savoured not only in the **Gelateria Amarillo** on deck 5, but also in many other areas of the ship, and even at the poolside, thanks to the multicoloured **mobile cart**, similar to those used on Italian beaches, with **new and incredible flavours**. The Gelateria Amarillo will also offer the traditional **Sicilian breakfast**, with snow-cones and brioches.

Always with an eye on gastronomy, starting in December 2015 the Samsara Restaurant on the Costa Diadema will propose a **completely new menu**, with fresh and appetising taste ideas, all the successful end result of a blend of flavours from Asia and South America, combined with a Mediterranean spirit. **Stefano Fontanesi**, *Costa Corporate Chef*, and **Riccardo Bellaera**, *Costa Corporate Pastry Chef*, have created a special **Pacific Fusion** menu, where the Mediterranean meets the Pacific. For example, guests can enjoy one of the most popular dishes in all of South America, a *ceviche* of marinated raw fish and slightly spicy tropical fruits, but reinterpreted with an all-Italian flavour of sweet Tropea onions. Or “real Italian” fettuccine with red shrimp, lime and roasted cashews. The “new” Samsara Restaurant will be open for dinner, and reservations are a must.

Entertainment on board the Costa Diadema will be even more exciting. With the **new shows**, music, dancing and parties will exit the theatre and move around the entire ship. Guests on board Costa’s flagship will have fun in different

areas of the Costa Diadema with lots of little **live music shows**, dedicated to different genres or musical groups, or will be able to go wild with a **DJ set, poolside parties and theme-based festivities**.

Guests of the Costa Diadema will experience a vacation where everything has been taken care of down to the smallest detail. The ship's personnel will welcome them with a **typically Italian style of hospitality**, regardless of crew nationality: an attitude that's always friendly, warm and cheerful, the ability to perceive needs in advance, to satisfy their requests and know how to pamper them. Just like all good Italians do with their guests in their own home. Passion and willingness to help that can be summed up with the service promise, "Here for you", that becomes a real philosophy. And to constantly improve the ability to communicate and interact with onboard personnel, the company has also developed specific training programs with continuous refresher courses.

These novelties will be offered during the seven-day cruises on the Costa Diadema in the western Mediterranean, that include calls to Savona, Marseilles, Barcelona, Palma de Mallorca, Naples and La Spezia. **The perfect choice for a vacation** that puts Italian excellence by Costa Cruises on centre stage, and even in the **fall or winter**, thanks to the mild climate and the cultural attractions and beautiful landscapes of the places on the cruise itinerary. Costa excursions are the best way for guests to visit not only the cities where the ship calls, but also other amazing nearby destinations, like **Florence or Pisa**.

During the cruise departing from **Savona on 7 November 2015**, and on the other cruises later in November, **special festivities** will be held on board to celebrate the first birthday of the flagship of Italian seafaring: games, music, dancing, parties and the traditional birthday cake with flutes filled with sparkling wine.