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St. Croix Sees Two Cruise Ships in One Day as 2023 Seasons Starts Under Newly Signed Agreement

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Royal Caribbean's Enchantment and Virgin Voyages' Valiant Lady docked at the Frederiksted Pier on Wed. Nov. 23, 2022. By. THE VIRGIN ISLANDS PORT AUTHORITY (TAFARI NELSON)

The V.I. Port Authority has announced that today is the first two-ship day in Frederiksted for the 2022-2023 cruise season on St. Croix, with two cruise vessels docking at the Ann E. Abramson Marine Facility Wednesday morning.

Royal Caribbean's Enchantment of the Seas arrived at 8:00 a.m. and will berth on the south side of the pier, VIPA said. The ship has the capacity to bring 2,440 passengers and 760 crew.

Virgin Voyages’ Valiant Lady, which made its inaugural call to St. Croix on November 9, also returns to St. Croix today and is berthed on the north side of the pier. The Valiant Lady has a maximum capacity of 2,770 passengers and 1,160 crew.

“We are still very early in the cruise season and the Ann E. Abramson is seeing record numbers of cruise ships and visitors. Each time a ship berths in Frederiksted, I am mindful of the vendors, the restaurants, the merchants, the taxi drivers, and all the businesses and residents that make their living via the tourism industry. The economic impact is far-reaching and critical to our territory’s success. Today’s cruise passengers become our future overnight guests,” stated VIPA Executive Director Carlton Dowe.

<div>NOVEMBER/DECEMBER</div> <div>Ann E. Abramson St. Croix</div> <div>Cruise schedules for the U.S. Virgin Islands All schedules are subject to change without notice.</div>	
Date	Ship
Nov. 21	Grandeur of the Seas
Nov. 22	Voyager of the Seas
Nov. 23	Enchantment of the Seas (south berth)
Nov. 23	Valiant Lady (north berth)
Nov. 25	Celebrity Silhouette
Dec. 6	Voyager of the Seas
Dec. 6	Valiant Lady
Dec. 9	Celebrity Silhouette
Dec. 14	Jewel of the Seas
Dec. 21	Voyager of the Seas
Dec. 22	Celebrity Silhouette

Mr. Dowe added that he continues to appreciate the support of the Bryan-Roach Administration – including the continued involvement of the V.I. Department of Tourism, the V.I. Police Department, and the Department of Sports Parks and Recreation — all partners with VIPA to provide an enjoyable and safe experience for all visitors.

VIPA said it has reported a total of 68 scheduled calls for the 2022-2023 cruise season on St. Croix. The active cruise season is attributed to the partnership between the authority, the Bryan/Roach Administration, and the Royal Caribbean Group, which has committed to significantly increasing cruise visitors to St. Croix by 180 percent in comparison to the 50,000 passengers visited St. Croix in 2019.

"The Virgin Islands Port Authority's Board, management, and staff wish everyone a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving and holiday season," concluded the release.

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