



13 May 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

**LETTER OF REFERENCE — WILLIAM SAMES, HEAD CHEF**

It is with great pleasure that I provide this letter of reference for Mr. William Sames, who served as Head Chef aboard Chopi from April 2025 until the conclusion of his tenure at the end of May/ beginning June 2026 at the end of his notice period. Throughout his time with us, William distinguished himself as a culinary professional of the highest calibre and a deeply valued member of our crew.

Chopi operates one of the more demanding programmes in the industry. We routinely accommodate up to twenty-two guests across four generations of a single family, often with multiple distinct meal services running concurrently throughout the day. The complexity of dietary requirements, preferences, and service timings places significant pressure on the galley, and the standard expected is consistently uncompromising. William not only met this standard he elevated it.

Perhaps William's most defining quality is his remarkable adaptability. On numerous occasions, he was called upon to produce exceptional results under circumstances that would have defeated many seasoned chefs, last-minute guest additions, sudden changes in itinerary, unusual dietary requests, and provisioning challenges in remote locations. Time and again, he found a way to deliver, and to do so with composure and quiet confidence. His ability to produce outstanding food in the most difficult of circumstances became something the entire crew came to rely upon.

His cuisine was consistently exceptional, thoughtfully conceived, beautifully executed, and tailored with care to the preferences of each guest. Feedback from guests was always positive, and many remarked specifically on the quality of his food as a highlight of their time aboard. He demonstrates a level of skill, judgement, and maturity that is well beyond his years.

In addition to his professional ability, William was genuinely well regarded by both guests and crew. He is personable, professional, and conducts himself with the discretion and polish that high-end private service demands. He integrated seamlessly within the team and consistently represented the vessel with distinction.

We are genuinely sorry to see him go. I recommend William without reservation and with the utmost confidence to any future employer. He will prove an exceptional asset wherever his career next takes him.

Should you wish to discuss William's service in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me directly

Best Regards,

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