**January 10th, 2020**

**ALL ABOARD!!! STENA ESTRID TO SET SAIL ON MONDAY**

***Stena Line’s newest ferry to start service on Holyhead to Dublin route on Monday morning***

STENA LINE has confirmed that its newest ferry *Stena Estrid* will start service on the Holyhead to Dublin route on Monday morning (January 13).

The ship’s maiden voyage will be the 8.55am crossing from Holyhead, while its first Dublin departure will be the 2.50pm sailing from Dublin Port.

*Stena Estrid* will make two daily return trips on the route, as below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Ex-Holyhead** | **Ex-Dublin** |
| 0855hrs | 1450hrs |
| 2030hrs | 0215hrs |

A crossing time of three hours and 15 minutes will pass very quickly with a range of facilities on board for passengers to enjoy, including the ship’s spectacular Sky Bar, two Happy World children’s play areas, a relaxing Hygge reclining lounge, Stena Plus lounge, two movie lounges, bigger Truckers lounge, Taste restaurant, and a bigger better shopping experience.

Described as one of the most modern ferries in the world, *Stena Estrid* is the first of three new next generation ferries that will operate on the Irish Sea as part of a multi-million-pound investment in the region. Sister ship *Stena Edda* is expected to commence operations from Liverpool to Belfast this spring, with a third vessel *Stena Embla* to be introduced on the same route in early 2021.

At 215 metres in length, *Stena Estrid* is one of the most advanced vessels in operation and larger than today’s standard RoPax vessels, with space to carry 120 cars and 1,000 passengers, and a freight capacity of 3,100 lane meters, meaning a 50 per cent increase in freight tonnage.

The name Estrid is connected to Stena Line’s Scandinavian heritage. It is an Old Norse eastern-Nordic version of the name Astrid. Estrid is commonly found on old runestones and means ‘divinely beautiful’.

Stena Line is the largest ferry operator on the Irish Sea, offering the biggest fleet and the widest choice of routes between Britain and Ireland including Holyhead to Dublin, Fishguard to Rosslare, Cairnryan to Belfast, Liverpool to Belfast, and Heysham to Belfast routes, a total of 232 weekly sailing options. Stena Line also offers a direct service between Rosslare to Cherbourg with three return crossings a week.

**[more…]**

***STENA ESTRID* FAST-FACTS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Builder | AVIC Weihai Shipyard Co (Weihai, China) |
| Type | Ro-Pax ship |
| Ferry route / homeports | Dublin-Holyhead |
| Operator | STENA LINE |
| Speed | 22 kn / 41 kph / 25 mph |
| Length (LOA) | 215 m / 705 ft |
| Beam (width) | 28 m / 92 ft |
| Gross Tonnage | 41,671 gt |
| Lane Metres | 3,100 |
| Passengers | 1,000 |
| Cars | 120 |
| Freight vehicles | 210 |
| Cabins | 175 |

 **[ends]**

**MEDIA ENQUIRIES: For further information, please contact Lawrence Duffy or Michael Rafferty of Duffy Rafferty Communications om +44 (0) 28 9073 0880 or** **info@duffyrafferty.com** **OR Simon Palmer at Stena Line on +353 868858789 or** **simon.palmer@stenaline.com****.**