

Quantum nuts & bolts

ROYAL Caribbean has released a new video detailing the efficient manufacturing processes that go into building a “next generation” cruise ship on time and to the highest standards - [CLICK HERE](#).

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APT rail and sail in Russia

SEAMLESS connections with luxury train journeys and the first “celebrity chef” restaurant on Russian rivers are among highlights of the new APT ship, *Anastasia*, launching next year.

An unprecedented seven cruise departures will be packaged with rail adventures on Golden Eagle Luxury Trains (GELT), which is majority owned by APT.

APT announced the Russian “rebuild” aboard its European newbuild, *AmaReina*, which the *Anastasia* will match in its design.

“We are rebuilding a new ship in Russia to create the best ship in

Russia,” APT ceo Chris Hall said.

“One of the benefits of having our own ship is that we can control the dates, so we can match up cruises with the Golden Eagle from Vladivostok to Moscow,” he added.

In another new concept for Russian river cruising, *Anastasia* will feature a French-Vietnamese restaurant by Luke Nguyen, called Indochine, which extends APT’s partnership with the owner of Sydney’s Red Lantern and presenter of SBS food and travel program ‘*Luke Nguyen’s Vietnam*’.

Other onboard dining options include Tsars champagne and caviar bar, Chivago’s chef’s table, Roberto and Louise’s Italian, Café Volga, and an ice-cream bar on the sun deck, which also has a pool, spa and sauna.

Cabins will have twin or full balconies, “proper bathrooms and exquisite décor”, said Debra Fox, APT’s general marketing mgr.

The new ship is expected to operate from May 2015 in addition to APT’s *AmaKatarina*.

Travelmarvel, the group’s premium brand, is also tipped to boost its Russian product in 2015.

“We are looking to see what else we can do,” Hall said.

Fly free for Silversea

FREE return airfares to join any Kimberley departure in Apr or May 2015 aboard new expedition vessel *Silver Discoverer* are now available in a new special offer by Broome & The Kimberley Holidays.

The offer covers flights to and from either Broome or Darwin from any Australian capital city in line with a booking on the new Silversea Cruises vessel.

Ten-night packages on the new vessel are priced from \$10,950 per person twin share & includes all meals onboard, off-vessel excursions, a scenic flight over the Bungle Bungles, dining experience at Cable Beach Club Resort & Spa and much more.

More details on 1300 357 057 or www.broomekimberley.com.au.

Big CU issue today

Today’s issue of **TD Cruise**

Update features four pages of all the latest cruise information.

Goldstein promotion

ROYAL Caribbean International president & ceo Adam Goldstein has been promoted to the role of president and chief operating officer of Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd, responsible for overseeing the organisation in its entirety.

Commencing immediately, Goldstein will work alongside group chairman and chief executive officer Richard D. Fain.

Goldstein will work alongside Fain in plotting the strategic direction for six brands including RCI itself, Azamara Club Cruises, Celebrity Cruises and more.

“Adam has played a key role in growing Royal Caribbean International, step by step, into a global leader,” Chairman Fain said.

“In the course of doing so, he has become an impressive leader in his own right”.

Goldstein said he was looking forward to continuing the growth of the company, which operated five ships when he joined in 1988.

We now have more than 60,000 employees taking our guests to every continent of the world, as well as the most technologically advanced ships at sea.

“The opportunity we have is to take even greater advantage of our global scale and knowledge, while delivering the guest satisfaction that helped us grow to where we are today”.

A search for a replacement at the helm of the Royal Caribbean brand has now commenced.

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Cruise Calendar

Travel Daily Cruise Update's calendar details upcoming port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia.

SYDNEY	
<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	08 Apr
<i>Sea Princess</i>	09 Apr
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	10 Apr
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	11 Apr
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	11 Apr
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	12 Apr
<i>Oosterdam</i>	13 Apr
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	13 Apr
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	12 Apr
MELBOURNE	
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	11 Apr
CAIRNS	
<i>Orion</i>	11 Apr
THURSDAY ISLAND	
<i>Nat. Geographic Orion</i>	08 Apr
<i>Nat. Geographic Orion</i>	14 Apr
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Princess</i>	11 Apr
<i>Silver Discoverer</i>	12 Apr

Explorer a game changer



ROYAL Caribbean International says the addition of *Explorer of the Seas* to its Australian-based fleet (**TD** breaking news Fri) will put it "head and shoulders above our competitors".

Speaking at an event in Sydney this morning to formally announce the mega-ship's deployment, RCCL md Gavin Smith said the additional capacity continued the cruise operator's belief in the huge growth potential of the local market.

Smith said the deployments mean Australian cruisers can experience the newest product without long-haul travel, in turn driving demand for cruising.

Upon its arrival in Australasian waters in Nov 2015, the 3,800-passenger *Explorer* will join sister ship *Voyager of the Seas* as the largest cruise vessels sailing in the southern hemisphere.

The new ship will replace the departing *Rhapsody of the Seas*, which leaves Australian waters after eight consecutive seasons.

Explorer's maiden season in Australia will consist of sailings to ports in Australia, NZ and the South Pacific, along with Singapore repositioning cruises.

The ship will also feature a range of Royal Caribbean innovations including Australia's first 'FlowRider' onboard surfing simulator, "virtual balcony cabins," ice skating and of course the signature Royal Promenade.

Explorer and *Voyager* will make an historic rendezvous in Sydney

Harbour on 28 Nov 2015.

Pictured above at this morning's event are newly appointed RCCL Commercial Director Australasia Sean Treacy; MD International Dominic Paul; MD Australasia Gavin Smith; and Commercial Director Int'l Adam Armstrong.

Adam Armstrong takes global role

ROYAL Caribbean's commercial director Australasia Adam Armstrong has been appointed as the cruise giant's Commercial Director, International.

In his new role, Armstrong will continue to be based in Sydney, but will work across all of the international markets where Royal Caribbean, Celebrity and Azamara Club Cruises operate.

He will report to Dominic Paul, who runs Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines in all global markets outside of North America.

Armstrong's local role will be taken by Sean Treacy, who moves to Australia from his former role with Celebrity Cruises as Director of Market Planning and Consumer Insights.



Discover the World has over 80 offices in more than 60 countries, and is the largest travel representation company with more than 70 clients worldwide. Our Australian office currently represents a number of international travel brands including Hurtigruten, Variety Cruises, Swan Hellenic, Voyages of Discovery, Hebridean Island Cruises, Expeda TAA, Caesars Entertainment Resorts & Hotels and a number of airlines, and also operates a successful cruise wholesale division, Discover the World Cruising.

Due to our continued growth we have the following exciting opportunities available to join our team.

Operations Manager – Sydney

An opportunity has arisen for an experienced operations manager to head up our busy and growing cruise division.

This role will suit a dynamic individual with a strong passion for cruise and with excellent communication and management skills. The ideal candidate will have strong organisational, analytical and negotiation skills, a focus on service and will have a minimum of three years experience in a similar role.

Sales Executive x 2 – Sydney and Melbourne

We are seeking two highly motivated Sales Executives with previous travel industry field sales experience to work in these newly created positions, on a defined portfolio of Discover's clients, with the main focus being on the cruise clients.

These diverse roles will suit energetic individuals who will be responsible for calling on travel agents, developing new, and nurturing existing, business relationships, perform product training to agents and attend trade shows as required. The ideal candidates will have a minimum of three years work experience in a similar role.

Cruise Consultant – Sydney

An exciting opportunity has arisen for this newly created position to work in our cruise division.

The successful applicant will be responsible for, but not limited to, handling enquiries and special requests, taking bookings and maintaining manifests. The ideal candidate will have a passion for cruise and will have a minimum of two years work experience in a similar role.

Competitive remuneration based on experience. Please send all applications to: hr@discovertheworld.com.au. Applications close on 18th April and only successful candidates will be contacted.

Two for one Vanuatu

SMALL ship cruise operator Island Escape is offering a two-for-one deal on its five-night "Romance of Vanuatu" cruises departing on 03, 10, 17 & 24 May.

The itinerary travels round-trip from Port Vila and visits a number of islands around the nation.

Limited availability has been released for the offer, valid for new bookings only and priced from NZD \$3,250 per couple.

Scenic deals closing

ONLY four days remain to book and secure pre-release 2015 river cruise cabins in Europe through Scenic Tours, with current 2014 prices confirmed to increase from the close of sale this Fri 11 Apr.

Scenic Tours has guaranteed pax booking a cabin now will receive the best Earlybird offer available, even if it changes after booking along with any upgrade deals launched in the full 2015 guide. Phone 1300 723 642 to book.

MTA claims Cruiseco sales gong



HOME-BASED retail group MTA - Mobile Travel Agents was recently presented with an award by cruise wholesaler Cruiseco for high cruise passenger sales over the 2012/13 financial year.

The award of "Highest Sales for a new member" was presented at Cruiseco's annual conference late

last month in Brisbane.

MTA director and head of product Sara Merricks was in attendance representing the group and to accept the award on behalf of the network of agents.

She is **pictured** above second from left with Wendy Allen, Rhona Rodgers & Doug Trenham.

Tauck agent incentive

AUSSIE travel agents can earn a \$50 Coles/Myer gift voucher for every 2014 Tauck cruise or tour booked during the month of Apr in a new industry incentive.

One gift voucher will be issued for all new eligible bookings made & fully paid by 30 Apr, with clients also receiving a US\$100 discount.

For more details, phone Travel the World on 1300 857 437.

Murray River discount

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises has released a special offer for its Murray River cruises, with 25% off the price as part of a Winter Sun sale on until 29 Aug.

Cruises are operated by modern replica paddlewheeler *PS Murray Princess*, with prices starting from \$674 per person twin share.

The sale is valid for three, four and seven-night cruises departing between 02 Jun and 29 Aug departing from Mannum, SA - info at www.captaincook.com.au.

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HAL ups Sth Am ships

FOUR of Holland America Line's ships will operate sailings to South America over the 2014/15 northern winter season, the line announced over the weekend.

Twenty voyages ranging in duration from 14 to 68 days will be on offer, operated by *MS Statendam*, *MS Maasdam*, *MS Prinsendam* and *MS Zaandam*.

Ships will visit more than 50 ports across the continent, with departures from Fort Lauderdale, San Diego, Vancouver and from South America itself.



FEELING creatively stifled and devoid of inspiration? Perhaps a holiday on a tropical island will get the juices flowing.

A philanthropist in Sweden is inviting entrepreneurs, inventors, dreamers or anybody seeking some mental stimulation to apply to him for a holiday on his tropical island, free of charge.

In fact, he owns three; two off Stockholm and one in the Philippines, and all applicants need to do is convince him that being cut off from civilisation will help them re-discover their creative or entrepreneurial fire.

The island in the Philippines, however is closed at the moment, due to damage caused by last year's Typhoon Hainan.

Anyone interested can visit www.theideaisland.com for more information or to apply.

Ponant info evenings

TRAVEL agents & clients across Australia are being invited to attend a series of information evenings hosted by luxury French cruise line Compagnie du Ponant.

Over the next month, events will be held in Melbourne, Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide and Perth, with sessions at 2pm and 6pm, with light refreshments served at each.

The events will provide an opportunity to learn more about the line's ships, inclusions, style, itineraries and to meet its new Australian-based representatives.

Registration is required for each session, which can be made via reservations.aus@ponant.com or by phone on 1300 737 178.

Cash for Navy berths

WEEKEND Fairfax reports indicating extra cruise ship berth space could be made available at Sydney's Garden Island precinct, with passenger tax revenue being redirected to the Navy instead of NSW State Treasury coffers, have been praised by CLIA Australasia.

General manager Brett Jardine told *Cruise Update* CLIA was happy initiatives to open up berth space were being considered.

"With more ships & larger ships visiting Sydney each season, there is a need for new measures to make the port more accessible.

"Ship visits bring enormous economic benefits to the NSW economy as they draw hundreds of thousands of intrastate, interstate and international tourists to the city, injecting hundreds of millions of dollars into the economy and generating thousands of jobs - so the benefits are many," Jardine added.

Clear sailing for RCI marketing



ROYAL Caribbean International's behind-the-scenes teams went on an epicurean adventure of their own recently, holding their latest sales conference aboard the line's *Radiance of the Seas* vessel.

Sailing from Brisbane to Sydney, the line flew in business development managers from around Australia & New Zealand to participate in the conference.

Joining the productive yet highly enjoyable activities were members of the line's Revenue, PR and Marketing teams.

As well as being able to sample the wide variety of foodie delights aboard *Radiance*, also known as the "culinary ship", the group was invited to the Bridge to check out the operational heart of the ship and meet with the Captain.

Pictured above from left while at the Bridge is Anna Qu,

Christina Sheperdson, Megan van den Bogaart, Tessa Anderssen, Rosie Risetto-Spiers, Andrew Locke, Laurie Sherwood, Fiona Daven, Bronwen Milsom, Robert Shaw, Joseph Dadd, Amy Ryan, Peter Carson, Mark Rheinbay, Belinda Lopez, Peter McCormack, Mark Kinchley, Darren Chigwidden, Tony Soden, Cameron Mannix and Mel Ryan.

New Celebrity arena

CELEBRITY Cruises has signed a deal to become the official cruise partner line of London's O2 Arena until the end of the year.

The agreement will see the line develop a brand profile with the venue including hosting meetings, launch events and corporate hospitality soirees for partners and agents at the arena.

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