



Seabourn Celebrates Major Shipbuilding Milestone With Coin and Launch Ceremony for Seabourn Ovation

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SEATTLE, Sept. 1, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Today, the world's finest ultra-luxury cruise line [Seabourn](#) marked a major construction milestone with a traditional coin and launch ceremony for its newest ship, *Seabourn Ovation*, at the Fincantieri shipyard in Sestri, Italy. *Seabourn Ovation* is set to welcome guests and begin sailing in May 2018.

The time-honored coin and launch ceremony is an enduring maritime tradition that calls for a "madrina" to preside over the celebratory events. Serving in this significant role was Jan Stearman, Seabourn's longest-serving female shipboard team member, who joined the company 22 years ago, and a well-known and respected cruise director. Along with Seabourn President Richard Meadows, Fincantieri Shipyard Director Paolo Capobianco and *Seabourn Ovation* Captain Stig Betten observed the welding of two commemorative gold coins to the ship's mast. Stearman then cut the ship's cord to allow water to flow into the ship's building dock. The ship will be "floated out" from its dry dock and moved to its outfitting dock at the shipyard, where it will undergo final construction until the ship is delivered in 2018.

"Watching the coin ceremony and seeing *Seabourn Ovation* officially touch the water for the first time today was a very special moment for all of us at Seabourn, representing a significant step toward the further expansion of our luxury fleet," said **Richard Meadows**, president of Seabourn. "Many guests and partners across the travel industry have expressed their enthusiasm for the arrival of this incredible ship following the successful debut in December 2016 of her sister ship, *Seabourn Encore*."

Following the ship's delivery, *Seabourn Ovation* will embark on an 11-day inaugural voyage departing May 5, 2018, from Venice, Italy, to Barcelona, Spain. The ship will go on to spend the majority of her maiden season cruising the waters of Northern Europe, offering a series of seven-day Baltic and Scandinavian cruises between Copenhagen and Stockholm, which will include the line's signature three-day stay in St. Petersburg, Russia. *Seabourn Ovation* will also sail on longer 14-day voyages, visiting the majestic Norwegian fjords and British Isles.

Like its sister ship *Seabourn Encore*, *Seabourn Ovation* is being fashioned by notable hospitality design icon Adam D. Tihany with contemporary interiors, modern design elements, and innovations consistent with Seabourn's reputation for understated elegance. The new ship will round out the current planned expansion of the line's award-winning and highly acclaimed fleet.

Seabourn Ovation will maintain the line's high ratio of space per guest, enabling highly intuitive and personalized service for each guest on board. The 40,350-GRT ship will carry just 600 guests, based on double occupancy. The all-suite ship will offer a number of desirable in-suite amenities to provide guests with a "home away from home" onboard experience. In every luxurious suite will be a private veranda, providing sweeping oceanfront views and spacious enough for private alfresco dining. Featuring striking design and sophisticated décor, each suite will include a comfortable living area with sofa seating and a desk/dining table; elegant bedding; a walk-in closet; in-suite entertainment options with a wide selection of movies, music, broadcast television and radio channels; and a superbly-appointed marble bathroom with separate bath and shower and luxury bath products, including the new exclusive Seabourn Signature Scents by Molton Brown. A personal bar and refrigerator will be stocked according to guest preferences, coordinated before arrival.

Guests who sail on *Seabourn Ovation* will also find a number of innovative offerings and programs, including partnerships with a select group of companies and individuals whose dedication to superior quality, exceptional service and consistent customer satisfaction matches Seabourn. These programs include '[An Evening with Tim Rice](#)', the new evening entertainment experience created exclusively for the line in association with Belinda King Creative Productions; [Spa and Wellness with Dr. Andrew Weil](#), offering guests a holistic spa and wellness experience that integrates physical, social, environmental and spiritual well-being; and [The Grill by Thomas Keller](#), reminiscent of the classic American restaurant from the 50's and 60's. Exclusive to Seabourn, The Grill is a unique culinary concept for Chef Keller, focusing on updated versions of iconic dishes. Guests will be treated to table-side preparations of Caesar salad and ice cream sundaes, as well as a range of other favorites like premium steaks, whole roasted chicken, and Lobster Thermidor, presented à la carte.

Seabourn will continue to reveal updates about *Seabourn Ovation* via the dedicated microsite: <http://ovation.seabourn.com>. Filled with imagery, details and news of the ship's continuing progress, the microsite offers an inside look at the next addition to the newest overall fleet in the ultra-luxury cruise category. In addition, the line has created a [video](#) previewing the array of onboard experiences, thoughtful elements, and inspiration and passion driving the creation of *Seabourn Ovation*.

For more details about the award-winning Seabourn fleet, or to explore the worldwide selection of Seabourn cruising options, contact a travel professional, call Seabourn at 1-800-929-9391 or visit www.seabourn.com.

Find Seabourn on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and [Pinterest](#).

Notes to Editors:

Seabourn is consistently ranked among the world's top travel choices by professional critics and the discerning readers of prestigious travel publications such as *Departures*, *Travel + Leisure* and *Condé Nast Traveler*. Its stylish, distinctive cruising vacations are renowned for:

- Intimate ships with no more than 300 suites

- Unique itineraries visiting must-see cities and hidden gems where larger ships cannot follow
- Intuitive, gracious service provided by a staff passionate about pleasing our guests
- Spacious all-suite accommodations with sweeping ocean views - many with verandas
- Gourmet dining experiences as fine as the best restaurants anywhere
- Open bars throughout the ship and fine wines poured with lunch and dinner

Seabourn is a proud member of World's Leading Cruise Lines. The exclusive alliance also includes Carnival Cruise Lines, Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Cunard Line, Costa Cruises, AIDA, P&O Cruises UK, P&O Cruises Australia and fathom. Seabourn is a brand of Carnival Corporation and plc (NYSE/LSE: CCL and NYSE: CUK). It has formed a partnership with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to help protect World Heritage sites.

[Click to Tweet:](#) @SeabournCruise holds traditional maritime coin and launch ceremony today for #SeabournOvation, set to begin sailing in May 2018

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