





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

Cruise Weekly today

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

Oceania sale

OCEANIA Cruises has announced an Exclusive Upgrade Sale, allowing travellers to improve their booking up to four stateroom categories at no extra cost.

A special preview of applicable sailings is now live, ahead of the official sale period which runs from 24 Nov to 30 Nov, with an Upfront **Bonus Commission incentive** of \$150 available for all reservations.

"With guests eager to set sail again, this is the ideal opportunity to plan an unforgettable holiday in elevated luxury, on some of our most sought-after itineraries," Oceania said.

Dutton shuts down Garden Is idea

MINISTER for Defence Peter Dutton has shut down a proposal to share Sydney naval base Garden Island with the cruise industry.

Dutton savaged the suggestion, after Premier of New South Wales Dominic Perrottet said yet another discussion should be had about the oft-mooted idea, which was also backed by former Carnival Australia Chief Executive Officer Ann Sherry.

During an appearance on Sydney radio station 2GB, the Defence Minister shut down talk of allowing commercial vessels to alight passengers on Garden

"Great man, bad idea," Dutton said of Perrottet's suggestion, on The Ray Hadley Morning Show.

"There is significant naval use of (Garden Island)...there's just not the capability or capacity there to land a cruise ship."



"We'll have a polite discussion I'm sure with the NSW govt, but I don't want to spend too much time or resources on the issue because the advice was pretty definite...the answer will be no," he said, referring to the Cruise Development Plan (CW 31 Jul 2018).

Released more than three years ago, the plan instead scoped a new passenger facility outside of

Sydney Harbour, at Botany Bay.

Sherry said opening Garden Island to cruise ships would pump badly needed tourist dollars back into the city.

"Sydney has a list of unfinished business opportunities that still exist for really bringing the visitor experience to life.

"Bringing the bigger cruise ships into Sydney is part of that and Garden Island is a key factor."





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American river deal

A SAVING of up to \$2,260 per couple is available for bookings on back-to-back river cruise packages with American Queen Voyages made by the end of the year.

The Nov 2022 cruise will sail in celebration of the musical genres which changed the world, with the Grand Sounds of America package to take music-lovers on an epic journey to Nashville, Memphis and New Orleans aboard the 417-guest paddlewheeler American Queen.

A combination of two backto-back river cruises, the all-inclusive, 15-night package will see guests jive their way along the Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee and Cumberland rivers

The adventure begins on 13 Nov with a night's stay in Nashville before the start of the 14-night cruise next day in nearby Clarksville aboard Queen.

To book call Cruise Traveller, the Australian representative for American Queen on 1800 507 777, or **CLICK HERE**.

Odyssey godmother named



ROYAL Caribbean International has appointed its first Bahamian godmother, para-triathlete Erin Brown, to Odyssey of the Seas.

Announced during the ship's official naming ceremony in Fort Lauderdale on Sat, she was joined on board by outgoing Royal Caribbean Group Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Richard Fain and Royal Caribbean International President & Chief Executive Officer Michael Bayley.

Brown survived a diagnosis of stage 4 bone cancer in 2004, which saw one of her legs amputated above the knee.

She went on to become the first Bahamian to compete in a Paralympic Games qualifier.

"As a proud Bahamian, it is an honour to also represent The Bahamas and share my story with so many others," she said.

"My experiences have empowered me to reinvent myself and transform my life, and I'm committed to helping ensure others can do the same."

Fain added: "all of what our teams have done over the past 20 months has led us to this moment when we can finally show the innovation and beauty of Odyssey."

Pictured are Fain, Brown, Bayley, and Odyssey Captain Sindre Borsheim.



CRUISING in Canada won't restart in earnest until the start of the northern spring next year - but a cowboy in British Columbia is getting a head start.

Torrential rains battered much of the province over the weekend, and Hank Chillihitzia was part of a community effort that rallied around a farmer who was concerned when a herd of horses became stranded in fastmoving floodwater.

More accustomed to wrangling livestock on horseback, Chillihitzia decided to jump into a motorboat to get the animals moving to higher ground.

Despite currents of up to 60km/h he managed to herd the 29 horses safely through the freezing waters to safety, admitting in an interview on CBC Radio "that's my first time doing that in a boat".

"I knew if we didn't do anything then, yeah, my heart probably would have shattered in two billion pieces," he added.





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