



## HORNBLOWER® CRUISES AND EVENTS

### **HORNBLOWER CRUISES AND EVENTS TO RE-INTRODUCE DC DINING EXPERIENCES JUNE 27** *Introducing New Hygiene and Service Protocols to Ensure the Wellbeing of Everyone*

Washington D.C., June 22, 2020 – **Hornblower Cruises and Events** confirms it will be re-starting its Washington DC dining cruise operation from Saturday, June 27 onwards. The news follows on the recent resumption of the company's popular Potomac Water Taxi service on June 19. With guest spaces spread over several levels, the company's fleet of luxurious vessels offer expansive decks inside and out, providing plentiful space and fresh air. Combined with reduced capacity, there is more than enough room on board for everyone to stay safely apart.

To provide reassurance in the current pandemic environment, Hornblower has expanded its industry defining **SafeCruise by Hornblower** program, building on already stringent sanitation processes, to incorporate further health-driven measures to guard against the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.

Explaining the company's preparations for welcoming guests back on board, Mary Rinaldo, regional vice president of Hornblower Cruises and Events said: "We are proud of our excellent safety and sanitation track record and always operate and maintain a rigorous process around cleanliness and hygiene. So, while our guests can still expect the same high standards and welcoming service, we are adapting our amazing experiences to reflect the need for social distance, alongside elevated health and hygiene practices."

Hornblower has reviewed every aspect of the guest experience journey and is taking all steps necessary to ensure the wellbeing of everyone on board. These include, but are not limited to:

- Mandatory daily crew member health screening, and wearing of appropriate PPE
- Revising boarding and ticketing procedures to allow for social distancing and touchless entry
- Requiring guests to wear face masks while cruising, except while eating and drinking
- Reducing the number of guests on board, and adapting all seating and table spacing to allow for a minimum 6-foot distance between guests while they cruise
- Implementing enhanced sanitation and disinfection procedures, with hand sanitizing stations available throughout

#### **Potomac Water Taxi Services** (resumed Friday, June 19)

With calling points situated close to the capital's key tourist, commercial and entertainment districts, the Potomac Water Taxi is one of the most efficient and eco-friendly means of navigating the wider metropolitan area. Initially, the company will offer a daily schedule of services connecting Alexandria, the Wharf and National Harbor. Sightseeing tours will be reintroduced July onwards, alongside a fourth water taxi route between the Wharf and Georgetown. \*One-way ticket prices will start at: \$13.00 for adults and \$9.00 for children. For unlimited water taxi rides: \*one-day and two-day passes are also offered for \$31.00 and \$40.00 respectively for adults.

#### **Dining Cruise Experiences** (resuming Saturday, June 27)

With its sleek low profile – built explicitly to travel beneath the historic bridges spanning the Potomac – Odyssey III allows guests to experience the city from a whole new perspective. Having undergone a multi-million dollar transformation last year, the D.C. flagship boasts the region's most luxurious on-the-



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water dining cruise experience while offering unparalleled vistas of the nation's greatest monuments from the temperature-controlled interior and exterior observation spaces.

A choice of signature Odyssey Dinner cruises will operate Fridays and Saturdays, alongside the ever-popular weekend Odyssey Brunch experience. All feature freshly prepared multi-course menus complemented by a sophisticated selection of award-winning wines, craft beers and specialty cocktails. Brunch cruises also include free-flowing mimosas! To reflect current requirements, some of the usual elements like live entertainment, dancing and a walk-up bar service won't be permitted, though there will be a DJ playing music for guests to enjoy while at their tables. Cruise prices start from \*\$79.90 for brunch or \*\$117.90 for dinner. Starting July 12, a new Sunday Prix Fixe Dinner cruise will also be available.

Hornblower plans to gradually increase offerings throughout the summer, resuming its full range of dining, sightseeing and water taxi experiences when current restrictions are lifted. Washington D.C. / Alexandria will be the company's seventh location to reopen, joining Baltimore, Chicago, Marina del Rey, Newport Beach, Norfolk and San Diego.

For further information and schedule details for Dining Cruises and Potomac Water Taxi services visit [www.hornblower.com](https://www.hornblower.com) [https://www.hornblower.com/washington-dc] or call **888-306-2469**.

### Notes to Editors

- Anyone who self-reports any of the noted COVID-19 symptoms or has completed international travel in the previous 14 days, will not be able to join the cruise.
- All Crew and all Guests ages 3 and older are always required to wear face coverings while on board our vessels, except while dining or exempted by the local health authority.
- Water Taxi services will operate daily, though may be affected by inclement weather conditions.
- All prices quoted are per person, exclude fees and taxes, and subject to availability.
- One-way ticket prices quoted for Alexandria-The Wharf service; One-day and two-day passes are valid for unlimited water taxi rides on a single date or two consecutive days, as appropriate. T&Cs apply.
- Brunch and Dinner cruises include a freshly prepared, multi-course plated menu with unlimited coffee, hot tea, iced tea and water. A choice of dates may be available at these rates.
- Odyssey III departs from the District Wharf in Southwest DC [Pier 4 580 Water St SW • Washington, DC 20024](#)

### About Hornblower Cruises and Events

Hornblower Cruises and Events is North America's largest and leading provider of water-based dining, sightseeing, private charter and transportation experiences. 22 coveted destinations are offered in the US, Canada and the UK, where the company employs over 4,300 shipmates who operate a fleet of 157 vessels serving upwards of 9.8 million guests each year. Hornblower Cruises and Events is a division of Hornblower Group which operates the official ferry boat service to Alcatraz Island, the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island Memorial Museum on behalf of the National Park Service as well as the New York NYC Ferry, American Queen Steamboat Company, Hornblower Niagara Cruises, Victory Cruises Lines and HMS Global Maritime. The expansive portfolio reflects almost a century of sector expertise and innovation – from pioneering the earliest river sightseeing tours and dining cruises to developing the revolutionary Hornblower Hybrid, a vessel powered by wind, solar and battery electricity. For more information visit [www.hornblower.com](https://www.hornblower.com)



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### **About SafeCruise by Hornblower**

Established over 25 years ago, SafeCruise by Hornblower delivers industry-defining standards for health, safety and security across the Hornblower Group of companies. Continuously improving, the program follows the most up to date government and industry guidelines and applies decades-long operational expertise to ensure a safe environment for guests and crew members, while maintaining Hornblower's excellent record of safety.

[www.hornblower.com/safecruise](http://www.hornblower.com/safecruise)