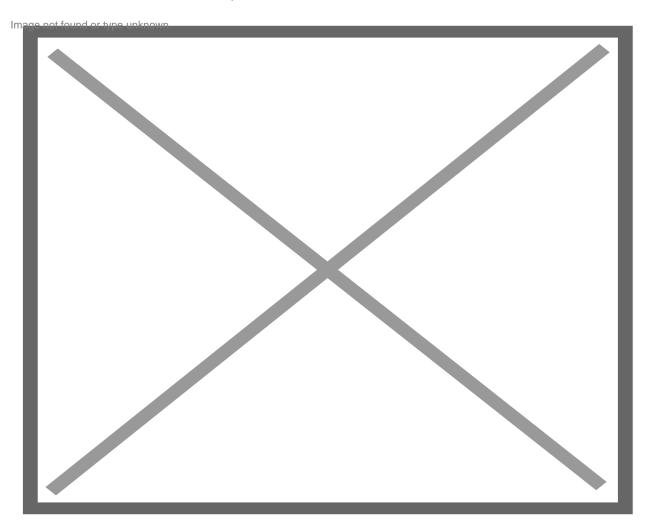
Celebrity Apex to Make Inaugural Call to USVI Sunday at Crown Bay

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The Celebrity Apex will make its inaugural call to St. Thomas on Sunday, announced V.I. Port Authority Executive Director Carlton Dowe.

The Apex will berth at the Austin "Babe" Monsanto Marine Terminal in Crown Bay at 8:00 a.m. Port Authority and Department of Tourism officials will host a dock-side welcome at 9 a.m. to greet the ship's captain and crew. The ship will be in port until 6:00 p.m.

The Celebrity Apex is an Edge-class cruise ship operated by Celebrity Cruises, a subsidiary of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd, according to V.I.P.A. It was built in France and is the second vessel in the company's Edge class of ships, following the delivery of her sister ship, Celebrity Edge, in 2018.

The ship has a capacity of 3,405 and 1,320 crew. However, due to Covid-19 sailing restrictions, it will arrive at approximately half of its capacity, said V.I.P.A. All Celebrity brand cruise ships have 100 percent of their crew vaccinated about 97 percent of their passengers are vaccinated.

Mr. Dowe added that based on the relationship V.I.P.A. has established with Royal Caribbean, the territory can expect to see more ships on both St. Thomas and St. Croix.

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