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Hurtigruten Cruise Ships Calling on Cordova this Summer

May 2, 2022 (Cordova, Alaska) – While Cordova has long been a destination for the motivated, independent traveler; this summer the community will also be seeing a small resurgence in tour group visitation with the first, scheduled arrival of an expedition cruise ship in almost ten years. While the *MS Roald Amundson* has the capacity to carry up to 500 people, the hybrid-engine (the first of its kind) vessel with on-board laboratory is expecting only 350 passengers during each of their eight-hour visits to Cordova on May 30th and June 23rd, 2022. Cordova Chamber of Commerce has been helping to coordinate land excursions for the group to enjoy while in port, and encourages businesses to be open as much as possible between 2-10pm to take advantage of the spending from these two visits, the first of which falls on Memorial Day.

While smaller boats visiting more often would be the preference of Cordova Chamber of Commerce executive director, Cathy Renfeldt, she does count it a benefit that the cruise company, Hurtigruten, shares some of the same ethos of the community. According to Renfeldt, Hurtigruten is “not a bad match” for Cordova’s newly created Destination Strategy, a 15-year roadmap to increase the positive impacts of tourism for the community while maintaining its core community values and advancing healthy economic diversification in a way that supports both local residents and visitors.

A few facts about [Hurtigruten Expeditions](#):

- Committed to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals of finding a balance that allows the planet, people and profit to co-exist harmoniously
- Bringing together cutting-edge ship design and advanced battery technology to create the world’s first hybrid-powered expedition ship
- Stopped using heavy fuel oil more than a decade ago and campaigning for worldwide ban
- Announced war on plastics in 2018, being first expedition company to ban single-use plastic
- Members of the Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators (AECO) and the International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) working together to establish sustainable tourism and create guidelines that protect fragile environments for the last 20 years
- Partner with organisations that protect fragile habitats
- Teach their guides and guests to speak informatively on the environment and habitats explored
- 125 years dedicated to supporting local communities, contributing to the livelihood and welfare of the people
- Not only connecting with communities all over the world, but sharing friendship while respecting their values and customs
- Mostly partnering with suppliers who grow products sustainably
- Hurtigruten Foundation supports a wide variety of projects, such as fighting marine pollution and supporting beach clean-ups

The Cordova Chamber of Commerce is a nonprofit organization comprised of a diverse group of local and regional business members. In addition to operating the Cordova Visitor Center, the Chamber’s work is divided into four main program areas: economic development, business support, quality of life enhancement, and destination marketing. Learn more at cordovachamber.com.

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