



Celebrity offer

CELEBRITY Cruises has launched its Journey EventFULL offer, with travellers who book now enjoying up to 75% off their second guest. Passengers can also save up to \$600 per stateroom - [HERE](#).

ACL growing Aus presence

EXCLUSIVE

AMBASSADOR Cruise Line's (ACL) inaugural local employee, Head of Sales & Marketing Dean Brazier (pictured) has told *Cruise Weekly* the brand may consider committing a ship to Australia.

Fresh off opening a local office and announcing its second ship *Ambience* will be cruising to Australia in 2023-2024 (CW 30 Nov), Brazier said Ambassador is in the market for expansion opportunities, including a third vessel, which could be tabbed for local cruising.

"They are certainly looking to grow the fleet, and if and when they are able to do that...I wouldn't say it's a definite, but I'd say this is a market that they would be seriously looking at," he said.

"The opening of this office is kind of a key part of that because if we can start to grow the business through here, start to see some really good sales coming in, then I can look to open up a [larger] office, and then we're in a better position because we're contributing to the overall income for the company.

"It'll make it an easier decision to say 'third ship, let's sail it to Australia'," he said.

The opening of Ambassador's Australian office is the second step to introducing the brand to the local market, the first of which was committing *Ambience* to a sojourn Down Under.



Ambassador is now looking to partner with wholesalers and tour operators, in particular to sell its "line voyage", either from London to Sydney or vice versa.

"[It's] a really interesting itinerary because it goes to Melbourne, Adelaide, Fremantle, Singapore, Cape Town, over to South America, Rio and then it goes up to the UK, so an interesting cruise both out and back," Brazier said.

Ambience's inaugural arrival into Australia will be marked by trade promotions, which will see members of the cruise sector able to board her for a close-up of Ambassador's cruise offering.

Brazier said the line is now actively looking to work with any and all trade partners or travel advisors who can sell its cruises - [CLICK HERE](#) to get in contact.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Oceania new 33-day Grand Voyage

OCEANIA Cruises has announced a new 33-day Grand Voyage, departing in Oct 2023.

Now on sale, the Mediterranean Connection sailing on *Marina* will embark from Venice and sail to Barcelona, immersing guests in the highlights of the Eastern Mediterranean and Holy Lands.

The Grand Voyage will call on 28 ports, and will offer three shorter segment options up to 12 days long.

The cruise also features an overnight in Istanbul, offering guests ample time for in-depth exploration of the magnificent city which straddles two continents.

"With demand continuing to increase for longer and more destination-immersive voyages, we are thrilled to reveal this new itinerary offering experiences in both iconic and off-the-beaten-path ports of call in a corner of the world with rich history and cultural wonders," President & Chief Executive Officer Howard Sherman said.

For more information, call 1300 355 200.

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4 On the Fourth Day of Christmas, Uniworld Sent to Me...

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On the first day of...

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection is spreading Xmas joy with its 12 Days of Christmas offer.

The series of offers started earlier this week, with one new offer to be unveiled every weekday via an online Advent Calendar to celebrate the 12 Days of Christmas.

Each offer has limited availability and can be booked until 16 Dec.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Cruise records smashed

RECORDS have tumbled over the Black Fri-Cyber Mon period, with three cruise lines setting high-water marks for bookings.

Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises broke their booking records, with Black Fri marking each cruise line's highest single day of reservations.

Black Fri was also the peak of what became Royal Caribbean's highest-volume booking week, and the third time this year the cruise line has broken its single-day record.

The strong demand for Royal Caribbean cruises comes on the heels of the first look at *Icon of the Seas*, with Royal Caribbean also enjoying a record-breaking day when the ship opened for bookings just over a month ago, 15 months ahead of its Jan 2024 debut (**CW** 28 Oct).

Celebrity also shattered previous records with its Black Fri and Cyber Mon performances, hot off the heels of the delivery of *Celebrity Beyond*.

The cruise line also posted its strongest Cyber Mon in history.

"We saw demand across the full depth and breadth of our itinerary offerings around the globe and we can't wait to take our guests to the world's best places, our Celebrity ships," said President & Chief Executive Officer Lisa Lutoff-Perlo.

Meanwhile, Holland America Line saw record Black Fri bookings in the United States.

Strong interest in exploring Alaska helped fuel strong cruise sales over the holiday weekend, up more than 60% compared to

pre-pandemic.

Total booking volume outpaced Holland America's 2019 Black Fri performance by 20%, while levels were almost more than 10% higher for the entire period from Black Fri through Cyber Mon.

Save with Aranui

SAVE 30% on Pitcairn and Cook Islands voyages next year with Aranui Cruises.

Until the end of Jan, the line is taking 30% off three Discovery cruises next year - aranuicruises.com.au.



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has unveiled a dynamic, 16-metre-long work of art for its upcoming ship *Norwegian Viva*.

The cruise line recently hosted an immersive art experience SCOPE Miami Beach During Miami Art Week.

The work, titled *Every Wing Has a Silver Lining*, will be on display on board at Metropolitan Bar, Norwegian's signature sustainable bar.

The piece will dynamically respond throughout the day to passing movement and create engagement with the viewer.



A year of awards for NCL



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has closed the year with several particularly notable awards for its Australian team.

Most recently, Norwegian took out the Silver Quality Service Award from Readers Digest.

The prize followed an independent survey of 2,500 Australians which asked them to identify companies which truly understand customer service and the needs of consumers.

Earlier this year, Norwegian was also awarded in two cruise category awards at the prestigious National Travel Industry Awards (**CW** 17 Oct).

Norwegian received both the 'Most Outstanding Industry Support - Cruise', and 'Most Outstanding Marketing Campaign - Supplier' for its mental wellbeing initiative, Walk for Wellness.

"Our philosophies of Guest First and Partners First have guided every decision we've made these past two-and-a-half years, and we're absolutely thrilled our efforts are being recognised by our partners, peers and the Australian travelling public," Managing Director & Vice President APAC Ben Angell said.

"These awards mean so much to each and every member of the NCL Australia team and motivate us to continue striving to offer the very best service and support".

Angell is **pictured** trying to keep a handle on all of this year's silverware with his team Senior Sales Manager Angela Middleton; Jacinta Baker, recently promoted to Trade Marketing Manager; and Director of Sales Damian Borg.