

Cruise Weekly today

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

Pandaw appoints

PANDAW Cruises has appointed Shannon Morgan as director of sales, Australasia, effective 24 Apr.

Morgan was most recently business development manager Queensland for Wendy Wu Tours.

He has also worked for Globus family of brands and Adventure World.

Silversea free wi-fi

FROM Apr, Silversea Cruises will offer free unlimited wi-fi access to every guest.

Since 2016, passengers have received at least one hour of free wi-fi per day.

Carnival takes delivery of *Horizon*

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has taken delivery of the 26th ship in its fleet, *Carnival Horizon*, in a traditional maritime handover ceremony held overnight at the Fincantieri shipyard in Italy.

The 3,954-passenger ship is the second in the line's Vista class and boasts a Dr Seuss-themed WaterWorks aqua park, the line's first Teppanyaki venue, Bonsai Teppanyaki, and Guy's Pig & Anchor Smokehouse | Brewhouse.

It also features the bike-ride-in-the-sky experience SkyRide, an IMAX Theatre, a Havana section with tropics-inspired staterooms and Family Harbor, featuring more spacious accommodation and the Family Harbor Lounge.

In the dining department, *Carnival Horizon* promises to offer food with a view, featuring both indoor and al fresco seating options at venues such as Bonsai Sushi, Fahrenheit 555 steakhouse



and Library Bar.

"In addition to the many exciting innovations previously introduced on *Carnival Vista*, *Carnival Horizon* offers some new one-of-a-kind features and attractions that make this ship truly special allowing our guests to create a lifetime of wonderful vacation memories," said Christine Duffy, president of Carnival Cruise Line.

The ship is on its way to Barcelona and will depart on

02 Apr on its inaugural 13-day voyage - the first of four cruises from the port.

It will then arrive in New York on 23 May for a naming ceremony starring its godmother and musical artist Queen Latifah.

Horizon will then operate a summer schedule of four-day Bermuda and eight-day Caribbean sailings from New York before shifting to Miami.

Carnival Horizon is pictured.



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Unpack all of Carnival Australia's recent announcements in the March issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
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Beatrice now a super ship



UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection has released a sneak peak of the *S.S. Beatrice*, following her upgrade from the *River Beatrice* to a super ship.

On 04 Apr, the new super ship will embark on her maiden voyage along the Danube from Budapest to Giurgiu, with a land extension in Bucharest.

The vessel is the first in the Uniworld fleet to be upgraded to a super ship and is now sporting a fresh, sleek bow, redesigned lounge, yacht-like

finishes and a grand staircase.

S.S. Beatrice has been fitted with two new 34m² Royal Suites and a second Owner's Suite.

Connecting rooms ideal for friends and families travelling together have also been fitted, along with two additional dining venues: Max's, designed for a hands-on cooking and dining experience, and Schubert's, a casual restaurant.

A Suite on *S.S. Beatrice* is pictured above and Bar Max is pictured below.



AmaLea makes debut



THE latest addition to the AmaWaterways fleet, *AmaLea*, has this week set sail on her inaugural Tulip Time voyage.

The 156-passenger ship departed from Amsterdam on a roundtrip voyage cruising along the canals of the Dutch and Belgian waterways.

She will operate six Tulip Time cruises before embarking on seven-night cruises on the Danube River between Vilshofen and Budapest, including two themed Wine Cruises.

AmaLea will be christened by her godmother and travel

industry executive Filomena Andre in a ceremony which will take place on 26 May in Vilshofen, Germany.

The ship features connecting and triple occupancy staterooms which cater for the growing multi-generational travel group markets & a twin balcony in most rooms.

Additional amenities include a new "Sip & Sail" complimentary cocktail hour, a heated sun deck pool with swim-up bar, hair and massage salons, a fitness centre, complimentary wi-fi and a fleet of bicycles carried on board.

AmaLea is pictured.

Sapphire Princess polished up in drydock

PRINCESS Cruises' *Sapphire Princess* has completed a two-week drydock in Singapore and now features upgraded spaces and the Princess logo livery on her bow.

The vessel has been fitted with the new premium stateroom category, Club Class Mini-Suites, along with the Camp Discovery Youth & Teen Center and an upgraded Lotus Spa & Fitness Center.

The Shops of Princess have been enhanced, a new entertainment LED wall fitted in the Princess Theatre & the show *Bravo* introduced. *Sapphire* is on her way to London to commence Europe voyages.

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Princess' new Rhythm



PRINCESS Cruises is introducing a new cultural experience in the Caribbean this northern summer called "Rhythm of the Caribbean".

The program includes an on board Caribbean Festival, island cuisine, Caribbean cocktails and themed parties.

Passengers will be able to meet local parrots and macaws in the ship's Atrium under the "Parrots in the Piazza" offering, take part in an indoor Planetarium

Experience and on select departures hear stories from shark diver Martin Graff.

Young passengers will also be taught how to talk, dress and dance like a pirate during a themed party.

Rhythm of the Caribbean launches aboard *Caribbean Princess* (pictured) in May 2018 and is scheduled to roll out to more ships for the northern autumn/winter season.

Agents follow the Sun



A TEAM of 13 travel professionals crossed the Atlantic on a Viking Cruises famil recently.

Sailing from Lisbon to Miami on board *Viking Sun*, the group of agents and wholesalers started the 12-day famil with fado and tapas in Lisbon.

The ship followed a route charted by explorers from Lisbon during the 15th and 16th centuries, before arriving in the Azores, to explore the remnant volcanoes and blue-green lakes.

Next the cruise headed westward and participants enjoyed four days of ship life.

"There was never a shortage of activities and enrichment programs available on board,

or you could simply take a dip in the infinity pool off the bow of the ship and watch the Atlantic go by," Erin Beckford of TravelManagers said.

Day nine was spent exploring Hamilton, the capital and cultural centre of the British territory of Bermuda, before the group spent two more days relaxing at sea and wrapped up the trip in Miami.

Pictured are: Loreta Abernethy, Patricia Dangelo, Martine Hero, Byron Bobby Horne, Bev Moffat, Jeff Leckey, Sharee Mitchell, Marisa Plenge, Johanna Dash, Deborah Mondon, Erin Beckford, Kate Tricket and Carrie O'Connor, accompanied by Viking's Leon Hill, Kim Vaughan & Liz Sawers.

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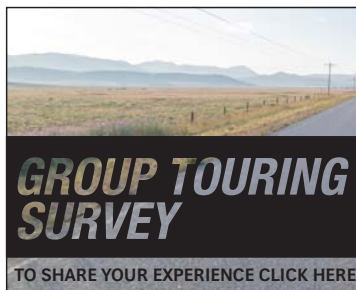


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Carnival marriage

CARNIVAL Corp has vowed to support efforts to overturn a decision in Bermuda to ban same-sex marriage.

Bermuda allowed same-sex marriage last year, which paved the way for Carnival's ships registered in the British Overseas Territory to perform legally-recognised ceremonies (**CW** 03 Aug).

"We do not agree or support the action by the Bermuda legislature to ban same-sex marriage," Carnival Corp said.

The change applies to ships registered in Bermuda.

Travel agents get creative



CREATIVE Cruising yesterday hosted a group of NSW travel agents from italktravel, Independent Travel Group and Select Travel stores for a specialist cruise training day.

The event included presentations from a number of Creative Cruising's partner cruise lines covering boutique, small ship and luxury cruising.

"We are seeing an increasing number of cruise clients that have regularly sailed on mainstream cruises from Australia who are now seeking destinations and

immersive experiences further afield," Carina Mullen, senior product manager Creative Cruising said.

Creative Cruising will hold a number of cruise training days and networking opportunities throughout the year and agents are advised to contact their local bdm for more details.

Pictured are: Brooke Wilson, NSW bdm Creative Cruising; Andrew Loving, sales manager NSW & ACT Star & Dream Cruises and Jason Starling, NSW bdm Express Travel Group.

Avalon Waterways FlexDining in 2019

AVALON Waterways will introduce FlexDining in 2019, providing open dining times, more tables for couples, bar service on the Sky Deck and daily night fare, available on request, at the bar.

There will also be complimentary picnic lunches for guests looking to take their meal off the ship.

MEANWHILE, earlier this month Avalon Waterways revealed plans to add an Avalon Adventure Host based in a new Adventure Center on all 2019 European cruises.

The Adventure Host will be equipped with "gear, maps and more for active pursuits on and off the ship," the cruise line said.



THE cruise industry loves a good theme, so it shouldn't be a surprise that upcoming AIDA Cruises departures will be dedicated to arm wrestling, veal sausage sucking and yodelling.

AIDA Cruises has declared "there will be something for everyone" at its AIDA Oktoberfest Special 2018 event.

Festivities will take place on both *AIDAprima* and *AIDAPERLA* accompanied by traditional Bavarian culinary fare such as pork knuckle and of course, the obligatory litre stein of beer.



Crowning glory for cruising

ACA applauds the announcement by Princess Cruises this week (**CW** 27 Mar) that it is embarking on its largest ANZ deployment in 2019/2020.

Princess has been one of Australia's favourite cruise lines dating back many years and has undoubtedly been one of the drivers of growth for the industry here.

It has also helped us to grow our international passenger arrivals. Having brought over 30,000 cruise guests to our market last season alone, we are confident this new deployment will continue to grow the inbound market.

But I believe the most exciting take-outs for our members are Princess' plans for dispersal and destination experiences.

With five ships sailing from six homeports, Princess will include both capital cities and regional destinations such as Port Lincoln, Albany, Phillip Island and Port Arthur on its itineraries. We will also see renewed support for WA with Princess ships spending 141 days in Fremantle.

In developing these extensive itineraries, Princess has worked closely with ACA. Two years ago, we jointly developed a series of welcome videos introducing passengers to our destinations. These were supported by an onboard speaker series & exclusive experiences in port developed in conjunction with our STO, RTO and groundhandler members.

We have also conducted ongoing training in their North American offices for their marketing, sales and res teams.

ACA is excited to continue to work closely with Princess to support its commitment to our industry in Australia and we look forward to an outstanding 2019/20 season.

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