



## Silver Nova

SILVERSEA CRUISES

Silversea Cruises has revealed details of the suites aboard Silver Nova, a 364-suite vessel making its maiden voyage in Summer 2023.

As the first in the operator's Nova class, the ship will feature an entirely new design approach, with an asymmetrical configuration and horizontal layout meaning its suites run the entire length of four decks. The decision to divert from vertical distribution – which sees suites positioned in the centre and forward section and public areas found on every deck – will result in some suites facing directly aft, while others are expected to offer a private balcony with a glass balustrade and sea views.

Architect Lorenzo Mortola and his father Giacomo of Genoa-based studio GEM have spearheaded the design of the suites, working closely with the in-house team at Royal Caribbean Group. The duo drew inspiration from the “whispered luxury” of Silversea's recent ships – Silver Muse, Moon, Dawn and Origin

– with the intention of elevating the aesthetic. “It was important for us to maintain Silversea's Italian DNA while creating something new to the industry,” says Lorenzo. “We were asked to add a residential touch to the suites, so paid a lot of attention to the furniture and decorative lighting. Windows and balcony doors have also been modified to expand sea views from the balcony, while the doors themselves feature thinner frames to maximise natural light.”

Inside, the design team used a fluted mirror rather than a flat surface to create dynamic reflections and provide added depth, while for the colour palette, they opted for a blend of soft and neutral tones with deep, subtle accents inspired by the sea and earth.

Ranging in size from 33-123m<sup>2</sup>, the suites evoke a sense of comfort and personal space, achieved via thoughtful design touches like walk-in closets, open bathrooms and headboards with integrated reading lights.



The closets have been equipped with intuitive details such as dedicated compartments for jewellery, while the bathrooms include a modern oversized mirror, a large vanity with twin basins, a spacious walk-in shower, and a bathtub or whirlpool. All benefit from generous balconies – from 5-40m<sup>2</sup> – with select cabins offering 270-degree ocean and land views.

The crown jewel for Silver Nova is the Otium Suite, inspired by Silversea's new wellness programme. Located in the aft corner position, it is the most spacious category available and features floor-to-ceiling windows in all living areas, unlocking panoramas of the water beyond. Its balcony is also the largest on board and comes with its own private whirlpool, while luxury amenities include custom-made mattresses, two flatscreen televisions, and a sound system with Bluetooth connectivity.

According to GEM, materials and textures have been thoughtfully selected in line with

Silversea's journey towards a greener future. “Sustainability was a significant aspect of the brief, so we explored ways of bringing innovation and evolution to the design,” Lorenzo confirms. “At the same time, we maintained the finest Italian craftsmanship through our selective use of luxury fabrics and textiles.”

Aside from the suites, Silversea has also unveiled plans for a new pool deck and outdoor venues – including al fresco dining and a sky bar – on decks 10 and 11, which make use of the ship's outward-facing, asymmetrical layout to provide panoramic views of the surroundings.

Building on the group's newly introduced design approach, Silver Nova will push the boundaries in sustainable cruise travel with a series of pioneering credentials. The low-emissions vessel has been billed as the first in the industry to feature advanced hybrid technology, which utilises fuel cells to ensure it emits zero harmful emissions while in port.



**ON DECK**  
Route: Worldwide  
Maiden Voyage: Summer 2023  
Owner: Royal Caribbean Group  
Operator: Silversea Cruises  
Interior Design: GEM  
Shipyard: Meyer Werft  
[www.silversea.com](http://www.silversea.com)





## Silver Dawn

### SILVERSEA CRUISES

Silversea unveils the third vessel in its Muse class series, where a new spa and wellness programme elevate the cruise experience.

Words: John O'Ceallaigh • Photography: Courtesy of Silversea Cruises

Consummate cruisers who have had to endure two landbound years as a consequence of Covid may well find a reward for their patience awaits on Silver Dawn. The third vessel in Silversea's Muse class – following Silver Moon and Silver Muse – made its much-anticipated debut in April this year, with a host of new features designed to elevate the cruise experience.

Having announced plans for Silver Dawn back in 2018, Silversea awarded the construction of the vessel to its longstanding partner Fincantieri, with the ultimate aim being to affirm its position as a leader in ultra-luxury cruising. "In welcoming the beautiful Silver Dawn as the 10<sup>th</sup> ship in our fleet, we have reached a huge milestone on our mission to take our guests deep into the world in luxury," explains Roberto Martinoli, President and CEO of Silversea. "Silver Dawn represents an evolution of luxury cruise travel; she builds on the innovations of her sister ships, Silver Moon and Silver Muse, with Otium – our pioneering new wellness programme."

Indeed, Otium is undoubtedly a highlight. Grounded in the philosophy and traditions of the ancient Roman lifestyle, the programme encourages balanced indulgence and pampering across treatments, rituals and bespoke experiences, some of which take place in the guest's own suite. At the centre of the concept is the reimagined spa; located at the stern of Deck 6 and designed by Hirsch Bedner Associates (HBA), it is arguably the most indulgent at sea.





The spa interiors take cues from Ancient Roman baths, as referenced in the artworks



Key giveaways come through tactile touches such as walls tiled in buttery onyx, and in its relaxation room, where chaise lounges fan around a mound of ice studded with bottles of champagne. Nearby, gourmet refreshments such as macarons and handmade chocolates are on hand alongside fresh fruit and infused waters. Further facilities include a sauna, steam room, beauty salon and barbers, with an optimised layout making for a seamless journey. Every detail has been curated for a sensorial experience, from the mood lighting to playlists, while the colour palette takes inspiration from the coast, with warm sandy tones accompanying deep blues for a calming ambiance.

For weary passengers frayed by the effects of the pandemic, it's an open invitation to enjoy unfettered pampering. For Otium's lead designer, HBA London Associate Matteo Pace, it's much more than that: "The concept is something entirely new for Silversea, and it repositions how the company is perceived by a demanding clientele. For me, Otium is an oasis in the ocean."

In the development of Otium, Barbara Muckermann, Silversea's Chief Commercial Officer, took cues from Ancient Roman baths, which she describes as being "precursors to modern-day spas, designated places where enjoyment and wellness were organically connected". That heritage is referenced in the spa's Roman-inspired artworks, while the Otium ethos is embedded more subtly into the vessel's offering as a whole.

Accommodating 596 guests, the ship's 298 ocean-view suites now offer the Otium Sleeping Experience, a sleep programme that is also heavily inflected with Italian touches. A supplier to the Pope, Rome's family-run Tebro provides the beds, which are topped with Otium Soft Touch mattresses made by Forli's Dorelan and swaddled in crisp linens by 150-year-old Macherio-based manufacturer Rivolta Carmignani.

The complementary Otium Bathing Experience encourages

guests to make use of their tub and the on-hand blends of bespoke bath salts; toiletries are typically by Bulgari, though guests with sensitive skin can request amenities from pH-balanced medicinal specialist Sebamed, delivered by dapper butlers in tailored Forint uniforms.

In total, over 390 companies contributed to Silver Dawn's construction, ranging from architects and designers to fit-out contractors and service providers. Playing a leading role, Genoa-based design firm GEM was appointed to develop and deliver the interiors, building on the success of its previous ventures with Silversea. Led by Managing Director Lorenzo Mortola, the approach deliberately avoids overly ostentatious displays of luxury, instead opting for a sophisticated elegance. "Although our designs are for the luxury market, they are not overstated," explains Mortola. "This is what makes Silversea so distinctive; we refer to our design approach as whispered luxury and it can often seem intangible. Guests really need to see it – to live it – to fully appreciate it."

Silversea stalwarts will find this newest launch has much in common with her Muse-class siblings, but there are a few other notable amendments. Some of those are a reflection of modern times; in the wake of the pandemic, Silver Dawn features an upgraded medical centre, dedicated isolation suites and an HVAC ventilation system with improved filters. Passengers will also spot touchless hand-disinfection units on board, developed by Bavaria's Steripower. Other enhancements however are focused purely on improving guest enjoyment.

Also found on Silver Moon, Silver Dawn's immersive F&B concept S.A.L.T. encourages passengers to explore the culinary character of the destinations they visit. In practice, that might mean making pasteis de nata pastries during a cookery class at a Lisbon food market or sampling the constantly changing menus at S.A.L.T. Kitchen, which showcases artful interpretations of local dishes. S.A.L.T.



VOYAGE  
ON WATER



Bar extends that approach into an experimental cocktail menu: when sailing to Santorini, guests might order From the Flames as they approach the caldera. Served in a distinctive copper pot, the drink features oak-smoked vodka alongside punchy ginger and lime. UK-based drinks consultant John Collingwood, who helped define the bar concept, has grand ambitions: "I want guests to have the bartending equivalent of a Michelin-starred chef making their signature drink behind the bar."

The adjacent S.A.L.T. Lab is a test kitchen hosting workshops and demos, while Kaiseki is a minimalist Japanese restaurant where tabletop bonsai-style greenery adds a splash of colour to otherwise pared-back interiors. The venue serves relaxed sushi lunches and becomes more animated by evening, when a teppanyaki menu is theatrically prepared on iron griddles. The most flamboyant experience is the signature French restaurant La Dame on Deck 8, where window seats are in high demand, even though one of the ship's most delicate decorative

features lies within. As Martinoli advises: "Guests should look out for the 11 handmade Lalique crystal panels. Each one is entirely bespoke and took approximately three months for Lalique's skilled craftspeople to make. They are works of art!"

Other outlets include a seafood restaurant, tapas bar, a Naples-inspired pizzeria and a grill. There's also the Arts Café, where a cacophony of colour and pattern is exaggerated by an on-site programme of varied art exhibitions. Calm is restored at Dolce Vita, a classic cocktail bar decorated in a soft palette of chocolate, gold and seafoam blue. In departure from its predecessors, the oval-shaped bar aboard Silver Dawn has been transplanted from the sidelines to the centre of this sprawling social hub. Lined with metallic panels that shimmer suggestively in the evening light, it's one of the first things guests will see when they board.

After such a long hiatus, fans of cruising won't need to go far to toast Silversea's sterling return to form.



**ON DECK**  
Route: Worldwide  
Maiden Voyage: April 2022  
Owner: Royal Caribbean Group  
Operator: Silversea Cruises  
Interior Design: GEM, Hirsch  
Bedner Associates (HBA)  
Shipyard: Fincantieri  
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