



Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise news, including a photo page from **Seabourn**.

A little jess Joy

A MONTH of sailings has been cancelled for Norwegian Cruise Line's *Norwegian Joy* next year, including two Panama Canal transits.

The ship will enter dry dock for upgrades early next year, with sailings from 06 Jan 2024 to 10 Feb 2024 cancelled.

"As part of our commitment to continuously offer extraordinary vacation experiences around the world for our guests, and to uphold a consistent world-class product across our fleet, *Norwegian Joy* will be undergoing routine maintenance in early 2024," a spokesperson for Norwegian told **Cruise Weekly**.

Seabourn looks to grow expedition

THE inauguration later this year of Seabourn Cruise Line's second newbuild expedition ship, *Seabourn Pursuit*, will open significant new opportunities for exploration for the company, according to Vice President Global Sales Steve Smotrys.

Speaking to **Cruise Weekly** yesterday during his first-ever visit to Sydney, Smotrys (pictured) said having travelled on the new *Seabourn Venture* ultra-luxury expedition ship in Greenland and Iceland late last year "it blew me away, it was more than I could have ever expected".

Smotrys said the expedition segment was "really exploding" at the moment, with many new entrants into the space, but noted that Seabourn's long experience would hold it in good stead.

"Experience matters when you're going to places like Antarctica and the Arctic, that



expertise is really important".

The arrival of sister ship *Pursuit* in Oct will open up a "breadth of different scenarios" for Seabourn.

"We're going to explore other things like the *Kimberley* (CW 17 Aug 2022) which we know here in this market is very very important, but also places like the South Pacific and Asia, the British Isles, there's some really

incredible expedition experiences to be had," he said.

On top of the destinations, "at the end of the day it's about the experience and how you feel on board, and we think that is really our secret sauce," Smotrys said.

So-called 'Seabourn Moments', which are integral to the service culture developed over many years aboard the line's fleet, are built around key pillars such as signature experiences like the onboard Marina for watersports or caviar in the surf, unexpected surprises and providing a seamless vacation experience for guests, he enthused.

Smotrys joined the rest of the Australian Seabourn team and a number of Australian key travel advisor partners for an event on Sydney harbour last night, aboard the *One O One* superyacht which was adorned with the line's branding - pics on **page three**.

Regent

SEVEN SEAS CRUISES™

AN UNRIVALLED EXPERIENCE™

UPGRADE your HORIZON

FREE 2-CATEGORY
SUITE UPGRADE
plus 7.5% REDUCED
DEPOSIT**

plus
UP TO
40% OFF
SELECT SAILINGS*



Upgrade your Horizon allows your clients to enjoy an elevated experience with more space to relax, dine and revitalise. For a limited time, they can receive a **FREE 2-CATEGORY SUITE UPGRADE plus a 7.5% REDUCED DEPOSIT**** across every sailing from now until 2025.



TRAVEL PARTNER INCENTIVE

Travel Advisors will receive a **AU/NZ\$250 David Jones Gift Card** for each new deposited booking made by 31 March 2023.

DOWNLOAD TOOLKIT

VISIT [RSSC.COM/UPGRADE-YOUR-HORIZON-TOOL-KIT](https://rssc.com/upgrade-your-horizon-tool-kit)

**Terms and conditions apply, see [RSSC.com/Upgrade-Your-Horizon-tool-kit](https://rssc.com/upgrade-your-horizon-tool-kit)
©Regent Seven Seas Cruises™. NCL Australia Pty Ltd ABN 8060 7578 781.



MISS Universe Ukraine has received a special “Spirit of Carnival” award during the recent 71st annual Miss Universe competition.

Carnival President Christine Duffy presented Viktoria Apanasenko with the award for embodying the cruise line’s values of fun, friendship, diversity, and inclusion.

Apanasenko serves as a Peace Ambassador of the UN Global Compact Ukraine.

Overcoming bullying during her school years, Apanasenko’s career has focused on social work, particularly within domestic violence, as well as aiding Ukrainian families during the war.

Aqua’s first local employee

AQUA Expeditions has welcomed a new sales representative for Australia, Benjamin Garcia.

It is the first time Aqua has had a sales presence locally, with Garcia joining the cruise line at the start of the week.

Based in Sydney, he will focus on trade relations to strengthen Aqua’s presence in Australia.

Garcia will also help improve the positioning of the cruise line’s fleet of five ships with Australia’s growing expedition ship niche.

He will be responsible for product training, famil trips, strategic partnerships, and commercial strategies in the region.

Garcia has a wealth of experience in luxury and experiential tourism.

He has worked in sales and product management for Valle Nevado ski resort, Explora



Lodges, as well as LATAM.

He also founded his own venture, which offers marketing services to help travel companies expand their presence in the Asia Pacific region.

Pictured inset are Aqua Chief Executive Officer & founder Francesco Galli Zugaro and Garcia.

Devon ships plan

A COUNCIL in Devon in the United Kingdom is considering using cruise ships for its homeless and refugee population.

The idea was raised previously by Home Secretary Suella Braverman, and was recently discussed by the council at a Torrridge District Council meeting.

Concerns raised included costs, logistics, and infection control, while homeless charities hit out at the proposal as “absolutely deplorable”, and that the scheme does not address the root cause of homelessness.

However, the motion was eventually carried, with one councillor saying radical times called for radical measures.

The council is now in the early stages of costing and feasibility of the idea.



MAKE THE JOURNEY JUST AS EXCITING AS THE DESTINATION

Book your clients on one of 170 port-rich Europe itineraries

UP TO

50% OFF

CRUISES*

FREE BEVERAGE PACKAGE & MORE*

US \$ **200** FREE ONBOARD CREDIT*




NCL
NORWEGIAN
CRUISE LINE®
Feel Free

EUROPE'S LEADING
CRUISE LINE
WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS
15 YEARS IN A ROW


*Conditions apply

[CLICK HERE FOR NCL'S LATEST EUROPE DESTINATION GUIDE](#)


MORE DINING OPTIONS THAN SEA DAYS



IMMERSIVE SHORE EXCURSIONS



AWARD-WINNING ENTERTAINMENT



Seabourn hosts industry afloat

A SPARKLING Sydney summer's afternoon proved the perfect setting yesterday for Seabourn Cruise Line to host some of its key industry partners on a delightful cruise aboard a superyacht. The deluxe *One O One* vessel (pictured at right) was even decked out with Seabourn livery, evoking the brand's ultra-luxe onboard experience with flowing French Champagne, canapes and hospitality.

Seabourn's local team were on deck to welcome guests, along with the brand's global sales chief Steve Smotrys (see page 1), with the cruise line looking forward to another big year in 2023.



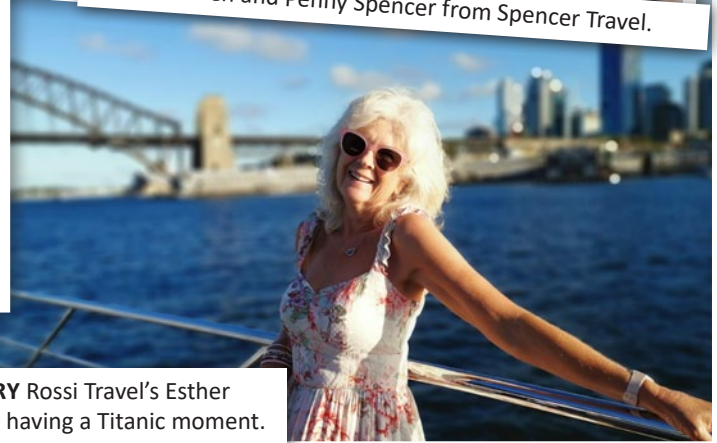
SEABOURN'S Jennifer Compton, Anastasia Kotanidis, Steve Smotrys and Catherine Rynd.



TINA Killeen and Penny Spencer from Spencer Travel.



DONNA Sheather, itravel; Karen Robinson from MTA Travel; and Megan Catterall from itravel enjoying the view.



MARY Rossi Travel's Esther Fraser having a Titanic moment.



NATALIE Cherry from Noosa Cruise & Travel.



[Click to read](#)

Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Coral Princess</i>	18 Jan
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	19 Jan
MELBOURNE	
<i>Oceania Regatta</i>	18 Jan
<i>Majestia Princess</i>	18 Jan
HOBART	
<i>Silver Whisper</i>	18 Jan
<i>Silver Muse</i>	19 Jan
<i>Viking Mars</i>	19 Jan
PORT ARTHUR	
<i>Silver Muse</i>	18 Jan
AUCKLAND	
<i>Grand Princess</i>	18 Jan
<i>Viking Orion</i>	18 Jan
<i>ms Europa 2</i>	19 Jan
WELLINGTON	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	19 Jan
AKAROA	
<i>Silver Shadow</i>	18 Jan
<i>Le Soleal</i>	19 Jan
BAY OF ISLANDS	
<i>ms Europa 2</i>	18 Jan
DUNEDIN	
<i>Seven Seas Explorer</i>	18 Jan
FIORDLAND	
<i>Star Breeze</i>	18 Jan
<i>Coral Adventurer</i>	19 Jan
<i>Seven Seas Explorer</i>	19 Jan
NAPIER	
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	19 Jan
PICTON	
<i>Seabourn Odyssey</i>	18 Jan
<i>Silver Shadow</i>	19 Jan
STEWART ISLAND	
<i>National Geo Orion</i>	18 Jan
TAURANGA	
<i>Azamara Quest</i>	18 Jan
<i>Le Laperouse</i>	18 Jan
WAIHEKE	
<i>ms Europa 2</i>	19 Jan

Aurora events return



2023
Ultimate Bucket List
Best Wild Places To Visit & When

AURORA Expeditions has announced its Bucket List events, its first in-person dates for 2023.

The events will focus on Aurora's recently launched 2023 Bucket List Travel Guide (**pictured**), which has been curated from the Aurora expedition team's insights and vast experience.

Travel advisors and consumers are invited to attend the events, which span 12 dates and six states & territories.

Among the events are four in Western Australia (Perth, Busselton, Bunbury, and Mandurah), two in Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland, and one in Adelaide and Canberra.

Attendees will learn the highlights of Aurora's adventures across the wildest and most remote destinations around the globe, and hear about when to travel, wildlife experiences, and in-location phenomena.

Exclusively for travel advisors, Aurora is also offering a virtual

agent event on 24 Jan at 3pm AEDT, and is also offering virtual consumer events on 03 Feb at 11am or 01 Mar at 3pm.

Released last week, the Bucket List Guide sees Aurora experts give their opinion on the best places to go, as well as when to visit and why.

The e-book includes travel hacks and interesting facts, such as when to visit Antarctica for the best opportunity to see a whale, and the optimal time to traverse the Panama Canal.

"Aurora's guide experience is imperative for ensuring passengers have a safe, fascinating, enriching and enjoyable adventure," Chief Marketing Officer Hayley Peacock Gower said.

Readers looking to book their trip will also receive savings of up to 20% when booking by the end of next month.

For further info on the events or to RSVP, **CLICK HERE**, and to read the e-book, **CLICK HERE**.



All at sea in 2023

2023 is already lining up to be a busy and exciting year for our industry as we mark the first (hopefully) uninterrupted year of cruising back in Australia.

We have already welcomed several new ships to our waters including the maiden voyage of *Seven Seas Explorer*.

This week, Cunard launched a high-profile campaign to celebrate their return to the region.

As I have noted previously, ACA is delighted by the cruise lines' commitment to include Australia on new and return sailings which will bring welcome spending back to our destinations.

The ports around Australia have always worked enthusiastically to support ship arrivals and we know that the regional communities in particular give their all to welcome passengers and crew.

We will continue to support these with our roadshows, which began last year.

In Feb we will head to Geraldton and Broome in WA followed by a visit to Sydney.

These meetings kick off a busy calendar - a delegation of ACA members will head to Seatrade Cruise Global (USA) in Mar.

We will also be teaming up with CLIA at ATE for the first time, reinforcing the important role cruise plays in the tourism industry overall.

High on our agenda is our 25th anniversary conference, to be held in Wollongong in Sep.

It's great to have so much activity to look forward to given the recent malaise.