

# SEA & MUSIC

MEDITERRANEAN LUXURY  
ON THE EXPLORA I



WITH THE  
KAMMERORCHESTER WIEN-BERLIN  
DIANA DAMRAU  
FATMA SAID  
JOSEPH CALLEJA  
GAUTIER CAPUCON  
LAUMA SKRIDE

15. – 24. MAY 2025



SPECIAL  
TRAVEL  
INTERNATIONAL

*Travel and Music*







## LOOK FORWARD TO SEA & MUSIC 2025

Since we started organising high-class music tours 25 years ago, we have always tried to reinvent our tours (and ourselves). In our search for the extraordinary and our quest for excellence, we have never stopped.

For our next great travel experience, which we would like to present to you on the following pages, our aspirations were even higher. A music cruise on one of the most exclusive ships in the world - the Explora I. Launched as a pure suite ship in 2023 Explora I was planned from the outset to meet even the highest demands.

We have also designed the musical program in such a way that it will make the hearts of true music connoisseurs beat faster. Probably the best chamber orchestra in the world, the **Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin**, consisting of members of the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras, conducted by Rainer Honeck, the concertmaster of the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra will accompany this journey. They will be joined by two singers who wow audiences and critics worldwide and need no further introduction:

**Diana Damrau** and **Fatma Said**.

The tenor who is performing an exclusive recital on our trip is already being compared to Beniamino Gigli and Luciano Pavarotti - it is none other than **Joseph Calleja**. We will also have the charming and virtuoso cellist **Gautier Capuçon**, and the young, up-and-coming and highly acclaimed pianist **Lauma Skride**.

Together we start in Venice, the „Most Serene“, with a comprehensive program including an exclusive concert in the Scuola Grande San Rocco. We visit Rovinj, probably the most beautiful town in Croatia, experience a concert on land at the Teatro delle Muse in Ancona, and experience other destinations such as Kotor (Montenegro), Marmaris (Turkey), Chania (Crete/Greece) before our journey ends in Athens, the cradle of the arts.

You can find many more details about the ship, route, destinations and artists on the following pages.

For further advice and booking enquiries the MS6 team and our partners are always available.

It would be a great pleasure for us to welcome you on board the Explora I.

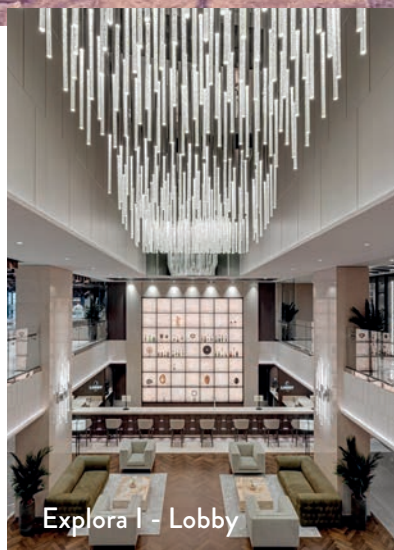




## AN EXPERIENCE AT SEA AND ON LAND



Exclusive concerts on board and ashore



Explora I - Lobby



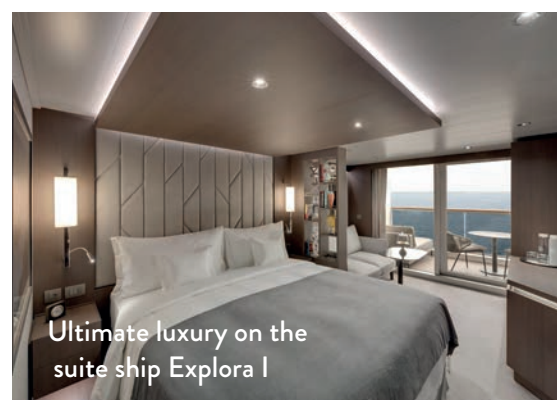
Unique concert evenings



Enjoy the Mediterranean



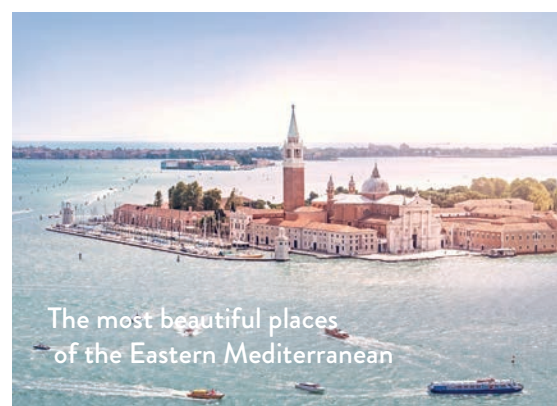
Top-class cuisine & wines



Ultimate luxury on the  
suite ship Explora I



With excursions for culture fans



The most beautiful places  
of the Eastern Mediterranean



# THE ARTISTS

## KAMMERORCHESTER WIEN-BERLIN

Since its foundation in 2008, the Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin can look back on an unprecedented success story. The leading members of the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonics fascinate with their agile chamber-music playing, which brings out the specific tonal beauty of the two top orchestras.

The foundation stone for this ensemble was laid by Sir Simon Rattle with his wish to conduct a joint concert by the Vienna and Berlin Philharmonic Orchestras for his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Making music together was so stimulating that the desire to continue came out of this experience. From this idea, the „Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin“ was born.

Since then, concertmasters, soloists and section leaders of the two orchestras have been coming together regularly to create an artistic exchange between two legendary philharmonic orchestras and playing cultures. From the very beginning, the Artistic Director and concertmaster of the Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin has been Rainer Honeck.

## RAINER HONECK | Dirigent

As a soloist, Rainer Honeck has performed in major European music centres (Royal Albert Hall, London), America (Carnegie Hall, New York) and Japan (Suntory Hall, Tokyo). His personal highlights include solo appearances with the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra under renowned conductors such as Herbert Blomstedt, Semyon Bychkov, Daniele Gatti, Adam Fischer, Valery Gergiev, Christoph von Dohnany, Daniel Harding, Manfred Honeck, Mariss Jansons, Riccardo Muti, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Kirill Petrenko and Michael Tilson-Thomas.

Due to his many years of experience as a concertmaster the desire to also work as a conductor arose. This was followed by repeated invitations to the Malm Symphony Orchestra, Yomiuri Symphony Orchestra, Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra of the Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg and the Austrian-Hungarian Haydn Philharmonic Orchestra.





## DIANA DAMRAU | Soprano

*She is quite simply one of the best singers in the world.*

*New York Sun*



## GAUTIER CAPUÇON | Cello

*Capuçon shapes long phrases as if he were a singer who never has to take a breath.*

*The Guardian*



## RAINER HONECK | Conductor

*The great joy of playing together is written all over their faces.*

*Tagesspiegel (Berlin) über das Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin*



## FATMA SAID | Soprano

*The flawlessly radiant Fatma Said as Pamina is a discovery.*

*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*



## LAUMA SKRIDE | Piano

*Wonderfully sensitive, with marvellous timbres, again and again also with highly virtuosic verve.*

*Bayerische Rundfunk*



## JOSEPH CALLEJA | Tenor

*Only one lyric tenor on the scene today has the honey-sweet tone and ingratiating style to make serious comparisons with Pavarotti and Gigli, and that is Calleja...*

*New Yorker*



## THE SHIP AT A GLANCE

64

Private Cabanas

1.25:1

Guest to staff ratio



Nearly **17.000 sqm**  
Public areas,  
thereof 6000qm outside



All-suite ship -

461

OCEAN FRONT SUITES  
all with full-height glazing  
and with private terrace

700 sqm

Indoor & Outdoor Spa

4

Pools  
1 Indoor

11

Impressive  
Culinary areas





# THE EXPLORA I



## TECHNICAL DETAILS

- Length: 248 m
- Width: 32.60 m Tonnage: 63,900 GT
- Power: 38,400 KW
- Cruising Speed: 18 Knots

## SPACIOUS OUTDOOR AREA

Total 6,250m, communal outdoor area, including three outdoor and one indoor pool with retractable glass roof, 64 private cabanas as well as dining and lounge facilities by the pool.

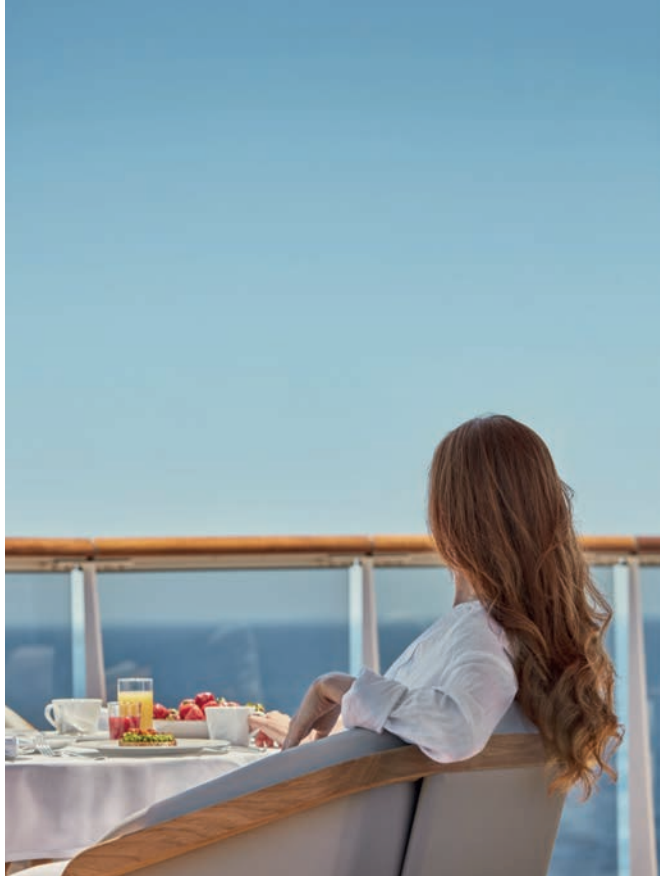


## BARS & LOUNGES

You have the choice between twelve bar and lounge indoor and outdoor experiences with selected entertainment and atmospheric performances as well as a casino, an art gallery, and selected shopping experiences.







### UNIQUE LUXURY

The Explora I is consistently designed as a pure suite ship. The suites are among the most spacious in the luxury cruise category.

Guest to staff ratio: 1.25 : 1



### TOP-CLASS CUISINE

Choose from nine culinary experiences, including six unique restaurants offering delicious and healthy dishes made from local and sustainable ingredients.



### SUSTAINABILITY

- Environmentally conscious equipment
- Selective catalytic reduction (SCR system)
- Highly efficient & energy-saving appliances
- Certified by RINA DOLPHIN for reduced underwater noise
- LED lighting, high-efficiency appliances
- Advanced wastewater treatment system according to Baltic standard
- USCD-approved ballast water treatment system
- Shore power supply
- State-of-the-art recycling and waste management
- Antifouling paint
- Innovative hull design and optimised hydrodynamics
- Software for trim optimisation
- Intelligent heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems



# EXPLORA I - THE SUITES



## OCEAN SUITES

The Ocean Suites are among the most spacious standard suites in the industry. They combine space and light in an elegant way.

They also have a private terrace where you can relax and enjoy the view of the sea from your comfortable lounge bed.

Total area of the suite:  
35m<sup>2</sup>  
(incl. 7m<sup>2</sup> terrace) to 39m<sup>2</sup>  
(incl. 11m<sup>2</sup> terrace)



## OCEAN PENTHOUSES

The Ocean Penthouses are a wonderfully luxurious spacious retreat, furnished with great attention to detail.

All elements are made of first-class materials and designed in such a way that the sea view and the natural light come into their own. Each penthouse has an elegant, private dining area for four people, perfect for inviting other guests for a cosy get-together.

Available subcategories:

- Penthouses
- Deluxe Penthouses
- Premier Penthouses
- Grand Penthouses

Total area of the suite:  
280 m<sup>2</sup> Suite: 155 m<sup>2</sup>  
Terrace: 125 m<sup>2</sup>







## OCEAN RESIDENCES

The Ocean Residences - with their ocean-inspired names; Cove, Retreat, Serenity and Cocoon - are cozy retreats with spacious private terraces, panoramic views of the ocean, private outdoor whirlpools and first-class butler service by our Residence Hosts.

Available subcategories:

Cove Residences  
Retreat Residences  
Serenity Residences  
Cocoon Residences



## OWNER'S RESIDENCE

The Owner's Residence is the largest accommodation on board and comprises several harmoniously coordinated rooms in which you can receive guests and relax and unwind.

From the private terrace, which extends across the entire width of the ship you have a boundless view of the sea.

Enjoy a large infinity whirlpool and the first-class butler service of the Residence Manager.

Total area of the suite:

280 m<sup>2</sup>

Suite: 155 m<sup>2</sup>

Terrace: 125 m<sup>2</sup>





# ITINERARY & ROUTE



PRE-PROGRAM - 12 | 13 | 14. 5. 2025  
EMBARKATION Thursday, 15.5.2025

DAY 1 | Thursday | 15.5.2025  
FUSINA (VENICE) | ITALY

Experience musical Venice. Our trip has deliberately been designed with this preliminary program, to immerse you into the Serenissima - the most illustrious. In addition to exclusive sightseeing, meals in typical trattorias and Michelin award-winning gourmet restaurants, we have also organised a special musical experience:

A concert by the Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin with star cellist Gauthier Capuçon, in the Grande Scuola San Rocco on May 14, the evening before embarkation. All programs include guided tours in small groups, boat transfer from the airport to the hotels, and transfer to the ship. We will advise you personally on your individual pre-program.

Day 2 | Friday | 16.5.2025  
ROVINJ | CROATIA

Beautiful Rovinj, which lies on a tiny island, probably the most beautiful town in Croatia. Pastel-coloured houses tower over the crystal-clear waters of the Adriatic and climb up the hill to the famous bell tower of the Basilica of St. Euphemia, a reminder of the town's Venetian roots. Immerse yourself in the labyrinth of narrow alleyways or take a tour of the town in a traditional batana boat with a flat bottom. At the markets, you will find local specialties and in the waterfront bars and restaurants you can taste the flavours of the Istrian peninsula.

In the evening, after returning to the Explora, you can experience the first musical highlight on board the ship. The Latvian pianist Lauma Skride, holder of the Beethoven Ring since 2008, invites you to a piano recital in a dreamlike ambience.

Day 3 | Saturday | 17.5.2025  
ANCONA | ITALY

Immerse yourself in the coastal attractions of Ancona, Italy. The city with its maritime heritage and cultural wealth invites you to discover the charm of the sea. From the tranquil harbour to the inviting cafés, every moment in Ancona unfolds like a graceful dance between history and the enchanting ambience of the Adriatic.

In the evening, the celebrated opera diva Diana Damrau, together with the Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin in an exclusive concert at the Teatro delle Muse in Ancona. Look forward to a grandiose performance in an enchanting ambience.

Day 4 | Sunday | 18.5.2025  
BARI | ITALY

Bari, the metropolis of Apulia. Immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere of the Mercato Coperto which is filled with the flavours of Italian cuisine. The warm-hearted people of the city, and its cultural richness, invite you to enjoy the beauty of the Adriatic coast. Every moment in Bari reflects the essence of Italian coastal magic.

In the evening, you will experience the Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin in a very special ambience. Conductor Rainer Honeck will create an unforgettable evening with the virtuoso musicians.





**DAY 5 | MONDAY | 19.5.2025**  
**KOTOR | MONTENEGRO**

The beautiful bay of Kotor, which nestles like an amphitheatre in the Adriatic coast of Montenegro, welcomes you with its mesmerising turquoise waters, framed by emerald green slopes. The church Crkva Gospe od Zdravlja (Church of Our Lady of Health) offers a spectacular view of the red-roofed roofs of Kotor, which are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A man-made jewel amid inspiring landscapes.

**Day 6 | Tuesday | 20.5.2025**  
**AT SEA**

During the day you can enjoy the Mediterranean and the facilities of the Explora I - the bars, the decks, the restaurants and, of course, the magnificent pools.

When evening falls, we invite you to a song recital with piano accompaniment. Fatma Said, the Egyptian-born singer, and perhaps one of the most exciting opera stars of her generation, will give an insight into her repertoire on board and inspire you with her stunning voice and unique charisma.



**Day 7 | Wednesday | 21.5.2025**  
**CHANIA (CRETE) | GREECE**

Always a muse for artists and poets, Chania is a cultural crossroads, where the varied architecture bears witness to past cultures. The stalls of the markets are filled with olive oil and fragrant herbs from the surrounding hills. Beyond the old shipyards and leather tanneries of Halepa stretches a Homeric wonderland with endless beaches.

**Day 8 | Thursday | 22.5.2025**  
**MARMARIS | TURKEY**

Travel to Marmaris on the Turkish Riviera. Explore the vibrant bazaars, where the scent of spices mingle with the lively atmosphere. Take a stroll along the marina, which is framed by majestic mountains and admire the beauty of the castle of Marmaris.

When we are back at sea, we can look forward to the last musical highlight of the trip. Joseph Calleja, who is already being compared to Luciano Pavarotti, invites us on a musical journey through the world of opera.

It will be a truly special experience to hear the man from Malta in a very special environment.



**Day 9 | Friday | 23.5.2025**  
**SAMOS | GREECE**

Embark on an idyllic journey to Samos, Greece, where the Aegean Sea whispers stories of timeless beauty. Immerse yourself in the ancient wonders of the Heraion, where myth and history come together. Explore the lively Pythagoreion, a picturesque harbour named after the famous mathematician. Every moment on Samos is a revelation of Greek island charm and serenity.

**Day 10 | Saturday | 24.5.2025**  
**PIRAEUS (ATHENS) | GREECE**

We end our journey in the place where so much of our culture has its origins - in the cradle of civilization, Athens, the capital of Greece, which despite its rich history has never forgotten to reinvent itself.













## ULTIMATE LUXURY

The Explora I, completed and christened in 2023, belongs to a new generation of luxury cruise ships that place the comfort of guests above all else. A guest-to-staff ratio of 1.25 to 1, outstanding culinary delights in 11 restaurants and bars, extensive pools and spa areas offer a ship experience of the highest quality.

## OUTSTANDING DESIGN

Designed as a pure suite ship, the Explora 1 offers on-board residences from 35m<sup>2</sup> (Ocean Suites) up to 280m<sup>2</sup> (Owner's Residence). All suite categories are designed by leading interior designers and include their own private terrace.

## TOP MEDITERRANEAN DESTINATIONS

From Venice to Athens, you visit a total of 5 countries (Italy, Croatia, Montenegro, Turkey, Greece). You can discover the cities and ports yourself, or take part in special excursions and trips.

## EXCLUSIVE MUSIC PROGRAM WITH WORLD STARS - ON BOARD AND ASHORE

As part of the cruise and the preliminary program in Venice you will experience concerts and recitals with Diana Damrau, cellist Gauthier Capuçon, the tenor Joseph Calleja, the pianist Lauma Skride, soprano Fatma Said and probably the best chamber orchestra in the world: the Kammerorchester Wien-Berlin, conducted by Rainer Honeck.

## UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES

Travel with music enthusiasts from all over the world and experience the artists up close, enjoy introductory lectures, meet & greets and excursions especially for culture enthusiasts.

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"Music and rhythm find their way to the most secret places of the soul."

Plato



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