

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 4th November 2019

Cruise Weekly today

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

Hurti biofuels

POLAR cruise line Hurtigruten has successfully tested its biofuel, which it claims has the potential to reduce carbon emissions by 95%.

The line's ship *Polarlys* has been testing the use of biodiesel over the past weeks with more tests to come.

"The industry needs to start making more sustainable choices and Hurtigruten wants to lead the way," says Hurtigruten Chief Executive Officer Daniel Skjeldam.

We want to move the boundaries and learn more about how this can be used in a bigger scale."

Encore presents opportunity: NCL

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's (NCL) newest vessel Norwegian Encore's sailings in Alaska will offer the biggest opportunity for Australian travel agents, NCL VP and MD Asia Pacific Ben Angell told CW, onboard the ship's preview sailing last week.

The vessel (**pictured**) is currently undertaking a nearly monthlong tour with preview events scheduled in Europe, New York and Miami (**CW** 01 Nov).

She will offer seven-day voyages to the Eastern Caribbean from Miami beginning 24 Nov 2019 and in 2021, will sail to Alaska from Seattle.

"Alaska is a destination we're really beginning to own in many respects as a brand, we've got fantastic choice of ships in Alaska," Angell told **CW**.

"We offer a product in Alaska with this ship and the others that I think is a perfect fit for guests



aged from eight to 80," he said. Norewegian Encore offers capacity for 3,998 passengers and is packed full of options, including the introduction of Italian restaurant, Onda by Scarpetta, alongside a swathe of specialty and dining options and bars.

In entertainment, the ship boasts productions such as *The Choir of Man* and *Kinky Boots* while activities include a VR experience, Galaxy Pavilion, waterslides, laser tag and a gokart track.

Angell highlighted the vessel's attention to detail and little nuances versus the other Breakaway Plus class ships.

"It shows that we're listening to our guests, it shows that we're listening to trade partners and feedback that they give us and we're making small tweaks to continue to evolve," he said. More on **page two**.

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Agents preview Encore



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) demonstrated its tradefirst approach by welcoming *Norwegian Encore* into its fleet by showcasing it to a delegation of trade and media from around the world late last week during a two-night preview sailing. **Pictured** marking the occasion in The Haven shortly before sailaway are: Jean Summers-Reeves, Clean Cruising; Tammy Marquet, Infinity Cruise; Josh Duncan, Flight Centre Travel Group; Jeff Leckey, House of Travel NZ/HOOT Cruises and Damian Borg, NCL.



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) will "invest and double down in trade partnerships" following a restructure earlier this year which saw Ben Angell (pictured) take responsibility for the brand as Vice President & Managing Director NCL Asia Pacific.

Angell said the restructure was both prompted by growth from the local market - with the region on track to become the top international market for Norwegian Cruise Line - and a decision from head office to have more brand separation, following the announcement NCL's Pres and CEO, Andy Stuart would leave at the end of the year.

Australian travel agents can expect to see the NCL brand "step up a bit now," and receive more focus and space to breathe following the change, Angell said, which saw him become NCL's first dedicated local head, rather than one leader responsible for all three Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings brands.

Work is already underway, with the team having started to assemble "a great sales team with a slightly different focus which will be more commercially focussed than we have been to date, because the next phase of growth demands that," he explained.

"It's about having those conversations with our travel partners up front to define what joint success looks like and then really setting yourselves the road map to achieve."







over 150 years, with wines

such as their acclaimed 'Hill

of Grace' Shiraz earning some

of the highest accolades," said

Crystal River Cruises' Senior Vice

for Australasia Karen Christensen.

"Stephen and Prue will bring

their extensive knowledge and

insight to Crystal River Cruises

wine region of the Wachau

interests both on board and

on a voyage through the famed

Valley – offering guests a unique

opportunity to pursue their wine

President & Managing Director

Want to know what a cruise on Scenic Eclipse is like? Read more in the November issue of *travelBulletin*.

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Silversea fund

SILVERSEA has launched a pioneering fund to support grassroots conservation efforts in the Galapagos Islands.

The fund aims to support a number of projects each year as part of a long-term conservation strategy.

Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
Radiance of the Seas	o4 Nov
Ruby Princess	o8 Nov
Pacific Explorer	o8 Nov
Carnival Spirit	og Nov
Noordam	og Nov
Ovation of the Seas	10 Nov
Explorer Dream	10 Nov
MELBOURNE	
Pacific Explorer	04 Nov
Carnival Spirit	o5 Nov
Pacific Dawn	o5 Nov
BRISBANE	
Pacific Aria	o8 Nov
Explorer Dream	o8 Nov
Pacific Dawn	og Nov
FREMANTLE	
Maasdam	o5 Nov
ADELAIDE	
Maasdam	10 Nov
HOBART	
Ruby Princess	o4 Nov
AUCKLAND	
Celebrity Solstice	o8 Nov
Majestic Princess	10 Nov

Crystal new wine voyage



CRYSTAL River Cruises new wine-themed voyage is bringing a winemaking power-couple from South Australia winery Henschke to a themed 09 Oct sailing on *Crystal Ravel*.

Sailing the Danube River, the seven-night voyage will travel from Budapest to Vienna, with guests sampling specially chosen Henschke wines, as winemaking duo Stephen and Prue Henschke share their stories of growing some of the oldest vines in the world, in Barossa's Eden Valley in South Australia.

"Henschke has earned the

Durie to join Cunard Gardening Voyage

ashore."

HORTICULTURALIST and landscape designer Jamie Durie has been named as Cunard's newest guest for its inaugural Australia's Gardening Voyage aboard *Queen Elizabeth* (*CW* 20 Sep).

"My passion for gardening and commitment to the environment spans more than 25 years so when Cunard approached me to be a part of its Inaugural Australian Gardening Voyage it was a no-brainer to say yes," he said.

"I look forward to sharing my thoughts and ideas on landscape design and take a look into future trends and ways to make small changes so that guests can make their gardens more sustainable." The voyage sails 01 Mar 2021 with other famous green thumbs

such as Angus Stewart and Indira Naidoo.

PortMiami rail link

CLICK to read

trave **Bulletin**

FLORIDA private rail operator Brightline has got the nod to build a station at PortMiami to offer easier access to the seaport.

The Miami-Dade County Commission gave the goahead for the PortMiami rail station which is expected to open next year.

Brightline, which is soon to be rebranded as Virgin Trains USA, connects downtown Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, with an extension to Orlando International expected to be completed by 2022.



BEING kicked off a cruise is a quite serious incident, but rarely does it come to humans satisfying their primal urges.

A German couple is suing cruise line TUI Cruises after they allege they were booted off *Mein Schiff 5* in Apr, for the reason of what they suspect was overly zealous mating.

According to German publication the *Reise Reporter*, shortly after boarding the cruise, the couple copulated, and soon thereafter had an altercation - non-violent, according to the plaintiffs.

Not long after, a cruise official knocked on their door, telling them the captain had decided to leave them at port in Barbados to find their own way home.

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