



RULE BRITANNIA! THE ROYAL YACHT ATTRACTS RECORD-BREAKING VISITOR NUMBERS IN 2018



- **2018 was the busiest year ever with 390,848 visitors**
- **Over 6 million visitors since opening in 1998**
- **Scotland's Best Visitor Attraction for 12 years running**

2018 marked the most successful year for The Royal Yacht Britannia since opening in October 1998, with 390,848 people stepping on board to experience Her Majesty The Queen's former floating palace.

Renowned for its commitment to delivering outstanding customer experiences, the five-star visitor attraction and exclusive evening events venue based in Leith, Edinburgh, is also celebrating welcoming over 6,000,000 visitors during the past 20 years.

Britannia, owned and cared for by The Royal Yacht Britannia Trust, is one of the most famous ships in the world, sailing a million miles around the globe, on a thousand official visits, during her 44 years in Royal service.

Bob Downie, Chief Executive of The Royal Yacht Britannia, is very proud of Britannia's successes, commenting: "To have our busiest year ever, some twenty years since first opening, is a real testament to the outstanding work that our staff do to ensure that all our visitors have a great experience and then recommend us to their friends and family".

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[Free photos available to download here.](#)

[Britannia's Year in Pictures.](#)

Notes to Editors:

This week sees the opening of Fingal by The Royal Yacht Britannia – Scotland's first luxury floating hotel. Fingal, a former lighthouse tender, has been transformed into an exquisite 23-cabin boutique hotel and exclusive-use venue. www.fingal.co.uk

1. Scotland's Best Visitor Attraction (VisitScotland) for 12 years running.
2. The five star visitor attraction has achieved record visitor numbers for the past five years, with 348,272 visitors in 2016 and 390,482 in 2017.
3. The Royal Yacht Britannia has featured in TripAdvisor's UK Top 10 for the last 7 years, with 73% of the nearly 20,000 reviews being 'Excellent'.
4. An unforgettable attraction for visitors, as well as a prestigious evening events venue, Britannia is regarded as one of Edinburgh's 'must-see' destinations. Britannia was home to Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Family for over 40 years. The iconic ship is now berthed in Edinburgh, where visitors can follow in the footsteps of Royalty to discover the heart and soul of this most special of Royal residences. Highlights include the teak-panelled Sun Lounge and elegant State Dining Room, which contrast dramatically with the working side of the ship and the crew's quarters.
5. The audio guide is available in British Sign Language, Braille and 30 languages, making it one of the most translated tours in the world.
6. Britannia is owned by The Royal Yacht Britannia Trust (Registered Charity No. SC028070). The Trust's responsibility is to maintain and preserve Britannia in keeping with her former role and to display her to the public as a key part of British maritime history. The Trust is a wholly self-funding, not-for-profit, charitable organisation. Income generated from running the Royal Yacht as a visitor attraction and events venue goes towards preserving the yacht for future generations.