

Cruise Weekly today

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

Star new additions

PRINCESS Cruises' *Star Princess* has completed a two-week multimillion dollar renovation and has been fitted with a range of new or updated offerings.

Sabatini's Italian Trattoria has updated decor and a new menu, the Camp Discovery Youth & Teen Center has been reimagined and the Shops of Princess have been upgraded.

Treatment rooms in the Lotus Spa & Fitness Center have been upgraded, new fitness equipment added and the casino reconfigured.

Every stateroom has also been fitted with the Princess Luxury Bed.

NCLH rejigs its Asia Pacific posts

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has announced a shakeup of its Asia Pacific operations, expanding the role of Steve Odell to include China.

Odell (**pictured**) adds the market to his position of svp and md for the Asia Pacific region and is responsible for the strategic expansion, vision and continued growth of the company's presence in the Asia Pacific region.

He is also currently chairman of CLIA Australasia and a founding board member of the Asia Cruise Association, and in his new role will continue to report to Harry Sommer, exec vp int'l business development for NCLH.

Under the rejig, Alex (Yucheng) Xiang will step into the position of md of NCLH's China operations on 02 Feb, becoming the line's first senior officer in the region.

Previously vp sales for China, Xiang has been with the China



team since it was formed and will now assume leadership of the teams in Shanghai and Beijing, reporting to Odell.

David Herrera, who established the company's offices in Shanghai and Beijing in 2015, has also made the move from president of China operations based in Shanghai to relocate back to Miami as svp of strategy and corporate development.

The company said the move was

to enable it to "further leverage the extensive corporate resources and expertise already in place in the region and continue to strengthen its presence in the Chinese cruise market".

Norwegian Cruise Line last year launched its first ship based in China, *Norwegian Joy*.

Purpose-built for the market, *Joy* will sail its first full year in the region in 2018, doubling the line's capacity in the market.

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CRUISE



Thursday 11th January 2018

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Pursuit refit & maiden



AZAMARA Club Cruises' third ship, *Azamara Pursuit*, will look "almost identical" to *Azamara Quest* and *Azamara Journey* when it goes into service following a wet dock in the UK in the northern spring 2018.

Taking place at the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast, Northern Ireland, & completed by outfitting specialist MJM Group, the works are scheduled to be finished by the end of Jul.

Currently sailing as *Adonia* under the P&O UK fleet, the ship will make its debut as

Azamara Pursuit on 01 Aug, sailing from Southampton, England - one of the line's largest growth markets.

The itinerary includes eight Norwegian destinations, including Kristiansand, Flam and Haugesund, with overnight stays in Oslo and Bergen.

Pursuit will then depart Southampton for an Iceland-intensive voyage on 13 Aug, followed by a christening voyage on 28 Aug and its 13-Night Wine & Romance voyage on 30 Aug.

Sojourn fresh offerings

SEABOURN has added its signature restaurant The Grill by Thomas Keller and introduced Spa & Wellness with Dr Andrew Weil to *Seabourn Sojourn* in a recent drydock.

Both offerings are now available fleetwide and will be on the line's next ship *Seabourn Ovation* when it launches in May.

The Grill is a fresh take on the classic American restaurant from the 50s and 60s and is an exclusive concept for Seabourn from chef Thomas Keller.

Spa & Wellness with Dr Andrew Weil was created in conjunction



with The Onboard Spa by Steiner and features daily meditation and yoga and Mind & Body seminars.

During the refit many public spaces received new carpet, suites were refreshed and Owner's, Signature and Wintergarden Suites received new furniture and soft goods.



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GM PRODUCT & MARKETING

Reporting to the CEO, this newly created key leadership role will support the ongoing growth and be accountable for the development of an integrated product and marketing strategy, overseeing the delivery of the marketing plan across all channels, stakeholder management across suppliers and members, contractual agreements, negotiating exclusive product/pricing to deliver unique and innovative packages, meeting speed to market objectives, budget management, market analysis and maintaining the leadership responsibilities of managing a team.

Applications to Philippa Baker
philippa@alexander-associates.com.au
0404 842384
No agencies please

Silversea savings

LAST minute deals are available on a range of Silversea Cruises Asia voyages departing from now through until 25 Apr on *Silver Shadow*.

Guests bookings on select departures by 15 Mar will also receive a one-category upgrade and US\$1,000 on-board credit per suite.

Pax who pay in full by 31 Jan can also access free Business class flights - **CLICK HERE**.

Nile last min deals

SANCTUARY Retreats is offering savings of 25% on seven-night sailings aboard the *Sanctuary Sun Boat IV* for any cruises in 2018.

Highlights of the itinerary include the Valleys of the Kings and Queens, the Temple of Karnak, the Unfinished Obelisk, Philae and Luxor.

Prices start from US\$1,319.50 per person twin share (AU\$1,675.12).

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NCL extends offer

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has extended its Free at Sea on board spend promotion until 31 Jan.

The deal allows pax to choose up to five free offers and receive up to US\$500 onboard spend when booking select 2018/19 sailings to destinations such as Europe, Alaska, Australia and NZ.

CLICK HERE for more details.

Lindblad steel cutting



CONSTRUCTION is underway for Lindblad Expeditions' first polar new build, with the cruise line and Ulstein Verft celebrating the steel cutting late last week.

Taking place in Ulsteinvik, Norway, the milestone was supervised by Janusz Stechly at DNV-GL and yard reps Ole Osnes

Gjerde and Marek Lewczuk.

The ship, scheduled for delivery in 2020, will feature x-bow technology to improve comfort in rough seas, a very high ice class and expanded fuel and water tanks for extended operations in remote areas.

The steel cutting is **pictured**.

Spot whales for science with Silversea

SILVERSEA passengers will soon be able to help collect data on the sightings of whales, dolphins and porpoises to contribute to the work of marine conservation charity ORCA.

Under a deal between ORCA and the cruise line, the charity's conservationists will travel on select voyages, complementing Silversea's enrichment program by sharing their knowledge.

The first departure to be joined by a ORCA rep will be on 02 May.

Carnival Panorama keel laid in Italy



A KEEL-LAYING ceremony was held recently at Fincantieri's Marghera shipyard in Italy for Carnival Cruise Line's third Vista-class ship, *Carnival Panorama*.

The vessel is due to enter service in Nov 2019 and details on its design, homeport and itineraries have been promised "at a later date".

The keel is **pictured** being laid.



AS THE old saying goes, you shouldn't play with your food, but one Holland America Line master chef has done just that and made a book out of it.

Rudi Sodamin has released his "latest culinary masterpiece", an art table book called "Food Faces" that features more than 150 images of edible creations.

Sodamin started creating his food faces several years ago as a "labour of creative love" and has since made and photographed hundreds of characters.

Guests who dine in Rudi's Sel de Mer pop-up restaurant on HAL ships can enjoy the images of Sodamin's food faces printed on limited-edition plates (**below**).



CLIA UPDATE



with Joel Katz
MD, CLIA Australasia

Cruise in the news

RECENTLY, travel-related news reports have been causing concern among travellers, raising questions from our travel agent community about how to talk to your clients.

To help you better address these topics, CLIA provides information on some of the major news stories affecting our industry.

Health: Cruise lines go to great lengths to support the health and wellness of all onboard. From cleaning practices to passenger screening and public health inspections, cruise lines work vigorously to keep passengers and crew healthy.

Security: With worldwide concerns about security headlining the news, you can reassure your clients that cruise lines take passenger safety and security very seriously. Providing for the safety of passengers and crew is the industry's top priority. Cruise lines coordinate closely with authorities around the globe to help ensure passenger safety.

Severe Weather: Cruise ships are designed for safety. The crew are professional mariners who take passenger safety very seriously and receive specialised training and demonstrate internationally mandated levels of competency.

Information on a wide variety of cruise-related issues is available at www.cruising.org.au.



CRUISE
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www.cruiseweekly.com.au

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