

Carnival Cruise Line's Mardi Gras to Offer Unique Array of Exciting Guest-Pleasing Experiences

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Six Distinctive, Themed Zones Will Deliver the Fun Carnival is Known For,All Coming on Mardi Gras in 2020

MIAMI, Jan. 25, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Carnival Cruise Line today revealed the first look at design details for the highly anticipated <u>Mardi Gras</u>, the line's most innovative ship set to debut in 2020 and the first cruise ship in North America powered by LNG. *Mardi Gras* will offer an extensive array of popular Carnival guest favorites along with new exciting experiences highlighted by six themed zones. Throughout the ship's 20 decks and in each of these distinctive areas, guests will find fun, memorable ways to create their own personalized vacation with dining, libation, entertainment, recreation, and relaxation options.



The accommodations on *Mardi Gras* will include more than 20 different stateroom categories and multiple levels of spacious and luxurious suites. *Mardi Gras* will also include the most expansive open decks on any Carnival ship, and a spectacular atrium that will serve as the hub of the ship as well as a stunning focal point where guests will be welcomed on board.

"When our guests Choose Fun and book a vacation on *Mardi Gras,* they are going to find many firsts and exciting experiences, all enhanced by the fun atmosphere our great Carnival crew deliver on every cruise," said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line. "We've specifically designed *Mardi Gras* to invite everyone to create their own personalized fun vacation experience with options to suit every age, mood or taste."

Six Exciting and Distinctive Zones Add to the Fun

The six zones of *Mardi Gras'* design will invite guests to stroll throughout the ship to enjoy new only-on-*Mardi Gras* features along with signature elements that have made Carnival America's Cruise Line, all enjoyed amidst a festive, social and community-driven atmosphere with opportunities for guests to relax, recharge and reconnect with family and friends. The six areas will be themed around Grand Central, French Quarter, La Piazza, Summer Landing, Lido and The Ultimate Playground and highlights include:

- Grand Central (Decks 6-8, mid-ship): Creating a sense of wonder the moment guests step on board, the transformative Grand Central takes the traditional atrium concept to new heights, combining a day-to-night entertainment complex with spectacular three-deck-high floor-to-ceiling windows and a bar overlooking the starboard side of the ship that will be the perfect venue for socializing and people watching amid sweeping ocean vistas. Steps away are Bonsai Sushi and Bonsai Teppanyaki which are being expanded from designs on existing ships to reflect their popularity with guests. There's also the first-ever dedicated Punchliner Comedy Club where guests can enjoy nightly shows, and the always popular Piano Bar 88 for sing-a-longs that bring guests together in an intimate feel-good setting.
- French Quarter (Deck 6, aft): In a nod to the New Orleans' culture that combines lively entertainment with an unparalleled food scene, French Quarter will be lined with new bars, music and eateries that perfectly capture the festive spirit of the Big Easy. And since the spirit of New Orleans is so closely tied to the jazz scene, this neighborhood is linked via a two-deck-high promenade leading to a traditional New Orleans jazz club with live entertainment and refreshing hand-crafted libations. More details on these new dining and entertainment choices and the introduction of a new Carnival celebrity partnership will be revealed this spring.
- La Piazza (Deck 8, mid-ship): At La Piazza, guests are transported to Italy where they celebrate the rich heritage of Carnival's senior officers with authentic cuisine from the casual family-style Cucina del Capitano and 24/7 Pizzeria del Capitano to a new Mediterranean-themed seafood restaurant. There's also a bar where guests can savor cappuccino by

day or classic Italian cocktails at night, while roaming musicians keep everyone entertained.

- Summer Landing (Deck 8, aft): Designed as the ultimate chill spot, Summer Landing will be home to an expanded Guy's Pig & Anchor Smokehouse Brewhouse with smoked-on-board barbecue favorites created by longtime Carnival partner Guy Fieri, along with the line's exclusive ParchedPig craft beers brewed right on board. For outdoor summer-inspired fun, there will be a pool and whirlpools, a new bar, the lunch counter for the Smokehouse Brewhouse along with ample lounging spaces and hang outs, making this the ideal spot to enjoy all the fun that a Carnival vacation experience delivers.
- Lido (Deck 16-17, aft): Carnival is already known for its varied casual poolside restaurants and *Mardi Gras'* expanded Lido will take this to a whole new level with existing Carnival favorites like Guy's Burger Joint, the New England-inspired Seafood Shack, and Bluelguana Cantina Mexican eatery, along with some new concepts to be announced at a later date that are sure to inspire foodie fans.
- The Ultimate Playground (Decks 18-20, aft): The aptly named Ultimate Playground will span Decks 18-20 and offer guests amazing sea vistas as they soak up the sun and the fun in this spacious family-friendly play area highlighted by the largest and most elaborate Carnival WaterWorks aqua park in the fleet, along with an expanded SportSquare. The Ultimate Playground is also where guests will find the much-anticipated BOLT: Ultimate Sea Coaster, the first rollercoaster at sea announced in December 2018, where riders race along an 800-foot-long track achieving speeds of nearly 40 miles per hour.

Mardi Gras will also incorporate all of the line's most popular signature features from its nearly completed \$2 billion fleet enhancement program that has brought a consistent level of experiences to the more than five million passengers who annually sail on Carnival, such as Alchemy Bar, Fahrenheit 555 Steakhouse, and the Serenity adult-only retreat, among others – many of which will offer an exciting twist, along with a variety of new innovations exclusive to this vessel.

Additional information on *Mardi Gras*, along with specifics on each of the six themed areas will be revealed in ways that are sure to amp up the fun factor in the coming months.

Reservations for *Mardi Gras*' itineraries will be announced and open for sale on Jan. 30, 2019. Carnival Cruise Line fans who want to be the first to book on *Mardi Gras* can get a head start by <u>clicking here</u> where they can register up until Jan. 27, 2019 to get a "first to know" alert and special promotional offer when reservations open.

To learn more about Carnival Cruise Line, visit.<u>Carnival.com</u>. For reservations, contact any travel agent or call 1-800-CARNIVAL. Carnival can also be found on:<u>Facebook, Instagram, Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

Journalists also can visit Carnival's media site, carnival-news.com or follow the line's PR department on Twitter at twitter.com/CarnivalPR.

About Carnival Cruise Line

Carnival Cruise Line, part of Carnival Corporation & plc (NYSE/LSE: CCL; NYSE: CUK), is "The World's Most Popular Cruise Line®" with 26 ships operating three- to 24-day voyages to The Bahamas, Caribbean, Mexican Riviera, Alaska, Hawaii, Canada, New England, Bermuda, Cuba, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia. The line currently has three new ships scheduled for delivery – Carnival Panorama[™] in 2019, *Mardi Gras* in 2020 and an as-yet-unnamed ship in 2022.

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MEDIA: Vance Gulliksen, +1-305-406-5464, media@carnival.com