



FLOATING FESTIVALS

AUSTRALIA'S HOTTEST MUSIC CRUISES

NOW OPEN TO ALL AGENTS AUS-WIDE

- **COMMISSIONABLE RATES**
- **NO CONTRACTS OR FEES**
- 12 YEARS RUNNING WITH OVER 35 SELL-OUT FULL SHIP CHARTERS

Start selling today

1300 247 371

sales@chooseyourcruise.com.au



ROCK

ALL MY DREAMS



Walk for Wellness back for third year

THE Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL) team is once again inviting the sector to join it for its annual Walk for Wellness next month.

The challenge, which has become an annual fixture for NCL, invites participants to get active and track their steps, all while following the new *Norwegian Spirit's* journey from Hawaii to Australia.

The third annual holding of the challenge, which was first hosted during the dog days of the pandemic, will celebrate *Spirit's* inaugural Australian season with weekly challenges.

There are \$16,000 worth of prizes available to participants - the highest value prize pool to date.

Highlights on offer include an Oceanview stateroom on *Spirit's* inaugural Sydney sailing.

For those looking for a walking buddy, or with questions for



their local Business Development Manager, there will be a number of special walks hosted by the Norwegian team.

To register, participants must list their details and set up a MoveSpring account, download the MoveSpring app, enter the

'Walk for Wellness' challenge, and connect the app to your wearable device/smartphone to track your activity.

Sign up before 30 Sep and track your steps from 01 Oct - click through **HERE** for more information.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise news plus a cover wrap from **Royal Caribbean International**.

Rock the boat!

CHOOSE Your Cruise's Floating Festivals are back, marking the return of Australia's hottest music sailings.

The cruises are now open to all travel advisors, Australia-wide, with commissionable rates, and no contracts or fees.

The Floating Festivals have been running for more than 10 years, and Choose Your Cruise has sold out more than 35 full ship charters.

It all kicks off with the Super Cruise, which sails from 09-16 Nov, offering two festivals aboard *Ovation of the Seas* - see the **cover page**.

EXOTIC HORIZONS AROUND THE WORLD

Discover the highlights of the new collection which consists of a 180-day journey departing Miami on 5 January 2025, covering spectacularly diverse destinations across South America, Africa, Asia and more!

RESERVATIONS OPEN
15 SEPTEMBER 2022

LEARN MORE



EXQUISITELY CRAFTED CUISINE. CURATED TRAVEL EXPERIENCES. SMALL SHIP LUXURY.
PREVIEW AROUND THE WORLD VOYAGE

Visit OceaniaCruises.com/terms for details.

Celebrity says cheers

Quark protection

QUARK Expeditions has introduced the Quark Protection Policy, which it is calling “the most flexible booking policy in the industry”.

The cruise line is making a permanent, five-fold commitment to guests, including free 15-day cancellation if a traveller changes their mind within that time period; flexible cancellation fees up to 60 days prior to the voyage; no surcharges; a refund guarantee should Quark cancel the voyage; and a COVID protection guarantee, if a cruiser has to cancel their trip within one to 29 days of the voyage.

“Today we’re especially proud to announce we’ve introduced further enhancements that are now permanently embedded in our new Quark Protection Promise,” Vice President of Marketing Wendy Batchelor said.

“Those guest benefits are here for good!”

New Virgin platform

VIRGIN Voyages is launching LetsGoBook, a new platform which will make reservations with the line faster and easier.

LetsGoBook is connected to each agent’s account via a dedicated link, which can be used to create a booking.

Every booking made using a LetsGoBook link earns Virgin’s standard 16% voyage commission, and does not include any NCFs.

New bookings are immediately available to see and customise in each travel advisor’s First Mate account, from where adjustments can also be made.

The link can be shared in an email, a text message, or through social media.

To celebrate the new launch, the first 2,000 fully booked LetsGoBook voyages will earn \$50 bonus commission.



LAST night Celebrity Cruises hosted an event for travel advisors at The Butler restaurant in Potts Point, providing an update on all things

Celebrity, with the backdrop of a stunning Sydney skyline view.

As well as detailing the upcoming Down Under season of *Celebrity Eclipse* and the 2023/24 deployment of Australia’s first Edge-class vessel, Celebrity Vice President & Managing Director APAC, Tim Jones, confirmed that well-known cruise sales executive Trevor Thwaites was returning to the industry as Head of Sales.



Thwaites, who’s **pictured** above with Jones and Helloworld Travel’s Josh Duncan and Karen Deveson, officially starts his new role with Celebrity Mon, joining the cruise line after previous roles with Oceania Cruises and Princess Cruises.

Some of the Celebrity team are also pictured **inset**: Vijay Sharma, Tenneal Baker, Heidi Smith, Anamaria Mosquera, and the one and only Ben Piper.



©Disney ©Disney/Pixar Ships' Registry: The Bahamas

Travel Daily
LEARN MORE ABOUT SINGAPORE WITH TRAVEL DAILY TRAINING ACADEMY
Click here to discover



11 SEP is as good a time as any to honour first responders, and newly rebranded cruise line Margaritaville at Sea did just that on the weekend with its first Heroes Sail Free voyage.

The program honours first responders such as members of the military, law enforcement personnel, and even the education community, with a free cruise fare on its two-night sailing to the Bahamas.

The inaugural sailing will depart tomorrow, with those taking up the offer cruising in a complimentary Ocean View stateroom for two, including taxes, fees, and port expenses.

Sailing from Palm Beach, the offer came with a personal note of thanks from President & Chief Executive Kevin Sheehan.

SeaDream internet

SEADREAM Yacht Club has become the first cruise line to fully implement SpaceX's Starlink internet.

The cruise line's twin luxury yachts, *SeaDream I* and *SeaDream II*, are now offering the connectivity as part of their USD\$10m renovation.

"The small size of our yachts provides a distinct advantage, in that we can deliver a larger amount of Internet per-person on board - quite possibly making us the fastest Internet on the seas," said SeaDream's Andreas Brynestad.

Bain wins Seattle prize

MTA Travel's Anne Bain (pictured) has taken the grand prize of a trip to the Pacific Northwest, in Cruise Lines International Association's (CLIA) Port of Seattle training incentive.

The highlight of Bain's trip will be a sailing with Norwegian Cruise Lines, courtesy of the three organisations.

The CLIA Master will take a seven-day round trip for two with Norwegian, including flights and three nights in Seattle's only over-water accommodation, The Edgewater Hotel.

To maximise her time in Seattle, Bain will receive a CityPASS for two enabling her to discover the city's iconic attractions, including the Space Needle, Seattle Aquarium, an Argosy Cruises Harbor Tour, Museum of Pop Culture, Woodland Park Zoo, and Chihuly Garden & Glass.

More than 200 agents were eligible to win the prize after completing the dedicated training module, since its recent launch on the CLIA training portal.

In addition to the grand prize, six bonus fortnightly prize draws of a \$50 Visa gift card were given away by the Port of Seattle between Jun and Sep.

Other recipients of the minor prize include Liz Christiansen (Helloworld Runaway Bay), Gaury Balayaseran (Our Vacation Centre), Stephanie Moore (Travel Masters), Darren Leckie (MTA), and Lauren Wall (Ecruising).

"I've been to Seattle before and found the waterfront and mountainous backdrop absolutely stunning," Bain said.

"I'm looking forward to



returning and taking a dream cruise to Alaska.

"I'll be taking my husband with me and can't wait to experience the sights of the Pacific Northwest together."

No cruise for you!

PASSENGERS have been unable to board Resorts World Cruises' *Genting Dream* after they were informed the trip had been overbooked.

The cruise was due to depart Singapore earlier this month, but more than 100 passengers were unable to board the ship, with a spokesperson from Resorts World confirming the situation to *The Straits Times*.

Resorts World said all affected guests will receive a full refund, as well as a complimentary cruise aboard *Genting Dream*.

The formerly idle *Genting Dream* restarted cruising out of Singapore in Jun under the newly formed Resorts World Cruises brand (**CW** 19 May).



Cruising by the numbers

THREE days of meetings, 130 attendees, three years since we last met, six cruise line executives speaking – a record number - and a goal to return cruise to a \$5 billion industry supporting 18,000 jobs.

These were key numbers discussed at our annual conference in Townsville last week.

Then there were the discussions on the number of new cruise ships on order – 75-80 through 2027 - and the list of infrastructure upgrades which will support the restart of the industry including the new Brisbane International Cruise Terminal, the channel upgrade project underway in Townsville, and the Visitor Information Centre in Eden.

Three – that's the number of key industry bodies – Tourism Australia, ACA and CLIA - spearheading the new push for cruise to be seen as playing a crucial role in tourism recovery.

So many positive numbers from Deloitte Access Economics – with encouraging news that the threat of inflation does not seem to be slowing the number of cruise bookings which are not being viewed as discretionary.

Several great stories on technology - with exciting new advances for onboard and onshore usage to enhance the passenger experience, and one critical goal to continue to move toward our environmental targets.

25 years – Wollongong announced as the conference venue to celebrate this milestone in ACA's history in 2023.

And finally, 100 per cent satisfaction from all attendees and zero unhappy faces as a result of being able to gather again.