



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **MV Clio makes its Inaugural call to Gibraltar**

American ocean-cruising vessel M/V Clio made its inaugural call to the Port of Gibraltar this morning, Monday October 17.

Built in 1998 the Clio has a gross tonnage of 3,504 tonnes, a length of approximately 100 metres, carries 89 passengers and a crew of 60.

The ship was recently acquired by the US cruise company Grand Circle Cruise Line and refurbished earlier this year.

Minister for Tourism Samantha Sacramento welcomed the vessel's arrival to Gibraltar as continuing evidence of the Rock's popularity as a port of call for cruise firms.

Representatives from the Gibraltar Tourist Board, Port Authority and local shipping agent Inchcape Shipping Services were on board for the customary exchange of commemorative plaques with the vessel's captain.

Minister Sacramento said: "We are delighted that the port of Gibraltar continues to host inaugural calls by vessels operating across the Mediterranean.

"It is certainly further testament to our administration's political foresight and leadership in ensuring that the cruise sector, as an important segment of the tourist industry, received our unstinting support both materially and financially, in recognition of its vital role in the overall performance of our economy.

"Our strong position as a major regional port of call for the cruise industry today is one of the major achievement of my ministry and one of which the people of Gibraltar can feel justifiably proud."

The ship agent for the vessel in Gibraltar is Inchcape Shipping Services.