

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Cruise.co**.

Cruise.co jolly deals

CRUISE.CO has revealed details of its new unique collection of bespoke Christmas packages.

The all-inclusive offers are available exclusively for Cruise.co Members.

See **back page** for more.

MSC clarification

MSC Cruises is currently offering agents a 20% discount on all cruises, not on select cruises as was reported in **Cruise Weekly** on 14 Jun.

Black out periods of Xmas, New Years, and Easter applies - call 1300 028 502 for more.

Managing cruise dreams carefully

DREAM Cruises has revealed it is "highly sensitive" to the growing problem of overtourism in the cruise sector, adopting a range of initiatives such as opening up new destinations.

Speaking to **Cruise Weekly** this week, Dream Cruises President and Managing Director of Crystal Cruises Asia Thatcher Brown said that taking the pressure off popular cruise destinations was an important factor in combating the problem.

Dream has recently widened its scope of destinations to include MacLeod Island (**pictured**), Bintan Island, and Laoag, among others.

"By doing so we have created new and unique options and variety for our guests, dispersing and overcoming overcrowding-related issues," Brown said.

"We continue to work closely with the regional and local stakeholders to manage and



minimise overcrowding in targeted destinations, as well as introduce itineraries that complement the destinations," he added.

When asked what methods cruise brands should deploy to help address overtourism, Brown conceded there is no quick fix.

"As overtourism is a long-term problem that requires long-term strategies and solutions, it's an important topic that deserves attention from the cruise lines," he said.

"It's vital for relevant stakeholders to identify the potential destinations that face overtourism and initiate steps to get travellers from various travel industries to sprawl out and avoid tourism choke points for selected destinations."

Brown also suggested cruise dispersal strategies should take into account seasonal considerations, as well as marketing campaigns that shift demand to slower periods or towards less known destinations.

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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Monday 17th June 2019



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A&K Nile cruise ship

ABERCROMBIE & Kent (A&K) revealed that it will launch a new river ship to service cruises on the Nile in Egypt towards the end of 2020 or early 2021.

Speaking at the luxury operator's recent trade show in Sydney, A&K's Managing Director for Egypt and the Middle East Amr Badr said river cruising on The Nile had shown strong signs of growth in recent years.

"A lot of new and refurbished ships are getting built for the Nile," Badr said.

"[Our A&K ship] will exhibit safety, experience, hospitality and the type of itineraries we do are also very different to our competitors," he added.

The news follows Viking Cruises' decision to launch a new vessel on the Nile in Sep 2020 (CW 03 May 2019).

P&O goes for bigger laughs



P&O Cruises has announced the return of its The Big Laugh event in Jun 2020, boasting a longer line up of comedians than any previous years.

The three-night comedy festival returns for a third consecutive season, this year featuring 13 comedians and 32 shows for a combined 1,500 minutes' worth of jokes on board *Pacific Explorer*.

"There's a choice of larger-

than-life performances in The Marquee, to more intimate gigs in the ship's many stylish bars and lounges with something for every type of comedy fan," said P&O Cruises Head of Entertainment Brett Annable.

The Big Laugh on *Pacific Explorer* departs Sydney on 05 Jun, 2020, with fares starting from \$499ppts. Call 13 24 94 for further info.

Pictured: Last year's festival.

Magna Carta 2020

EUROPEAN Waterways has announced it is now taking 2020 bookings for its cruises on board the *Magna Carta* hotel barge sailing the River Thames following the sellout of its 2019 cruises.

The sailings feature a tour of England's Highclere Castle, the setting for the popular period drama *Downton Abbey*, with the premier of a film version of the show later this year believed to have contributed to the rapid sales.

Guests on the river cruises have the opportunity to tour through many of the rooms seen on the show, as well as explore the estate's expansive parkland area.

Prices for the river sailings start at €3,950 (AU\$6,442) per person twin share.

For booking information on the cruise call 1800 828 050.


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Silversea ups expertise



SILVERSEA Cruises has added another Expedition Expert to its roster with Bill Davis (pictured) joining the cruise line in the role of Vice President Expedition Operations and Development. Davis will oversee Silversea's expanding expedition

operations, assisting with the development of new programs and managing the line's expedition field staff and Silversea Expedition Academy, which recruits and trains top industry talent. He commenced his role 01 Jun.

SEA Cloud Cruises has released the details for its first itineraries aboard its upcoming *Sea Cloud Spirit* due to launch in 2020.

The 136-passenger tall ship will service a range of cruise routes commencing in Aug 2020 in regions such as Southern Europe, North Africa and the Caribbean.

Highlights of the program include a 13-night voyage from Lisbon to Rome, passing through the Strait of Gibraltar, stopping overnight in the Spanish port city of Malaga, and sailing through tropical Ibiza in the Mediterranean.

Also on offer is a seven-night cruise from Casablanca to Las Palmers in The Canary Islands,

visiting Santa Cruz in Tenerife and the popular island of San Sebastian along the way.

The deck plan for the new *Sea Cloud Spirit* shows amenities such as a restaurant with 180° views, a wellness spa, fitness area, four Zodiacs, wi-fi, swimming platform, and a sundeck with sunlounges.

The vessel is comprised of 69 cabins, featuring 22 junior suites and three owner suites, with included services on board ranging from a welcome bottle of Champagne on arrival, a five-course gala dinner, all port fees, use of water sports facilities, and welcome and farewell cocktails.

Check out further details for the 2020 program online **HERE**.

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*Offers correct as of 14 June 2019 and are subject to change or withdrawal. Offer ends 30 June 2019 unless extended. For full terms and conditions click here.

NCL NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE *Feel Free*



CRUISE

WEEKLY

Monday 17th June 2019

See why NCL's new *Joy* is perfect for Aussies heading to Alaska in June issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*



End donkey rides?

WITH the Greek island of Santorini about to commence its peak cruise season, PETA activists have descended on Greek consulates around the world to protest the donkey-riding industry.

Sydney was among the cities hit by demonstrations which are protesting against tourists taking donkey rides to the town of Fira, despite a cable car available for the trip.

A new law passed this year prevents owners from burdening their donkeys with weights exceeding 100kg.



Dreaming of the Best



DREAM Cruises and Chef Mark Best have teamed up again, this time at the ARC Dining and Wine Bar in Brisbane to deliver a four-course menu to 40 travel industry and media guests.

Best worked alongside ARC Head Chef Alanna Sapwell and award-winning sommelier Ian Trinkle, while Dream VP, Brigita Devries showcased *Explorer Dream's* upcoming Australian and New Zealand deployment, which departs from Brisbane.

Round trips from Brisbane are available on six-, seven- and eight-night sailings, and start from \$601 per person.

Port calls include Sunshine Coast, Sydney, Newcastle, Gladstone and Mooloolaba.

Other sailings are one-way between Brisbane and Sydney and Newcastle to Brisbane.

Pictured is Brigita Devries, Mark Best and Dream Cruises Sales Manager Queensland & NT, Kjirsten Trundle.

Eclipsing creativity

CELEBRITY Cruises is offering an eight-night sailing to the travel agent who can in 25 words or less describe the best way to have the ultimate Melbourne experience.

The competition is running to mark the impending arrival of *Celebrity Eclipse* in the city, with the most creative answer scoring a cruise for two people aboard *Celebrity Eclipse* in a luxury balcony stateroom.

Eclipse is scheduled to arrive in Melbourne in 2021 fresh from a major multimillion-dollar renovation in Dec 2020.

Entries are due by 28 Jun and should be submitted **HERE**.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	18 Jun
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	19 Jun
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Expeditions 1</i>	20 Jun
<i>Silver Discoverer</i>	23 Jun
HOBART	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	20 Jun
AUCKLAND	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	21 Jun

Carnival sued after death of passenger

CARNIVAL Cruise Line failed to let a dying passenger off a ship docked in Grand Turk late last year, according to allegations filed by the deceased man's family in Miami federal court.

The family of American man Jeffrey Eisenman is bringing the claim against the cruise line for what they claim was "negligence" and causing "intentional distress", alleging the ship's doctor diagnosed the passenger as having suffered a "major heart attack" but did not allow him to leave the ship despite the family's insurance covering the cost of an air ambulance.

Carnival strenuously denies the allegations, stating "Our onboard medical team followed all proper procedures to attend to a guest who became critically ill very quickly, including liaising with the local hospital which was not equipped to handle his condition".



SEND in the ships.

Tokyo has called on cruise lines to provide both extra spectators and extra accommodation for next year's Olympic Games.

Royal Caribbean, Princess Cruises and MSC all have scheduled visits, but with 10 million visitors expected for the Games, the city is taking a leaf out of both Rio de Janeiro and London's books, where cruise ships were used as extra accommodation for visitors.

An hotel room shortfall of about 14,000 is expected, despite new hotels from Hyatt, Koe, Henn-na, Kimpton and Nohga opening.

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Norwegian Cruise Line | Norwegian Jade

Prices from **\$5,535pp*** twin share

Prices are per person, twin share and are subject to change. Correct as at 12 June 2019.

Contact Sales at sales@cruiseeco.com.au to find out more about the Christmas Collection and other exclusive Member benefits.