

cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Tuesday 12th July 2022

Cruise Weekly today

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

Princess deals with Coral COVID cases

AS IT deals with a COVID-19 outbreak aboard one of its ships, Princess Cruises is adhering to comprehensive protocols "agreed in conjunction with federal and state authorities", the line told *Cruise Weekly*.

Princess added it is confident its COVID protocols are working effectively, with a number aboard its *Coral Princess* vessel testing positive.

"The health and well-being of our guests and crew remain our main priority and the protocols being followed on board are working," Princess said.

Vega named, departs on inaugural

SWAN Hellenic's second ship Vega has set sail for the Arctic, after her recent naming ceremony at Helsinki Shipyard. Vega is now on her way to Tromso for an 11-day maiden

Arctic cruise, departing 20 Jul. The new vessel was named by Swan Hellenic Chief Executive Officer Andrea Zito's wife Patrizia (**pictured**), in the presence of Helsinki Shipyard Senior Management and members of the cruise and travel industries from around the world.

"I would like to congratulate everyone at Helsinki for their superb work in creating this wonderful new ship," Andrea Zito said.

"We are delighted with the quality of their work, creating another unique presence on the waves, and very much look forward to taking her first guests to see what others don't,



exploring the Arctic in exceptional comfort and style."

Helsinki Shipyard Project Manager Jonas Packalen said the day was a proud one for everyone in attendance.

"Vega is every bit as beautiful and elegant as her twin sister," he said, referring to Swan Hellenic's maiden ship *Minerva*, which launched in Jan (**CW** 04 Jan). "We wish her and her crew fair winds and following seas, with special thanks to everyone involved in the project for their unstinting dedication."

Swan Hellenic now own Vega outright, having acquired her from Helsinki Shipyard, after original owner GTLK Europe defaulted on its payments last month (**CW** 28 Jun).



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Ponant 2023-24

PONANT has unveiled 12 new departures for it summer 2023-2024 season.

For the first time in a summer season, Ponant will sail to the northern hemisphere to experience the Northern Lights in Norway.

The 10-night Nordic Discoveries & Traditions cruise sets off from Tromso aboard *Le Bellot*, journeying through the Trollfjord, Hammerfest, Honningsvag, and more.

There is also a new New Zealand's North Island & Chatham Islands seven-night cruise, aboard *Le Laperouse*, which departs from Wellington and visits Gisborne, among a number of other destinations.

Special Anzac cruise

VARIETY Cruises has released exclusive Anzac packages for next year's national day of remembrance at ANZAC Cove, available through Creative Cruising.

The Islands & ANZACs trip specially includes attendance of the dawn service at ANZAC Cove, plus an extended stay at the nearby port of Canakkale, allowing for a full day of sightseeing and time spent on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

The 11-night land and sea package departs 21 Apr, and includes four nights in a fourstar hotel, port transfers, a seven-night small ship cruise aboard *Harmony V* from Athens to Istanbul, buffet breakfast and one meal daily, a welcome cocktail, a full-day Gallipoli tour, and more.

Prices start from \$4,819 per person twin share.

Meanwhile, travel advisors can also earn a \$100 e-gift card and win one of two cruises to Greece or the Seychelles when booking any Variety cruise before the end of Aug - join tomorrow's webinar **HERE**.

Cruise Weekly

Eclipse 2023-2024 season

SCENIC Luxury Cruises & Tours has unveiled its full collection of *Scenic Eclipse* (**pictured**) Europe and The Americas 2023-2024 voyages.

The new collection features seven new ultra-luxury cruises, including four in the Caribbean, which will see *Eclipse* cruise along the Panama Canal.

The 11-day Iconic Panama Canal voyage takes guests from Montego Bay to Panama City, via the Isla de Providencia, Bocas del Toro Province, San Blas Islands, and San Jose Island.

Guests can snorkel at Cayo Coral exploring its natural beauty and wildlife, before relaxing at Cayos Zapatilla.

Join a local tour by boat for an adventure up a mangrove channel, offering the opportunity to see sloths, caimans, and rare tropical birds.

Meanwhile, the 11-day Autumn Colours of New England voyage sees guests explore Martha's Vineyard, the cliffs, rocky coves, glacier-carved lakes, and dense forests of Acadia National Park, and the historic district of Bar Harbor, before climbing aboard an America's Cup yacht for a thrilling sailing experience.

Cruising from Halifax to New York City, the voyage calls at Lunenburg, Bar Harbor, Portland, Boston, Provincetown, Newport, and Martha's Vineyard. Meanwhile in Europe, guests



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will journey along the shores of the Guadalquivir and dock overnight, right in the heart of Seville on the 12-day Incredible Iberian Discovery voyage from Lisbon to Barcelona.

In the evening, guests visit one of Seville's oldest bullrings for a special equestrian flamenco show.

Cruisers can also discover one of the world's most stunning coastal countries on a 10-day Italian Treasures voyage from Rome to Valletta, where they will visit the historical isles of Ponza and Capri.

Uncover the hidden gem of Lipari, the largest of the seven Aeolian Islands in the Tyrrhenian Sea off the northern coast of Sicily.

Here, board a private boat to Vulcano and explore the oneof-a-kind volcanic surroundings, or enjoy a panoramic tour of the island, where you will visit a fascinating archaeological museum.

For more information and to book a 2023-2024 voyage, call 1300 173 812.

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US' "toilet bowl"

AMERICAN cruise ships are using Canada as a "toilet bowl" for polluted waste, according to a report by the environmental organisations Stand.earth and West Coast Environmental Law.

Lax Canadian regulations have created a "perverse incentive" for American cruise ships en route to Alaska to discharge their waste water off British Columbia, the report said.

While Washington is classified as a no-discharge zone, and Alaska requires ships to receive permission to dump, untreated sewage from cruise ships can legally be dumped in Canadian waters.





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THE Australian Wooden Boat Festival (pictured) is set to return in Feb after four years.

A large fleet of sailing vessels will grace the Derwent River in Tasmania for the opening Parade of Sail event, which kicks off the Festival.

Classic and modern wooden boats will number upward of 500, and will be berthed in every nook and cranny of Hobart.

The summer Festival also hosts more than 80 commercial exhibitors and more than 50 Tasmanian food and beverage stalls to feed the masses.

Organisers are expecting more than 200,000 attendees to showcase the best of Tasmania to.



Paul Gauguin deal

AN EARLYBIRD package on a Tahitian islands sailing next year is available through Cruise Traveller.

The luxury Paul Gauguin Cruises sailing is up for thousands of dollars of savings when booking through Cruise Traveller before the end of next month.

The nine-night Tahitian Temptations package features a week-long sojourn aboard Le Paul Gauguin.

To book, CLICK HERE.

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AQV hits a home run

AMERICAN Queen Voyages (AQV) has premiered 'The Field of Dreams' experience on its Upper Mississippi voyages.

The new premium shore excursion is available beginning with American Countess' arrival in the Iowa port of Dubuque on 22 Jul.

Upon docking in the city, a local guide will point out many iconic locations from the 1989 film Field of Dreams starring Kevin Costner, James Earl Jones, and Ray Liotta.

Locations will include the local elementary school, the University of Dubuque, and Central Avenue, which was transformed into Boston for the film.

At the actual Field of Dreams baseball field (pictured), guests will be able to walk the bases like Shoeless Joe Jackson, emerge from the corn, and take a break on the bleachers.

Guests will also arrive at the 'If You Build It Exhibit' to explore the story that inspired Field of Dreams and view behind-thescenes photos that delve into the making of the movie.

The Experience is available

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Port Douglas debut

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MALAYSIA

PRINCESS Cruises' Coral Princess celebrated her maiden call to Port Douglas last week, becoming the first ship to visit in more than two years.

Coral's nine visits this winter season are expected to generate \$4.9 million for Port Douglas, in a muchneeded boost for local tourism operators and the hospitality sector, which have struggled with reduced visitation.

Port Douglas-based tour operator Jason Heffernan from Back Country Bliss said he is thrilled to welcome back cruise visitors once again.

"It's been great to finally see consistent business returning to the tourism operators," Heffernan enthused.

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