



Government of Antigua and Barbuda
Ministry of Tourism, and Investment.

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United Taxi Association throws its full support behind initiatives guiding the restart of the Cruise Industry.

(St. John's Antigua; April 30th, 2021); The United Taxi Association has thrown full support behind the Ministry of Tourism, pledging to work with all stakeholders to execute protocols being established to govern the restart of the cruise sector.

The executives of the UTA met with Minister of Tourism the Hon. Charles Fernandez and other tourism officials to discuss timelines and opportunities for growth in relation to the arrival of Oasis class ships and home porting.

According to Minister Fernandez, “a committee comprising of all key stakeholders has already been put in place to deal with the re-start of the cruise industry in the next few months”.

“Covid-19 protocols relating to every aspect of the industry are being looked at and it is important that every partner (transportation and tour providers, vendors, store owners, restaurateurs etc.), work in tandem with the authorities to ensure a successful restart”, Minister Fernandez noted.

Antigua and Barbuda’s Cruise Tourism Sector came to an abrupt halt over 12 months ago as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, leaving scores of workers displaced or unemployed.

The Cruise Tourism Restart committee will be meeting with representatives of sectoral partners to ensure that everyone works from the same page and are committed to **safely** welcoming scores of cruise passengers back to our shores.

July 20th, 2021 will see the arrival of the first cruise vessel (with passengers) to Antigua since early 2020, in the form of luxury cruise liner Seaborne Odyssey.

(END).