

Saga Sapphire Ship Visit 19 May 2017

Gemma and I were lucky enough to be invited on an overnight visit on the Saga Sapphire whilst in port at Dover.

On arrival we were taken to lunch in The Verandah restaurant located on deck 9. This is a buffet restaurant offering a variety of hot and cold food and had plenty of waiting staff to offer assistance if needed. Unlike some cruise ships where the buffet restaurant can give more of a cafeteria feel we found that The Verandah offered a more select dining experience with its ambience and décor. With its location at the rear there was a pleasant outdoor seating area for those that prefer to eat Al Fresco.

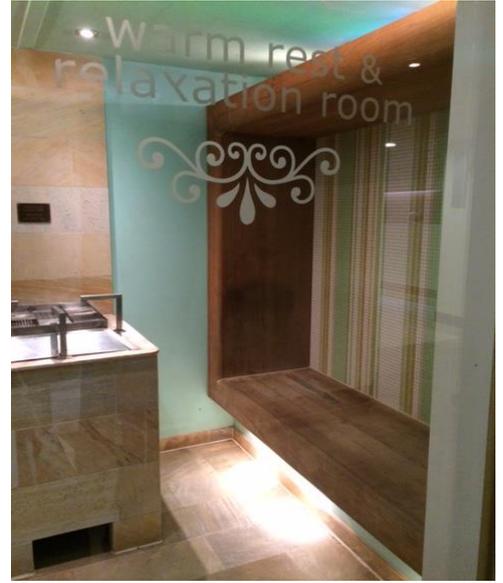


For those who enjoy afternoon tea, this is provided in the Drawing Room located on deck 11. With traditional décor and comfortable seating, this is a great way to unwind with a hot drink and cake. Located nearby, you will find the library and business centre which is perfect if you wish to have a quiet read or to keep in touch with home.

The outdoor pool is situated on deck 11 surrounded by comfy sun loungers and here you will find The Beach Club offering your favourite tippable by the pool along with a self-service pick and mix sweets and for ice creams booth.



For inclement days there is an indoor pool on deck 2. There you will also find a fitness centre, stream room, hot tub, sauna along with treatment rooms for those who wish to pamper themselves.



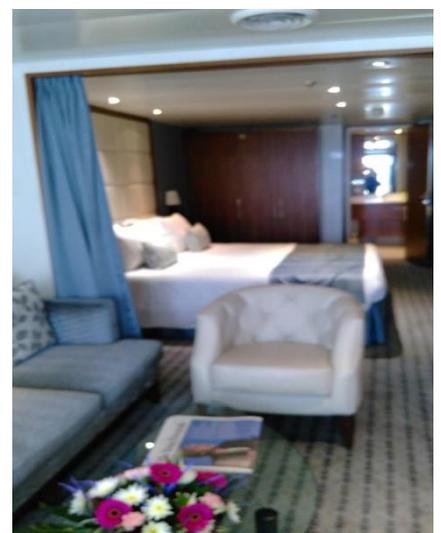
We were then taken on an extensive tour of the ship and we were able to view a variety of cabin grades. We found that all cabins seemed spacious in relation to their grade and were decorated in soft blue colours and dark wood. The cabins were well appointed with a large selection of toiletries to last the duration of your cruise. Please note that there wasn't any tea or coffee making facilities in the cabins, however there is a self service area on board so you can help yourself to tea, coffee and soft drinks during the day.



(Outside single

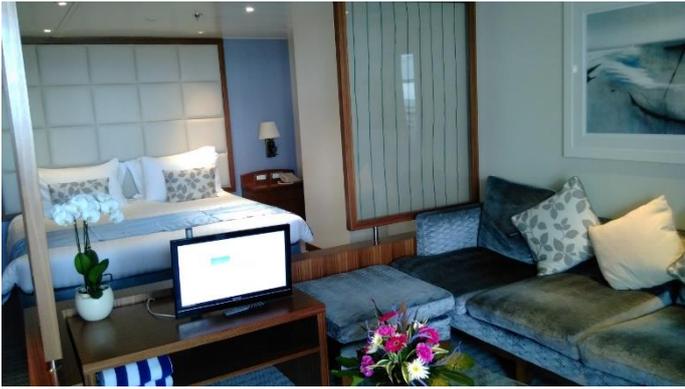


cabin Adapted cabin bathroom



Junior suite)

If you choose to stay in the owners suite number 10553, a junior suite or one of the superior balcony cabins located at the very rear of deck 10 you will find that your balcony overlooks the outdoor seating area of The Verandah restaurant which may not suit everyone.



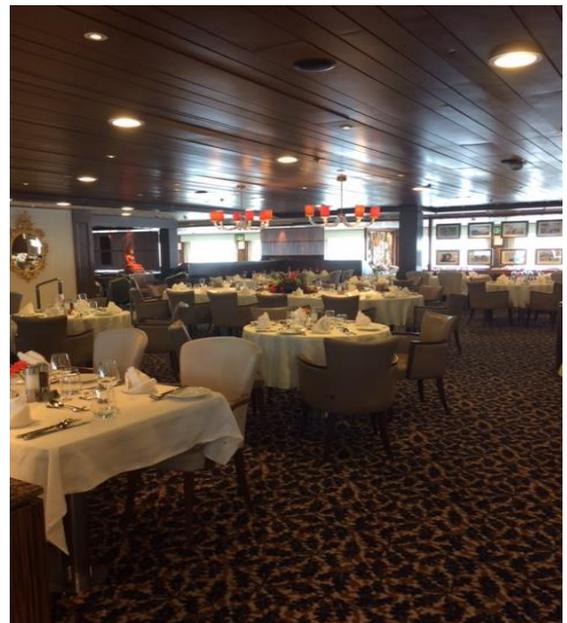
Owners Suite



C Grade Grand Suite



Our evening commenced in the Pole to Pole restaurant (deck 7) which has full waiter service and on Saga ships you receive complimentary wine served with lunch and dinner. There was an extensive variety of food on offer with a choice from five different courses. I especially enjoyed the Angus Beef and Gemma tried caviar for the first time!



Evening entertainment takes place in the Britannia Lounge on deck 8 where we were treated to live music and had an opportunity to dance the night away! We ended our visit with a nightcap in Coopers Bar, very civilised.

Compared to most cruise ships nowadays the Sapphire is relatively small (720 guests), so it offers a more intimate feel with all the service you would expect from Saga.

The added extras such as complimentary gratuities and a return chauffeur service/or free parking (subject to availability) all contribute to making this a memorable cruise experience.

