

**Autorità di Sistema Portuale
del Mare di Sicilia Orientale**

Berthing Policy

Introduction

The development of the cruise sector, characterized by a constantly growing trend, by a large number of new ships launched in recent years and by an even greater number of ships arriving in the years to come, has strongly revealed the need for an ever more punctual and safe planning of the itineraries and of the relative ports of transit.

The large shipping groups of this sector look with greater interest and confidence at the cruise ports that have been able to respond better and more promptly to these needs and it is for this reason that the Port Authority of the Eastern Sicilian Sea considered as vital the creation, adoption and publication of a policy for the allocation of moorings, inspired by criteria of transparency and non-discrimination, also in order to retain the companies that already call the port of Catania and to gain new market margins, in the superior public interest of the socio-economic development of the territory concerned.

Effective date

This Regulation will enter into force on the date of its publication on the website of the Port System Authority of the Eastern Sicilian Sea.

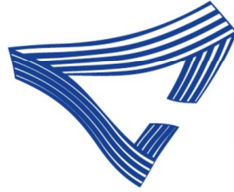
Criteria

The present regulation intends to define the criteria for the formulation - by the Port System Authority - of the scheduling of cruise ships, to be submitted to the approval of the Maritime Authority as far as the technical-nautical compatibility profiles are concerned. The Maritime Authority will then arrange the subsequent provisions for the required/necessary technical-nautical services.

Quays normally dedicated to mooring of cruise ships in the Port of Catania, are those in the so called "Sporgente Centrale" and specifically they are quays number 10-11, 12 and 13.

Occasionally and particularly in the case of congestion or contemporaneity of traffic, cruise ships can also be moored at quays 24, 25, 26, 27 (Molo di Levante) and 36 (Nuova Darsena Traghetti), if the dimensional characteristics of the ships were compatible with those of the aforementioned quays.

Moreover, it is important to point out that the only facility (Cruise Terminal) for the reception and management of passengers, equipped to perform the security checks required by the PFSP is located in the area of the so called "Sporgente Centrale", adjacent to quay 10-11 and not far from quays 12 and 13.



Given the above, the proposal for berths assignment will be made in compliance with the following criteria, listed in order of priority:

1. Type of operations (homeport-interporting or transit)
For the reasons briefly illustrated above, ships with boarding passengers (homeport-interporting) must be berthed at the Sporgente Centrale, where there is a duly equipped facility (Cruise Terminal). Instead, for those ships that only perform transit operations, the following two other criteria will be applied:
2. Technical and dimensional characteristics of the vessel (LOA, draft);
3. Number of calls of the Brand in the last three seasons.
4. As far as Cruise Lines calling the port of Catania for the first time are concerned, priority will be given to those assuring the highest number of passengers calculated on the maximum ship passenger capacity and the highest number of calls during the year.

Procedures

Berth scheduling is made by the Port System Authority of the Eastern Sicily Sea, according to indications received from and in agreement with the company managing the Cruise Terminal, following these criteria:

- a) Requests for berthing availability, also in the form of a "reservation", must be sent by the Cruise Lines, through their respective Shipping Agents, to the company managing the Cruise Terminal (currently Catania Cruise Terminal srl) by December 31st of two years before (for example **for calls of the cruise season 2021, the applications must arrive within December 31st, 2019**).
- b) All requests received by the date reported in the previous point a) will be processed according to the above mentioned criteria.
- c) In case of a verified ship calls congestion and of an absolute and proven unavailability of berths for a given date, the company managing the Cruise Terminal will communicate the info to the Cruise Lines through their shipping agents **within January 15th of each year** proposing one or more alternative dates and assigning next **January 31st** as deadline by which the Cruise Lines must communicate their decisions.
- d) Based on the feedbacks received, the company managing the Cruise Terminal will prepare, within **February 15th of each year**, a draft of the berthing schedule for the following year, that will be submitted to approval of the Port System Authority and of the Harbormaster which shall express their opinion within the following **February 28th**.
- e) The berthing policy proposed by the company managing the Cruise Terminal and approved by the Port System Authority of the Eastern Sicilian Sea and by the Harbormaster will be sent to the Cruise Lines through their shipping agents and published on the Port System Authority's institutional website (www.adspmaresiciliaorientale.it) and on the one of the company managing the cruise terminal (www.cataniacruiseterminal.it).



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- f) Any request specified in the company within one week of receipt according only to a chronological criterion. The insertion in the berthing schedule will be performed without prejudice to the calls already assigned, in compliance with the "first come, first served" principle.
- for calls arrived after the date point a), will be processed by managing the Cruise Terminal

Temporary regulation

On the occasion of the first application of this regulation the deadlines referred to in points a), b) and c) of the procedures must be considered modified as follows:

- a) Requests for berthing availability for **the year 2020**, even in the form of "reservation", shall be sent to the company managing the Cruise Terminal (at present Catania Cruise Terminal srl) by the Cruise Lines through their Shipping Agents within **July 31st, 2019**, exception made for those requests or reservations already sent by the Cruise Lines through their Shipping Agents at the date of publication of the present regulation.
- b) In case of verified congestion of ship calls and absolute unavailability of quays for a given date, the company managing the Cruise Terminal will send a communication to the Cruise Lines through their shipping agents within **August 15th, 2019**, proposing one or more different dates to which the Cruise Lines will have to reply (accepting or not accepting the alternative dates) within next **August 31st, 2019**.
- c) Based on the feedbacks received, the company managing the Cruise Terminal will prepare a **2020 berthing schedule** draft within **September 15th, 2019** that will be submitted to approval of the Port Authority and of the Harbormaster, which shall reply within **September 30th, 2019**.

Catania, June 11th, 2019

Signed Responsible for General Affairs Area
Massimo Scatà

Signed President
Andrea Annunziata

Signed Acting Secretary General
Pierluigi Incastrone