



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Tour Atlas adds

**UNIQUE** Cruises' range of luxury European barge itineraries is now available on Tour Atlas.

Founder & Director Walter Nand said Unique had taken many enquiries for 2021 and 2022, adding many see luxury small group barge charters as a safer way to travel, which has driven an increase in interest for when borders open.

"This is a significant step for us," said Nand.

"We considered several ways to assist agents in tapping into...the luxury barge bubble.

"Tour Atlas checked all of our boxes," - see [tour-atlas.com](http://tour-atlas.com).

## Swan Hellenic orders third ship

**NEWLY** relaunched cruise line Swan Hellenic (*CW* 24 Jul) is showing its strong belief in the recovery of the luxury small ship expedition cruise sector, partnering with Helsinki Shipyard for the production of a third five-star expedition vessel.

The Vega class vessel will be larger than its two sister ships currently on order, and will be designed to sail to all continents.

The ship will be a five-star polar PC6 ice-class vessel, and will accommodate 192 guests in 96 cabins and suites, the vast majority of which will have large balconies; it will also feature a diesel-electric hybrid propulsion system, meaning the new ship will sail in almost total silence.

She will be delivered in late 2022, with her two sisters due in Nov 2021 and Apr 2022.

The first scheduled to arrive had



her keel laid in Sep (*CW* 28 Sep), at a ceremony at which she was christened *Minerva*.

"We see the increase in demand for experiences that are truly out of the ordinary and are confident in the bounce back of our industry," said Swan Hellenic Chief Executive Andrea Zito.

Helsinki Shipyard Chief

Executive Carl-Gustaf Rotkirch also expressed his enthusiasm for the ship, and the shipyard's partnership with Swan Hellenic.

"It shows...confidence in our operations and is a strong signal of the long-term nature of our operations," he said.

**Pictured** is a render of a Vega-class Premium Suite.

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**WE'RE** almost at the end of Oct, and Sydney Harbour Tall Ships is getting in the Halloween spirit.

Available to book now is a Halloween dinner cruise, which, for the uninitiated, sails 31 Oct.

Departing at 5.30pm, the two-hour cruise offers guests a complimentary "witch's brew".

The cruise departs from Campbells Cove Jetty in The Rocks, with adults sailing from \$109 and children from 4-14 from \$55.

Best dressed on the night will win a gift, and for more, [CLICK HERE](#).

BOO!



## Divers Den Reef census



**SCUBA** tour agency Divers Den is embarking on a seven-night expedition to the remote Ribbon Reef as part of the Great Barrier Reef census.

A total of 14 places are available for members of the public to join in the citizen science project aboard *OceanQuest* (pictured), departing 16 Nov.

The vessel is a three-level, 35-metre catamaran with 18 twin share and four double cabins, all of which are air-conditioned with a private en suite bathroom.

Fares are \$7,000 per person and include a minimum of three dives per day, equipment, air fills, and chef-prepared meals.

Divers Den's unique fluorescent diving and Sharks in the Dark experiences will also be available during the expedition.

"The Ribbon Reefs are a great example of the areas we're hoping to improve our knowledge about through the census - isolated, diverse, and in many places, rarely visited," said Citizens of the Great Barrier Reef Chief Executive Officer Andy

Ridley.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for divers to become citizen scientists and to help increase our understanding of this vast ecosystem."

The expedition will capture underwater photos of the Ribbon Reef and submit them to the census, with evening presentations and Q&A sessions held by marine biologists, including special guest, environmentalist Laura Wells.

For more, [CLICK HERE](#).

### Horizon debut

**CRUISE** Traveller has launched pre-registration for cruise packages for the Australian debut of Tradewind Voyages' *Golden Horizon*.

The cruise and stay packages have been released in 14 sectors, ranging from 14 to 73 nights, with pre-registration available until the opening of sales on 02 Nov.

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

NEW ZEALAND CRUISE ASSOCIATION  
He Waka Eke Noa



**NZCA UPDATE**

with Kevin O'Sullivan  
CEO, NZCA

### Cruise expenditure in NZ

**EARLY** in Oct Statistics New Zealand released figures for the 2020 cruise season, and, despite the season coming to an abrupt halt in mid-Mar, the numbers showed cruise to be a significant contributor to the New Zealand economy.

The overall value was officially noted as \$547 million, but the value was most apparent in regional economies.

For example, in Marlborough, with a population of 49,000, more than half of whom live in the largest town, Blenheim, the expenditure from cruise last season was over \$29 million.

That is substantial for a small province.

In the Bay of Islands, in Northland, cruise expenditure was almost \$24 million.

In larger cities, for example, Wellington, it was \$33 million, and in Auckland, a whopping \$208 million, even though the season ended early.

This is what cruise brings to our cities and to our small towns and regions in New Zealand, and this is why it matters, and this is why we have to work to bring back cruise.

Cruise makes a difference to our cities and to small town New Zealand, it keeps our tourism businesses thriving, and our people employed.

### CCC dining returns

**CAPTAIN** Cook Cruises (CCC) has redesigned its famous lunch, high tea and dinner cruises on Sydney Harbour.

Departing up to four times a day, the High Tea, the three-course Sunset Dinner Cruise, the three-course Top Deck Lunch cruise, the three-course Brilliant Dinner Cruise and the six-course Gold Dinner Cruise are all available to be booked, with prices starting from \$69.

For more, [CLICK HERE](#).

CRUISE WEEKLY

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