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With autumn firmly taking hold, and long winter months ahead of us, I thought now might be a good time to update you on Swan Hellenic's cruises and cabin availability in 2010 and beyond.

#### Winter 2010/11 and beyond

I am delighted that so many past passengers, together with those of you anticipating your first *Minerva* cruise, have decided to cruise with us this winter as we return to India and the Far East, a region we last visited in 2004. With fewer than fifty cabins available before our return to the Mediterranean on 13 April 2011, I regret there are few opportunities for those wishing to cruise on *Minerva* this winter.

#### Winter 2011/12 – a return to India and the Far East

However, our winter 2011/12 cruises are now on sale and, in response to popular demand, *Minerva* will be returning to India and the Far East. New and innovative itineraries – that include a return to Myanmar (Burma), an in depth visit to Vietnam, a cruise to Indonesian islands including Lombok, Bali, Java and Sulawesi and a cruise into the Persian Gulf – have been enthusiastically received. It is gratifying to see so many passengers making their holiday arrangements so far in advance, having something special to look forward to in the year ahead.

#### Spring 2011

Our Spring 2011 cruises in the Mediterranean are not so far away. Meticulously planned itineraries include An Italian Serenade (11 – 25 May) which focuses on the treasures of Italy, ranging from Pompeii to the renowned mosaics in Ravenna, and from the well known glories of Florence and Rome to maiden calls at lesser known cities such as Crotona and Gaeta. A Mediterranean Palette (25 May – 8 June) includes references to the work of Picasso, Matisse and Gaudi, while Rivers and Vineyards (8 – 22 June) celebrates wine, elegant cities, fortified abbeys and scenic river transits.

#### No-Fly Cruise Programme

Our decision to base *Minerva* in the maritime city of Portsmouth for her Summer 2011 season of no fly cruises has also been very well received. From Portsmouth you can explore our own islands on Coast of a Kingdom (22 June – 6 July), visit St Petersburg on Empires of the Baltic (6 – 21 July), discover the unique geology and landscapes of Iceland and the Faroe Islands on Call of the Arctic Tern (21 July – 5 August) and enjoy leisurely scenic cruising in The Norwegian Fjords (5 – 19 August).

#### River Cruises 2011 – Danube, Rhône & Rhine

With our 2010 river cruises fully sold out at least six months prior to their departure dates, our Spring 2011 river cruises have proved equally popular with fewer than twenty cabins remaining on the Danube and the Rhône. Bookings for our September 2011 departures are also progressing well, indicating that this small, dedicated programme of river cruises will be as successful as the one offered this year.

To reserve the cruise of your choice or for any further information, please call us today on **0844 209 9000 quoting SWPNQ39** (Monday–Friday 9am–7pm; Saturday 9am–5pm; Sunday 10am–4pm) or visit us online at [www.swanhellenic.com](http://www.swanhellenic.com).

We hope that we will have the opportunity of welcoming you on board *Minerva* or on one of our river cruises, in the months ahead.

Yours sincerely

Colin Stone  
Managing Director

P.S. Please note! Availability across the aforementioned seasons is now limited and we strongly recommend that you book your cruise before the busy New Year sales period. For further information on our cruises and fares please visit our website at [www.swanhellenic.com](http://www.swanhellenic.com).



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