



PRESS RELEASE
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM

LAST 2023 CRUISE SHIP SUSTAINS TOURISM SUCCESS

- 1. Bandar Seri Begawan, 4th December 2023** – The Norwegian Jewel makes repeat arrival at Muara Port's Cruise Ship Centre today, demonstrating ongoing cruise tourism momentum.
- The Norwegian Jewel, originating its voyage from the Republic of Philippines, stopped at Kota Kinabalu before anchoring at the Sultanate. It carries 2,531 passengers and 1,022 crew members. The tourists were provided with opportunities to enjoy immersive tour packages to discover the nation's renowned landmarks such as the Royal Regalia Museum, Jame' Asr Hassanil Bolkihah Mosque, Sultan Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque and Istana Nurul Iman. Their short stay also had offered them several authentic local cuisines and beverages as well as the opportunity to acquire traditional Bruneian souvenirs.
- Ernie, a passenger from Las Vegas, USA, found his trip to the Royal Regalia Museum very informative, where he discovered the history of the Sultan of Brunei. He also admired the remarkably clean environment in Brunei. Manuel Sunga and his wife, visitors from the Philippines, enjoyed discovering different landmarks and described the locals they encountered as unexpectedly friendly. Pete Manzo from Missouri, USA, found his short trip with his wife to Brunei very enlightening. He mentioned that trying various traditional Malay kueh, especially Selurut, was a delightful experience. As a food enthusiast, he desires to return for an extended stay in Brunei to explore a wider variety of local cuisines.
- The Norwegian Jewel will embark today for Vietnam as her next destination and will conclude its cruise in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 11th December 2023.
- With the revival of cruise tourism and the reopening of sea borders, the Sultanate has witnessed six cruise visits, welcoming a total number of 12,462 international visitors, reflecting a steady rise in tourist arrivals via sea travel. The Sultanate is expected to welcome seven cruise ships next year which the first cruise scheduled to sail into Brunei waters on 30th January 2024.

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