



**ANTIGUA & BARBUDA VOTED “BEST PORT WELCOME” BY  
TOP CRUISE INDUSTRY MAGAZINE FOR  
SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR!**

*St. John’s, Antigua (22 March 2009)* – Antigua and Barbuda was voted “Best Port Welcome” when *Dream World Cruise Destinations Magazine* handed out its awards at a cocktail reception held March 16 in the Oval Room of the National Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida.

Accepting the award from Chris Ashcroft, Editor and Publisher of *Dream World Cruise Destinations* was Marketing Consultant for the *Antigua Pier Group*, Avonelle Pole, who was in Miami with a contingent of stakeholders from the Ministry of Tourism and the ABCTA for *Cruise Shipping Miami* (formerly *Seatrade Miami*), the world’s most important and largest annual exhibition and meeting place for the cruise industry. This is the second straight year that Antigua and Barbuda has won the best welcome to passengers coming ashore. Other winners in this category were Colon (Panama), Hamburg (Germany), Monte Carlo (Spain), and Phillipsburg (St. Maarten).

The names of the ports and destination that have provided outstanding services to the ship, passengers or crew during the course of 2008 shows a greater

geographical spread than last year, an indication of the increased global nature of the cruise industry.

The survey reveals that a total of 231 ports and destinations were put forward as having delivered a service level beyond expectation. A relatively small number — 41, are listed as award winners this time, and 10 of the 41 received more than one award. In this case, Antigua was also recognized in the ***Best Attraction Experience*** category for the Helicopter Flight over Montserrat; in the ***Best New Attraction*** category for the Americas Cup Sailing; and in the ***Destination with Best Tour Guides*** category where the quality and professionalism of guides is considered outstanding.

Categories for the 2008 Awards include ***Most Improved Port Facilities, Most Efficient Port Services, Best Port Welcome, Most Responsive Port, Best Turnaround Port Operations, Most Improved Terminal Facilities, Most Efficient Turnaround Operator, Most Improved Destination, Best Destination Experience (Organized Tours), Best Destination Experience (Independent Sightseeing), Best Turnaround Destination, and Destination with Best Tour Guides.*** Awards were also given for ***Best Attraction Experience, Service Companies and Best New Attraction.*** Alanya (Turkey), Guymas (Mexico), Ljmuiden (The Netherlands), Komodo (Indonesia), Mayaguez (Puerto Rico), Puerto Quertzal (Guatemala) and Port Antonio (Jamaica) are among 21 destinations under the heading ***“Ports to Watch”***, — the ports that will perhaps become more prominent in the future.

All of the winners and category details are highlighted in the Spring 2009 issue of ***Dream World Cruise Destinations Magazine*** which is published in the UK by Ashcroft & Associates Ltd. and distributed in the USA by DSW.

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