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- FREE Shore Excursions
- FREE Beverage Package
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and more



2024 COLLECTION

TROPICS & EXOTICS

plus

EUROPE & NORTH AMERICA

- Caribbean, Panama Canal & Mexico | South America
- Asia & Africa | South Pacific, Australia & New Zealand
- Mediterranean | Baltic, Scandinavia & Northern Europe
- Alaska | Canada & New England | Transoceanic

Total Itineraries: 355 | Grand Voyages: 138

Total Ports: 464 | Voyages Featuring Overnights: 233

Total Overnights: 531

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VIEW VOYAGES

EXQUISITELY CRAFTED CUISINE. CURATED TRAVEL EXPERIENCES. SMALL SHIP LUXURY.



On location aboard
Wonder of the Seas

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Royal Caribbean International, with the brand new *Wonder of the Seas* on her maiden Mediterranean season.

BOARDING *Wonder of the Seas* truly brought back the thrill of cruising, with the mighty ship docked in Barcelona dwarfing two other vessels docked alongside.

Once on board, the fun really begins, with guests on our two-night voyage invited to encourage all of the myriad of *Wonder's* specialty restaurants via tasting menus complete with complementary cocktails.

The waterslides and Flowriders have already proved popular, while tonight we look forward to shows, entertainment, and perhaps a nightcap or two.

Exotic Oceania

OCEANIA Cruises is inviting bookings on its new 2024 Tropics & Exotics program, featuring over 350 itineraries including 138 Grand Voyages.

The cruises visit 464 ports overall, and about two-thirds also feature an overnight stay.

Deals on offer include free prepaid gratuities as well as the choice of free shore excursions, a beverage package or shipboard credit - see the **cover page**.

Le Ponant to cruise Kimberley in 2023

PONANT has announced the Australian debut of its iconic three-masted ultra luxury yacht *Le Ponant* (pictured), which will cruise the Kimberley region next year.

The move was announced in a glittering gala event last night at the upmarket Paspaley boutique in Sydney's Martin Place, with the itineraries to be delivered in partnership with the famed Kimberley pearl producer.

New bespoke itineraries will showcase the region's stunning beauty aboard the sailing yacht, which has capacity for just 32 passengers after a major refit which has doubled the size of its staterooms (**CW** 14 Dec 2021).

Exclusive features include a private scenic flight aboard one of Paspaley's vintage Gummman Mallard flying boats to take guests to or from their embarkation point, as well as access to Paspaley's pearl operations in Kuri Bay.

"It is exciting to be partnering with the Paspaley Group in creating and delivering a new concept of luxury sailing expeditions in Australia's North West," enthused Ponant Chair Asia Pacific, Sarina Bratton.

The deployment will see *Le Ponant* operating in the Kimberley alongside two of her fleetmates, with *Le Laperouse* and *Le Soleal* to also return for next year's Kimberley season.

Le Laperouse was the first international cruise ship to recommence operations in Australian waters after the recent lifting of the cruise ban (**CW** 27 Apr), with *Le Soleal* to also restart



later this month on 28 May.

Ponant's "expertise and signature travel visions onboard *Le Ponant* highlight the unique mix of adventure, sustainability and refined, French-inspired service and hospitality," the company said.

Director of Expeditions & Destination Development Asia Pacific Mick Fogg said the Kimberley sailings had been crafted to be fully flexible to create the best possible guest experience.

"Taking into account the time of year and enormous tides the region is famous for, each voyage will offer a combination of iconic locations and hidden gems, showcasing the remarkable beauty of this magnificent coastline," he said.

Le Ponant will also showcase the ongoing sustainability efforts being undertaken by the cruise line, with the revamped vessel fitted with the latest technical innovations to reduce her environmental footprint, while

experiences have been designed with environmental and cultural protection at the forefront.

"The yacht offers an invitation to sail and experience the wonders of the world on a journey that combines voyage and eco-responsibility," Bratton said, describing the voyages as a "compelling travel experience in barefoot luxury".

Bookings will open later this month for the season, which will operate between Apr and Oct 2023 along with a curated complementary selection of pre- and post-cruise land arrangements featuring upmarket accommodation in Western Australia, such as El Questro Station, Berkeley River Lodge, and more.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise news plus a cover page from **Oceania Cruises** and a full page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.



Feel Free

EXCLUSIVE
Fly + Stay + Cruise

*T&Cs apply

GO BEYOND
EXTRAORDINARY

Up to
\$5,500*
BONUS
VALUE



CREATIVE CRUISING

BOOK




PORTHOLE

THE newest venue aboard Royal Caribbean International's *Wonder of the Seas* is The Mason Jar on Deck 15, with an array of what must be described as true Southern comfort food.

Today guests were treated to a sampling menu of some of the delights (pictured) which include chargrilled watermelon salad (who knew you could cook watermelon on a barbecue), fried chicken and waffles (with the cutest little jar of maple syrup to go with it) and the intriguing Blueberry Johnnycakes.

While the recipes are of course secret, *Cruise Weekly* did manage to prise some of the confidential ingredients of these Johnnycakes, which can be eaten either as an appetiser with dinner or as part of The Mason Jar's brunch menu.

The protein portion is pulled pork in a deliciously spicy barbecue sauce, along with added bacon and onion jam, all (of course) served atop a tiny blueberry pancake.

Finishing it off is a portion of deep-fried chicken skin - truly the piece de resistance!



Feeling the Wonder

ANGELA Jenkinson and Noriye Oto (pictured) from Arrivia are among the Australian travel industry partners aboard Royal Caribbean International's new *Wonder of the Seas* in Europe this week.

The pair were spotted making the most of a gigantic novelty Instagram frame on *Wonder's* sports deck - one of the ship's eight distinct "neighbourhoods".

After two preview voyages, *Wonder* sets sail this Sun 08 May on a series of seven-night voyages in the Mediterranean, visiting destinations such as Florence, Naples, Rome, and Capri in Italy; Malaga and Barcelona, Spain; and



Provence, France.

Wonder is one of eight Royal Caribbean ships cruising in the region this northern summer, including *Odyssey of the Seas* which is marking its first European season - more at royalcaribbean.com.




CRUISE WEEKLY

On Board: *Wonder of the Seas*

Royal Loft Suite with Balcony

It's difficult to decide which of the wide array of upmarket suites aboard *Wonder of the Seas* is the best - after all, there's the Ultimate Family Suite which sleeps 10 - but the Royal Loft Suite is pretty amazing.

Sleeping up to six people, the suite includes a king-sized master bed on the upper level which overlooks an enormous open living area featuring comfy lounges, cosy hanging chairs and a grand piano.

A private balcony with a whirlpool and dining area tops it off, with guests in this area also able to access a private restaurant and lounge as well as getting priority at all shows.

Uniworld flash sale

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruises has announced a new flash sale to celebrate its resumption of river cruising in Europe, with Jun-Aug sailings starting from as little as \$3,499 per person.

The limited time offer, which ends 13 May, is combinable with Uniworld's travel agent rates and River Heritage Club past guest benefits.

CLICK HERE for more.

NCLH ships order

FINCANTIERI is finalising a USD\$4 billion ship order from Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH), believed to be the first major construction order for ships since the onset of the pandemic.

According to Reuters, NCLH is ordering up to six ships, in what will likely be the final order secured by Fincantieri Chief Executive Officer Giuseppe Bono, who is scheduled to retire on 16 May.

Viking World Cruise deal of the week

VIKING'S World Cruise offers have been extended until the end of next month, as part of the line's deal of the week.

Guests who book Viking's 2023-2024 World Cruises will receive an additional USD\$2,000 per person in shore excursion credit for any optional land programs and USD\$1,000 per person in shipboard credit.

For additional information, phone Viking on 138 747.



BOOK HAWAI'I AND BE REWARDED WITH MAUI JIM SUNGLASSES

*NCL is partnering with Maui Jim Eyewear
for an exclusive Partners First Rewards offer.*



Simply deposit two Hawai'i Pride of America bookings in May to receive a pair of Maui Jim sunglasses, valued at up to \$549*. You'll also receive up to 35 Points for every booking*, which you can redeem for a wide range of gift cards.

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