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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BVIPA Announces Reopening of the Cruise Pier

Tortola, British Virgin Islands, March 19, 2021 the BVI Ports Authority (BVIPA), reopening of the cruise port has been announced with government approval for June, 2021 for cruise vessels with fully vaccinated passengers and crew.

One of BVIPA's first expected passenger cruise calls to the Territory will be the *Celebrity Millennium* of Royal Caribbean Group's Celebrity Cruises starting June, 2021 homeporting out of St. Maarten. The regional itinerary includes stops to Tortola, St. Lucia and Barbados.

Mrs. Oleanvine Maynard, Ag. Managing Director of the BVI Ports Authority stated that *"we are so excited to be part of this new regional itinerary and while the cruise experience will be different than it was pre-pandemic, we are committed to providing our cruise partners and their guests a safe and enjoyable cruise stop."*

The BVIPA and The Cyril B. Romney Tortola Pier Park (CBRTPP) teams will be working diligently with the Ministry of Health and Social Development, BVI Tourist Board, Local Cruise Agents, and the Cruise Lines desiring to call to ensure a healthy return to cruising for the Territory.

Mr. Vance Lewis, CEO, CBRTPP commented *"the health and safety of the cruise guests, crew and our local community is our top priority and we will be working very closely with all partners to ensure for a safe resumption of this sector."*

Ship boarding requirements includes for passengers over 18 years of age to be fully vaccinated along with 100% vaccination of crew. Additionally, testing, pre-screening and

embarkation measures are in place along with other onboard mitigation measures to prevent Covid-19 outbreaks.

Operations at the Cruise Pier for passenger calls were halted more than 12 months ago due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

ABOUT THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS PORTS AUTHORITY

The BVI Ports Authority is the managing authority for all official Sea Ports within the British Virgin Islands inclusive of the 60ft wide, 1,312 ft. long cruise pier that can berth ships up to a maximum tonnage of 180,000 GRT. The BVIPA is responsible for the welcoming and safe arrival of seafaring passengers, as well as the reception, handling and security of cargo and sea based trade.

For more information, please visit www.bviports.org