

CRYSTAL



MIAMI, Aug. 3, 2026

Crystal Appoints Captain Placido Libro to Lead *Crystal Serenity*

Veteran Maritime to also Support and bring out *Crystal Grace* at Debut

Crystal, the leader in exceptional cruise experiences, announced today the appointment of Captain Placido Libro as Master of *Crystal Serenity*, effective Aug. 14, 2026. Captain Libro succeeds Captain Birger J. Vorland, who recently concluded his distinguished career of nearly five decades of service with the brand.

A highly accomplished seafarer with more than four decades of maritime experience, Captain Libro brings extensive operational expertise, leadership and technical knowledge to his new role. Since joining Crystal in 2024 as Director of Maritime Affairs, he has played an integral role in supporting fleet operations and overseeing key phases of the development and construction of *Crystal Grace*, the brand's first

CRYSTAL

ocean ship in more than 25 years. He will then serve as *Crystal Grace*'s captain during her inaugural season in 2028.

“Captain Libro's depth of experience, unwavering commitment to safety and operational excellence, and passion for delivering exceptional guest experiences make him the ideal leader to join Captain Vincent Tallaird on *Crystal Serenity*. Having worked closely with Placido over the past 20 years, I have witnessed firsthand his dedication to our crew, our guests and our brand values. We are delighted to welcome him to the bridge and are confident he will continue the proud legacy of leadership aboard *Crystal Serenity*.”

ROBERTO FAZI, CRYSTAL'S SVP MARINE OPERATIONS

Captain Libro completed his studies at the Nautical Institute of Messina in Sicily in 1983, and began his maritime career as an officer in the Italian Navy, serving until 1987 attaining the rank of Lieutenant. He subsequently continued his career as a deck officer aboard merchant vessels, ferries and passenger ships before earning his Master's License in 1989.

Throughout his distinguished career, Captain Libro has served in a variety of leadership positions, including Deck Officer, Safety Officer, Staff Captain and Captain for several cruise and ferry operators including Costa, Carnival, Silversea and more. He has also worked as a newbuild superintendent at leading European shipyards, overseeing the construction of approximately 10 passenger ships, and served as a Designated Person Ashore (DPA) for a ferry company.

"It is an extraordinary honor to take command of *Crystal Serenity*, a ship known for delivering some of the finest experiences at sea," said Captain Libro. "I look forward to working alongside our exceptional officers and crew to create memorable experiences for our guests while upholding the highest standards of safety, service and operational excellence. I am also excited to continue supporting the development of *Crystal Grace* and, in time, lead her through the final stages of construction and into service as she begins a new chapter for Crystal."

To book any of Crystal's exceptional voyages, contact your travel advisor, visit www.crystalcruises.com, or call (800) 446-6620.

CRYSTAL

###

About Crystal

For more than three decades, Crystal has been synonymous with exceptional, award-winning voyages. In 2022, AKTG (Abercrombie & Kent Travel Group) acquired the Crystal brand and its two vessels, Crystal Serenity and Crystal Symphony, ushering in a new era of being 'Exceptional at Sea' following a \$170 million refurbishment of the two ships. The globally renowned cruise line offers discerning travelers industry-leading, authentic, and enriching experiences both onshore and at sea. Crystal's pioneering partnership with Abercrombie & Kent provides guests with unparalleled access to the most sought-after experiences and destinations around the world. The reimaged ships boast larger, updated suites with artisanal finishes, and almost one member of crew per guest.

Crystal is home to the first-ever Casino de Monte-Carlo at sea as part of an exclusive partnership with Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer (SBM), and world-class dining includes Umi Uma®, the only dining experience at sea by chef Nobu (Nobuyuki Matsuhisa), and the only Beefbar on the ocean, a collaboration with visionary restaurateur Riccardo Giraudi, and a specially curated Osteria d'Ovidio menu by three-time Michelin-starred Italian chef Massimiliano and celebrated restaurateur Raffaele Alajmo. The ships also feature cutting-edge wellness at the Aurōra Spa, and spectacular entertainment including Broadway-standard shows. With a legacy of unrivaled service and commitment to sophistication and elegance at every touchpoint, once onboard guests feel as if they are perfectly at home.

Join our exceptional community at:

Facebook: @CrystalCruises

Instagram: @CrystalCruises

Twitter: @CrystalCruises

LinkedIn: @CrystalCruises

FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES:

USA/ The Americas

Robyn Fink, rfink@crystalcruises.com

Australasia

Michelle Mickan, mmickan@abercrombiekent.com.au

UK

Kate Selley, kate@kateselleypr.co.uk

CRYSTAL

A&K Travel Group (AKTG)

James Treacy, jtreacy@abercrombiekent.com