

# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 13 Apr 2017

## Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

## Cruises return to QLD

P&O Cruises' *Pacific Dawn* docked in Airlie Beach today, as the first cruise ship to return to the Whitsundays town since Cyclone Debbie's onslaught.

Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said the arrival of *Pacific Dawn* at Airlie Beach would inject confidence and cash in the Whitsunday region.

Carnival Australia exec chairman Ann Sherry, who travelled with the Premier, pledged that cruising would play a significant part in Qld's economic recovery, with 34 ships from across Carnival Australia's brands scheduled to visit the region this year.

Sherry said \$10,000 from the P&O Pacific Partnership would be devoted to cyclone relief.

## Majestic Sydney homeport

PRINCESS Cruises' newest ship, the 3,560-guest *Majestic Princess* will call Australia home for six months from Sep next year, in what will be the company's largest single ship deployment as part of its 2018/19 Australia and NZ program (CW breaking news).

Revealed yesterday to trade and media, *Majestic Princess* will arrive in Sydney following its first full season in China in 2018.

Debuting in Italy earlier this month, the 143,000-tonne ship has 20 restaurants & bars, four of which are unique to *Majestic*, including two created by Michelin-star chefs - Harmony and La Mer.

Over 80% of her staterooms are private balconies.

"We're thrilled to be welcoming our newest, most stylish & most luxurious flagship to our shores," said Princess Cruises vice pres Australia/NZ, Stuart Allison.

*Majestic* is also the third ship in

Princess' Royal class, joining both *Regal Princess* and *Royal Princess*.

Both *Regal* and *Royal* are set to be configured with Carnival Corp's Ocean Medallion wearable technology that enables pax to personalise their experience.

Allison told *Cruise Weekly* the Medallion product would need to be adapted for the China market for *Majestic*, and that it could be the first Princess ship to offer the tech to the Australian market.

"I'm hopeful one of the ships will have it down here. Watch this space," Allison added.

Princess Cruises' 2018/19 program, which will go on sale on 27 Apr, also features three local favourites, *Golden Princess*, *Sun Princess* and *Sea Princess*.

The program will offer close to 100 cruises from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide, Fremantle and Auckland.

More from Princess on **page 2**.

## Aurora Antarctica

AURORA Expeditions has launched its 2018/2019 Antarctic program featuring 11- to 18-day itineraries venturing to destinations including the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia, the wild Weddell Sea and the Falkland Islands.

An earlybird deal is offering savings of up to 15% across all newly-released itineraries when booked before 30 Jun.

## Windstar to Alaska

WINDSTAR Cruises has announced a return to Alaska sailings in its northern Spring/Summer 2018 season.

The 212-pax *Star Legend* will sail the Alaskan itineraries, visiting Misty Fjords National Monument and Kenai Fjords National Park as well as Tracy Arm Fjord.

Itineraries start from 11 days with eight sailing dates between May and Aug 2018.

Regent

SEVEN SEAS CRUISES\*

THE MOST INCLUSIVE LUXURY EXPERIENCE™

ENTICING NEW 2018/19 WORLDWIDE ITINERARIES NOW AVAILABLE

plus

A REDUCED DEPOSIT OF 10%†

ALL-SUITE | ALL-BALCONY | INTIMATE SHIPS

2016  
AUSTRALIAN  
EXPLORER'S  
PICKS

CRUISE  
GATEWAY  
BEST FOR LUXURY

it's all included

FREE UNLIMITED SHORE EXCURSIONS | FREE SPECIALITY RESTAURANTS | FREE UNLIMITED DRINKS\*  
FREE WIFI ONBOARD | FREE PRE-PAID GRATUITIES | FREE 1-NIGHT PRE-CRUISE HOTEL\*

PLEASE CLICK HERE FOR ITINERARIES OR CALL OUR SYDNEY CONTACT CENTRE ON 1300 455 200



ORDER YOUR  
2018/19  
BROCHURE NOW

\*Select beverages include selected wines, spirits, beer and champagne. Free 1 night pre cruise hotel package applies to guests 1 and 2 in Concierge Suites and higher and is valid for new bookings made within 60 days of departure. †10% Reduced deposit available on select new bookings only made by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017. For full terms & conditions that apply, please visit [www.RSSC.com](http://www.RSSC.com). All rights reserved. Regent Seven Seas Cruises is not responsible for typographical errors or omissions. \*Ships' Registry: Bahamas. \*2016 Regent Seven Seas Cruises. NCL Australia Pty Ltd ABN 8060 7578 781

## ATG suite on Odysseus

APT Travel Group (ATG) has integrated its APT and Travelmarvel river and small ship cruising programs on APT Link with cruise solution platform provider Odysseus Solutions.

Agents using Odysseus Solutions now have access to real time information, including pricing, availability and in-market offers that may apply.

APT Travel Group exec general manager, global sales and marketing, Debra Fox said the partnership would be of particular value to small, medium and online travel agencies.

"Having prices, availabilities and in-market offers for all of our cruising inventory available on a streamlined and efficient platform such as Odysseus means agents are able to provide answers without delay," she said.

"They can then package our inventory with ancillary products, allowing them to secure bookings

quickly," Fox added.

Existing Odysseus clients who use APT Link and want to discuss access can contact [Web.PartnerProgram@aptouring.com.au](mailto:Web.PartnerProgram@aptouring.com.au) and APT Link clients looking to integrate Odysseus can contact [Dave@odysseussolutions.com](mailto:Dave@odysseussolutions.com).

### AIDAperla godmother

**GERMAN** model and presenter Lena Gercke will christen AIDA Cruises' twelfth ship, *AIDAperla*, in Palma de Mallorca on 30 Jun.

The christening cruise will sail from 24 Jun to 01 Jul and stop by Rome, Florence and Barcelona.

### Provence christened

**AMADEUS** River Cruises has christened its new ship, *Amadeus Provence* in France.

The vessel sails along the Rhone and the Saone and is the first in the fleet to include a pool deck with a swimming pool.

## Princess brings out the big guns

**MAJESTIC** Princess will offer 16 sailings in Australia and New Zealand as part of the ship's debut season in this region, running from Sep 2018 until Mar 2019.

The deployment of Princess Cruises' newest ship to ANZ waters is in response to commercial demands from this market, with Australian cruisers Princess' number one int'l market for the last few years, vp of ANZ Stuart Allison told **Cruise Weekly**.

"Australians spend more nights on a Princess ship than they do on any other cruise line.

"Really for us, it was the next step after bringing a bigger ship like *Emerald* to Australia," he said, referring to the 2016/17 season in which Princess achieved a 75% y-o-y increase in pax numbers.

Based from Sydney, *Majestic* will offer a range of round-trip and one-way cruises to New Zealand, as well as to Fiji and Tasmania.

Repositioning cruises from



Shanghai and to Hong Kong will top-and-tail her deployment.

Fares are priced from \$1,499 per person twin share for a balcony room on a six-night cruise to Tasmania departing 18 Nov 18.

**Pictured** on *Emerald Princess* in Sydney for the announcement of *Majestic Princess* coming down under are Allison and Carnival Corp exec chairman Ann Sherry.

### Edge's floor plans

**CELEBRITY** Cruises has unveiled the floor plans of the accommodation to be offered on board *Celebrity Edge* in a video posted to Twitter - **CLICK HERE**.



Holland America Line®  
SAVOR THE JOURNEY

# READY SET SAIL

OFFERS VALUED UP TO us\$1,000

### ANNOUNCING READY SET SAIL!

Book ANY stateroom on select sailings June 2017 - March 2018 and enjoy incredible offers valued up to US\$1,000 including:\*

- Prepaid gratuities (hotel service charges)
- Up to US\$500 onboard spending money

**PLUS** book a suite and receive an additional US\$100 internet credit

\*Terms and conditions apply.

**LEARN MORE**

# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 13 Apr 2017

## Noordam hosts team leaders



**HOLLAND** America Line, Seabourn sales & marketing and contact centre team leaders recently boarded *ms Noordam* for a three-day sales conference to Hobart and Port Arthur.

**Pictured** are: Sally Murphy bdm SA/WA; Tony Archbold, director of sales; LJ Lyons, bdr national accounts; Anthony

Cooper, national accounts manager; Brooke Hamwood, sales coordinator; Rob Graham, contact centre team leader; Catherine Rynd, marketing & events executive; Brendan Wall, marketing manager; Jennifer Compton, bdr NSW/ACT/QLD; Rebecca Cranston bdr VIC/SA/WA and Helen Eves bdm NSW/ACT.

## TM cruise uptick

**CRUISE** sales have contributed to a record performance reported by TravelManagers for the first quarter of 2017.

The group highlighted an 18% increase in cruise sales coupled with a 29% increase in escorted touring as the primary drivers of the home based agency's total increase of 13% in sales for Jan-Mar, when compared to same period in the previous year.

## Carnival Long Beach

**WORK** has begun on a renovation of Carnival Cruise Lines' Long Beach cruise terminal facility in California.

The terminal will be increased in size from 6,132m<sup>2</sup> to 13,192m<sup>2</sup> and feature a cold-ironing facility allowing larger ships to plug into the local electricity grid.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2017.

## San Juan upgrade

**THE** Puerto Rico Ports Authority has confirmed it will upgrade its Pan American II Pier in San Juan in partnership with Royal Caribbean Cruises.

Upgrades to the pier follow the announcement *Freedom of the Seas* will homeport from San Juan in 2018, sailing seven-night trips.

## Pandaw new trip

**PANDAW** has launched a new expedition, sailing on the Irrawaddy Delta, Myanmar.

The seven-night itinerary sets sail from Yangon on board *RV Katha Pandaw*, which offers 16 cabins and 21 crew members.

Departures begin on 10 Mar 2018, with prices from \$2,117pp sharing a twin cabin.

## Shipyard deal signed

**FINCANTIERI** and the French state have inked a deal for the Italian shipbuilder to take a 48% stake in STX France.

The agreement includes guidelines of the business plan & France will retain its 33.3% stake.

## Viking's in demand

**VIKING** Cruises is reporting "unprecedented demand" across three of its newest ocean cruise itineraries traversing Japan, Russia and Alaska.

The three new itineraries dubbed North Pacific Passage, Far East Horizons and Alaska & the Inside Passage range from 11 to 23 days and depart in 2019.

**MEANWHILE**, Viking is offering savings of \$1,000 per couple when booking any of the three new cruises plus others before 30 Jun 2017 - **CLICK HERE** for details.



CRYSTAL®

CRYSTAL CLEAR

# CHOICES™

BOOK BY 30 JUNE 2017

BOOK SELECT CRYSTAL OCEAN AND RIVER JOURNEYS BY 30 JUNE 2017 AND CHOOSE:

1

Cruise Fare Savings  
of up to **us\$1,000pp**

or

2

Shipboard Credit  
of up to **us\$1,250pp**

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK, CONTACT CRYSTAL

PHONE +61 2 8074 6500 | EMAIL RES.ANZ@CRYSTALCRUISES.COM | CRYSTALCRUISES.COM

\*All offers may not be combinable with other promotions, apply to first two full-fare guests in stateroom or suite, are capacity controlled, subject to availability, and may be withdrawn or changed at any time without notice. Crystal Clear Choices offer applies the first two guests and are made as Guaranteed bookings only (third berth not eligible) and requires each guest to choose his/her choice of credit to apply to the booking. Maximum Cruise Fare credit/savings of US\$1,000 per person and Shipboard spending credits of US\$1,250 per person apply to voyage 7320 on Crystal Serenity only and are non-transferable, non-refundable, and may not be reimbursed for cash value. For complete terms & conditions visit [crystalcruises.com](http://crystalcruises.com) ©Crystal Cruises LLC. Ships' registry: The Bahamas and Malta.

Your mouth will water when you read our comparison of the food offerings on ships homeporting in Australia in the April issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read **travelBulletin**



## Island Escape extend

**ISLAND** Escape Cruises has extended its cruise region to include Doubtful, Dusky, Breaksea and Dagg Sounds in 2018.

The company is offering an early payment saving of \$1,000pp for sales to 30 Jun, including a seven-night Northern Fiords Cruise priced from \$6,250pp.

## Sanctuary cruise deal

**SANCTUARY** Retreats is offering guests discounts up to 25% on selected Burmese cruises on three- to 11-night itineraries on the Irrawaddy & Chindwin Rivers.

Prices start from US\$1,971pp.



**CRUISES** are renowned for an abundance of food and weight gain but one cruise is working to do the opposite.

In early May and again in Nov, Weight Watchers will host a seven-night wellness themed cruise aboard the *MSC Divina*.

The cruises peruse the Caribbean and the Mediterranean and provide ample opportunities to "work up a healthy sweat".

There will be on board Weight Watchers Meetings with Weight Watchers Leaders, cooking demos, seminars from wellness experts, real time support and the chance to hike, snorkel and pursue physical activities at the various ports of call.

The May sailing is sold out, but the Nov departure is still open for bookings.

## Cruiseco promote charter



**CRUISECO** has been busy promoting its charter of Ponant's 40-night circumnavigation of Australia, sailing from Sydney on 25 Jan 2018.

The team came together with reps from Ponant to host an event last week at the Australian National Maritime Museum to tell consumers about the cruise.

**Pictured** are: Justine Sealey, general manager, Ramsgate Travel; Deb Corbett, commercial director – Australasia for Ponant; Faye Larrarte, special projects sales manager, Cruiseco and Mick Fogg, expedition leader, Ponant.

## Croisi's redone ship

**CROISIEUROPE** has refurbished the *MS Symphonie* and renamed the vessel *MS Symphonie II*.

The ship is 110m long and accommodates 110 pax in 55 cabins, with one room catering to pax with mobility issues.

It offers a bar and lounge with a dance floor, restaurant, sun deck and a boutique.

*MS Symphonie II* offers itineraries of up to 13 days in length on the Rhine and Danube, travelling through France, Germany, Hungary & more.

# CRUISE SURVEY

Share your experiences with us  
Take our quick survey

CLICK HERE

FitBit Charge 2 & Event Cinemas movie tickets up for grabs

CRUISE WEEKLY



## CRUISE360 earlybird tickets

**TICKETS** are selling fast to the Australasian cruise industry's only trade focused conference, Cruise360 which will be held in Sydney on 25 Aug.

This year's new format includes keynotes by two of our industry's top leaders, group president Princess Cruises and Carnival Australia Jan Swartz and Azamara Club Cruises president and ceo Larry Pimentel.

**Educational opportunities:** No matter how experienced you are at your business, everyone can learn. It's easy to miss new ideas and trends that could impact your future sales. The educational aspect of Cruise360 will expose you to new ways of conducting your business and how to be more productive.

**Networking with peers:** Cruise360 is a great opportunity to network. Often competitors can be valuable resources. Avoiding peers for fear of them discovering your competitive advantage can actually limit your own success! Collaboration is a great way to approach networking.

**Supplier Contact:** The Cruise360 trade show is a great opportunity to talk to suppliers and learn about products that you are not familiar with. These are some of the best people for you to get to know to grow your cruise sales. To purchase tickets, head to [www.cruising.org.au](http://www.cruising.org.au).



*Cruise Weekly* is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication. An industry-focused PDF edition of *Cruise Weekly* is published every Tue and Thu, and there's also a consumer-facing email newsletter published each Wed - sign up free at [www.cruiseweekly.com.au](http://www.cruiseweekly.com.au).

**Postal address:** PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

**Street address:** Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd, Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia

**P:** 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) **F:** 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

**Part of the Travel Daily group of publications**

*Cruise Weekly* is a publication of *Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd* ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.

**Publisher/Editor in chief:** Bruce Piper

**Editorial:** [info@cruiseweekly.com.au](mailto:info@cruiseweekly.com.au)

**Managing Editor:** Jon Murrie

**Contributors:** Guy Dundas, Jenny Piper, Jasmine O'Donoghue, Matt Bell, Rebecca Le Bas

**Advertising and Marketing:** Sean Harrigan, Melanie Tchakmadjian [advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au](mailto:advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au)

**Business Manager:** Jenny Piper [accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au](mailto:accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au)

Travel Daily CRUISE WEEKLY **travelBulletin** business events news **Pharmacy DAILY** Travel Daily TV