



Cruise Weekly today

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

NCL's neat NFTs

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) has announced the cruise industry's first non-fungible token collection.

Sailing into the "metaverse", renowned Italian street artist Manuel Di Rita, who designed *Norwegian Prima's* hull art, will release six NCL NFTs for auction and sale.

The collection celebrates the launch of Norwegian's Prima class, and will be available on 13 Apr at 9am eastern time (GMT-5) on NCL's forthcoming dedicated online marketplace.

An NFT is a non-interchangeable photo, video, or audio file stored online, that can be sold and traded.

Lindblad debuts *National Geographic II*

LINDBLAD Expeditions has announced the new all-suite *National Geographic Islander II* (pictured) which will sail year-round in the Galapagos Islands, beginning in Aug.

The expedition ship holds just 48 guests, and replaces *National Geographic Islander*.

The ship has been refitted from its former life as *Crystal Esprit* to a spacious vessel with a 1:1 guest-to-crew ratio and five expedition staff.

Travellers will find encircling teak decks that gracefully connect the indoor and outdoor spaces, a well-outfitted observation deck, indoor-outdoor dining options, 26 light and airy suites, and new expedition amenities including a marina and science hub.

National Geographic Islander II is equipped with stabilisers for smooth sailing, and includes key environmental and fuel-efficient



upgrades like reduced outdoor lighting, special paint, and recycled water from the newly installed air conditioning system.

The ship's 18 suites, four solo suites, and four Islander suites all feature large windows, convertible king/twin beds, ample closet space, a sofa, a

marble double-sink bathroom, a stocked mini-bar, wi-fi, and a flat-screen television.

Lindblad also has a limited time special introductory offer, which will see guests receive \$520 of special savings per guest on all Galapagos departures next year on bookings by the end of May.

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A 4,000-YEAR-OLD boat has been excavated near the ancient city of Uruk, located in modern-day Iraq.

The unearthing was made by a team of archaeologists from the Iraqi German Mission of the State Board of Antiquities, and the German Archaeological Institute.

The ancient city is situated on a dried-up channel of the Euphrates River.

My Cruises events a hit



MY CRUISES' first-ever live River Cruise Discovery Evenings have been a big success, with the agency hosting an event in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane last month.

In partnership with Avalon Waterways, almost 300 guests attended across the three events.

Each evening saw My Cruises General Manager Michael Middleton and Product Manager Samantha Riches joined by Regional Sales Manager Greg Schein to present a collection of the agency's river packages.

Middleton said that the events provided an excellent opportunity to engage with potential river cruise customers in-person.

"We're seeing a resurgence in Cruising and with My Cruises River Collection launching only late last year, the events have been a great opportunity to share the evolution of river cruising over the last 10 years and the My Cruises difference and our exclusive river packages," he said.

My Cruises' first-ever River Collection, launched in Sep, is already paying dividends (**CW** 10 Sep).

Pictured are My Cruises Consultant Joseph Alam, Avalon Waterways Regional Sales

Manager Greg Schein, My Cruises Product Manager Samantha Riches and top-performing consultant from last year Amanda Taylor with Middleton.

Best. Week. Everrr.

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has seen its highest booking week ever, from 28 Mar-03 Apr.

The seven-day total was a double-digit increase from the previous highest week.

President Christine Duffy attributed the record to excitement about the industry's restart, Carnival's successful return of its entire fleet, guest reaction to *Mardi Gras*, its 50th birthday celebrations, the support of its travel advisor partners, the work of its team, and the synergy of its sales channels.

Scenic Eu is back

SCENIC Luxury Cruises & Tours has announced the start of its Europe river season.

The cruise line is welcoming guests from Australia for the first time since the 2019 season, as it embarks on its eight-day Rhine Highlights itinerary.

After last year operating sailings in the Bordeaux region, as well as on the Douro and Rhine rivers, this year will see Scenic embark on more than 300 all-inclusive luxury river cruise departures in 2022.

In addition to the Rhine, the itineraries will sail the Main, Danube, Moselle, Seine, Rhone, Garonne, Gironde, Dordogne, and Douro rivers.

Two new culinary cruises will be added in France with the 11-day Tastes of Southern France and Flavours of Bordeaux itineraries.

Travel Daily
Events

PRESENTS
**AN EXECUTIVE
INTERVIEW**

with publisher Bruce Piper and the Norwegian Cruise Line executive leadership and sales team

The Great Cruise Comeback

Join us for a chat with NCL. There'll be a Q&A panel discussing exactly what cruising looks like today, what's in the pipeline for the global cruise innovator as well how to maximise your selling potential now that local cruising is back on the agenda, plus more.



Eamonn Ferrin



Ben Angell



Damian Borg



Angela Middleton

**FRIDAY 8th APRIL
1.00pm (AEST)**

REGISTER