



AIDA Cruises · Am Strande 3 d · 18055 Rostock

Kaj Leo Johannesen
Prime Minister's Office
P.O.Box 64 FO-110 Tórshavn
Färöer

26. August 2013
Durchwahl -8029, Fax -908029
Unser Zeichen

Whaling at the Faroer Islands

Dear Prime Minister Johannesen,

my name is Monika Griefahn and I am Chief Sustainability Officer at AIDA Cruises. You might also want to know that I was Minister of Environment in Lower Saxony, Germany, from 1990 to 1998.

Sustainability and wildlife conservation are a top priority for AIDA Cruises but also for our guests. We are all keen on experiencing the wonderful nature of the Faroer Islands. This is why we will have two calls of port in Klaksvik this year - one on 02 September 2013 with AIDALuna and one on 11 September 2013 with AIDAbella. However, the recent reports on whaling along the coasts of the Faroer Islands raise our deepest concern. We received various requests of our guests about an itinerary change because they do not want to support the tradition of whaling by any means. They are afraid that they or their children become unintentional witnesses of further killing of whales at the bays.

In the name of AIDA Cruises I would like to express our wish that you stop the practice of whaling. Above all, we claim this for the sake of wildlife protection. On the other hand, we also want to prevent our guest from eating whale meat which is contaminated with heavy metals, chlorines or PCB, and such poses a threat to their health.

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The Faroer Islands and AIDA Cruises share one common goal. We both want to show the beauty of the islands to our guests. Therefore, we hope that you stop the whaling. Instead we would like to propose to you to make the protection of whales and sustainable practices like whale watching your goal. Such, all sides would benefit from the protection of these wonderful animals.

I would appreciate to discuss this further and am awaiting your positive reply.

Yours sincerely ,

Monika Griefahn
Chief Sustainable Officer
Aida Cruises