

## WEST AFRICA SERVICE



## GRANDE CLASS VESSELS AND REPUBBLICA CLASS VESSELS

### ABOUT OUR COMPANY

GRIMALDI GROUP NAPLES, a family owned enterprise, is one of Italy's largest shipping Companies. The Grimaldi family has over a century of experience in shipping, and more than 50 years in passenger service. World-wide we are N° 1 for heavy RoRo capacity intake, 6<sup>th</sup> for car carrying and the n° 25 container operator.

Most of our vessels are ro\ro's or co\ro's.

Our trades include: Euro-Med Service, Mediterranean Short Sea Service, Adriatic-Middle East Service, North-West Europe to South America (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay) and to West Africa, USA to West Africa The North-Atlantic trade is run by ACL Atlantic Container Line, a company owned by Grimaldi.

The Baltic sea services are run by Finlines plc, a company controlled by Grimaldi.

On the passenger side, we also operate Grimaldi Ferries, with services: Rome-Barcelona, Rome-Toulon, Leghorn-Barcelona, Italy-Tunis, Italy-Corsica (seasonal).

### GRIMALDI GROUP WORLDWIDE

Grimaldi Group Naples is a truly international company, with own offices, representative offices, subsidiaries or participating companies in Italy (Naples, Monfalcone, Rome, Palermo, Salerno, Civitavecchia), Belgium (Antwerp), Benin (Cotonou) Brazil (Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Curitiba, Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre, Vitoria), Cameroun (Douala), Canada (Halifax), Denmark (Esbjerg), Egypt (Alexandria), Finland, Germany (Hamburg), Ghana (Tema), Ireland (Cork), Nigeria (Lagos), Norway (Oslo) Poland, Portugal (Setubal, Lisbon, Leixos), Senegal (Dakar), Spain (Barcelona, Madrid, Valencia), Sweden (Gothenburg, Wallhamn), Togo (Lomé), United Kingdom (London, Liverpool, Southampton, Tilbury).

Grimaldi owned Atlantic Container Line have their own office network in USA and in Europe.

The Group is also a 50% partner in GLD Lines (car ferry service between Italy and France), is the controlling share holder of Finlines and the owner of Malta Motorways of Seas.

Recently Grimaldi has taken a 14% share in the greek ferry operator Anek Lines

Grimaldi runs its own port terminals in the harbours of Antwerp, Civitavecchia, Cork, Esbjerg, Hamburg, Lagos, Monfalcone, Palermo, Salerno and Valencia.

Grimaldi owns ( in partnership) the harbour of Wallhamn (Sweden).

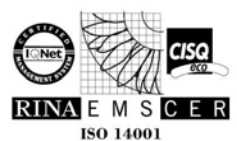
In joint venture with local partners Grimaldi distribute new cars to the dealers in Benelux. Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

### QUALITY & SAFETY

Grimaldi Naples was the first Italian shipping company to obtain the ISO 9002 Quality Certificate. This is Europe's most prestigious quality award.

Grimaldi is the first European carrier that received the Q1 award from Ford Motor Company, and in year 2005 was named Supplier of the Year by General Motors.

All Grimaldi vessels are S.M.S. (Safety Management System) certified.



## **LIFE ON BOARD**

You are travelling on board a cargo vessel. While you are of course a welcomed guest, bear in mind that the Master, the officers and the crew have to comply with their daily duty and routine to run the vessel and while in port to unload and load the cargo. The service we can provide for you, compared with pure passenger vessels, is necessarily somewhat limited. However be assured that all personnel involved will do its utmost to make you feel comfortable and happy on board the vessel.

All people travelling on board the vessel are subject to the general discipline, safety and security rules as established by the Company and/or the Master.

## **DRESSING CODE**

The vessel you are travelling on is of comfortable size that allows safe sailing under all conditions. For you safety and comfort we suggest not to wear shoes with high wheels or beach sandals. Even in good sea conditions a sudden movement of the vessel is possible and very often the outer deck is wet.

Dressing is casual, but remember that on our vessels there are certain unwritten rules as far as dressing is concerned. The Master, the officers and the crew appreciate when passengers too follow these rules.

- ✓ no bathing suit or beach ware should be worn in the mess room and the lounge
- ✓ do not enter the bridge in beach ware or bathing suit

## **BRIDGE**

Under the ISPS code the bridge is a restricted area, where in general access cannot be allowed. We appreciate that our passengers enjoy staying on the bridge, but please ask the Master for authorization for any visit to the bridge. Please respect the dressing code.

## **AREAS OFF LIMIT**

There are areas of the vessel where passengers are not allowed, unless previously authorized by the Master (or person designated) and accompanied by a member of the ship's personnel: the Garage (while at sea), the Kitchen, the Engine Room and in general all working areas.

## **MEALS**

Are served in the officers' mess. You will be informed of the meal hours for breakfast, lunch and dinner by the Master (or person designated by him). Please respect the meal hours. No meals can be served in your cabin.

## **YOUR CABIN**

Will be cleaned and made-up daily. This work is generally done in the earlier part of the morning. Please remember that the steward may only make-up you cabin if he finds it accessible. Later on during the day the steward has other duties and will not be able to clean and make-up the cabin. On some hectic days you might have to take care yourself of the cabin. Your co-operation is appreciated.

## **DECK CHAIRS**

Are available on board on a self service basis

## **TELECOMUNICATIONS**

The vessel is equipped with a state-of-the-art satellite telecommunications system.

- ✓ PHONE: You can use the phone to make calls ship-to-shore. You will have to pay for the cost of the call (remember satellite phone calls are rather costly).
- ✓ FAX: You can ask the Master to send a fax for you. You will have to pay for the cost of phone necessary to send the message.
- ✓ E-MAIL: You can send e-mails. No attachment is accepted. For each e-mail sent you will be charged a flat amount of 1 Euro. E-mails addressed to you on board from relatives and friends to the vessel's e-mail address are transmitted free of charge (but no attachments are allowed). Should you receive an e-mail with an attachment you will be asked to refund the cost of the satellite transmission (this can be quite expensive)

The use of e-mail, phone and fax is at the Master's discretion. The vessel's telecommunication system is not a public one. The Company and the Master have no obligation to let passengers use the system. In any case any Company, safety and security matters have priority.

Please note that your mobile phone will work only in ports or while sailing close to the shore, and if your operator has a roaming agreement with a local mobile phone operator.

## **DRINKS (soft and alcoholic)**

Are sold only in bottles or tins and are subject to being available on board. For purchases please address yourself to the cook. A price list is available on board.

Alcoholic beverage should be consumed with moderation. It is the Masters discretion to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages to persons that, in his sole judgment, make abuse of it.

The master can also prohibit that alcoholic beverages are brought in from shore.

## **LAUNDRY**

There is a washing machine at your disposal for your personal laundry necessities.

## **TAKING PHOTOS**

You may take pictures on board except in the garage or other cargo areas. In some ports it is not allowed to take pictures within the boundaries of the harbour.

## **PORTS OF CALL**

You will go ashore at your own responsibility.

You travel on board a cargo vessel. Ports of call, duration of calls, docking times are subject to cargo requirements. Our vessels run on regular service. However there is always the possibility that a port originally included in the schedule has to be dropped, or that the vessel runs one or more days behind schedule. But this is part of the game in Freighter Cruising.

Before going ashore make sure to have proper and up-dated information about the time you have to be back on board.

Herewith we are giving some basic, and hopefully useful information about the ports of call.

When going ashore, in order to enjoy a safe and pleasant visit, you should note the following safety tips:

- ✓ Beware of pickpockets who can be very clever. They often operate in pairs or more – one holding your attention while the other empties you pockets
- ✓ Do not carry large amounts of cash. Use a money belt, if you have one, when shopping. Never carry a purse, or your wallet in your back pocket. Backpacks should be carried in the front.
- ✓ Leave jewellery and watches safely onboard the ship, rather than wearing them ashore
- ✓ Never leave your belongings unattended.

## **SECURITY**

- ✓ All persons boarding the vessel are subject to check and search
- ✓ All items carried on board will be checked.

## **PROBLEMS**

If you have any problems or you feel dissatisfied you should speak to the Master or the Chief Mate. Whenever it is possible they will assist and help you.

## **COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS**

If, at the end of your journey, you wish to let us have your comments or suggestions you can leave them with the Master who will transmit it to the Company, or you can write direct to:

Grimaldi Freighter Cruises  
Manager Passenger Service  
13, Via M. Campodisola  
80133 Naples \ Italy  
Fax +39 081 551 7716  
e-mail: isler@grimaldi.napoli.it

## ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast

Abidjan with its 3.500.000 inhabitants is the economic capital of the Ivory Coast. Called also "pearl of the lagoons", this town reflects perfectly the two souls of the country, the traditional and the modern. The modern town can be found in the residential area of Cocody and the commercial zone of Le Plateau, while the African tradition can probably best be found in popular Treicheville. Abidjan was founded in 1934 by the French colonial power. Today it is made of 10 boroughs ("communes"): Le Plateau, Abobo, Adjamé, Attécobé, Cocody, Koumassi, Marcory, Port-Bouët, Treichville and Yopougon.

The Ivory Coast is a former French colony that became independent in 1960.

**Languages:** (official) French

**Currency:** CFA franc (100 CFA franc = 0,15 Euro)

**DOCKING** There is no fix berthing for Grimaldi vessels in this port.  
The distance to the centre of town is approx. 3 km (2 miles)

**TO GET TO TOWN** We suggest the red taxis, called Ville Car. There are plenty of them and they are reasonably priced. Make sure you have small change.

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

Most visitors concentrate their city tour to the 3 areas of Treicheville, Le Plateau and Cocody. Treichville is African, Le Plateau is commercial (they call it "Manhattan of the Tropics") and Cocody residential.

The Musée des Civilisations, built at colonial times (in Le Plateau) hosts about 10.000 items, from religious to household ones. The Contemporary Art Museum, in Cocody, shows paintings and sculptures. The Combes Museum in Bingerville specialized in sculptures.

At the handicraft centre of Abidjan you may watch the creation of the objects.

The Culture Palace in Treicheville (a gift of the Japanese government) shows weekly exhibits of Ivorian and African art.

The St. Paul's cathedral, inaugurated in 1985, hosting up to 5.000 people, is an architectural masterpiece.

In Treichville there are numerous religious buildings such as the Senegalese Mosque, the Dioula Mosque, the Peul and Toucouleur Mosque, the Church of St. Joan d'Arc, the Church of Notre Dame

**SHOPPING** The main commercial area is in Le Plateau district. There you will find also modern shopping malls, such as Cap Sud, Galeries Sococé and Galeries Prima,  
For "local" shopping try the market of Treichville. African sculptures can be found on the markets of Cocody and Treichville.

**EATING OUT** There are plenty of restaurants in Abidjan. The local ivorian type restaurant is called "Maquis"  
You will find the best restaurants and "maquis" in the following city areas: Le Plateau, Cocody, Treichville and Biétry.

### OUR AGENT

NAME: Movis c/o SIVOM

ADDRESS: rue des Conteneurs, zone portuaire de Vridi 01 BP4069 Abidjan 01

PHONE: +225 21249050

FAX: +225 21249070

E-MAIL: infogac@sivom.ci

## AMSTERDAM (The Netherlands)

Amsterdam, the Capital of the Netherlands, is the commercial and cultural centre of the country. Amsterdam is also the Capital without government, since this is located at The Hague.

The foundation of Amsterdam goes back to 1275. Overseas trade and sea traffic has been an important activity since the 15<sup>th</sup> century. But it was the 17<sup>th</sup>, the golden century for Holland. Traders, scientists, artists and handcraftsmen created an atmosphere of Renaissance. The East Indian Company (Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie) dominated the trade with Africa, Far East and Australia. Today it is one of the most visited cities in Europe. A city of canals, floating homes but where the bicycle is the king.

The port of Amsterdam covers an area of over 2.500 hectares (62.000 acres) with more than 15 km (almost 19 miles) of quays.

**Language:** Dutch

**Currency:** €uro

### DOCKING

The harbour is reached through the North Sea Canal, which runs for about 12 nautical miles (22 km, 14 statute miles) from IJmuiden to Amsterdam. The vessel has to go through the Northern lock

The vessel docks at United Stevedores Amsterdam, Cacaoweg 20,1047 BM Amsterdam at the Amerikahaven on the south bank of the river. Port location n° 7859

### TO GET TO TOWN

The only way to get to town is by taxi. It will take about 25 minutes to the Central Railway Station in the heart of old Amsterdam

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

Amsterdam is a lovely town to visit. You will find it quiet and less hectic than most other European capitals.

Have a stroll through the old town and along the canals.

Among the many places to see there are the Rijksmuseum [one of the world's premier art collection], the Van Gogh Museum, the house of Rembrandt, the Stedelijk (municipal) museum [modern art] the floating flower market (drijvende bloemenmarkt), the Munttoren, the Dam square, the Leidsplein square, the King's Palace (Koninklijk Paleis), the Nieuwe Kerk (new church), the Ghortuus Horticultural Gardens, the Heinken brewery, the Anne Frank house, the Artis Zoo.

Perhaps you want to take a boat ride on the canals.

### SHOPPING

The main shopping area are the Leidsestraat (between the Leidseplein and Spui), the Kalverstraat and the Nieuwendijk, all located in the centre.

Shop and markets generally are closed Sunday all day and Monday morning.

Famous are the Ceramics from Delft and Makkum and the Jenever (dutch gin).

Amsterdam is also one of the best places to buy Diamonds.

### EATING OUT

Amsterdam is full of Restaurants, Cafés, Eateries. They are numerous around a square called Leidsplein.

### OUR AGENT

NAME:Broekman Motorships BV

ADDRESS:Albert Plesmanweg 63, 3088-Rotterdam (head-office)

PHONE:+31 (0)10 4873911,

FAX:+31 (0)10 4290953,

E-MAIL: [agency@broekman-group.nl](mailto:agency@broekman-group.nl)

NAME:Broekman Motorships BV

ADDRESS: Jarmuiden 65,1046 AE Amsterdam (local office)

PHONE: +31 (0) 20 4119439

FAX: +31 (0) 20 4119439

EMAIL: [operations@wereldvracht.nl](mailto:operations@wereldvracht.nl)

## ANTWERP (Antwerpen), Flanders \ Belgium

It was in the 13<sup>th</sup> century that Antwerp, a small settlement that was already a thousand year old, really began to grow. The medieval Het Steen stronghold, the Gothic Cathedral and the unique Renaissance Town Hall dominate the old city. In narrow streets and alleyways amid these landmarks, the homes of ordinary folk stand shoulder to shoulder stopped with the age. But they do not bow, not even to the baroque splendour and the refined rococo of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century patrician homes.

In contrast, there is the 19<sup>th</sup> century urban expansion with its middle-class houses in all sorts of neo-styles. The Jugendstil area around the Cogels-Osylei is world famous. An in the recent years, daring examples of modern architecture have appeared here and there.

Antwerp is indisputably the diamond centre of the world. The celebrated "Antwerp polish" is founded on five centuries of tradition.

Antwerp is the hometown of some of the famous Flemish painters such us: Teniers, Jacob Jordaens, Antoon Van Dyck and in particular Pieter Paul Rubens

**Language:** Flemish (Dutch)

**Currency:** Euro

### DOCKING

Antwerp Euro Terminal at Quay 1333 (Verrebroekdock) on the left bank of river Schelde  
To get to Antwerp the vessels have to steam up the Schelde for some 40 nautical miles, (74 km, 46 statute miles), pass the "Kallolock" and then sail abt.40 minutes to arrive finally at her berth inside the docks.

### TO GET TO TOWN

The historic downtown area, situated on the right bank of river Schelde, is at 15 to 25 minutes by taxi. Tel (03) 366 6666 or (03) 238 3838

Alternatively you can take a taxi to terminal of city-tramway #15, and reach the city center by this very practical and ecological public transport. There are 4 usefull stops in the center:

Walking is not an issue, for the distance and because of the tunnel you have to take to cross the river.

GROENPLAATS, middle of the historic center, statue of Rubens, Cathedral

MEIR, in the middle of the predestrian shopping area

OPERA, at the edge of the shopping area

ASTRID. Central Railway Station and Antwerp Zoo

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

Museum Van Schone Kunsten (Museum of Fine Arts); Stadhuis (City Hall) a fine example of 16<sup>th</sup> century Renaissance architecture (open daily); Onze Lieve Vrouw Kathedraal (Cathedral of our Lady), the largest Gothic Cathedral in the Lower Countries with a 123 m (410 ft) high tower (open Mon-Fri 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Sat. 10.00 am to 3.00 pm, Sun. 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm); Statue of Brabo, legendary symbol who gave Antwerp its name; Plantijn Museum (Printers Museum Plantin), art of book printing in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century; Statue of Rubens; Rubenshuis (house a the famous painter); National Scheepvaart Museum (Maritime Museum); St.-Pauluskerk (St. Paul's Church) open daily May to September;

Unless otherwise stated, open Tue-Sun 10.00 am to 5.00 pm

Belgium is famous for its chocolates. Leonidas on Keyserlei (near Central Railway Station) is worth seeing for both the chocolates and the building they are in.

The Zoo, behind the Central Railway Station is quite nice.

### SHOPPING

The main shopping area is concentrated on the Meir and on the Keiserlei (and their surrounding streets).

If you are interested in purchasing Diamonds, this is the place for it.

### EATING OUT

In the historic city centre, there are plenty of Restaurants of all types and prices. Antwerp has been a trading centre for centuries. Here you can find eateries offering cuisine from over the world.

You also might try one (or some) of the famous Belgium beers, such as Duvel, De Koick (to order as "bolleke"), Hoegaarden, etc.

### OUR AGENT

NAME:Grimaldi Belgium NV

ADDRESS:Haifastraat 11, B - 2030 Antwerpen

PHONE: +32 (0) 3 5459430

Fax: +32 (0) 3 5414275

E-MAIL: [grimaldi@grimaldi.be](mailto:grimaldi@grimaldi.be)

## COTONOU, Republic of Benin

The Republic of Benin, formerly Dahomey, is one of the smaller West African countries, limited to the North by the Republic of Niger, the North-West by Burkina Faso, the West by Togo and the East by Nigeria.

Once a flourishing trading post on the slave coast, it became a French colony in 1894. Contacts with European sailors go back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. In 1650 the British built a fort in Ouidah, followed by the French and the Portuguese.

The country obtained independence in 1960 as Dahomey, to become Benin on 1<sup>st</sup> December 1975.

Cotonou is the economic capital of the country, while the administrative one is Porto Novo.

**Language:** Administrative language: French  
Local languages include Fon, Gen, Yoruba, Baatonou and Dendi

**Currency:** CFA franc (100 CFA franc = 0,15 Euro)

**DOCKING** Port de Commerce

**TO GET TO TOWN** The harbour is very close to town. However a taxi is certainly the right choice

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

Probably the biggest attraction is the lake-dwelling village of Ganvié, at 19 km (12 miles) from Cotonou, a unique attraction that we believe is worth visiting.

The Capital city of Porto Novo is 31 km (20 miles) from Cotonou. There you can visit the Ethnographic Museum and Honme Museum.

All around Cotonou there are lovely white sandy beaches.

### SHOPPING

There are many colourful local markets

The Art and Craft Promotion Centre in Cotonou is a good place for the purchase of souvenirs.

### EATING OUT

Local hotels and restaurants offer a wide choice of local and international fare.

### OUR AGENT

NAME: Grimaldi Benin S.A.

ADDRESS: port de Peche, P O Box 01 BP 5401, Cotonou, Rep. of Benin

PHONE : +229 21316728

FAX : +229 21316729

E-MAIL: [grimaldi@grimaldi-benin.com](mailto:grimaldi@grimaldi-benin.com)

## DAKAR, Senegal

The remains of organised societies from early in the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium AD have been discovered in several parts of Senegal and the area was part of the great Islamic Sahel empires of Ghana (8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> centuries), Mali (13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Centuries) and Songhai (16<sup>th</sup> century). Smaller empires or Kingdoms were also established: along the River Senegal the Tuklor Empire was established by the Tuklar people in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries; and as Mali's power began to wane, the Wolof people established the Empire of Jolof in the central region, although at this time they resisted Islamic influence. The year 1443 marks medieval Europe's first direct contact with West Africa, when Portuguese explorers reached the mouth of the River Senegal. The following year they landed at Cape Vert, near present day Dakar, and later settled on Ile de Gorée – a vital base for ships trading along the coast. Around 1600, the Dutch and the English entered the scene. The islands of Gorée and St Louis changed hands several times before the French finally secured them in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. For the next hundred years all along the West African coast the European nations traded with powerful local chiefs for gold ivory and most importantly, slaves. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century St Louis grew in size and importance, but after the slave trade was banned in 1815, the French were forced to look for new sources of wealth. Louis Faidherbe was appointed governor in 1845 and forced the local people around the River Senegal to grow groundnuts (peanuts) as cash crop. Over the next few decades French forces systematically moved inland, and Senegal became the gateway to the new territories of French West Africa. Meanwhile, a marabou (brotherhood) or Islamic leader called Omar Tall had established a vast empire based around the town of Segou in today's Mali. His soldiers spread west into Senegal where they clashed with French forces moving inland. To protect the colony from the North and East, Faidherbe established a chain of forts along the River Senegal (including Bakel, Matam, and Podor), which still can be seen today. Faidherbe also established a settlement on the peninsula opposite Ile de Gorée, which became Dakar. Dakar is one of the finest cities in West Africa, with a cosmopolitan atmosphere, temperate climate, wide range of restaurants, bars and nightclubs and many interesting things to see and do. The central area is easy to walk around, and city buses run frequently to the suburbs. Also within easy reach are several good beaches, traditional fishing communities and some fascinating islands of historical and ecological interest. Despite the attractions, some people do not like Dakar. The noise fumes and crowds can be bad sometimes, but the main problem of strolling around town is the unwanted attention you'll get from pestering traders. A strong "No Merci" is usually sufficient to avoid the unwanted attention.

**Language:** (official) French; (local) Wolof, Madrika, Fula, Sere, Dioa

**Currency:** CFA franc (100 CFA franc = 0,15 Euro)

**DOCKING** Grimaldi vessels berth at the South terminal, mile 1 quay 11 and 12 which is within easy reach of the centre of Dakar. To arrive at Dakar harbour vessels pass Gorée Island.

**TO GET TO TOWN** The centre of town can be easily reached by local taxi, or by foot for the adventurous

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

The IFAN Museum is one of the best museums in West Africa. Lively imaginative displays show masks and traditional dress from the whole region (including Mali, Guinea-Bissau, Benin and Nigeria) and provide an excellent overview of styles, without bombarding you with so much that you can't take it all in. You can also see beautiful fabrics and carvings, drums, musical instruments and agricultural tools. The museum is open daily from 8 am to 12.30 pm and 2 to 6.30 pm. The handsome Palais Presidentiel is surrounded by sumptuous gardens and guards in colonial uniforms. Other interesting buildings from the same era include Gouverance and Chamber de Commerce on Place de l'Indépendance, the fine old Hotel de Ville and the Church like train station.

### SHOPPING

The stalls in and around Marché Kermel are worth a visit and have more for tourists with carvings, baskets, leatherwork, and other souvenirs as well as flowers and fruit. Although beware of local hustlers. Marché de Tilene at the heart of the La Medina district is crowded with the sights and sounds of a traditional African market and relatively free of tourists. You may need a guide as the original market hall is hard to find among the sprawl of other shops and houses.

### EATING OUT

There are a variety of restaurants in Dakar serving local to world class cuisine, with a wide range of price.

### OUR AGENT

NAME: Grimaldi Senegal S.A.  
ADDRESS: 33, Boulevard de la Liberation ZIP 18524 Dakar  
PHONE:+221 889 0490  
FAX:+221 842 8850  
E-MAIL: commercial@grimaldi-senegal.com

## DOUALA, Cameroon

Douala is located on the left bank of river Wouri. It is the principal port and the economic capital of Cameroon (the political capital is Yaoundé). It is one of the most important towns and ports in the entire West Africa.

95% of the imports and exports of Cameroon transits here. 80% of the industrial activity of the country is concentrated in and around Douala.

But you will find Douala a pleasant place to visit, with its typical touch of a former French colonial town.

Cameroonian people are friendly and it is safe to walk around in most places during the day. Price should be negotiated prior to taking a taxi. In markets it is appropriate to negotiate the price.

**Language:** French & English (there are two official languages since the former German colony was divided after WW1 into two protectorates, one French and the other British)

**Currency:** CFA (Franc of the African community) - 1 Euro is 656 CFA

**DOCKING** Douala harbour is located 50 km (30 miles) inside the estuary.

**TO GET TO TOWN** Although public transport is available, taxi is the best choice for going to town. It takes between 5 to 10 minutes to get the centre.

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

The handicraft market "Marché des fleurs", the monument of King Akwa, the Maritime Museum, the fishing harbour of Youpé (try one of the just caught fishes grilled on the barbecue).

There are various hotels where you can pay a small fee to use the swimming pool and bar/restaurant. Le Meridien is close to the port.

### SHOPPING

For handicrafts go to the "Marché des fleurs".

The area around Rue d'Akwa is the main shopping zone and has internet cafes, also the Marché Central is in this area. However Marché Central can be dangerous for visitors so take caution and it is easy to get lost. Marché Congo sells materials and linens.

Do not visit these places after dark.

For European newspapers and magazines visit the large hotels.

Recommended local buys include Coffee, Tea, Pepper, Objet D'art.

### EATING OUT

There are numerous Restaurants of various types. Most European style restaurants are situated in the Bonapriso district. 5 minutes by taxi from the port.

Try the local Cameroonian beer; it is highly appreciated in the region. For lunch go to the restaurants on the water front for fresh seafood.

### OUR AGENT

NAME: SOCOMAR

ADDRESS: AVENUE UDEAC BP12351 DOUALA

PHONE : 00 237 3424550

FAX : 00 237 342 4936

E-MAIL : [agency@socomarcm.net](mailto:agency@socomarcm.net)

## HAMBURG (Hanseatic town of), Germany

Founded at the beginning of 9<sup>th</sup> century AD as a base for Christian missions to Scandinavia.

In the 12<sup>th</sup> century Hamburg started to become an important commercial centre when count Aldolph III von Schauenburg obtained important trade privileges from emperor Friedrich I of Hohenstauffen, called also Barbarossa (read beard).

Hamburg was one of the founders of the Hanse and obtained in 1510 the status of "free imperial city". By the 17<sup>th</sup> century it had become the most important trading centre in northern Europe.

Today, with 1,7 million inhabitants it is the second largest city in the Federal Republic of Germany. Hamburg is very proud to be to "greenest" town in the country, 23% of its territory being made of parks and greenland.

Hamburg is Germany's most important harbour and a centre for industry and commerce.

**Languages:** German

**Currency:** Euro

### DOCKING

Hamburg-Freeport: Sachsenbrücke \ Shed 48, O'swaldkai

Hamburg lies on the river Elbe. To get to Hamburg the vessels have to steam up the Elbe for some 55 nautical miles (100 km, 60 statute miles).

### TO GET TO TOWN

The city centre is at 10 to 15 minutes by taxi. Walking is not an issue given the distance (Radiotaxi phones 7214522, 757823)

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

The Altstadt (old town), the Rathaus (town hall), the Alster lakes (Aussen Alster, Binnen Alster), the Ethnology Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Arts and Crafts Museum, the Museum for the History of Hamburg.

The Hagenbeck Zoo, a popular attraction and home of a wide range of animals (northern part of the town).

Some may try an evening out on the Reeperbahn, Hamburg's famous and famed red-light-district.

If the call happens to be on a Sunday morning, a visit to the Fish Market is a must.

### SHOPPING

Try one (or more) of the seven famous shopping archades: Hanse-Viertel, Bleichenhof, Gånsemarkt-Passage, Hamburger Hof, Galleria, Neuer Gånsemarkt, Kaufmannshaus.

### EATING OUT

In the city centre there a plenty of Restaurants of all types and prices. In Hamburg you can find eateries offering cuisine from all over the world.

### OUR AGENT

NAME: Grimaldi Germany, Hamburg

ADDRESS: Sachsenbrücke, 20457 Hamburg

Phone: +49 40 78970737

Fax : +49 40 78107999

E-mail: [michael.allers@grimaldi-germany.de](mailto:michael.allers@grimaldi-germany.de)

## LAGOS, Nigeria

The Port of Lagos became known in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century thanks to the slave trade. Towards the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, slave trade came to a stop and it became of vital importance for Lagos Port to develop other uses. The Port grew with the export of agricultural products and the import of machinery and equipment for development.

Lagos as the commercial and economic centre of the Nigeria, became popular as a result of the merger, by Lord Lugard in 1914, of the Northern and Southern Protectorates forming the country "NIGERIA" from the words "NIGER AREA" meaning the area around the Niger river. Lagos automatically became part of the British Colony and seat of power (capital city). Since then, Lagos has witnessed tremendous changes.

The city today is described as densely populated and highly congested with an estimated population of about 20 million people. This is partly because of the presence of the Lagos Seaports (TCIP and APAPA), which are the busiest seaports in Nigeria.

Lagos is divided into 5 main regions. They are: Ikeja, Epe, Ibeju-Lekki, Badagry, and Ikorodu. Ikeja is the capital of Lagos State.

**Language:** The indigenous Lagosians are of Yoruba tribe (The Awori's) but the city today is multilingual because of the influx of people from other parts of the country who come to transact business. Languages like English (official language), Yoruba, Ibo, and Hausa are spoken by the different tribes residing in Lagos City.

**Currency:** Naira

**DOCKING** At Tin-Can Island, there is the Tin-Can Island Port (TCIP) and the Ro\Ro Port. Grimaldi vessels dock at one of the two ro\ro berths (berth 9 & 10).

**TO GET TO TOWN** Within the port complex, there is no standard mode of transportation except for motorbikes popularly known as "Okada" which may not be too safe to board. The other alternative is to go in and out of the port in a Private Car or Car Hire Service (CHS). Immediately outside of the port's the main gate, you have the possibility to find mini-buses or taxis painted in yellow and black. Prices vary from bus to taxi.

**WHAT TO VISIT** Among the sights worthwhile a visit there are the Church of Assumption in Falomo, the Holy Cross Cathedral in Lagos, the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Apapa, the Central Mosque of Lagos, the National Museum at Onikan Lagos (Historic materials and Artworks).

Time and schedule permitting

Nearby there are some good beaches, such as Lekki, Badagry, Kuramo, Eleko, Whispering Palms and Bar.

Another local attraction is the Apapa Amusement Park

If you feel like having a night out, you may try Murphy's Jazz, Pyramid Night Club, K's Place, Golden Gate (all on Victoria Island).

**SHOPPING** For local type shopping you can choose one of the open markets. Boutiques and fashion houses can be found on Allen Avenue (Ikeja), Surulere, Victoria Island, Ikoyi.

If you are looking for Electronics, the biggest place in Nigeria today is the Alaba Int'l Market located in Ojo, Lagos. They say that prices are competitive and you can bargain.

Shopping in Lagos will not be complete without a visit to Mega Plaza shopping mall.

**EATING OUT** The choice of Restaurants and Fast Food outlets is wide and varied. They can be found all over Lagos. There are Chinese, Continental, and local restaurants serving Nigerian dishes.

Fast-food eateries include such brands as Mr. Biggs, Tantalizers, Sweet sensation, Tastee Fried Chicken.

**OUR AGENT** NAME: Grimaldi Agency Nigeria Ltd  
ADDRESS: Grimaldi Port Complex, Tin Can Island Port, PO Box 2953 Apapa Lagos  
PHONE: +234 15453433  
FAX: +234 15873805  
E-MAIL: info@grimaldi-nigeria.com

## LE HAVRE, Upper Normandy \ France

Le Havre de Grace (its original name) was founded by French king François 1<sup>st</sup> in 1517 to solve the problem caused by the silting up of Honfleur harbour and to compensate the partial destruction of Honfleur. These two fortresses situated on both shores of the river Seine formed a strong gate of the entrance of the river. Vauban under cardinal Richelieu developed the original mainly fishing and trading port to a war harbour in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The introduction of trading freedom with the West Indies in the 18<sup>th</sup> century allowed Le Havre to grow considerable, but only in 19<sup>th</sup> century it really took off as an industrial port. During WW Le Havre was heavily bombed, and was rebuilt between 1945 and 1963. Fortunately some fine examples of 17<sup>th</sup> century architecture are still standing today. Le Havre, the most important harbour of the French Atlantic coast, is located on the north bank of the estuary of river Seine, 200 km (125 miles), by road, from Paris. Le Havre is also a gateway to the UK, with daily car-ferry services to Portsmouth.

**Language:** French

**Currency:** €uro

### DOCKING

To reach docking the vessels have to pass through the huge François 1<sup>st</sup> lock. Grimaldi vessels dock at two different places during their stay in Le Havre. For container handling, at Bougainville berth, and for ro/ro handling at the RoRo 3 berth and RoRo 5 berths

### TO GET TO TOWN

The centre of the town is at about 10 km (6 miles)  
The only way to get there is by taxi.

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

In town: the Malraux Fine Arts Museum (impressionists and fauvist collections of late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century), The Le Havre History Museum, The Natural History Museum, The Graville Priory (a medieval Priory with notable arch work), The Chapel of St. Michel (15<sup>th</sup> century, only outside), The Cathedral of Notre Dame (Louis XIII portal and Gothic Tower), the Niemeyer Cultural Centre.

If docking time allows it, you can make an excursion (by taxi) to Etretat, 15 km north. A lovely seaside village surrounded by the famous cliffs of Etretat.

Another suggestion is Honfleur, south of the Seine river. About 20 km. Honfleur is one of the most picturesque fishing villages on the Normandy coast. This excursion offers you also the ride over the spectacular Normandy-bridge across river Seine.

Needless to say that in both Etretat and Honfleur you can find Restaurants serving excellent local fare.

### SHOPPING

Like in any French province town, there are plenty of shops. The streets around Place Charles De Gaulle and Place de l'Hôtel de Ville (town hall) are probably where you can find the best shops, including the new shopping centre "Coty".

### EATING OUT

You are in France and on the sea, so you can enjoy Fish and Seafood. But Normandy offers also some other specialities like tripes ("tripes à la mode de Caen"), or veal Normandy style. There are numerous restaurants in the town. The area of the "quartier St. François" is the place to go for Restaurants.  
With you after-dinner coffee you might try a Calvados (a distillate from apples).

### OUR AGENT

NAME : GRIMALDI ACL FRANCE  
ADDRESS : 170, BOULEVARD JULES DURAND  
PHONE : +33 (0) 2 35255728  
FAX : +33 (0) 2 35530584  
EMAIL : [ops@sps-fr.com](mailto:ops@sps-fr.com)

## LISBOA \ Portugal

There is a legend saying that Lisbon was founded by Ulysses.

The today's name goes back to 1147 when the first Portuguese King Alfons Henrques conquered the town. In 1256 Lisbon became the Capital of Portugal, mostly thanks to the importance of its port.

In 1344 Lisbon was for the first time, destroyed by an earthquake.

Under the Avis dynasty, and as a consequence of the discoveries made in Africa and in India by its seafarers Portugal became a world power. This prosperous period came to an end when the Portuguese crown went to the Spanish King Philip II in 1580.

A new period of development started in 1640 thanks to the diamant mines in Brazil.

In 1755 another, even more powerful earthquake almost totally destroyed Lisbon. The reconstruction in modern style was done by King José I, and his Prime Ministre Maquès de Pombal. Thanks to the land confiscated from the nobility and the Jesuits, large avenues and squares were built.

The industrial development took place at the outskirts of the town and the first railway was inaugurated in 1856.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century was marked by the dictatorship of General Salazar, the political turnover that brought a democratic government to Portugal, the decolonization and the entry of Portual into the European Union.

**Language:** Portuguese

**Currency:** €uro

### DOCKING

Alcântara Pier on Lisboa port.

The Lisboa harbour is located 10 miles away from the entrance bar of the Tagus River.

### TO GET TO TOWN

The historic downtown area called Baixa Pombalina, situated on the left bank of Tagus Estuary, is at 10 to 15 minutes by taxi (218119000).

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

The historical quarters of Lisboa are generally in the city center. Some still retain the old structures of Muslim and medieval origin, with courtyards where people usually get together.

The typical features of these quarters are old houses, narrow streets, wrought-iron balconies, tiled façades and a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. The best and most pleasant way to visit these quarters is by "eléctrico" (tramway – try Line nr 28).

The Alfama is one of the oldest quarters in Lisboa which survived the earthquake of 1755. Laid out in the 16th century, the Bairro Alto (literally "high quarter") is one of the most picturesque quarters in the city just near to the elegant shipping district called Chiado which at the end of the 19th century became a fashionable meeting place for intellectuals such as Fernando Pessoa, Almada Negreiros and Eça de Queiroz

Are certainly worthwhile a visit (usually closed Mondays, most also on public holidays):

Torre de Belém (open 10.00 to 17.00); Mosteiro dos Jerónimos [monastery] (open 10.00 to 18.30); Castelo de São Jorge (open 10.00 to 17.00); Sé Catedral de Lisboa (open Sunday, Monday and public holidays 9.00 to 17.00. plus Tuesday to Saturday 9.00 to 19.00); Palácio Nacional da Ajuda (open 10.00 to 16.30); Museu dos Coches (open 10.00 to 17.30); Museu Caluste Gulbenkian [Gulbenkian Museum] (open daily 10.00 to 18.00); Museu Nacional de Arte Antiga [National Museum of Antique Art] (open 10.00 to 18.00); Museu Nacional do Azulejo [National Museum of Tiles] (open 10.00 to 18.00).

### SHOPPING

The main shopping area is concentrated in downtown, elsewhere there are a few shopping centers, such as Colombo, Amoreiras, Vasco da Gama, El Corte Inglés

### EATING OUT

The proximity of the sea allows Lisboa to offer an unique variety of fish and shellfish – normally accompanied by excellent Portuguese wines. Grilled sardines are the order of the day during the summer months. Bacalhau (salted cod) is eaten all year round.

The cheeses and sweets make irresistible desserts. The Lisboetas are tireless drinkers of coffee served in small cups (bica) which you must also try in one the various typical cafés such as "Brasileira do Chiado"

### OUR AGENT

NAME: Grimaldi Portugal Lda

ADDRESS: Praça Duque da Terceira, 17 - 2º 1249-004 LISBOA

PHONE: +351 213 216300

FAX: +351 213 465415

E-MAIL: lisboa@grimaldi.pt

## LOME, Togo

The name of the country originates from a village called Togo (that has become Togoville) where the paramount Chief Mlapa III signed the Protectorate Treaty with the German Empire on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1884. After WW1 Togo became a French colony. In 1960 Togo became an independent republic.

With a population of about 5 millions, Togo is a smaller country squeezed between Ghana to the west and Bénin to the east, while to the north the border is with Burkina Faso. The country is rather flat; its highest mountain (Mont Agou) is about 1.000 meters (3.300 ft) high. Lomé is the capital of the republic, built on a land strip between the ocean to the south and the lagoon to the north. .

**Language:** (Official) French

**Currency:** CFA franc (CFA stays for Communauté Financière Africaine)

**DOCKING** Port Autonome de Lomé, Mooring N° 6

**TO GET TO TOWN** Downtown Lomé is at about 1.200 meters (2\3 of a mile). To walk it is about 15 minutes. Alternatively you can take a taxi or a taxi-moto (called zémidjan)

**WHAT TO VISIT**

Time and schedule permitting

In and around Lomé there are beautiful beaches.

In town there are not, properly speaking, a great number of tourist attractions.

The market, the rue du Commerce, the picturesque bus station, the boulevard Circulaire.

In the Bé quarter (behind Hotel de la Paix) there is the amazing market of the fetishes.

Outside town, on the road to Cotonou there are large coconut plantations.

**SHOPPING**

All types of local handicraft and other products. Beware of junk, and remember that you cannot buy any product made of animals of protected species (import to your home country of these are illegal).

**EATING OUT**

If you wish to eat ashore, you might prefer to go to a restaurant located within a hotel.

**OUR AGENT**

NAME: Grimaldi Togo S.A.

ADDRESS: Zone Portuaire, Route A3 d'Access Nord P O Box 61214, Lome

PHONE: +228 227 3231

FAX: +228 227 0718

E-MAIL: [grimaldi@grimaldi-togo.com](mailto:grimaldi@grimaldi-togo.com)

## TEMA, Ghana

Tema, with its almost 500,000 people, has grown to become a major city and is Ghana's foremost industrial city. In the early sixties it was a dreamy fishing village. Things changed fundamentally when the Volta River Project was begun. By 1961 the town already had 35,000 inhabitants. Nine years later the figure had risen to a phenomenal 100,000. Tema was chosen not only as the site of the new port, but also as the site of a big aluminum smelter. The Smelter was one of the industries which made the Akosombo Dam project feasible. Naturally, a new city had to be built to house all the workers engaged in the mammoth construction works and the town began its rapid growth.

Today Tema is a modern industrial city, the country's largest sea and fishing port. Most of the Ghana's heavy industries are located in Tema, chiefly attracted by the availability of cheap electricity: the Volta Aluminium Company (VALCO) alone employs about 1,700 people and is the biggest customer of the power from Akosombo. Also in Tema are textiles companies, cement works, chemical factories, food processing complexes, oil refinery and steel works. Because of its artificial beginning, it still gives the impression of a prefab place with drab surrounding. Like Accra, Tema has its back to the sea, leaving the coast to extensive industrial settlement.

**Language:** English  
**Currency:** Ghanaian Cedis (GHC)

**DOCKING** Berth 1 and 2

**TO GET TO TOWN** The easiest way to get to town is by taxi (unless you want to enjoy the emotion of a tro-tro riding – the overcrowded small van that Ghanaian use as busses). Note that Ghana's taxi do not have meters so don't forget to agree on the price before starting off. From the port to the downtown should not cost more than 10/15,000 GHC; up to Accra should not be more than 35/40,000 GHC

**WHAT TO VISIT** Few visitors go to Tema for sightseeing; the city is mainly for business people and has little to offer to tourists. The only thing, which really deserves a visit, is the fishing port, just behind the main port. You will be able to admire a lot of fish types you have never seen, experience the vitality of the indefatigable women and meet quarrelsome, well-built fishermen.

Time and schedule permitting

Much more attractive for tourists is Accra, just 30 km from Tema, easily reachable via motorway in 25/30 min. Places that deserves a visit are Christiansborg Castle (built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century by the Swedish and presently seat of the presidency), the Independence Square (popularly called Black Star Square), the Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park which celebrated the first Ghanaian president, the Art Centre, the Makola Market Area (always jammed with cars and pedestrians), the National Museum, with his emphasis on Ghanaian culture and history.

If you want to enjoy nice sandy beaches and relaxation the place to go is Prampram, just about 5 km outside Tema. There is a nice view of the fishing boats, canoes and fishermen repairing their nets. Prampram is good for tranquillity enthusiasts. Here it is really easy to get into conversation with the modest people engaged in the quest for a better life. Kpone, Old and New Ningo and the neighbouring villages all have beautiful sandy coastlines, mostly used by weekenders from Accra, some of who have huts and houses along the beach.

**SHOPPING** The best place to go for the usual tourist favourites and for the last minute shopping is the Art Centre, just next to the Kwame Nkrumah Memorial Park, in Accra. There, hundreds of sellers offer traditional textiles, woodcarvings, wickerwork, straw hats, beads of all kinds, jewellery, etc. Do not forget to haggle down prices.

**EATING OUT** Tema most popular restaurants are the Chinese specials Chopsticks and the new established Italian O Sole Mio, but if you really want to try the best Ghanaian cooking try one of the numerous *chop bars* and food stalls strewn all over the city. Items on the menu largely feature fufu, rice and beans, palaver sauce, fried plantain, light soups and assorted sauces. Note that Ghanaian food is usually very spicy.

**OUR AGENT** NAME: Grimaldi Ghana Ltd  
ADDRESS: Torman rd/ Fishing Harbour rd.x, Tema  
PHONE: +233 22 214091  
FAX +233 22 214095  
E-MAIL: [info@grimaldighana.com](mailto:info@grimaldighana.com)

## TILBURY, London \ United Kingdom

Tilbury today is a small functional town on the north side of the River Thames, about 45 kilometres east from the centre of London. The town is dominated by the docks, which have facilities for many types of cargo , such as timber, fruit ,cement, vehicles and containers. The docks have also been used as a film set on a grand scale – for example the Venetian boat chase scene from “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade” were filmed between the cement and scrap metal berths!

In the past Tilbury was an important military centre, and Elizabeth I addressed her troops here when she was facing the threat of the Spanish Armada. Tilbury Fort and Coalhouse Fort were built to protect London from an attack by sea, and can still be visited today.

If you arrive in Tilbury by ship it is a quick and cheap train journey by train to the centre of London, where any of the celebrated buildings and attractions of the capital city can be visited.

**Language:** English

**Currency:** UK£

### DOCKING

Grimaldi vessels almost always berth at 43 berth Tilbury Docks. It is about 2.5 kilometres by foot from here to the dock entrance – a taxi is recommended. (cost £4.50)

### TO GET TO TOWN

To Tilbury Town you need a taxi (£4.50 to £5)

London can be reached in an easy way: Take a taxi to Tilbury Town railway station (costs £4.50). Trains take about 40 minutes to reach Fenchurch Street Station in London. Return tickets cost about £7.30, depending on the time of day. Fenchurch Street Station is in the City of London, near The Tower. It interconnects with Tower Hill Underground Station.

### WHAT TO VISIT

Time and schedule permitting

The centre of Tilbury itself is small and has little to interest visitors.

- ✓ **Tilbury Fort:** This is the finest example in England of 17<sup>th</sup> century military engineering. It is largely unaltered since it was built by Sir Bernard de Gomme , Charles II's chief engineer. (Taxi from vessel £4.50. Entry costs £2.75, plus £1.30 to fire an anti-aircraft gun when available). Opening hours: From 1 April-20 September. 1000-1800 daily; 1 October-31 October 1000-1700 daily; 1 November-28 March Open 1000-1300, 1400-1600 Wednesday-Sunday
- ✓ **Coalhouse Fort:** This was built in the 1870s to protect the River Thames from invasion from continental Europe. 76 forts and gun batteries were built at this time but this is one of the few still in its original condition.(Taxi from vessel £8.00. Entry costs £2.00). Open: only on a few days each month. Phone 01375 845251 for more information.

If time of docking allows, London is of course the place to visit.

### SHOPPING

In Tilbury

- ✓ The Lakeside shopping complex, West Thurrock, is one of the biggest in the South of England, and is only a few miles away . There are several bureaux de changes where you can change currency. It can be visited by train (nearest station is Chafford Hundred) , or by Taxi (£10.00). Open 1000-2200 Monday to Friday; 0900-1930 Saturdays; 1100-1700 Sundays.
  - ✓ Asda is a large supermarket selling food, clothes, household goods etc. near the docks which is open seven days per week (restricted hours Sunday) (Taxi £4.50 )
- In London: if you like shopping, this is the place for it.

### EATING OUT

In Tilbury:

- ✓ The Worlds End Pub , Tilbury – offers good pub food near the river .(Taxi £4.50)
- ✓ The Dog and Partridge , North Stifford– a good pub in an attractive village, particularly nice in summer (Taxi £8.00)

In London: you have the choice of any type of eatery from the Fish-and-Chips shop to the 5-star gourmet restaurant

### OUR AGENT

NAME: Grimaldi Agencies UK Ltd

ADDRESS: Northfleet Hope House, Tilbury Freeport, Tilbury, Essex RM18 7HX

PHONE: 01375 844305,

FAX : 01375 845308:



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GRANDE ANVERSA	37.700	2004	Ro\Ro	Euro Shuttle
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GRANDE BUENOS AIRES	56.600	2003.	Co\Ro	South America
GRANDE ELLADE	52.000	2001	Ro\Ro	Euro Med
GRANDE EUROPA	51.700	1998	Ro\Ro	Euro Med
GRANDE DETROIT	37.700	2005	Ro\Ro	Euro Shuttle
GRANDE FRANCIA	56.600	2002	Co\Ro	South America
GRANDE ITALIA	37.700	2001	Ro\Ro	Euro Aegean
GRANDE LAGOS	37.700	2004	Ro\Ro	West Africa
GRANDE MEDITERRANEO	51.700	1999	Ro\Ro	Euro Med
GRANDE NAPOLI	42.600	2003.	Ro\Ro	On charter
GRANDE NIGERIA	56.600	2002.	Co\Ro	West Africa
GRANDE PORTOGALLO	37.700	2002.	Ro\Ro	Euro Aegean
GRANDE ROMA	42.600	2003.	Ro\Ro	On charter
GRANDE SAN PAOLO	56.600	2003.	Co\Ro	South America
GRANDE SCANDINAVIA	52.000	2001	Ro\Ro	Euro Med
GRANDE SICILIA	37.700	2006	Ro\Ro	On charter
GRANDE SPAGNA	37.700	2002	Ro\Ro	Euro Aegean
REPUBBLICA. ARGENTINA	52.000	1998	Ro\Ro	South America
REPUBBLICHE DEL BRASILE	52.000	1998	Ro\Ro	West Africa
REPUBBLICA DI AMALFI	42.500	1988\90*	Co\Ro	Usa – West Africa
REPUBBLICA DI GENOVA	42.500	1989\90*	Co\Ro	Usa – West Africa
REPUBBLICA DI ROMA	42.600	1992\95*	Co\Ro	West Africa
REPUBBLICA DI VENEZIA	49.000	1987\90*	Ro\Ro	West Africa
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