

Cruise Weekly today

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

Carnival's kids free

CARNIVAL Cruise Line yesterday launched its popular "Kids Sail Free" campaign, with offers available for bookings by 18 Jul on select *Carnival Spirit* sailings departing between 26 Aug and 06 Dec 2019.

Applicable cruises include trips to the Great Barrier Reef, the Melbourne Cup and Moreton Island.

Call Carnival on 13 31 94 and quote promo code "RKF" to take advantage of the deal.

More at carnival.com.au.



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Local call centre key for NCLH brands

THE Australian-based contact centre operated by Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises is a significant differentiator for the company, according to Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) Senior VP Asia Pacific, Steve Odell.

Speaking to *CW* earlier this week during a top achievers event at upmarket NSW retreat Emirates One&Only Wolgan Valley Resort & Spa, Odell said the local business now comprised almost 100 staff, who were consolidated into a single Sydney CBD location about a month ago.

"It's a key tool in our armoury," he said, with the expansion enabling the team to be trained to specialise in each individual brand, providing expert service.

As well as servicing travel agent bookings and enquiries, team members are also tasked with outbound calls, following up leads generated from NCLH's



burgeoning marketing activity.

Odell and his boss, NCLH President International, Harry Sommer, noted that coverage had extended to around 12 hours per day, with Sunday trading during peak periods and further expansion planned due to the pending global link-up of other call centres in Southampton, UK and Sao Paulo, Brazil.

"Within 12 months we'll be able to offer 24 hour coverage from experts who are well-trained in

our products," Sommer said.

As well as Europe, Alaska and Hawaii, NCLH believes there is significant potential for growth in Asia, particularly with the 2020 deployment of *Norwegian Spirit* (pictured) in the region following an extensive refurbishment.

Hawaii is showing a strong rebound after last year's softness due to the volcano eruption on the Big Island, while Caribbean itineraries are also increasing in popularity, albeit off a low base.

WA cruise tie-up

THE West Australian Government has formed a new co-operative marketing agreement with Cruise and Maritime Voyages (CMV) to support a range of fly cruise packages currently on sale.

The marketing push will be rolled out nationally via print and digital media, and represents the first time the WA Govt has formed such a relationship with a cruise line.

"This partnership acknowledges CMV Australia's contribution to growing cruise shipping in WA and shows the State Government, through Tourism WA, is serious about pursuing opportunities to market the state as an exciting cruise destination," said WA Tourism Minister Paul Papalia.

The cruise industry injects approximately \$276 million into the WA economy annually.

Viking 2021 on sale

BOOKINGS are now open for Viking Cruises' 2021 Pharaohs and Pyramids sailing along the Nile river in Egypt.

The 12-day cruise includes visits to historical settlements such as Aswan, Edfu and Esna, with prices starting from \$7,995 per person, twin share. More info on the trip [HERE](#).

25% more for solo

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) is offering single supplement prices on select voyages for only 25% more than regular fares until 30 Sep.

The promotion applies to cruises departing between 2019 and 2021 in destinations such as Australia, NZ, Alaska & Europe - call 1300 455 200.

CREATIVE CRUISING

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*T&Cs apply

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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Friday 5th July 2019

Cruise360 coverage

CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) has again partnered with **Cruise Weekly** and **Travel Daily** to bring coverage of this year's Cruise360 Australasia conference.

The Business Publishing Group will return as media partner for the 30 Aug event, the cruise industry's peak annual forum for sharing ideas and knowledge.

Subscribers to **TD** and **CW** can keep up to date with all of the breaking Cruise360 news.

Enchanted marker

PRINCESS Cruises last week celebrated the one-year countdown to *Enchanted Princess*' 30 Jun 2020 launch.

Construction on the 3,660-passenger vessel is currently under way at the Fincantieri shipyard in Monfalcone, Italy, before her inaugural Mediterranean season and then a series of Caribbean itineraries.

Highlights on board include two Sky Suites with large balconies, the Take Five jazz lounge, a redesigned Sanctuary area, and more than 25 dining venues and bars such as the French Bistro La Mer and the Crown Grill Steakhouse.



Dreamy discounts

DREAM Cruises has announced a four-day Flash Sale commencing today.

The promotion offers reduced fares on select itineraries in Asia, Australia and New Zealand, with five-night cruises from Singapore starting from only \$642ppts.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Luxurious deep diving



LUXURY cruise operator Seabourn has revealed the details for its new custom submarines that will operate excursions for an additional charge from the line's two upcoming purpose-built expedition ships.

Both *Seabourn Venture* and her yet-to-be-named sister ship will carry two custom-built U-Boat Worx Cruise Sub 7 subs which are capable of plunging to an impressive depth of 300 metres.

Each battery-powered sub is capable of housing six passengers and one helmsman, where guests can explore sunken wrecks, reefs, and view marine wildlife.

"The undersea world is often considered the last great frontier

on Earth, with more than 80% of the underwater realm remaining unmapped, according to the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration," said Robin West, VP of Expedition Operations for Seabourn.

"We're going to take our guests to places that few have ever seen firsthand," he added.

The subs will be outfitted with a host of features such as a 4k underwater video camera system, a six-function manipulator arm able to lift up to 32kg, leather upholstery, air conditioning, a Bluetooth stereo system - and naturally a champagne chiller for guests looking to toast their voyage of discovery.

PRINCESS
ACADEMY

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unwind
time
INTO
island

CLOSING SOON

Register with Princess Academy by 11.59pm AEST 2nd of August, 2019 for the chance to win!*

MAJOR PRIZE: 7-night Western Caribbean Princess Cruise, roundtrip from Ft. Lauderdale, in a Balcony stateroom for 2 on Regal Princess + AUD \$5,000 EZair credit.

MINOR PRIZES:
Win 1 of 10 AUD \$100 Visa gift cards.

*Conditions apply, click through for details. Open to AU & NZ res 18+ who are either: (a) employed as a travel agent for a WLCL registered travel agency in AU/NZ & are not a registered member of Princess Academy as at 1/7/19, or (b) the owner or manager of a travel agency eligible for WLCL registration in AU/NZ that is not a registered member of Princess Academy as at 1/7/19. Ends: 11:59pm AEST on 2/8/19. Limit 1 entry per person. Major Prize winner must take prize to coincide with cruise's departure on 1/12/19. Permits: NSW. LTPS/19/34710, ACT. TP19/03357, SA. T19/793

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Discover all RCI's new Spectrum of the Seas has to offer in the July issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*

Getting cool with Dr Karl



SYDNEY-BASED travel consultant Emily Cai is off to Antarctica with Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, after winning the major prize in World Expeditions' 2019 agent incentive competition.

Cai, from OnlyLuxe Club, sold the most World Expeditions Travel Group holidays to win the prize which is valued at more than \$15,000.

She will have a berth on the 12-day "Antarctic Cruise with Dr Karl" voyage on board the *M/V Ortelius*, along with return airfares and \$500 in spending money.

The active trip offers opportunities such as kayaking, walks and even camping on ice.

In 2020 World Expeditions is repeating its "Big Adventures"

incentive, this time offering travel agents the chance to win an all-expenses paid place on the "ultimate historic journey," a 27-day Silk Route odyssey between Xian, China and Samarkand in Uzbekistan.

The consultant who sells the most World Expeditions Travel Group holidays between 01 Jul 2019 and 30 Jun 2020 will win the prize, travelling in the footsteps of Alexander the Great and Genghis Khan.

The brand portfolio includes World Expeditions, UTracks, Tasmanian Expeditions, Australian Walking Holidays, Sherpa Expeditions, Great Canadian Trails and Adventure South NZ.

Emily is **pictured** accepting her prize from Karl Kruszelnicki.

Just tattoo of us...



SHIP: *Scarlet Lady*, Virgin Voyages.

WHERE'S the action? Squid Ink is the on board tattoo studio where guests can get inked whilst out at sea.

WHERE to find it: Head to Deck 6 and you'll find it on the starboard side next to Stubble + Groom.

MAIN description: When Virgin Voyages' *Scarlet Lady* sets sail in 2020, she will have two full time resident tattoo artists on board, handpicked by ink industry legend Lou Rubino **pictured**.



Body piercing and make-up treatments will also be available.

AGES: Adults only

WHEN: Available to the brave on board the inaugural sailing and beyond departing from Port Miami in Apr 2020.

Asia cruise forum

THE Korean Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries along with the Jeju Special Self Governing Province will host the 2019 Asia Cruise Forum in Jeju, Korea from 28-31 Aug this year.

The event aims to discuss strategies for the joint growth of Asian tourism and the cruise industry, as well as provide opportunities for networking among cruise and tourism professionals from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Organisers are expecting about 80 exhibitors to take part, with the program including the Asia Cruise Awards, plenary sessions on cooperation and balanced growth in the sector, industry trends and a field trip to the Seogwipo Cruise Port.

More at asiacruiseforum.com.

Oceania US portal

OCEANIA Cruises has introduced a new Travel Advisor Center for US-based travel agents, with plans to roll the platform out locally as soon as next month.

Features include marketing tools, sales tips, training and the ability to make and manage reservations, including on-board add ons such as restaurant bookings and shore excursions.

The rollout is part of the brand's ongoing wave of OceaniaNEXT enhancements, with the company saying it hopes to provide travel partners with "the tools and information they need in order to offer their clients best-in-class service".



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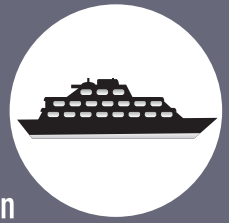
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Need help wading through the huge variety of cruise options out there?

Check out the **2019 Cruise Guide** for a comprehensive tool.

CRUISE WEEKLY Travel Daily **travelBulletin**



Putting *The B* in better



THREE new itineraries have been added for U River Cruises' river ship *The B* which officially relaunches in Apr 2020.

The collection of eight-day itineraries will sail through popular European cities such as Vienna, Brussels, Dusseldorf, Salzburg and Bratislava.

New cruises on offer in 2020 include the Amsterdam & Brussels Bound package, which sails to new destinations for the U brand such as Rotterdam, Middelburg, Ghent and Antwerp.

Also new for *The B* are added value benefits such as overnight stays, complimentary daily happy hour sessions for guests to socialise, and an increased amount of active excursions.

"We're excited to offer three brand new U itineraries in the region for 2020 as *The B* rejoins our fleet," said Ellen Bettridge, President and CEO of U River Cruises and Uniworld.

"U's itineraries are created with active, social and culturally

curious travellers in mind - free time to allow travellers to wander on their own, unique choice of active and immersive excursions with local hosts, and a vibrant onboard environment.

For further booking information, visit www.ubyuniworld.com.

MSC as easy as ABC

MSC Cruises has released more details of its new range of kids' and teenager entertainment options debuting on board *MSC Grandiosa* in Nov, including dance competitions, drone races and role playing games.

The MSC Dance Crew allows kids aged 12-17 to battle it out for the prestigious title of "Dance Crew of The Year," while The Drone Academy runs drone races through challenging obstacles.

Also available is Spy Mission which gives children the opportunity to solve an on board mystery to win prizes.

"The growing number of teens sailing with us...has driven our development of exciting new teen-focused entertainment," said the line's Children's Entertainment Manager Matteo Mancini.



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings' top achievers from Australia and NZ are probably only just coming back to earth, after earlier this week enjoying three days at Emirates One&Only Wolgan Valley Resort (**CW** 03 Jul).

As well as business updates and plenty of networking there were opportunities to experience lots of the local wildlife - so much so that eCruising chief Brett Dudley decided to take home one of his furry new friends (**below**).



Another highlight of the NCLH retreat was the impeccable Wolgan Valley cuisine, with President, International Harry Sommer

pictured tucking into just a few of the sweet treats on offer for dessert.



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