



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**October 1, 2014**

### **Holy guacamole! Exotic Flavours of Mexico and Caribbean Spice Up Carnival Spirit**

The fun factor on Carnival Spirit is set to go troppo with a Mexican cantina and Caribbean rum bar among the exciting new additions to the Australian ship during a massive \$44 million dollar makeover.

A Carnival favourite around the world, the Bluelguana Cantina will spice up Carnival Spirit's mid-ship pool area with a range of tacos and burritos served with traditional toppings in a Mexican-style beach cantina. There will also be a distinct "south of the border" feel at the neighbouring Bluelguana Tequila Bar, offering different varieties of tequila plus margaritas and Mexican beers.

The refit will also see Carnival Spirit welcome its first celebrity chef partnership, with Guy's Burger Joint flipping out burgers hand-crafted for Carnival Cruise Lines by Californian chef Guy Fieri in an area featuring surfboards and car paraphernalia to bring the essence of a classic American burger joint to sea. Guests will be able to customise their burger with a range of tasty extras and signature sauces at the condiment bar. Food from the cantina and burger joint are included in the cruise fare.

Other exciting changes to Carnival Spirit will include a Caribbean-inspired RedFrog Rum Bar bringing the tastes of the tropics onboard with exotic brands of rum infusing daiquiris, mojitos and coladas, and a vintage cocktail "pharmacy" called Alchemy Bar, which will mix up a heady range of new onboard elixirs.

During the major refurbishment, scheduled for August 2015, the ship will also score a unique interactive EA Sports Bar featuring EA Sports video games, daily tournaments, 16 flat screen televisions showing sport from all over the world and two dozen local and imported beers, including the cruise line's bespoke Australian-brewed Thirsty Frog summer ale.

The overhaul will include some fun additions that Australians will soon get a taste for on sister ship Carnival Legend, including Bonsai Sushi, RedFrog Pub and the Cherry on Top lolly shop, along with some new Playlist Productions that will live up evening entertainment with high-tech, high-energy performances encompassing pop, soul and rock'n'roll.

Carnival Cruise Lines Vice President Australia Jennifer Vandekreeke said the dry dock would up the number of bars, lounges and dining options to 25 and she expected the Mexican additions in particular would create a sizzle down under.

"Carnival Spirit is going to return to Australia jam-packed with delicious and fun features. What's not to love about poolside tacos, Mexican margaritas and cocktails prescribed especially for cruising?" Ms Vandekreeke said.

"Carnival's ships spend a lot of time visiting Mexico so we know our burritos from our burros and our tortillas from our tortas. With the Mexican food wave currently sweeping across Australia, we can't wait to treat our Aussie guests to an authentic cantina experience where the beer is always ice cold and the chilli is jalapeño hot."

With more than 45 activities over 12 decks of fun, Carnival Spirit and Carnival Legend provide the ultimate fun at sea. Both ships offer Green Thunder, the fastest and steepest waterslide at sea, as well as three swimming pools, the child-free Serenity Retreat and more than 20 bars, lounges and dining options.

**For more information and bookings call 13 31 94, see a travel agent or visit [www.carnival.com.au](http://www.carnival.com.au)**

#### **About Carnival Cruise Lines**

Carnival Cruise Lines is the largest cruise line in the world with over four and a half million guests travelling on 24 ships every year. Carnival Spirit is the largest and newest cruise ship to call Australia home and she will be joined by her sister ship, Carnival Legend in September 2014. With 45 activities from zen to adrenalin to enjoy each day, Carnival offers fun-loving families and couples memorable and great value holidays.

#### **Media Contact:**

**Libby Moffet/Christine Allen**

**MG Media Communications**

**02 9904 0011**