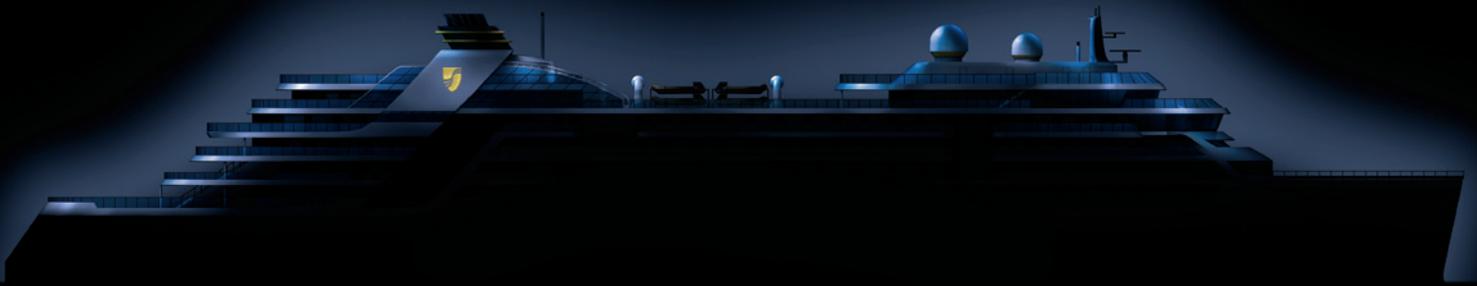




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Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover wrap from **Seabourn**.

Extraordinary expeditions

SEABOURN is reminding agents to check out its new handcrafted itineraries on board its ultra-luxury expeditions ships in 2021/22.

Bookings open in spring 2019 for trips on the PC6 ice-strengthened-hull vessels.

See **cover page** for more.

MEANWHILE Seabourn is offering \$120,000 worth of cruise and air credit as part of a new agent incentive.

To be eligible to score prizes agents must book and deposit a Seabourn cruise before 31 Mar 2019 and enter their booking details **HERE**.

Push back on proposed cruise tax

CLIA Australasia has joined with other shipping organisations in condemning the planned Biosecurity Imports Levy which could adversely affect Australia's cruise industry.

The tax was originally formulated by the Australian Government to target the sea freight sector, however the plan has since been recalibrated to encompass the cruise sector, a move that could negatively affect the cruise sector as soon as Jul.

Joining the chorus of voices from both shipping and business in criticising the government's move, **CLIA Australasia** Managing Director Joel Katz said "Extending this new tax to the cruise industry has come as a complete surprise and without proper consultation".

"Travellers are already taxed heavily through measures like the \$60 Passenger Movement Charge, which is already used to fund



passenger-related biosecurity activities," he added.

Katz also believes the levy could be applied to cruise ships upon each arrival into Australia on a gross tonnage basis and would disproportionately impact the cruise industry.

"Costs for cruise lines operating in Australia are among the highest in the world and any new charge will further disadvantage

our industry at a time when it is facing significant infrastructure constraints," he said.

CLIA has responded by calling upon the Australian Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, David Littleproud, to rule out any additional levy on cruising, and is also seeking support from the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Simon Birmingham, to help reverse the proposal.

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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Monday 4th March 2019

Tauck solo savings

LUXURY river cruise operator Tauck has announced the details of a new special savings offer for solo travellers in 2019.

The company revealed it has now eliminated the single supplement on its Category 1 European riverboat cabins, waiving the supplement entirely for those cabins on each departure of every river cruise itinerary for the coming year.

In addition, Tauck is also reducing the single supplement by \$1,250 on other selected cabin categories for 54 departures on 17 separate river itineraries.

For North American itineraries, Tauck has taken up to \$380 off the single supplement on 69 departures.

Within its Exotics portfolio, the cruise line has also reduced the supplement by up to \$750 on 33 departures.

For more information on the range of savings, [CLICK HERE](#).

Very Joyful dancing

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has announced that the Tony Award nominated musical *Footloose*, along with the aerial acrobatics show, *Elements*, and the wine-tasting comedy, *Wine Lovers: The Musical*, will be featured on *Norwegian Joy*, the 15th ship in its fleet which will begin sailing to Alaska this May.

"We are very excited to showcase *Footloose*, a feel-good, positive show that encourages people to embrace new ideas, stand up for what they believe in and dance their hearts out," said Norwegian Cruise Line President and CEO Andy Stuart.

Her first seven-day, round-trip Alaska sailing from Seattle, Washington will be on 04 May, where she will call to both Glacier Bay and Icy Strait Point during her inaugural season.

Lindblad's new polar ship



LINDBLAD Expeditions has announced the signing of an agreement with Norwegian shipbuilder Ulstein to construct a new polar vessel, expanding its National Geographic polar fleet to a total of four ships.

The ship is scheduled for delivery in late 2021 and like its upcoming sister ship *National Geographic Endeavour* due to launch in 2020, will accommodate 126 passengers in 69 spacious guest cabins.

"*Endurance*...has been met with considerable excitement from both our existing guest community and those new to Lindblad-National Geographic, and we are confident that its sister ship will garner the same level of enthusiasm," said

Lindblad Expeditions President and CEO Sven Lindblad.

"These two ships will represent a whole new level of capability in expedition cruising," he added.

The majority of cabins on the new polar ship will feature private balconies and "observation wings" to maximise the view of the outside scenery.

With regard to land access, the ship will be equipped with a range of tools in which to explore the shorelines such as a Zodiac loading system allowing for faster access to shore, kayaks, cross-country skis, a remotely operated vehicle, hydrophones, a video microscope, and underwater video cameras.

Further features will be revealed over the coming months.

Pictured: Render of new ship.

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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Monday 4th March 2019

NCLH bullish on growth



Dream becomes reality



DREAM Cruises recently held launch parties across Australia to celebrate the inaugural local deployment of newly acquired ship *Explorer Dream*.

Formerly the *SuperStar Virgo*, the ship is currently undergoing a US\$50 million upgrade to bring her up to a more “premium quality” standard before servicing local cruises starting in winter.

To celebrate the sailings from Brisbane, Sydney and Auckland, cocktail parties in both Brisbane and the Gold Coast were held and attended by prominent members of the cruise industry.

Pictured celebrating are Kjirsten Trundle, Dream Cruises; Rose Febo; Jillian Twigg; Wendy Ellis; Sara Birtwhistle; Terri Dillon; and Christie Gowan, Travel Managers.

A SLOWING growth rate within the Australian market is posing few concerns for Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) which will bolster its fleet by a record number over the next eight years through to 2027.

Speaking to *Cruise Weekly* during his trip to Australia, Harry Sommer, President International for NCLH said that the 11 new ship builds were the most there have been on order, with Norwegian Cruise Line set to add seven to its fleet, Oceania to add two and Regent also adding two more vessels.

“We’re very bullish on the market and we’ve been able to absorb quite well the additional capacity as it comes in,” Sommer

said, despite the growth rate slowing to 4.4% in 2017, down from 21% the year prior according to CLIA cruise industry ocean source market reports for Australia.

“I think you need to bifurcate the market into two because of the issues that Sydney has with port infrastructure,” Sommer said.

“It’s near impossible to grow the local source market.”

“There’s no limitation on the fly cruise market, there’s plenty of lift out of SYD, BNE and MEL into Europe which is where we’re moving our guests so we don’t see any limitation to our growth.”

Sommer concludes his visit to Australia later this week.

Pictured: *Norwegian Jewel*.

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Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	04 Mar
<i>Insignia</i>	04 Mar
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	04 Mar
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	05 Mar
<i>Amsterdam</i>	05 Mar
<i>Sun Princess</i>	05 Mar
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	06 Mar
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	07 Mar
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	08 Mar
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	08 Mar
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	09 Mar
<i>Viking Orion</i>	09 Mar
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	09 Mar
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	10 Mar

MELBOURNE	
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	07 Mar
<i>Viking Orion</i>	07 Mar
<i>Costa Luminosa</i>	09 Mar
<i>Golden Princess</i>	10 Mar

BRISBANE	
<i>Europa</i>	05 Mar
<i>Insignia</i>	06 Mar
<i>Sun Princess</i>	07 Mar
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	08 Mar
<i>Sea Princess</i>	10 Mar

CAIRNS	
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	07 Mar
<i>Europa</i>	08 Mar
<i>Insignia</i>	09 Mar
<i>Amsterdam</i>	10 Mar

DARWIN	
<i>Queen Victoria</i>	08 Mar

FREMANTLE	
<i>Astor</i>	10 Mar

ADELAIDE	
<i>Astor</i>	04 Mar
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	05 Mar
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	09 Mar

HOBART	
<i>Viking Orion</i>	05 Mar
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	06 Mar
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	06 Mar
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	10 Mar

Cunard sharpens image



LUXURY cruise line Cunard has recruited a team of globally-recognised designers to create the interiors for its new ship due to join the fleet in 2022.

The team of creatives include Simon Rawlings from David Collins Studio, Terry McGillicuddy from Richmond International and Sybille de Margerie from Sybille de Margerie Paris, all of whom will join the ship's Creative Director Adam D Tihany.

"The calibre of talent we have brought together for this project will bring to life our vision of creating a truly world class ship,"

said Cunard President Simon Palethorpe.

"Working alongside the legendary Adam D Tihany, the team is working hard to ensure that every aspect of our new ship is exciting," he added.

The team has been assigned the task of designing a "show stopping atrium", the Grand Lobby, the Queens Grill Suites, the main dining room, theatre area and retail spaces, to mention only a few.

Pictured: Simon Rawlings, Adam D Tihany, Sybille de Margerie, and Terry McGillicuddy.

European Waterways pops another cork

EUROPEAN Waterways has unveiled its latest itinerary upgrades on the 12-passenger *Panache*, whose Champagne Cruises in May and Jun are among the company's "bubliest experiences".

The 2019 itinerary includes the addition of exclusive V.I.P. experiences at houses such as Moët & Chandon and Henriot.

Panache's Champagne Cruises features a private tour of Moët & Chandon's underground cellar and an exclusive tasting of some of their vintages hosted by an experienced cellar master.

Additionally, guests will tour the vineyard and learn about grape production and selection before being treated to a visit of a nearby village for a private tour of the winery's 18th century Chateau Les Aulnois - **CLICK HERE** for more information.

Braithwaite concert

AZAMARA Club Cruises will offer a free Daryl Braithwaite concert during an overnight stay in Darwin as part of its 14-night Australia and Indonesia Voyage.

The Aussie singer known for the iconic tune *Horses* will entertain passengers sailing on board *Azamara Quest* on 12 Mar, in line with the cruise line's "AzAmazing Evenings" program.



THERE are times in life when you'd prefer to be in the hot seat, just ask Texan grandma Judith Streng who recently found herself floating at sea on a throne-shaped iceberg.

Clambering on top of the floating frozen ice chunk in Jokulsarlon, Iceland, Streng asked her son to take a snap of her "iceberg queen" moment.

However, a sudden wave sent her on an inadvertent journey into the ocean before being rescued by the coast guard.

"When I got on it started to totter and a wave was coming in...I always wanted to be a queen. I mean, come on, that was my chance," Streng said.

