



Explora  
JOURNEYS

## EXPLORA JOURNEYS MARKS CONSTRUCTION MILESTONE WITH LAUNCH OF BOW SECTION FOR EXPLORA V



**Geneva, Switzerland – 6 May 2026** – Explora Journeys today announced the successful launch of the bow section (Troncone) of **EXPLORA V**, the fifth of six luxury ships set to enter service by 2028. This important milestone took place at Fincantieri’s Palermo shipyard in Sicily, where the section was transferred from land to water for the first time — a longstanding maritime tradition that signals the next phase of the ship’s construction.

EXPLORA V, scheduled for delivery in 2027, continues the brand’s considered expansion and its vision for a more refined approach to ocean travel. Following initial outfitting in Palermo, the bow section will be transferred to Fincantieri’s Sestri Ponente shipyard in Genoa, where construction will be completed.

*“We are pleased to mark the launch of the bow section of EXPLORA V, an important milestone in the continued development of our fleet,”* said Anna Nash, President of Explora Journeys. *“As we grow, we are introducing more guests to a new expression of ocean travel. We now look ahead to the delivery of EXPLORA III this July and her inaugural journeys, from the Mediterranean to Northern Europe, Iceland and Greenland.”*

Reaching this milestone further highlights the expertise and dedication of the Fincantieri team, whose craftsmanship is essential in ensuring that **EXPLORA V**, and all of the fleet, meets the highest standards of performance, innovation, and luxury. The ship will join Explora Journeys' growing fleet, designed to offer space, time and a deeper connection to the Ocean State of Mind – connecting guests with the sea and the world around them.

Each vessel is an expression of Italian shipbuilding expertise, introducing design innovation and advanced technologies that push the boundaries of excellence at sea. All upcoming ships in the Explora Journeys fleet, **EXPLORA III** through **VI**, will be powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG) as part of the brand's long-term commitment to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions for its marine operations by 2050, alongside ongoing investment in advanced environmental technologies.

Over €3.5 billion has been invested by the Cruise Division of the MSC Group in Explora Journeys' six ships, all constructed by Fincantieri – reflecting the Group's broader commitment to the Italian maritime sector. When combined with the four MSC Cruises ships previously built by Fincantieri, the Group's total investment reaches approximately €7 billion. The construction of each ship requires over seven million work hours and provides employment for an average of 2,500 people over two to three years.

**EXPLORA I** has been sailing since 1 August 2023, marking the debut of Explora Journeys' luxury fleet. The second ship, **EXPLORA II**, was delivered on 12 September 2024. **EXPLORA III** will sail for the first time in July 2026, while **EXPLORA IV** and **EXPLORA V** will enter service in 2027, all powered by LNG. **EXPLORA VI** is set to join the fleet in 2028, continuing the brand's ambitious growth and commitment to sustainable innovation.

To learn more about Explora Journeys, please visit [explorajourneys.com](https://explorajourneys.com).

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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.

Built on the Aponte family's 300-year maritime heritage, **Explora Journeys** redefines luxury ocean travel with its signature *Ocean State of Mind* – a philosophy that connects discerning guests with the sea, with themselves and with one another. Immersive itineraries balance celebrated destinations with lesser-known ports, creating Journeys that inspire curiosity and discovery.

Each private-yacht-inspired ship serves as a floating luxury hotel, whose address is the ocean, with all oceanfront suites, featuring private terraces, floor-to-ceiling windows and spacious European-designed interiors that evoke a sense of relaxed, contemporary elegance – a true Home at Sea.

Guests can choose from 11 distinct culinary experiences – including six restaurants, an experiential Chef's Kitchen, 12 bars and lounges, and 24-hour in-suite dining. 'Ocean Wellness – The Spa' is complemented by five heated indoor and outdoor pools, an extensive holistic wellness programme, generous outdoor deck spaces, and refined entertainment designed to deliver the perfect mood for every moment.

Inspired by its European roots and guided by elevated Swiss hospitality, **Explora Journeys** offers intuitive service and a modern, effortless approach to luxury.

The brand launched its first ship, **EXPLORA I**, in July 2023, followed by **EXPLORA II** in September 2024. The LNG-powered **EXPLORA III** will join the fleet in July 2026, with **EXPLORA IV** arriving in 2027. **EXPLORA V** and **EXPLORA VI** will follow in 2027 and 2028, each incorporating advanced environmental technologies as part of the brand's commitment to sustainability.

Discover more at [explorajourneys.com](https://explorajourneys.com) or follow **Explora Journeys** on [Instagram](#), [X](#), [Facebook](#), [TikTok](#) and [LinkedIn](#).