

Scenic Eclipse helicopter trials completed

Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours has today released footage of the final tests and trials of the state-of-the-art Airbus H130 helicopters. The video shows the helicopters landing on the deck of Scenic Eclipse and being stored in the specially designed on board hangars. As one of the quietest helicopters in the skies, the H130 sets the standard for tourism operations worldwide and will give guests the opportunity to explore beyond the horizon, with unparalleled access to some of nature's most beautiful sites.

Final testing and certification of the helicopters coincided with formal testing and certification of Scenic Eclipse for the carriage of paying passengers.

"This is a daunting task for any ship," said Scenic Founder and Chairman, Glen Moroney, "and particularly for a vessel of the technological sophistication of Scenic Eclipse. All systems need to be rigorously tested under normal operations and in emergency simulations. I'm very proud to say Eclipse has been successfully certified for passenger ship operations, and we are now in the final stages of preparations for our inaugural voyage".

Scenic Eclipse Facts

- 114 all-verandah suites;
- 10 dining options from Asian Fusion to French fine dining to a chef's table to a poolside buffet;
- a 5,920 ft² spa with a well-equipped gym and separate yoga and Pilates studio;
- two six-guest helicopters and one six-guest submarine capable of depths of nearly 1,000 feet -- to allow for explorations far beyond any done on expedition ships to date;
- a 240-seat theater for entertainment and lectures;
- indoor and outdoor plunge pools;
- butler service for all guests and an almost 1:1 guest-to-staff ratio.
- innovative zero-speed stabilizer fins, 50% larger than standard to provide greater stability;
- the highest passenger ship ice class rating Polar Class 6;
- redundancies in propulsion, navigation, safety systems and food refrigeration;
- state-of-the-art bridge systems;
- and a GPS dynamic positioning system allowing for stationary positioning without an anchor, reducing any environmental affect in sensitive regions.

Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours has grown over its 33-year history to include award-winning, all-inclusive luxury river cruises and handcrafted 5-star land journeys tours that take participants to many of the world's most fascinating destinations.