



## **The Royal Yacht Britannia and Fingal Hotel welcome new Director of Hospitality to the crew.**

The Royal Yacht Britannia and its sister ship, the luxury floating hotel Fingal, have appointed a new Director of Hospitality to lead their world-class guest experiences.

Ross McLean will now lead a crew of over 100 hospitality professionals delivering the highest levels of service across both ships.

Originally from Scotland, Mr McLean, 39, brings over 19 years of global hospitality management experience to his new position. Most recently, he was the General Manager of Operations at Millbrook Resort in Queenstown, New Zealand, one of the Southern Hemisphere's premier golf resorts which regularly won awards as one of the best in the world in hotel, golf and spa categories.

Starting his hospitality career in the restaurant sector, he was awarded Young Restaurateur of the Year and was a HIT Scotland 'Art of Leadership' scholar. Now living in the Scottish Borders with his wife Renee and two daughters, Ross enjoys rugby, golf, and has always loved being in the outdoors.

Widely travelled and with a passion for the industry, Mr McLean's operational and leadership experience will ensure continuity in delivering outstanding hospitality aboard the Royal Yacht, including the Royal Deck Tearoom and private dining, plus all aspects of Fingal Hotel.

Commenting on his appointment, Mr McLean said: "It is a real honour to build on my 10 years leading the Millbrook Resort in New Zealand by taking on this key role with Britannia and Fingal - two such unique venues with strong heritage and stories to tell. I look forward to creating even greater synergies between the UK's top tourist attraction and our luxury floating hotel."

Chief Executive Franck Bruyère said, "I am delighted to announce Ross' well-deserved appointment which will strengthen our leadership team across our two iconic ships. Ross will be key to delivering operational excellence and maintaining what has made us great over the years."

Mr Bruyère added: "With our former Chief Executive, Bob Downie, retiring, we have big shoes to fill, but I feel with Ross joining the crew, I have a strong team of leaders in place to navigate the next chapters for both ships."

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## Notes for Editors:

[Download images here.](#)

### The Royal Yacht Britannia

- Britannia attracts around 350,000 people from across the world every year and is proud to have one of the world's most translated audio tours with over 30 languages, English Braille script, and British and American Sign Language tour tablets.
- One of the UK's most accessible tourism destinations, allowing each and every visitor access to explore all five decks of the ship, plus the Royal Deck Tearoom with stunning waterfront views, and Gift Shop within Ocean Terminal.
- The Royal Yacht Britannia was home to Queen Elizabeth II and the Royal Family for over 40 years, sailing over a million nautical miles around the world, calling at more than 600 ports in 135 countries. Situated in Edinburgh's historic Port of Leith, Britannia is now a five-star visitor attraction, as well as an exclusive-use evening events venue. Visitors enjoy a fascinating insight into Queen Elizabeth II's former floating palace, and the lives of those who lived and worked on board.
- Britannia is owned by The Royal Yacht Britannia Trust (Registered Charity No. SC028070). The Trust's responsibility is to maintain and preserve Britannia in keeping with her former role and to display her to the public as a key part of British maritime history. The Trust is a wholly self-funding, not-for-profit, charitable organisation. Britannia is the official headquarters of the Association of Royal Yachtsmen.

### Fingal

- The £5m investment by The Royal Yacht Britannia has seen this classically designed ship transformed to provide the ultimate in luxury.
- Launched in 1963, Fingal, a former Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB) tender was the last ship to be built by the Blythswood Shipbuilding Company in Glasgow. Like all NLB Ships, Fingal was Leith registered but spent most of her service life working out of Oban for 30 years, followed by her last six working years, based in Stromness, Orkney. She was sold to a private owner who lovingly maintained the ship for 14 years before Britannia purchased the vessel in August 2014.
- Fingal Hotel's award-winning Lighthouse Restaurant & Bar is a world-class foodie destination with all the glamour and style of a superyacht which was proudly awarded 2 AA Rosettes for culinary excellence.