

Day 9 ~ Tuesday 29 July, College Fjord.

The Coral Princess accommodates 1,970 passengers and 900 crew members. Summers are spent plying the Alaskan routes; in winter she sails through the Panama Canal.

Sailing up College Fjord we rise early at 5:45am to watch glaciers. The sun rises. The sea is littered with tiny icebergs. Ahead of us are the Chugach Mountains. It is cold on deck and difficult to get good photos through the glass screens.



College Fjord.



Breakfast.

We enjoy the breakfast buffet. Remind me to eat less. A walk around the Princess helps us get acquainted with levels 5 – 16 open to us passengers but I still need the pocket guide. Some of the services are strange. I can understand a wedding chapel but why have an art gallery selling full size paintings? We never do go to the Casino.

On the TV, channel 38 provides a view from the bridge. On board is a naturalist who gives a description of what we are seeing. The air temperature is 37°F but the sea is only 50°F which creates patches of mist. Our balcony provides an excellent view and by 9:30am it feels warm, so we spend part of the morning sitting out taking pictures.

Whenever we leave the room. Someone rushes in to remove dirty towels. I am almost afraid to wash **my hands.....**



Breakfast Buffet.



Glass screens.



Our group meets at 9:45am for a briefing in the Crooners Bar. "If you want to see the galley, meet at the Bordeaux at 10:30am"



Game room.



Central Staircase.



Shop 'till you drop.



Wheelhouse Bar.



Bordeaux Dining Room.

The kitchen staff numbers 160 working 11 hour days. There are five galleys catering to the restaurants and one for the staff, catering to 170 different nationalities on board. There is strict hand sanitation. Each task is separate. No one crosses these boundaries.

- Washing dishes
- Stacking dishes
- Prepare food
- Cook
- Deliver
- Clean tables



Desert Chef.



Everything is stainless steel. A vast labyrinth of food preparation. How can a superb cuisine come from this stainless environment? There is a Chef for each course.



Even a picture to show how each dish should look.



Fish only.

There are lots of on-board activities. I decide to attend a lecture about Adobe Photo Shop Elements. The eight computers are taken. Several *ladies* guard them aggressively. "I don't have a computer, but may I sit at the back and watch?" I do not have to pay the \$25 fee.

Meanwhile, Jan has a hair appointment. She registered this morning using her "*credit*" card. She checks in "But madam you are too young for this treatment." Card still thinks she is juvenile! After a 45 min wait Jan asks if she has been forgotten.... Yes! But her hair looks great when she emerges.

Back at the Wheelhouse Bar the tenders give us our "usual" seat and ask what age we are today. A hoot. Jan's card buys us a drink.

At 5:00pm we meet for a group photo. "Turn your shoulders in." We still don't fit so she changes lenses. Then a group dinner in the Bordeaux. Back in the Wheelhouse I enjoy a good brandy. We dance a little. A very "English" lady comes to chat. She is the lead singer, Indian, educated in the UK.

It is 10:00pm. We find seats in the theater and watch the "Motor City" a loud raucous colorful show.



The boat does not seem crowded.