

SAGA

Design ethos

Spirit of Adventure is more reminiscent of a high-end London hotel, than it is a cruise ship. Every detail has been considered and designed with guests in mind.

The brief to design her was modern and boutique, with a great use of colour. This was based on conversations with longstanding Saga cruise guests, one of whom said: "life isn't beige" – a direction the designers took to heart.

The first impression, and every one thereafter, is of a sophisticated and deliberate interior that has been carefully designed to create not only a natural flow of movement and sense of space, but also a high end travel experience.

CHALLENGING DESIGN CONVENTIONS

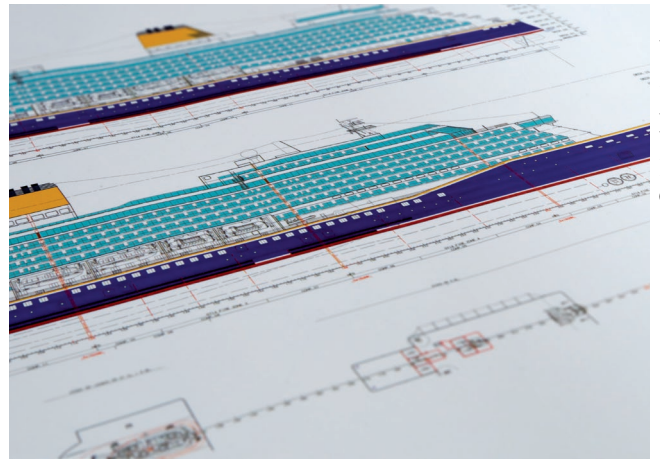
Adventure's layout challenges the conventions of cruise ship design at every turn. Everywhere guests look they will be met with soft, curved walls and surfaces – a rarity in ship design as the look is more expensive to create but delivers a far superior aesthetic.

The public areas of the ship are situated in the centre with all the cabins round the perimeter. This gives every guest their own balcony, adding to their experience at sea.

The ship has also been deliberately designed to feel small, but spacious. Numbers are capped at just 999 people in normal circumstances (though lower currently due to Covid restrictions), which gives everyone a genuine feeling of space.

Kinks are built into corridors to break up the line of sight and create a more intimate feel. Longstanding Saga guests will also notice that no corridor onboard is longer than on the much-loved previous ship, Saga Sapphire. Those same corridors are gently sloped as well, to guide guests to each level without the need for stairs.

Spirit of Adventure is split into thirds by design, with two sets of lifts breaking up the ship. Those lifts sit on either side of the central Living Room area – the heart of the ship – and traverse its width. Again this is different to conventional design which would have the lifts at either end.



Original design plans



Spirit of Adventure



All cabins have a balcony



The Living Room



SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

This makes the lifts easily accessible from any cabin and leads guests directly to the heart of the ship. Seating and dining areas have been created to feel personal with a considered eclectic mix of seating to suit every guest. Meanwhile, dividers help mute loud background noise.

THE GUEST EXPERIENCE

When guests first board Spirit of Adventure they are welcomed into The Living Room by the on-board team, before being escorted to their cabin. This striking space has been deliberately designed to ensure everything a guest may wish to do is at their fingertips. From eating and drinking to the spa, gym and library, everything is in one central area that is intuitive to navigate.

In the middle of The Living Room is The Atrium and Bar. While many ships can feel dark and constrained, a double height staircase running from the atrium on the ground floor to the library on the first floor dominates the space. Famous British adventurers dominate the double storey artwork behind the staircase, which is reminiscent of currents of water with its dual toned carpet blending from teal to light grey. A grand piano sits at the base of the staircase for nightly live music.

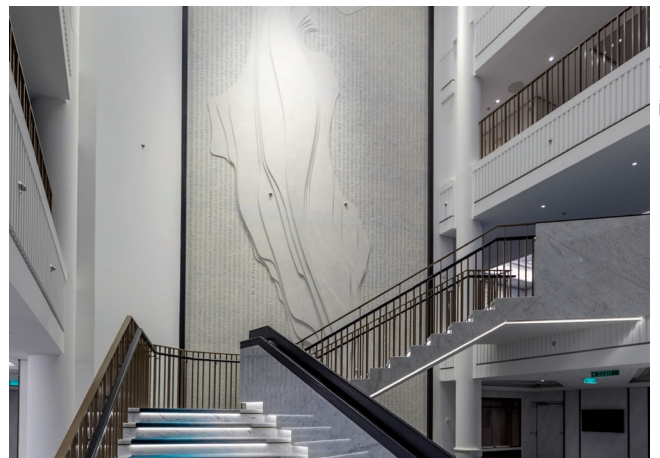
Up the stunning staircase is nestled the Library. It is a calm and relaxing space dominated with royal blue shelves and comfortable nooks to while away relaxing hours. Fittingly, the bespoke artwork on the walls is made of intricately cut, folded and stitched paper from old books and maps.

Back in The Atrium there are dedicated seating areas, which make use of discreet dividers that absorb peripheral noise, with various comfortable seating options from wing-back chairs to sofas in distinctive blues and greens. The walls boast exclusive artwork reflective of the colour palette.

A deep green bar flanked with walls delicately hand painted with palms provides a welcome place for travellers to relax and chat to resident bar staff and fellow guests. The multi-purpose design enables the bar to be adapted by time of day, from offering an excellent range of teas and coffees in the morning, an ice-cream stand from mid-morning and incredible cocktails, spirits and wine collections for the rest of the day.



The Atrium staircase



The Atrium



The Living Room



Handpainted tropical palms



LUXURY AT SEA

A few short steps away is the ship's spa. A gold curved reception desk greets guests along with a bespoke art wall and relaxed seating before they are escorted through to be pampered by fully qualified therapists offering a range of Elemis treatments and hairdressing services. Opposite are the indoor pool and changing rooms.

Up a few decks is the iconic Lido complete with the ship's funnel. So much attention is paid to every detail that the teak hand-rails around the pool area that came with two coats of varnish from the shipyard have all been stripped back and repainted with seven coats over the last year.

Back inside are five restaurants, all with distinctive and individual décor.

- Khukuri is a Nepalese restaurant complete with a formal, symmetrical lay-out and colours and designs from the region as a respectful nod to the Gurkha community.
- Amalfi is dedicated to Italian cuisine with a modern feel.
- The Supper Club specialises in great steaks and has an intimate feel thanks to curved banquettes. Live entertainment draws guests in later in the evening.
- The Main Dining Room has been designed with crenelated glass divides, reminiscent of traditional London restaurants, low ceilings and a range of table layouts.
- And The Grill is a multi-functional restaurant used throughout the day from a relaxed breakfast in the morning to a cosy dinner in the evening, thanks to mood lighting and different table dressings.

In every restaurant, linen napkins are creatively folded on Villeroy and Boch crockery, with the rest of the place-settings made up of WMF cutlery and Shot Schweissel glassware.



The Spa



Khukuri House



Amalfi



The Grill



SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

For those wanting a drink, the North Cape Bar is named after a predecessor on one of Saga's earlier cruise ships. It is also the sister to The South Cape Bar on Spirit of Discovery. Both have a refined, late-night feel complete with high stools and comfortable seating.

Guests seeking entertainment will be drawn to The Playhouse – a 444-seat theatre with plush purple raked seating that is home to Saga's resident performance company where nightly entertainment including West End shows, concert performances and lectures take place.

The space has been so carefully designed that there are no pillars and no restricted view seats. This is a first for a cruise ship and a challenge in design that was overcome thanks to the application of house-building principles and the use of a framed 'box' to create the structure for the enormous space.

Last but definitely not least is The Britannia Lounge. A large and social space with tones of blue, teal and grey, punctuated with chartreuse accents, again in different styles for comfort, a bar area with high stools and a dance floor – complete with disco ball. Look out for the hidden art in the form of a bronze bird somewhere in the room.

Guests taking a stroll out on deck will find unencumbered ocean views thanks to the full wraparound promenade – a rarity in modern ship building but a critical element for the Saga team designing it. For those guests who are keen to keep up their lockdown walks, four times around is equivalent to a mile.

More ocean views are available from the observation deck – a fantastic viewing point as the ships pull into port, or as somewhere to spot the dolphins and porpoises that chase alongside the ships.



The North Cape Bar



The Playhouse



The Britannia Lounge



The Observation Deck

