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### The Gift of Travel

**REGENT** Seven Seas Cruises' (RSSC) new 'Gift of Travel' offer includes a pre- or post-cruise European land program.

The offer is available on 57 destination-rich sailings across Europe from Apr through Nov 2023.

The Gift of Travel offer is the first time RSSC has offered included European land programs.

The offer is valid for new bookings only before 06 Jan.

### SHARKS alive!

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions has partnered with the Australian Museum on its global exhibition, SHARKS.

The 18-month partnership, a Sydney-first exclusive, highlights the diversity of sharks, and our cultural connections to them.

SHARKS shows how different cultural perspectives can positively influence the modern world's attitudes towards the fish, as well as the oceans and the planet we live on.

Visitors to the SHARKS exhibition can enter the draw to win a Main Deck Cabin for two people on board one of Lindblad Expeditions' *National Geographic Orion* Kimberley departures next year.

"With this partnership we aim to further visitors' knowledge of the fragile ocean and marine world," said the cruise line's Chief Executive Officer Dolf Berle.

"Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic as a leader in the exploration of Australian coastlines, climate change education and outreach; and to communicate our advocacy for the greater protection of wildlife and marine life that is so critically needed."

## Aus popular for Oceania

**EXCLUSIVE**

**OCEANIA** Cruises' 2024-2025 Tropics & Exotics Collection, which opened for sale on Thu (**CW** 31 Oct), has already generated a lot of interest, local Vice President Jason Worth has told **Cruise Weekly**, as the line looks to raise brand awareness in Australia.

The new Collection of 157 voyages spans every continent, including Australia, with itineraries ranging from seven to 200 days in length.

Already shaping up as one of the most popular is the 34-night Sydney to Sydney Australian circumnavigation over the Christmas & holiday season, Worth said.

In addition to offering Australians the chance to catch up on domestic travel they may have missed out on the past few years, he said the itinerary is also proving popular with international guests.

"Americans and Brits, they love Australia, and for those who come, it's kind of a bucket list item for them," Worth explained.

"It's not just that chance to see Sydney, it's round-trip from Sydney, and they can see all of Australia, at least on the coast."

With the local market of great importance to Oceania, the cruise line is also forging local partnerships to raise brand awareness within the market, and tempt Aussies onto ships.

This has seen Oceania sign on to be a presenting partner of *The Good Food Guide* and its The Good Food Guide Awards in 2023.

The partnership will see Oceania present awards for Chef of The Year & Wine List of the Year at the awards events in Melbourne and Sydney later this month.

"We're very excited about this partnership...there's a lot of synergies between our exceptional culinary offering onboard, and what they do with



*The Good Food Guide*, and what that represents," Worth said.

"Everyone's talking about the culinary aspect onboard their ships, but that's our leading brand pillar, fine dining on board, so we really want to do what we can locally to make sure everyone's aware."

Other recent Aussie partnerships include Oceania's association with the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia (MCA) - another brand pillar which is hardwired into the fabric of the cruise line.

"The great thing about that is we have some great artwork onboard our ships, and it's all hand-curated by our founder, Frank Del Rio, so I think his love of art is kind of built into the DNA of the brand," Worth said.

"For guests that are interested in art, and might be patrons of the MCA, it's a nice chance for them to take a look at what we do with the art program."

With *Regatta* on her way to Australia, Oceania will be looking to engage the trade to help with their brand engagement mission.

"When *Regatta's* here in Dec, we're actually going to have an opportunity for guests to come to the Museum and see the latest exhibit," Worth enthused.

"We were able to bring a few groups of trade on to different sailings in Aug and Jul of this year in Europe, so that went well, and then we actually have some guests on the Darwin sailing.

"As we proceed with the season locally, if we do have the opportunity to fill some cabins last minute, we will definitely take advantage of that."

### Cruise Weekly today

**Cruise Weekly** today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a cover page launching ticket sales for *Travel Daily's Still "Still Standing"*.

### Still Still Standing!

**IT'S** 12 months on, and we're still "Still Standing!"

Following on from the roaring success which was *Travel Daily's Still Standing* event last year, the night is returning in 2022 on 07 Dec.

The industry celebration will take place at the Four Seasons Hotel Sydney.

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**THREE** fisherman have been left desperately clinging to the hull of their boat after huge waves capsized the vessel off the coast of South Carolina. The boat overturned almost 10 kilometres east of Charleston last week, leaving the men balancing 90 minutes, before they were rescued by the United States Coast Guard. Fortunately, they were spotted by a good samaritan, who raised the alarm. The trio had only one life preserver between them, meaning if they had've been forced into the water, the situation could've very quickly become far worse.

**Atlas partners with L'OCCITANE**  
SPA L'OCCITANE has opened its 'SeaSpa' aboard Atlas Ocean Voyages' new cruise ship *World Traveller*. SeaSpa by L'OCCITANE will offer a wide range of unique pioneering treatments using the brand's signature beauty products. The spa features two treatment rooms, an infrared sauna, an exterior pool, and two hot tubs, as well as a fitness studio, a running track, and a deck solarium. All of the exclusive products are created at L'OCCITANE's laboratories.

## Cruise back in Pt Lincoln

**P&O Cruises Australia** has made a "shipshape" return to Port Lincoln, marking the city's first call in more than two-and-a-half years. *Pacific Explorer* arrived from Adelaide Wed morning as part of a four-night Southern Getaway voyage, with nearly 1,600 passengers and more than 800 crew members. It is one of 12 cruise visits scheduled for Port Lincoln through to Apr, with other ships scheduled for Port Lincoln including Princess Cruises' *Grand Princess*, and Holland America Line's *Noordam*. Expedition cruises will make additional visits to smaller ports and anchorages around the Eyre Peninsula, including Coffin Bay, Cape Donington, Flinders Island, and Boston Island.

In all, this cruise season will see a record 104 calls around South Australia. South Australia's Minister for Tourism Zoe Bettison said it is "plain sailing" for the return of cruising to SA, a sector which provided a valuable boost to the state of \$145 million prior to the pandemic. Rural economies will draw particular benefit from the masses of visitors, Bettison noted. "Cruise...brings international tourists who will spend in regional South Australia, and it means more work for tourism operators in the regions like the Eyre Peninsula," she said. "The community of Port Lincoln has been eagerly awaiting the return of cruise ships, so today is an exciting day, with *Pacific*

*Explorer* passengers booked on tours with local operators to experience the very best of the region. "We saw how successful the first cruise to Kangaroo Island was last month, with nearly 1,600 passengers getting off to explore the island and spend in the local economy - the community welcomed the visit." Carnival Corporation President Australia Marguerite Fitzgerald said the company is in the process of rebuilding the \$5 billion cruise industry - which is at times, a thankless task. "Every cruise destination is important to us, and we know that Port Lincoln is one of the most popular with our guests," she said.

## No solo supp

**EUROPEAN Waterways** is welcoming solo travellers with the waiver of its single supplement next year on select hotel barge cruises in the spring. For those booking this month, European Waterways is waiving the single supplement on *L'Impressionniste's* 16 Apr departure in Southern Burgundy, and *La Bella Vita's* 16 Apr departure in Italy. This represents a saving of €1,800 aboard the former ship, and €1,500 on the latter. "Our cruises are ideal for solo travellers because the vessels' small number of guests ensure they are never 'lost in the crowd'", Managing Director Derek Banks noted.

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