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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 **RCI**, **Celebrity & Azamara** and a full page from **Cruise Office**.

Celestyal appoints

CYPRUS-BASED cruise line Celestyal Cruises has appointed former Globus Family of Brands local head Stewart Williams to the role of Asia Pacific regional manager. Williams will be charged with opening up more revenue streams in the region and improving brand awareness.

Grab the suite life

ACCESS luxury suite selling kits for Royal Caribbean, Celebrity Cruises and Azamara Club Cruises - see **cover page**.

Brisbane terminal considers growth

THE new Brisbane cruise terminal at Luggage Point has now started accepting bookings for the 2020/21 season, with strong interest from cruise lines even before construction has commenced on the facility.

Speaking at last week's Australian Cruise Association conference in Broome, Port of Brisbane chief operating officer Peter Keyte said the planned facility will be "capable of handling any cruise ship currently envisaged".

Moreover, demand for slots at the new terminal so far indicates "we're going need a second berth sooner than we thought".

Keyte said the Port of Brisbane was continuing to consult with the industry on a booking system to ensure equitable access, with wharf construction scheduled to commence by the end of the year followed by the terminal in early



2019 and a planned opening in the second quarter of 2020.

The two-level terminal will have capacity to handle about 1,300 passengers per hour, with internal areas including arrivals, check-in area, security, immigration and quarantine plus luggage collection and drop-off facilities.

Keyte said the building design allows simultaneous passenger check-in and disembarkation to maximise efficiency, while the

facility will also feature a cafe and light retail offering, open public spaces including a waterfront promenade and both long and short-term car parking.

The development has been "de-risked" through a long-term agreement with Carnival Australia which has committed to 100 berthing days annually for the next 15 years in return for priority berthing rights at the new terminal (**CW** 06 Jun 2018).



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Norwegian hits TV

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) launched its first TVC campaign in Australia on the weekend, part of a strategy to up its investment in the region.

The six-week marketing push is airing on several free-to-air channels and will also be supported by digital marketing activations.

The "Feel Free" commercials promote a host of on board entertainment options, in addition to popular cruise destinations like Hawaii, Alaska, Europe & New Zealand. View the new TVC [HERE](#).

Closer to the Edge

CELEBRITY Cruises has unveiled the new Grand Plaza (pictured) that will form the focal point for guests sailing on *Celebrity Edge's* first official sailing this summer.

The chic space was designed by Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku of Jouin Manku Studio, boasting a giant chandelier, multiple cafes and restaurants, a cocktail bar, and pop-up music and entertainment.

Take the virtual tour [HERE](#).



Countdown to Countess



AMERICAN Queen Steamboat Company has announced it will soon begin construction on a new 245-passenger riverboat called *American Countess*.

The new addition will enable the river cruise line to keep pace with demand for its popular sailings to American river port cities such as Memphis, Nashville, New Orleans, Cincinnati, Louisville, St Louis and Minneapolis.

"We continue to break sales records and incredible demand remains for more capacity on the river with each of our boats continuing to sail at full capacity," said American Queen Steamboat Company chairman John Waggoner.

Interestingly, the new vessel will be built using the existing hull of the *Kanesville Queen*, a former gaming vessel built in 1995.

The contract to build the ship has been awarded to Gulf Island Shipyards, with the *Countess* to be worked on at its shipyard in Houma, Louisiana, from the



fourth quarter of 2018.

"We look forward to collaborating with Gulf Island's team of skilled workers and craftsmen to deliver a riverboat that will once again exceed expectations of our guests and continue raising the bar on domestic river cruising," Waggoner said.

A delivery date for the upcoming *American Countess*, along with itinerary and amenity details are slated to be revealed in the coming months.

Pictured: A rendering of the new *American Countess* and (inset) Gulf Island ceo Kirk Meche; American Queen Steamboat Company chairman John Waggoner; and Gulf Island svp Christian Vaccari.

Alaska pollution

ALASKA'S State Department of Environmental Conservation issued notices to several cruise ships for violating air quality standards during its summer cruise season, according to local media reports.

Holland America Line was issued with four violations, Princess Cruises and Royal Caribbean racked up two, and Norwegian Cruise Line was slapped with one notice, the department said.

The bulk of violations occurred in Ketchikan, an Alaskan city facing the Inside Passage & where most of the monitoring staff are located.

Cunard grows 2020

CUNARD has expanded its cruise program for 2020, including new Aussie sailings.

Travellers on board the *Queen Elizabeth* can sail to the North Pacific, East Asia and Australia with overnight stays in Hong Kong and Singapore.

The duration of voyage range from two to 18 nights.

Other new additions include trips from New York to the Caribbean, New England, Canada or Europe on board *Queen Mary 2*; along with cruises from Southampton to the Mediterranean, Canary Islands, Western and Northern Europe on *Queen Victoria*.

For all itineraries [CLICK HERE](#).

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Oceania Cruises is renewing their fleet – learn more about the project in the September issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read **travelBulletin**

ACA votes in change

A NEW Management Committee for the Australian Cruise Association (ACA) was elected at its annual general meeting in Broome last week. The vote saw two positions replaced, with Scott Lovett taking over from the late Tony Clementson, and Christine Cole (Tourism WA) stepping in for Julie O'Brien who has resigned to focus on her role at Tourism Events Queensland. ACA's ceo Jill Abel noted Clementson's passing had been "a very sad time" & commended him on representing Tourism NT's members with "great wisdom."

Webinar winner chosen



A COMPETITION run by Crystal Cruises in partnership with *Travel Daily* and *Cruise Weekly* has been taken out by Michael Davis-Smith from Travel Associates in Rose Bay in Sydney. He has walked away with an amazing 14-day *Crystal Serenity* voyage roundtrip from Los Angeles departing 07 Dec, visiting San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Ensenada, Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, La Paz, Cabo San Lucas and San Diego. Davis-Smith's winning entry had to describe the ultimate Crystal

cruise experience, to which he penned: *Crystal sails, glides and sleeps confidently above other leading brands when imagining luxury travel, inspiring cuisine, legendary service and bold innovation that is World's Best.* The comp was run alongside a recent three-part Crystal Cruises webinar series hosted by *Travel Daily* editor Jasmine O'Donoghue. **Pictured:** Davis-Smith accepting his prize voucher from Crystal Cruises business development manager NSW, ACT and Queensland Ameyla Grey.



LAST week's Australian Cruise Association conference in Broome featured



a presentation from Ports Australia ceo Mike Gallacher. Gallacher's name may be familiar to readers from NSW, because until about a year ago he was a state politician and a former Minister for Police and Emergency Services. Prior to entering politics in 1996 he was a police officer, and quipped that every step in his career so far had involved the letter "P". "I've been in the Police, Politics and now Ports," he said. "There are only a couple of options left for the next step - Prostitution and the Priesthood...there's still time," Gallacher quipped.

He also noted that he had been a cruise addict from a very young age, having taken his first cruise as a toddler - when his family emigrated from Glasgow, Scotland. "I cruised to Australia for a very cheap fare - just ten pounds," he said. Standards on cruise voyages have certainly improved since then, however, because on that first voyage "we thought salmonella was just the name of a pasta dish".

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	18 Sep
<i>Sea Princess</i>	20 Sep
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	21 Sep
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	21 Sep
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	24 Sep
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	21 Sep
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	22 Sep
<i>Sea Princess</i>	22 Sep
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	23 Sep
CAIRNS	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	20 Sep
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	23 Sep
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	20 Sep

HAL introduces Rolling Stone rock room

HOLLAND America Line (HAL) has partnered with music publisher Rolling Stone to create the Rolling Stone Rock Room, a new classic rock club venue that will make its debut in Dec. The new venue will be available on board *Nieuw Statendam* and *Koningsdam* and will offer passengers the chance to enjoy a live band churning out iconic rock'n'roll hits by prominent rock acts. "Classic rock appeals to people across generations because the music is universal, and Rolling Stone Rock Room will bring another incredible live music venue to our ships," said Holland America Line president Orlando Ashford.

CRUISE WEEKLY

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New dates added: 24th, 28th Nov & 2nd Dec, 2018

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Day 1: Vancouver, WA

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Day 2: The Dalles, OR

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Day 3: Portland, OR

Marvel in the "City of Roses" and visit the International Rose Test Garden with more than 8,000 meticulously pruned roses.

Day 4: Astoria, OR

Known to be the oldest American Settlement west of the Rocky Mountains. This port has a rich history in this Columbia River town.

Day 5: Vancouver, WA

Disembark American Empress after your memorable experience.

Itinerary is based on 2nd Dec 2018 cruise, and may vary for other dates.

SPECIAL EVENTS FEATURED

The Columbia River Symphony at the Historic Liberty Theatre
20th & 24th Nov 2018 sailings

Delight in an unforgettable evening of classic and modern music performed by the renowned Columbia River Symphony.



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28th Nov & 2nd Dec 2018 sailings

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