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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Specialty Cruises Always Make A Splash On Spirit**

#### **Nation's Largest Harbor Cruise Company Includes Themed Cruises For All Tastes**

Where can you romance your sweetheart, learn about science and history with your family, celebrate the New Year and meet the Easter Bunny? You can experience all these things and more onboard the 13 vessels of Spirit Cruises, the largest harbor cruise company in the United States. Spirit features two- and three-deck dining vessels in six port cities, including Boston, Chicago, New York/New Jersey, Norfolk, Philadelphia and Washington D.C.

While Spirit Cruises continues to provide the luncheon sightseeing and dinner harbor cruises that it pioneered on American's waterfronts more than a quarter-century ago, it also spices its schedule with special excursions designed to appeal to a variety of groups and tastes.

"Spirit's guests range from families with small children to hip, urban singles to business groups," says Lorna Donatone, president of Spirit Cruises. "That's why we offer a selection of specialty excursions that are in addition to our always-popular luncheon sightseeing and dinner cruises."

One of the highlights for the 2005 season is the Kids' Discovery Cruise series onboard the Spirit of Norfolk, featuring educational programs and presentations in partnership with Nauticus: The National Maritime Center. The content presented in each

cruise is based on the Virginia Standards-of-Learning requirements taught in public schools. Each cruise presents a different scientific topic, often related to the maritime industry and the sea – from the ecosystems to battleship construction to the weather.

Additional specialty cruises scheduled include:

- Cruises during the winter holidays featuring festive decorations and visits from Santa Claus; additionally, New Year's Eve package cruises are available in each Spirit city;

- Day-long excursions to and from George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate on the Potomac Spirit in Washington D.C.;

- Gospel cruises, featuring live singers and musicians, onboard the Chicago, Norfolk, New York and Philadelphia vessels;

- A variety of holiday-themed cruises for Valentine's Day and the Fourth of July; Mother's, Father's, and Grandparent's Day; and cruises highlighting professionals, such as Administrative Professionals Week and Nurses Week.

- Bingo cruises, some featuring activities for senior citizens.

Spirit's cruises include spectacular water views, bountiful buffet dining and shipboard entertainment. For details on cruise schedules and to make reservations, call 1-800-8SPIRIT (800-877-4748).

Spirit Cruises is the largest harbor cruise company in the United States, and operates a fleet of 13 luxury dining ships in six American port cities: Washington, D.C., Chicago, New York/New Jersey, Boston, Philadelphia and Norfolk, Va. In addition to its Spirit vessels, it operates Bateaux New York, a luxury glass dining yacht; Spirit Elite Yacht Charters, which are private charter vessels; and the Annabel Lee, a replica paddlewheel showboat. Spirit Cruises is headquartered in Norfolk, Va.

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