

Regal Princess to make Sydney debut

PRINCESS Cruises has announced it will send its 3,560-passenger *Regal Princess* to Sydney for her maiden Australian season in Dec 2020 - marking the biggest ever deployment for the brand in Sydney.

Regal Princess is scheduled to service itineraries from Sydney right through to Apr 2021, with the decision representing a 40% increase in Princess Cruises' capacity from Sydney when compared with the company's current 2018/19 summer season.

She will join sister ship *Majestic Princess* in the harbour city for the 2020/21 season, marking the first time Princess Cruises has deployed two Royal Class ships from the same homeport outside of the Caribbean.

Speaking on board *Majestic Princess* at the 2018 Carnival Australia Partnership Summit, Princess Cruises Senior Vice President Asia Pacific Stuart Allison said the move was motivated by strong local demand for the cruise line's product.

"Further to the incredible response to *Majestic Princess*' maiden season in Australia, I'm delighted to now share that *Regal Princess* will also call Sydney home in the Summer of 2020," Allison said.

In the prelude to her big Sydney season in 2020/21, *Regal Princess* will sail from Rome to Sydney on a voyage that visits four



continents.

The itinerary for the voyage will go on sale 20 Nov and a more detailed deployment for *Regal Princess* from Sydney will be announced in Mar 2019.

Features on board the ship include 13 dining venues, a soaring atrium, an over-the-ocean glass walkway, plush private poolside cabanas, the Princess Live! television studio, a pastry shop, a special Chef's Table Lumiere private dining experience.

The ship also boasts 1,780 staterooms, with balconies on all outside staterooms.

Australia is Princess Cruises' second most important market outside the US, with five of its ships to cruise Australia next year.

For more info on *Regal Princess*' Sydney deployment, call 13 24 88.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Dreaming details

DREAM Cruises has revealed *Explorer Dream*'s upcoming deployment to Australia will include a series of seven-night cruises to Qld, calling in at Newcastle, Gladstone & Bris - call 1300 658 666 for more.

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Lindblad brox launch



ADVENTURE World Travel held a celebration in Sydney this week to launch Lindblad Expeditions' 2019/20 Explorations Collection brox, featuring itineraries on *National Geographic Endurance* which is scheduled to launch in 2020. "Endurance will be the world's most advanced expedition

vessel, where travellers will explore uncharted waters in exceptional comfort," said Adventure World Travel Managing Director Neil Rodgers. **Pictured:** Dan Coleman, Ryan Kendall and Maya Santangelo from Lindblad Expeditions with Adventure World Travel Managing Director Neil Rodgers.

CREATIVE Cruising has introduced a new "one stop shop" cruise booking platform.

The new portal gives agents access to live bookings with cruise lines accompanied by wholesale and retail airfares, live hotel inventory and exclusive package deals.

The company's General Manager Peter Forsyth said the new platform would have the dual benefit of helping agents to sell more product as well as pair the right cruise itineraries with the right customers.

"The platform allows travel agents to seamlessly book dynamic cruise packages and easily access and add on private and public airfares, special one-way cruise fares and pre- and

post-cruise accommodation in just a few clicks," Forsyth said.

"We are very excited to launch our new B2B agent website, which follows best practice design," he added.

Agents can use the site to search, review and explore over 30,000 sailings across the gamut of cruise types, from luxury ships, ocean liners, river cruises, and boutique expedition cruise trips.

As well as aggregated pricing, rich content, video, deck plans and itineraries, the site also provides a cruise comparison tool enabling consultants to review up to six sailings side by side.

To celebrate the launch, agents who make a booking on the platform before 15 Feb 2019 have the chance to win a cruise.



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Friday 16th November 2018

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WEEKLY

On location aboard
Majestic Princess

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you from on board *Majestic Princess*, courtesy of World's Leading Cruise Lines.

MORE than 200 agents and industry partners are sailing towards Sydney aboard *Majestic Princess* for this year's Next Wave Summit hosted by World's Leading Cruise Lines.

Having departed Auckland on Wed night, pax yesterday had a chance to explore New Zealand's spectacular Bay of Islands.

Today cruise leaders including Jan Swartz, Group President of Princess Cruises and Carnival Australia & NZ - along with event host Jessica Rowe - will open the Next Wave summit and begin a series of sessions to outline the latest news from the brands.

CLIA rates highly

CLIA Australasia's brand awareness with agents continues to remain high, with 91% of respondents in *Cruise Weekly's* industry survey stating they were aware of the peak cruise industry body.

Results from the survey also highlight agents willingness to embrace CLIA initiatives such as Choose Cruise, with 72% saying they get involved in leveraging off the promotion.

When it comes to assessing the work that CLIA does to promote industry responsibility, including a commitment to safety, public health and environmental responsibility, 57% of agents say CLIA is doing a "very good" to "extremely good" job.

The biggest benefit agents see in CLIA membership is the accreditation program and learning academy.

NCL gears up for Alaska



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has released its Alaska Cruising Guide for 2019 featuring itineraries on board *Norwegian Joy*, *Norwegian Bliss* and *Norwegian Jewel*.

Alaskan trips in the latest guide take place between May and Sep 2019 and visit popular ports in the US state such as Juneau, Skagway and Ketchikan.

Attractions on board NCL's Alaska fleet includes a total of 27 eateries, free wi-fi and the Broadway Hit *Jersey Boys*.

The cruise line's "Free at Sea" deal can be used when booking



spots on the 2019 Alaska collection, with offers ranging from beverage packages and shore excursions credit.

View the cruise guide [HERE](#).

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Radiance to shine in 2020



CARNIVAL Cruise Line has revealed itinerary details of its *Carnival Radiance* ship, which is scheduled to make its debut in 2020 with a 10-day Mediterranean sailing, departing from Barcelona.

The ship, which is set to undergo a US\$200 million dry dock in Cadiz, Spain, will emerge on 29 Apr 2020 offering a selection of new features including updated food and beverage options and entertainment choices.

Also new will be renovated rooms showcasing a tropical colour palette, a WaterWorks aqua park featuring the new AquaTunnel slide and a SportsSquare open-air recreation complex with a suspended ropes course added.

Carnival Radiance's diverse inaugural schedule will include a series of nine- to 13-day

European voyages, four- to nine-day sailings to the Caribbean, Canada/New England from New York, the line's first sailing to Cuba from New York, plus a northern winter season cruising the Caribbean and Cuba from Port Canaveral.

Radiance's maiden Mediterranean sailing will make calls at Italy, France, Croatia, Greece, Malta and Spain, before embarking on a 13-day trans-atlantic crossing from Barcelona to New York.

MEANWHILE, Carnival has flagged sister ship *Carnival Sunrise* is set to become a "major player" in Bermuda and Cuba from 21 May 2020 as it embarks on a series of "long weekend" getaways to Bermuda.

The ship is also scheduled to cruise on longer voyages to Cuba from New York.

Pictured: *Carnival Radiance*.

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Princess smoking

PRINCESS Cruises can confirm that while sailing from Port Chalmers to Akaroa, an electrical incident in the portside communications room caused smoke to activate the smoke detectors on board *Golden Princess*.

Princess Cruises released a statement saying that first responders confirmed dense smoke but no fire on the ship, with guests in the vicinity of the electrical fault temporarily evacuated.

The incident impacted the guest in-room television system and internet services.

Princess confirmed no injuries occurred due to the fault and all safety systems remained fully operational.

The cruise line was not able to confirm if the incident forced any alterations to *Golden Princess's* itinerary.

Chimu banish brox

POLAR cruise specialists Chimu Adventures has thrown down the gauntlet to the cruise industry by challenging brands to sell without the need for printed brochures.

"It's no longer good enough to drop a brochure and tick it off as a sales call," said the company's Co-Founder Greg Carter.

"It has long been perceived that travel agents need something in hard copy to give to clients to convert their enquiries into bookings...there is a gross overuse of the printed brochure and we implore the entire industry to seek environmentally friendly training methods," he added.

Chimu's own research found that 68% of the agents say they receive too many brochures from suppliers and 96% would prefer to opt in to receiving them.

On the plus side, 83% of the agents surveyed said they recycle any unused brochures.

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New Iceland voyage

AURORA Expeditions has announced the launch of a new expedition cruise to Iceland exploring the world's northernmost active volcanic island Jan Mayen and Svalbard's northwest coast.

The cruise line is offering a special earlybird deal with 20% discounts up for grabs when bookings are made by 31 Dec. For more info **CLICK HERE**.

Princess heats up Alaska



PRINCESS Cruises has released its new 2020 Alaska cruise collection which will feature the services of eight ships and include 25 cruisetour itineraries.

The cruise line's Alaska program will run from May through to Sep in 2020, and will mark the debut of *Golden Princess* to the region, which is scheduled to undertake

a full season of 14-day Inside Passage voyages.

Ramping up its land experiences, Princess' new cruisetours offer pax the chance to explore the Alaska wilderness, ride on scenic rail lines, or stay at Princess-owned lodges.

For more information on the Alaska program, **CLICK HERE**.

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