

2020 NCL LEGENDS



In early 2020, Norwegian Spirit will undergo the most extensive bow-to-stern renovation in NCL's history, as part of The Norwegian Edge® program.

As part of our trade recognition program, NCL Legends, we are welcoming our top 15 individual travel agencies from Australia and New Zealand on board Norwegian Spirit's inaugural sailing in Asia!



THE TOP 15 AGENCIES WILL RECEIVE

A single Stateroom on Norwegian Spirit's 5-day inaugural sailing.
Plus flights, accommodation and more!



HOW TO ENTER

Agencies must book and deposit a minimum of \$100,000 in NCL worldwide products between 1 November 2019 - 28 February 2020 directly through NCL or through a participating wholesaler.

The top 12 agencies with the highest Net Ticket Revenue (NTR) in worldwide products and the top 3 agencies with highest percentage NTR growth vs same time last year will receive a single stateroom.





Virgin Voyages welcomes First Mates

ON A smoky evening in Sydney last night, Virgin Voyages founder Richard Branson personally welcomed Aussie agents aboard by announcing the brand was now officially open for business Down Under (**CW** 30 Aug).

Referring to agents as First Mates, the “disruptor” cruise line is encouraging advisors to register via its dedicated online home for the trade, FirstMates.com.

Speaking with **Cruise Weekly** last night, Virgin Voyages Chief Commercial Officer Nirmal Saverimuttu said the cruise line had “cleared the hurdles” as much as it could so that agents can sell Virgin Voyages with ease.

“We talk about setting sail the Virgin way but we also are very much encouraging our First Mates to think about what it’s like to ‘sell’ the Virgin way,” he said.

“We’ve eliminated non-commissionable fares, we pay



on everything, we’ve got lots of different things in place to make sure we are as brilliant to do business with as anybody out there,” Saverimuttu added.

Virgin Voyages also revealed a new agreement with Virgin Australia (VA), enabling the launch of new “Tail to Sail” deals.

Packages are now available through Virgin Australia Holidays for cruises on *Scarlet Lady* in 2020



that combine VA flights from the east coast of Australia to Miami.

Prices start from \$3,420ppts.

Pictured: The human headline Richard Branson with VA’s CEO and MD Paul Scurrah last night, **inset**, Branson officially popping the cork on the Aussie market.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

Vale Edwin Stephan

THE founder and former long-time President of Royal Caribbean Cruise Line Edwin Stephan has passed away at the age of 87.

“We at Royal Caribbean mourn his loss and extend our deepest sympathies to the Stephan family,” the cruise line said in a statement.

Stephan founded Royal Caribbean in 1969, steering the company toward the global enterprise it is today.

“He was an honourable man who loved his family, his work, and his community,” reflected Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Richard Fain.

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

CLICK to read
travelBulletin

Silversea ends tour

SILVERSEA Cruises has wrapped up its roadshow travelling through Australia and NZ, recently completing a series of 12 events in the cities of Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Auckland.

CLIA to add 50 Masters



CRUISE Lines International Association (CLIA) Australasia is preparing to welcome 50 new "Cruise Masters" to its ranks after a group of agents undertook a training conference at sea aboard *Ruby Princess* last week.

The attendees from Australia and New Zealand sailed from Sydney to Tasmania as part of the

three-day event, engaging in a range of seminar sessions.

"The Masters Conference gives agents the practical insight and motivation they need to advance their careers and stay at the top of their game," said CLIA Head of International Training & Development Peter Kollar.

Pictured: 50 potential Masters.

A renewed *Spirit*

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line will welcome 15 high performing travel agencies on board *Norwegian Spirit's* first sailing after undergoing a renovation - see the front cover page for more information.



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CMV welcomes YUCK

CRUISE & Maritime Voyages (CMV) has revealed that the YUCK Circus has been appointed the headline act for its upcoming Fringe on the Water event.

The high profile act is an all-female group of performers that incorporate the holy trinity of circus, dance and comedy to create a unique extravaganza performance.

"We are really looking forward to welcoming the energetic YUCK Circus team on board for the overnight event in partnership with Fringe World," said CMV Managing Director Dean Brazier.

The Fringe overnight package includes an array of entertainment options, such as roving performers in the cruise's bar and lounge areas and live music and DJs, and the newly appointed headline YUCK Circus.

The Fringe on the Water event will take place aboard *Vasco da Gama* on 01 Feb 2020.

Yarra Bay protest

THE Save the Bay Coalition has revealed plans to stage a protest at Yarra Bay to combat the proposal for a new cruise ship terminal in the area.

Organisers say the rally, which is scheduled to be held at The Yarra Bay Sailing Club on 2pm 17 Nov, is likely to attract over 1,000 people.

"They want to bring us the biggest cruise terminal in Australia and we will give them the biggest town hall meeting they have ever seen," Save the Bay Coalition representative Maria Poulos told *The Southern Courier*.

Poulos added that the protest would be "an update on the cruise terminal proposal and outline the future actions that will be taken over the next six months to change the narrative around all of this."

UAE airline Emirates has introduced a remote check-in terminal for cruise passengers disembarking at Port Rashid in Dubai, allowing arrivals to check in for their onward Emirates flight in advance of their departure.

The complimentary flight check-in facilities are located at the same area as the cruise disembarkation point, meaning cruise passengers can explore Dubai without the need to carry luggage before directly heading to the airport.

The facility will be operational during the peak season between Oct to Apr.

"With the increasing popularity of Dubai as a cruise tourism destination, we have ensured that every touch point in our customer journey for this important traveller segment is thoughtfully served," said Emirates Divisional

Senior VP, Emirates Airport Services Mohammed Mattar.

"Our first remote check-in facility at Port Rashid will allow cruise passengers with onward flights the freedom to explore Dubai during their short transit having dropped their luggage and completed check-in formalities," he added.

The new facility is a timely one for Dubai's growing cruise industry, with approximately 846,000 tourists passing through the city on cruises during the 2018-19 season, with this number anticipated to rise to more than one million by 2020.

The only counterweight to Dubai's cruise growth has been regional instability, with British brand P&O Cruises UK pulling out of its winter program in Dubai & the Arabian Gulf (**CW** 09 Aug).

Pictured: Dubai Marina.



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Wednesday 13th November 2019

St Kitts pier opens

A **NEW** multi-million dollar cruise pier at Port Zante in the Caribbean island nation of St Kitts and Nevis has now been completed.

The latest wharf is the second to be constructed in the country, & will deliver the ability to accommodate larger ships than previously possible.

St Kitts and Nevis notched up more than one million cruise visitors during its latest cruising season.

Newcastle unites

IN A bid to improve the experience of cruise visits to the Port of Newcastle, a Hunter-based collaboration has formed between several important cruise advocacy groups in the region.

Port of Newcastle, Regional NSW, Destination Sydney Surrounds North, the Port Authority of New South Wales, City of Newcastle and Hunter Joint Organisation have joined forces to develop key visitor strategies that they hope will also boost the number of cruise visits to the city.

The first port of call was appointing Sarah Foster to the role of Cruise Coordinator, where she will be tasked with promoting cruises to the Port of Newcastle by collaborating with all levels of government.

The consortium is yet to officially give itself a title.

Meraviglia in Florida

MSC Cruises introduced its 4,500-pax *MSC Meraviglia* to PortMiami earlier this week, marking the ship's first ever season sailing from Florida.

Meraviglia becomes the largest vessel MSC to sail from Florida to date, joining the line's three other ships in Miami, *MSC Seaside*, *MSC Divina* and *MSC Armonia*.

Dining afloat: Fredheim



SHIP: Hurtigruten's *Roald Amundsen*.

A **CASUAL** dining option open for lunch, dinner or even a sneaky afternoon snack, *Roald Amundsen's Fredheim* restaurant, **pictured**, features an open kitchen offering international street-style food.

From hot dog sausages and mouth-watering burgers (**inset top**) to dumplings and tacos, Fredheim takes passengers on a



cruise culinary trip around the world, from the comfort of the main dining room or your own comfy couch (**below left**).

The funky decor and expansive glass windows make it a great place to hang out in between shore excursions for coffee, a beer or full meal.

INCLUDED IN FARE: Additional charges apply.

RESERVATIONS: No.

DRESS: Casual.

HOURS: Fredheim is open daily, with hours dependent on expedition excursions.



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Travel Daily



22 April 2020



WHAT better way to max out your fun on a cruise ship than to be personally hyped up by the self-anointed "President of Party" himself?

While in town to promote RNB Fridays Live (billed as Australia's biggest RNB Party), American rapper Fatman Scoop revealed that he plans on hosting a range of special cruises starting in Dec. "I'm literally opening up a new tourism business, who better than to show people New York than a real New Yorker," enthused Scoop while chatting with the panel on Channel 10's news program *The Project*.

The gregarious musician also told the program that he will be on board evening cruises during the festive period, where he will be revving up passengers to the tune of non-stop festive Christmas carols.

He noted that during the American summer, he would host a different style of sailing, one that he described as "an all out party cruise".

He even tried to cajole *The Project's* Steve Price to join him on one of his party sailings, telling him "he's going to leave his wife at home and I'm going to let him loose, there will be no cameras, he will be fine".



Silversea an open book

SILVERSEA Cruises has launched a new family book that chronicles the cruise line's heritage and Lefebvre family.

Sailing through History: A Family Dynasty was formally released at a dedicated event aboard *Silver Wind* in New York on 06 Nov, marking Silversea's 25th anniversary.

"I am proud to share the Lefebvre family history, and that of Silversea Cruises, with my friends, family, and the broader cruise community," said Silversea Cruises Executive Chairman Manfredi Lefebvre d'Ovidio.

"An extensive family in its own right, our cruise line is built on generations of maritime experience and a history of innovation," he added.



The book contains anecdotes spanning 16th century France to Royal Caribbean's recent acquisition of Silversea Cruises in 2018 (*CW* 19 Jun 2018).

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Cruise industry seas green

EXACTLY a year ago, ACA, CLIA and NZCA released the first Cruise Industry Sustainability Guide showcasing the work being done by the industry to preserve the world's pristine waterways.

It is great to see this work continuing with several cruise lines announcing new initiatives in the last few weeks that support the industry's goal to do as much as possible to protect the oceans which deliver our livelihood.

Earlier this month, expedition ship *Greg Mortimer* was launched featuring new engine equipment which will deliver an 80% reduction in emissions, with the vessel also boasting anchorless tech, reduced light pollution and low on-board plastic usage, all creating a lighter footprint as it cruises the Antarctic.

Poles apart - an announcement was made by the Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators that they had introduced mandatory guidelines around the carriage of heavy fuel oil in the Arctic - the next step toward phasing out highly polluting oil.

And from expedition ships to larger cruise lines came the announcement from MSC Cruises - as they launched their environmentally advanced *MSC Grandiosa* - that they will be carbon neutral by 2020.

The first phase of this initiative will be via carbon offsetting focusing on "blue" carbon credits where the money goes to marine focused sustainability efforts.

These are just a few examples of how the cruise industry is honouring its commitment to a sustainable future and taking a lead with these important initiatives.