

Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news and full pages from:

- Tauck
- Viking

Scenic all inclusive

TO ALIGN with Scenic's Europe River Cruising brochure, the tour operator has brought back its "Included Flights for All to Europe" offer.

The deal includes flights to Europe "all year, in all suites, on all rivers, on all cruises of 11 days or longer" and offers guests "true customer benefits and unprecedented certainty".

Highlights include the 15-day Jewels of Europe itinerary from Amsterdam to Budapest and the 11-day Normandy & Gems on the Seine trip - for info, call Scenic on 138 128.

Cruise sector needs to do more: Skjeldam

SPEAKING at *Travel Daily's* inaugural Sustainability Summit in Sydney yesterday, Hurtigruten CEO Daniel Skjeldam, **pictured**, emphasised that the cruise industry needs to invest more resources towards sustainability.

"There are some bright lights out there, but at the moment it is not so hard to be a frontrunner in the cruise industry - I wish it was a lot, lot harder," Skjeldam told the audience.

"There are a lot of players who are unfortunately still just talking about sustainability, but we are making real changes to our operations," he added.

One major area of focus for improvement Skjeldam believes is how cruise brands engage with local communities they visit.

"We see the effects of overtourism on villages and towns that ships visit, it is not a pleasant sight to have a big ship



unload 6,000 people in a small community of 2,000...that is not the way to drive tourism in the future," he said.

"It's very important to take the local value chain seriously... we are making sure that we buy local produce from the local communities, we also collaborate with them throughout the year and ask 'how can we make your business a full year operation?'"

Skjeldam said that the cruise industry also needs to undertake more action on climate change.

"We have made a huge investment in making the world's first hybrid ships and I can tell you it's not cheap...but we are willing to make the investment because we want to drive everyone else to do the same as us," he said.

"If we can prove it is possible...& others do it, we'll be very happy."

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CRUISE

WEEKLY

Wednesday 1st May 2019

Botanica sessions

BOTANICA World

Discoveries is hosting a series of information sessions on its range of 2019 and 2020 tours and cruises.

Sessions will take place in Brisbane on 13 May; Melbourne on 14 May; Mornington Peninsula on 15 May; Sydney on 21 May, and Canberra on 22 May.

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

May Madness deal

VIKING Cruises is today promoting its May Madness incentive, offering agents the chance to earn triple Viking Rewards points on all bookings made until 31 May.

The cruise line is also reminding agents about its Dare to Dream Eurovision Contest - see [page six](#) for info.

Evergreen's Japan

EVERGREEN Cruises and Tours has launched a new tour into Japan for 2020.

The 14-day Japan Encompassed tour takes guests to see the sights of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto, as well as the chance to explore the world heritage-listed village of Shirakawa-go and the Peace Memorial Museum in Hiroshima.

Earlybird deals are available until 31 Jul, or until sold out, and include two-for-one airfares, dollar discounts of up to \$550 per person, solo traveller discount of 50% off Economy class airfares, as well as savings of up to \$800 per couple with Evergreen's "Early Payment Discounts".

For more information, phone Evergreen Cruises and Tours on 1300 383 747 or visit the website [HERE](#).

Silversea's stunning summer



SILVERSEA Cruises has opened an exclusive pre-sale for Venetian members on its 2020/2021 summer voyages, which includes a selection of 54 new trips.

The itineraries comprise of journeys on board *Silver Muse*, *Silver Shadow*, *Silver Spirit*, and *Silver Moon*, showcasing the Caribbean, Asia, South America as well as Australia.

Travellers can enjoy included round-trip Economy class flights, or reduced Business class upgrades, plus transfers on the majority of voyages in the new collection.

"Our new summer 2020/2021 voyages will form strong

connections between our guests and the world's most amazing destinations, as they enjoy immersive, authentic experiences," said Barbara Muckermann, CMO for Silversea.

"Enjoying the best service at sea, fine cuisine with menus that will adapt to take guests deeper into visited cultures, and the unparalleled comfort of our intimate ships, our guests will journey closer to the authentic beauty of the world in luxury."

Silver Muse will sail from Sydney on a combined three voyages, completing a 50-day circumnavigation on 31 Oct 2020.

Pictured: *Silver Muse*.



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Three more for Heritage



©J.Hoflehner, Heritage Expeditions

EXPEDITION cruise company, Heritage Expeditions has announced the return of its polar exploration vessel, *Akademik Shokalskiy*, just in time for its 2019/2020 southern program.

The arrival of the ship back to the region coincides with the launch of three new voyages for the cruise operator, including a 30-day Ross Sea adventure "In the Wake of Scott Shackleton", a 13-day Australia and New Zealand subantarctic islands explorer, "Galapagos of the Southern Ocean", as well as the 25-day East Antarctic Odyssey "In the Wake of Mawson".

"As one of the few remaining companies still offering true, small ship exploration our voyages tend to fill quickly, often 12 months and more in advance," said Heritage Expeditions General Manager David Bowen.

"By bringing *Akademik Shokalskiy* back we are able to alleviate the disappointment of these guests who missed out on getting down to the ice and the Subantarctic Islands of New Zealand and Australia this season, as well as introduce an exciting new East Antarctic expedition."

The *Akademik Shokalskiy* was originally built in 1984 for polar and oceanographic research, and is fully ice strengthened.

She has capacity for up to 50 guests in a series of cabins and suites, all with outside portholes or windows.

The ship's common areas include large open decks, two dining rooms, a digitally equipped lecture room, sauna, library, lounge and bar with 24-hour access to complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits.

Pictured: *Akademik Shokalskiy*.

Royal Caribbean cuts steel on fifth Oasis

GLOBAL cruise line Royal Caribbean International has celebrated the cutting of the steel of its fifth Oasis Class ship, scheduled to be delivered in 2021.

The ceremony, which took place at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, France, marks the official construction of the vessel, which will combine features from other Oasis sister ships including new experiences, imaginative dining, updated entertainment & the latest technology.



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present

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Yokohama calling

THE Japanese city of Yokohama welcomed four cruise ships in one day across three terminals last Sat, delivering close to 15,000 passengers to the port.

The city is expected to welcome 190 vessels throughout 2019, up from the 168 which docked last year.

Tauck's Xmas fun

TAUCK River Cruising is today promoting three of its 2019 Christmas packages.

Passengers can choose from the Christmas Markets Along the Danube itinerary, the Christmas Markets Along the Rhine adventure, or the Holiday Magic Danube Family River Cruise - see **page five**.

Azamara launches 2021/2022 global trips

AZAMARA Club Cruises has revealed details of its global 2021 and early 2022 cruise program, which features brand new destinations, additional overnight experiences and new Grand Voyages.

New ports in the program include Amami in Japan; Arica in Chile; Brest in France; Australia's Fraser Island; Guayaquil and Manta in Ecuador; Milos and Pylos in Greece; Tema in Ghana, and Warrenpoint in Northern Ireland.

New Grand Voyages where guests can book back-to-back sailings across the globe also feature in the program - for info, **CLICK HERE**.

RIVERNotes
April 2019

UNIWORLD
BOUTIQUE RIVER CRUISE COLLECTION
You deserve the best

Welcome to RiverNotes, our new monthly highlights column dedicated to keeping you, our valued trade partners, up to date. Each month you'll find a mix of new ship information, promotional offers, trade related initiatives and new product offerings. In this edition we celebrate the launch of our latest masterpiece, the newly re-imagined S.S Bon Voyage in Bordeaux, as well as our 2020 European voyages air offer, Let's Fly Away.

HIGHLIGHTS

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Highlights from the 18th annual CLIA cruise industry awards in the April issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*



Mykonos luxe life

THE Myconian Collection is offering guests the chance to cruise across to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Delos, located south west of Mykonos, Greece.

Guests will set sail from Mykonos on a private yacht, with the chance to view the statues, ancient houses and temples situated on the island, with local insights provided by an experienced tour guide.

For more info, visit myconiancollection.gr.

Norwegian Joy's new look



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line showed off her most recently renovated ship last weekend, inviting *Cruise Weekly* on board *Norwegian Joy's* inaugural US sailing.

Joy was purpose-built for the Chinese market but underwent a US\$50 million renovation at the end of last year to make her almost identical to her sister-ship, *Norwegian Bliss*.

The two vessels will now both sail Alaska for the 2019 season.

Some of the major changes for *Joy* from her Chinese version include new carpet across the entire ship, the addition of more bars and dining venues, the removal



of some of the casino space and shopping areas and the inclusion of more pools in the place of what used to be an outdoor garden used for tai-chi.

The new *Joy* also features the production of *Footloose*, the first time the musical has been shown at sea.

Like *Bliss*, *Joy* has a race track and laser tag, along with the Haven accommodation.

Pictured above is the Galaxy Pavilion, **inset above** is the Observation Lounge which includes a Starbucks and **inset left** is part of the Waterfront, a series of dining venues with both inside and outside seating.

See more pictures from our ship tour on Facebook **HERE**.



THERE'S nothing quite like celebrating a 50th milestone by welcoming a lovable new friend into the family.

To commemorate 50 years of sailing to Alaska, Princess Cruises has introduced the oh-so-cuddly McKinley the Moose to its cruising community, a plush character friend who joins the brand's original mascot, Stanley the Bear.

Passengers can meet McKinley, or "Mac" as his fans prefer to call him, on all 2019 Alaska sailings starting this month - a true honour, make no "moose-take".



AUSTRALIAN CRUISE ASSOCIATION
ACA UPDATE
with Jill Abel - CEO

ACA Conference to Geelong

IN RECOGNITION of the important role regional destinations play in the growth of Australia's cruise industry, we are excited to be holding our annual conference in Geelong this year.

Our speaker line-up also reflects the increasing interest by cruise passengers in travelling on smaller vessels which are best suited to these destinations. Melissa Wistoe, Product Manager for Windstar Cruises will join us from the company's base in Seattle to discuss the importance of finding a destination's hidden treasures and weaving them into itineraries to provide fascinating immersive experiences for their passengers. Windstar is one of the new cruise lines which will soon sail in Australia.

We are also excited to welcome Adam Armstrong, Managing Director of Silversea Cruises in Australia and NZ as a first-time speaker with us. Our region is the cruise line's third largest market with Silversea's new flagship, *Silver Muse* debuting her earlier this year. The company also will launch five new luxury vessels by 2023.

In total, more than 100 cruise ships will visit Victoria this season with regional ports such as Geelong, Philip Island and Portland critical to the growth the state is enjoying.

The conference will be held from 04-06 Sep at the Geelong Football Stadium and Novotel Geelong, with opportunities to experience the wonderful history, culture and culinary experiences that cruise passengers are also offered.

Registrations for the conference will open next week.

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.

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

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Christmas Markets Along the Danube

8 Days from Vienna to Nuremberg
Departing 15 Dec 2019 onboard *ms Joy*

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS aboard your riverboat, decorated in holiday style, sample glühwein and other seasonal goodies, attend a holiday baking demonstration, have lunch at Stiftskeller St. Peter in Salzburg and Palais Pallavicini in Vienna, take a tour of the Thurn und Taxis family's Palace and visit its private Christmas Market and so much more!

TAUCK highlights:

- Christmas lunch at a private palace
- Private Tour and Christmas Market at Thurn und Taxis Palace
- Visits to Christmas Markets in Vienna, Salzburg, Linz, Passau, Regensburg & Nürnberg

Reserve your cabin now!
From **\$4,700***pp twin share
\$6,580*pp solo travellers

Christmas Markets Along the Rhine

8 Days from Basel to Cologne
Departing 15 Dec 2019 onboard *ms Inspire*

LET TAUCK WOW YOU with special holiday touches onboard and ashore. Enjoy a traditional European Christmas dinner with all the fixings, special evenings of holiday-themed entertainment, markets in cities like Aachen that other holiday cruises don't visit, a visit to the fanciful Siegfried's Mechanisches Musikkabinett, a traditional German lunch in Heidelberg and more!

TAUCK highlights:

- See Mt. Pilatus by gondola
- Traditional European Christmas Dinner Onboard
- Visits to Christmas Markets in Aachen, Rudesheim, Heidelberg, Baden-Baden and Strasbourg

Reserve your cabin now!
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Family highlights:

- Medieval games and a scavenger hunt in Old Town Bratislava
- A sweets-making workshop at a local café in Passau
- Visits to the Prater amusement park in Vienna

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*Prices are per person in Australian dollars and are correct as at 29 April 2019. Prices are subject to availability and seasonal surcharges. Pricing for The Christmas Markets Along the Danube is based on a Category 3 Cabin, Christmas Markets Along the Rhine is based on a Category 2 Cabin and Holiday Magic Danube Family River Cruise is based on a Category 1 Cabin. No Single Supplement applies to Category 1 Cabins. International airfares from Australia are not included in advertised prices. Change and cancellation conditions apply and will be advised at the time of booking. Lic 2TA003774



It's May Madness at Viking and we're giving away thousands of Rewards by Viking points to our valued trade partners — that's you! Check out our latest incentives below and discover how all of your hard work can *really* start paying off.

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