

Costa Cruises Offers Dubai Sailings From \$799

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Seven-Night Sailings Include Two Overnights in Dubai, Visits to Abu Dhabi and other UAE Locales

Costa, Europe's Number One Cruise Line, brings travelers the opportunity to enjoy a dream trip within budgetary reaches with a variety of seven-night sailings from Dubai beginning at just \$799 per person. These special fares are available on the Costa Classica and Costa Victoria on select dates from December 2008 through April 2009.

Both ships sail seven-night routes departing on Saturdays and Sundays that include two overnights in Dubai and visits to other UAE destinations including Muscat, Fujairah, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain. Costa is the first and only international cruise line to homeport in Dubai and has increased its capacity in the region by 50% each year since it began routes from there in December 2006. Guests who sail with Costa from Dubai may enjoy the region's special blend of rich traditions and modern-day luxury. These include visits to various souks filled with gold, jewelry and rugs, awe-inspiring hotels such as the famous Burj Al-Arab and the desert beauty and tranquil beaches of other UAE ports.

"There's really no way to beat the value of taking a Costa cruise in Dubai when comparing the pricing to similar land-based vacations -- the cost of a seven-day cruise with us is less expensive than two nights in a hotel," said Maurice M. Zarmati, President and CEO of Costa Cruise Lines -- North America. "Not only do we give guests two days in Dubai, we also offer stops in four other ports, inclusive of culinary and entertainment, making this a dream trip within reach."

Fares begin at \$799 on sailings aboard the Costa Victoria on the following sail dates: December 13, 20 (Holiday), 27 (New Year's), 2008, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11 (Easter). This same fare is available on the Costa Classica on the following sail dates: December 21 (Holiday), December 28 (New Year's), January 4, 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22 and March 1.

The Costa Victoria (76,000 gross tons, 1,928 double occupancy) departs on Saturdays from Dubai while the Costa Classica (53,000 gross tons, 1,308 double occupancy) departs on Sundays.

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