

Anthem of the Seas Arrives in Singapore!

Description

Recently, I had the opportunity to preview **Royal Caribbean's Anthem of the Seas**, marking its first-ever season in Asia and arrival in Singapore. Launched on 21 February 2015, it's been a while since this iconic ship has made waves in the cruising world. But this isn't just another ship—it's the beginning of an extraordinary adventure season for thrill-seekers, food lovers, and culture enthusiasts.



The last time I visited the Singapore Cruise Centre was during a cruise-to-nowhere post-lockdown. Returning to this familiar spot brought back memories, but today's highlight was far grander, boarding the Anthem of the Seas.



Being part of the media, we were among the first to board, granting us the privilege of exploring the ship while it was still relatively empty. Let me share the highlights of this incredible experience.

What Makes *Anthem of the Seas* Special?

1) Unmatched Views: Take in panoramic views from the **North Star**, a glass observation capsule that rises 90 meters above sea level. This is a must-do for anyone looking to capture breathtaking photos.



2) **Skydiving and Surfing at Sea:** Feel the adrenaline with **RipCord by iFLY**, a skydiving simulator, and the **FlowRider**, an onboard wave simulator that lets you surf right on the ship.



3) **SeaPlex: Endless Indoor Fun:** The largest indoor activity space at sea features **bumper cars**, **roller skating**, and even **arcade games** for the young (and young at heart).





4) **Outdoor Adventures:** From a **rock-climbing wall** to jacuzzis overlooking the ocean, there's no shortage of ways to enjoy the fresh sea breeze.

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5) Relaxation Zones: My personal favourite? The sheltered, air-conditioned solarium with natural lighting. Sitting in a jacuzzi here, gazing at the ocean, is the ultimate definition of a holiday.







Food Highlights

Exploring the ship worked up an appetite, and the food onboard didn't disappoint. Here's a quick rundown of what we tried.

Soft Serve Ice Cream: A delightful treat during our tour.



Johnny Rockets: A retro diner serving classic American burgers and milkshakesâ??perfect for comfort food fans.

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Windjammer Café: Known for its extensive international buffet, it's a haven for food lovers. From grilled chicken to fresh fruit, the spread was impressive, though we held back since lunch awaited at a special venue.









Grilled Chicken looking good as always.



This is definitely the most popular spot with high turnover rate.



Cheese, anyone?



The fruit selection is huge, better than some hotel buffets.



Desserts!

Lunch at Jamie's Italian



As someone who grew up watching Jamie Oliver on TV, dining at **Jamie's Italian** onboard was a nostalgic experience. Here's what was on the menu:

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Jamie's ITALIAN

STARTERS

served family style

ULTIMATE GARLIC BREAD

Warm artisan buttermilk buns, herby garlic butter, veggie Parmesan & rosemary

TOMATO BRUSCHETTA

Slow-roasted tomatoes, bocconcini mozzarella, extra virgin olive oil, balsamic & basil

OUR FAMOUS MEAT PLANK*

San Daniele prosciutto, Tuscan fennel salami, 'Nduja Artisans coppa piccante & pistachio mortadella with tomato crostini, bocconcini mozzarella, pecorino Sardo & chilli jam, focaccia, olives & pickles

MAINS

please select one

JI BURGER*

Juicy prime beef in a brioche bun with smoky pancetta, sticky balsamic onions, aged Cheddar, tomato, mostarda di Cremona burger sauce & fries

EGGPLANT PARMIGIANA

Balsamic roasted eggplant, tomato & basil sauce, mozzarella & veggie Parmesan

BAKED LASAGNE

Slow-cooked beef & pork with herbs & wine, baked in an oozy Béchamel sauce with tomatoes, mozzarella & Parmesan

OUR FAMOUS PRAWN LINGUINE

Garlicky prawns, tomatoes, shaved fennel, saffron, chilli & arugula

DESSERTS

please select one

CLASSIC TIRAMISÙ

The classic Italian dessert with chocolate shavings & orange zest

AMALFI LEMON

MERINGUE CHEESECAKE

Velvety mascarpone & lemon cheesecake with Italian meringue, lemon curd & blackcurrants

*Consuming raw or undercooked meats, seafood, shellfish, eggs or poultry may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions. Please inform your waiter if you have any food allergies, intolerances or dietary needs. Royal Caribbean International galleys are not food-allergen-free environments. For further allergen information, please ask your waiter. An 18% gratuity will be added for certain ports or itineraries. VAT may apply for certain ports or itineraries.

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Ultimate Garlic Bread

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Tomato Bruschetta

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Meat Plank

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Famous Prawn Linguine

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Amalfi Lemon Meringue Cheesecake

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While the meal was enjoyable, I found the flavours somewhat underwhelming. Next time, I'll explore the **Japanese fare at Izumi** or the **Mediterranean-inspired Solarium Bistro**, which came highly recommended.



Room Tour

After lunch, we toured the accommodations onboard.

Balcony Staterooms: Spacious and perfect for soaking in the ocean views.





Virtual Balcony Rooms: Even interior rooms have LED panels showing real-time views outside. What a clever touch!



Suites: The highlight of the tour. The luxury, space, and amenities of the suites made it hard to imagine staying anywhere else next time.

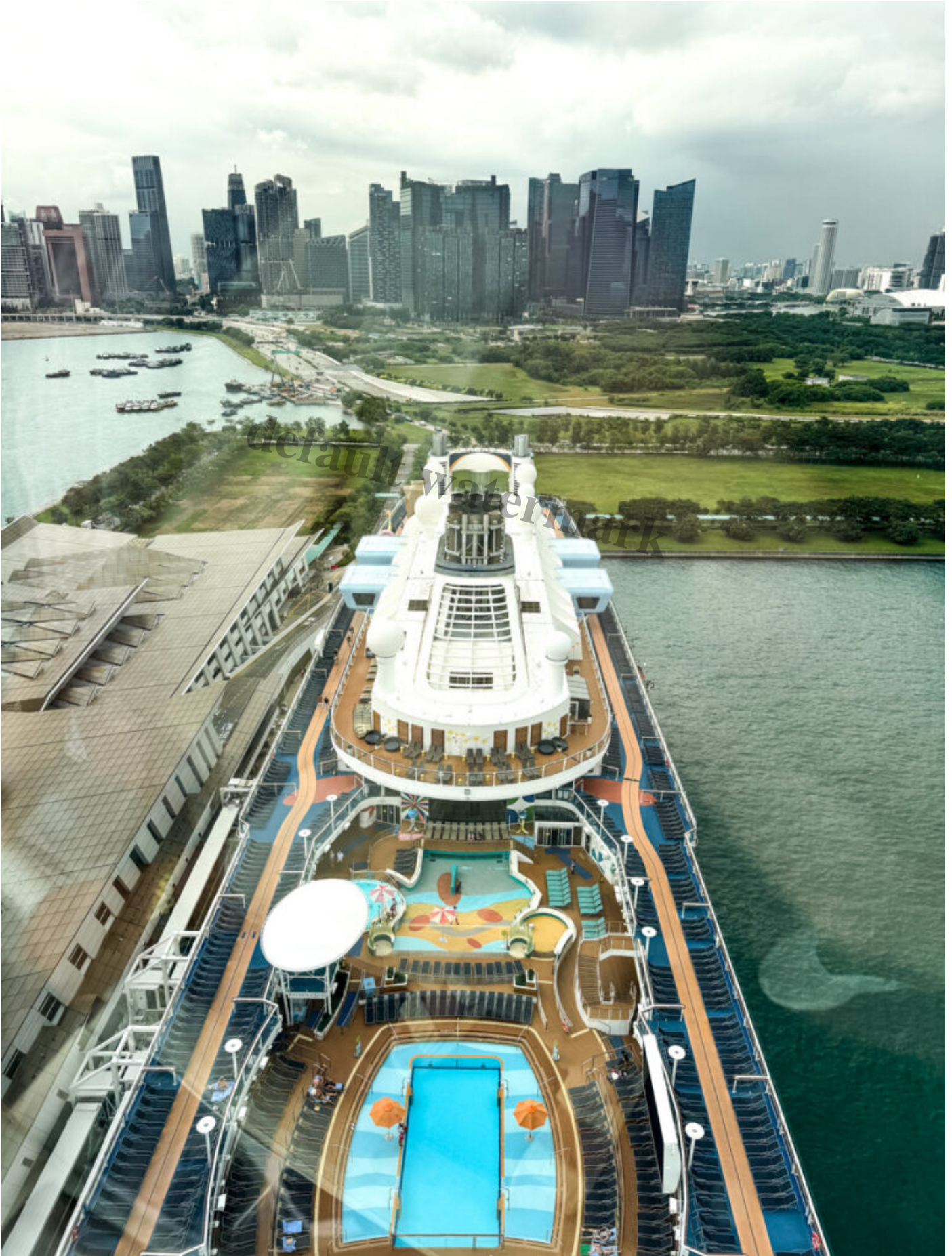


Credit: Royal Caribbean

The North Star Experience

The day's highlight was riding the **North Star**, which rises 300 feet above the ship. The 360-degree views of the ocean and horizon were nothing short of magical—a must-do for every guest.











The Anthem of the Seas offers itineraries to some of Southeast Asia’s most stunning destinations:

- **Quick Getaways:** 3- or 4-night cruises to Penang or Phuket, featuring vibrant street art, historic architecture, and bustling markets.
- **Cultural Escapes:** 5-night voyages to Penang’s Peranakan heritage and Phuket’s Big Buddha.
- **Bali Bliss:** 8-night adventures to Bali’s temples, rice terraces, and cultural hubs like Ubud.
- **Immersive Journeys:** 10-night explorations of Vietnam’s history and Thailand’s iconic landmarks like the Grand Palace and Wat Arun.

The *Anthem of the Seas* is here for a limited time, so don’t miss your chance to experience this floating marvel. Whether you’re seeking thrills, world-class dining, or cultural exploration, this ship delivers it all.

Ready to set sail? Head to Royal Caribbean’s website to book your next adventure!

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