



MEDIA CONTACTS: Tracy Quan (305) 539-6577  
tquan@rccl.com

Celia de la Llama (305) 982-2363  
cdelallama@rccl.com

**A NEW ADVENTURE BEGINS – ROYAL CARIBBEAN WELCOMES THE WORLD’S LARGEST CRUISE SHIP**  
*A Delivery Ceremony of Great Proportions for Symphony of the Seas Hits High Note in Honor of Inaugural Crew*

**MIAMI, March 23, 2018** – Thirty-six months, 4,700 shipbuilders and crew, and one common goal: to deliver the ultimate family adventure. [Royal Caribbean International](#) honored the instrumental project team of [Symphony of the Seas](#) during the highly anticipated delivery event at STX France shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, France today. Michael Bayley, President and CEO of Royal Caribbean International, Richard Fain, Chairman and CEO of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd., and Laurent Castaing, General Manager of STX France, led the traditional flag-changing ceremony, which symbolizes the ship’s official delivery from the ship builder to Royal Caribbean. The maritime ritual was followed by a celebration of the industry’s best, the crew whose hard work and meticulous collaboration came together to create the world’s largest cruise ship.

“*Symphony of the Seas* is the latest example of how our people work to push the envelope of innovation with each new ship,” said Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. Chairman and CEO Richard D. Fain. “The Oasis Class has been a trend-setting design, but the team has evolved the design to build on that success to provide even more incredible family adventures. We’re thankful to have a partner in STX France that is every bit as ambitious as we are about building technologically advanced ships.”

“It is a proud and exhilarating moment to welcome a new member to the family. Thanks to our stellar crew and partners at STX France, we now are ready to embark on this new boundless adventure that comes to life on *Symphony of the Seas*,” said Michael Bayley, President and CEO, Royal Caribbean International. “*Symphony* will take family vacationing to an all new level with energy and options never before found in one place. This ship is the perfect blend of our greatest hits we know guests love and a lineup of vibrant, new restaurants, activities and unparalleled entertainment – all purposefully designed around vacationers’ preferences.”

“Today is a day of pride for me, all STX France and sub-contractor teams as we hand over *Symphony of the Seas* to her owner as the largest cruise ship ever built,” said Laurent Castaing, General Manager of STX France. “*Symphony* will leave Saint-Nazaire yard as the ultimate example of our progress-driven spirit and commitment to innovation, which are at the heart of our partnership with Royal Caribbean, who is always challenging us in this direction.”

The 25<sup>th</sup> ship in Royal Caribbean's fleet, *Symphony of the Seas* is 228,081 gross registered tons, measures 238 feet tall and spans 1,188 feet long. She will welcome 5,518 guests at double occupancy in 2,759 staterooms, including 28 additional balcony rooms that overlook the ocean or signature Boardwalk neighborhood. One Oasis Class ship, seven distinctive neighborhoods, the tallest slide at sea with the Ultimate Abyss and countless adventures for guests of all ages, the family adventure of a lifetime has surprises at every turn:

### **New Culinary Adventures**

- **Hooked Seafood:** This upscale eatery atop of the world's largest cruise ship in the Solarium serves up the real taste of New England-inspired seafood and unparalleled ocean vistas to match. Approachable and unassuming, the menu offers classic coastal favorites, such as lobster rolls, crab claws, signature fish sandwich, and a raw bar where oysters are shucked to order.
- **Playmakers Sports Bar & Arcade:** Stretching the length of a reimagined Boardwalk, now touting fresh energy and swagger, the whole family can watch the home team play across 31 big-screen TVs, during the day and into the late night. The indoor and outdoor arcade, packed with over 20 games, offers the opportunity for friendly competition. The on-point menu of classic American bar food features everything from wings, burgers and popcorn shrimp to picture-perfect sundaes; as well as craft beers and cocktails.
- **El Loco Fresh:** Made-to-order tacos and burritos wrapped with fresh tortillas are among the Mexican "street food" favorites that will hit the spot for adventure seekers looking to fuel up with minimal downtime.
- **Sugar Beach:** The signature candy and ice cream shop is the sweet spot on the Boardwalk with more than 100 types of candies, a lineup of ice cream flavors and even DIY activities for the aspiring culinary artist.

### **New Ways to Play**

- **Battle for Planet Z:** Royal Caribbean's first glow-in-the-dark laser tag game brings two teams of eight head to head in an out-of-this-world adventure to determine who will claim the last planet in the galaxy.
- **Escape the Rubicon:** In the ultimate race against the clock, friends old and new must band together in the Rubicon submarine – a sophisticated, custom-built escape room – to solve a collection of puzzles before time runs out.

### **Unparalleled Family Accommodations**

- **Ultimate Family Suite:** A two-level, 1,346-square-foot suite filled with awesome thrills offers more than enough room for the whole family – and friends – to come together and catch up on "me time." Features include an **in-room slide**, a **private cinema** with an 85-inch HD TV, a floor-to-ceiling **LEGO wall**, a 212-square-foot balcony complete with table tennis and a full-size whirlpool. Complete with a Royal Genie, who caters to every whim, there are many more surprises awaiting guests along the way.

*Symphony of the Seas* will welcome her first guests on Saturday, March 31 for a one-time-only, 5-night preview sailing, calling on Naples and Rome (Civitavecchia), Italy.

The ship's maiden 7-night Mediterranean voyage departs Saturday, April 7 from Barcelona, Spain, where the crescendo of thrills will be brought to life by the 2,200 international crew members who proudly represent 77 countries around the world. *Symphony of the Seas* will homeport in Barcelona for the summer, visiting Palma de Mallorca, Spain; Provence, France; and Florence/Pisa, Rome and Naples, Italy. Beginning Nov. 10, Miami, FL. will become the ship's year-round homeport, making *Symphony of the Seas* the first new Oasis Class ship to sail from the cruise capital of the world using Royal Caribbean's new state-of-the-art Terminal A. The 7-night Eastern and Western Caribbean cruises will call on [Perfect Day at CocoCay](#), Royal Caribbean's newly revealed destination in the Bahamas. For more information about *Symphony*, visit [RoyalCaribbean.com/SymphonyoftheSeas](http://RoyalCaribbean.com/SymphonyoftheSeas).

[Royal Caribbean International](#) is an award-winning global cruise brand with a 49-year legacy of innovation and introducing industry "firsts" never before seen at sea. The cruise line features an expansive and unmatched array of features and amenities only found on Royal Caribbean, including jaw-dropping, state-of-the-art entertainment and industry-acclaimed programming that appeals to families and adventurous vacationers alike. On board, guests are catered to with the cruise line's world-renowned friendly and engaging service by every staff and crew member. Royal Caribbean has been voted "Best Cruise Line Overall" for 15 consecutive years in the Travel Weekly Readers Choice Awards.

The cruise line sails 25 of the world's most innovative cruise ships to the most popular destinations in Bermuda and the Caribbean, Europe, Canada and New England, Alaska, South America, Asia, and Australia and New Zealand. Media can stay up-to-date by following [@RoyalCaribPR](#) on Twitter, and visiting [RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com](http://RoyalCaribbeanPressCenter.com). For additional information or to make reservations, vacationers should call their travel agent; visit [RoyalCaribbean.com](http://RoyalCaribbean.com); or call (800) ROYAL-CARIBBEAN.

###