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**Terms and Conditions.** To qualify, retail travel agents must be the top seller in terms of bookings and revenue. Applicable for new bookings on 2019 sailings booked and deposited from 1st Feb and 28th April 2019 inclusive. Cancelled and rebooked bookings will not count. Value of the Package: \$1,885 AUD for Sydney residents and \$2,485 AUD for non-Sydney residents in Australia and \$ NZD 2,602 (ex gst) in New Zealand. Five winners in Australia and/or New Zealand will be chosen at the discretion of Regent Seven Seas Cruises. Prize must be claimed from 9-10th May 2019 as per itinerary provided by Regent Seven Seas Cruises. Package will be hosted by a representative of Regent Seven Seas Cruises. For travel agents residing outside of Sydney, a return economy flight will be provided to access package. Winners will be selected on 29th April and notified by 30th April 2019 by email or phone. Regent Seven Seas Cruises reserve the right to change the selection if there is a tie. Further terms and conditions may apply.

### Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news including a front cover wrap from **Regent Seven Seas Cruises** along with a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.

### SALE EXTENDED

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## Dream to cruise out of Brisbane

**DREAM** Cruises says it's responding to strong demand from the travel industry and consumers by launching a range of dedicated *Explorer Dream* departures from Brisbane.

The newly announced itineraries include four week-long Australian coastal voyages departing in Nov 2019 and visiting Sydney, Newcastle, the Sunshine Coast, Gladstone and Mooloolaba.

There is also a trans-Tasman departure on 06 Dec 2019, with either a seven-night option cruising from Brisbane to New Zealand via Sydney, Milford Sound, Doubtful Sound and Dunedin before disembarking in Wellington, or a nine-night voyage which extends onto Gisborne and then Auckland.

Fares ex Brisbane lead in at \$1,180 per person for a six night cruise, valid for bookings confirmed before 31 Mar 2019.

*Explorer Dream* will sail in Australian waters for the first



time this year (**CW** 13 Sep 2018), arriving in Sydney in Oct 2019 following a major \$30 million makeover from her current identity as *Superstar Virgo*.

Carrying just over 1,800 passengers, the refurbishment will see the introduction of luxurious Palace Suites with access to an exclusive pool deck and full butler service.

*Explorer Dream* will also feature

a host of eateries offering cuisine including sushi, teppanyaki, Italian and more.

When the Australasian deployment of the ship was announced last year, Genting Hong Kong Executive Chairman Tan Sri Lim Kok Thay said it would help accelerate his vision to "develop Dream Cruises into Asia's global cruise line".

See [dreamcruiseline.com](http://dreamcruiseline.com).

### Regent Seven Seas to reward top agents

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises has announced a "24 Hours of Luxury" incentive for its five top-selling retail agents in Australia and NZ.

The exclusive experience will include flights, limousine transfers, a scenic seaplane flight, a private boat cruise, fine dining and accommodation at the Jonah's luxury retreat on Sydney's northern beaches, with the highest sellers in terms of bookings and revenue between 01 Feb and 29 Apr 2019 set to participate.

The incentive trip will take place in May - for more information call 1300 455 200 in Australia, 0800 625 692 in NZ or see the **cover page**.

### UnCruise Hawaii

**UNCRUISE** Adventures has added six new departures in Hawaii sailing between Jul and Aug 2019.

The week-long small ship cruises sail roundtrip Moloka'i & explore Lana'i & the Big Island - prices start from \$5,195pp double occupancy.

# EXPLORER SALE

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# CRUISE

WEEKLY

Friday 8th February 2019

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## St. Maarten cracks 1.5 million pax

**POPULAR** Caribbean destination St. Maarten posted a record 1.59 million cruise passenger visits in 2018.

Part of the surge saw a 30.3% increase from May through to Jul when compared to 2017, a period that is typically less popular for cruise visits.

"St. Maarten's cruise port has always been one of the best in the Caribbean...These numbers don't only reflect that fact, but also highlight how quickly the island has bounced back," St. Maarten Director of Tourism May-Ling Chun.

The island suffered a drop in cruise numbers following Hurricane Irma in 2017.

## Jupiter formally drops



**VIKING** Cruises has officially taken delivery of its sixth ship *Viking Jupiter* during a ceremony at Fincantieri's shipyard in Ancona, Italy.

"It is always a proud moment when we are able to welcome a new ship to our fleet," said Viking Chairman Torstein Hagen.

"*Viking Jupiter* is our sixth ocean vessel in just four years - a clear sign of the positive response to

our approach to ocean cruising," he added.

During her maiden season starting 16 Feb, *Jupiter* will sail itineraries throughout the Mediterranean before later moving on to Scandinavia.

The ship will officially be named in Oslo, Norway on 06 Jun by her ceremonial godmother and acclaimed Norwegian opera singer Sissel Kyrkjebø (pictured).

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Viking is set to become the world's largest small-ship cruise company this year, so now is the perfect time to join our fun, supportive and rapidly expanding team! To apply, please send a cover letter and your resume to [jobsau@vikingcruises.com](mailto:jobsau@vikingcruises.com)

Applications close 15 February 2019. Only successful candidates will be contacted. No agencies.

## Scenic showcase

**SCENIC** Luxury Cruises and Tours has revealed it will be holding a series of Getaway Travel Showcases around the country between Feb and Apr.

The sessions will aim to provide more info on Scenic's product range including river cruising itineraries in Europe, France, Portugal and south east Asia.

Further highlights will feature discussions about *Scenic Eclipse*, including Antarctica, the Arctic and Norwegian Fjords cruises.

The showcase sessions are free to attend but spots are limited so early registration is encouraged.

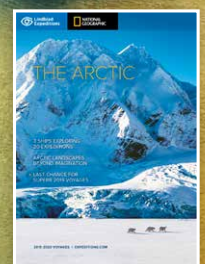
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## Princess makes splash



**PRINCESS** Cruises has announced that when its *Caribbean Princess* vessel emerges from drydock in Jun 2019, she will be boasting a new family water attraction called The Reef Family Splash Zone.

To be located on deck 17 of the ship, the new water attraction will feature a splash pool with assorted water sprays and showers, a game zone area, a variety of new outdoor

furniture options, an upgraded light and music system, and a refurbished jacuzzi and bar.

"This newly reimagined space invites families and kids to experience a multi-functional area to engage and play," said Princess Cruises President Jan Swartz.

*Caribbean Princess* is no stranger to debuts, being the first ship in the fleet to debut Medallion Class vacations.

## Pandaw beefs up India



**PANDAW** has announced a third vessel will join the newly-launched *RV Katha Pandaw* and the established *RV Kalaw Pandaw* to service growing demand for Indian river cruising.

The eighteen-cabin *RV Kindat Pandaw* will be towed to India this month where she will be used to provide additional departures on both the seven-night Lower Ganges Kolkata to Farakka sailing, and the fourteen-night Upper Ganges voyage from Kolkata to Varanasi.

Like her sister ships, *Kindat* belongs to Pandaw's ultra-shallow draft K-class, renowned for being

the "shallowest draft vessels of such a size on the planet" and allowing them to sail year-round all the way up to Varanasi.

Further expansion plans for Pandaw will include operating cruises on Brahmaputra River in 2020, with ambitions to offer river expeditions as far up stream as Dibrugarh.

"India is the jewel in the crown for river cruising, there are no other rivers in the world where there is such a magnificent combination of cultural treasures and majestic beauty," said Pandaw founder Paul Strachan.

**Pictured:** *RV Katha Pandaw*.



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SEABOURN®

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## New Orleans record

**CRUISE** passenger traffic in New Orleans increased to a record 1.2 million in 2018, representing a 2.3% bump on the previous year.

The port tracked 235 calls to New Orleans for the year, moving into the number six spot of busiest ports in the United States.

Growth was fuelled largely by a surge in interest in Mississippi River cruises, with 2019 and 2020 both poised to continue growing based on current forecasts.

New Orleans will welcome several large ships over the next two years, including *Norwegian Breakaway*, the largest to date.

## Seabourn journeys

**SEABOURN** has revealed details about its 2020 Alaska and British Columbia program.

The luxury cruise line will offer a range of seven- and 14-day cruises in both north and southbound directions.

“Our range of itineraries from seven to 14-day cruises are a great option for a busy generation,” said Seabourn President Richard Meadows.

“From escorted kayaking tours around icebergs and remote islands to Zodiac tours to glaciers and waterfalls, Seabourn guests can see the destination’s raw, intimate beauty up close,” he added.

Ventures by Seabourn will also be available in select destinations such as kayak explorations of Cormorant Marine Park at Alert Bay, and Zodiac sailings of the College Fjord in Prince William Sound.

## APT takes centre stage



Madama Butterfly promo image.

**APT** has announced a new partnership with Opera Australia which will see the cruise line sponsor the national tour of *Madama Butterfly*.

As part of the tie-up, APT will host the Opera in the Kimberley series, two exclusive performances held at Cathedral Gorge in the Bungle Bungle Ranges on 08 and 09 Sep.

Passengers on board either the 15-day Kimberley Complete tour or the nine-day El Questro, Gorges and Purnululu cruise will have the opportunity to view the special event.

“As proud patrons of the arts not only here in Australia but throughout the countries we tour, we are delighted to partner with Opera Australia to support the arts through sponsorship of the National Tour,” said APT Director Robert McGeary.

“With both companies carefully curating cultural experiences, the synergies between the two create the perfect partnership,” he added.

To find out more information regarding APT’s Opera in the Kimberley call 1300 196 420 or [CLICK HERE](#).

## Evergreen fitness

**EVERGREEN** Cruises and Tours has launched a range of healthy activities across its fleet of European Emerald Waterways such as onboard pilates and guided bike tours.

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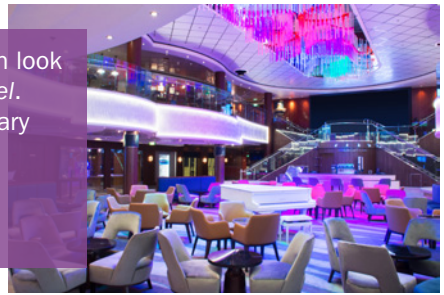
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Take a peek at the fresh look onboard *Norwegian Jewel*. Read more in the February issue of *travelBulletin*.

**CLICK to read**  
**travelBulletin**



**TALK** about falling in love making you feel like you are floating on air! Carnival Cruise Line's #ChooseFun AirShip recently hosted its first-ever wedding in Las Vegas.

Amanda Robertson, 32, and Jason Gerken, 37, from Las Vegas tied the knot with close family and friends in attendance.

Las Vegas' own Henry Sneed of Lucky Little Wedding Chapel officiated the memorable ceremony with an appearance by an Elvis Presley impersonator who belted out the tune "Can't Help Falling in Love".

Topping off the surreal moment was the news that the newlyweds and their family were invited to spend their honeymoon on *Carnival Panorama* when she debuts from Long Beach, Calif. in Dec.

"We always dreamed of having a memorable wedding, but this day was far beyond what we could've imagined," Robertson beamed.

"Getting a free cruise for our entire family on what will be the new *Carnival Panorama* and having our loved ones by our sides have made this one of the best days of our lives," she added.



## Uniworld draws distinction



**UNIWORLD** Boutique River Cruise Collection thanked its key luxury advisors with an exclusive night of immersive experiences at The Art Gallery of NSW last night.

Guests were taken on a private, after hours artistic tour which included original art from Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso and Marc Chagall - all artists found on Uniworld's ships.

"We wanted to replicate the most memorable Uniworld

experience right here in Sydney tonight, giving you, our trusted advisors, a deep and personal understanding of what sets Uniworld apart," said Uniworld Managing Director Fiona Dalton.

**Pictured:** Brett Tollman (third from right), Global Chief Executive Officer TTC; Fiona Dalton (centre), MD Uniworld; & John Veitch, TTC Chief Executive Officer Australasia (far right) with the Uniworld sales team.

## Blue Lagoon 19/20

**BLUE** Lagoon Cruises has released its 2019/20 Fiji Islands brochure showcasing the three itineraries offered on board its *M.V. Fiji Princess*.

New for 2019 is an optional "Moments at Malamala" excursion to Malamala Beach Club, which can be booked on three- and seven-night cruises.

The package includes a food and beverage voucher which can be spent at the club, as well as transfers.

To download a copy of the new brochure, **CLICK HERE**.



## MSC Cruises set to launch AI assistant

**MSC** Cruises is formally set to debut its new first virtual personal cruise assistant ZOE, a plan the cruise line flagged late early year (**CW** 27 Mar 2018).

Developed in partnership with HARMAN and Samsung Electronics, ZOE is a voice-enabled AI that will be found in every cabin of *MSC Bellissima*, offering a range of services such as providing information about onboard services, make bookings, and provide guidance and suggestions on amenities.

"There was a core guest need to be met, which was to find answers to common questions in a quick & easy way, enabling guests to make the most of their holiday," said MSC Cruises CEO Gianni Onorato.

ZOE will also be made available on both *MSC Grandiosa* and *MSC Virtuosa* when they enter the fleet in 2020.



## Carnival 3D security

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has confirmed an order for 91 3D Perspective x-ray systems to be deployed on nine of the company's North American cruise ships.

The devices were ordered via Canadian tech company, VOTI Detection, which offers "remote diagnosis capabilities, software-based architecture and durability...in a challenging maritime climate".

Deployment has already begun, with a full roll out expected by the end of Feb.

CRUISE WEEKLY

[www.cruiseweekly.com.au](http://www.cruiseweekly.com.au)

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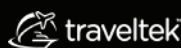
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