



EXPLORA JOURNEYS CELEBRATES EXPLORA III SETTING SAIL FOLLOWING HER OFFICIAL NAMING IN BARCELONA

EXPLORA III begins her inaugural season with a spectacular departure from Barcelona, accompanied by sister ship EXPLORA I

Barcelona, Spain, 5 August 2026 – Explora Journeys today celebrates the departure of EXPLORA III following her official Naming Ceremony in Barcelona, as the newest ship in the fleet embarks on her inaugural season and continues the brand's journey of redefining ultra-elegant ocean travel.

Following an elegant Naming Ceremony held alongside the new MSC Cruise Division Terminal in Barcelona, EXPLORA III departed on her Maiden Journey to Lisbon in a memorable moment for the brand. As she left the city, she was accompanied by sister ship EXPLORA I, with the two ships sailing together before setting course on their respective Journeys—an inspiring tribute to the continued growth of the Explora Journeys fleet.

The departure marks another important chapter for Explora Journeys, with three ships now sailing across the world's oceans. EXPLORA III is the brand's first LNG-powered ship and introduces an even greater expression of space and thoughtful design, further elevating the experience for guests.

Her inaugural season has been carefully designed to reveal some of the world's most remarkable destinations through the lens of slower, more immersive ocean travel. Following her Maiden Journey from Barcelona to Lisbon, EXPLORA III will sail through Northern Europe, exploring the Baltic Sea, the Norwegian fjords, Iceland and Greenland before crossing the Atlantic to Canada and New England. Along the way, guests will enjoy longer stays, enriching destination experiences and thoughtfully curated itineraries that invite a deeper connection with every place visited.

"Watching EXPLORA III set sail on her inaugural season is an incredibly proud and emotional moment for everyone at Explora Journeys," said Anna Nash, President of Explora Journeys. "From the very beginning, our vision has been to create an entirely new category of ocean travel—one centred on space, elegance, intuitive hospitality and meaningful experiences. EXPLORA III beautifully embodies that vision. Seeing her depart Barcelona, accompanied by EXPLORA I, is a powerful reminder of how far we have come and of the exciting journey that still lies ahead."

Delivered by Fincantieri in Genoa on 23 July, EXPLORA III has already celebrated a remarkable series of firsts. The ship welcomed World No. 1 tennis player and Explora Journeys Global Brand Ambassador Jannik Sinner as her first guest during an exclusive Prelude Journey, before being officially named in Barcelona. Now, as she begins welcoming guests on her inaugural season, EXPLORA III introduces new culinary concepts, enhanced Ocean Wellness experiences, expanded public spaces and a second Owner's Residence designed by renowned architect and designer Patricia Urquiola.

The launch of EXPLORA III represents another significant step in the brand's long-term vision, with a fleet of six ships scheduled to be in service by 2028. Every new ship builds on the experience of those before it, continually refining the Explora Journeys promise of exceptional space, intuitive hospitality and transformative ocean travel.

About EXPLORA III

EXPLORA III is the third ship to join the Explora Journeys fleet and the brand's first LNG-powered vessel. Offering more public space per guest than any ship in the fleet, she features 461

ocean-front Suites, Penthouses and Residences, including two Owner's Residences designed by Patricia Urquiola. Guests can enjoy seven distinctive culinary experiences, 13 bars and lounges, five heated swimming pools, an expanded Ocean Wellness offering and beautifully designed indoor and outdoor spaces that inspire connection with the ocean and embody the Ocean State of Mind.

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About Explora Journeys

Explora Journeys is the privately owned luxury ocean travel brand of the MSC Group, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. Rooted in Swiss precision, understated European elegance and the Aponte-Vago family's 300 years of maritime heritage, the brand has grown from a long-held vision to redefine the ocean experience for a new generation of discerning guests. At its heart is a unique 'Ocean State of Mind' that connects guests with the sea, themselves and like-minded others, while immersive itineraries blend iconic destinations with lesser-travelled ports for unhurried Journeys inspiring discovery.

Marrying the refined essence and service of the world's finest boutique hotels with the boundless freedom of the ocean, the fleet prioritises a profound sense of space. Each ship features generously proportioned oceanfront Suites, Penthouses and Residences, where abundant natural light, generous outdoor living space and uninterrupted sea views create an unrivalled sense of openness. Guests enjoy a sophisticated collection of distinct dining destinations, world-class wellness facilities, heated pools designed for all seasons and premium retail spaces, all reflecting the brand's effortless sense of understated European luxury.

EXPLORA I and EXPLORA II are already welcoming guests, having launched in July 2023 and September 2024 respectively. The brand's first LNG-powered ship, EXPLORA III, launched on 24 July 2026, with EXPLORA IV following in early 2027. EXPLORA V and EXPLORA VI are set to join the fleet in 2027 and 2028, incorporating advanced environmental technologies as part of the brand's commitment to sustainability.

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