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cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Monday 20th January 2020

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a front cover wrap from Regent Seven Seas Cruises.

Regent 50% off!

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has announced a "Time to Sail, Time to Save" promotion offering discounts of up to 50% on voyages in Europe, Asia, South America, Australia and the South Pacific.

The cruise line is also accepting reduced deposits to secure berths, with agents able to utilise a full marketing toolkit to take advantage of the deals, including posters, social media tiles and more.

For more information call 1300 455 200 (AU) or 0800 625 692 (NZ) - full details on the cover page of CW today.

Bonner returns to lead Celebrity APAC

FORMER Royal Caribbean, Celebrity Cruises and Azamara Managing Director of Australia and New Zealand Susan Bonner has been appointed to a newly created single-brand regional role which will see her head up Celebrity Cruises in Asia-Pacific.

The move will see her once again with an ongoing Sydneybased job, after she abruptly departed late last year to undertake a special "new strategic project" in Celebrity's Miami HQ (CW 08 Oct 2019).

Bonner, who had held the former tri-brand role for about 15 months, was replaced by Gavin Smith, who returned to Australia to take up the local leadership of Royal Caribbean, Celebrity and Azamara after previously serving in the same position from 2008 to 2013.

Then in Nov the cruise giant announced the creation of a new



trade sales structure with the creation of dedicated single brand teams "to better support trade partners and take advantage of opportunities within the region's growing cruise sector".

At that time Bonner returned to Australia to "oversee the search for a Managing Director for Celebrity Cruises in Australia and New Zealand".

However, as it has transpired she is taking up the role herself,

as one of three newly appointed Celebrity Cruises Vice Presidents across the globe who all report to the brand's President & CEO Lisa Lutoff-Perlo.

Australia and APAC have been "realigned" under the new structure, with Bonner to be supported by Singapore-based Apple Woo, who has been promoted to Director of Asia.

Jo Rzymowska, current VP and MD of Celebrity Cruises UK & Ireland and Australia, will head up a newly defined Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) region for Celebrity, while Dondra Ritzenthaler, SVP Celebrity Sales, will lead The Americas for the brand, comprising the US, Canada, Mexico & South America.

Bonner is **pictured** accepting the 2018 National Travel Industry Award for Best Cruise Line from Travellers Choice MD Christian Hunter.

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Silver Origin floats out



SILVERSEA Cruises' newbuild Silver Origin, pictured, has floated out of the De Hoop shipyard in Lobith, the Netherlands and the countdown to her inaugural season has begun.

The all-suite, 100-guest ship will set off on her maiden voyage around the Galapagos Islands on 18 Jul (CW 02 Jan), which she will sail year-round.

The cruise line also announced

New Hurti portal

HURTIGRUTEN has re-

portal, allowing all itinerary

planning (CW 24 Dec 2019) and

designed its travel agent

bookings in one location.

announced a new Revelex

integration, allowing users to

access all its product offerings

Agents who register with the

new portal and make an online

within their existing system.

booking before 31 Jan are

eligible for a \$100 incentive.

The cruise line also

Origin's team of six expedition experts, who will lead guided Zodiac excursions, hikes, and nature walks ashore, as well as onboard lectures and discussions.

Travellers who book by 31 Jan can take advantage of included round-trip Economy airfares from select Australian gateways to Ecuador on select Galapagos expeditions - call 1300 306 872 for more information.

Pandaw new dates

PANDAW has announced new dates for its one-week sailings from Kalewa to Homalin on 05 and 12 Sep this year on the Zawgyi Pandaw, giving guests the chance to visit one of the most remote areas of Highland Burma and meet Naga warriors.

Prices start from US\$3,307, which includes all meals, daily excursions and more, with savings of up to 10% on selected dates.

Cruise returns to KI

PRINCESS Cruises' Sun Princess arrived at Kangaroo Island yesterday, with Cruise **Lines International Association** (CLIA) announcing the event marked a "major milestone" in the economic recovery of bushfire-affected communities around the country.

"Nationally, cruise tourism is worth more than \$5 billion a year to the Australian economy and will play an important role in supporting local communities as they recover from this summer's fires," said CLIA Managing Director Australasia Joel Katz.

Katz also highlighted the "vital support" that the initial \$76 million tourism recovery package, announced yesterday as part of the Australian Government's National Bushfire Recovery Fund, would provide for the tourism sector.

Crystal River '22

CRYSTAL River Cruises has unveiled its 2022 collection of cruises, which it claims offers more seven-night itineraries than ever, including roundtrip options from Vienna and Amsterdam.

New itineraries include the Treasures of Southeast Europe cruise, which will visit maiden ports Vidin, Bulgaria and Giurgiu, Romania; and the Joyous Danube holiday voyage, which will "highlight the glittering Christmas markets of the region".

The collection also features themed cruises such as Wine & Food Festival and Jewish Heritage, and seasonal experiences like the Tulips & Windmills voyages to the Netherlands and Belgium.

The 2022 departures will be available for booking from 23 Jan at crystalcruises.com.au.

Celebrity announces Godmother for Apex

CELEBRITY Cruises has announced Reshma Saujani. CEO of Girls Who Code and best-selling author of Brave Not Perfect, as the Godmother for Celebrity Apex, the second in its Edge series of vessels.

The official inaugural ceremony will take place on 30 Mar 2020 in Southampton, UK, and begin its debut season in Apr with five sailings to Northern Europe destinations, before sailing itineraries in the Mediterranean.

Celebrity President and CEO Lisa Lutoff-Perlo described Sauiani as a "game-changing visionary" who is "bridging the gap" in the male-dominated computer programming industry.

The cruise line said it will also collaborate with Girls Who Code to offer educational coding programs as part of its Camp at Sea S.T.E.M. experiences onboard Celebrity Apex and Celebrity Edge, along with "related experiential offerings and products".





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BOOK lovers can combine their fondness of reading with their passion for cruising on Cunard's Literature Festival at Sea aboard Queen Mary 2, with the seven-night voyage departing Southampton on o1 Dec.

The festival will be headlined by award-winning novelists, poets, essayists, playwrights and critics such as Pam Ayres and Kate Mosse, as well as New York Times journalists, who will host talks and Q&As onboard; there will also be workshops and masterclasses for writers to sharpen their skills.

Guests can even get a reading list tailor-made for them by a "bibliotherapist" as well as have the opportunity to meet the guest writers at author signings.

NCL's new team

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has announced the creation of a new department dedicated solely to advancing its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategy and sustainability initiatives.

The team will be led by one of the cruise line's long-term leaders, Andrea DeMarco, who was recently appointed Senior Vice President, ESG, Investor **Relations and Corporate** Communications.

Reporting to DeMarco in a newly created role, Beau Daane has joined the team as Senior Director, ESG.

"It is critical for companies to take an active approach to ESG and our expanded leadership and allocation of resources will help to coordinate our company-wide sustainability efforts," said NCL President and CEO Frank Del Rio.



INDEPENDENT music cruise company Whet Travel wrapped up its sold-out Groove Cruise Miami 2020 last week, which saw hundreds of guests partying at sea to 96 hours of non-stop electronic music.

The cruise, which took place aboard the recently refurbished Celebrity Cruises' Celebrity Infinity, departed Miami on 08 Jan after two pre-parties, making its way to Costa Maya on Mexico's eastern Yucatan Peninsula.

In addition to enjoying a number of music performances, guests were also able to enjoy a range of onboard activities

including kickboxing, meditation sessions, a basketball match, wine tasting, a dumpling-making class, dinners hosted by the music artists, and more.

Next year's Groove Cruise, which Whet Travel claims is already 50% sold-out, will also take place aboard Celebrity Infinity, which is scheduled to depart Miami on 07 Jan 2021, and will head to the new private pirate-themed Taino Bay in the Bahamas.

Visit GrooveCruise.com for bookings or more information.

Pictured: Party-goers having a groovin' good time during Groove Cruise Miami 2020.



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Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
Carnival Splendor	20 Jan
Ocean Dream	20 Jan
Majestic Princess	21 Jan
Voyager of the Seas	22 Jan
Norwegian Jewel	23 Jan
Seven Seas Navigator	23 Jan
Viking Orion	23 Jan
BRISBANE	

Seven Seas Navigator	20 Jan
Sea Princess	23 Jan
Celebrity Solstice	23 Jan
MELBOURNE	
Viking Orion	21 Jan
Pacific Explorer	21 Jan

Golden Princess

HORART

Sun Princess

WELLINGTON

HODAKI	
Silver Muse	22 Jan
Coral Discoverer	22 Jan
ADELAIDE	

23 Jan

20 Jan

D. A. D. L. W. L.	
DARWIN	
AIDΑvitα	21 Jan

AUCKLAND	
Maasdam	20 Jan
Regatta	20 Jan
Seabourn Encore	20 Jan

Queen Elizabeth 21 Jan Seven Seas Voyager 21 Jan

Carnival Spirit 20 Jan Le Laperouse 20 Jan Ovation of the Seas 20 Jan

Seabourn Encore 23 Jan

BAY OF ISLANDS Explorer Dream 20 Jan Seven Seas Voyager 20 Jan Maasdam 21 Jan

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travel industry cruise publication.

SCC firm on Spirit

SEA Cloud Cruises (SCC) has announced it is now taking firm bookings for the new Sea Cloud Spirit, with the early booking discount extended to 31 Jan.

"In the interest of our guests, we wanted to be sure she would be delivered on time before starting official bookings," said Sea Cloud Cruises CEO Daniel Schafer.

The three-masted yacht, which has a capacity to carry 136 people, will depart on her maiden voyage from Lisbon on 29 Aug to make her way to Rome/Civitavecchia, Italy (CW 17 Jun 2019).

Chimu steps in

CHIMU Adventures has joined industry associates in offering compassionate discounts to travellers affected by the One Ocean Expedition collapse (CW 10 Jan).

Passengers originally booked and deposited on One Ocean Expedition departures can book on selected Chimu voyages for up to 50% off the original price.

There is still availability left on Chimu's Ocean Atlantic Feb and Mar sailings, including the 21-day In Shackleton's Wake itinerary, which departs Ushuaia on 01 Mar and will explore the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic peninsula.

Contact the Chimu team on 1300 720 564 or via australia@chimuadventures. com for bookings and more information.

Action on board: Fringe on the Water



SHIP: Cruise & Maritime Vovages' Vasco da Gama.

IN A world-first, one-nightonly event, Vasco da Gama will play host to in-port festival of entertainment, Fringe on the Water, in the West Australian city of Fremantle in 2020.

The special event forms part of a one-night accommodation package available to book, which also includes breakfast and dinner on board the ship for ticket holders.



Fringe on the Water will be headlined by the all-female performance group, YUCK



Circus, in the ship's two-tiered show lounge, Hollywood's, pictured, located on the Upper Deck 7/8.

Acrobatic acts, left, and energetic dance performances, inset, will wow the crowd while attendees will also be able to enjoy roving performers in the ship's bars and lounges, live music and DJs into the early

AGES: Performances are rated PG and appeal to a broad audience.

WHEN: Fringe on the Water will take place for one night only on Sat 01 Feb 2020.



Queen Elizabeth

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FDITORIAL

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Editor in Chief and Publisher – Bruce Piper Contributors – Adam Bishop,

Sarah Fairburn, Jasmine Hanna, Nicholas O'Donoghue, Myles Stedman, Janie Medbury

info@cruiseweekly.com.au info@cruiseweekly.co.nz

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Sean Harrigan and Hoda Alzubaidi advertising@cruiseweekly.com.au advertising@cruiseweekly.co.nz

BUSINESS MANAGER Jenny Piper accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au Suite 1, Level 2, 64 Talavera Rd Macquarie Park NSW 2113 Australia PO Box 1010 Epping NSW 1710 Australia Tel: (AU) +61 2 8007 6760 or (NZ) 0800 799 220 Tel: (Int'l) 1300 799 220

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