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## Round Trip Cruise Parameters

This document is for cruise ship companies and/or their agents seeking to obtain a determination from the ABF that subsection 169(1) of the *Migration Act 1958* (the Act) does apply to a class of persons on a nominated international passenger cruise ship (**ship**).

Such a determination will mean that passengers and crew aboard the ship (where they have left the migration zone but are not taken to leave Australia under section 80) are not, on re-entering the migration zone, taken to enter Australia for the purposes of section 166 of the Act. This means that the passengers and crew are not required to be immigration cleared under section 166 of the Migration Act unless directed by the ABF.

Where such a determination has been made, the ship is commonly referred to as having obtained Round Trip Cruise (RTC) status for that voyage. The determination will not usually not apply to travellers who join a voyage at an international port while the ship has RTC status, or travellers who disembark (e.g for medical reasons) at an international port while the ship has RTC status.

To obtain a determination under s 169(3) of the Act and therefore qualify as an RTC, the following conditions would usually need to be met:

- The cruise ship operator or agent has made an application to the ABF for each voyage it wants classified as a RTC. The application should be accompanied by the full itinerary for the ship's voyage.
- The voyage commenced and terminated in Australia and is not a regular voyage that carries passengers from one place to another.
- The voyage does not offer one way or sector fare tickets as an integral part of the voyage, with a maximum of 40 way port leavers and joiners allowed. This number also includes crew changes.
- The voyage only visits ports in countries no part of which lie no further north than the equator, no further east than the 180th meridian (180 degrees longitude) and not to the west of Australia. This excludes countries such as Papua-New Guinea and Indonesia from consideration for RTC status.
- Each foreign port is visited once only and the period of stay does not exceed 24 hours.
- The voyage does not raise unacceptable border security concerns.
- The vessel's absence from Australia does not exceed 30 calendar days from arrival/departure at an Australian port.

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