

Steamship of Friendship, badge of a Japanese participant of sea cruise to the USSR, 1975.

In tin and plastic, 42.0 mm in diameter. Shows an ocean liner with flags of USSR and Japan. Made in Japan.

This pin was issued to one of the passengers of the so-called "Steamship of Friendship". The cruise was apparently organized by the Soviet Intourist travel agency along the same lines as various "Trains of Friendship" and "Airplanes of Friendship". Most of those served tourists from the Eastern Bloc countries but some were also catering to the visitors from the West. Tours such as this one were ostensibly to promote "friendship and understanding" but in reality were a tool of propaganda and also a method of procuring much needed hard currency.

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\$45.00

