

Ministry of Tourism, Equality, Social Services and Housing

## PRESS RELEASE

No. 273/2015

Date: 4th May 2015

## 'Silver Explorer' makes first of a series of cruise inaugural calls

Gibraltar port is bracing itself for a hectic week ahead with the visit of numerous cruise vessels as from Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>. The first visitor, making its inaugural call to Gibraltar will be Silver Explorer, the polar adventure luxury cruise liner, to be followed by Viking Star, and culminating with the visit of the spectacular Anthem of the Seas on May 9<sup>th</sup> and the Explorer of the Seas on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Silver Explorer owned and operated by the Monaco based cruise company Silversea Cruises, has a gross tonnage of 6,130, a length of 108 metres and carries 160 passengers.

Minister for Tourism, the Hon Samantha Sacramento MP, said she was delighted that the Port of Gibraltar was busier than ever, noting that the consolidation of the Rock as a maritime hub of excellence and leading port of call in the Mediterranean, were top political priorities for the GSLP-Liberal Government.

The Minister declared: "We are delighted to welcome the Silver Explorer. It will be a hugely demanding week for the port of Gibraltar at the start of what we are confident will be another very successful season for the local cruise and leisure industry.

"No doubt, the Gibraltar Tourist Board and its partners in the private sector will once more ensure that all the first-class services and amenities that we offer, are delivered to the high standards we have come to expect, so that our visitors have a memorable and enjoyable time among us, that they treasure the experience and return to the Rock at the first available opportunity."

The local ship agent for Silver Explorer is MH Bland.