



NEW SHIPS

Inspiring artworks, epic views, the biggest ship ever built and the first new British line to set sail in 10 years – we round up the latest launches...



PICTURES: MICHEL VERDIERE, OMBRA/ALAMY, EVAN RICKS



CELEBRITY BEYOND

Find a world beyond your imagination on Celebrity Cruises' latest game-changing launch, writes Jeannine Williamson

A shimmering white peacock studded with exactly 28,854 Swarovski crystals, an ethereal darkened walkway strewn with golden sculptures, paintings signed by Picasso and a life-sized white elephant are not the type of things you would usually associate with a cruise ship. However, they're just some of the many surprises that lie

around every curve and corner on *Celebrity Beyond*.

If ever there were a floating ambassador to challenge preconceptions about cruising,

**SURPRISES LIE AROUND
EVERY CORNER AND CURVE
ON CELEBRITY BEYOND**

or change the minds of landlubbers who vow they would never set foot on a cruise ship, this is it. Launched in April, Celebrity Cruises' third Edge-class vessel provides all the wow factor elements of its predecessors *Edge* and *Apex*, plus plenty more.

Continuing a partnership with designers and architects who had never worked on cruise ships before, including



the UK's multi-award-winning Kelly Hoppen and Tom Wright, who designed Dubai's landmark Burj Al Arab hotel, the end result is a vessel that pushes seafaring boundaries to rival some of the most beautiful modern hotels and buildings you would find on dry land.

Carrying 3,260 passengers, 17-deck *Celebrity Beyond* is 20 metres longer and one deck higher than its sister vessels. The extra space has resulted in a much larger Sunset Bar – the best spot for a sundowner – an expanded exclusive Retreat area for suite guests, and Le Voyage, international Michelin-starred chef Daniel Boulud's first-ever restaurant at sea.

The heart of the ship is the extended three-deck Grand Plaza,

surrounded by bars and restaurants and with the Martini Bar at its centre. Each night, beneath a chandelier glowing with hundreds of LED lights, theatrical bartenders juggle bottles and glasses.

The Magic Carpet, introduced on *Celebrity Edge*, remains a standout feature in every sense. The cantilevered platform, with glass walls on three sides, juts out above the sea and is moved to different decks during each cruise, variously serving as a bar and lounge, and for extra-special dinners that are usually held once per sailing.

The stylish and sophisticated Kelly Hoppen-designed accommodation includes single cabins with balconies, a pair of huge Iconic Suites offering a view as good as the captain's, and the all-new Aqua Sky Suites that come

with wellness perks including free fitness classes and entry to the spa's thermal suite.

Celebrity Beyond will sail on a variety of Mediterranean cruises until early October, to destinations including Italy, the French Riviera and Greek islands, before relocating to the Caribbean for winter 2022-23. ▶▶

GETTING THERE

A nine-night Italian Riviera & France cruise on board *Celebrity Beyond*, departing on August 27, 2022, and sailing from Barcelona to Rome, starts from £1,321 per person excluding flights. For details, visit celebritycruises.com

Clockwise from far left:

Infinite Veranda Stateroom; Magic Carpet; The Retreat's pool area; Resort Deck; *Celebrity Beyond*; The Retreat