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ROYAL CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL MAKES INAUGURAL VISIT TO HAVANA
Cuba Welcomes to Adventure Seekers Onboard Empress of the Seas



Note to Editors: Hi-res photos are available at www.RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com

MIAMI, April 24, 2017 – It was a historic day for [Royal Caribbean International](http://www.RoyalCaribbean.com) yesterday when the cruise line made its inaugural visit to Cuba with the newly revitalized *Empress of the Seas* as part of a 5-night sailing from Miami. Adventure-seeking vacationers were among the cruise line’s first guests to explore the island country known for its legendary nightlife, iconic music and distinct culture. Guests participated in curated excursions throughout Havana, including rides in 1950s classic American cars to the city’s most famous locales, including the old quarter and the Havana Club Museum.

“We’re thrilled to be a part of Cuba’s future, ushering in Royal Caribbean’s next big adventure with *Empress of the Seas*’ first visit to Havana. Vacationers will now be able to experience a destination like no other, with authentic and immersive experiences that bring to life the vibrancy of Havana and its traditions,” said Michael Bayley, President and CEO, Royal Caribbean International.

(more)

The vibrant Cuban culture extends beyond land to the experience onboard *Empress of the Seas*. From cortaditos and café con leche in Café Royal to salsa music and dancing in Boleros Latin lounge, guests will enjoy a range of onboard activities developed to bring the spirit of the island to life throughout the entire journey.

After returning to Miami, Florida, *Empress of the Seas* will reposition to Tampa, Fla. for the summer season – the cruise line’s first ever summer program from the destination – offering a series of four, five and six-night sailings, including day and overnight visits to Havana, along with stops in Key West, Fla. and Belize City, Belize, as well as Costa Maya and Cozumel, Mexico. Sailings from Tampa are available through Nov. 4, 2017 when *Empress* returns to Miami for the winter season, adding calls to CocoCay and Nassau in The Bahamas.

Empress of the Seas spans 11 guest decks, encompasses 48,563 gross registered tons, carries 1,602 guests at double occupancy and features 795 staterooms.

Media can stay up to date by following @RoyalCaribPR on Twitter and visiting RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com. For additional information or to make reservations, vacationers should call their travel agent; visit RoyalCaribbean.com; or call (800) ROYAL-CARIBBEAN.

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