

Ocean Nova marks maiden call into Poole

The Port of Poole welcomed the boutique expedition ship Ocean Nova for her maiden call on 28 April, marking the beginning of Noble Caledonia's 2025 cruise season. The call was the first stop of the ship's new voyage, Bird Quest: Discovery of Britain's Seabird Islands, a unique itinerary dedicated to exploring the wildlife and remote coastal beauty of the British Isles.

To commemorate the occasion, a traditional plaque presentation took place between the Port of Poole's Harbour Master, Harry Gregory, and Ocean Nova's Captain, Alcibiades Barrios aboard the 73m long ship.

Departing from the Port of Poole, the cruise is taking guests on a remarkable journey to some of Britain's most treasured seabird sanctuaries. Highlights include Alderney in the Channel Islands, the Isles of Scilly, Lundy Island, Skomer Island, Holy Island, and the Isle of Man, before continuing to the Scottish isles and culminating in Aberdeen. The cruise offers passengers an extraordinary opportunity to encounter diverse seabird species and experience the raw natural splendour of Britain's coastal islands.

PHC's Harbour Master Harry Gregory said: "We are delighted to welcome the Ocean Nova to Poole for the first time. This maiden call highlights the growing appeal of Poole as a turnaround port for cruise ships. We wish Captain Barrios, his crew, and all passengers an unforgettable journey."

The Ocean Nova is renowned for her sturdy construction, comfortable accommodation, and focus on discovery voyages, making her an ideal vessel for exploring the wild and windswept islands that few larger ships can reach.

The Port of Poole looks forward to welcoming Ocean Nova and her guests back in future seasons.