



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Creative Cruising's new cruise combos

**AZAMARA** and Back-Roads Touring have come together with Creative Cruising for exclusive offers and incentives.

The combinations, which focus on country intensive voyages and tours that take guests to smaller ports, can earn travel advisors \$200 eGift cards for every package booked and deposited by Feb.

The packages travel to less crowded villages and off-the-beaten track locations, so travellers can immerse themselves in each destination and its local cultures, sample local gastronomic gems and more - call 1300 362 599.

## Lindblad christens second ship for '21

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions' first female captain Heidi Norling has christened *National Geographic Resolution* (pictured) in Antarctica.

The ship was welcomed in the Weddell Sea's Duse Bay, on her inaugural voyage, 'Antarctica, South Georgia & the Falklands'.

Guests walked onto the ice to cheer Norling on, as she also blessed all who sail aboard *Resolution*.

"I wish this ship calm winds, fair seas, and great adventures," she remarked.

Following some comments from Captain Martin Graser, guests, staff, and crew celebrated with a champagne toast.

The occasion marked a major milestone for Lindblad, which was welcoming its second polar newbuild, and its second vessel to launch this year, after *National Geographic Endurance*.



Both ships are in Antarctica for the season - a sight which is "very touching", in the words of founder Sven Lindblad.

"They are extraordinary ships... we had very high expectations when we were building them, and their performance has far exceeded them," he noted.

Chief Executive Officer Dolf Berle added: "we are so proud of everyone that worked tirelessly to create this extraordinary ship."

Following her season in Antarctica, *Resolution* will make her debut in Europe.

She will navigate from Portugal

to France, and Scotland to Norway in style, after which she will return to Antarctica via Japan, the East China Sea, and the remote Pacific Islands.

Named to honour the ship which sailed the second voyage of James Cook - also the first ship to venture south of the Antarctic Circle - *Resolution* is fully stabilised and features the patented X-Bow technology guaranteeing a smooth voyage in all conditions.

*Resolution's* interiors are Scandinavian inflected and offer the highest level of comfort.

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\*Discount valid on sailings through to end of 2023 and will vary depending on sail year and destination. Offer ends 9 December 2021 unless extended and is subject to change or withdrawal. For full T&Cs [click here](#).

How has the pandemic impacted the way the travel sector operates, and what will remain in the emerging post-covid world? We investigate taking travel back to the future in the latest *travelBulletin*.



travelBulletin



**DEPENDING** on who you ask, there is anywhere from four to seven continents, but however many you count, there may soon be one more to add to that tally.

Zaha Hadid Architects has come up with a "floating continent", which in the future could collect and recycle plastic from the ocean.

The design recycles ocean plastic and is completely self-sustainable, incorporating a five-part structure which contains everything from greenhouses to living quarters.

When operational, the station could stay connected to the seabed, but remain flexible to move in line with currents.

It would produce its own energy through harvesting facilities and be fully equipped with water desalination centres to maximise the health of the ocean that surrounds it.

## An Enchanted eve

**THE** Explorers Club's Jenifer Austin, Lynn Danaher, and Vicki Ferrini will serve as godmothers to Princess Cruises' *Enchanted Princess*.

The cruise line welcomed the three members while announcing details of the upcoming naming ceremony for the ship at the, 'Our World Enchanted' event, hosted by Celebrations Ambassador Jill Whelan and the vessel's Cruise Director Dan Falconer.

## Virtuosa welcomed



**MSC** Cruises has hosted the naming ceremony of *MSC Virtuosa* in the United Arab Emirates, in recognition of the cruise line's commitment to both the country and the wider region.

*Virtuosa* was officially named at Port Rashid in Dubai, in partnership with the emirate's Department of Economy and Tourism, in a glittering ceremony in front of Emirati Royalty, ministers, and government officials, as well as overseas diplomats, media and travel advisors.

The ship was named by Italian actress Sophia Loren, the 17th MSC ship she has named, and event guests were also treated to a performance by English singer-songwriter Rag'n'Bone Man.

The event culminated with a traditional bottle-breaking and firework display against the Dubai cityscape, before a celebratory gourmet dinner in one of *Virtuosa's* restaurants.

"We are honoured to host

this time-honoured maritime tradition ceremony in the United Arab Emirates during its Golden Jubilee year and with it, to mark our longstanding and long-term commitment to this region," said Executive Chair Pierfrancesco Vago.

"This is also why this winter *MSC Virtuosa*, a new and one of the most technologically and environmentally advanced ships in our fleet, will homeport in the country as part of our deployment in the Gulf region.

"Cruising is an integral part of the UAE's dynamic tourism industry, and thanks to our uniquely global distribution network we will continue to promote the country and the Middle East all around the world as an attractive holiday option to support the further growth of the tourism industry locally."

*Virtuosa* can carry up to 6,334 passengers and 1,704 crew and is set to serve the Arabian Sea until Mar 2022 from her base in Dubai.

## Fred. Olsen sale

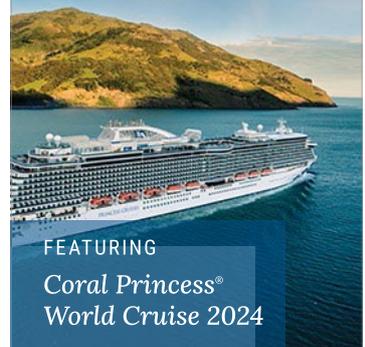
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