

Travel Daily 



Sustainability
AWARDS

**Travel Daily
2019 Travel & Tourism
Sustainability Awards**

The awards recognising leaders and excellence in sustainable travel practices.

If your business is leading the way when it comes to sustainability, enter now!

Entries close 12/04/2019.

CATEGORIES

- Culture & Communities
- City based business / operation
- Coast, Coastal business or operation
- Ocean or ocean based cruise operator
- Land, land based supplier or hotel/resort
- River or river based cruise operator
- Ecotourism
- Airline

[Click to enter](#)

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover wrap from **Sustainability Awards**.

Sustainable gongs

ENTRIES for *Travel Daily's* inaugural Travel and Tourism Sustainability Awards to be held in Sydney close on 12 Apr. The one-day event will recognise the best performers in sustainable travel practices and includes categories such as Ecotourism, ocean cruise operators and river-based cruise operators.

For more info and a full list of categories, see **cover page**.

Royal ANZ trips

ROYAL Caribbean International has launched over 20 new shore excursions across the South Pacific, Australia and New Zealand.

The new adventures range from deep sea diving in Vanuatu and helicopter expeditions in New Zealand, to cultural experiences in South Pacific villages.

Highlights include the half-day Rewa Village Tour and Kava Ceremony, which begins with a drive through the city of Suva by local bus and includes photo opportunities of the Suva Harbour and Lathala Bay.

Guests will then arrive at local village Rewa, where they will partake in a traditional Kava ceremony with the village chief and Fijian warriors.

Additionally, the Stand Up Paddle Boarding tour starts with a boat ride to Aneityum, Vanuatu's southernmost isle, where guests will explore on a guided stand up paddle boarding adventure.

For further details about the trips, **CLICK HERE**.

Princess orders ships on the double

PRINCESS Cruises has announced that it will be adding two new next-generation ships to its fleet in 2023 and 2025.

The cruise line signed an agreement with Italian shipbuilder Fincantieri to construct the pair of 175,000 tonne dual-fuel powered LNG vessels, and will constitute the largest ships to be built in Italy.

A memorandum agreement between the two companies was signed last Jul to build the duo of vessels (**CW** 24 Jul), with both ships to accommodate 4,300 passengers and be based on a next-generation platform design.

"Princess Cruises continues to grow globally - adding new ships to our fleet built by our long-time trusted ship building partner, Fincantieri, who brings decades of expertise to these next-generation cruise ships," said Princess Cruises President Jan Swartz.

"Even more exciting is that these two ships are being designed to include our MedallionClass platform, powered by OceanMedallion,



Pictured: *Regal Princess*.

the most advanced wearable device available within the global hospitality industry," she added.

The new technology enables guests to communicate with the crew via a more personalised means and also enables access to interactive entertainment.

OceanMedallion is currently available on board *Caribbean Princess* and *Regal Princess*.

Fincantieri's CEO Giuseppe Bono also commended the deal, heaping praise on the ongoing business relationships between the shipyard and Princess Cruises.

"For Princess Cruises we have

received orders for 21 ships, another unprecedented result in this industry," he said.

Princess Cruises now has five ships being constructed over the next six years.

Virgin once again sings a different tune

VIRGIN Voyages has announced a new music experience for guests called sonic identity, an area on board *Scarlet Lady* offering a record shop and karaoke lounge.

The record store will feature personal listening stations and limited-edition vinyl collections, while passengers will also be able to book the Japanese-style karaoke space called The Groupie.

In further musical announcements, Virgin Voyages has also revealed it has added two new DJ acts to its roster of residents, with MK (Marc Kinchen) and electronic duo Sofi Tukker coming on board to perform both on the ship and in land destinations such as the cruise line's Beach Club at Bimini.

Music has formed a dominant trope for the new cruise brainchild of human headline Richard Branson, with Virgin Voyages making great efforts to tie back to the parent company's musical roots.



AZAMARA CLUB CRUISES
Royal Caribbean INTERNATIONAL
Celebrity X Cruises
SAIL BEYOND

SUMMER OF CONSULTANT Rewards

FINAL DAYS TO CLAIM

EARN POINTS FOR EVERY BOOKING AND REDEEM REWARDS*

+ ENTER THE RUNNING TO WIN 1 OF 3 INCREDIBLE CRUISE PRIZES*

CLAIM NOW

*Terms and Conditions Apply. Incentive period is 11 December to 31 March 2019. Visit the website for further information.

CRUISE

WEEKLY

Friday 29th March 2019

Discover the delights of the Mekong River in the April issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read
travelBulletin



Croatia is cheaper

CRUISE Croatia has announced guests can save up to \$1,000 on cruise tours departing Jun through to Aug.

Highlights include the 17-day Italy and Croatia by Land and Sea itinerary, taking passengers through Venice, Tuscany, Dubrovnik and Dalmatia from \$7,730ppts, departing Sep.

The shorter eight-day cruise from Dubrovnik to Split is now priced from \$2,140ppts for departures in Jun, Jul and Aug.

For more info, **CLICK HERE**.

Expedition “very strong”: Silversea

THE Australian expedition cruise market has performed very well in the last 12 months for Silversea, according to the cruise line’s Senior VP Expeditions and Destinations Conrad Combrink.

“We’ve added plenty of additional capacity and new product and we also have a very strong following in Australia,” Combrink said.

“At one stage Australia was our second largest market...a couple of years back we dropped down to third but we’re now back to number two so we are very encouraged by that,” he added.

Combrink was in Sydney this week to brief the media on the Silversea’s first ever expedition world cruise launching in 2021.

“The reaction from the market [for the expedition world cruise] has far exceeded our expectations...if you combine our confirmed bookings and options we are over 50% sold,” he said.

“We opened it up but only for those interested in the full world cruise...then towards next year we will open up the segments - but only if there’s spots left.”

The 167-day Uncharted World Tour expedition cruise departs



Argentina on 30 Jan 2021 on board the company’s *Silver Cloud* vessel and visits a mammoth 30 countries and 107 ports.

Combrink also noted that Silversea had been able to pursue a more aggressive expansion strategy since Royal Caribbean acquired a 66.7% equity stake in the business (**CW** 19 Jun 2018), but not at the expense of the brand’s identity he explains.

“It hasn’t changed our DNA, we still have that family approach... both companies have very similar values, so the synergies between the two made the partnership a perfect fit,” he said.

“We’ve always known that we needed to expand in both expedition and in classic and we

had reached the ceiling...with the financial backing of Royal Caribbean International that has made it possible to accelerate our expansion,” he added.

Looking to the future, Combrink said the company had “quite a few announcements coming out in the next few months,” with renderings of its highly anticipated expedition ship *Silver Origin* also to be released in the next few weeks.

“We signed off on the exterior of the ship last week and it’s absolutely gorgeous...this is the first time in Silversea’s history we have built a purpose-built expedition ship and it has allowed us to do things we’ve never done before and really raise the bar.”



AS THE old maritime expression goes, a captain always goes down with the ship, but what if you could go down with the ship as an inquisitive tourist?

Well now you can thanks to OceanGate Expeditions, and not just to visit any old vessel, the famously ill-fated *Titanic*.

Tickets to go down and see the iconic shipwreck will set you back US\$168,000, & will include a journey 3.8km under the Atlantic’s surface riding inside the aptly-named Titan sub.

Talk about making sure you seek a “deeper” understanding of your cruise destination!



Scenic’s new app

SCENIC Luxury Cruises & Tours has launched a new app called Tailormade that offers a range of independent audio tours, daily cruise programs, a Travel Guide Book, plus full listings of Scenic Freechoice and Enrich excursions.

The app is free to download, for info **CLICK HERE**.

RSSC discounts

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has kicked off its “Exhilarating Escapes to Asia and the South Pacific” campaign, offering guests the chance to save up to 25% on trips, as well as a reduced deposit of 10%.

The deal is available to book until 31 Mar, for more info see www.rssc.com/specials.

Alaska fly free deal

LINDBLAD Expeditions-National Geographic is offering a “fly free to Alaska” deal for travellers booking its 14-day “Treasures of the Inside Package” itinerary.

The journey departs on 06 and 12 May, to find out more information call Adventure World on 1300 363 055.

CRUISE
WEEKLY

www.cruiseweekly.com.au

Cruise Weekly is part of the Business Publishing Group family of publications.

Cruise Weekly is Australia’s leading travel industry cruise publication.

EDITORIAL

Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper
Senior Journalist – Nicholas O’Donoghue
Contributors – Adam Bishop, Sarah Fairburn, Jasmine O’Donoghue, Anastasia Prikhodko
info@cruiseweekly.com.au

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan, Hoda Alzubaidi and Melanie Tchakmadjian
advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au

BUSINESS MANAGER

Jenny Piper
accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au

Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd
Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia
PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia
Tel: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760)

Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter - *Travel & Cruise Weekly* - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.

Travel Daily
travelBulletin
business events news
Pharmacy
Daily

Cruise Weekly is a publication of Cruise Weekly Pty Ltd ABN 73 123 041 485. All content fully protected by copyright. Please obtain written permission to reproduce any material. While every care has been taken in the preparation of the newsletter no liability can be accepted for errors or omissions. Information is published in good faith to stimulate independent investigation of the matters canvassed. Responsibility for editorial comment is taken by Bruce Piper.