CARNIVAL CRUISE LINES THROUGH THE YEARS

**1972**: Maiden voyage of Carnival’s first ship, the TSS Mardi Gras, which runs aground on sandbar outside the Port of Miami.

**1975**: Carnival purchases Empress of Britain, enters service as the TSS Carnivale.

**1978**: The Festivale, formerly the S.A. Vaal, undergoes $30 million refurbishment, begins service for Carnival as the largest and fastest vessel sailing from Miami to the Caribbean.

**1982:** Debut of the Tropicale, the first new cruise ship the cruise industry has seen in many years; ship marks the beginning of an industry-wide multi-billion-dollar shipbuilding boom.

**1984**: Carnival becomes first cruise line to advertise on network T.V. with the premiere of new advertising campaign starring company spokesperson Kathie Lee Gifford (then Johnson).

**1985**: Debut of 46,052-ton Holiday.

**1986**: Launch of 47,262-ton Jubilee.

**1987:** The 47,262-ton Celebration enters service. Carnival earns distinction as “Most Popular Cruise Line in the World,” carrying more passengers than any other.

**1990**: The 70,367-ton Carnival Fantasy – the first and namesake vessel in the highly successful “Fantasy-class” – enters service as first new ship ever placed on three- and four-day Bahamas cruise program from Miami. Eventually, Carnival would construct eight “Fantasy-class” vessels, the most cruise ships in a single class.

**1991:** Launch of 70,367-ton Carnival Ecstasy.

**1993**: Carnival introduces its third 70,367-ton Superliner, Carnival Sensation.

**1994**: Debut of 70,367-ton Carnival Fascination.

**1995**: 70,367-ton Carnival Imagination enters service.

**1996**: Carnival launches sixth “Fantasy-class” vessel, Carnival Inspiration. Carnival debuts the first passenger vessel to exceed 100,000 tons, the 101,353-ton Carnival Destiny, at the time the world’s largest cruise ship.

**1998:** Introduction of seventh “Fantasy-class” vessel, the Carnival Elation, the first new cruise ship deployed on the West Coast. The eighth and last in the “Fantasy-class” series, the Carnival Paradise, enters service.

**1999:** Debut of the 102,000-ton Carnival Triumph, Carnival’s second “Destiny-class” vessel.

**2000:** A third “Destiny-class” vessel, the 102,000-ton Carnival Victory, is launched.

**2001:** Carnival introduces a new class of vessel with the launch of the 88,500-ton Carnival Spirit, the first new “Fun Ship” ever positioned in the Alaska and Hawaii markets.

**2002:** A second “Spirit-class” vessel, the Carnival Pride, is launched. Carnival’s third “Spirit-class” ship, Carnival Legend, enters service. Debut of the 110,000-ton Carnival Conquest, beginning a new class of vessel for the line.

**2003:** Second 110,000-ton “Conquest-class” ship, the Carnival Glory, enter service.

**2004:** Carnival Miracle, the fourth in Carnival’s “Spirit-class,” debuts. A third 110,000-ton “Conquest-class” ship, Carnival Valor, sets sail.

**2005**: A fourth 110,000-ton “Conquest-class” vessel, Carnival Liberty, enters service July 20 operating Carnival’s first-ever Mediterranean cruise program.

**2007:** Debut of Carnival’s fifth “Conquest-class” vessel, Carnival Freedom.

**2008:** The new 113,300-ton Carnival Splendor enters service, representing a new class of ship for the line.

**2009:** The130,000-ton Carnival Dream – the largest “Fun Ship” ever constructed – is introduced in Europe Sept. 21, 2009.

**2011**: A second 130,000-ton ship, Carnival Magic, enter services in Europe May 1, then launches year-round seven-day Caribbean service from Galveston, Texas on Nov 14.

**2012 –** A third 130,000-ton ship, Carnival Breeze, debuts in June, operating 12-day Mediterranean voyages from Barcelona before repositioning to Miami on year-round six- and eight-day Caribbean departures, becoming Carnival’s largest South Florida-based ship.

**2016 –** The largest “Fun Ship” ever constructed – the 135,000-ton, 4,000-passenger Carnival Vista – is scheduled to enter service in winter 2016.