



**DREAM CRUISES ANNOUNCES GRACE CHEN AS GODMOTHER FOR  
NEWEST SHIP, EXPLORER DREAM**

*Celebrated Chinese fashion designer selected as the embodiment of the pioneering spirit of  
Explorer Dream*



**Hong Kong, 26 March 2019** – Dream Cruises announced the official godmother for its newest ship, Explorer Dream, which will be joining the fleet in April after her ceremonial launch and christening in Shanghai. Celebrated Chinese designer, Grace Chen, was selected for the role due to her ground-breaking success in the international fashion industry and as a trail-blazer for Chinese women all over the world.

“Dream Cruises is honoured to name Grace Chen as our official godmother for Explorer Dream,” said Mr Thatcher Brown, President of Dream Cruises. “Grace Chen’s profound commitment to pushing the boundaries of fashion as a medium for powerful self-expression, remarkable beauty, and modern culture is truly inspiring. Grace Chen embodies the pioneering spirit of Explorer Dream, the pathfinder ship for the Dream Cruises’ brand. Together we will continue to provide meaningful contributions to the travel and lifestyle industries, connecting and empowering across cultures.”

Grace Chen, Founder and Chief Designer of Grace Chen Couture, is an exceptional designer. Regarded as one of China’s most influential fashion innovators, her designs transcend time, place and culture. As the first mainland Chinese alumna of New York’s Fashion Institute of Technology, Chen worked as a designer to the stars in New York and Los Angeles for 15 years, before setting up her own label in China in 2009.

Hailed as “the Power Dresser of China” by the South China Morning Post, Grace has dressed an impressive list of global clients, including American Talk show host Oprah Winfrey,



Academy-Award winner Helen Mirren, China's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying, Emmy Award winning presenter and entrepreneur Yue-sai Kan, Chinese media icon Yang Lan, as well as Taiwanese actress, Lin Chi-Ling, model Sui He, Chinese actress Ni Ni in China, and many other personalities spanning the worlds of entertainment, sports, politics, finance, and society.

"The exploring of dreams and visions is the inspiration and motivation of one's life. A journey with Explorer Dream will take us to discover the beauty of the ocean, and the fantasy in your heart. As an artist whose responsibility is to share the most beautiful things with others, and as the Godmother of this amazing ship, I'd love to invite you to join us for the journey of our life!" said Grace Chen

As the official godmother, Grace Chen will play a pivotal role during the inaugural ceremony and christening of Explorer Dream in Shanghai on 11 April. Selected to symbolically bring good luck and protection to the vessel, she will be the person responsible for the traditional and iconic breaking of the bottle of champagne on the hull of the ship to herald the official launch of Explorer Dream. As well, Grace Chen will also present a special fashion show of her dazzling creations during the inaugural event in Shanghai.

Dream Cruises newest family member, Explorer Dream will live up to her name as the pathfinder ship for the brand's global plans. Formerly the "SuperStar Virgo" of sister brand Star Cruises, "Explorer Dream" is currently undergoing a US 56 million dollar transformation that will add exquisite new facilities including The Palace, Dream Cruises' signature, luxury private "ship-within-a-ship" featuring over 40 new suites and butler service - the first cruise line to offer this concept to high-end travellers in Asia. Within The Palace, guests can savour all new dining and beverage privileges that combine the best of "East meets West" along with new exclusive activities, including private fashion workshops with Grace Chen, as part of the Connoisseurs Circle to enrich every journey.

A broad selection of new and upgraded facilities on board Explorer Dream will also feature exciting entertainment and leisure spaces including the state-of-the-art virtual reality ESC Experience Lab, Zodiac Theatre, the Palm Court, observatory lounge and a spectacular new lobby atrium area. Discover the world on your plate with world-class dining experiences highlighted by Seafood Grill by Mark Best, Mozzarella Ristorante & Pizzeria and Umi Uma Sushi & Teppenyaki and more.

Explorer Dream will begin her adventure in North China with inaugural homeports in Shanghai and Tianjin during Spring/Summer 2019 with a selection of voyages to picturesque destinations in ever-popular Japan.

**Itineraries from Shanghai, beginning 12 April:**

3-night Okinawa/Fukuoka/Nagasaki Getaway

- Shanghai/Naha
- Shanghai/Fukuoka
- Shanghai/Nagasaki

4-night Kobe/Kyoto/Osaka Getaway

- Shanghai/Kobe
- Shanghai/Osaka



- Shanghai/Kyoto

4-night Kyushu/Okinawa Getaway

- Shanghai/Naha/Miyakojima

6-night Japan Explorer

- Shanghai/Osaka/Beppu/Nagasaki

**Itineraries from Tianjin, beginning 1 July:**

4-night Fukuoka/Nagasaki/Kagoshima/Shimonoseki Getaway

- Tianjin/Fukuoka
- Tianjin/Kagoshima
- Tianjin/Nagasaki
- Tianjin/Shimonoseki

5-night Jewels of Japan

- Tianjin/Nagasaki/Beppu
- Tianjin/Shimonoseki/Beppu
- Tianjin/Kagoshima/Nagasaki
- Tianjin/Fukuoka/Beppu
- Tianjin/Kagoshima/Fukuoka
- Tianjin/Kagoshima/Shimonoseki
- Tianjin/Shimonoseki/Nagasaki

As Dream Cruises' pathfinder vessel, Explorer Dream will sail outside Asian waters in Autumn/Winter of 2019 and homeport in Sydney and Auckland where she will embark on a variety of seven-night weekly itineraries to destinations "Down Under".

**Itineraries from Sydney, beginning 27 October:**

7-night Australian Discovery

- Sydney/Newcastle/Gladstone/Sunshine Coast/Brisbane

**Itineraries from Auckland, beginning 15 December:**

7-night New Zealand Adventure

- Auckland/Bay of Islands/Milford Sound/Doubtful Sound/Dunedin/Wellington/Napier
- Auckland/Bay of Islands/Milford Sound/Doubtful Sound/Akaroa/Picton/Napier
- Auckland/Bay of Islands/Milford Sound/Doubtful Sound/Dunedin/ Napier/Gisborne
- Auckland/Napier/Milford Sound/Doubtful Sound/Dunedin/Wellington/Gisborne



Explorer Dream will be christened in Shanghai on 11 April 2019.

Link for high resolution photo: <https://bit.ly/2UWh4Iv>

For more information about Dream Cruises, please visit [www.dreamcruiseline.com](http://www.dreamcruiseline.com); like us at [www.facebook.com/DreamCruisesHQ](https://www.facebook.com/DreamCruisesHQ) and follow us at [www.weibo.com/dreamcruises](https://www.weibo.com/dreamcruises).

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### **About Dream Cruises**

Genting Hong Kong brings nearly 25 years' of Asian cruise industry experience in creating its new cruise line – Dream Cruises.

Dream Cruises aims to be a pacesetter in the cruise industry in the region, meeting the needs of the 'emerging generation' of confident, independently-minded and upwardly-mobile Asian travellers. Dream Cruises offers inspirational journeys, which are Asian at heart and international in spirit.

Purpose-built for the China and Asia market, Genting Dream, the first ship of the fleet, debuted in November 2016, with her sister ship World Dream joining in November 2017, offering guests the highest levels of service and spacious comfort in the region. Further expanding the Dream Cruises family, the highly anticipated Explorer Dream will launch in 2019 and production has also started in Germany on the first new Global Class ship that will join the fleet in 2021.

Accommodations reflect both size and choice for travellers with over 70 per cent of staterooms featuring private balconies and over 100 connecting rooms catering to extended families and groups. Distinguished by its European style butler service and special all-inclusive guest privileges, The Palace, a luxurious ship within a ship concept, will indulge travellers in lavish suites and an aura of exclusivity.



With the finest Asian and international dining, exceptional service, enthralling entertainment and inspirational experiences, Dream Cruises aims to redefine vacation travel with a transformational journey at sea.

Since its launch, Dream Cruises has been recognized by the Berlitz Cruising and Cruise Guide 2019 with Genting Dream and World Dream jointly placing 7th in the Large Resort Ship category, awarded 'Best Cruise Operator' at the Travel Trade Gazette's (TTG) Travel Awards 2018 and "Best Cruise Line – Cuisine", "Best Cruise Line – Entertainment" and "Best New Ship" for World Dream at the Travel Weekly Asia Readers' Choice Awards 2018.