



Ports of Palermo, Porto Empedocle, Trapani and Termini Imerese

BERTHING POLICY

OPERATIONAL PLAN – ANNEX n.2

The provisions contained in this document will remain valid until 31.12.2023
or until a new edition is published



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1. GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.1 DEFINITIONS

In the following text we mean:

For Port Authority: The Port Network Authority of Western Sicily Sea (also shortly called AdSP);

For Maritime Authority: The Harbour Master of Palermo, Porto Empedocle, Termini Imerese and Trapani ports;

For Client: Any Company, to whom any service is provided by WSG;

For Port Agent: The subject pursuant to Italian Law no. 135 dated April 4th, 1977;

For Company: West Sicily Gate Srl, hereafter also WSG, to which the Port Authority of Palermo released, among other things, a concession to manage the cruise terminal for the reception of cruise ship passengers in the ports of western Sicily (Palermo, Porto Empedocle, Termini Imerese, Trapani) and for the performance of any other service and related activities;

For concession areas: The areas indicated in the concession contract stipulated between the Port Authority and WSG on July, 31st 2022 (Rep. n.223, Reg. Conc. Formal Acts n.46/21).



1.2 GENERAL RULES

The dispositions of this Policy regulate the relationship between WSG and its Clients and contain the procedures for booking, planning and assignment of cruise ships' berths in the harbours of Port Network Authority of Western Sicily Sea (Ports of Palermo, Porto Empedocle, Termini Imerese and Trapani), except as more strictly provided for by any general and specific Ordinances issued by the competent Authorities from time to time.

The operating procedures for the implementation of this "Berthing Policy" are established by the Company, who communicated them to the Port Authority.

For navigation safety profiles, the planning of the berths is subject to the approval of the Maritime Authority, which will also provide for the subsequent provision of the required / necessary technical-nautical services.



ARTICLE 1 - Docks

The docks dedicated for the preferential mooring of cruise ships in the ports of the AdSP are listed below:

- Port of Palermo: North and South docks of "Vittorio Veneto" pier, "Sammuzzo" dock (exclusive use); "Piave Sud" dock (non-exclusive use);
- Port of Porto Empedocle: "Todaro" dock (non-exclusive use);
- Port of Termini Imerese: "Veniero" dock (non-exclusive use);
- Port of Trapani: "Garibaldi" dock (non-exclusive use).

ARTICLE 2 – Scheduling procedure

The berths' scheduling is performed by the Company according to the following rules:

- a) Requests for berths' availability, also in the form of "reservation", must be sent by Cruise Lines, through their respective Port Agent, to the e-mail address operations@wsgct.com, by December 31st of two years before (e.g. for the calls of the 2024 season, requests must be received by December 31st, 2022);
- b) All the requests sent within the date above mentioned will be evaluated by the Company according to the criteria specified at the article 4;
- c) In case of berths' congestion and ascertained absolute unavailability of mooring docks for a specific requested date, Company will inform the involved Cruise Lines – through the relevant Port Agent – by January, 15th of the previous year and will propose one or more alternative dates

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and fixing the date of January, 31st as deadline for providing formally a feedback (acceptance or not of the alternative/s date/s proposed);

- d) On the basis of the feedback provided by the Cruise Lines, Company will provide a draft of the next year's scheduled berths by February, 15th; Company will share the schedule for the approval of the Port Authority which is requested to provide a response by next February, 28th.

A timeline to show the different steps of the berths' reservation process is shown below:



ARTICLE 3 – Preference criteria

WSG will draft the berths' schedule for the following year will in accordance with the following criteria, listed in order of priority, without prejudice to any possible specific logistic / operational needs:

1. Type of operations (embarkation, disembarkation or transit only).

Ships who perform embarkation or disembarkation activities (homeport or interporting) have priority over ships that have to carry out transit operations only;

2. With the same type of operations to be carried out, the following criteria



will apply:

- a. Technical-dimensional characteristics of the ship (LOA, pax capacity);
- b. Highest number of passengers handled by the Cruise Lines in the previous 3 seasons;
- c. Greater number of scheduled passengers (calculated as the maximum capacity of the ship multiplied by the number of calls) by the Company in the current and following season.

ARTICLE 4 – Publications of berths' schedule

The berths' schedule prepared by WSG and approved, as far as their respective competence, by the Port Authority and the Maritime Authority will be communicated to the Cruise Lines through their Port Agent and published on the website of the Port Network Authority of Western Sicily Sea (www.port.palermo.it).

ARTICLE 5 – Over-term mooring requests

Any requests received after the deadline set by the Article 2, point a) will be evaluated by WSG within one week of their receipt, applying only the chronological criteria. Possible changes or additions to the annual berths' plan will be communicated to AdSP and submitted to the Maritime Authority for the relevant approval. Their inclusion in the berths' plan will be carried out without prejudice to the allocations already made, in accordance with the principle *"first come, first served"*.



ARTICLE 6 – Calls' cancellation

In order to ensure the proper functioning of the booking system, as established above, any calls' cancellation performed by the Cruise Lines in the six months prior to the date established in the calendar will result in a penalty in the ranking of subsequent bookings.

ARTICLE 7 – Start Date

This Policy will enter into force from the date of its issue.