

Ikenobo Ikebana Headmaster Designate Senko Ikenobo Officially Names MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI in Traditional Maritime Ceremony

**Nippon Maru Joins in Welcoming MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI, the Most Luxurious Cruise Ship
in Japan, to the MITSUMI OCEAN CRUISES Fleet**



(Left photo) Ikenobo ikebana Headmaster Designate Senko Ikenobo poses with Mitsui Ocean Cruises President and CEO Tsunemichi Mukai and Captain Kim Karlsson to celebrate the official naming of MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI.

(Right photo) Nippon Maru and MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI meet for the first time at Tokyo Bay Port.

High resolution images [here](#).

[December 7, 2024, Tokyo, Japan] – MOL Cruises, Ltd. [Tsunemichi Mukai – President]:
In a traditional maritime ceremony at the Tokyo Bay port, Ikenobo ikebana Headmaster Designate Senko Ikenobo officially welcomed the newest MITSUMI OCEAN CRUISES ship, by naming her MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI.

The commemorative event took place onboard MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI in the Ocean Stage theater and Senko Ikenobo, alongside CEO and President Tsunemichi Mukai and Captain Kim Karlsson, warmly wished the ship “fair winds and following seas” for a prosperous journey sailing to unique and beautiful destinations in Japan and beyond. To culminate the celebration, she released a bottle of sake that shattered against the ship, wishing good fortune to all guests and crew sailing onboard.

Senko Ikenobo is the first woman appointed as Headmaster Designate of the Ikenobo School, recognized as the oldest and most influential school of ikebana, the time-honored Japanese art of flower arranging. The Ikenobo tradition of ikebana emphasizes a philosophy of creating harmony between humans and nature and cultivating mindfulness. On this day, the stage was decorated with an ikebana created by Senshu Ikenobo, the head of the Ikenobo Youth Club (and the son of Senko Ikenobo). The ikebana expresses the beauty of nature, as well as the promise of deepening the connection and trust between Mitsui Ocean Cruises and the people living in the communities MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI will visit. The ikebana added to the beauty of Japan of MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI's memorable ceremony, which offers “FUNATABI – Beautiful Encounters with Japan.”

Sister ship, Nippon Maru, was also in port to greet MITSUMI OCEAN FUJI, and guests onboard both ships waved flags, as the ships festively exchanged three horn salutes, symbolizing the “Mitsui” (three bars) motif in the cruise line’s brand mark.

Takeshi Hashimoto, Representative Director, President, Chief Executive Officer of Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, and a number of other stakeholders were also joined to naming ceremony to celebrate the debut of MITSUI OCEAN FUJI.

Mukai, CEO and President of MITSUI OCEAN CRUISES, remarked: “Senko Ikenobo is highly admired for her dedication and passion for meticulous ikebana artistry in Japan, making her the perfect choice to name MITSUI OCEAN FUJI. With her well wishes for a prosperous life and happy and sustainable future, guests will enjoy beautiful encounters with Japan and an authentically and carefully crafted cruise experience blending our distinct Japanese culture with inspiring and unique ways to value time and space.”

On sale now, MITSUI OCEAN FUJI is sailing a series of Debut Cruises (December 2024-January 2025), including a special New Year’s sailing; Spring and Golden Week Cruises (April-May 2025); and a 66-day Grand Asia Cruise (May-July 2025).

The 32,477-ton MITSUI OCEAN FUJI offers spacious guest venues, traditional omotenashi service, delicately flavored and beautifully presented cuisine, lively entertainment and exciting ports of call. Ship highlights include:

- Luxurious suite accommodations featuring balconies, full bathtubs, separate shower and shower toilets.
- Four dining venues, serving a variety of globally inspired cuisine and local dishes, featuring an exclusive cruise line partnership with award-winning Chef Kiyomi Mikuni, Japan’s proud master of Japanese French fusion cuisine.
- Numerous bars, lounges and entertainment venues filled with uplifting music, theater, comedy, dance, games and enrichment, bringing “FUNATABI” to life.
- Spa & Wellness Kodama, allowing time and space to rejuvenate and restore; Motion and Fitness Studios, two swimming pools, four whirlpools and a recreation area.
- A thoughtful shore excursion program to enjoy time ashore exploring the best that the destinations offer with authentic and exclusive experiences.
- A special Inaugural Season gift for each guest through 2025.

High resolution images of MITSUI OCEAN FUJI can be downloaded here: <https://we.tl/t-oI6eprjmKM>

For additional information on MITSUI OCEAN CRUISES, booking information and a video tour of MITSUI OCEAN FUJI, visit www.mitsuiocancruises.com.

About MITSUI OCEAN CRUISES:

Rooted in Japanese heritage, nature and traditions, from the blue sea, MITSUI OCEAN CRUISES connects people with the wonders of nature and Japanese culture to enrich people’s lives and secure a happier and more sustainable future. MITSUI OCEAN CRUISES is the brand of the MOL Cruises, Ltd, the most experienced cruise line in Japan and is part of the Mitsui O.S.K. Lines. Ltd. (MOL) group of companies. It operates a fleet of two cruise ships - NIPPON MARU and the newest luxury cruise ship, MITSUI OCEAN FUJI.

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