



PRESS RELEASE
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM WELCOMES A SECOND INTERNATIONAL CRUISE SHIP

- 1. Bandar Seri Begawan, 5th March 2023** – The return of cruise tourism continues to bring tourists to Brunei Darussalam with the Seven Seas Mariner docked at the Cruise Ship Centre, Muara Port today.
- The Seven Seas Mariner is the second ship making its port of call in Brunei Darussalam after the Oceania Nautica last Friday since the closure of international cruises due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Seven Seas Mariner cruise departed from its point of origin in Miami, Florida, and today brought a total of 779 passengers who were welcomed with a lively hadrah performance as they disembarked the ship.
- The cruise ship passengers were offered exclusive tours to iconic places in Brunei Darussalam, such as the Royal Regalia Museum, the Jame Asr' Mosque, and Kampong Ayer. A Mangrove safari boat trip around Kampong Ayer was also part of the tours offered, giving the cruise passengers an opportunity to experience firsthand the Bruneian cultural way of life and sightsee the native wildlife along the Brunei river.
- (Interview Session One)** - Throughout the tours, first-time visitors have shared their positive feedback when asked about their short trip to Brunei Darussalam. According to a couple from California, Tim Whitcomb and Pamela Whitcomb, both considered this short experience in Brunei Darussalam an authentic one especially seeing the culture of places that they have not been to before. The wife also added that she has gladly enjoyed the beautiful, clean and very friendly environment in this country.
- (Interview Session Two)** - James, Hilary and Maggie from the United States of America (USA) described the tours as interesting and managed to take several photo-stop at few iconic landmarks such as the Jame Asr' Mosque, Prime Minister's Office and the historic Water Village. They added that tasting the local cuisine made their overall experience a great one.

6. (Interview Session Three) - One of the cruise ship crew members, Tanner from the United States of America (USA) that joined the tour also stated her first-time experience in Brunei Darussalam had been incredible and looking forward to coming again in the future.

7. The Sultanate will be welcoming 4 more cruise ships this year, with the next cruise, the Oceania Insignia, which is expected to sail into Brunei waters on the 21st of May 2023.

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Prepared by:

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