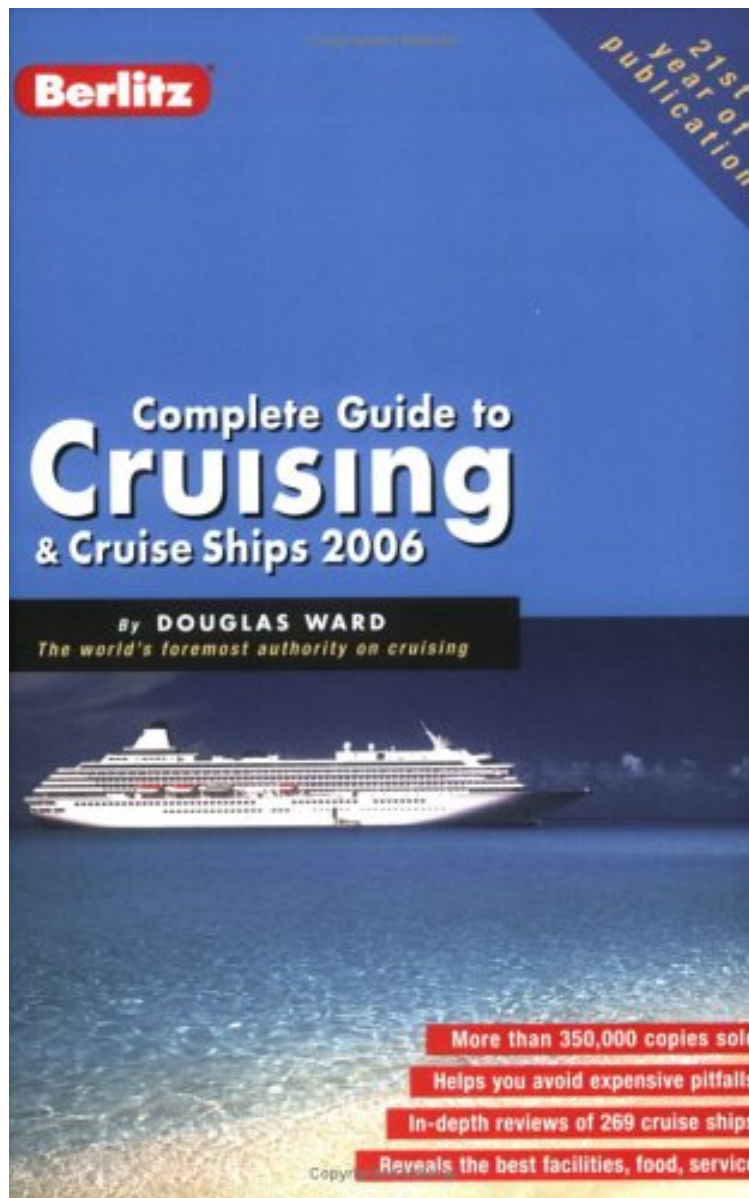


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Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising Cruise Ships (Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships)

Douglas Ward

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Douglas Ward : Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising Cruise Ships (Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising Cruise Ships (Berlitz Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships):

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. The Best Guide To Cruising Year After Year By Robert I. Hedges
The "Berlitz 2007 Complete Guide to Cruising and Cruise Ships" is the single best reference for cruising available. Douglas Ward is an authoritative and enjoyable writer; his knowledge of cruising and cruise ships is without peer. I have owned several earlier editions of this book, and the 2007 volume is the best yet. The most interesting part of the book for me is the data on the individual ships and lines. I concur with his analysis of the ships that I have been on, and find his conclusions to be valid. Although I can't give a first person report on all the ships and lines in the book, I can say that my experiences mirror his reporting. As an aside, I wholeheartedly endorse Celebrity as the best of the large lines, and find Ward's commentary on Celebrity to be on the money, except that I found the embarkation process to be much smoother than Ward. The book features any cruise ship you might reasonably want information on, from the mega-liners of Celebrity and Royal Caribbean, to the small, boutique ships of lines like Classic International Cruises, which still runs the "Athena" on interesting itineraries, despite being built in 1948. The most unique shipboard feature I noted was that the "Bremen" has microscopes available to the passengers along with a large collection of plankton available for their perusal. Before choosing a ship, though, Ward helps guide potential cruisers through selecting destinations, itineraries, cabin type, and cruise line to help ensure a great experience. There are many tips and interesting discussions which will help alleviate confusion, especially for first time cruisers. The "Big Seven" cruise lines get special coverage as they carry the overwhelming number of passengers, but other specialty cruises (sailing ships, freighter ship travel, etc.) are also covered. I recommend this book to anyone considering a cruise. It is complete, concise, and interesting, and covers the cruising options available better than any other single source. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By gloussell
None at this time
9 of 10 people found the following review helpful. I'm not sure what that other reviewer saw
By travelertc
One reviewer said this book didn't cover any one thing well, and that it's only for a first time cruiser. I passionately disagree. This book does its best to cover every single cruise ship currently sailing, and does so with exhaustive, detailed, critical reviews. Seriously, it doesn't just cover food and service levels and cabin condition, it goes so far as to mention minutiae, like the caliber of deck chairs. It's updated yearly, noting the rises and declines in quality of the lines and ships. Plus, it's well written. No other book, or online fan site for that matter, comes close to being this reliable. I buy it every year.

With more than 330,000 sold, this recognized "bible of the cruise industry" rates more than 256 major and minor ships cruising the world's oceans and waterways. Dramatically new and improved, the 2006 edition boasts exciting new features: compelling full-photography, colorful maps depicting principal cruise destinations, feature articles on new trends in the industry, and a comprehensive assessment of the Queen Mary 2. First-time cruise-goers, experienced passengers, and travel professionals alike will all find this an invaluable guide. Author Douglas Ward is considered one of the world's foremost authorities on cruising and has logged nearly 5,000 days at sea in his 38 years of experience.

About the Author
In January 2003, the renowned Berlitz Publishing became part of the Langenscheidt Group. The Langenscheidt Publishing Group, the premier group of map and travel companies, offers over 4,000 North American and international street maps, road maps, atlases, language-learning, bilingual dictionaries, and travel-related products covering countries, cities, and languages in every continent.