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*Offer correct as at 13 May 2022 and subject to change or withdrawal. Offer ends 2 June 2022 unless extended. For full terms and conditions visit ncl.com. **Conditions apply, visit partnersfirstrewards.ncl.com for details.



On location aboard
Pride of America

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

SAVING the best for last is the departure from Kauai which takes us on a sunset view of the Napali Coast in all its splendour.

These cliffs showcase the natural beauty of Hawaii; lush mountains, amazing waterfalls and seemingly untouched beaches are a spectacular sight to see from *Pride of America*.

Tonight guests experience the signature French restaurant Jefferson's Bistro - surely one of the highlight days of this cruise around the Islands of Hawaii.

Check out the ship at facebook.com/cruiseweekly.

Viking Mars ready for ANZ



VIKING'S newest ocean ship, *Viking Mars*, has been named in Malta, as excitement builds around the ship's upcoming Down Under deployment late in 2022.

Delivered last week at Fincantieri's shipyard in Ancona, the private ceremony saw a bottle of Norwegian aquavit smashed upon the new ship's hull, as Norwegian singer and *Viking Jupiter* godmother Sissel Kyrkjebø performed for the crowd.

The ceremony took place while the ship was docked in Valletta's Grand Harbour, one of the first ports to welcome Viking ships when the cruise line restarted operations last year.

The commemoration paid tribute to Norwegian Constitution Day, 17 May, as all of Viking's ships are registered in Bergen, in the country's west.

Mars' official godmother, Lady Fiona Carnarvon, the Countess of Carnarvon, also offered a blessing of good fortune via video from Highclere Castle, and safe sailing for the ship.

"I am honoured and privileged

to be the godmother of the *Viking Mars*," she declared.

"I have no doubt she will delight the many guests who travel with her around the world.

"For more than a decade, Viking and Highclere have been linked through both *Downton Abbey* and life, and we look forward to continuing welcoming the extended Viking family to explore our home for years to come."

This week, *Mars* will begin her maiden season sailing itineraries in the Mediterranean, Scandinavia and Northern Europe, before repositioning at the end of the year for voyages around Australia and NZ.

"It is always a proud day when we welcome a new sister ship to our fleet," Chair Torstein Hagen enthused.

"*Mars* will allow us to offer even more opportunities for curious travellers to explore the world".

Like its seven sisters, the ship features all-veranda staterooms, Scandinavian design, airy public spaces and an abundance of al fresco dining options.

Cruise Weekly today

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

Celeb's NFTs at sea

CELEBRITY Cruises has entered the metaverse with its first non-fungible token (NFT).

In partnership with acclaimed artist Rubem Robierb, a longstanding creator featured on board Celebrity ships, the cruise line has launched the 'Peacemakers Sunset NFT' collection.

The set complements Robierb's *Peacemakers* sculpture, which is aboard the cruise line's brand new ship, *Celebrity Beyond*.

Each NFT includes two invitations to the ship's exclusive naming ceremony and sailing in Fort Lauderdale, from 04-06 Nov, where on board, Robierb's art will be incorporated into the live production show *Arte*.

Additionally, a variation of these NFTs titled 'Peacemakers, Blue Sky' can be found on board *Beyond*, making it the very first "NFT at Sea".

The new collection consists of an edition of five motion art pieces, one of which is currently on display at the Cube Art Fair in Times Square from 18-22 May.

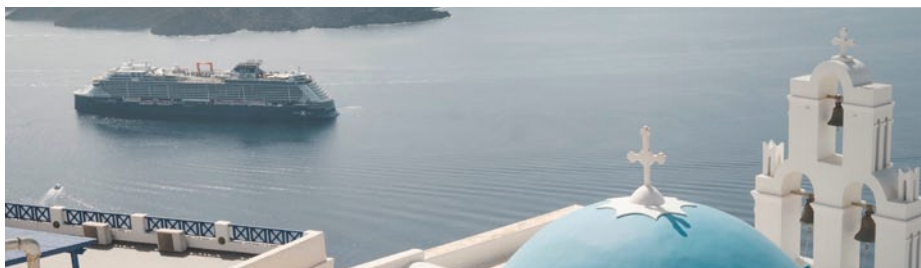
From next month, the NFTs will become available for purchase via the OpenSea platform, with proceeds going to the artist.

I want to break free

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line is today highlighting a limited-time offer aboard its *Norwegian Spirit* which is heading down under this year.

Discounts of up to 35% are featured along with a free beverage package, free specialty dining package, free shore excursion credit, free wi-fi package, and a third & fourth guest sailing at a reduced rate.

Travel advisors who book today can be rewarded with up to 35 points as a Partners First Rewards member - more info on the **cover page**.



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Aussies on deck in Hawai'i



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's *Pride of America* voyage around the islands of Hawai'i draws to a close tomorrow, with guests having explored four islands from the comfort and convenience of the US-flagged ship.

The seven-night itinerary which departs Honolulu each Sat provides an unbeatable proposition for Aussies and Kiwis to experience Hawai'i, with

the trip having no sea days and overnights in Kaua'i and Maui.

Pictured overlooking the *Pride of America* pool deck are, from left: Gareth Evison, Imagine Cruising; Jess Wagner and Josh Duncan from Flight Centre; Norwegian Cruise Line Director of Sales ANZ Damian Borg; Greg Wilson from Cruise.co; and John Williams from Our Vacation Centre.

Cunard sets a new reservations record

CUNARD Line has reported its busiest booking day in a decade, with the maiden voyage of its new ship *Queen Anne*, a seven-night sailing from Southampton departing 04 Jan 2024, sold out.

Demand for Grill Suites proved especially strong across each of the 10 published new voyages.

"Australia is the third biggest booking market for *Queen Anne*, and this demonstrates the

continuing appeal for cruising in Australia and further cements the importance of our industry in the lead up to welcoming ships back to our local waters at the end of this month," said Cunard Commercial Director Australia Katrina McAlpine.

"A very special thanks goes out to our dedicated trade partners for staying up late to ensure their clients' cabins," she said.

New Creative deal

CREATIVE Cruising is offering an exclusive \$200 cashback offer with Oceania Cruises per twin share booking made before the end of next month.

Guests who book an Oceania voyage can take advantage of the cruise line's bonus value OLIFE Choice offer, with inclusions such as free gratuities & internet, and a choice of either free beverage package, free shore excursion and free shipboard credit.

Visit www.creativecruising.com.au or contact the call centre on 1300 362 599.

Balmoral arrives

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has welcomed its third ship back into service, as *Balmoral* begins her summer program.

Sailing from Newcastle and Rosyth, *Balmoral* will split her summer cruises between the two ports, ahead of a program of winter itineraries from Southampton and Dover.

In the coming weeks, guests will have the chance to witness a Midnight Sun and Arctic Norway, explore the historic towns of Tallinn and Riga, and experience the famous Golden Circle in Iceland.

Balmoral will also be offering scenic sailings into the heart of the fjords of Norway, and along the Seine in France.

"Welcoming our wonderful *Balmoral* back into service is a big milestone for us," enthused Managing Director Peter Deer, who said three ships in the fleet increased Fred. Olsen's deployment potential.



A HUMAN skull discovered by kayakers in the USA has been found to have been around 8,000 years old.

The group of paddlers made the grisly finding last Sep as they cruised along the Minnesota River, and forensic analysis shows the ancient skull belonged to a young adult male who was alive some time between 5,500-6,000 BC.

Carbon-14 analysis determined the man may have suffered blunt force trauma due to a depressed area on the fragment.

"Through reviewing the carbon-14, this individual would have had a heavy marine diet or a diet high in maize, pearl millet, or sorghum, which is outside the range of the American diet," investigators from the Renville County Sheriff's Office said.

Join the club!

CARNIVAL Corporation has joined the Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller Center for Zero Carbon Shipping, a nonprofit researcher committed to accelerating the transition toward a carbon neutral future for the global maritime industry.

The company is the first in the cruise sector to join the Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller Center.

"We look forward to working with a strong alliance of some of the best minds in science, engineering and business," said Carnival Senior Vice President Maritime Affairs Tom Strang.