

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

Auckland infrastructure falling behind

"WE ARE not trying to steal your harbour...we want to invest in your future."

That was the impassioned plea to the city of Auckland from New Zealand Cruise Association (NZCA) CEO Debbie Summers as she opened the organisation's annual conference last Fri.

Summers highlighted the ongoing challenges for cruise ships visiting Auckland, which is unable to berth vessels greater than 330m in length.

"Turnaround business is challenging to say the least...we are losing business, yet the cruise lines *want* to visit," she said.

Summers cited recent official figures from Statistics New Zealand (*CW* 19 Aug) which noted that cruise spend across NZ was up 84% since 2015.

"The failure of this city, this country to keep up quickly enough will have a negative



impact on regional communities... there is no escaping that fact."

Currently the restrictions mean vessels such as *Ovation of the Seas* must be serviced via tendering, making logistics very challenging for the vessel's almost 6,500 passengers & crew.

Current plans to expand capacity by installing two "dolphin" mooring structures in Auckland harbour have been stymied due to local opposition,

with a review not due until Mar.

The strength of the NZ cruise sector was reflected in a record attendance at the seventh annual NZCA conference, with 260 delegates and a host of senior speakers including CLIA Chairman Adam Goldstein from Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Carnival Australia Chair Ann Sherry, Silversea Cruises MD Adam Armstrong, Ponant's Sarina Bratton and more.

What do you think?

CRUISE Weekly readers are being invited to help shape the ongoing profile of the Australasian cruise sector by participating in our annual industry survey.

Conducted in partnership with independent analytics firm Stollznow Research, the quick poll aims to help evaluate sales, confidence, service and product knowledge, with participants in the running to win a range of prizes including Bluetooth speakers and movie tickets.

Responses are anonymous and results will be published in future issues of *TD*, *CW* and *travelBulletin* - [CLICK HERE](#).

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Carnival hails heroes



CARNIVAL Cruise Line recently held a ceremony to honour two men who rescued a wheelchair-bound passenger who accidentally fell off a dock on the Caribbean island of St. Thomas last week.

Kashief Hamilton and Randolph Donovan were both acknowledged for their efforts during a ceremony on board *Carnival Fascination*.

“There is no greater love than laying down one’s life for one’s friends - in this case, these friends sprung into action, to ensure a life was saved,” said Joseph Boschulte, Commissioner of Tourism for the Virgin Islands.

Pictured: Kashief Hamilton, Carnival skipper Candeloro Donato, Randolph Donovan, and Joseph Boschulte.

DISNEY Parks, Experiences and Products Chairman, Bob Chapek, has announced that the newest Disney Cruise Line ship will be named *Disney Wish*.

The newbuild, set to debut in Jan 2022, will be the fifth vessel in the fleet, with her stern stylishly adorned by Rapunzel (**pictured**), a Disney Princess who “embodies the wish and desire to see and experience the world” according to Chapek, who revealed the details at the D23 Expo yesterday in Anaheim, California.

Disney Wish will be powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG) and feature 1,250 guest staterooms.

A three-storey atrium is “inspired by the beauty of an enchanted fairytale,” Disney said.

Wish is the first of three sister ships commissioned by Disney for construction by Meyer Werft, with the subsequent vessels set to arrive on an annual basis.

Disney has also revealed further details of its second private island in the Bahamas, which will be located at Lighthouse Point.

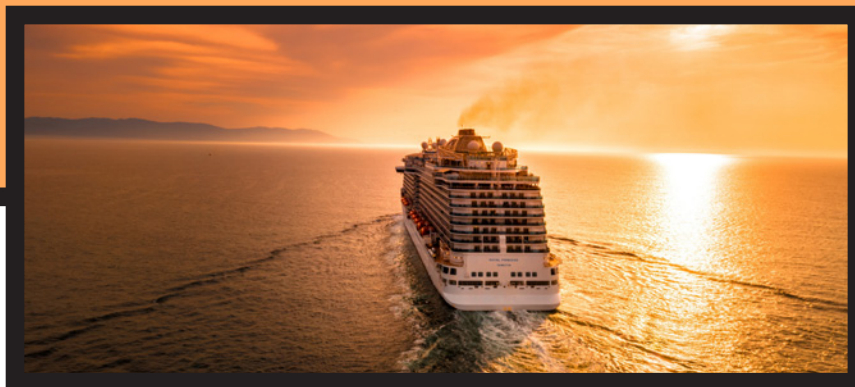
The company has signed an agreement with the government of the Bahamas, with the pact aiming to guide the sustainable development of the destination.

Chapek said Disney would engage with local artists “to create a unique destination that is rooted in Bahamian culture and imbued with Disney magic”.

The new ship can be previewed at cruiseweekly.com.au/videos.

DO YOU SELL CRUISE?

Take our quick survey and share your experiences with us.



3 x Sony Portable Wireless Bluetooth Speakers, plus movie tickets up for grabs.

CRUISE

WEEKLY

Monday 26th August 2019

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

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



Going local in NZ

PRINCESS Cruises has launched a new local partnerships program in New Zealand which will see \$100,000 donated to community-based projects in its first 12 months.

The initiative will be funded by the cruise line's adult guests who donate \$2 via their onboard account.

"Our guests will be able to use their small change to support some bigger initiatives that make a difference to the communities they visit," said Princess Cruises Senior VP - Asia Pacific, Stuart Allison.

Initial projects will include tree planting and educating children on important conservation issues.

The program will aim to raise \$1 million over five years.

Celebrity Apex for Europe



CELEBRITY Cruises has announced four new longer European itineraries for its new *Celebrity Apex*, the second vessel in the Edge Series.

Celebrity Cruises CEO, Lisa Lutoff-Perlo, said the new sailings include three 10- and 11-night Eastern Mediterranean voyages, along with a new 11-night

Western Mediterranean cruise.

Apex will sail in Europe alongside sister ship *Celebrity Edge* as well as the newly revolutionised *Celebrity Silhouette* and *Celebrity Constellation*, which will both feature new staterooms, suites and public spaces.

More from Celebrity Cruises at celebritycruises.com.



WHAT could possibly go wrong? In an initiative that some have branded "Chernobyl on Ice," a Russian company this week launched a floating nuclear reactor.

Manufactured by Rosatom, the *Akademik Lomonosov* (pictured) departed from the country's north-western port of Murmansk towed by three tugs, which are taking it 4,700km east to Chukotka.

The innovative vessel will dock in the remote region where it will provide electricity for locals, following the phase-out of an existing land-based power station.

And while the nuclear option has raised concerns among some, the company noted that "nuclear detractors tend to overlook the fact that atomic energy is the only low-carbon source of energy available in the Arctic region.

"Neither solar nor wind could ensure uninterrupted electricity supply in polar night, when there is no wind and temperatures are well below zero," Rosatom added.

The 70 megawatt systems on the *Lomonosov* can power a city of about 200,000 people.



Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY

Carnival Spirit 26 Aug
Sea Princess 29 Aug
Pacific Explorer 30 Aug

BRISBANE

Pacific Aria 30 Aug
Sea Princess 31 Aug

DARWIN

Coral Discoverer 29 Aug
Le Laperouse 31 Aug
Pacific Dawn 31 Aug

Cascadia Canadian coastal exploration

CANADIAN ecotourism specialist Maple Leaf Adventures (*CW* 25 Jun 2015) has released details of its British Columbia experiences aboard the *Cascadia*, a 24-passenger catamaran which has been specially adapted to explore the region.

Maple Leaf Adventures also operates the eight-guest *Maple Leaf* sailing ship and the 12-passenger *Swell* which is a converted tugboat, with the company touting its "authentic, safari-like experiences" courtesy of local crew and guides - mapleleafadventures.com.

Carnival sale

CARNIVAL Cruise Line today launched a "Nautical But Nice Sale," with savings of up to \$800 per cabin along with reduced deposits for upcoming voyages aboard *Carnival Spirit* and *Carnival Splendor* - more info at carnival.com.au.

MSC extends deal

MSC Cruises has announced the extension of its Supersaver Rates promotion for another month, now expiring 30 Sep.

Savings of up to \$700 per cabin are on offer for bookings made for select 2020 or early 2021 sailings.

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WEEKLY

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