

# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 17 Aug 2017

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## Peregrine Asia cruises

EXCLUSIVE

**PEREGRINE** Adventure's small ship Adventure Cruising product will be expanded into Southeast Asia after a successful introductory season in Europe this year, **Cruise Weekly** can exclusively reveal.

Introduced 10 months ago by Intrepid Group, the Adventure Cruising program is based on vessels with a max capacity of 50 guests, sailing in Croatia, Spain, Greece, Iceland, Portugal & Cuba.

Intrepid Group chief executive officer James Thornton told **CW** this week its debut European charter season had been highly successful and sold out and would be expanded next year.

"We're going to have five charter destinations for next European summer and we'll also be shortly launching a chartered cruising program in Asia for the 2018/19 season," he revealed.

Peregrine's Asia program is still under development with further details to be unveiled soon.

## RCL chair sells shares

**ROYAL** Caribbean Cruises chairman and ceo Richard Fain has sold another 20,000 RCL shares worth US\$2.3m.

Earlier in Aug he also sold US\$24m worth of RCL shares.

## Brisbane terminal imminent

**THE** cruise industry will soon have significant new infrastructure in Queensland, with Carnival Australia executive chairman Ann Sherry yesterday confirming an agreement for the development of a new Brisbane cruise terminal.

Speaking at an Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce tourism lunch, Sherry noted that there were still significant opportunities for growth in the cruise sector in Australia - but the ongoing issue of berthing in Sydney was a key constraint.

By contrast, "in Brisbane we have done a deal with the Qld Govt and the Port of Brisbane which is nearing fruition...we're nearly there...to get a new cruise terminal in Brisbane," Sherry said.

"That will come on stream pretty quickly," she added, noting the relative ease of negotiating the new Brisbane terminal versus the complexities of dealing with authorities in NSW.

Sherry reflected on the rapid growth of the cruise sector and its importance to Australian tourism overall, with international visitors now cruising out of Australia surpassing the number of arrivals from Japan, for example.

"Cruise is a huge driver of inbound tourism, not just domestic and outbound," she said.

The development of the sector has also seen major expansion of cruise facilities across the South Pacific, with Sherry saying more than 50 new ports in the region

had opened up in the last decade.

The Carnival Australia chair said the company had done a huge amount of work in destination development which now fed into the company's global strategy.

"We want to go to places where the people want us to come - that means they welcome our guests as if they were their own, bringing tangible benefits to the places we visit."

NSW Minister for Tourism Adam Marshall last week confirmed that a joint government-industry working party was currently evaluating three or four options for Sydney's berthing crisis, and would report back by the end of next month because "we don't want to keep losing business".

## HTC nab 1st U charter

**HUNTER** Travel Group (HTG) has secured the first private charter of a U by Uniworld cruise.

The 16 Jun roundtrip from Paris on *The B*, will have a number of differences to U By Uniworld's other sailings, extending the age bracket from 21-45 up to 21-55.

Differing from the U offering on other sailings, all beverages will be included in the fare and 20 meals will be included, six more than the U standard.

Hosted by HTG ceo Brett Dann and regional sales manager Louise Dann, the seven-night itinerary will sail along the Seine and include a bonus full-day trip to the Somme Battlefields.

## More Carnival in Cuba

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has scheduled five more voyages in 2018 which visit Havana.

Three five-day voyages dep 17 Feb, 02 Jul & 05 Sep have been added, along with a six-day itinerary dep 26 Aug and eight-day cruise on 18 Aug.

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## Royal names Spectrum



## Three Regent ships to Oz

**THREE** Regent Seven Seas Cruises' ships will visit Australian waters during the just-unveiled 2019/20 season.

The season packs in 118 new sailings, from Mar 2019 through to Jun 2020 ranging from seven to 131 nights in length and visiting the Mediterranean and Northern Europe, Alaska, Asia, Australia, South Pacific, Canada & New England and the Caribbean.

*Seven Seas Navigator* will arrive in Sydney on a 31-night cruise from Papeete and leave on a 29-night itinerary from Sydney departing 28 Feb.

During its local season, *Navigator* will complete a 36-night full circumnavigation of Australia from Sydney, followed by a 14-night trip to Auckland.

*Seven Seas Mariner* will complete one of two new Grand Voyages in Sydney on the 66-night Grand Pacific Paradise from Miami, taking in Hawaii,

French Polynesia, Pacific Islands and New Zealand.

It will then operate an 18-night voyage up the east coast of Australia and to Singapore.

The other Grand Voyage is also on *Mariner*, the 66-night Circle South America itinerary, sailing roundtrip from Miami and circumnavigating South America and cruising up the Amazon River.

*Seven Seas Voyager* will visit Australia and New Zealand on two itineraries in Jan.

It will offer a 32-night voyage from Singapore to Sydney, followed by a 14-night Sydney to Auckland, before continuing back up the east coast to Bali.

*Seven Seas Navigator* will sail northern Europe and Mediterranean itineraries from Apr-Nov and cruise the Caribbean from Dec- Feb, including a maiden call to Punta Cana.

The 2019/20 cruises opened for booking today.

**ROYAL** Caribbean International has cut the first piece of steel for its new Quantum Ultra ship and revealed the vessel will be named *Spectrum of the Seas*.

The Quantum Ultra ship will be specifically designed for guests in China and the Asia-Pacific.

The cruise line told **Cruise Weekly Spectrum** would be based in Asia following her launch in Autumn 2019 and "there are no plans to bring her to Australia at this stage".

"We are now one step closer to delighting our guests in Asia Pacific with this remarkable ship," said Michael Bayley, president and chief executive officer, Royal Caribbean International.

"*Spectrum* will be another giant leap forward in vessel design and guest experiences that will provide travellers with ample opportunities to create unforgettable memories."

In Jun, Royal Caribbean Cruises filed for trademark Patent and Trademark Office for the name *Spectrum of the Seas*, among others, sparking media speculation (**CW** 04 Jul).

**Pictured** are: Sebastian Brunilla, project director Quantum Class, Royal Caribbean International; Stephan Schnees, director project management, Meyer Werft; and Carsten Pengel, project manager, Meyer Werft.



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## Evergreen France '18

**EVERGREEN** Cruises & Tours has unveiled an 84-page brochure dedicated to South of France Cruising, highlighting its newest 'Star Ship', *Emerald Liberte*.

The 2018 program's launch coincides with the fourth birthday of Evergreen's sister cruise line Emerald Waterways.

*Emerald Liberte* operates an eight-day Sensations of Southern France cruise which can be seamlessly married up with other river cruises, an MSC Cruises Mediterranean voyage, escorted land touring and city packages.

New itineraries which will debut in 2018 and include the Sensations of Southern France cruise are an 11-day cruise tour featuring Barcelona, 16-day Normandy & Loire Valley option and 17-day Switzerland package.

The program also includes back-to-back Southern France and Portugal river cruise options, both operated by Emerald Waterways.

**CLICK HERE** to view the guide.

## Azamara Cuba 18/19

**AZAMARA** Club Cruises has released new 2018 and 2019 voyages to Cuba, ranging from four to 14 nights in length.

The program features overnights in Havana and new shore excursions including a cabaret show at the Nacional Hotel de Cuba and a guided tour of Old Havana's Jewish Quarter.

## Sealink's record year

**SEALINK** Travel Group achieved record sales of \$201.4m for the full year ending 30 Jun, up 13.5% on the prior year.

The company's net profit after tax increased 6.6% year-on-year to \$23.8 million, driven by strong growth in the Captain Cook Cruises NSW and SeaLink South Australia businesses.

In South Australia, performance was boosted by a strong demand for *PS Murray Princess* and higher passenger volumes on the Kangaroo Island ferry service.

# Carnival sustainability site

**CARNIVAL** Corporation has launched a new website detailing ongoing sustainability efforts across the group's 10 cruise brands.

The site complements Carnival's 2016 Sustainability Report (pictured) which showcases the progress made towards the company's 2020 sustainability performance goals announced last year.

The *Sustainability from Ship to Shore* report confirms the company is ahead of schedule on carbon emissions, and on track to meet additional goals over the next three years.

"We take our commitment to sustainability and the environment very seriously and take proactive measures to ensure that sustainability is ingrained in the core of our business practices," said chief maritime officer Bill Burke.

"Our top priority is to consistently exceed our guests' expectations for a great cruise vacation - and that includes providing an exceptionally safe, comfortable and enjoyable environment for our guests and crew members, while at the same time maintaining our deep commitment to protecting the oceans, seas and destinations we



visit," Burke said.

Key initiatives include pioneering the use of LNG (liquefied natural gas) to power new vessels, progress in installing exhaust gas cleaning systems which are now in place on 59% of the fleet, and the installation of cold ironing capabilities which allow ships to use an alternative power source while in port.

Last year also saw the launch of Fathom's 'TRAVELdeep' volunteer experiences benefiting local communities across a number of brands, with potential to expand volunteer activities to other areas across the globe this year.

See [carnivalsustainability.com](http://carnivalsustainability.com).

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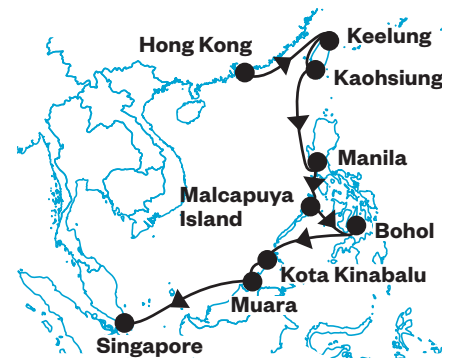
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## U by Uniworld sneak peek



**U BY** Uniworld, the new youth brand from Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection for 21-45 year olds, has released a first glimpse at the completed rooms on board *The B* (pictured above).

Set to begin regular roundtrip sailings from Paris on the Seine from 14 Apr, *The B* will also host a preview sailing from 07-11 Oct.

Uniworld began transforming the former *River Baroness* into *The B*, in Apr and earlier this month announced model and philanthropist Petra Nemcova as the brand's "Guardian Angel" (CW 03 Aug).

*The B* will be joined by *The A*, which will sail the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers.

## Aussie tech for Fred Olsen

**UK-BASED** Fred Olsen Cruise Lines has awarded a fully managed communications contract to Speedcast

International Limited, a Sydney technology firm listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

Speedcast will provide end-to-end communications services for both voice and data across the Fred Olsen fleet, via a combination of 'satellite very small aperture terminals' (VSAT) and land-based 4G/LTE links.

Vessels covered include Fred Olsen's *Balmoral*, *Braemar*, *Boudicca* and *Black Watch*.

Speedcast's multi-brand managed communications platform will be installed on the ships, constantly monitoring for and adopting the best fit satellite, wireless or terrestrial network.

The company's Intelligent Communications Director technology will provide seamless, automatic switching between the various modes to "provide robust connectivity at all times," the company said.

Fred Olsen head of IT Damon Impett said having access to a truly global communications network was the most compelling



speedcast

factor when selecting a vendor.

He said access to Speedcast's network would allow the cruise line to operate

more efficiently between ships and onshore offices.

Speedcast ceo PJ Beylier said the solution would include 24/7 support from the company's customer service centres located on five continents, as well as robust monitoring tools to ensure the highest availability and most efficient use of satellite and 4G/LTE connectivity.

## Hapag ship update

**HAPAG** Lloyd has confirmed construction of its two new ships is progressing, with *Hanseatic natures'* construction process underway and the steel cutting of *Hanseatic inspiration* set to take place in early Oct.

The keel laying ceremony for *Hanseatic inspiration* is planned to follow a month later.

By the end of Aug the Hapag Lloyd plans to publish the first brochure with details of the 2019/20 expeditions for the two ships and a "first glance" at the cabins and suites.



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Learn what's on the horizon for river cruising in 2018 in the August issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read **travelBulletin**



**CRUISE** passengers are likely to have some of the best vantage points for next week's solar eclipse in North America - and some lucky guests aboard Royal Caribbean's *Oasis of the Seas* will have the perfect soundtrack too.

The special "Total Eclipse Cruise" which departs from Orlando this weekend will position the ship in the optimal spot at sea for guests to witness the phenomenon on 21 Aug.

Making it particularly unique will be one of the guests - none other than 1980s pop star Bonnie Tyler (pictured), who will perform her perfectly named "Total Eclipse of the Heart" during the solar

obscurtion - supported by Joe Jonas' band DNCE (CW 13 Jul) who will play the also highly appropriate 'Cake by the Ocean'.

"Bonnie Tyler was a natural choice for this once-in-a-lifetime moment," said Michael Bayley, Royal Caribbean president.

The Welsh superstar, who recently toured NZ, eastern Europe and South America, said she wasn't concerned about seasickness, or being thrown off by the sun's disappearance.

"I have a ship of my own," she told *TIME Magazine*, adding "I go with the flow, darling. I'm not worried about things like that".



## Polar tick of approval

**HAPAG-LLOYD** Cruises' *MS Bremen* has become one of the first passenger ships to receive Polar Code certification.

The 155-pax four-star vessel underwent a two-year modification in order to achieve safety and environmental compliance ahead of changes in regulations in Jan for all ships cruising in Polar Regions to have the certification.

The cruise line said all other ships in its fleet will undergo certification too.

## Dream up to speed

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has confirmed the technical issue which affected *Carnival Dream's* maximum cruising speed last week has been fixed.

The issue caused the ship to miss calls to Montego Bay, Jamaica and Grand Cayman.

## QE2 50th celebration

**A CELEBRATORY** voyage aboard Cunard's *Queen Elizabeth* will mark the 50th anniversary of the brand's longest serving ship, the *QE2*.

Departing Southampton on 08 Sep, the 17-night cruise will feature celebrations on five special theme days, a *QE2*-inspired dining menu and talks from special guests.

## Seabourn on Sabre

**SEABOURN** has joined Sabre in the US and Canada and is working to make it available on the platform in the Australian and New Zealand markets.

Agents in the United States and Canada now have the ability to book the full inventory of Seabourn via Sabre Cruises.

Details of the Australian and New Zealand implementation are still being developed.

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*Cruise Weekly* is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

*Cruise Weekly* is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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