



## IT'S OFFICIAL:

### **CELEBRITY CRUISES TAKES DELIVERY OF HIGHLY ANTICIPATED *CELEBRITY ASCENT***

*Royal Caribbean Group Executives and Celebrity Cruises Crew on hand to Celebrate Handover from Shipbuilder Chantiers de l'Atlantique*

**Miami (Nov. 8, 2023)** – *Celebrity Ascent* has officially joined Celebrity Cruises' fleet of award-winning ships redefining premium travel, as company officials took delivery of its newest ship at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in St. Nazaire, France. The fourth ship in the line's innovative *Edge Series*, *Celebrity Ascent* continues to shatter preconceived notions of cruising with its forward-thinking design by the world's leading architects and interior designers; culinary excellence from Michelin starred chefs; wellness woven throughout the experience; expansive onboard entertainment and more. *Celebrity Ascent* will make her official debut in Fort Lauderdale on December 3, with a 7-night Eastern Caribbean sailing visiting such popular destinations as St. Maarten, St. Thomas, and the Dominican Republic.

Welcoming the ship to the Celebrity Cruises family were Royal Caribbean Group President and CEO Jason Liberty, Celebrity Cruises President Laura Hodges Bethge, and Laurent Castaing, General Manager, Chantiers de l'Atlantique. Captains Dimitrios Kafetzis and Tasos Kafetzis, the first brother captains honored with taking a new ship from the shipyard, were also on-hand for the celebration, along with 1,400 *Celebrity Ascent* crew members.

To mark the moment, they participated in several maritime traditions including the signing ceremony and the changing of flags onboard the ship, along with a celebratory toast in the ship's spectacular three-story Grand Plaza.

"*Celebrity Ascent* is yet another example of innovation driving our mission to provide the best vacations responsibly. The ship continues Celebrity's ambition to redefine premium travel and take it to new heights," said Liberty. "I want to thank and congratulate the Chantiers de l'Atlantique team, our Newbuild and Celebrity Cruises' teams and their partners for the vision, craftsmanship and passion that went into bringing this spectacular ship to life."



"*Celebrity Ascent* features all the innovative and award-winning *Edge Series* signature experiences that launched a new era in cruise ship design, plus a few new enhancements, and I can't wait to welcome our guests aboard," said Hodges-Bethge. "It is a true honor to welcome this ship to our fleet and I am so grateful to everyone involved with all that goes into launching a new ship."

"I am convinced that *Celebrity Ascent* will meet the same success as the other ships in the prestigious *Edge Series*. Its fine exterior and interior design and its exceptional seaworthiness make it an outstanding ship. *Celebrity Ascent* embodies the strong bond between the Chantiers de l'Atlantique, Royal Caribbean Group and Celebrity Cruises teams," said Chantiers de l'Atlantique General Director Laurent Castaing."

### **Vacation Experience Highlights**

*Celebrity Ascent* joins a class of ships without comparison and is a sister ship to *Celebrity Beyond* which debuted to great acclaim last year. Distinctive ship features and new experiences include:

- The Retreat, an exclusive resort-within-a-resort area for suite guests, highlighted by a two-story sundeck;
- Accommodations for modern tastes from modern two-story villas with private plunge pools to staterooms with infinite verandas, blurring the boundaries between indoor and outdoor living;
- An expanded Rooftop Garden and stunning Resort Deck featuring unique cantilevered float pools;
- A multi-level, multi-terraced Sunset Bar at the ship's aft;
- An expanded onboard entertainment program featuring a transformative nightlife experience on the **Resort Deck**, six new live productions, interactive gaming experiences, and more;
- A redesigned casino floor and brand-new games;
- A new outdoor dining terrace at Blu, the brand's clean cuisine restaurant for Aqua Class guests, available for al fresco daytime dining;
- A newly designed Le Voyage by Chef Daniel Boulud;



- And, the return of the Magic Carpet®, an engineering feat soaring cantilevered above the sea, offering guests uninterrupted vistas while sipping cocktails or having dinner.

### **Setting Sail on *Celebrity Ascent***

Following *Celebrity Ascent*'s maiden voyage, she will offer a variety of alternating Eastern and Western Caribbean vacations through late April, when she then heads to the Mediterranean for sailings from Barcelona and Rome. Vacation sailing options include:

- The [7-Night Bahamas, Mexico and Grand Cayman](#) itinerary or the [7-Night San Juan, Tortola and St. Kitts](#) itinerary from mid-December 2023 to early April 2024;
- The 7-Night Bahamas, Mexico and Grand Cayman [Holiday Cruise](#) departing on December 24, 2023;
- The [New Year's cruise](#) departing on December 31, 2023 for 7 nights and visiting San Juan, Tortola and St. Kitts;
- Kicking off the summer with the ultimate Mediterranean getaway on the [9-Night Italian Riviera and France](#) itinerary;
- Or, crossing Rome, Naples, Mykonos, and Santorini off a bucket-list during the [12-Night Best of Greece and Italy](#) itinerary.

For more information on all *Celebrity Ascent* inaugural 2023-2024 season sailings, visit <https://www.celebritycruises.com/cruise-ships/celebrity-ascent>.

For more information on Celebrity Cruises, or to book a Celebrity cruise, visit [www.celebrity.com](http://www.celebrity.com), call 1-800-CELEBRITY, or contact a trusted travel advisor.

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#### **Editor's Note:**

Media can stay current on all Celebrity Cruises news at [www.celebritycruisespresscenter.com](http://www.celebritycruisespresscenter.com).

#### **About Celebrity Cruises:**

Celebrity Cruises' iconic "X" is the mark of a fleet of 16 resorts at sea taking guests to the world's best places on the world's best places. Celebrity revolutionized the industry with its cool, contemporary design and accommodation; dining, spa, and entertainment experiences for modern tastes; and culturally rich and diverse destination experiences, all complemented by warm, personalized service. Driven by wanderlust and a passion for opening the world, Celebrity journeys to all seven continents, visiting nearly 300 destinations in more than 70



countries. Celebrity Cruises is one of five cruise brands owned by global cruise company Royal Caribbean Group (NYSE: RCL). For more information about Celebrity Cruises, please visit [www.celebrity.com](http://www.celebrity.com).