

# Shore feels great!



## Stranded Carnival ship finally makes it to port

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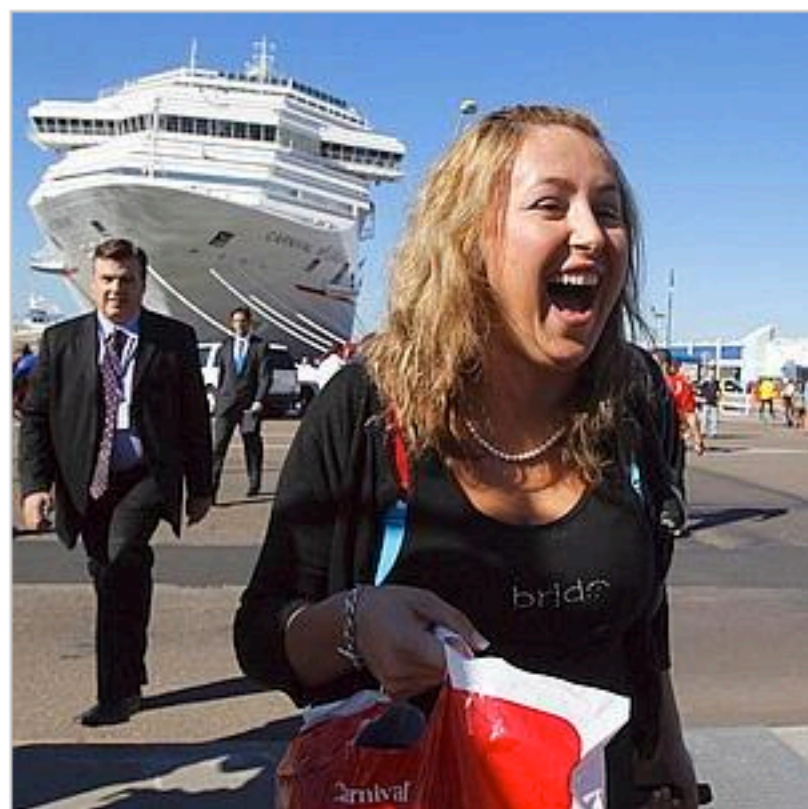
Passengers exhausted by a nightmare cruise disembarked to a red-carpet greeting in San Diego yesterday, after three showerless, Spam-filled days at sea.

The nearly 4,500 passengers and crew aboard the Carnival Splendor were also met with applause and shuttles to take them to local hotels and the airport.

But some couldn't help but vent their frustration right away about a cruise that turned into hell on the high seas.

Greg Parish, of Redding, Calif., shared pictures of garbage piled up in the ship's hallways and clogged toilets.

He vowed never to take a cruise again.



**WHAT'S UP? DOCK!** Ecstatic honeymooner Sabrina Klinge disembarks from the cursed, Spam-provisioned Carnival Splendor in San Diego yesterday after three days aboard the voyage of the damned.

"We woke up at 6 o'clock Monday morning to the smell of smoke," Parish said. "When I opened the door, the hallway was filled with smoke and then the power went down . . . That was it. It fell apart from there."

An engine room fire rendered the vessel without electricity, hot water and the luxury-dining options cruise-ship customers have come to expect.

So instead of shrimp cocktail and foie gras, passengers subsisted on rations of SPAM and Pop Tarts airlifted in by the military. Carnival did, however, establish an open-bar policy.

Elinda Anderson of Seattle had never been on a cruise before the Splendor.

Her initiation to luxury-ocean travel?

Watching people use wastebaskets to relieve themselves and then throwing the contents overboard.

"We're tired, haven't had showers," she said. "Haven't had hot water."

Anderson said she was running on the ship's track when she began to see black smoke.

"I asked a person mopping up, 'Is this normal?' " He said, 'No. This is bad. It's a fire.' "

When she asked Carnival crew members for more information, she said they told her it was not a fire.

"They kept saying, 'It's not a fire. It's just smoke,'" she said.

Theresa Blohowiak, of Spokane, Wash., also said no one aboard the vessel told her about the fire.

"We were just told it was a smoke issue," she said. "[But] they were great. They made you feel really good."

Jim Berra, a senior vice president with Carnival, said the company's CEO would visit crew members during the next several days.