

PRESS RELEASE



French America Line Engages Inland Marine Service to Handle New Cruise Line Marine Operations



Louisiane Sets Sail August 2016

Greater New Orleans - (May 24, 2016) - [French America Line](#), the newest U.S. cruise line that begins sailing five- to 10-day cruise itineraries aboard its intimate 75-stateroom flagship *Louisiane* in August, has engaged [Inland Marine Service](#) to handle all of its marine operations.

“Inland Marine Service is the most professional firm in the industry, with a commitment to excellence, safety and the best marine operations practices. We did an extensive search and found that the integrity and reputation of this dynamic, family-operated company set it apart from the rest. I especially appreciate the hands-on attention from our IMS project manager, Greg Brown, who is considered one of the best riverboat operations experts in the country,” said Christopher Kyte, Chairman, French America Line.

“It’s a pleasure to work with a company like French America Line. They are not only committed to the highest quality experience, but they have a great understanding and respect for our great inland waterways and its history. We are thrilled to announce this partnership and look forward to working together in creating new admirers of our wonderful river system,” Dave Hammond, President of Inland Marine Service.

Formerly the *Columbia Queen*, the *Louisiane* is undergoing a multi-million dollar refurbishment to reflect a subtle but elegant French-inspired ambience to embrace the rich history of the areas she sails that were once known as French America. The ship will sail engaging itineraries along the Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Cumberland and Red rivers beginning August 22.

The U.S. registered ship, with just 150 guests and a U.S. crew of 64, will visit home ports in Louisville, KY; Memphis, TN; Nashville, TN; New Orleans, LA; Pensacola, FL; Pittsburgh, PA; St. Louis, MO, and St. Paul, MN, during its inaugural year.

About French America Line

French America Line was created to introduce a new era of premium U.S. river voyages with the launch of the elegant flagship *Louisiane*. The intimate ship accommodates a maximum of 150 guests in 75 stylish suites and staterooms with unobtrusive service from a U.S. crew of 64. Inaugural sailings begin August 2016 aboard the charming ship brimming with French flair and signature experiences celebrating regional food, music and history. Engaging itineraries on America's most iconic rivers and waterways ranging from five to 10 days will present guests with unique insights into life along the Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Cumberland and Red rivers, visiting places where larger riverboats simply cannot navigate. Departures aboard *Louisiane* for 2017 will be available in early August 2016. Pricing is virtually all-inclusive, with pre-cruise one-night deluxe hotel stay; all meals and free-flowing hand-selected beverages, beers, wine and spirits; nightly live entertainment, informative cultural and historical talks, and memorable Traveler Collection shore excursions in every port of call included in the tariff. To reserve or learn more, visit www.frenchamericalline.com or call [1-888-387-1140](tel:1-888-387-1140).

About Inland Marine Service, Inc.

As the largest inland vessel management company in the United States, Inland Marine Service (IMS) offers services to keep vessels crewed with seasoned, highly skilled mariners. With over 700 employees, IMS is able to serve customers across the Western Rivers, East Coast, and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterways. With highly trained and motivated marine crews, they enjoy a reputation for getting the job done on time and within budget. With 30 years of experience on the river, dedicated safety practices, and highly trained crews, IMS is dedicated to providing customers with secure, reliable, timely and cost effective solutions. The company's services include vessel management, planned maintenance, compliance management, harbor services, liquid operations, as well as tankering services. IMS is based in Hebron, Kentucky, with operations in Paducah, KY, St. Louis, MO, New Orleans, LA and Houston, TX. For more information about Inland Marine Service, Inc., visit www.inlandmarineservice.com

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