

AFTA INDUSTRY NOTICE

The AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme (ATAS) is the cornerstone of the Australian travel industry. It sets standards, future proofs and protects the integrity of our industry.

ATAS is the means by which both consumers and trade can identify trusted, reliable and quality travel businesses.

AFTA and ACS does not take its role lightly and does not make cancellations without good reason!

In the last 6 months, two large scale, non-accredited wholesalers have become insolvent. It is a stark reminder to all industry that if a business is NOT accredited – ask why not?

It is unacceptable that a company can make statements and issue press releases which turn out to be misleading and deceptive. It is a clear demonstration of the lack of integrity of these companies.

AFTA is NOT to blame for the demise of these companies. Poor financial management is the only cause of a company becoming insolvent.

AFTA recommends that travel agency owners only work with reputable accredited wholesalers and tour operators.

All CATO members are required to be ATAS accredited.

AFTA has 63 years of representing, supporting, and innovating for the Australian Travel Industry. In 2020 we will continue to seek new solutions to provide all involved with confidence in the travel value chain and make the payment eco-system in the Australian travel industry more robust.



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a cover wrap from AFTA and a full page from:

- CLIA Australasia

Get Me Out There!

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has launched its Get Me Out There sale, offering savings of up to \$900 per cabin on select South Pacific cruises for bookings made before 27 Feb.

For more information on the promotion, [CLICK HERE](#).

ATAS is essential

THE Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) is reminding agents of the importance of the AFTA Travel Accreditation Scheme (ATAS) in providing industry integrity.

See **cover page** for more info.

Scrubbers impact “minimal”: New report

A **NEW** report co-sponsored by Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) has found that discharges from Exhaust Gas Cleaning Systems (EGCS) have a minimal environmental impact on water and sediment quality.

The study, conducted by CE Delft, analysed the long-term impact of washwater discharges from EGCS, referred to as scrubbers, on port water and sediment, with data gathered from close to 300 EGCS samples finding the discharges were within the range of new European environmental standards coming into force from 2021.

“EGCS systems are designed to effectively remove 98% of sulphur and well over 50% of particulate matter,” said CLIA’s SVP of Maritime Policy Brian Salerno.

“These studies are important validators for the industry that these systems, whether operated



Pictured: Antarctica.

in open or closed-loop modes, are safe for the environment, in compliance with the new restrictions set forth in IMO 2020 and in keeping with the industry’s commitment to responsible tourism practices,” he added.

The latest report follows two previous studies assessing the impact of scrubbers on the marine environment, including a two-year report compiled by DNV GL which concluded that

washwater samples from 53 cruise ships equipped with EGCS were below the limits set by major international water quality standards.

Another study authored by the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism determined the impact of scrubbers on water quality and marine life to be “negligible”.

Access the full CE Delft report by [CLICKING HERE](#).

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Tuesday 28th January 2020



CRUISING to the Bahamas for an authentic travel experience is every cruise ship passenger's ultimate dream, right?

Well, not always it seems.

A new video has surfaced online showing a diver hand feeding fish to a tiger shark.

The species of shark are known to be aggressive man-eaters, claiming the second most amount of lives after great whites, making the diver's seemingly misguided feat all the more astonishing.

Despite the data, this unnamed daredevil appears to have cultivated a trusting relationship with the feared marine animal - perhaps there is a life lesson in here somewhere?



Aqua remodels

AQUA Expeditions has announced a reconfiguration of its cabins on board *Aqua Blu* in response to guest feedback.

Category I rooms have been boosted from five to eight suites across its four decks, while Category II rooms have been reduced to four suites.

The new suite configuration changes have not affected Category III suites, which still number three in total.

P&O tickled pink

P&O Cruises has revealed comedian Rhys Nicholson has signed on to perform on the cruise line's first dedicated sailing to the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

Nicholson will entertain guests on a five-night itinerary, which departs from Sydney on 06 Apr bound for Melbourne.

"We're tickled pink to take this up a notch with another cruise first - a dedicated cruise to the biggest comedy event in the Australian calendar," said P&O President Sture Myrmell.

P&O bids g'day to Oz



P&O Cruises celebrated Australia Day on Sydney Harbour for the eighth year running, with close to 2,000 guests on board *Pacific Explorer* to officially mark the jubilant occasion.



There were many fun activities available on board to mark Australia Day, including a giant deck party featuring the cruise line's annual "Look Like an Aussie Legend" competition, a thong throwing contest, the esteemed meat pie eating championships,

and not to be forgotten, an Australian national anthem sing off competition.

View from the top

SEABOURN has unveiled the details for its new Constellation Lounge, a viewing area to be featured on the line's two new purpose-built expedition vessels that are scheduled to launch in 2021 and 2022.

To be located on Deck 9, the new Constellation Lounge will be the highest indoor viewing spot on board the vessel and will feature floor-to-ceiling glass windows offering a 270° view of the outside world.



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EDITORIAL

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Every Thu we publish our consumer newsletter - *Travel & Cruise Weekly* - sign up free at www.travelandcruiseweekly.com.au.

19TH ANNUAL CRUISE INDUSTRY AWARDS

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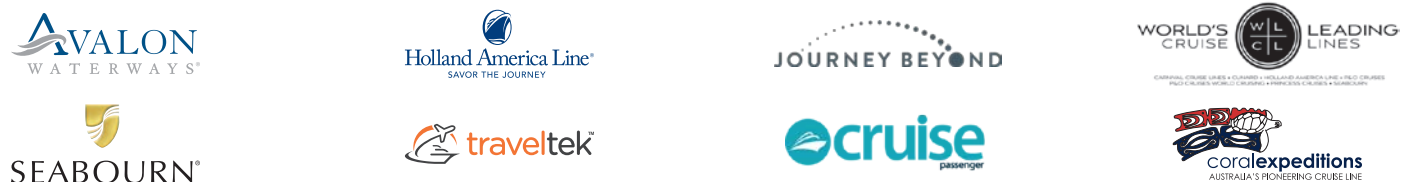
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