

12/19/2009

LARGER THAN A MILLION BREADBOXES

We thought the Journal season was over for this year. Not! We had the chance to experience cruising on the largest cruise ship in the world.

From the moment we set foot on this behemoth, the word that escaped our mouths at every turn was WOW! Ships that can currently pass through the Panama Canal are max 102 ft. wide. This ship is 208 ft. wide! It is 16 or so decks above the water, and has a 235,000 ton displacement. It has 2 wave rider surfing machines, a zip line traversing a 5 story high area, an ice skating rink, an outdoor theatre, a miniature golf course, a rock climbing area, and a merry-go round.



There are 7 different neighborhoods, including Central Park, complete with 57 live trees, some as tall as 20 ft. reaching to the open sky above, inside cabins with balconies overlook the park! A boardwalk, mirroring Coney Island, a promenade area, with stores and restaurants. A Rising Tide bar that elevates three floors up and down while you are seated with your drink.

Touch screen panels at the elevators that display all 27 restaurants, and display the current occupancy, so you can decide which one you can get into. Touch to find a map to your room! Touch to find and map all stores, areas and events.

The ship will sail with 6,000 passengers. This would be like sailing a small city! Its length is as long as the Empire State bldg. is tall. We have determined that it is definitely a young person's ship. All the activities require the energies of youth. The ship could be a destination in itself, without even leaving the dock! As tired as we became, we were glad to have experienced it. After we debarked, we proceeded to Miami to board the Celebrity Constellation, to take a 14 day cruise thru the Panama Canal, to San Diego.

Dave & Bonnie

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