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* ^Terms and Conditions apply. See our website for more information



Spirit-ed makeover to take place

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line will put over \$100 million into a revitalisation of *Norwegian Spirit*, as part of the company's Norwegian Edge program.

The makeover is the most extensive bow-to-stern redo in the company's history, and will touch all staterooms, dining venues and public areas.

Spirit will enter dry dock in Marseille, France on 02 Jan, and as part of the 40-day redo, will receive additional staterooms, 14 new venues and contemporary hull art.

New eateries will include an additional main dining room; Taste; The Local Bar & Grill; Garden Cafe; the Great Outdoors Bar and Waves Pool Bar, as well as debutantes Bliss Ultra Lounge and Spinnaker Lounge.

Children's waterpark Splash Academy will be replaced with adults-only retreat Spice H2O, a



daytime lounge featuring two hot tubs and a dedicated bar, which also transforms into an after-hours entertainment venue.

Mandara Spa will double in size to nearly 650m² and include a relaxation area with heated loungers, a new jacuzzi room, a sauna, steam room and water therapy experience.

Pulse Fitness Centre will also expand, and the second Onda

by Scarpetta restaurant in the fleet will be introduced, after it was included on newest ship *Norwegian Encore*.

Upon sailing out from her renovation, *Spirit* will sail to 10 new ports of call, including Bali, Tokyo, Taipei and Yangon, as well as Greece, Israel and Egypt.

Pictured is a rendering of *Norwegian Spirit* in Victoria Harbour, Hong Kong.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features five pages of all the latest cruise industry news and a front cover wrap from **Coral Expeditions**.

Panorama arrives

CARNIVAL Panorama was delivered today at the Fincantieri Marghera Shipyard. The new vessel is a sister ship of both *Carnival Vista* and *Carnival Horizon*, delivered in 2016 and 2018 respectively.

Coral savings

CORAL Expeditions is offering savings of 10% with its early bird special offers. Available on its 2021 expedition calendar, staterooms are currently on sale - see **cover page**.

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NORWEGIAN STAR
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CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR CALL 1300 255 200

*Offers correct as of 17 October 2019 and are subject to change or withdrawal. Offer ends 30 October 2019 unless extended. For full terms and conditions click here.





The cruise survey results are in and the industry is still strong – read more in the October issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK to read *travelBulletin*



On location in Bremerhaven, Germany

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Norwegian Cruise Line, which is this week hosting its inaugural *Norwegian Encore* sailing.

TONIGHT we will be among the first to step on board *Norwegian Encore* to explore the new ship ahead of its inaugural two-night sailing to Southampton.

After a delivery ceremony and lunch, we will take in the variety of onboard recreational activities, including the *Encore* Speedway Go-kart track which wraps around the side of the ship.

There is also a VR experience *Galaxy Pavilion*.

Another Costa delay

MEYER Turku shipyard has confirmed a further delay in the delivery of the new *Costa Smeralda* which was originally set to be delivered this week.

The LNG-powered vessel will now debut from Savona on 21 Dec, with the shipyard saying the deferral was due to the "high complexity and the sheer size of the ship project".

Ama godmother

AMAWATERWAYS has announced that US cruise industry veteran Debbie Fiorino will serve as godmother of the line's 24th river ship, the *AmaSiena* which will set sail in Jun 2020.

Fiorino is Senior Vice President of World Travel Holdings, which operates a range of B2B brands including *Dream Vacations*, *CruiseOne* and *Cruises Inc.*

Her portfolio also includes consumer-facing *CruisesOnly* and *Cruises.com*.

The 156-passenger *AmaSiena* is a sister ship to *AmaMora*, *AmaLea* and *AmaKristina*, and will sail a range of seven, 10- and 11-night voyages on the Rhine, Main and Moselle rivers.

AmaWaterways co-founder, Kristin Karst said Fiorino was "renowned for her innovation, culture of caring and inspirational spirit, which are all shared values of *AmaWaterways*".

Hurtigruten savings

EARLYBIRD savings on 2020/21 Antarctica sailings are now available with *Hurtigruten*.

Those who book between 25 Oct and 13 Dec can access savings of up to \$5,000 on lead-in cabins and up to \$9,000 per cabin based on a lead-in suite, on a number of selected departures.

To learn more, call *Hurtigruten* on 1300 322 062.

Cruise on show at Expo



CRUISE line staff and Flight Centre consultants had a very busy weekend in Sydney, with thousands of consumers lining up to make bookings at the annual World Travel Expo at Olympic Park.

All major operators had a presence, and by all accounts demand was strong, with a steady stream of enquiries across the weekend.

Some of the Viking Cruises contingent are pictured above, from left: Ben Piper, Alister Burn and Travel Associates' Chris Bellmon.

Below is a triple-brand threat from RCL, with *Azamara's* Belinda Osmic joining *Celebrity Cruises'* Jessica Jones and *Royal Caribbean's* Carrie Pluta - lots more pics at facebook.com/traveldaily.



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Earn double Rewards by Viking points on all ocean cruise bookings made between 1 September – 30 November.

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RCI balcony sale

ROYAL Caribbean International (RCI) is featuring eight sailings with balconies on sale, departing from Sydney.

Australia and New Zealand, Asia and the South Pacific all feature in the deal, including two repositioning cruises and one sampler cruise.

The voyages span from nine to 17 nights, as well as one two-night taster, with full itineraries leading in from \$1,429 per person.

NCL Asia sale

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's Explore Asia sale is offering guests booking an inside stateroom savings on selected 2019 and 2020 Asia itineraries aboard the recently refurbished *Norwegian Jade*.

With fares starting from \$699 per person, the cruise features ports such as Cambodia, Malaysia and Thailand.

The Phuket, Langkawi and Penang itinerary departs from Singapore, on six- and eight-night sailings on 15 Dec and 05 Jan, the Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam journey departs from Singapore on a 12-night sailing on 13 Jan, the Southeast Asia voyage departs from Hong Kong on a seven-night sailing on 30 Jan, and the Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia departs from Singapore on a 11-night sailing.

George + Paul

2GB radio personalities "George and Paul" will be hosting a luxury cruise to France and Britain in 2020.

Hosted by Princess Cruises aboard *Regal Princess*, the fully escorted journey visits destinations such as Monte Carlo, the French Riviera and the Channel Islands.

US ACTOR, author and activist George Takei will headline Cunard's Caribbean Celebration Christmas voyage aboard *Queen Mary 2*.

Best known for his role as Hikaru Sulu, helmsman of the *USS Enterprise* on the television series *Star Trek*, Takei will be aboard the 12-night sailing, which departs 22 Dec.

Sailing from New York City, Takei will conduct a q&a, a book signing and two presentations, on his time in a Japanese-American internment camp, and his time in Hollywood.

Takei previously appeared as an Insights speaker on *Queen Mary 2* in 2014, when his documentary *To Be Takei* was screened on board.

"I am looking forward to spending the holidays onboard the magnificent ocean liner *Queen Mary 2* this Dec," Takei said.

"The staff go above and beyond to make every day memorable and the guests are engaging and interested to hear about my life and work.

"I have no doubt this will be another exceptional experience."



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CHECK OUT THE 2020 CRUISE GUIDE

CRUISE WEEKLY **travelBulletin**
Travel Daily

Explorer is found



ANTARCTICA21 has taken delivery of its newest ship, *Magellan Explorer* (pictured).

The vessel left Valdivia in Chile yesterday, and will arrive in Punta Arenas in Chilean Patagonia on 01 Nov.

Built in Chile to the latest Polar Code specifications, as well as Polar 6 ice-class, *Magellan Explorer* has capacity for 73 passengers in seven categories of accommodation.

The ship features a glass-enclosed observation lounge and presentation room with new audio-visual equipment, a spacious dining room which can accommodate all guests in a single seating, a bar, a library, a meeting room, a gym and a sauna, a medical clinic, a gift shop and a protected outdoor barbecue area.

Magellan Explorer also comes with a fleet of kayaks and 10 Zodiacs, while all staterooms, except Porthole cabins, feature private balconies.

To reduce the environmental footprint, the vessel is also equipped with an energy-recovery system that recycles the heat produced by the engines to warm herself and her water supply.

The ship recently completed sea trials successfully, with tests reviewing all components, including the main and auxiliary engines, bow and stern thrusters, the auto-pilot unit and all bridge equipment, the fire-detection systems, lifeboats, stabilisers and more.

Upon arrival in Punta Arenas, provisions and other supplies will be loaded onboard, and a series of additional staff training sessions will take place, ahead of the ship's official christening on 08 Nov.

Following this, the vessel will operate a series of shakedown voyages from Punta Arenas to Puerto Williams on Navarino Island, ahead of its inaugural voyage to Antarctica on 28 Nov.

A regal sleep

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises' newest luxury ship, *Seven Seas Splendor*, will feature a number of bedding enhancements which the line boasts will deliver "an unrivalled sleep at sea".

Available to Regent Suite guests will be a US\$200,000 Hastens Vividus custom handmade mattress, linens made from batiste mako cotton and virgin white down from Alaskan geese.

Debuting in Feb, Regent Suites will also feature an in-suite spa retreat featuring a personal sauna, steam room and treatment area with unlimited spa treatments.

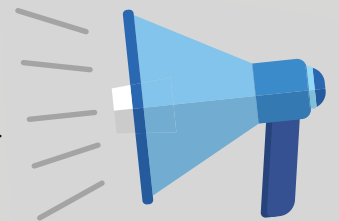
Nostalgic vibes

THE former life of *Explorer Dream* as Star Cruises' *SuperStar Virgo* was part of what inspired Genting Hong Kong's decision to bring the renowned ship *Down Under*. "This ship holds a lot of nostalgia for a lot of Australians, given it is the old *SuperStar Virgo*, many Australians have cruised her out of Singapore back in the day," said Vice President Sales & Marketing Australia & New Zealand Brigita Devries on Sun at a media conference aboard *Explorer Dream*.

Explorer Dream is Dream Cruises' first ship to homeport outside of Asia.

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State of Origin

FURTHER details of Silversea Cruises' upcoming Galapagos vessel *Silver Origin* were revealed in Sydney last week.

Speaking at a trade media event, the line's CMO Barbara Muckermann said the ship's main lounge area had been designed to move away from a theatre-style space to a living-room-look, providing guests with a more "homely feeling" when watching lectures, etc.

The vessel will also boast two restaurants and 51 suites (one grand, one royal, six top suites, two silver, one owner and one medallion), and is scheduled for delivery in Mar 2020.



A STUDY from YouGov and Princess Cruises into Australians' internet habits while on holidays has found 91% of us believe it's important to have access to the internet while on holiday, with close to a quarter nominating internet access as one of their key holiday considerations.

More than half (55%) of respondents who are considering choosing a cruise for their next holiday said they would be more likely to sail if they had access to high speed internet at a reasonable cost during their time onboard.

For all the money cruise lines put into new ships, it's clear what the people want.

Ylang wellness



NEW wellness-themed luxury vessel, Heritage Line's *Ylang*, has begun sailing its Senses of Lan Ha itinerary in Lan Ha Bay, Vietnam (**CW** 05 Dec).

The three-day voyages began sailing 17 Aug, and take guests through North Vietnam's Gulf of Tonkin.

With just 10 suites available onboard, all featuring balconies, excursions promote healthy living and offer exclusive in-depth explorations of Lan Ha Bay and its shores, relaxed hiking through Cat Ba Island National Park, and visitations to authentic floating fishing villages.

All departures also include half a day for guests to choose their own activities, such as exploring the bay on kayak, swimming

or relaxing on an island beach or enjoying the onboard spa offerings.

Features aboard *Ylang* include fine dining, a heated infinity pool, and a vast spa area including three private spa rooms, a sauna, a steam bath and a wellness studio.

Cruising almost all-year-round from US\$546 per person, included is full onboard dining, mineral water, tea, coffee, all excursions, an English speaking guide, kayaking, and other activities as stated in the program.

Heritage Line is also currently offering promotional rates for bookings made by the end of 2019, with up to 15% off available 2019 and 2020 departures.

Pictured: *Ylang*.

Seabourn adds more spa and wellness

SEABOURN has added new treatments to its onboard mindful living program, partnering with OneSpaWorld and celebrity doctor Andrew Weil.

The program offers guests a holistic spa and wellness experience, which includes unique optional treatments such as acupuncture and crystal sound bath, to integrate physical, social, environmental and spiritual well-being.

Guests will also soon be able to enjoy an Earth Grounding Massage and a Restorative Salt Stone Massage, to be rolled out by 2020.



Cruise spend winners

IT WAS exciting this week to release, in partnership with Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), the economic impact figures for the industry, showing that cruise contributed \$5.2 billion in total value during the last financial year – up an astounding 11.2%.

NSW is not surprisingly the biggest winner, receiving \$1.55 billion - the lion's share of direct expenditure from the cruise industry, with most of that revenue coming into Sydney as the country's major home port and marquee destination.

However, the cruise story in NSW extends into many other exciting gateways beyond Sydney including eight other ports along the state's spectacular coastline which now form "The Blue Highway".

These are classified as major ports - Eden, Wollongong and Newcastle - and the minor ports of Batemans Bay, Kiama, Trial Bay, Coffs Harbour and Yamba.

This week, *Caledonian Sky*, with 85 international passengers and 79 crew on board, is stopping in at four of these NSW ports on her journey from Cairns to Melbourne.

This visit, among many others, speaks to the important role played by the regional destinations which help join the dots on these small ship itineraries and encourage much-needed passenger dispersal.