



### Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news.



En route to Doha

Today's issue of CW is coming to you courtesy of MSC Cruises, which will name its all-new MSC World Europa in Qatar this weekend.

**EXCITEMENT** is building for the highly anticipated naming ceremony of *MSC World Europa*, the cruise line's new trailblazing flagship which will be the focus of the cruising community this weekend.

Dignitaries from around the globe are gathering in Doha for the exciting occasion.

## Aurora receives new *Sylvia Earle*

### EXCLUSIVE

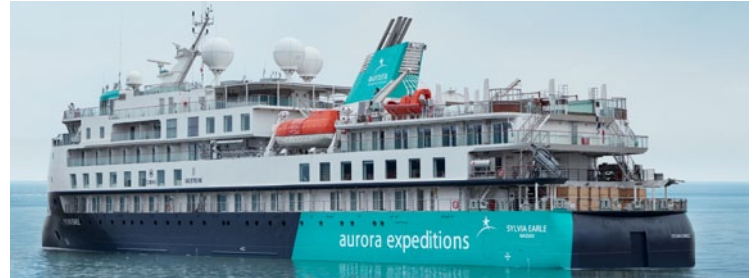
**AURORA** Expeditions has launched its new ship *Sylvia Earle*, (pictured) with her inaugural voyage to Antarctica to embark next month.

The cruise line has taken possession of *Sylvia Earle* in Singapore, with Aurora executives travelling to the country to receive her.

A sister ship to *Greg Mortimer*, which launched three years ago (*CW* 01 Nov 2019), *Sylvia Earle* will embark on her inaugural voyage from Ushuaia to Antarctica on 10 Dec.

With a strong focus on education and conservation, *Sylvia Earle* is designed to accommodate an average of 132 passengers per voyage in a relaxed, fun, and informal onboard setting.

Featuring the Ulstein X-BOW, which provides smoother ocean



crossings and helps to reduce fuel consumption, *Sylvia Earle* offers stylish and comfortable staterooms and suites, most of which have private balconies.

Public spaces include multiple restaurants & bars, social relaxation & wellness areas, an outdoor heated swimming pool & Jacuzzis, a gym, spa & sauna, a library lounge, a lecture theatre, and expansive decks offering panoramic views of wilderness and wildlife, making it the ideal "base camp" for exploring.

Zodiac docks, a changing

room, and a mudroom prepare passengers for off-ship and on-shore activities, while a dedicated Science Centre will be the hub for a variety of participative Citizen Science programs.

Meanwhile, *Sylvia Earle's* expedition team will guide passengers in small groups on myriad excursions by water and land, with exciting activities ranging from Zodiac cruises to hikes, sea kayaking, scuba-diving, snorkelling, paddling, skiing, photography, and birdwatching, among others.

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## Oceania arrives back in Australia

**OCEANIA** Cruises' *Regatta* (pictured) returned to Australia yesterday, the ship's first visit to the country following her "re-inspiration" under the OceaniaNEXT initiative.

The 656-guest *Regatta* arrived in Darwin, from where she will sail up to Asia.

*Regatta* will then return to local shores later this month, cruising the coast of Western Australia with further stops in Kangaroo Island, Burnie, and Melbourne.

The ship arrives at her homeport in Sydney on 12 Dec, ahead of a busy summer season of seven destination-intensive itineraries.

It is the first time an Oceania ship has sailed in Australia since the pandemic.

*Regatta* will spend the summer season in Australian waters, with guests to experience her new suites & staterooms, restyled



public spaces, and chic residential furnishings and art collection.

"Seeing *Regatta* sailing back into Sydney Harbour will be cause for celebration for many Australians who enjoy her luxury small ship ambience," said Senior Vice President & Managing Director Asia Pacific Steve Odell.

Highlight voyages from *Regatta's* local season include 'The Aussie

Adventure', a spectacular 35-day voyage that travels the entire coast of the country round trip from Sydney on 12 Dec.

The Aussie Adventure can also be enjoyed as a 14-day voyage from Sydney to Bali on 12 Dec, via Australia's Eastern States, and a 21-day Boxing Day return journey to Sydney via the coastal regions of WA.

### It's a shore thing!

**THE** Government of New South Wales has fast-tracked delivery of the world's first 100% renewable energy shorepower precinct at White Bay Cruise Terminal (**CW** 22 Mar), which is expected to be ready for ships to plug into six months ahead of target.

The project will deliver one live shorepowered berth for cruise ships by the end of 2024, plus a further three berths for all ships by 2030.

"This is an exciting step forward and another significant milestone the Port Authority has achieved for the highly complex power project and moving towards Net Zero by 2040," said NSW Minister for Transport David Elliott.

Carnival Corporation, operator of seven cruise lines, has already signed a letter of intent to use the shorepower.



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## PORTHOLE

**A SKIPPER** has captured the “crazy moment” a huge shark leapt aboard a fishing boat in New Zealand.

The fisherman caught on video the incident the shark jumped onto the front of his boat off the coast of Whitianga.

The mako shark, a species which is a well-renowned jumper, thrashed around on the front hood of the boat, perhaps looking to catch its own dinner - watch **HERE**.

The boat is under the operation of Churchy's Charters, a fishing charter business, but it has been confirmed the massive shark was not the species the fishermen were targeting.

## Holland America Down Under arrival

**HOLLAND** America Line's *Westerdam* (pictured) has called in Sydney, marking the return of the brand to Australia.

*Westerdam* arrived in Circular Quay on Mon after her repositioning voyage from Vancouver, and will be homeported in Sydney for the 2022-23 wave season.

She will sail four itineraries around the region, ranging from 13 to 15 days, with a highlight the 14-day Christmas Cruise.

Holland America Vice President Sales & Marketing Ryan Taibel said the cruise line's sailings in Australia will ensure locals enjoy a close-to-home travel experience which goes “way beyond what you could find in any guidebook”.

“Our programming brings the destination to life via immersive shore excursions, stimulating port talks, and port to table cooking classes which make the most of



the very best in local produce,” he said.

To celebrate Holland America's return to Australia, cruisers can celebrate with the line's new & exclusive 'De Lijn' gin, which commemorates the company's 150th anniversary next year,

De Lijn is adorned with a label boasting the orange of Holland America's home country of the Netherlands, and is said to “combine modern botanicals with

a hint of Dutch tradition”.

Tipplers will taste orange and rose, along with elderberry, lemon verbena, lemon, raspberry, and juniper.

De Lijn can be enjoyed in all bars and lounges fleetwide, and purchased in shipboard shops.

The gin will feature in three new 150th anniversary cocktails: the Dutch 150, a twist on a French 75; the 150th Martini, and the De Lijn gin & tonic.

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### Fred Fogg cruise

**FRED.** Olsen Cruise Lines unveils two new shorter sailings to India and Singapore, or Japan, the United States, and Mexico, as part of next year's Phileas Fogg adventure.

The two smaller cruises are part of Fred. Olsen's 'Around the World in 80 Days' cruise.

*Borealis* will set sail from Southampton on 23 Feb following as closely as possible in the footsteps of fictional explorer Phileas Fogg, the protagonist of the Jules Verne novel *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

A Southampton to Singapore leg will cruise for 26 days, while the 53-night leg will cruise from Singapore to Mexico.

### P&O revives Vanuatu cruising



**P&O Cruises Australia's Pacific Encounter** yesterday became the first cruise ship to return to Vanuatu (pictured), the final destination in the fleet's flagship's "opening" of the South Pacific's cruise sector.

The Brisbane-based ship called at Port Vila yesterday, reviving a seven-night South Pacific

cruise itinerary which has been a mainstay of Australian cruising for decades.

*Encounter's* return to Vanuatu in a trial resumption of cruising to the country (CW 19 Sep) also marks the return of the popular "NLV" itinerary - Noumea, Lifou Island, and Port Vila - which over the years has introduced many thousands of cruisers to the joys the sector provides.

Earlier this week, *Encounter* was also the first ship back in Lifou after an absence of almost two years (CW yesterday).

"It was a great honour when P&O Cruises Australia was asked to lead the phased return of cruising in Vanuatu with two of its ships to contribute to the reintroduction of cruise tourism in the archipelago," said Carnival Corporation President Marguerite Fitzgerald.

"Our cooperation in the trial is also part of our deep commitment to the island communities who have made our guests so welcome over many years."

P&O Australia's Sydney-based ship *Pacific Adventure* will also soon bring cruise guests back to Vanuatu when she becomes the first vessel to visit Mystery Island.

### Seabourn 2024

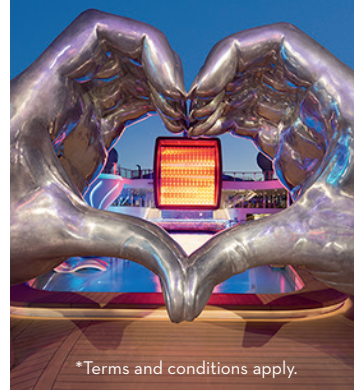
**SEABOURN** Cruise Line is set to explore the wonders of Alaska, the West Coast of the United States, and Canada & New England in 2024, with voyages on sale now.

Eighteen immersive cruises will be explored aboard *Seabourn Odyssey* from May to Oct, while *Seabourn Quest* will set sail on seven voyages from Aug to Oct.

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