



THE ASCENT BEGINS

CELEBRITY CRUISES CUTS STEEL ON FOURTH *EDGE* SERIES SHIP -- *CELEBRITY ASCENT*SM

Traditional shipbuilding moment goes beyond its traditional meaning - represents the resilience and recovery of the cruise and travel industry, consumer confidence

SAINT-NAZAIRE, FRANCE (Nov. 17, 2021) – As company executives signed the ceremonial first cut of steel for the fourth ship in Celebrity Cruises’ award-winning *Edge Series* at the Chantiers de l’Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, France, the cruise line that took consumers to the *Edge*[®] and *Apex*SM of luxury travel, and will soon show consumers *Beyond*SM what anyone thought possible for a cruise ship, revealed it will climb even higher with the beginning of construction on *Celebrity Ascent*.

The ceremony signaled the next chapter in a remarkable year for Celebrity Cruises as it led the cruising industry out of the pandemic with *Celebrity Edge*, the first ship to sail from a U.S. port on June 26, 2021; formally launched the second *Edge Series* ship, *Celebrity Apex*, in an emotional naming ceremony on Nov. 2, 2021; and shared more details throughout the year on the series’ third ship due in late April, 2022, the highly-anticipated *Celebrity Beyond*.

“The name of this new ship is very apropos as the industry rebounds, but also as Celebrity continues to lead the industry as an unmatched new-luxury brand and cruise line,” said Richard Fain, Chairman and CEO of the Royal Caribbean Group, the parent company of Celebrity Cruises. “*Celebrity Ascent* will take the industry to new heights as it pushes the boundaries of what people can experience on a ship and how they experience it.”

“What another wonderful moment for our brand, our company and our industry to be in this incredible shipyard making the traditional first cut of steel on this magnificent ship and signaling the bright future that lies ahead,” said Lutoff-Perlo. “While I wish I could share what we have in store for this ship, I can tell you our ‘Ascent’ will be *Celebrity Beyond*’s sister ship in every way, and then some.”

“This is a momentous occasion and a new milestone in the long success story we have with Celebrity Cruises and the Royal Caribbean Group,” said Laurent Castaing, General Manager, Chantiers de l’Atlantique. “Celebrity has been on the forefront of pushing the industry forward on multiple levels, and it’s our privilege to partner and collaborate with them as we bring *Celebrity Ascent* to life.”

Celebrity Ascent is expected to make her debut in early 2023.

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**About Celebrity Cruises**

Celebrity Cruises' iconic "X" is the mark of a fleet of 14 award-winning ships redefining luxury cruise travel with cool, contemporary design and accommodation; dining, spa and entertainment experiences for modern tastes; and culturally rich and diverse destination experiences, all complemented by warm, personalised service. Celebrity has pioneered many industry firsts at sea, including: the first use of solar panels on a cruise ship; the first to eliminate use of plastic water bottles; the first American female Captain of a cruise ship; the first-ever all-female bridge and officer team sailing; the first West African woman to work on the bridge of a cruise ship; and one of the first legal same-sex weddings performed at sea. 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 operated by global cruise company Royal Caribbean Group. (NYSE: RCL).

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Editor's Note: Media can stay up-to-date on all Celebrity Cruises news at www.celebritycruisespresscenter.com.