



**THE RITZ-CARLTON
YACHT COLLECTION**

**CHANTIERS
DE L'ATLANTIQUE**

**THE RITZ-CARLTON YACHT COLLECTION
CELEBRATES KEEL-LAYING OF SECOND YACHT, ILMA**

Saint-Nazaire, France – Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection celebrated an exciting milestone at a keel-laying ceremony held at world-renowned shipyard Chantiers de l'Atlantique in Saint-Nazaire, France. A longstanding maritime tradition, the keel-laying ceremony marks the official start of construction, as the first modular block of *Ilma* was lowered into the building dock.

“We are thrilled to celebrate this important milestone and to partner with Chantiers de l'Atlantique on the construction of *Ilma*,” commented Douglas Prothero, Chief Executive Officer for The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection. “As we expand our fleet, we look forward to continuing to create unique experiences that celebrate the yachting lifestyle and are transforming the luxury cruising category.”

Slated to debut in 2024, *Ilma*, meaning “water” in Maltese, will be the second yacht for The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection. The specially designed superyacht will feature the highest space and staff-to-guest ratios in the luxury cruise category. *Ilma* will measure 790-feet, feature 228 airy, light-filled suites, and can accommodate up to 456 passengers. The onboard experience will reflect the sublime comfort and legendary service for which The Ritz-Carlton brand is recognized. It will be the first yacht in the collection to utilize liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a fuel source – further positioning The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection as an innovator with the industry.

“Chantiers de l'Atlantique is very proud of its partnership with The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection,” said Arnaud Le Joncour, Senior Vice President Sales and Marketing for Chantiers de l'Atlantique. “Through this ceremony, we wish the best to *Ilma* during construction with the assurance that the vessel’s elegant design, quality materials, and environmental performance will position *Ilma* as a legendary symbol in a new era of luxury cruising.”

Reservations for *Ilma* are now open to the public. For more information, please visit www.ritzcarltonyachtcollection.com. For reservations, contact a Reservations Services Agent at (833) 999-7292 (U.S. & Canada) or contact your travel professional.

About The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, LLC

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, LLC currently operates more than 100 hotels in 35 countries and territories. For more information or reservations, visit the company web site at www.ritzcarlton.com, for the latest company updates, visit news.marriott.com and to join the live conversation, use #RCMemories and follow along on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, L.L.C. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Marriott International, Inc. (NASDAQ:MAR). The Ritz-Carlton is proud to participate in Marriott Bonvoy®, the global travel program from Marriott International. The program offers members an extraordinary portfolio of global brands, exclusive experiences on [Marriott Bonvoy Moments](#) and unparalleled benefits including complimentary nights and Elite status recognition. To enroll for free or for more information about the program, visit marriottbonvoy.com.

About The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection

The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection combines the luxury lifestyle of The Ritz-Carlton® and the casual freedom of a yachting vacation, with voyages on three custom-built superyachts. As with The Ritz-Carlton® on land, each yacht will feature personalized service, elevated dining, and luxury amenities, including a signature Ritz-Carlton Spa and dedicated space for Ritz Kids. Stopping at both intimate and signature ports of call, most voyages will range from seven to 10 nights with no two journeys alike. The yachts are also available for private charter. A collaboration of Marriott International's Ritz-Carlton brand, Oaktree Capital Management, L.P., and maritime expert Douglas Prothero, The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection welcomed its first guests in 2022. For more information, visit www.ritzcarltonyachtcollection.com/.

About Chantiers De L'Atlantique

Thanks to the expertise of its teams and its network of subcontractors, combined with top industrial technology, Chantiers de l'Atlantique is a key leader in the design, integration, testing and precise delivery of cruise ships, naval vessels, electrical substations for offshore wind farms and fleet services. The company is a pioneer in the challenges of tomorrow. Thanks to its research and development, Chantiers de l'Atlantique offers ships with the highest environmental performance, as well as equipment for offshore wind farms, making it a major player in global energy transition. www.chantiers-atlantique.com.

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