

Travel Daily

CRUISE  
WEEKLY

*Present*

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### Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover wrap from **Crystal Cruises**.

### Carnival 2020

CARNIVAL Cruise Line's 2020 program is now on sale, offering 75 sailings in Australia, the South Pacific and NZ.

The new program features itineraries for *Carnival Spirit*, the brand's first-ever ship to home port in Brisbane.

### Norwegian Alaska

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has released its 2018/19 Alaska Cruising Guide featuring ports like Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan sailing on *Norwegian Pearl*, *Jewel* or *Bliss* - view full 2018/19 brox **HERE**.

## Viking sees triple digit growth in Oz

VIKING Cruises' "unique position" in ocean cruising has seen the company experience exceptional sales growth over the last 18 months, according to the company's Australian md Michelle Black (pictured).

Speaking to *Cruise Weekly* aboard *Viking Orion* in Italy this week, Black said heavy interest in the company's fast-growing ocean product was being complemented by strong sales for Viking's river cruises - so much so that itineraries for 2020 have already opened up for sale.

"Russia and Egypt are proving very popular, along with the classic Grand European voyage between Amsterdam and Budapest," Black said.

While Viking's river cruise business is a leader in the USA, in Australia the company's strategy is to focus on "ocean to river" - expecting avid Aussie cruisers to



experience the ocean product and thereby discover its river offering, which has been used as the basis for the product design aboard Viking's ocean fleet.

Black said Viking was determined to be true to its target market of the 50+ demographic, with no children on board and a determination to capture the travel dollar of consumers in their last 20 or so

years of travelling.

She wasn't able to comment on speculation that Viking is planning expansion into other sectors of the cruise market.

However there's no doubt that Australia is playing a key role in Viking's global plans, with *Orion* heading down under later this year for a three month season cruising between Sydney and Auckland, which is already almost sold out.

There's also been keen Aussie interest in the upcoming 23-day voyage between Japan and Vancouver via Russia and Alaska's Inside Passage, which already has over 550 local passengers booked.

Black said as well as Viking's existing five ocean-going vessels a further ten are on order, with the huge capacity growth meaning "we'll probably end up with more than one ship in Australia".

More from Viking on **p2** and **p3**.

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# CRUISE

WEEKLY

Thursday 5th July 2018



Hop onboard Norwegian Bliss with us in the July issue of *travelBulletin*.

**CLICK** to read **travelBulletin**

## CRUISE

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On location aboard **Viking Orion**

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you courtesy of Viking Cruises, aboard *Viking Orion* en route from Venice to Rome.

*VIKING Orion* is now about halfway through its Italian Sojourn itinerary, having visited Venice, Sibenik in Croatia, Bari and today arriving in Crotona.

The voyage is taking us right around the "boot" of Italy, with the ship calling in Sicily tomorrow before heading to Naples and finishing the week-long trip in Rome.

In each daily destination Viking offers a host of shore excursions, including an option provided at no extra cost, plus a range of more extensive paid explorations and experiences.

Meanwhile, on board the Australian agents are enjoying the various dining venues and the array of beverage options.

The huge spa and fitness centre is a standout, as are the many common areas around the ship which offer an array of places to meet others or just simply chill out.

Last night the ship's pool deck featured a movie under the stars, while guests have also made the most of the high tea in the Wintergarden plus a nightly show in the Star Theatre - [facebook.com/cruiseweekly](https://www.facebook.com/cruiseweekly).

## Eclipse debut delayed



**SCENIC'S** much-anticipated discovery yacht *Scenic Eclipse* has had its introduction pushed back until late Jan next year after construction issues at the vessel's Croatian shipyard.

"Despite the best efforts of our *Scenic Eclipse* build supervision team to make up construction time, we are not prepared to compromise the quality of the vessel and potentially impact guest experiences to meet the original late Aug 2018 launch

date," said Scenic founder and chairman Glen Moroney.

"We have apologised to affected guests for the inconvenience caused and confirmed that Scenic will provide a full refund for the cost of their *Scenic Eclipse* cruise and consideration of any other reasonable associated costs incurred with their travel plans."

Affected guests will also receive future cruise credit of 25%, while agent commissions on existing bookings will be honoured.

## Hapag-Lloyd signs for adults only ship

**HAPAG-LLOYD** Cruises has revealed it will add another expedition ship to its fleet specifically catering for adults only cruises.

The cruise line signed a contract with the Norwegian Vard shipyard to construct the *Hanseatic Spirit*, scheduled to launch in the second quarter of 2021.

When completed, *Spirit* will boast 120 cabins and suites, 230 pax capacity, seven passenger decks and three restaurants.

The news follows the announcement of another two expedition ships due next year - the *Hanseatic Nature* & *Hanseatic Inspiration*.

## CLIA Singapore

**CLIA** Australasia has partnered with the Singapore Tourism Board to launch a Singapore Module to educate Aussie cruise agents.

To register for the webinar visit the CLIA members hub.



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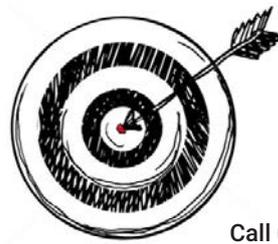


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## Silversea fly free

**GUESTS** travelling on select Silversea Antarctica cruises between Nov 2018 and Feb 2019 have access to an all-inclusive fly free package.

The deal is valid on bookings made by 31 Jul; more **HERE**.

## CW's Crystal webinars



**CRUISE Weekly** has teamed up with Crystal Cruises to produce a series of webinars for travel agents, giving them new insight into the line's luxury offering.

Produced in conjunction with our sister publication **Travel Daily**, the three-part web series launches 18 Jul and also gives agents a chance to win a sensational 14-day cruise for two from Los Angeles when they register to take part and tune in.

The first episode involves Crystal's regional head Karen Christensen (**pictured** above with **TD** editor Jasmine O'Donoghue), discussing the key differentiators of what the line offers across ocean, river and luxury yacht expedition cruises.

To register for the first webinar - launching at 2pm on 18 Jul - and to go into the draw to win the cruise, **CLICK HERE**.

See our **cover page** for more.

## Carnival returns to San Diego after absence

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line will return to the Port of San Diego for the first time in seven years when *Carnival Miracle* arrives in 2019.

The 2,124-passenger ship will operate a range of cruises to Hawaii and the Mexican Riviera between Dec 2019 and Feb 2020, including two extended Carnival Journeys itineraries.

Carnival Journeys offer activities such as photography, cooking, arts and crafts and celestial navigation, and link onboard and onshore cultural and food experiences.

*Carnival Magic's* 14- and 15-day Hawaii cruises depart 22 Dec and 12 Jan, while its San Diego season finishes with a 13-day Panama Canal Carnival Journey that departs San Diego 01 Feb, 2019 & arrives in Miami 14 Feb, 2020.

Carnival will further strengthen its commitment to Southern California when the new 3,954-passenger *Carnival Panorama* launches year-round cruises from Long Beach.



**MANY** of us have experienced the disappointment when cold water is poured on our bright ideas - usually by a partner or work colleague.

One of the participants in this week's *Viking Orion* voyage from Venice to Rome managed to turn the tables on his wife in the vessel's enormous spa, which features a steam room, snow grotto, saunas and plunge pool - along with a curiously placed bucket (**below**).

The erstwhile pair were enjoying the facilities when the woman stepped underneath and asked her husband if the contents were hot or cold.

"It's delightfully warm," he promised, so she duly pulled the rope, only to instantly have her breath utterly taken away by about 20 litres of ice water.



## Cruising towards greener seas

**THE** cruise industry continues to hold itself to a high environmental standard and ACA is working closely with CLIA around sustainability & applauds the following initiatives.

Royal Caribbean has announced that its entire fleet will eliminate the use of plastic straws by 2019 in exchange for paper straws.

This initiative is part of a plastics elimination program which will see wood coffee stirrers and bamboo garnish picks being used.

A full audit is underway which will then focus on reducing other single-use plastics such as condiment packets, cups and bags.

On-shore, Carnival has implemented guidelines for its pax excursions which include the treatment of animals in captivity.

It is doing a specific audit this year of dolphins in tourism attractions included on their itineraries worldwide.

This is part of a broad reaching Sustainability 2020 program it is implementing.

Ponant has reinforced its support for the Sea Plastics organisation helping to fund its annual expedition to study the impact of plastics on the marine environment and raise awareness for this issue.

Also known for its focus on clean ships, right from the design stage, Ponant is building the first hybrid electric polar exploration ship propelled by Liquefied Natural Gas which will launch in 2021.

These are just a few examples of the commitment being made by the cruise lines. We look forward to working alongside them and our destinations to help preserve our marine environment.

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WEEKLY

[www.cruiseweekly.com.au](http://www.cruiseweekly.com.au)

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