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**ROYAL CARIBBEAN MARKS CONSTRUCTION MILESTONE FOR *ODYSSEY OF THE SEAS***  
*Global Cruise Line Celebrates the Ship's Keel Laying*



**MIAMI, May 3, 2019\*** – Excitement was in the air at Meyer Werft shipyard in Papenburg, Germany, today, as [Royal Caribbean International](#) marked an important milestone in the development of [Odyssey of the Seas](#). Scheduled to be delivered in April 2021, *Odyssey* received its first block when the keel was officially lowered and put into place.

The keel laying marks an important milestone in the development of *Odyssey of the Seas*; it signifies the beginning of the ship's physical construction. During the ceremony, a 79-ton block was lifted into the building dock with an 800-ton crane. Newly minted coins were placed under the keel, which then stays in place until the end of construction. Once the ship is nearing completion, the coins are retrieved and presented to the ship's captain and crew, to be placed on board the ship. According to maritime tradition, the coins are said to bring luck to the ship during its construction and then to its Captain and crew when she is at sea.

*Odyssey of the Seas'* deployment and itineraries will be revealed later this year.

(more)

### About Royal Caribbean International

[Royal Caribbean International](#) has been delivering innovation at sea for more than 50 years. Each successive class of ships is an architectural marvel featuring the latest technology and guest experiences for today's adventurous traveler. The cruise line continues to revolutionize vacations with itineraries to more than 270 destinations in 73 countries on six continents, including Royal Caribbean's highly anticipated private island in The Bahamas, Perfect Day at CocoCay, the first in the Perfect Day Island Collection. Royal Caribbean has also been voted "Best Cruise Line Overall" for 16 consecutive years in the *Travel Weekly* Readers' Choice Awards.

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

**\*June 2021 Update** *Odyssey of the Seas* will now debut in July when it sets sail as the first Quantum Ultra Class ship to cruise from the U.S. The brand-new ship will cruise roundtrip from Fort Lauderdale, Florida on a series of 6- and 8-night Caribbean itineraries. For more details, visit [www.royalcaribbean.com/cruise-ships/itinerary-updates](http://www.royalcaribbean.com/cruise-ships/itinerary-updates).

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