Marketing & Branding Cruise Destinations

Potential to Move the Market?

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Premise

- Shipboard versus Landside Experience: Why is the Quality so Different?
- Marketing Implications of Shoreside/ Port Product: In our maturing cruise industry, is it possible for ports to create strategic opportunities for client lines?
- Can we create a compelling brand or marketing platform for destinations that will "sing" in our maturing (commoditizing?) industry?

DESTINATIONS

Objective

- Create the quality of the shoreside experience to be equal to that of the shipboard experience
 - To the benefit of ports and destination developers, cities, communities
 - Take Revenue onshore
 - This approach is taking hold
 - Carnival Ports Ltd.
 - Leading port authorities or private port developers



Branding as a Marketing Platform for Destinations

- Brands based in historical, geographical or cultural elements
- Themed environments & sense of place
- Destination branding can lead to "moving the market"
- What are your destination's key attributes?
- How to parlay this into your product and your brand?
- For Cruising, the Brand may differ than other tourism
 - Brand should interest cruise lines and travel agents
 - Cruisers



Product Development Leads to Marketing Opportunities

- Storyline approach is baseline which drives design and capital planning, building plans and later, marketing
- Create "moments of delight" and "authentic experiences"
- Entertainment components stimulating the senses







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Destinations



Destination Marketing

For the Cruise Ship Industry, there are three audiences:

- 1. Cruise Lines
- 2. Travel Agent Community* (supportive)
- 3. Cruisers (End Consumers)
- Strategic destination planning
 - "\$20 million dock" versus "\$0.5 million marketing program"?
 - Does the brand drive your capital projects?
 - Where is our money best spent?



The New York Times





Public & Media Communications

- Coupled with Marketing ProgramsMedia Channels for industry, trade
- Non-paid endorsements







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What can we as Ports/ Destinations Offer to Lines?

- Itinerary Planning
 - Liaise with competing ports
 - Compelling and new vacation products
 - Technically sound (sailable) and able to sell to consumers (salable)
- Support as in any business:
 - Market to our clients' clients
 - In other words, assist the cruise lines by marketing to travel agents, creating new products in which travel agents will take interest GLOBAL

ESTINATIONS

Icy Strait Point, Alaska Cruise Ship Destination







- New port-of-call opened in 2004
- Product plan was centered on native culture, "Doorstep to the Alaskan Wilderness"
- \$0.7 million Marketing Program was very effective
- Press coverage was excellent because a "new story"
- Travel agent interest was high because a "new story"
- By Year Two, most major lines were calling



Stingray Adventure, Nassau, Bahamas

- Underperforming island asset, 19 acres
- "Beach Day" was not enough
- New product was developed to create something to sell
- Increase from 6,000 annual visitors to 45,000 in one year









Grand Turk, Turks & Caicos Islands

- New destination owned by Carnival and Government, will open Feb. 25, 2006
- No tourism product on six-square mile island of 4,000 residents
- How to create new products to market the entire destination of Grand Turk
- In addition to new dock and shopping, created sub-destinations:
 - Her Majesty's Prison
 - Historic Lighthouse
 - Grand Quay Salt Company



Her Majesty's Prison

- Circa 1830s
- Open until 1994
- Recreated to historical accuracy: demolition of modern buildings, clean up
- Developed story around it







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Salt Salina

- Historic salt farming area
- No structures or plan
- Creating "Grand Quay Salt Company & Botanical Gardens"
- Salt company and three botanical gardens: Taino, Loyalist and Survival Gardens









