

Can we trust the environmental integrity of the cruise lines?

[The “Magic Pipe” Case \(April 2017\)](#)

“Princess Cruise Lines has been sentenced to pay a US\$40 million penalty related to illegal dumping overboard of oil-contaminated waste and falsification of official logs to conceal the discharges, the US Department of Justice has announced. And it says this is the “largest-ever fine for crimes involving deliberate vessel pollution”

Illegal practices were found to have taken place on 5 Princess cruise ships. Four of these ships visited Victoria in recent years:

- Coral Princess (1/2/0/0)
- Star Princess (1/1/22/19)
- Grand Princess (14/16/16/1)
- Golden Princess (1/1/1/7)

Figures in brackets are the number of visits in 2017/18/19/20 (scheduled)

[Cruise ships dump '90 per cent' of grey water found off B.C. coast: study \(August 2019\)](#)

“World Wildlife Fund Canada says cruise ships travelling between Washington state and Alaska accounted for 1.37 billion of the 1.54 billion litres of grey water generated off the B.C. coast in 2017.”

[Federal Judge Threatens to Imprison Carnival Executives for Continued Environmental Crimes \(April 2019\)](#)

“Calling Carnival Corporation a “criminal defendant,” United States Federal District Judge Patricia Seitz threatened to send the “members of Carnival’s executive committee” to a “detention center for a couple of days” for violation of the terms of its probation for environmental crimes, according to the Miami Herald. The newspaper also reported that the Court at a hearing yesterday threatened to temporarily block cruise ships operated by Carnival Corporation from calling on U.S. ports”.

Ships which violated environmental laws while under court supervised probation included recent Victoria visitors:

- Sun Princess (0/0/0/1)
- Nieuw Amsterdam (1/1/1/0)
- Westerdam (0/1/0/1)

[Alaska Issues Air and Water Violations to Polluting Cruise Lines \(September 2018\)](#)

“The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) issued air quality violations to eight cruise ships and water quality violations to nine cruise ships last week, according to the Juneau Empire.”

Ten of the ships which were issued violations by Alaska also visited Victoria in 2018 and accounted for over 40% of all the cruise ship visits in that year.

Ship Name	<u>Air Violation</u>	<u>Water Violation</u>	# of Victoria Visits
Amsterdam	x		18
Emerald Princess	x	x	20
Eurodam	x	x	22
Golden Princess	x	x	1
Nieuw Amsterdam	x	x	1
Regatta		x	9
Ruby Princess		x	23
Seven Seas Mariner		x	4
Star Princess		x	1
Westerdam	x	x	1
Total			100

[The air quality on cruise ships is so bad, it could harm your health, undercover report says \(January, 2019\)](#)

“On the decks of the four Carnival Corp. cruise ships studied over a two-year period, concentrations of particulate matter measured were “comparable to concentrations measured in polluted cities, including Beijing and Santiago,” according to Ryan Kennedy, author of the report and an assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.”

“We know heavy fuel oil has harmful constituents in it,” said Ulrich of Stand.earth. “We know that there are higher rates of asthma among children in port communities.”

And, from the [report](#):

“The PM emitted from ship engines burning diesel fuel or heavy fuel oil is primarily composed of particles spanning from a few nanometers to less than one micron (0.001 µm–1.0 µm).”

“Studies have demonstrated UFPs have detrimental effects to the cardiovascular and respiratory systems, including a higher incidence of atherosclerosis and increased disease severity of asthma. Even short-term exposure to UFPs from traffic exhaust is associated with adverse cardiovascular outcomes”

Two of the four ships included in the study regularly visit Victoria:

- Amsterdam (11/18/11/0)
- Emerald Princess (18/20/1/19)