

## The christening and launch of the HJ River Cruise boat at the HJ Marina

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The christening and launch of the HJ River Cruise boat was held on October 26 at the HJ Marina in Hyojeong CheonWon, at Seorak-myeon, Gapyeong-gun, Gyeonggi-do. The launch was attended by more than 150 guests, including National Assembly member Choi Chun-sik, Gapyeong County Governor Seo Tae-won, Mokpo Maritime University President Han Won-hee, Korea Maritime Transport Agency Technology Business Office Director Kang Gil-bo, Kang Yeon-yeon, president of the Guided Ship Safety Association, Min Kyung-hyuk, CEO of Nami Island Co., Ltd., Kim Jong-kwan, chairman of the HJ Global Unification Foundation, and Lee Myung-kwan, CEO of HJ Leisure Development.

The development of the HJ Cruise line began at the encouragement of True Parents to create an eco-friendly cruise boat that takes nature into consideration, so that people can enjoy the natural environment on a river cruise without a negative impact on the environment. Accordingly, the boat was developed with new ecofriendly technology, and has been certified as Korea's first eco-friendly cruise boat, utilizing electric propulsion technology. The HJ River Cruise boat that has been recognized by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries as Korea's first eco-friendly cruise boat is a three-story, 440-ton river cruise vessel with a length of 40 meters, a width of 12 meters, and a capacity of 250 passengers. The design, supervision, and construction of the boat has been contracted through the Korea Maritime Transportation Safety Authority since October 2020.

The launch and christening event consisted of the Korean Pledge of Allegiance, a progress report and naming ceremony by HJ Leisure Development CEO Lee Myung-kwan, a commemorative speech by HJ Global Unification Foundation Chairman Kim Jong-kwan, a commendation and plaque of appreciation from the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism, congratulatory remarks by National Assembly Member Choi Chun-sik, Gapyeong County Governor Seo Tae-won, and Mokpo Maritime University President Han Won-hee. After a celebration performance, the launching ceremony came to an end and participants had a chance to board the boat at the Hyojeong Marina.

In his progress report on the development of the boat, Lee Myung-kwan, CEO of HJ Leisure Development, stated, "We are concentrating on preparations for smooth and safe operation, including cruise safety inspections and confirmation of docks and electric charging facilities, with the goal of starting official operations in March of next year. After more than three years of time and effort, we have an eco-friendly electric vessel. This is Korea's first 440-ton electric boat, designed to avoid water pollution by using electric propulsion, as well as being noise and vibration-free, which further reduces the impact on the environment, and makes it possible to hold various performances and events on the boat."

In his congratulatory remarks, National Assembly member Choi Chun-sik said, "In the midst of serious environmental problems around the world, it is quite meaningful to have an eco-friendly cruise boat afloat on the Bukhan River, and even better, one that vanquishes environmental problems."- In addition, Gapyeong County Governor Seo Tae-won said, "This launching ceremony is the first step in the project for the restoration of the Bukhan River Millennium Seaway, and we look forward to this cruise line making a significant contribution to the development of the tourism industry in Gapyeong County in the coming months and years. Congratulations."

HJ Cruises are scheduled to officially begin operation in March 2023, with a one-hour round trip leaving from the Hyojeong Marina pier for a cruise to nearby areas of Chung Pyung Lake, and a three-hour round-trip tour to Nami and Jara Islands. It is hoped that the operation of this eco-friendly HJ cruise will become a new attraction contributing to a trend toward a new eco-friendly tourism culture in the Gyeonggi and Gangwon regions, starting from the beautiful waterfront of the Bukhan River.