



PRESS RELEASE

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF PRIMARY RESOURCES AND TOURISM

CRUISE SHIP RETURNS FOR REPEAT JOURNEY TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- 1. Muara, Brunei Darussalam – 22nd February 2024** – Brunei Darussalam is making waves in cruise tourism, achieving another major milestone with the arrival of the second cruise ship this year, Norwegian Jewel. This showcases the country's commitment to becoming a top destination on the global cruise map, especially after the resurgence of cruise tourism last year.
- 2.** The Norwegian Jewel set sail from Phu My, Vietnam, and docked in Brunei, bringing 2101 passengers and 1027 crew members. Visitors had the chance to explore curated tour packages, discovering famous landmarks such as the Royal Regalia Museum, Jame' Asr Mosque, Sultan Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Mosque, Istana Nurul Iman, and Kampong Ayer. During their short stay, they enjoyed a variety of local delicacies and beverages and had the opportunity to purchase traditional Bruneian souvenirs.
- 3.** According to Shelly from State of Montana, USA, she described her first visit to Brunei Darussalam an interesting one. She participated in a mangrove tour where she was able to observe proboscis monkeys up close before visiting Kampong Ayer. During her visit to Kampong Ayer, she was warmly greeted by local children and got to witness them playing the traditional games. Gayle from State of Florida, USA, was among the early participants of the tour, had managed to discover Istana Nurul Iman, Kampong Ayer and other captivating sites. She expressed her desire to revisit Brunei in the future. Christopher Lawson from United Kingdom previously made trips to Brunei in both 1963 and 1993, had toured the city to witness its development over the years and even enjoyed the environment. He added that he would return to Brunei Darussalam in the near future.
- 4.** The Sultanate is anticipating four cruise ships arrival this year which the next ship, Crystal Symphony is scheduled to arrive on March 10, 2024, highlighting the Sultanate's appeal as a emerging destination in the world of cruise travel.

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