World's Largest Cruise Ship Sets Sail on December 5

What has seven neighborhoods, a large park, an ice-skating rink, rock climbing walls, and a merry-go-round? Those are just a few of the things you will find on *Oasis of the Seas,* the world's largest cruise ship, which sets sail on its first voyage this December.

Oasis of the Seas, which was built in Finland, is more than a third larger than any cruise ship that has ever sailed. It is 1,187 feet long. That's almost as long as the Empire State Building is tall. The ship's 2,700 guest rooms can hold 5,400 passengers. About 2,160 people work aboard *Oasis of the Seas.*

One of the most unique features of the new ship is its "neighborhood" design. The ship's seven neighborhoods include
● **Central Park**, which has 12,000 plants and trees as well as shops and restaurants.
● **Boardwalk**, which is the best "family spot" aboard the ship.
● **Pool and Sports Zone**, which has 4 pools and high-diving entertainment.
● **Youth Zone**, which features a science area, art classes, and much more. The ship also offers stores and a spa tailored to young guests and teens.

"The exciting thing about this ship is that it's so big that we can offer something for everybody," said Richard Fain, who heads the company that owns *Oasis of the Seas.* The ship even has the first-ever zip line at sea. Brave guests can strap themselves in and fly down the line as they look at the ship's Boardwalk 90 feet below.

> **NEWS WORD BOX**
>
> neighborhood   spa
> unique   tailored
> guest   entertainment

Soon *Oasis of the Seas* will leave Finland. It will arrive in Fort Lauderdale, Florida -- its home port -- on November 30. Its first cruise leaves Fort Lauderdale on December 5.

FUN FACTS ABOUT *OASIS OF THE SEAS*
● The ship includes 150 miles of piping and 3,300 miles of electrical cables.
● It took 158,503 gallons of paint to paint *Oasis of the Seas.*
● The ship includes more than 7,000 works of art.

> **THINK ABOUT THE NEWS**
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> The company that built *Oasis of the Seas* says
> it took 8,000 people-work-years to build the ship.
> Can you figure out about how many hours that might be?