



Cruise Weekly today

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

Great Lakes cruise

VICTORY Cruise Line's all-inclusive Great Lakes voyage is currently on sale, offering savings of up to US\$800 (A\$1,152) per couple, thanks to Cruise Traveller.

The 10-night trip includes drinks, shore excursions, shipboard wi-fi and a free hotel stay, with Australians able to access the savings if they book by 31 Mar.

Sailing on 04 Jul from Toronto to Chicago aboard the 202-passenger *Victory I*, the Splendour of the Great Lakes package is available from \$US5,907ppts, with alternative sailings also available in May and Oct - call 1800 507 777 for more information.

MSC appoints

MSC Cruises has named Patrizia Iantorno as its new Marketing Manager for Australia & NZ, amid a regional restructure which has also seen a new Head of Sales Lisa Teiotu come aboard (**CW** 06 Nov 2019).

Starting yesterday, Iantorno will be responsible for the brand's positioning in Australia and New Zealand, as well as its multi-channel marketing strategies.

She previously enjoyed a 1.5 year stay with MSC at its headquarters in Switzerland, as Head of Social Media and Consumer Relationship Marketing, in addition to nearly 20 years of marketing experience in Africa and Europe.

The line has also made Leisa Chell its PR and Comms Manager for Australasia.

Aurora Exp to launch *Sylvia Earle*

AURORA Expeditions will launch its second purpose-built ship, *Sylvia Earle* (render pictured), in Oct 2021 (**CW** breaking news).

To debut in Ushuaia, Argentina, the 126-passenger ship is named after the famed marine biologist, and will be the second in the fleet to be built with the Ulstein X-BOW, after *Greg Mortimer*, which launched in Nov (**CW** 01 Nov 2019).

Initially revealed in 2018 (**CW** 25 Oct 2018), *Sylvia Earle* will feature expansive observation decks, inviting communal areas and "unsurpassed" environmental credentials, while its X-BOW will feature a two-level glass atrium.

The ship's namesake will also lead a fully immersive on-board guest experience, with passengers also able to participate in expert-led kayak expeditions, climbing, snowshoeing, hiking, Zodiac exploration and polar ski touring.

"We are proud to be working with *Sylvia* on plans for the new ship," said Aurora Expeditions



Managing Director Robert Halfpenny.

"Our ships are designed primarily to connect people with the environment and everything *Sylvia* does encapsulates what lies at the core of Aurora Expeditions own beliefs and practices."

Earl said it was important to learn as much about the oceans as possible - an opportunity *Aurora's* new ship presents.

"Through travelling with *Aurora* Expeditions on the *Sylvia Earle*, I

feel it is an incredible opportunity for people to learn about these marine habitats in situ, and as a result, become ambassadors for protecting them," she said.

"I see great synergy in working closely with a company that shares my vision for the future and which is, from the top down, passionate about the marine environment."

A video of *Earle* talking about her experience and the launch of the ship can be found [HERE](#).

Carnival discharge

CARNIVAL *Elation* accidentally discharged "grey water" while docked at Port Canaveral last week.

A total of 22 metric tonnes of the water was spilled, according to the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, with Carnival assuring no sewage was dumped.

"While *Carnival Elation* was offloading water from its ballast systems...a grey water valve was inadvertently opened, discharging treated grey water from the plumbing and shower systems for a short period," the line said.

Holland America Line was recently fined for its own accidental discharge of "grey water" (**CW** 13 Sep 2019).

China to Cambodia

CAMBODIA'S Ministry for Tourism wants Chinese investors to consider developing cruises to Sihanoukville Port from the Chinese province of Hainan.

A Facebook post from the Ministry of Tourism revealed the country's Senior Minister of Tourism raised the idea during a trip to Hainan last week - one of several tourism proposals raised, with the Ministry also working with tour operators to establish tour packages from Sihanoukville to Siem Reap.

Chinese visitors top Cambodia's inbound tourism market, accounting for two million, or 38%, of all of the country's visitors.

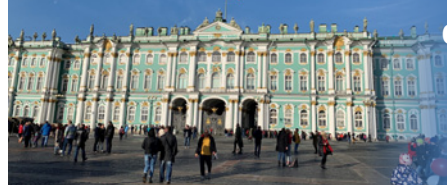
CMP cruise growth

COPENHAGEN Malmo Port (CMP) is hailing a record year, hitting an all-time high of 465 cruise arrivals in 2019, with calls to the Swedish town of Visby increasing by 40%.

Copenhagen is the largest cruise destination in northern Europe, with CMP expecting increases in the city of around 100,000 passengers for 2020, and one million as a whole.

"I am particularly pleased with the development in Visby, where we had 100 arrivals... the year before there was 70," said CMP Head of Cruises & Ferries Henrik Ahlqvist.

"Next year we will receive ships that can take 6,000 pax... during 2021 we are expecting to receive 35 ships in this size."



Fred's new gin

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has launched a new premium gin-making Masterclass as part of its enrichment program.

Guests will have the chance to create their own gin with guidance from expert distillers Debbie and Nigel Wright.

The first Gin Masterclasses will take place on board the cruise line's flagship *Balmoral* during its 70-night South American Exploration.

Classes will take only six to eight guests, and cost £25 per person (A\$47).

Guests will create up to six gins per session, and will be able to take home a 700ml bottle of their creation.

HAL hits the beaches



CREW from Holland America Line's (HAL) *Amsterdam* recently cleaned up a beach in Nuku-Hiva, French Polynesia, on a recent call to the country (pictured above).

It is part of a wider beach clean-up effort continually participated in by the crew, which last year also hit Mexico (middle) and Fiji (below).



See Scenic's world

A RANGE of Scenic trips are currently on sale until 31 Mar. Unless sold out prior, the 13-day Treasures of the Mekong, the 14-day Egypt in Depth, the 15-day Jewels of Europe and the 15-day Romantic Rhine & Moselle trips are all on sale - call on 138 128 for availability.

Nelson kicks off

THE arrival of *Seabourn Encore* last week has marked the start of Nelson's cruise season.

Encore is the first of seven ships to visit the southern New Zealand city this summer, bringing with her more than 600 passengers.

Island-hopping

A BRAND-NEW island-hopping escape is available with Unforgettable Greece.

Tagged as "romantic", and offering a private beach safari, the tour takes guests through the Cyclades, departing roundtrip from Athens.

Travelling for 11 nights from \$6,468, the trip visits Athens, Santorini, Folegandros, Ios and Sifnos, overnighing in each destination.

For details, [CLICK HERE](#).

Clippers on theme

STAR Clippers has revealed 21 new themed sailings for 2020, in the Caribbean, Mediterranean and Southeast Asia.

A total of 10 new yoga and meditation sailings will depart in 2020, with fitness and life coaches aboard three sailings, and two photography themed sailings in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

Other themed cruises involve motivational speakers, guitarists, Italian chefs and fashion stylists, all who will deliver lectures and presentations throughout.

"Having the speakers, fitness and yoga practitioners on board enhances the experience of a tall ship sailing even more, offering guests the opportunity to relax, improve mind and body or hone up skills," said Star Clippers' UK GM Fay McCormack.

All themed sailings are offered at the same rate as standard sailings.



THERE are some cracking sail away songs out there, but Princess Cruises' *Majestic Princess* will take some beating.

While leaving New Zealand's Bay of Plenty recently, *Majestic* let rip on Jack Jones' "Love Boat", best known as the theme song for the television series of the same name - however, there was a twist to this particular rendition.

View the performance [HERE](#).

