

# CRYSTAL



MIAMI (Jan. 26, 2025)

## Crystal Announces Retirement Of Captain Birger J. Vorland

### A Nearly 50-Year Career at Sea Concludes with Final Voyage on June 10, 2026

Crystal, the leader in exceptional cruise experiences, announced today the upcoming retirement of Captain Birger J. Vorland, one of the most respected and admired masters in the cruise industry. He will rejoin *Crystal Serenity* in March and conclude his seafaring career on June 10, 2026, following his final voyage, an eight-day voyage departing from Marseille on June 2, and including a stop in Monte Carlo for the Monaco Grand Prix.

# CRYSTAL

Captain Vorland's distinguished maritime journey spans almost 48 years, with more than two decades dedicated to Crystal. He first joined the line in June 2003 aboard *Crystal Harmony*, bringing with him deep experience, steady leadership and an unshakeable passion for exploration that would come to define some of the most iconic moments in Crystal's storied history.

Among his many achievements, Captain Vorland served as Master for Crystal's groundbreaking expeditions through the Northwest Passage in 2016 and 2017, voyages that have become legendary within the industry. Conceived years earlier and meticulously planned under his leadership, these sailings not only redefined what luxury cruising could achieve but also cemented Crystal's reputation for doing the extraordinary. To this day, they remain among the most celebrated and commercially successful voyages in the brand's history.

“Crystal has given me more memories than I could have imagined when I first stepped aboard in 2003. From world cruises to the adventures of the Northwest Passage, my time here has been filled with moments I will carry with me forever. But what I will miss most are the people, the crew and the guests who return time and again, creating a true sense of family. When I step ashore for good in June, I do so with immense pride, gratitude and an appreciation for a life spent at sea.”

CAPTAIN BIRGER J. VORLAND

“Captain Birger represents the very soul of Crystal—excellence, curiosity, integrity and

# CRYSTAL

a profound respect for

tribute to Vorland's storied career. "His leadership helped shape defining chapters of

CEO Cristina Levis paying

our history and elevated Crystal's standing as a pioneer in luxury exploration. We are deeply grateful for his dedication and are honored to celebrate his extraordinary legacy."

As he looks ahead to retirement, Captain Vorland plans to spend more time at home with his wife, embracing a quieter chapter filled with domestic travel and reflection after a lifetime of global exploration. Crystal will celebrate Captain Vorland's final contract with a series of commemorative moments and celebrations honoring his career and contributions, with more details being announced soon.

For more information on this special voyage or to book one of Crystal's exceptional sailings, contact your travel advisor, visit [crystalcruises.com](http://crystalcruises.com) or call 1-800-446-6620.

## **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 reimagined 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

# C R Y S T A L

Matsuhsa), 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.

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