

# Cruise season peaks in Astoria

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*The Astorian*

**W**ith excursions, shopping and eating awaiting on shore, thousands of tourists explored Astoria Thursday after arriving on one of three cruise ships. The ships — the Coral Princess, the Seven Seas Mariner and the Oceania Regatta — brought an estimated 4,500 passengers through the mouth of the Columbia River and into Astoria. On Friday, the Volendam from Holland America made it's first stop in Astoria and was greeted by officials from the Port and city.



David Fares, from Washington state, greets pirates on the 17th Street Dock after disembarking a lifeboat.



The Oceania Regatta, left, and the Seven Seas Mariner docked at Pier 1 in the Port of Astoria.

Photos by Hailey Hoffman/The Astorian



Tourists, many from the cruise ship, sit and enjoy the ride on the Astoria Riverfront Trolley as they approach the 17th Street Dock.



Port of Astoria Commissioner Frank Spence and Recreation Director Tim Williams present the captain of the MS Volendam a plaque celebrating the first visit of the cruise ship in Astoria on Friday.



Passengers lounge in the crow's nest and enjoy views of Astoria aboard the Volendam.



The Seven Seas Mariner is a 700-foot ship with a capacity of 700 guests that started in Vancouver, British Columbia, and is headed for Los Angeles.



Using long ropes and chains, dock workers secure the Seven Seas Mariner as she comes into port at Pier 1.