



On location in Ushuaia

Today's issue of *Cruise Weekly* is coming to you courtesy of Viking, aboard the brand new *Viking Polaris*.

VIKING Polaris has arrived back in Ushuaia, after a scenic morning of cruising the picturesque Beagle Channel.

However with the Ushuaia pier packed with other vessels, guests are being tendered to and from shore to visit the city, before a space frees up for *Polaris* this evening.

Passenger ships currently alongside in Ushuaia include Swan Hellenic's *Vega*, Silversea Cruises' freshly named *Silver Endeavour*, *MV Ortelius*, *MV Ventus Australis* and the much larger *AIDAMar*.

Coral ups Kimberley schedule for '24

CORAL Expeditions has released new dates in the Kimberley for 2024, with *Coral Geographer* deployed in response to increased demand for cruises in the region.

An additional 11 expedition voyages of Coral's 10-night 'Original Kimberley Cruise' between Darwin and Broome will sail between May and Aug.

The new cruises will add to the already published schedule for *Coral Adventurer* and *Coral Discoverer*, for a total of 45 departure dates in 2024 across the cruise line's three-vessel fleet.

The first Original Kimberley Cruise will depart Darwin 08 May, with subsequent sailings on 29 May, 19 Jun, 10 & 31 Jul, and 21 Aug 2024.

There will also be five departures from Broome, on 18 May, 08 and 29 Jun, 20 Jul, and 10 Aug 2024.



The Original Kimberley Cruise will include all the highlights of the region, such as the tidal phenomena of Montgomery Reef & the Horizontal Falls (**pictured**), the towering King George and Mitchell Falls, the pristine wildlife sanctuaries of the Lacepede Islands, and ancient rock art & cultural sites dating back more than 40,000 years.

"The additional deployment

reflects the importance of the Kimberley for us, and for the Australian-flagged expedition cruising sector," Commercial Director Jeff Gillies said.

"New entrants may come and go, but the Kimberley is our home and we have forged our reputation on delivering immersive expeditions with a uniquely Australian style over the past three decades".



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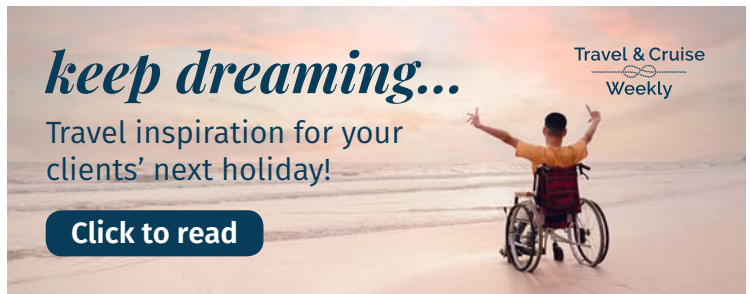
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Cruise returns to Robe

EXCITEMENT has enrobed Robe, with the SA town receiving her first cruise ship passengers in recent memory.

Coral Expeditions' *Coral Adventurer* is currently circumnavigating Australia, on a cruise which was meant to go ahead in 2019.

Adventurer successfully made the rare call earlier this week.

"I don't know if there has ever been a successful cruise docking here," District Council of Robe Manager Tourism & Events Camille Lehmann told the ABC.

"I know larger ships have been past and have even tried to dock a couple of times, but they've had trouble getting into the bay and navigating our coastline and reef system."

District Council of Robe Chief Executive James Holyman said he hoped *Adventurer's* call will not only lead to more calls, but longer ones.

"We'd love to build a reputation for being a good cruise destination, not just for Robe but also the Limestone Coast region," he said.

Queen Elizabeth arrives



CUNARD Line welcomed its luxurious *Queen Elizabeth* back to Sydney Harbour in style, hosting key industry partners at Matt Moran's Aria Restaurant Sydney last week.

Queen Elizabeth is currently undertaking her inaugural circumnavigation of Australia, before visiting Tasmania for the first time this season and then crossing the Tasman to New Zealand for her Christmas Voyage later next month.

Pictured greeting the ship are, from left: Julian Rosenberg, Cunard PR; Ryan Taibel, Cunard

AU VP; Lauren Togher, Cunard; Viktoryia Shliazhko, Creative Cruising; Pamela Spencer, Cruise Guru; Mika Paech, Cunard; Dan Russell, Clean Cruising; Meg Hill, Cruise Express; Jules Higgins, Luxury Escapes; Josephine Hanschmann, Cunard Marketing; Shubi Shukla, Cunard Marketing; Amy Williams, Cunard National Sales Manager; Matt Gleaves, Cunard; Michelle Julius-Baty, My Cruises; Gareth Evison, Imagine Cruises; Terri Wickliffe-Kane, Cunard; Kirsty Bell-Jack, Cunard; Simon Walliss, Travelrite; and Tracey Bremner of Clean Cruising.

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CRUISE WEEKLY On Board: Viking Polaris



Manfredi's Italian Restaurant

This specialty dining venue aboard *Viking Polaris* offers an array of Italian cuisine in a delightful setting which evokes a traditional trattoria. Pasta, pizza and delicious Italian meat dishes are served with impeccable service in a welcoming ambience. As with all Viking onboard eateries, no additional charge applies to dine here, although reservations are recommended.

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HIGH-TECH salvage efforts on China's Yangtze River have seen a 160-year-old shipwreck raised to the surface, with the 31-cabin vessel dating back to the Qing dynasty.

A media release from the State Council of the People's Republic of China detailed the extensive measures used to preserve the vessel, including the construction of a custom-made watertight chamber, which was used to slowly lift it to the surface.

A treasure trove of historical artefacts was on board, including perfectly preserved porcelain in exquisite designs (**pictured**), with the ship to be transferred to Shanghai for further investigations.



Fred to visit Antarctica



FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines' *Balmoral* (**pictured**) will offer the brand's sailings to Antarctica early next year.

The ship will offer a selection of festive cruises exploring Antarctica, as well as South America and Europe.

Early next year, *Balmoral* will depart on a 78-night exploration of South America and Antarctica, offering the chance to enjoy the White Continent, as well as the fjords and channels of Chile, the wildlife-rich Galapagos Islands, and the sandy beaches & blue waters of the Bahamas.

The new season will begin 10 Dec, with *Balmoral* departing Portsmouth on a festive voyage to Spain and Portugal where guests will be able to admire the festive light displays of Vigo and

meander Funchal's Christmas markets in Madeira.

Other sailings from Portsmouth include a warm festive break with Christmas celebrations in the Canary Islands, offering guests Xmas at sea, with *Balmoral* decked out in full festive decorations.

"These sailings have been hand-crafted by our team of dedicated Journey Planners, to offer our guests something special at the time of year they are visiting," said Director of Product and Customer Service Clare Ward.

"The smaller size of *Balmoral* means everyone can be sure of a warm and friendly atmosphere aboard all of her sailings, whether it's for a warmer festive break, or that once-in-a-lifetime voyage to South America and Antarctica."

Cruise to the Edge

ROCK cruise charter 'Cruise to the Edge' 2024 has been announced, featuring acts such as Marillion, Steve Hackett, Flying Colors, and more.

Sailing out of Miami from 08-13 Mar aboard *Norwegian Pearl*, the cruise will visit Ocho Rios and George Town.

The lineup also includes returning artists such as Adrian Belew, Martin Barre, The Flower Kings, Haken, Protocol, Queensryche, PFM, Airbag, Baraka, Klone, and Wishbone Ash.

Newcomers to Cruise to the Edge include Gryphon, Lonely Robot, Claudio Simonetti's Goblin, and legendary prog metal group Symphony X, with more artists to be announced in the coming months.

Official cruise hosts Jon Kirkman and Roie Avin will be moderating Q&As and activities.

Staterooms start at \$1,397 per person, with the cruise to also include photo experiences, special themed nights, and more - **CLICK HERE.**

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