



SWAN HELLENIC: PRESS RELEASE (11 February 2021)

SH Vega announced as name of the second Swan Hellenic ship at “Keel laying ceremony”.

Ambitious three-vessel shipbuilding schedule continues on course at Helsinki Shipyard.

Cyprus, 11 February 2021, Swan Hellenic today announced the keel laying of SH Vega, the second of three purpose-designed ice-class expedition cruise ships that Helsinki Shipyard is building for the iconic cultural expedition cruise pioneer.

The keel was laid in accordance with seafaring tradition and current COVID-19 restrictions, immediately receiving the outfitted and painted block 302 which had arrived at the shipyard last weekend.

The ceremony included the customary placement of coins, with Helsinki Shipyard Project Manager Jonas Packalén, Lloyd’s Register representative Jukka Hujanen and Helsinki Shipyard Chairman Victor Olersky doing the honours.

Named after the first vessel to navigate the Arctic Northeast Passage, the elegant new ship represents the next generation of polar expedition vessels, having been designed for worldwide cruising with a strong focus on high-latitude areas. SH Vega will feature a 5-megawatt diesel-electric hybrid propulsion system with selective catalytic reduction, 3-megawatt max. battery package and PC5 ice-strengthened hull. At 113 m, the 10,500-ton vessel has been specially designed to explore the most inaccessible and inspiring places in the world.

Providing uncompromising 5-star accommodation for 152 guests in 76 spacious state-rooms and suites, the vast majority with large balconies, SH Vega will be operated by an onboard team of 120 to provide the highest levels of personal service.

SH Minerva, the first ship in the series, will be delivered in November 2021, while Vega is due early the following year. The third vessel, which will be somewhat larger than her sisters, is scheduled for delivery just months later, towards the end of 2022.

“New builds Minerva and Vega are designed for extreme weather conditions, from the heavy ice of the polar regions to the heat and humidity of the tropics. And they’re naturally designed to respect the sensitive ecosystems of the unspoilt regions they explore,” commented Project Manager Jonas Packalén.

Swan Hellenic CEO Andrea Zito congratulated the Helsinki team on their outstanding support: “Delivering to such a demanding schedule while maintaining the highest quality standards is a fantastic achievement. We’re honoured and thrilled to take Swan Hellenic into its next chapter with such fine ships and look forward to welcoming you on board to see what others don’t!”

Link to the video and to the photo-rendering:
https://swanhellenic.filecamp.com/s/PR_-_SH_VEGA/fo

About Swan Hellenic

Swan Hellenic was relaunched in July 2020 to proudly continue the spirit of cultural expedition cruising the company had pioneered in the 1950s. Building on its British roots, the new company has a global cultural cruising outlook dedicated to providing guests with the opportunity to 'see what others don't'.

Two new 5-star polar PC 5 ice-class expedition cruise ships arriving in November 2021 and April 2022 will each accommodate 152 guests in 76 spacious staterooms and suites, the majority with large balconies. A larger PC 6 ice-class vessel accommodating 192 guests in 96 staterooms and suites in the same distinctive comfort and style as its sister ships will be arriving year-end 2022. All three new ships are being built in full compliance with SOLAS Safe Return to Port requirements.

Dedicated to guests with a passion for adventure and cultural exploration, the company's meticulously planned itineraries explore the wild landscapes, wildlife, peoples and unique cultures of the world's less travelled regions.

Its ships feature elegant Scandi-design interiors, extensive outdoor spaces and dedicated expedition facilities. The crew includes an expedition team comprising expert guides, speakers and lecturers, and numbering 120 and 140 respectively almost equals the number of guests, reflecting the high levels of attentive personal service provided.

Headquartered in Cyprus with offices in London, Dusseldorf and Monaco, together with a branch office in Hong Kong (serving mainland China, Taiwan and South-East Asia), as well as partnerships serving India, Japan and Australia-New Zealand, Scandinavia and Iceland, Swan Hellenic supports its customers with close personal service worldwide.

About Tillberg Design of Sweden(TDoS)

Helsinki Shipyard Oy is located in the capital of Finland and specializes in shipbuilding technology and building special vessels for demanding conditions and routes. The shipyard has a long tradition and unmatched expertise in designing and building icebreakers and other high ice-class vessels for operations in cold environments. In addition to this arctic know-how, our specialization also covers passenger ferries and cruise ships.

The shipyard is renowned as a pioneer in Finnish shipbuilding, a substantial employer and part of the history and landscape of the City of Helsinki.

<https://helsinkishipyard.fi/>



For more information about Swan Hellenic,
please visit www.swanhellenic.com
or call +44 (0) 207 846 0271

For Swan Hellenic, please contact:
Mario Bounas, VP, Marketing:
Mario.bounas@swanhellenic.com

For Press, please contact:
Renato Bodi, TwentyTwenty,
Tel. +41793746887, renato.bodi@twentytwenty.biz

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