



MSC VIRTUOSA ARRIVES IN SOUTHAMPTON, READY TO RESTART CRUISING IN UK

- *MSC Cruises' latest flagship, MSC Virtuosa, has arrived in Southampton, her homeport for the summer, ready to restart cruising in UK on 20th May*
 - *MSC Virtuosa will embark on her maiden voyage around the British Isles*
- *She will become the third MSC Cruises ship back at sea, sailing 3- and 4-night mini cruises, before starting 7-night sailings around the UK*

Southampton – 13 May 2021: *MSC Virtuosa*, MSC Cruises' latest flagship, has arrived in Southampton today, ready to welcome guests as cruising restarts in the UK. The newest and most innovative ship in MSC Cruises' fleet, *MSC Virtuosa* will embark on her maiden voyage around the British Isles on 20th May.

With all of MSC Cruises' trademark glamour and European style, *MSC Virtuosa* is set to bring guests an unbeatable summer holiday, with everything in one place.

The first cruise line to restart in the UK, MSC Cruises brings guests a choice of three- and four- night mini cruises starting from 20th May, then from 5th June, *MSC Virtuosa* will begin seven-night cruises. The week-long sailings include calls at the picturesque isle of Portland and the cultural city of Belfast in Northern Ireland, as well as offering multiple ports of embarkation including Liverpool and Greenock, close to Glasgow, Scotland, on top of Southampton.

MSC Virtuosa is one of MSC Cruises' most innovative and environmentally advanced ships. The 19-deck ship will offer its British guests of all ages the very best of fine dining restaurants, world-class entertainment, relaxing bars and lounges, boutique shopping, spa and fitness centres, an aquapark and clubs for toddlers to teenagers. The ship's showstopping feature is its iconic 112-metre promenade with a stunning LED sky dome, the social heart and hub of the ship.

The brand-new MSC Starship Club will launch on *MSC Virtuosa*. The world's first futuristic, immersive experience at sea, MSC Starship Club will feature humanoid robotic bartender, Rob, shaking up a galactic choice of cocktails for guests.

MSC Virtuosa's homeport for the summer will be ABP Southampton, with whom MSC Cruises recently announced a long-term partnership. The ship will initially set sail from City Cruise Terminal, before moving to embark guests from the newly-named Horizon Cruise terminal once it has opened.

MSC Virtuosa will become the third MSC Cruises ship back at sea when she departs for her maiden voyage on May 20, joining two ships already operating in the Mediterranean: *MSC Seaside* welcomed guests back on board last week, and *MSC Grandiosa* has been sailing in the Mediterranean since August 2020. All ships operate under the same industry-leading health and safety protocol, including universal testing upon embarkation, which has been developed with a Blue Ribbon Panel of experts.

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