



CRUISE

WEEKLY

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Cruise Weekly today

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

Adventure changes

P&O Cruises Australia has become the latest line to be forced into an itinerary change due to New Zealand's biosecurity arrangements, with *Pacific Adventure* required to have her hull cleaned before entering the country.

The cruise line said the result of the dive inspection which revealed the unclean hull was "unexpected", given P&O had examined *Adventure's* hull just a few months ago, reporting it to be clean.

P&O said it has immediately engaged a dive team to assist it with the work at the first available opportunity, and that any further disruptions will be communicated.

RSSC's *Grandeur* floats out

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises (RSSC) has celebrated the float out of *Seven Seas Grandeur* alongside shipbuilder Fincantieri.

The ship floated from the building dry dock in Ancona on 26 Jan, with a traditional good luck champagne bottle shattered against *Grandeur's* hull during the float out ceremony.

The shipyard's Senior Controller Economic Administration & Control Office Orsinja Myshku, served as madrina of the ceremony, cutting a ribbon following a prayer by the pastor.

The event was attended by RSSC Senior Director of Sales EMEA Gabriella Fonzo, who thanked Fincantieri for its partnership.

The construction of *Grandeur* will now focus on her lavish suites, elegant lounges, and exquisite restaurants.

RSSC's sixth ship will set sail in Nov, cruising 18 voyages

in the Caribbean and the Mediterranean, as well as two transatlantic crossings, all ranging from seven to 16 nights in length.

The inaugural voyage collection includes a new maiden sailing - added due to strong demand - which spends seven nights discovering the Adriatic and Western Mediterranean.

"While our new ships are always highly anticipated *Seven Seas Grandeur* has proven to be so popular, we had to create an additional sailing for her inaugural season," President Andrea DeMarco said.

"The incredible reception for *Seven Seas Grandeur* is a testament not only to the strong demand for luxury cruising but also for Regent's position as the leader in this space with every luxury included, unmatched hospitality, and unrivalled space at sea."

AU Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia.

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	3 Feb
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	4 Feb
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	5 Feb
<i>Celebrity Eclipse</i>	6 Feb
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	6 Feb
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	6 Feb
<i>Europa 2</i>	6 Feb

MELBOURNE	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	3 Feb
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	4 Feb
<i>Norwegian Spirit</i>	5 Feb
<i>Viking Orion</i>	5 Feb

PORT ADELAIDE	
<i>Queen Elizabeth</i>	6 Feb

BRISBANE	
<i>Carnival Luminosa</i>	5 Feb
<i>Coral Princess</i>	6 Feb

HOBART	
<i>Quantum of the Seas</i>	4 Feb
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	6 Feb

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Hurtigruten savings

HURTIGRUTEN Expeditions has expanded its portfolio in the Galapagos Islands from one year-round itinerary to four, on board the upgraded *Santa Cruz*.

To celebrate, Hurtigruten is offering savings on all Galapagos expeditions, with the biggest discounts available on bookings made before 15 Feb, allowing travellers to save up to \$6,000 per cabin.

For bookings made between 16-28 Feb, save up to \$4,000 aboard seven- and nine-day 2023 Galapagos expeditions, and for bookings made in Mar, save up to \$4,400 aboard the 11-day Galapagos Islands Nine of the Best Isles expedition cruise.

Those who book by the end of Feb can also get bonus onboard credit of \$150pp.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Malone docks at Carnival

CARNIVAL Corporation has welcomed Katie Malone (pictured) to the local sales & marketing team as Marketing Director.

She brings 20 years of international travel and tourism marketing experience to the role, and joins from hotel group Crystalbrook Collection.

Her appointment comes after experienced global travel sector executive Kathryn Robertson joined Carnival Corp mid-last year (**CW** 31 Aug 2022), taking on the newly created role of Chief Commercial Officer Australia.

"P&O is an iconic Australian brand celebrating 90 years of cruising in Australia this year, so it couldn't be a more exciting time to join the business and a passionate marketing team," Malone said.

"It's not about reinventing the wheel, rather deeply



understanding today's customer needs and how we reposition our brand to appeal to a wider audience and entice more Aussies to consider cruising as a fun and affordable holiday choice.

The appointment comes as Carnival Corporation last month expanded its next-generation wi-fi connectivity with SpaceX's Starlink, which will see the technology extend to each of the company's nine cruise lines (**CW** 19 Jan).

Ships to homes?

A PETITION has been introduced to the Parliament of Australia to use surplus cruise ships to help solve the country's housing crisis.

Petitioner Bob Brown notes the discarding of billions of dollars worth of ships post the pandemic, which could be repurposed as a temporary solution to the crisis.

"Cruise ships can be tied up at all major cities and used to quickly bring housing capacity online," Brown explained.

"Brisbane's Portside dock is also about to be decommissioned due to purely commercial reasons...this facility appears ready-made to support a long-term ship tie-up.

"There is currently no other proposition that offers such a quick response to the housing crisis as this."



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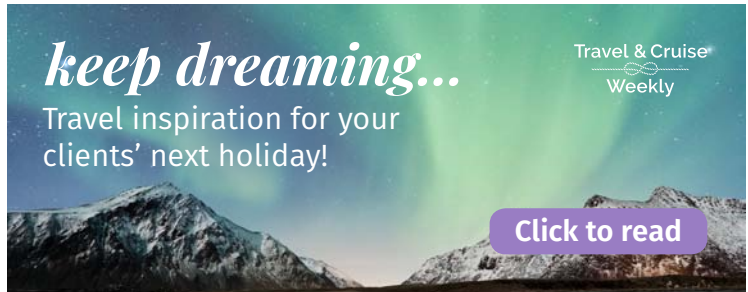
To be the leader, it needs more than words and slogans. It requires action;

- First major cruise ship company to ban single use plastics and heavy fuel oil.
- The world's first hybrid-powered expedition ship launched in 2019.
- Three hybrid ships in our expedition fleet, including the *MS Fridtjof Nansen* — recently awarded the safest and most sustainable cruise ship in the world.
- Connecting with local communities and acclaimed research institutions worldwide.

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FISHERMEN found clinging to a cooler off the coast of Albany have been rescued after their boat capsized.

The fishermen were angling near Eclipse Island off Albany when their vessel capsized in heavy seas and started to sink on Wed morning.

One of the fishermen was taken to hospital with suspected hypothermia and the other two were taken to the Albany Sea Rescue base.

Authorities said the group's flotation devices and emergency locator beacon are likely what saved them, so remember - always take some cool drinks with you when heading off shore!

Oceania package

A **SAVING** on a new package exploring Europe by land and sea has been released by Cruise Traveller.

Those booking by the end of the month can pair a small group overland tour of Italy with a boutique Mediterranean voyage aboard Oceania Cruises' *Nautica*, with flights from Australia added.

The 24-night holiday departs this Oct, and offers a saving of \$2,185 per person and extensive onboard bonuses for bookings made by the end of the month.

CLICK HERE for more info.

Explora groups program

EXPLORA Journeys has announced a new 'Journey Together Gatherings' program, which is designed to expand travel opportunities for extended families or friendship groups.

Journey Together Gatherings is designed to allow a group to enjoy either three or four suites together as a social hub to relax and enjoy each other's company in a private setting.

To take advantage of Journey Together Gatherings, one suite is required to be either an Ocean Penthouse or Ocean Residence.

In turn, travellers with children will benefit from one under-18 in each suite sailing for free, as well as complimentary transfers to the ship for all guests booked through the program.

Journey Together Gatherings will be headed by newly appointed Charter & Journey Together Lead Cindi Occhuizzo, who brings her global travel and hospitality industry experience to Explora after 30 years in the travel industry, including with Disney Cruise Line and Regent Seven Seas Cruises.

She will be assisted by Charter Operations Expert, Vilma Moutsatsos.

"Designing our Journey Together Gatherings program has been a highly collaborative process with the travel advisor community," Chief Sales Officer Chris Austin said.

"We are proud to launch this program targeting gatherings of friends and multi-generational families.

"I am delighted to welcome Cindi and Vilma to our global charters and incentives team and I know they will be great assets for us in this important market."

Helping sell the Journey Together Gatherings program in Australia will be Gillian Seller, also formerly of Regent Seven Seas Cruises, who was recently appointed Sales Manager for the local market (**CW** 09 Dec 2022).

Explora Journeys also recently announced the inaugural itineraries of its second ship *Explora II*, which launches in the northern summer of 2024 (**CW** 07 Dec 2022), and is now open for bookings.



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NZ Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in New Zealand.

AUCKLAND	
<i>Nat Geo Orion</i>	4 Feb
<i>Grand Princess</i>	5 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	6 Feb
<i>Viking Mars</i>	6 Feb

CHRISTCHURCH	
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	4 Feb
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	4 Feb

WELLINGTON	
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	3 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	3 Feb
<i>Viking Mars</i>	3 Feb
<i>MS Zuiderdam</i>	5 Feb
<i>Viking Neptune</i>	6 Feb

BAY OF ISLANDS	
<i>Nat Geo Orion</i>	5 Feb

DUNEDIN	
<i>MS Noordam</i>	3 Feb
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	5 Feb

FIORDLAND	
<i>Celebrity Eclipse</i>	3 Feb
<i>Europa 2</i>	3 Feb
<i>MS Noordam</i>	4 Feb
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	6 Feb
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	6 Feb
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	6 Feb

NAPIER	
<i>Grand Princess</i>	3 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	4 Feb
<i>Viking Mars</i>	4 Feb
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	5 Feb
<i>Viking Neptune</i>	5 Feb

PICTON	
<i>Majestic Princess</i>	3 Feb
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	3 Feb
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	4 Feb

TAURANGA	
<i>MS Zuiderdam</i>	3 Feb
<i>Grand Princess</i>	4 Feb
<i>Viking Neptunes</i>	4 Feb
<i>Pacific Explorer</i>	5 Feb
<i>Viking Mars</i>	5 Feb