

# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 14 Mar 2017

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## NTIA voting open

THE Australian cruise sector now gets a chance to choose its best and brightest, with the National Travel Industry Awards for 2017 open for voting today.

Supplier categories include Best Cruise Operator - Domestic Deployment, Best Cruise Operator - Int'l Deployment and Best River Cruise Operator.

Agents are also in the running, with lots of cruise-focused nominees in the various Best Travel Agency Retail categories as well as the Best Online Travel Agency category.

Voting is open until 5pm on Fri 31 Mar 2017 - for more information, see [afta.com.au](http://afta.com.au).

Vote in the 2017 NTIA

## Celebrity Edge unveiled

EXPANDED staterooms, a "magic carpet" and a rooftop garden are just some of the features which will be on Celebrity Cruises' first new class of ship in ten years.

This morning the cruise line unveiled details of the 2,918-passenger vessel *Celebrity Edge* and its new Edge class, which it said "set a new standard for ship design" and will debut in the Caribbean from Dec 2018.

Accommodation on board *Edge* will be "transformational", introducing the new Edge Stateroom with Infinite Veranda (similar to a French balcony).

The design of the Edge Stateroom offers 23% more square metres and 10% larger bathrooms than the Solstice class.

Celebrity has doubled the number of available suites, adding two new two-bedroom, two-bathroom Iconic Suites,

situated above the ship's bridge and spread over 792m<sup>2</sup>.

Another new suite class is comprised of six split-level Edge Villas, offering private plunge pools and direct access to The Retreat Sundeck.

*Celebrity Edge* will feature The Magic Carpet - a movable platform the size of a tennis court which scales the 16-deck ship, providing a different experience at four different levels.

The space will offer "Dinner on the Edge" for 90 guests at Deck 19; be an open-air expansion of the main pool area at Deck 14; offer more seating for a specialty restaurant on Deck 5 and be an embarkation station at Deck 2.

Guests will also be able to enjoy live music and movie-and-meal pairing, "A Taste of Film", by night and games and activities during the day at The Rooftop Garden.

Bookings are open now.

## Cruiseceo ceo to retire

STEVE Lloyd has confirmed plans to step down as the ceo of the Cruiseceo consortium, with the company kicking off a search for someone who will manage the company into the medium and long term.

Lloyd, who turns 65 in Aug, told *Cruise Weekly* he is likely to reduce his involvement later in the year, but will consult to the business in specialist areas for some time after that.

## Carnival fun shops

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has launched its Fun Shops program in Australia, which allows cruisers to pre-purchase on board gifts before departure.

CCL vice president Australia, Jennifer Vandekreeke, said with many guests booking a cruise to celebrate a milestone, Fun Shops are an ideal way to celebrate.

See [carnival.com.au/fun-shops](http://carnival.com.au/fun-shops).

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## Silversea ambassador program

SILVERSEA Cruises has announced the launch of a new travel agent recognition program, with a host of benefits to reward agents for their support of the Silversea brand.

Silversea's Craig Owens told *Cruise Weekly* the program covered retail agencies, large and small, as well as homeworkers who were committed to growing their Silversea business.

"This is a dynamic, multi-faceted reward and recognition program for our valued agency partners," he said.

"It rewards both the agency and the particular top selling consultant, with rewards based on revenue growth, marketing activity and overall support of Silversea," Owens added.

Each month the Silversea bdm team will make nominations, with the top five agencies per quarter recognised as Silversea Ambassadors.

In Dec, Silversea will announce the overall top retail agency, which will receive guaranteed famil invitations, priority ship inspections, bonus marketing dollars, client events and more.

As well as the top retail location, the leading Silversea consultant for 2017 will win a Relais & Chateaux gift voucher.

More information is available by calling 02 9255 0600.

### Faster cruise X-Rays

SECURITY manufacturer Smiths Detection has unveiled a new "dual-view" X-Ray system which it promises will speed up the screening of cruise passengers.

Launched at PortMiami this week, the debut installation will screen the belongings of Carnival Cruise Line ships departing from Terminals D and E.

The system captures high-res images from different angles, reducing the need for re-screening.



The Edge of glory

CELEBRITY Cruises has showcased its new class of ship, *Celebrity Edge*, in a series of images released this morning.

Richard D. Fain, chairman and ceo, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd, declared *Celebrity Edge* as "one of the most exciting, innovative and transformational ships I have ever been involved with".

The Magic Carpet is **above**, while the outward-facing Sky Suite with the king-sized bed rotated to face the ocean is **inset**.

**Below** is The Rooftop Garden, which will be tended daily by a resident horticulturalist.



The Retreat Sundeck (pictured above) and the Retreat Lounge, form The Retreat, a space exclusive for Suite Class guests.



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## Oceania Cuba arrival

**OCEANIA** Cruises' *Marina* pulled into Sierra Maestra cruise terminal in Havana for the first time last week.

The vessel was carrying 1,250 guests, including Bob Binder, co-founder and ceo of Oceania Cruises, and Frank Del Rio, Cuban-born founder of Oceania Cruises and ceo of parent company Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings.

Sailing on a 14-day itinerary, the cruise continued on to Mexico, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama Colombia, & the Cayman Islands.

Oceania Cruises has two more sailings to Cuba scheduled this month and six for later this year.

## Cunard 2019 program release

**CUNARD** this morning unveiled its full 2019 international cruise program, which features the previously announced Down Under deployment of its *Queen Elizabeth* (CW 28 Feb).

Between Jan and May 2019 the Cunard fleet will voyage more than 113,000 nautical miles, visiting 108 destinations in 49 countries, including 21 maiden calls for the three Queens.

The Australasian offering will include 27 different local cruise combinations on *Elizabeth* which will be based in Melbourne and Sydney from Feb to Apr 2019 -

and fares leading in at just \$549 per person twin share for a two-night cruise between the cities.

A 12-night round trip NZ cruise ex Sydney leads in at \$2,949 per person, while a six-night Tasmania voyage ex Melbourne starts at \$1,599 per person twin share.

The *Queen Elizabeth* program for 2019 will also include two roundtrip voyages in Japan, including a nine-night Honshu circumnavigation in Apr 2019, during cherry blossom season.

The full world cruise program goes on sale from 30 Mar, and features a 107-night full world circumnavigation by *Queen Victoria*, sailing from Southampton on 10 Jan 2019 to the Americas and through the Panama Canal before cruising the Pacific to NZ and Australia.

Fares for the full world voyage start at \$25,999 per person twin share, while shorter sector cruises will also be available.

*Queen Mary 2* will offer a series of regional cruises across the Mediterranean and Asia, ranging from seven to 94 nights.

More details on 13 24 41.

## CCL MKR sponsorship

**CARNIVAL** *Spirit* will appear on Channel Seven's *My Kitchen Rules* tomorrow and Sun after Carnival Cruise Line signed up as an official sponsor of the show.

The cruise line welcomed 11 teams on board the vessel last year to film two episodes.

First the teams took on a cruise canape challenge where they were tasked with cooking canapes for 150 guests and a sudden death cook-off and an elimination followed.



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- manage client files & itineraries from enquiry through to completion
- issue travel documentation
- be generously compensated
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- benefit from our large existing client base

**If this sounds like you please send your resume and a cover letter (email only) to: Andy Webber, Discovery Travel Centre, email: [andy@discoverytravelcentre.com.au](mailto:andy@discoverytravelcentre.com.au)**

## HAL's French Pop-Up

**HOLLAND** America Line will progressively roll out a French brasserie pop-up dubbed *Sel de Mer* across six of its ships in 2017 having successfully launched the concept aboard *ms Koningsdam* in 2016.

Inspired by the cruise line's MasterChef Rudi Sodamin, the pop-up will be located within each ship's Pinnacle Grill and offer a classic menu of French seafood dishes, wines and specifically crafted cocktails.



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## Carnival Horizon coin ceremony



**THE** completion of *Carnival Horizon's* exterior outfitting has been celebrated with a coin ceremony at the Fincantieri shipyard in Marghera, Italy. Fabrizio Timossi of Carnival's corporate shipbuilding department represented Carnival at the ceremony with Clementina Zecchin of Fincantieri's Marghera

yard serving as godmother. Set to debut in Europe on 02 Apr, 2018, *Carnival Horizon* will include many of the features which debuted on sister ship, *Carnival Vista*, including a bike-ride-in-the-sky attraction called SkyRide and an IMAX Theatre. Coin ceremony attendees are **pictured** above.

## Little Dreamers prog

**DREAM** Cruises will have the little ones covered on *Genting Dream*, revealing it will launch a program designed for children aged two-12 this Apr.

Called Little Dreamers, the new addition offers age-appropriate workshops ranging from the arts to music and dancing to manners and etiquettes followed by a graduation ceremony.

On select sailings in Apr, Little Dreamers will learn about chocolate cup making from Belgian chocolatier, Jean-Marie Dessard, who will also take part in enrichment programs for other passengers whilst on board, including chocolate and wine pairing workshops.

## CCL fleet ops centres

**A NEW** fleet operations centre for Carnival Corporation in Seattle is now up and running, with a third under construction at the company's HQ in Miami.

Utilising an advanced data analytics system, the centres will work to optimise safety, efficiency and overall fleet performance.

They will monitor ships sailing in the US and the Caribbean using a cloud-based system dubbed "Neptune" which has been piloted at the original ops centre in Hamburg since Oct 2015.



## Ponant - Mediterranean 2018



PONANT has packed 31 voyages into its 2018 Mediterranean collection, offering seven- to nine-night itineraries venturing to eight countries. The program will mark the inaugural season of new luxury expedition ships, *Le Laperouse* and *Le Champlain*, in addition to sailings on board *Le Lyrial*, and *Le Ponant*. Destinations in 2018 include Italy, Spain, Croatia, Montenegro, Malta, Greece, Morocco and Egypt.



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The successful applicant must have senior overall management experience in a travel organisation including proven commercial acumen, the ability to develop creative product initiatives and the capability to drive a performance culture.

**To apply, please send a cover letter and CV to Steve Lloyd at [stevell@cruiseco.com.au](mailto:stevell@cruiseco.com.au). Applications close Friday, 17th of March.**

## Hapag space limited

**HAPAG-LLOYD** says its cruises to Antarctica are selling out fast for the 2018 season.

The company is offering an 18-day cruise from Ushuaia to Rio de Janeiro, starting at €12,950pp (AU\$18,250).



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

SYDNEY	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	14 Mar
<i>Noordam</i>	14 Mar
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	15 Mar
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	16 Mar
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	16 Mar
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	17 Mar
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	18 Mar
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	19 Mar
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	20 Mar
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	20 Mar
MELBOURNE	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	15 Mar
<i>Costa Luminosa</i>	16 Mar
<i>Golden Princess</i>	18 Mar
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	15 Mar
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	16 Mar
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	17 Mar
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	18 Mar
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	15 Mar
<i>Seabourn Encore</i>	17 Mar
<i>MS Sirena</i>	17 Mar
FREMANTLE	
<i>Astor</i>	15 Mar
<i>Sun Princess</i>	19 Mar
ADELAIDE	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	14 Mar
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	17 Mar
HOBART	
<i>Noordam</i>	16 Mar
<i>Azamara Journey</i>	19 Mar

## ACA heads to Seatrade



**THE** Australian Cruise Association (ACA) is being represented by 14 delegates in Florida for Seatrade Cruise Global, which started yesterday. Among the delegates were reps from various state tourism organisations, port authorities, ground handling organisations, chairman Stephen Bradford and ceo of ACA, Jill Abel.

**Pictured** above enjoying the welcome drinks on the first night of Seatrade Cruise Global are: Kevin O'Sullivan, chair Cruise NZ; Jill Abel, ceo of ACA and Stephen Bradford, chair ACA. The event runs until 16 Mar.

## RCI wins ethical award

**ETHISPHERE** Institute has named Royal Caribbean Cruises as 2017 World's Most Ethical Company for the second consecutive year. Richard Fain, chairman and ceo, Royal Caribbean Cruises said, "At Royal Caribbean, ethical leadership is an important part of our worldview".

The World's Most Ethical Company is based upon a framework that assesses companies in five weighted areas of: ethics and compliance, corporate citizenship, culture of ethics, governance & leadership, innovation and reputation.

## Astor la vista, baby

**CRUISE** & Maritime Voyages 620-pax ship *Astor* will return to Australian waters for a fifth season in Dec this year.

Homeporting in Fremantle, a total of 14 journeys will be on offer including two visiting Bali before wrapping up the season in Adelaide with a final three itineraries in Feb next year.

## Europa 2 fashion2sea

**FASHION** designers Johnny Talbot and Adrian Runhof will jump aboard Hapag-Lloyd Cruises' *Europa 2* in Jul for the fashion2sea themed cruise.

Sailing on 10 Jul from Monte Carlo to Lisbon, there will be a fashion show, pop-up boutique and a special fashion dinner.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.

## Star Wars Fantasy

**DISNEY** Fantasy will debut new enhancements on 17 May, sailing from Port Canaveral, Florida.

New spaces for kids have been added, including Star Wars and Marvel themed areas and the Sweet on You ice cream shop.

Luxury shopping includes Tiffany & Co. which will be on board for the first time, including the Tiffany T Collection.



**A TREACHEROUS** stretch of sea along the coast of Norway that proved insurmountable to the Vikings is about to be conquered thanks to the Norwegian Coastal Administration.

Feasibility plans are underway for a AU\$419 million project that will see the construction of the world's first ship tunnel allowing a safer passage through the Stadhavet Sea.

If given the thumbs up, construction would begin in 2018 and when complete the tunnel would be 37m high, 26.5m wide and stretch some 1.7kms in distance, enabling coastal steamer ships to more easily navigate their course.

Norwegians are undoubtedly keen to get started; they just need to wait for the ice to Thor.



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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)

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**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)

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