



Anthem of the Seas Crew Bios

Master – Claus Andersen

Captain Claus Andersen was born in Bergen, Norway, the second largest city in Norway. After studying at Aslesund Maritime University College to become a master mariner, Andersen joined the shipping and ferry industry working on vessels in the North Seas and cargo ships all over the world. In 1995 he moved to Oslo, Norway to join Norway's largest shipping company as a Port Captain. The in 1998, Andersen joined Royal Caribbean International I as a first officer and in 2008 was named Master of *Radiance of the Seas* and sailed with her throughout the world including in Alaska, the Caribbean, the Panama Canal, Australia, the South Pacific and more. Today, Andersen is proud to be the Master of the world's newest ship *Anthem of the Seas*. When not onboard a Royal Caribbean ship Andersen spends his time living in Somerset, South Africa with his wife and family.

Staff Captain – Wendy Williams

Staff Captain Wendy Williams was born in Sept-Iles, Quebec, but spent her youth on Canada's west coast in British Columbia. Williams holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology. She worked for many years with fisheries programs under the jurisdiction of the Department of Fisheries in BC and with Foreign Fishing Fleets off the West Coast of Canada. Still longing for the active sea life Williams became one of the few female commercial fishers on Canada's west coast. Williams later enrolled in the BCIT Maritime Campus in Vancouver where she completed a Diploma in Nautical Sciences and obtained her Master Mariner's License. When she is not enjoying a life at sea, Wendy can be found in her garden at the farm on beautiful Vancouver Island where she lives with her husband Cameron Gillespie, also a Captain, and their two beautiful dogs, Browley and Daisy.

Hotel Director – Darren Budden

Darren Budden was born in Newfoundland, Canada, where he left home at age 17 to see the world and begin a post-secondary education in Business Administration. After completion of a Bachelor of Commerce degree, he started his professional career with a very large Fortune 500 company. His quest for knowledge pushed him to complete his graduate studies at one of the most prestigious business schools in Canada. His desire for travel and to work in a more global environment led him to pursue a career with Royal Caribbean International. He originally brought his 20 years of management and customer service experience to the company as a Marketing and Revenue Manager, ensuring every guest had access to all the amenities, activities, shopping and gaming options they needed to fully enjoy their cruise vacation experience. Having served on every class of ship in the fleet, he is focused on ensuring guest satisfaction with the overall cruise vacation experience.

Chief Engineer – Ola Pederson

Chief Ole Pedersen was born and raised on a tiny island on the Arctic Circle off the coast of Norway. Growing up near the coast, it is no surprise that Pederson chose a maritime career as a pathway for his

life. Pederson started working on coastal freighters at the age of 17. After two years of engineering school, he joined the Norwegian Royal Navy for 15 months followed by several years in the Norwegian Merchant Marines serving on different ships and in different capacities. Pederson joined Royal Caribbean International for in 1975 as Assistant Refrigeration Engineer. In 1984 he left and worked for another shipping company which included a couple of years in the fishing industry in Alaska. In 1993 he re-joined Royal Caribbean International as 1st Engineer onboard *Majesty of the Seas*. In 1996 he was assigned to *Monarch of the Seas* as Chief Engineer and was later deployed to France to oversee the construction of *Rhapsody of the Seas*. Since then he has served onboard a variety of ships in the fleet as Chief Engineer.

Cruise Director – Joff Eaton

From Chichester, West Sussex, in the South of England, Joff Eaton has worked in entertainment for 25 years, initially for holiday companies in the United Kingdom and throughout Europe. In 1993, he headed out to sea for a three-month period and hasn't looked back since! His background of devising and hosting shows and events has played a major role in his career and is still a main part of his position as Cruise Director. Joff has spent 18 years as a Cruise Director, joining Royal Caribbean International in 2008.

Human Resources Manager – Una Twomey

Una Twomey began her career in Customer Services at the age of 15 and enjoyed it so much that she went on to study Personnel Management in the United Kingdom. Curious about her brother's previous experience with Royal Caribbean she decided to join *Grandeur of the Seas* in 2003. Since then she has worked on several ships including *Independence of the Seas*.

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