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PORT OFFERS FREE BOAT TOURS – MAY 20 & 21, 2006 Tour Hours Extended by Popular Demand!



425 S. Palos Verdes Street San Pedro, CA 90731 Tel: 310/732-3508 After 5:00 p.m.: 310/732-3500 **SAN PEDRO, Calif.** – More tours, more scenery, more activities – there's MORE to enjoy this year as the Port of Los Angeles expands the hours of its popular free boat tours program in observance of World Trade Week 2006. Visitors of all ages can take advantage of these free, fully-narrated, hour-long tours of the nation's busiest port on Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21, between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., departing from Berths 77 and 79, Ports O' Call Village in San Pedro and from Banning's Landing in Wilmington. (Directions to boat tour departure sites are at the conclusion of this press release.)

This annual program is an excellent way to get up-to-date about what's happening at the Port and learn about its vital role in international trade. An impressive array of ships, machinery, wildlife and other sights unique to the harbor provide a fascinating sightseeing adventure for the whole family.

On Saturday, May 20, one special sight in Port will be Norwegian Cruise Line's brand new *Pride of Hawaii*, the largest U.S. flagged passenger ship ever built. The vessel will be christened in an afternoon ceremony at the Port's World Cruise Center before departing to Hawaii for island cruises. The celebration will include a fireboat water display.

Recent waterfront development means there's more to see and do at the Port this year! Visitors can stroll along the picturesque Cruise Ship Promenade with its colorful public art, as well as the recently-dedicated Harbor Boulevard Parkway with "story rope" narratives. Also open for tours are the World War II vessel *S.S. Lane Victory*, next to the Cruise Ship Promenade, and the Los Angeles Maritime Museum at the entrance to Ports

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O' Call. Nearby historic downtown San Pedro offers a variety of international restaurants and galleries. Sightseers can enjoy free rides on the Waterfront Red Car Line to all these attractions, with free transfers for the rubber-tire San Pedro Electric Trolley, or to the Cabrillo Beach Aquarium and Bathhouse.

Reservations are not required for the free boat tours, which will board on a first-come, first-served basis. Access for non-motorized wheelchairs is available at each departure point. Information about the Port's World Trade Week Boat Tours program is available 24 hours a day on the Port's toll-free special events line at (800) 831-PORT or call (310) 732-3508 during normal business hours.

World Trade Week is a national, month-long program of tours, seminars and other events to educate the public about the significance of international trade to the local economy. For information about other local World Trade Week activities, call the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce at (213) 580-7569, or visit the official event website, www.worldtradeweek.com.

The Port of Los Angeles is America's premier port. As the leading container port in the nation and a critical hub in the international supply chain, the Port generates 259,000 regional jobs and \$8.4 billion in annual wages and tax revenues. The Port of Los Angeles also places a high priority on responsible growth initiatives combined with high security, environmental stewardship and community outreach. The Port of Los Angeles is a proprietary, self-supported department of the City of Los Angeles. The Port of Los Angeles – A cleaner port. A brighter future.

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<u>Directions to Ports O' Call Village, San Pedro:</u>

From the north: Take the Harbor 110 Freeway south and exit at the Vincent Thomas Bridge/Harbor Blvd. off-ramp. Turn right onto Harbor Blvd. Turn left at 6th Street, turn right immediately onto Sampson Way, turn left onto Nagoya Way, and proceed to the boat tours at Berth 77, Spirit Cruises, and Berth 79, Fiesta Cruises. Plenty of free parking is available.

From San Fernando Valley: Take the 101, 405 or I-5 Freeways south to the Harbor 110 Freeway south and proceed as indicated above.

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<u>Directions to Ports O' Call Village, San Pedro:</u> (continued)

From Inland Empire: Take I-10 Freeway west to the Harbor 110 Freeway south and proceed as indicated above.

From Long Beach: Take Ocean Blvd. west onto Terminal Island, drive along Ocean Blvd./Seaside Ave., go over the Vincent Thomas Bridge and take the Harbor Blvd. exit. Turn right onto Harbor Blvd. Turn left at 6th Street, turn right immediately onto Sampson Way, turn left onto Nagoya Way, and proceed to the boat tours at Berth 77, Spirit Cruises, and Berth 79, Fiesta Cruises. Plenty of free parking is available.

From Orange County: Take the 405 Freeway north to the Harbor 110 Freeway south. Exit at the Vincent Thomas Bridge/Harbor Blvd. off-ramp. Turn right onto Harbor Blvd. Turn left at 6th Street, turn right immediately onto Sampson Way, left onto Nagoya Way, and proceed to the boat tours at Berth 77, Spirit Cruises, and Berth 79, Fiesta Cruises. Plenty of free parking is available.

<u>Directions to Banning's Landing, Berth 186, Wilmington:</u>

From north or south: Take the Harbor 110 Freeway and exit at "C" Street. Turn right onto Figueroa Street, go one block and turn left onto Harry Bridges Boulevard. Turn right onto Avalon Boulevard and drive to the end. Park at the Banning's Landing Community Center, 100 E. Water Street, or follow signs to nearby free parking.

From San Fernando Valley: Take the 101, 405 or I-5 Freeways south to the Harbor 110 Freeway south and proceed as indicated above.

From Inland Empire: Take I-10 Freeway west to the Harbor 110 Freeway south and proceed as indicated above.

From Long Beach: Take Anaheim Street west. Turn left on Avalon Blvd. and drive south to the end. Park at the Banning's Landing Community Center, 100 E. Water Street, or follow signs to nearby free parking.

From Orange County: Take the 405 Freeway north to the Harbor 110 Freeway south. Take the Harbor 110 Freeway and exit at "C" Street. Turn right onto Figueroa Street, go one block and turn left onto Harry Bridges Boulevard. Turn right onto Avalon Boulevard and drive to the end. Park at the Banning's Landing Community Center, 100 E. Water Street, or follow signs to nearby free parking.

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