

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Carnival Glory Docks On St. Croix Today; Tourism To Rollout Strong Welcome Experience

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ST. CROIX -- On the heels of the successful staging of the annual Agricultural Fair on St. Croix this holiday weekend, the Department of Tourism (D.O.T.) today will showcase the cultural vibrancy of the island as officials welcome the return of the world's largest cruise company on Today, after a long absence, D.O.T. announced Monday.

D.O.T. Commissioner Nominee Joseph Boschulte said that the arrival of Carnival Glory, which has a capacity of about 3,000 passengers and more than 1,000 crew, is a "huge deal" for St. Croix for a variety of reasons.

"Having Carnival Cruise Line return to St. Croix is exceptional," said Mr. Boschulte, adding that it was "a great opportunity to continue showcasing St. Croix to people who have not been here before as well as those who will be returning after a long time."

The tourism leader also explained that D.O.T. would be rolling out a strong welcome experience for the visitors.

The department's cultural greeters will be on hand at the Ann E. Abramson Pier in Frederiksted to welcome visitors, and vendors will offer complimentary samples of Virgin Islands creations to passengers - from body care products, local ice cream and desserts, fresh cane juice and coconut water and beverages from Leatherback Brewing Company and MUTINY Island Vodka, according to the release. Live bands and steel pan music will permeate the atmosphere while the cruise ship is docked on St. Croix.

"We look forward to presenting to our guests what is uniquely from the Virgin Islands and what is quintessentially Crucian," Mr. Boschulte said.

D.O.T. encouraged vendors who have not yet registered for the opportunity to call 340-772-0357.

The ship is expected to be in port from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.