

## PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA ATTENTION



### **Media Contact:**

Lauraday Kelley

[lkelly@vacation-corp.com](mailto:lkelly@vacation-corp.com)

Vacation.com

(703) 740-4361

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### **VACATION.COM WELCOMES CRUISE WEST AS A PREFERRED SUPPLIER**

*International small-ship provider gives members access to profitable niche market.*

ALEXANDRIA, VA (April 7, 2009) – Vacation.com®, North America’s leading travel services marketing organization, announces the addition of Cruise West to its list of Preferred Suppliers, welcoming the small-ship cruising specialists that have offered “Up Close, Casual and Personal” travel experiences for more than 25 years.

“The addition of Cruise West expands the Vcom portfolio to include this lucrative niche market for our members to sell,” said Steve Tracas, Vacation.com’s president & CEO. “As more clients seek both the convenience and value of a cruise ship, as well as an intimate encounter with their destination, our members will now be able to attain in-depth training as well as enhanced commissions from Cruise West to meet this request.”

Through this new partnership, Vacation.com members will receive enhanced commissions of up to 15%, bonus incentives, exclusive special offers and professional recognition as a leader in their field.

A second-generation, family-owned company primarily focused on Alaska, Cruise West has expanded its destinations to include the Bering Sea, Japan, Panama Canal & Costa Rica, British Columbia, Mexico’s Sea of Cortes, the Galapagos Islands, Antarctica and more. Holding only 78-138 guests, their smaller ships reach remote locales not accessible to larger cruise ships.

“Vacation.com members will quickly realize that small-ship clients are loyal to both the experience and the travel agent who sells it to them,” added Dietmar R. Wertanzl, president and CEO of Cruise West. “To assist our new travel partners with sales & marketing, we have robust tools in place including live and recorded agent training webinars, marketing and sales materials and a media library. In addition, our Small Ship Partner agent training program located at [www.cruisewestagents.com](http://www.cruisewestagents.com) offers valuable information, such as how to sell Cruise West products, FAM benefits and additional bonus commissions.”

Vacation.com members can visit AgentNet to learn more about Cruise West incentives. All other agents can visit [www.JoinVacation.com](http://www.JoinVacation.com) for more information on all the benefits Vacation.com offers.

**Vacation.com**

Vacation.com is the largest travel services marketing organization in North America, serving independent retail travel agencies across the U.S. and Canada. Vacation.com facilitates ***“The Power of the Partnership”*** between a network of quality preferred suppliers and member agencies that increase profits through disciplined marketing, comprehensive training and robust booking tools, including the proprietary EZguider sales platform.

Interested in maximizing your agency’s profit potential? Visit [www.JoinVacation.com](http://www.JoinVacation.com) to learn why Vacation.com, an organization “Powered by Real Travel Agents,” is the right choice.

Vacation.com is a subsidiary of Amadeus IT Group, SA, and maintains its headquarters in Alexandria, VA.

For further information, contact Vacation.com at 1650 King Street, Suite 450, Alexandria, VA 22314; tel: 800-843-0733.

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