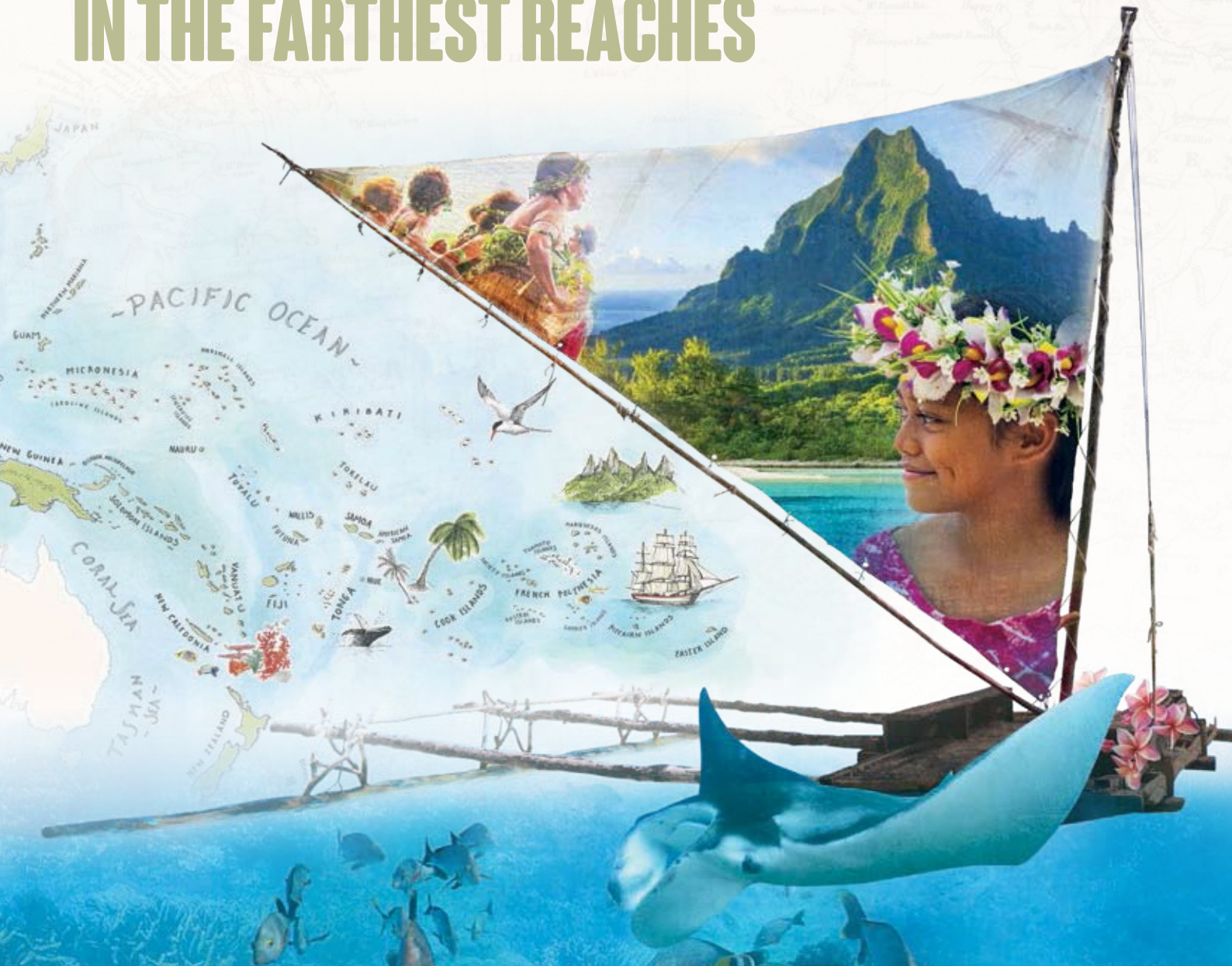


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3,000 miles away from New Zealand, in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, lies Pitcairn Island. Blessed with the bluest seas and the clearest stars, Pitcairn was where the mutineers from the HMAS *Bounty* retreated to in 1790, confident they would not be found by the far-ranging British Navy. Join us aboard state-of-the-art new expedition ship *Coral Geographer* as we sail across the vast Pacific Ocean, through remote Wallis and Futuna, the Cook Islands, legendary Bora Bora and the Marquesas to the last outpost of Pitcairn Island.

We follow in the footsteps of the ancient Polynesians who navigated across the Pacific guided only by stars, wind, clouds and birds. With only 120 like-minded guests and accompanied by local experts, our expeditions offer an intimate, all-inclusive and insightful way to explore these far-flung islands. Find freedom in the farthest reaches with Coral Expeditions.

Tuamotus, Pitcairn & the Austral Islands > 20 Nights, 19 Nov 2021

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# CRUISE

WEEKLY

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Monday 24th February 2020

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## Coral small islands

CORAL Expeditions is today showcasing a "Small Islands of the South Pacific" itinerary, which will take guests in the footsteps of the ancient Polynesians.

A series of West Pacific voyages aboard *Coral Geographer* will journey through Wallis and Futuna, the Cook Islands, Bora Bora, and the Marquesas to reach remote Pitcairn Island.

Four different expeditions are on offer departing in Oct, Nov and Dec 2021.

For more info call 1800 079 545 or see the **cover page** of today's *Cruise Weekly*.

## Cruise Boutique's new dedicated GM

FLIGHT Centre Travel Group is ramping up its commitment to the Travel Associates "Cruise Boutique" offshoot, this morning announcing the appointment of Donna Elliott (nee Grant) as Travel Associates (TA) General Manager of Cruise Boutique and Virtuoso.

Elliott, an 18-year veteran with Flight Centre, has been national brand leader for Travel Associates for the last five years, prior to which she held a range of roles within Flight Centre, Escape Travel and Student Flights locally as well as three years based in New York with Liberty Travel.

Flight Centre launched Cruise Boutique last year, with an initial 14 offices across Australia and plans for further significant growth (**CW** 12 Aug 2019).

Cruise Boutique advisors have at least 10 years of experience in travel, with Elliott aiming to deliver growth by developing the



brand's broader market strategy, as well as working with individual businesses to expand their client networks and lift market share.

"The Australian cruise sector, both for homeport and international sailings, is forecast to continue its growth and we want to go on this journey with our clients, providing them with the very best cruising experiences

globally," Elliott said.

The portfolio will also see her work closely with the TA network of Virtuoso offices, with the aim of growing the brand's "ultra-premium credentials".

"The combined Cruise Boutique and Virtuoso portfolios align well, signalling Travel Associates' plan to differentiate the brand in the market thanks to an unrivalled focus on customer service and specialisation, combined with extremely strong relationships with cruise partners and the Virtuoso team in Australia," the company said.

Travel Associates also recently appointed former Norwegian Cruise Line senior executive, Nicole Costantin as the GM of its new ASPIRE brand and product platform (**CW** 04 Feb), managing a "comprehensive range of curated luxury leisure products and client benefits".

*Regent*

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## RCL hero cruises

**ROYAL** Caribbean International (RCL) this morning unveiled further details of its two humanitarian cruises “in support of Australia’s volunteer first responder community who worked tirelessly during the recent bushfire crisis” (**CW** 17 Feb).

The special *Spectrum of the Seas* departures will comprise two four-night coastal cruises, with the first departing from Sydney on 29 Feb and returning on 04 Mar.

The second will follow the same itinerary from 07-11 Mar.

Up to 7,000 heroes and their families will be aboard, with local MD Gavin Smith saying “at Royal Caribbean we band together not just in good times but also during difficult times”.

Volunteers can register now at [www.aroyalthankyou.com](http://www.aroyalthankyou.com).

## Panel shares success



**PHIL** Hoffmann, founder of Phil Hoffmann Travel, moderated a panel session at the recent Cruiseco conference with several of its successful members, sharing with attendees the ways in which they capitalise on the growth of themed and niche social groups for cruising.

Several key themes emerged from the panel session, including the demand for smaller group

sizes, the necessity to use a lean price to get an initial group booking, and the delivery of a service that ensures the group returns for subsequent bookings.

**Pictured** are Speciality Travel Rockhampton owner Scott McCartney; Cruise Express Managing Director Meg Hill; Phil Hoffmann, Champagne Travel MD Michelle Hartland, and Lifestyle Travel founder Leonie Spencer.

## Now you're racing!

**SILVERSEA** is offering guests a greater range of exclusive experiences for the Monaco Grand Prix 2020, following the success of last year's two-day adventure (**CW** 05 Jun 2019).

In addition to experiences at the Belvedere and Grandstand K, a two-day viewing from the Monaco Dance Academy will also take place.

The cruise departs Rome on 17 May, with *Silver Spirit* arriving in Monte Carlo ahead of the race on the morning of 23 May and departing afterwards the next night.

The new shore excursion offers a viewing of the Grand Prix from Monaco's Dance Academy, and incorporates a special Q&A session with former Formula One racing driver and 11-time Grand Prix winner Felipe Massa.

**CLICK HERE** to view.



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EXPEDITIONS



Travel Daily  
**SIGN UP FOR NRL FOOTY TIPPING**

Prizes include flights to Europe with Emirates and weekly travel vouchers from Expedia.

## Cruise Calendar

The next few port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>The World</i>	24 Feb
<i>Astor</i>	24 Feb
<i>Ruby Princess</i>	24 Feb
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	25 Feb
<i>Columbus</i>	25 Feb
<i>Noordam</i>	26 Feb
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	26 Feb

MELBOURNE	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	24 Feb
<i>Viking Orion</i>	24 Feb
<i>Golden Princess</i>	25 Feb
<i>Arcadia</i>	26 Feb
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	27 Feb
<i>Astor</i>	27 Feb

FREMANTLE	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	25 Feb

HOBART	
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	24 Feb
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	24 Feb
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	25 Feb
<i>Explorer Dream</i>	25 Feb
<i>Viking Orion</i>	26 Feb
<i>Explorer Dream</i>	26 Feb

ADELAIDE	
<i>Albatros</i>	24 Feb
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	26 Feb

DARWIN	
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	24 Feb

EDEN	
<i>Explorer Dream</i>	21 Feb

AUCKLAND	
<i>Costa Deliziosa</i>	27 Feb

WELLINGTON	
<i>Norwegian Jewel</i>	25 Feb
<i>Seabourn Encore</i>	25 Feb
<i>Maasdam</i>	26 Feb
<i>Seven Seas Mariner</i>	26 Feb

## Destination: Science Center



**SHIPS:** Hurtigruten's *MS Roald Amundsen*, *MS Fridtjof Nansen*, *MS Fram*, and *MS Spitsbergen*.

**LOCATION:** *MS Roald Amundsen* and *MS Fridtjof Nansen* - Deck 6; *MS Fram* - Deck 4; and *MS Spitsbergen* - Deck 5.

**TAP** into the science buff within at Hurtigruten's onboard Science Center, **pictured**.

Offering a range of



educational and scientific activities, passengers can convene at the Center at any time of the day for the chance to chat with Expedition Team

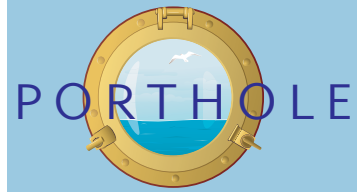


members as well as take part in lectures on geology, history, biology, geography, glaciology and oceanography (**inset and below left**).

Those looking to hone their photography skills can also join in a series of lectures on the topic delivered by the onboard photographer, who can also assist with camera settings and adjustments.

A destination-focused library filled with resources and books to browse is also available, as well as the chance to do some wildlife spotting with members of the team on the ship's Observation Deck.

Education mixed with incredible scenery? We'd go back to school for that!



**CRUISE Weekly** favourite Richard Branson showed off *Scarlet Lady* to the world over the weekend, as the ship docked in Dover ahead of its inaugural sailing, from Miami in Apr.

The billionaire put on display *Scarlet's* bag of tricks, including sprightly drinking spots, a Korean restaurant and a "body modification" station.

However, receiving perhaps the most social media attention was a dark, multi-mirrored room, adorned with hundreds of white lights.

The founder himself demoed the space, with Virgin Voyages labelling it the "most grammable spot on board" - judge for yourselves below.



## New NT bill

**THE** Northern Territory last week passed a new Marine Pollution Legislation Amendment Bill.

The bill is designed to provide legislative framework to protect marine environments, jobs and industries from ship-sourced pollution being discharged into the Northern Territory's coastal waters.