



## **Food critic Tom Parker Bowles to set sail with Olly Smith onboard P&O Cruises for exclusive culinary experience**

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P&O Cruises announces esteemed food critic, author and television presenter Tom Parker Bowles will be joining guests onboard Arvia, sailing from Southampton on May 12, 2024. The 14-night Mediterranean cruise (K410) promises a unique experience for guests to engage with Tom throughout their holiday.

Teaming up with Olly Smith, P&O Cruises Food Hero and renowned wine expert, guests will have the chance to engage with two of the industry's most respected voices in food and wine. The duo will host an exclusive dinner experience in The Glass House featuring wine pairings curated by Olly, as well as an intimate Q&A session offering a rare opportunity to delve into Tom's culinary expertise. Tom and Olly will also be immersing themselves in the local delicacies of the Mediterranean ports of call.

Olly expresses his enthusiasm, stating, "I'm thrilled to have Tom Parker Bowles join me as a passionate and knowledgeable sidekick for this Food Heroes cruise. I can't wait for him to experience The Glass House and indulge in the extraordinary dishes and wines we have on the menu."

For more information or to book, call P&O Cruises on 03453 555 111, visit [www.pocruises.com](http://www.pocruises.com) or visit a travel agent.

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### **About Tom Parker Bowles**

Tom Parker Bowles is Restaurant Critic for The Mail on Sunday, as well as Food Editor of Esquire. He writes a monthly column for Country Life, and is a Contributing Editor for Conde Nast Traveller. He is also a judge on BBC's Masterchef and the author of nine books, the latest of which, Cooking and The Crown, came out in September 2023.

### **About P&O Cruises**

P&O Cruises is Britain's favourite cruise line, welcoming guests to experience holidays with a blend of discovery, choice, relaxation and exceptional service catered towards British tastes. Each of the seven ships has its own appeal from family friendly or exclusively for adults. With over 200 destinations worldwide, P&O Cruises itineraries are carefully curated to inspire discovery and are varied to suit newcomers and experienced guests alike.

Arvia joined the P&O Cruises fleet in December 2022 embodying the newest trends in travel, dining and entertainment. Arvia offers a Caribbean/winter season of fly-cruise holidays from homeport Barbados and Mediterranean holidays from Southampton during the summer.

P&O Cruises works with the best of the best including Gary Barlow who is music director of The 710 Club on Arvia and Iona and has delivered a number of unique musical moments on board. Crafted to Gary's creative vision, The 710 Club showcases an eclectic range of performances and offers an opportunity for up-and-coming musicians to get their break. Gary also joins guests for exclusive performances on Arvia and Iona holidays. Multi award-winning performer Nicole Scherzinger will be the creative force behind contemporary and breath-taking late night shows to be performed in SkyDome on board Iona and Arvia and P&O Cruises Food Heroes include chefs Marco Pierre White, Jose Pizarro, Shivi Ramoutar and Kjartan Skjelde who has created Norwegian speciality dishes, as well as award-winning drinks expert Olly Smith.

Recent awards for P&O Cruises include:

- British Travel Awards Winner 22/23 - Best cruise line for family holidays & Best cruise line for no-fly
- Cruise Critic Editors' Picks Awards Winner 2023 - Best New Ship of the Year - Arvia
- Wave Awards 2023 – Favourite Ocean Cruise Line, Best Value for Money & Best New Ship Launch