



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association**.

Time to celebrate

CRUISE Lines International Association's upcoming Cruise360 is the sector's chance to "celebrate what we've overcome and set the agenda for the future", according to Ponant General Manager Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific Deb Corbett.

Describing Cruise360 as "always the most important event on the cruise industry calendar", Corbett said this year's event will be even more key than in years passed.

For more information on Cruise360 or to book your tickets, head to **page 3** of today's **Cruise Weekly**.

CCL's "significant" benefit for Brisbane

BRISBANE can expect a "significant" economic benefit when Carnival Cruise Line (CCL) resumes sailing from the Queensland capital later this year, the company's President Christine Duffy has suggested.

As Carnival's "banner summer" in the northern hemisphere has brought its guest total to three million since its Jul 2021 restart, the gains to the cruise line's homeports and destinations has been notable, Duffy said.

"Carnival set the pace for the industry as the first major cruise line to return to full guest operations in the US, and we continue to lead as we now have welcomed three million guests who have enjoyed much-needed vacations," she said.

"The economic benefit to our homeports and destinations is also significant and we are looking forward to restarting

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cruise operations in Australia this Oct," Duffy added, ahead of Costa Cruises' *Costa Luminosa's* transfer to Carnival and seasonal sailing from Brisbane (**CW 15 Jun**).

Among a number of highlights for Carnival, the line recorded its biggest booking week in its 50-year history this season.

In addition to resuming sailing from all 14 of its American homeports, Carnival's three-ship deployment to the Pacific Northwest set in motion its largest Alaskan season ever, with approximately 100,000 guests expected to embark from both Seattle and San Francisco.

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PORTHOLE

THIS time last year we detailed the escapades of popular mammal Wally the Walrus, who had taken to relaxing on boats around Europe that did not belong to him (*CW* 19 Aug 2021).

It appears word has gotten out among the walrus world, as a friend of Wally's named Freya is now getting up to mischief herself.

The 700-kilogram marine mammal has been spotted in Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Scotland this year, before eventually settling down in Norway's Frognerkilen bay, where she has sunk several small boats and inflatables anchored along the Nordic coast, after attempting to lounge on them.

Some boat-owners are calling for her visa to be revoked, but most have welcomed Freya's presence, with the cheeky walrus becoming a hit with locals.

Perhaps someone ought to point out to the boat-owners that Freya and her descendants have been calling the ocean home a lot longer than their boats have existed.

MSC's Christmas in Jul



MSC Cruises' Australian team recently celebrated Christmas in Jul, ahead of what will be a bumper northern hemisphere winter season, including Christmas & New Year.

Bringing together new staff members and employees working remotely for MSC Australia, it was a chance to come together and commemorate with Christmas-themed activities.

With two ships launching later this year (*MSC World Europa* and *MSC Seascape*) there is plenty to celebrate.

The night kicked off with "MSC *Bellissima* cocktails" and a kitschy "kris kingle", followed by dinner in honour of the cruise line's famous hospitality.



With the two ships sailing in the Emirates and the Caribbean, the MSC team pondered which ship they would most like to be aboard for the Christmas & New Year season.

Pictured: MSC team members revel in their scores - some much more so than others; **inset:** Business Development Executives Shannon Morgan and Bronwyn Knight with Commercial Director Lisa Teitou.

New Atlas head

JAMES Rodriguez has been appointed Atlas Ocean Voyages' new President & Chief Executive Officer.

Bringing more than 20 years of success in the cruise industry, Rodriguez joins Atlas following the successful launch of *World Navigator*, and the upcoming Nov launch of the line's second vessel, *World Traveller*.

"James has an unwavering passion for the cruise industry and a reputation for being a champion of travel advisors," enthused Mario Ferreira, Chair of Mystic Invest Holdings, parent company of the line.

"We are confident that, under James' leadership, Atlas Ocean Voyages will be the best small luxury expeditions cruise line in short order."

Rodriguez began his cruise industry career with Crystal Cruises and subsequently joined Oceania Cruises in 2003 as a key founding team member.

At Oceania, he served as Executive Vice President of Sales & Marketing and helped build the cruise line's omni-channel marketing, sales, corporate communications, loyalty programs, guest services, and more.



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AUSTRALASIA

Thursday 25 August 2022
Hyatt Regency Sydney

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This is our chance to celebrate what we've overcome and set the agenda for the future. Cruise360 Australasia is always the most important event on the cruise industry calendar, but in 2022 it's more important than ever.



- Deb Corbett, General Manager Sales & Marketing Asia Pacific, PONANT and Paul Gauguin Cruises

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