

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Royal Caribbean's Anthem Of The Seas Makes Inaugural Visit To St. Thomas On Tuesday

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ST. THOMAS -- Royal Caribbean International cruise line's newest ship, *Anthem of the Seas* will make its inaugural call on St. Thomas on Tuesday, January 19, a press release the West Indian Company (WICO) issued today has confirmed.

The ship will berth at WICO's dock from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

"*Anthem of the Seas* is the second of the new Royal Caribbean Quantum-Class ships to call on our port in just over a year," said Joseph B. Boschulte, President and CEO of the West Indian Company, Ltd. "We are always pleased when cruise lines include the U.S. Virgin Islands on the itineraries of their newer, larger ships. We are especially pleased

that WICO can welcome and berth a ship as magnificent as the *Anthem*.”

Captained by Anders Ingebrigtsen, *Anthem of the Seas* is Royal Caribbean International's second Quantum-Class ship. Quantum-Class ships are the cruise line's second largest category of passenger ships based on gross tonnage.

Completed in April 2015, *Anthem of the Seas* spent its maiden season cruising in European waters. The ship repositioned to the Caribbean in October 2015 to call on the region during its first winter season. The itineraries will include Eastern and Western Caribbean destinations.

According Royal Caribbean's website, *Anthem of the Seas* is the industry's most revolutionary ship. Its signature features include a Ripcord by IFly; the Northstar, a jewel-shaped capsule that extends 300 feet above seas level; and the Bionic Bar by Makr Shagr.

The ship's transformative entertainment and activity venues include Two70, the video venue with changing video backdrops; Seaplex , the largest indoor activity center at sea; and Music Hall, a live entertainment venue.

Newly designed, luxurious staterooms, game-changing technology and flexible dining options also are among the ship's superlatives.

Anthem of the Seas was voted Best New Ship 2015 by a Cruise Hive reader's poll. For the thirteenth consecutive year, Royal Caribbean was named Best Cruise Line Overall in the 2015 Travel Weekly Reader's Choice Awards. It also was named best cruise line in the Caribbean for the eighth year in a row.