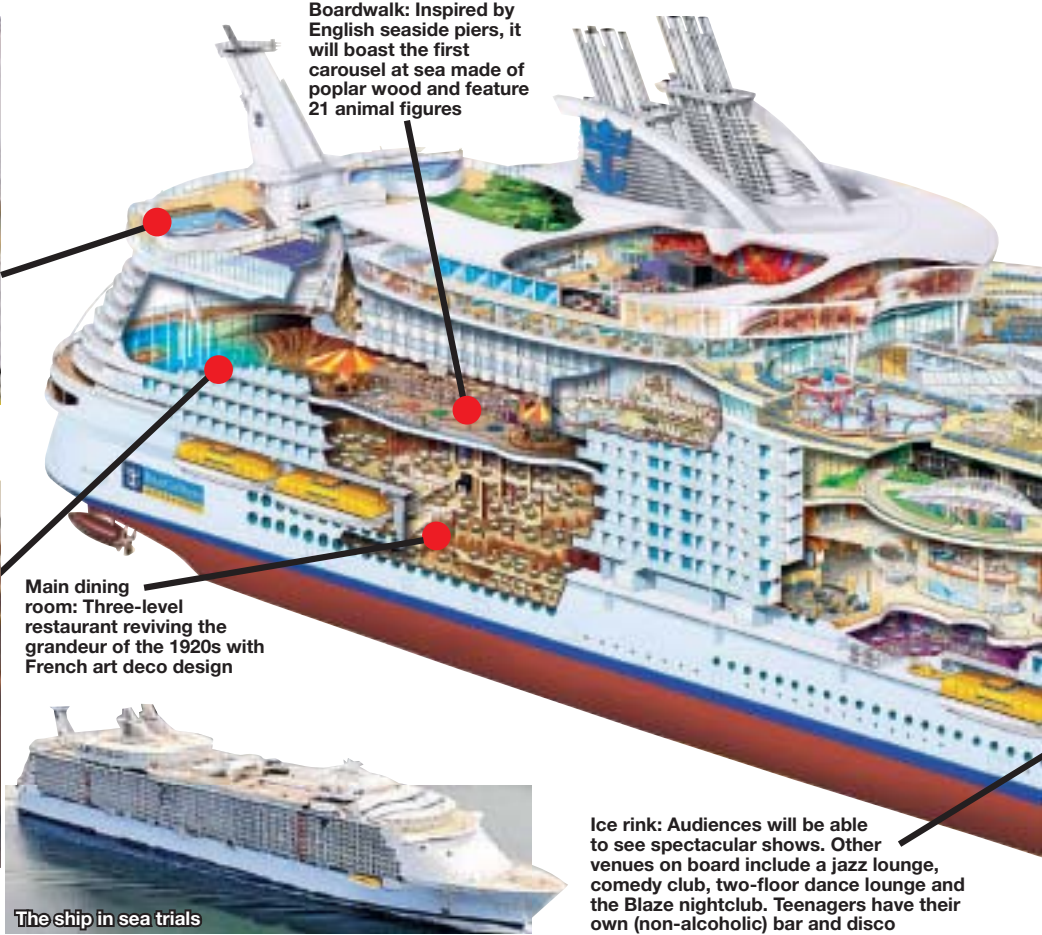




Sports court: Two surf machines, volleyball and basketball court, a miniature golf course and even a 25m (82ft) zipline nine decks above the Boardwalk. There are also two 13m (43ft) high climbing walls



Aqua Theatre: The largest freshwater pool at sea – 5.4m (18ft) deep – will host everything from scuba lessons to synchronised swimming. Nozzles will shoot water 20m (65ft) high in time to music and lights



Boardwalk: Inspired by English seaside piers, it will boast the first carousel at sea made of poplar wood and feature 21 animal figures

Main dining room: Three-level restaurant reviving the grandeur of the 1920s with French art deco design

Ice rink: Audiences will be able to see spectacular shows. Other venues on board include a jazz lounge, comedy club, two-floor dance lounge and the Blaze nightclub. Teenagers have their own (non-alcoholic) bar and disco



The ship in sea trials

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Revealed: The first peek inside the world's biggest-ever passenger ship

The giant floating city

Pools: The first beach pool at sea where guests can wade into the water. The sports pool will host many different water-based games

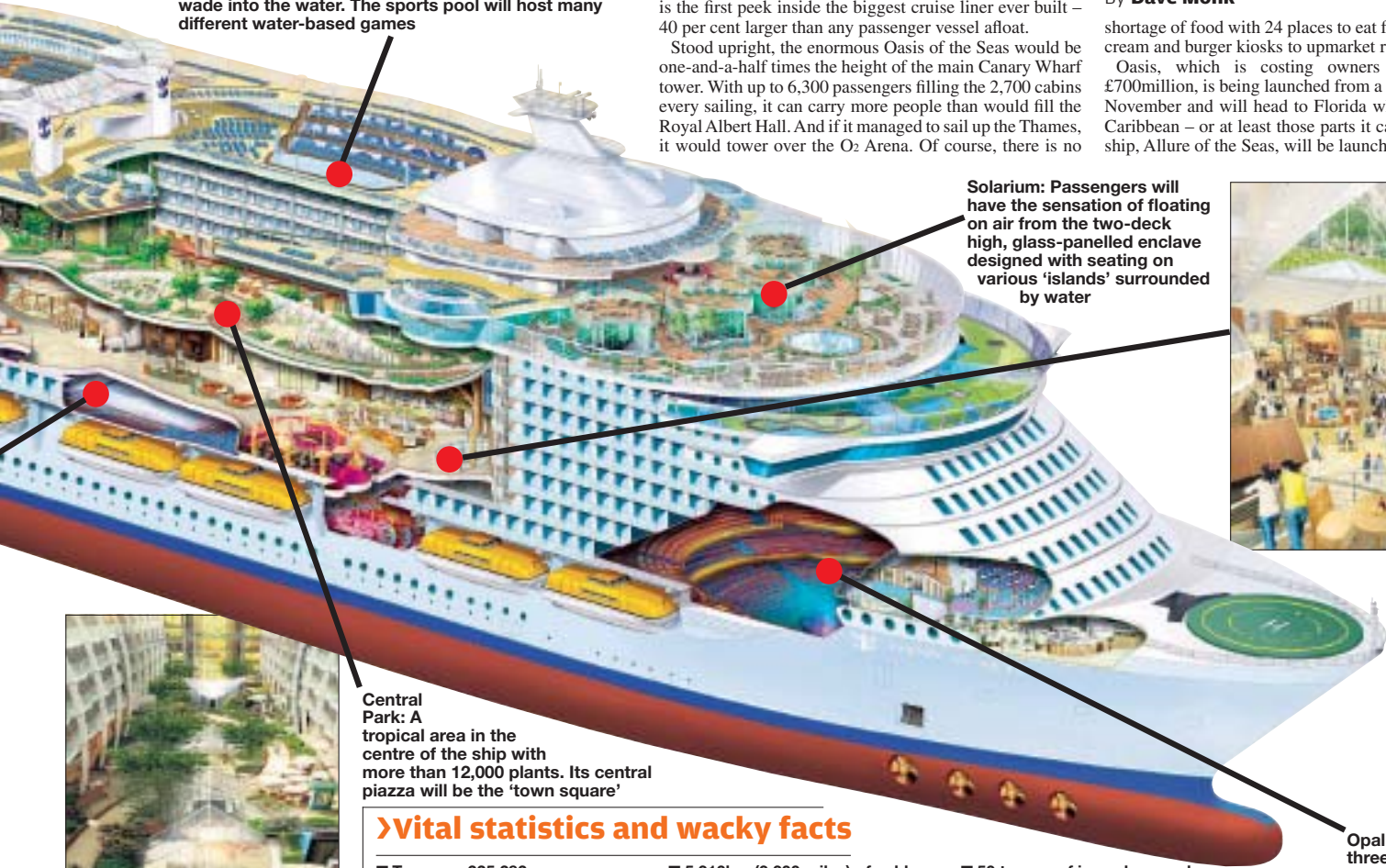
IT'S not so much a ship, almost a destination in itself. This is the first peek inside the biggest cruise liner ever built – 40 per cent larger than any passenger vessel afloat.

Stood upright, the enormous Oasis of the Seas would be one-and-a-half times the height of the main Canary Wharf tower. With up to 6,300 passengers filling the 2,700 cabins every sailing, it can carry more people than would fill the Royal Albert Hall. And if it managed to sail up the Thames, it would tower over the O2 Arena. Of course, there is no

By **Dave Monk**

shortage of food with 24 places to eat from doughnuts, ice cream and burger kiosks to upmarket restaurants.

Oasis, which is costing owners Royal Caribbean £700million, is being launched from a Finnish shipyard in November and will head to Florida where it will sail the Caribbean – or at least those parts it can fit into. Its sister ship, Allure of the Seas, will be launched next year.



Solarium: Passengers will have the sensation of floating on air from the two-deck high, glass-panelled enclave designed with seating on various 'islands' surrounded by water



Royal Promenade: Two storeys of shops, restaurants and bars. Features a moving bar which takes six minutes to glide between three decks

Central Park: A tropical area in the centre of the ship with more than 12,000 plants. Its central piazza will be the 'town square'



>Vital statistics and wacky facts

- Tonnage: 225,282
- Length: 360m (1,187ft)
- Width: 65m (208ft)
- Crew: 2,165 from 70 countries
- Balconies: 1,956
- 5,310km (3,300 miles) of cables
- 600,000 litres of paint
- 90,000sq m (nearly 1million sq ft) of carpet
- 2,300 tonnes of water in the 21 pools and whirlpool tubs
- 50 tonnes of ice cubes made every day
- 2,350 tonnes of fresh water used every day
- Made from 500,000 parts
- 5,800 man years to build

Opal Theatre: A three-level auditorium seating 1,350 people where passengers will be able to see performances of West End musical Hairspray

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