

Press release



## **The countdown has started: the new cruise ship, AIDAstella, will be christened in Warnemünde on Saturday**

The new cruise ship, AIDAstella, is on her way to Warnemünde. She will be christened at a special ceremony to be held in the Baltic Sea seaside resort on March 16, 2013. The ship with the resplendent puckered lips will pass by the pier heads at around 8.30 on Saturday morning, docking at the Warnemünde Cruise Center at about 9 a.m.

From 12 noon there will be plenty on offer for the residents of Rostock, holidaymakers and AIDA fans: Karls Pier 7 is organizing an extensive program on the occasion of the opening of the season at the Warnemünde Cruise Center. Visitors can get in the mood for the exciting event with a competition, music, presentations, a shanty choir and delicious culinary delights.

All the visitors will be able to follow the emotional moment of the christening live on two huge LED screens from 7.30 to 7.50 p.m. One screen will be located between the railway station tunnel and the ferry dock, the other between the ferry dock and the terminal.

The christening ceremony will be performed on board in the Theatrium by 10 godmothers, including 8 female personnel from AIDA Cruises coming from different countries and company departments, as well as one godmother each from the Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg and the architect's firm Partner Ship Design. They will pronounce the christening in front of around 2,500 guests from among the AIDA workforce and activate the mechanism to break the bottle of Champagne against the bow of AIDAstella.

From 7.50 to 8 p.m., AIDAstella will sparkle in the starlight of a fireworks display, which will also be shown on the LED screens.

AIDAstella will stay in Warnemünde overnight before casting off for its 14-day maiden voyage at 8 p.m. on March 17, calling at the ports of Oslo, Southampton, Paris and Amsterdam, among others.

Comprehensive information about the cruises on AIDAstella can be found on the Internet at [www.aida.de/aidastella](http://www.aida.de/aidastella). Bookings can be made with your local travel agent, on the Internet at [www.aida.de](http://www.aida.de) or by calling the AIDA Customer Center at +49-(0)381-202 707 07.

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