



For Immediate Release

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PORT OF GALVESTON RANKS #11 IN WORLD #4 Cruise Port in the Continental U.S.

Galveston, Texas...August 7, 2006...The Port of Galveston is ranked as the eleventh largest cruise port in the world, up one ranking from last year in *Lloyd's Cruise International's* annual Top 20 Cruise Port Rankings. The Distinguished international ranking allows for the additional distinctive rankings as #4 in the Continental United States and the #1 cruise port in the Gulf of Mexico.

"The Port of Galveston is once again honored to be part of these world rankings," stated Steven M. Cernak, Galveston Port Director. "The Board of Trustees and Port staff continue working to improve and enhance our cruise facilities at the Port of Galveston and increase the number of visitors to Galveston island. The fact that our cruise numbers keep increasing confirms that the proper business decisions were made by the Board of Trustees to grow this sector of the Port's business mix to benefit the City of Galveston."

In U.S. rankings, the Port of Galveston placed number four, behind the Florida ports of Miami, Everglades and Canaveral.

Galveston again ranked as the 10th in the world in the category "Leading Caribbean Cruise Ports and Destinations" and the fourth U.S. port in the same Caribbean category.

In the Top Cruise Ports of the World report, Galveston held the eleventh ranking behind Miami, Port Everglades, Cozumel, Port Canaveral, Grand Cayman San Juan, St. Thomas, Nassau, Barcelona, and St. Maarten.

“Galveston is right there with the traditional larger cruise ports of the world,” added Cernak. “Because of the commitment of our cruise customers, Carnival Cruise Lines, Royal Caribbean International, Celebrity Cruises and Princess Cruises, Galveston island is receiving invaluable international publicity as a result of these world rankings by *Lloyd’s Cruise International* which is a London-based publication with a global audience. The Port is pleased to be able to provide this price less marketing avenue to the tourism community.”

The Port of Galveston is the #1 cruise port in the Gulf of Mexico. Galveston is home port to two Carnival Cruise Line ships, one Royal Caribbean ship, and seasonal cruise operations by Princess Cruises and Royal Caribbean, offering approximately 253 cruises in 1006.

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