



# HM Government of Gibraltar

---

Ministry of Tourism, Equality,  
Social Services and Housing

## PRESS RELEASE

No. 153/2015

Date: 10th March 2015

---

### **Minister Sacramento attends Britannia naming ceremony in UK**

Minister for Tourism, Equality, Social Services and Housing, the Hon Samantha Sacramento MP has attended the naming celebrations of P&O Cruises' new cruise ship Britannia, which took place in Southampton today. The Britannia will visit Gibraltar on her maiden voyage on March 17th 2015. However, Britannia's first port of call on leaving the shipyard in Italy was Gibraltar, as she called in on a technical stop on Tuesday 3rd March.

Her Majesty The Queen accompanied by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh performed the naming ceremony in a special dockside ceremony at the Port of Southampton's Ocean Terminal.

As is traditional on such occasions, a bottle of sparkling wine from the Wiston Estate Winery in Sussex, UK, was smashed against the side of the ship. In addition a Nebuchadnezzar of the British Brut NV was used, while thousands of bottles of Brut NV and Rosé Vintage 2011 have been available during various programmed festive events starting on March 9th.

Minister Sacramento declared she was proud to represent Her Majesty's Government of Gibraltar at the ceremony in an official capacity as a reminder of the close links and naval ties between Gibraltar and Southampton.

The Minister said: "I was extremely pleased to have been invited to the celebrations and naming of the new P&O vessel as this company is a very important customer for Gibraltar. I am also very excited that the Britannia will be making an inaugural call at the Port of Gibraltar later this month during its maiden voyage. Britannia will deliver passengers to Gibraltar as one of the 216 vessels scheduled to visit Gibraltar in 2015. This sees an increase in calls over last year and will no doubt be welcomed by Gibraltar's tourism, hospitality, transport and retail industry."

Minister Sacramento was accompanied by Gibraltar Tourist Board Chief Executive Nicky Guerrero.

Ends

Ministry of Tourism, Equality, Social Services and Housing,

HM Government of Gibraltar • 14 Governor's Parade • Gibraltar GX11 1AA

t +350 20066482 f +350 20042509 (Centrex 2368) e mfess@gibraltar.gov.gi w gibraltar.gov.gi



## Notes to Editors

Designed to accommodate more than 3,600 passengers, Britannia is the largest cruise ship ever constructed for both P&O and the British market. Expected to boost the line's capacity by 24%, the 141,000gt ship features 13 bars and 13 dining venues, the line's largest Oasis Spa and open-deck retreat, a sports arena, four swimming pools including a Serenity pool and bar and a library. Guests will also be able to enjoy various entertainment venues including The Limelight Club, a 936-seat theatre with an LED screen and a multi-purpose TV studio hosting shows with guest speakers, cinema screenings, radio plays or game shows. The ship also offers 27 single cabins – more than any other cruise ship – and 15 of those cabins will have outside balconies. Interiors have been designed by Richmond International.