



PICTURE OF THE YEAR – RUNNERS UP


What other news photos made headlines during 2015?



One of the cruise industry's most high-profile events of last year was when Carnival Corporation & plc formalized a new joint-venture agreement with Chinese partners to launch the first world-class, multi-ship domestic cruise brand for the Chinese market. The joint-venture agreement was formalized at a signing ceremony held on October 21 at the Mansion House in London. British Prime Minister David Cameron and Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the ceremony, signifying the importance of the occasion.



Her Majesty The Queen, accompanied by His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh, officially named P&O Cruises' new flagship the Britannia on March 10 in a glittering ceremony, during which a bottle of British Wiston Estate Brut NV was broken against the hull of the 143,000 gross ton cruise ship – the largest to date to serve the UK market year-round.



In his usual flamboyant style, Sir Richard Branson launched Virgin Cruises in Miami in June. During its first press conference, the company announced the selection of the line's first homeport and a shipbuilder for its vessels. The first of three 110,000 gross ton newbuilds to be delivered from Fincantieri starting in 2020 will sail weekly from PortMiami to the Caribbean.