

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Friday 19th March 2021

Spend an evening with Norwegian

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is launching An Evening with NCL, its first series of virtual consumer events for Australian travellers.

Aimed at VIP travellers, attendees can enjoy a choice of three evening events broadcast real-time, where they can ask any questions and plan their future cruise.

An exclusive offer will also be available on the night, with three sessions to be held from 23-25 Mar, focusing on the best of Europe, close to home, and more.

All sessions start at 6:30 PM AEDT - register HERE.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Royal Caribbean unveils Aus 2022/23

ROYAL Caribbean International has revealed its 2022/23 Australian adventures, which will see three ships sailing in local waters, including two Quantumclass vessels.

From Oct 2022, Ovation of the Seas (pictured) and Radiance of the Seas will sail from Sydney, while Ovation's sister ship Quantum of the Seas will sail from the new Brisbane International Cruise Terminal.

Quantum will sail more South Pacific sailings across the school holidays than ever before, with bookings for the season opening on Thu.

The three ships will offer 66 two- to 19-night cruises to ports throughout Australia, as well as Fiji, New Caledonia, New Zealand, and Vanuatu.

The season also features more two- or three-night weekend samplers than previously.



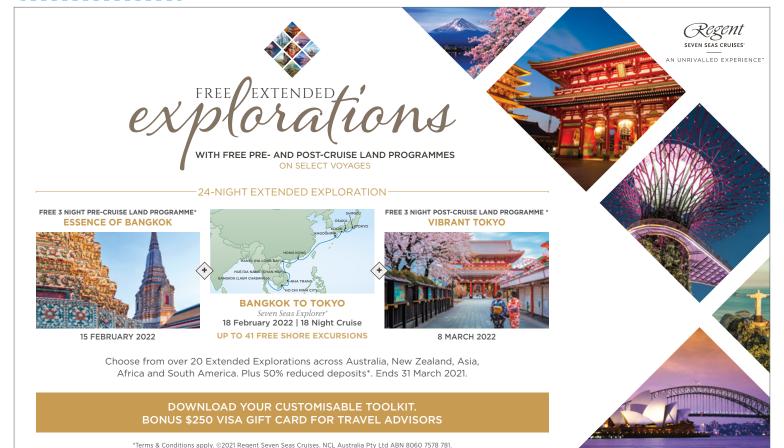
For added peace of mind, Royal Caribbean's Price Protection allows a traveller's fare to be repriced outside of final payment to ensure passengers always receive the best deal available.

"Quantum Class ships are in a league of their own in Australian waters — and we have two sailing in the 2022/2023 season," said Vice President & Managing

Director Australia & New Zealand Gavin Smith.

"This calibre of ship isn't seen elsewhere in this region, and their technological innovation and modern hardware open up a new audience to cruising.

"Along with fan-favourite Radiance, they offer variety and adventure that can't be matched."





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Regent for the sky

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has expanded Seven Seas Navigator's early 2022 Southern Caribbean Season with seven new voyages.

Ranging from seven to 30 nights in length, there are now 12 voyages sailing between Jan and Apr 2022.

The redesigned season also means there are now nine itineraries sailing to or from Barbados, six of which are roundtrip journeys.

The season begins 06 Jan 2022, with the first of the newly added sailings embarking from Colombia on 25 Jan 2022.

Highlights include visits to the Pitons, the white sand beaches of St Kitts & Nevis, and the ABC Islands.

Eastern Caribbean itineraries feature calls at St. Barts, Antigua, Martinique and more.

MSC joins British cruise frenzy

MSC Cruises is the latest line to announce domestic operations in the United Kingdom, with a series of "short breaks and week-long cruises round the British Isles".

The season follows government approval of cruising in British waters by foreign ships under strict protocols, and is set to kick off on 20 May, with MSC joining Cunard Line, P&O Cruises, Viking and others (CW 17 Mar) in offering cruise holidays for British passengers.

MSC will sail from the new Southampton terminal, with the firm's Managing Director UK & Ireland Antonio Paradiso saying "it's time for UK holidaymakers to get back onboard and enjoy a well deserved break from what has been a very challenging 12 months for everyone".

"Our hope is to offer every type of holidaymaker the chance to escape this summer - from

grandparents to teens and even the smallest of passengers."

Unlike P&O. MSC will carry both vaccinated and unvaccinated passengers, with all guests tested prior to embarkation.

Non-vaccinated guests will also be required to show proof of a negative test done within 72 hours prior of travel, and crews will undergo weekly testing following 14 days of quarantine prior to joining the vessel.

Paradiso noted MSC had already carried over 50,000 guests since restarting operations in Aug last year, with the cruise line's protocols led by international health experts including its own Blue-Ribbon expert group.

Details of shore excursions have not been released at this stage, with Paradiso saying any programs will be "subject to prevailing circumstances and local guidance at the time of sailing".

Ocean Victory passes sea trials

ALBATROS Expeditions has revealed its new ship Ocean Victory has completed its successful sea trials, and has achieved the lowest greenhouse gas emissions per passenger in the industry.

The 185-passenger ship's impressive environmental performance is generated by the unique features of the vessel, according to President Hans Lagerweij.

"Ocean Victory has Tier III compliant engines, the cleanest engines in the world that limit the amount of nitrous oxides." he explained.

"We only burn marine gas oil, which emits less CO2 per tonne burned compared to a heavier bunker fuel."

Ocean Victory also deploys an Ulstein X-Bow.



A truly once-in-a-lifetime destination, Antarctica's unique and frozen landscape is teeming with curious and fearless wildlife such as penguins, seals, whales and birds.

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SOMEONE'S been watching The Italian Job!

Two thieves broke into Houston's Bayou Bend Collection & Gardens earlier this week, escaping via a waiting boat, and through a storm drain.

After breaking into the museum at night, the perpetrators led police on a motorboat chase down the Buffalo Bayou, one of Houston's longest rivers, before escaping into a sewer system.

The pair broke into Bayou Bend Collection through a gate to a basement window, setting off the museum's alarm system, and starting a chase with security quards.



Norwegian Choir of Man contest

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line is offering travellers the chance to win a double pass to see The Choir Of Man in Sydney.

Showing at the Opera House, five double passes are available to be won, with travellers invited to tell Norwegian in 25 words or less what their favourite show on an NCL ship is, and why.

The passes admit guests to the 26 Mar 7:30 PM AEDT session enter HERE.

Minerva undressed



SWAN Hellenic's Minerva (inset) has revealed her cabin designs, with her structure being completed ahead of schedule.

The cruise line has revealed Minerva's Scandi-chic comfort and spacious open perspectives, designed by Tillberg of Sweden.

Marking the occasion, the company released a time-lapse video of the work at Helsinki

Shipyard that shows the ship assuming its current form - CLICK HERE to view.

Pictured: Balcony bedroom.

New river packages

A DOUBLE American river cruise package has been released for Nov 2022, with a range of bonuses available.

Free onboard spending credit will be offered aboard the new Grand Sounds of America double river cruise package for those who book with American Queen Steamboat Company by the end of May.

The 21-night package will see travellers sail aboard American Queen down the legendary Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers between Tennessee and

The package is all-inclusive and combines two back-toback river cruises - CLICK **HFRF**

Discovery Princess floats out

PRINCESS Cruises' new Discovery Princess is closer to launch, after floating out from Fincantieri's Monfalcone shipyard overnight.

Discovery is the sixth Royalclass ship commissioned by Princess, and is also the final newbuild in the series, joining sister ships Royal Princess, Regal Princess, Majestic Princess, Sky Princess and **Enchanted Princess.**

The 3,560 berth vessel will now undergo fitout in the lead-up to her formal handover which is scheduled for next year.





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