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CRUISE WEEKLY



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news, a front cover wrap from **NCL** plus a full page from **Windstar Cruises**.

Eclipse 2020/22 out

SCENIC has this week unveiled its new program for the long-awaited *Scenic Eclipse*, detailing six new itineraries comprised of 47 departures and 38 countries.

Highlights include two full seasons in Antarctica, with a total of 20 departures, as well as voyages to Alaska & British Columbia, Latin America, the Mexican Riviera, & Norway's archipelago Svalbard.

Eclipse is scheduled to undertake her inaugural voyage departing Reykjavik, Iceland on Thu 15 Aug. Access program online **HERE**.

Princess expands MedallionNet tech

PRINCESS Cruises has announced it will roll out its MedallionNet technology to six more of its vessels in 2020.

The cruise line said it would expand the offering next year to Grand Princess from 21 Feb, Diamond Princess (15 Mar), Majestic Princess (18 Apr), Star Princess (12 Jun), Enchanted Princess (15 Jun) and Sapphire Princess (27 Jul).

Princess Cruises President Jan Swartz said the latest rollout will mark an important milestone for the cruise line's advanced internet capabilities.

"We continue our commitment to offer the best internet at sea with the expansion of MedallionNet across the fleet," Swartz said.

"Reliable connectivity allows each guest to choose how they want to use the internet - that could mean staying connected



continuously to message friends and family, share their amazing holiday experience, or jumping on and off for personal or professional needs and then promptly returning to holiday mode," she added.

Princess' MedallionNet wi-fi offering provides its passengers with high-speed internet from various remote regions at sea by accessing multiple satellites. Advantages of the tech includes being able to stream movies without delay, stay connected to social media, and being able to text family on board.

MedallionNet is already available on a number of Princess' ships including Caribbean Princess, Regal Princess, Royal Princess, Ruby Princess, Coral Princess, Island Princess, Crown Princess and Emerald Princess.

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SeaLink agent portal

SEALINK Travel Group has launched a new travel agent portal that provides a one-stopshop for all SeaLink product info.

Important cruise content on the site includes SeaLink's contracts, rates, guest fact sheets, timetables, suggested itineraries, brochures, images and videos pertaining to the entire company's product suite.

"We wanted to make it easier for our trade distribution partners to access SeaLink's information and up to date communications... now our product information is at agents' fingertips," said GM Global Sales & Distribution Richard Doyle.

Over the coming weeks information on SeaLink's ferry services to North Stradbroke Island, Magnetic Island, and Bruny Island will also be added to the agent portal.

Agents can access SeaLink's new portal by **CLICKING HERE**.

Eden port praised

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia Managing Director Joel Katz has welcomed the completion of a major \$44 million expansion of the Port of Eden on the NSW south coast.

The extension of the port's wharf will allow larger ships of up to 325m in length to visit Eden without having to bring pax ashore by tender boats.

"The efforts that local businesses, tour operators, volunteers and regional authorities have invested in cruising has resulted in excellent growth and an impressive rate of return visitation," Katz said.

"This can only continue thanks to the new facilities now available for cruise lines". P&O's *Pacific Explorer* will be first to use the new wharf, followed by another 21 ships.

UnCruise 2020/21 brox

ADVENTURE World Travel has launched its exclusive UnCruise Small Ship Expeditions brochure for the 2020/21 season.

New additions to the latest collection include the eight-day Colombia & Panama: Coral, Jungles and Canal cruise, which visits UNESCO sites Darien Jungle and Caribbean port of Cartagena, as well as the walled city of old Cartagena on Columbia's east coast.

Prices for the South American trip leads in at \$4,895 per person and departs in Oct 2020.

Notable new cruises in the 2021 season include the seven-night Prince William Sound Adventure adventure, sailing the waters of Alaska to take in the state's iconic glaciers, as well as the small fishing village of Cordova, and



explorations of the Alaskan Eyak native culture.

To celebrate the launch of the new brochure, Adventure World Travel is offering savings of up to \$900 on select voyages on board *S.S. Legacy* when bookings are made by 13 Dec.

Seabourn takes cruising to new heights

SEABOURN will tomorrow launch a new product called Seabourn Private Air, a new chartered jet service for exclusive transportation to and from the line's ports of call.

Aircraft will be able to accommodate groups of various sizes, including light charter jets capable of carrying five-eight passengers; mid-size jets sized for seven-eight passengers; and heavy private jets with capacity for nine passengers.

Prices for the service will vary depending on itinerary and aircraft, and will be offered from thousands of airports around the globe.



Cruise Weekly

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CMV "Book to Win"

CRUISE & Maritime Voyages (CMV) is offering travel agents the chance to win a "prize-a-day" for the next four weeks as part of its new Book to Win incentive launched this week.

For a chance to win, agents need to book and register one of five select cruises, as well as answer the question, "Which of CMV's 280 destinations is your favourite and why?"

The cruise line will then choose the best answer each day for a month, with prizes on offer including Fringe Festival vouchers, wine gift packs, Endota Spa vouchers, T2 prize packs, Coopers beer packs, and cooking classes.

The best answer overall for the month will score a free cruise on *Vasco da Gama*, the newest edition to CMV's fleet.

The agent competition will wrap up 09 Sep.

For more info on the incentive, call 1300 307 934.

Oceania goes local

OCEANIA Cruises has unveiled a new range of immersive destination tours. The cruise line's new Go Local Tours aim to take passengers beyond the destination they visit and introduce them to local artisans, markets, and families. Oceania has 120 Go Local Tours on offer across Europe, Alaska, and South America.

Uniworld halves

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection is offering 50% discounts on solo supplements for select 2020 cruises throughout Central Europe, Italy and France. Applicable voyages include a 10-day Tulips and Windmills trip sailing the canals of Belgium and the Netherlands. Solo offer ends 30 Sep.

Quark: seriously sustainable



QUARK Expeditions has revealed that its newest polar expedition ship *Ultramarine* is "a pioneering mix of advanced sustainability features" that will minimise its environmental impact better than any other polar vessel of comparable size.

Speaking exclusively to *Cruise Weekly*, Quark's Vice President of Sales Thomas Lennartz said the new ship was designed with sustainability in mind, and features a range of cutting-edge technologies aimed at reducing its carbon footprint.

"Responsible tourism is something Quark Expeditions takes very seriously," he said.

"Ultramarine has been issued CLEAN certification by DNV GL, the world's largest resource of independent energy experts, and TIER III status by The International Maritime Organization (IMO)... these certifications are thirdparty proof of Quark Expeditions' voluntary compliance in not only meeting, but surpassing, industry standards".

Highlights of the tech include an industry-leading gasification system that decreases waste by a sizeable 95%, a streamlined hull that lessens fuel consumption and underwater noise, and a waste water management system that reduces bio content to levels below the global standard.

Last chance Take 5

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's Take 5 deal ends tomorrow, & includes beverage packages & ship credit - see **front page**.



* Ponant Bonus discount subject to change based on availability. All advertised prices are based on the Ponant Bonus fare per person, in Australian Dollars, based on a double occupancy, including port taxes, yield managed, correct at time of writing – 70/8/2019. (I) for the 5 July 2021 cruise in a superior Stateroom. (I) In a Superior Stateroom, (I) per stateroom based on double occupancy, A400 savings per stateroom for single occupancy. Offer valid for guests travelling with PONANT for the first time. Offer is not advantable within yorkene offers, second the Ponant Bonus and Single Traveler Offers. Valid for new booking only and available until further note but can change or be withdrawn at any time. Conditions apply. Refer to au ponant com for 762. (Vst au ponant com for more details. Photographe S Valid OPONNT: Finst Laigned PONNT: Eric Laigned LABN: 53 166 676 517

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ALASKA - ON THE TRAIL OF THE GOLD PROSPECTORS: Departs June to August 2021. 7 nights from \$8,030 pp⁽¹⁾ GREENLAND OF GREAT EXPLORERS: Departs 3 July 2021. 14 nights from \$15,620 pp⁽²⁾ NEW! THE NORTHEAST PASSAGE: Departs 30 August 2021. 24 nights from \$27,200 pp⁽³⁾

DISCOVER THE EXPEDITIONS

Learn more about PONANT at our **FREE Information Events** in your **capital city** or request a brochure. Contact our PONANT Cruise Consultants on: **1300 737 178 | reservations.aus@ponant.com | au.ponant.com**







We were on hand at AmaMagna's christening – check it out in the August issue of travelBulletin.

CLICK to read



Wednesday 14th August 2019

Cruise and cycle

ADVENTURE tourism company UTracks has opened bookings on a range of new bike & cruise packages in 2020. Highlights include the new Tuscany Bike and Sail option,

cruising via tall ship to the Italian islands of Elba and Giglio, before cycling between ports through the locations' rolling hills and vineyards.

Prices for the trip start from \$3,490 per person and depart in Aug and Sep.



SWEDISH climate activist Greta Thunberg is using a trip on the open seas to help deliver her message about the importance of climate change.

Instead of flying to a summit on the environment in New York, she has elected to travel there by boat instead, accentuating her call that "the climate change crisis is a real thing".

Akin to the new cruise ships such as Hurtigruten's new *MS Roald Amundsen*, Thunberg's boat will minimise its carbon footprint, however her vessel will have few luxuries, including no toilets and kitchens, and will be powered solely by wind turbines and solar panels.





DREAM Cruises has announced that *Explorer Dream's* relocation cruise from Australia to Asia is now on sale.

The ship will embark on a 21-night Wonders of Asia itinerary from Sydney departing on 01 Mar 2020, visiting a total of eleven ports along the way before terminating in Hong Kong.

Highlights of the journey will include the northern Australian ports of Gladstone, Cairns and Darwin, before stopping at popular Indonesian destinations such as Bali, Lombok and Surabaya.

Further calls featured are Singapore, Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia, and the Philipine ports of Palawan, Coron and Manila.

Special introductory prices for the full 21-night voyage start from \$3,335 per person, twin share, with Dream also offering two shorter options such as a 14-night jaunt from Sydney to Singapore from \$2,267ppts, or an abbreviated seven-night trip from Singapore to Hong Kong from \$1219ppts.

For further information regarding bookings, call Dream Cruises on 02 9212 6288. **Pictured**: *Explorer Dream*.

Ponant on the case

AGENTS who book and deposit clients on select National Geographic and Ponant Expeditions will score a Destination 55cm Wheelaboard travel suitcase.

The incentive applies to new bookings made before 06 Sep, for 35 polar and tropical cruises between 15 Sep and Jun 2021, including sailings to the Kimberley Coast, Antarctica, Marquesas Islands, and the Seychelles.

The case, created in collaboration with National Geographic and Courier Luggage, is valued at \$280 per unit - for more information call Ponant on 1800 889 088.



Eden set for cruise growth

THE NSW South Coast port of Eden has become one of the great success stories of regional cruising in Australia, and it looks like there'll be plenty more success in the future after this month's opening of a \$44 million extension to the town's wharf.

As a result of a partnership between the NSW Govt, Aust Govt and Bega Valley Shire Council, the Eden wharf can now accommodate ships of up to 325m in length without having to bring passengers ashore by tender.

Having joined locals this week for a pre-season briefing, I can vouch for the level of passion the Eden community has put behind cruise tourism. Local businesses, shops, tour operators and regional authorities have all shown exceptional creativity in the way they cater to visitors, and this is reflected in strong cruise growth over recent years and excellent levels of return visitation.

The first cruise ship to use Eden's new wharf will be P&O Australia's *Pacific Explorer* on 15 Sep, followed by another 21 cruise ships during the upcoming season.

The success Eden has experienced is another great example of how the cruise industry works in partnership with local communities to generate lasting benefits, and we hope to see many more similar stories <u>around Australia</u> in the future.



C RUISE

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