

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 18 Apr 2017

Cruise Weekly today

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

Goldman cruise plans

GOLDMAN Travel Group will develop a "comprehensive" cruise initiative, amping up its training in cruise for travel advisors, partake in database acquisitions, alliance marketing and other marketing and sales.

Under the initiative, the group has appointed Christina Shepherdson to the newly created role of gm cruise.

Anthony Goldman, joint md said the company's investment in the role "demonstrates we are serious about the evolving cruise trends and the number of Australians cruising".

Shepherdson recently spent six years as national business development manager Australia at Azamara Club Cruises.

Oceania tropics 2018/19

OCEANIA Cruises has packed in 10 new South Pacific, Australia & New Zealand voyages in its just-released 2018/19 Tropics & Exotics itineraries.

The cruise line has unveiled 75 itineraries as part of its program, touted as its "most extensive collection of tropics and exotics itineraries to date".

Among the 53 new itineraries are 12 Asia and Africa journeys and 23 new Caribbean sailings.

During the season *Regatta* will operate a number of departures beginning and/or ending in Sydney and venturing to NZ and the Pacific Islands, while *Insignia* will arrive in Sydney on a 51-day voyage from New York on 04 Mar before heading to Tokyo.

Also included is an all-new roundtrip Auckland voyage, Tasman Traveller, featuring an overnight in Sydney, visits to Rotorua, Bay of Islands & Napier.

Bob Binder, president and ceo of Oceania Cruises said: "Our loyal repeaters and new to brand guests alike will appreciate the tremendous breadth and scope of voyages to choose from, along with the diversity of destinations and experiences that are offered".

The season includes 24 extended journeys ranging from 17 to 59 days in length and exploring Australia, Americas, Caribbean, Asia and Africa.

New options to explore the Caribbean are also on offer, with a total of 28 voyages available on *Regatta*, *Sirena* and *Riviera*, 17 of which call on Cuba.

For a limited time, Oceania Cruises is offering 50% off deposits and a selection of OLife Choice amenities on the brand-new voyages.

To view the Tropics and Exotics collection, head to oceaniacruises.com.

Crystal agnt incentive

CRYSTAL is bringing back its "Sell 3/Sail Free" travel agent promo on select Crystal Yacht Expedition Cruises.

Agents who sell three suites aboard *Crystal Esprit* on select departures in Nov and Dec 2017 or throughout 2018 will earn themselves a complimentary sailing for themselves and a guest aboard any 2018 *Esprit* voyage.

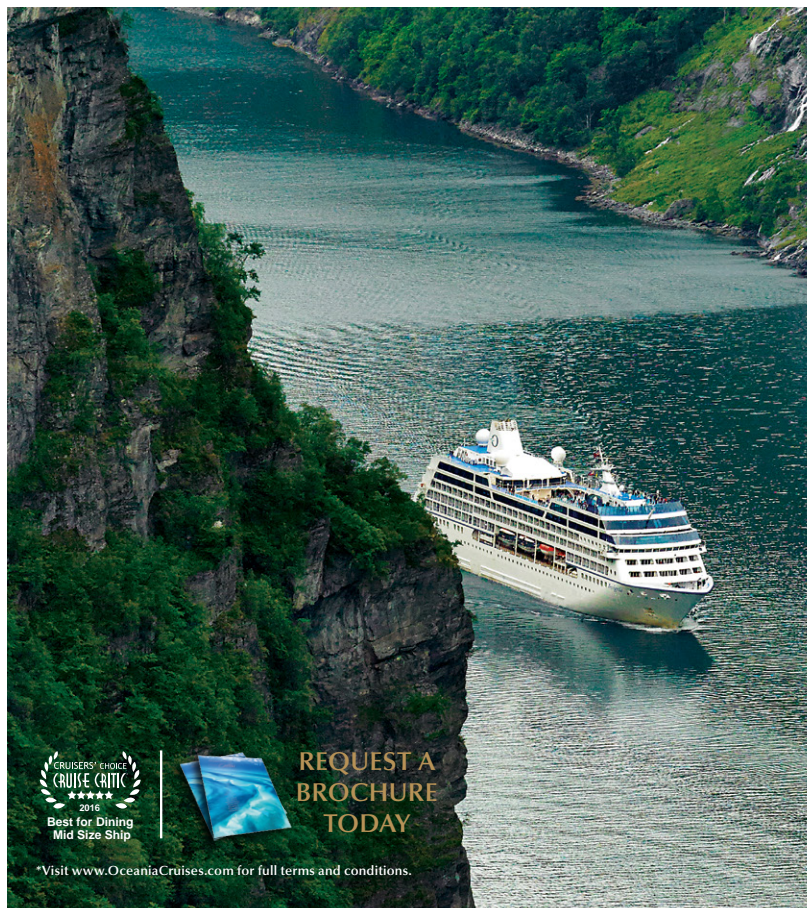
The incentive applies to bookings between now & 23 Dec.

Explorer redesign

SILVERSEA has revealed *Silver Explorer* will undergo a three-week stem-to-stern refurb at the end of this month.

From its 20 May sailing the ship will sport completely renovated interior decoration, including a new colour scheme.

The suites will receive new carpet, wall treatments, curtains, furniture & enhanced bathrooms.



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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



Oceania packages

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has this month introduced fly cruise packages to Oceania Cruises departures.

The commissionable packages lead in at AU\$4,250pp for a seven-night cruise and return Economy class fares to Europe, while Business class airfare upgrades are also available.

Departing from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart, Darwin and Cairns, the flights are with Qantas, Emirates and Singapore Airlines.

Earlier this year NCLH flagged the roll out of air packages on all of its brands (**CW** 07 Feb).

Superyacht study

THE first economic impact study on Australia's superyacht industry has revealed a high value niche sector, which contributed a total of \$1.97 billion to GDP in the 2016 financial year.

The AEC Group study commissioned by AIMEX found the industry is held back by restrictive policy and that it could add an additional \$1.12b to GDP by 2021 if regulation is relaxed.

MaryAnne Edwards, chief executive of AIMEX, said if the govt fixed legislation so foreign superyachts have freedom to charter here, the local superyacht industry "would grow substantially - we could see an extra 8,100 local jobs."

Edwards said allowing more superyachts to cruise in the Whitsundays would help with recovery from Cyclone Debbie.

Andaman's delay detailed



PANDAW founder, Paul Strachan has detailed "what went wrong" with the *Andaman Explorer*, encouraging readers in a blog to "please have faith".

The cruise line purchased the ship last year, initially planning to bring it into service last Jun but encountered many issues.

Strachan apologised for the "inconvenience suffered by those pioneering passengers who booked" on the vessel and declared "the ship is now fully registered and licenced, alas too late for the passengers booked last season".

The problems began when the delivery company stripped the vessel of any removable and saleable parts and when the ship finally got underway, "one thing after another broke down".

After spending months in Ranong, Thailand, getting the *Andaman Explorer* ready for her first expedition, the delivery voyage revealed it needed the engines rebuilt, a new air conditioning system, new water makers and sewage plant.

By Sep the ship was seaworthy enough to sail to Singapore for

dry docking and class survey, where further engine problems were encountered.

Following a series of visa issues resulting in a cruise without Pandaw's management team, further mechanical problems and issues with port formalities, the cruise line cancelled all departures until Jan.

The company then ran into issues with a surveyor's inspection which was drawn out for eight weeks.

Strachan assured "Having spent on the refit three times what we paid for the ship I believe we now have a fully functional vessel in top condition".

The ship is **pictured**, to read the blog, **CLICK HERE**.

Tempo 25% discount

TEMPO Holidays is offering 25% off plus free shore excursions on eight-day cruising packages in Greece for new bookings made until 21 May.

The deal applies to the Jewels Of The Cyclades and Classical Greece itineraries for select May-Oct departures - **CLICK HERE**.

Scenic last chance

SCENIC is reminding agents they only have until 27 Apr to take advantage of 2018 France and Europe river cruise pre-release prices.

Until the cutoff, 2018 departures are available at 2017 prices and a early payment discount is on offer - call 138 128.

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Astor's 2-for-1 deal

CRUISE & Maritime Voyages is offering a two-for-one deal on Astor's voyage from London to Australia departing 15 Oct.

Marking the ship's fifth consecutive summer season in Australia, the cruise will take in St Lucia, Acapulco, Tahiti and Auckland en route to Sydney, Adelaide and Fremantle.

Prices for an Interior cabin start from \$10,999 for the first person when booked by 30 Jun.



This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	18 Apr
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	19 Apr
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	20 Apr
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	20 Apr
<i>Golden Princess</i>	21 Apr
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	22 Apr
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	24 Apr

MELBOURNE	
<i>Golden Princess</i>	19 Apr

BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	21 Apr
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	21 Apr
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	22 Apr
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	22 Apr
<i>Sun Princess</i>	23 Apr

DARWIN	
<i>Coral Expeditions 1</i>	20 Apr

FREMANTLE	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	21 Apr

AUCKLAND	
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	19 Apr
<i>MS Sirena</i>	23 Apr
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	24 Apr

Race a Ferrari aboard Joy



THE two-level electric racetrack to feature on Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Joy* announced last year (*CW* 31 Mar 17) will be Ferrari-branded.

NCL revealed a tieup with Scuderia Ferrari Watches yesterday, marking the first time Ferrari Watches has partnered with a go-kart track.

The dual-level Ferrari branded racetrack will be located on the top deck of the ship, where up to 10 drivers at a time will be able to

race each other on the course.

Guests booked into the Haven and Concierge Level cabins will receive a number of rides included in the benefits of their cabin types.

Scuderia Ferrari Watches will also be featured in a retail store adjacent to the racetrack.

Joy will be christened on 27 Jun and homeport in Shanghai and Tianjin, China.

An updated render of the track is pictured.

Fantasy issue fixed

ISSUES which led Carnival Cruise Line's *Carnival Fantasy* to operate at a reduced speed have been rectified and the ship will sail on its scheduled itinerary today from Mobile, Alabama, the cruise line has confirmed.

In a statement, a Carnival Cruise Line spokesperson said "*Carnival Fantasy* substituted a call in Cozumel with a visit to Key West during a four-day cruise from Alabama as the ship was operating at a reduced speed".

Virgin Islands calls

THE Governor of the US Virgin Islands, Kenneth Mapp, plans to revitalise the St. Thomas product so the destination "can regain its position as the premier Caribbean cruise experience".

Mapp called for a holistic working strategy that focuses on "newness and variety" to "help spur visitor spending and to develop experiences that will inspire cruise ship passengers to return to the Territory both on cruises and stay-over vacations".

Le Boat's golfing deal

A DISCOUNT of 15% is available on Le Boat's Venetian Classic and Golfing Cruise for departures before the end of Jun.

Guests will be able to take a hit at the Circolo del Golf Venezia and enjoy the historic sights around Italy.

The seven night cruise starts at \$1,918 on a six-pax Caprice boat.

The Moorings on sale

THE Moorings is offering 5% off sailing holidays in Greece, Croatia, Italy, Spain and Turkey.

Bookings made by 02 May for a minimum of seven nights on departures between 01 May and 31 Oct are eligible for the deal.

Prices start at \$2,457ppts.



WHEN Bernard and Janice Caffary boarded the *Carnival Liberty* last week, they sailed into the record books by becoming the first guests to ever sail on 200 cruises with the cruise line.

The Caffary's achieved the feat in 15 years, meaning they average 15 cruises a year.

They've spent 878 days or 2.5 years at sea with Carnival and they have another 30 cruises booked with the line.

Carnival Liberty rolled out the red carpet as the pair received gifts and were made the guests of honour on board last week's voyage.

Port Canaveral and the ship were also decked out with welcome signage for the pair.

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.

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