

Cunard World Club Members: On sale from 10pm AEST 17 May 2022.

General Public: Available to book from 10pm AEST 18 May 2022.



# Queen Anne - The Next In A Fine Line.



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Learn more





cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Tuesday 17th May 2022

# Cruise Weekly today

**Cruise Weekly** today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a cover page from **Cunard Line**.

## Cunard on sale soon

**THE** inaugural season for Cunard Line's new ship, *Queen Anne*, is on sale tonight.

The program will be available from 10pm AEST today for Cunard World Club Members and tomorrow at 10pm AEST for the general public.

The season has been so in-demand Cunard will offer a more-than-twofold increase of its Britannia Club staterooms.

Highlights of the program include a dining experience in a dedicated restaurant, which is positioned at the heart of the ship next to the Grand Lobby - head to the **cover page** for full details.

# Barry Downs joins HTG

HIGHLY experienced cruise professional Barry Downs has returned to the travel industry, taking a new role as General Manager Marketing & Product at Hunter Travel Group (HTG).

Prior to the pandemic Downs was National Sales & Promotions Manager at Perth's Bicton Travel, and is also the voice behind The Big Cruise Podcast (*CW* 20 Apr 2020) which has just celebrated its 100th episode.

HTG Chief Exec Brett Dann told *CW* the strategic move aimed to keep the group at the forefront of the recovery and capitalise on the "significant & unique opportunities available in the years ahead".

"Barry's experience and expertise in cruise and travel made him the ideal candidate to join our team," he said.

"He knows cruise and the wider industry inside-out, he is passionate, he is highly regarded

and is a natural fit for HTG's 'cando' senior leadership style.

"We expect Barry's appointment to further cement our position as one of the country's key cruise sellers as we enter an era of significant accelerated growth, having survived one of the most challenging periods in our 22 years of trading," Dann said.

HTG now has 38 locations across Australia, including 15 Helloworld Travel branded offices (eight in its Hunter Region home base), three Cruise Travel Centres, seven RACT Travel outlets in Tasmania and 13 RACQ Travel offices across Queensland, acquired just prior to the pandemic.

Downs' key responsibilities will see him developing and leading the HTG Marketing, Product and Groups/Events teams, sourcing deals, packaging, maintaining relationships with key industry partners, and more.

# CRUISE WEEKLY

On location aboard **Pride of America** 

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of Norwegian Cruise Line, aboard Pride of America.

LAST night we experienced Pride of America's Cagney's Steakhouse, which serves up sumptuous angus beef steaks and the jumbo lump crab cakes.

The morning saw guests awake to berthing in Hilo, where a plethora of shore activities are available, as is the opportunity to venture out and experience the eastern side of Hawaii.

With a full day available on offer there is plenty of time available to come and go as you please.

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Tuesday 17th May 2022





LOVE is in the air out on the open ocean, as Carnival Cruise Line reopens its wedding program across its fleet.

Reservations opened yesterday for wedding and vow renewal ceremonies at sea, following the announcement of Carnival's full fleet returning to sea.

Lovebirds will be able to get hitched at sea again from Sep, marking the first time Carnival guests have been able to since the pandemic.

Couples can customise their ceremony, music, decor, photography, cocktail receptions and more, with the Weddings by Carnival team.

Packages range from intimate ceremonies to larger celebrations with family and friends.

The program is rolling out starting with American sailings.



# **P&O** Aus appoints Bartolo head of PR

MICHELLE Bartolo has been appointed as Head of Public Relations at P&O Cruises Australia.

Bartolo enters the cruise sector after four years in public relations at retailer Big W, and in a range of agency roles prior to that.

# Oceania & Regent celebrate



**OCEANIA** Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises last night hosted some of their key industry partners on a Sydney Harbour cruise, with about 100 travel advisors boarding the Starship Aqua for a Great Cruise Comeback celebration.

Steve Odell, SVP and MD Asia Pacific for Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises thanked the agents for their support over the last couple of very challenging years.

He also paid tribute to the tireless efforts of Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) to support the industry and lobby for the reopening of Australia's maritime borders.

The cruise lines are now eagerly anticipating the arrival of Oceania's Regatta in Sydney on 12 Dec, followed later that month by Regent's Seven Seas Explorer.

"We will welcome back luxury to Australia," he said, to the wild applause of those present who enjoyed a night of lavish hospitality including plenty of bubbles and delicious cuisine.

Some of the happy group are pictured during the event with Regent Seven Seas VP Lisa Pile.

# Princess payments

**PRINCESS** Cruises has further extended its "MedallionPay" platform shoreside to more than 100 outlets in 10 destinations.

The system allows cruise guests to use the onboard gadget to pay at selected shops and restaurants while in port.

Merchants are charged a processing fee, while guests get a 7% shipboard credit for anything bought on shore.

# Climate summit

PAUL Gauguin Cruises is this week hosting the inaugural Blue Climate Summit aboard its Paul Gauguin in French Polynesia.

The gathering is convened by Prince Albert II of Monaco along with French Polynesian President Edouard Fritch, with more than 250 scientists, policymakers, environmental activists and business experts taking part.

## A-return to normal

A-ROSA River Cruises has further relaxed its health and hygiene protocols across its fleet, with masks no longer required.

The completion of a health questionnaire will also no longer be carried out, and a RAT at the beginning of the cruise will not be required, except on Douro River sailings.

All passengers over the age of 12 will continue to need proof of full vaccination or recovery, although children under 12 will no longer need to.

Extended cleaning and disinfection protocols on board will remain in place to ensure hygiene standards are upheld.

# MSC Caribbean sale

MSC Cruises has launched its Great Caribbean Escape sale, which allows passengers to save up to 20% per cruise in the region.

Also on offer are free drinks and free wi-fi, while onboard credit of up to USD\$200 per person is also available, depending on the length of sailing booked.

Children up to 17 years of age can cruise free on all sailings booked through the promotion, which is valid for sailings in the Caribbean until 13 Nov, and must be booked by the end of Oct.

Sales are now open for the Great Caribbean Escape, with a wide choice of ships, including MSC Seashore departing Miami or MSC Divina departing Cape Canaveral.

Call 1300 028 502 to book.



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