

#### cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Tuesday 28th Nov 2023

## Cruise Weekly today

**CRUISE Weekly** today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from **Cruise Lines International Association.** 

#### Azamara appoints MSC's Morgan

AZAMARA has welcomed Shannon Morgan to its international sales team, joining the cruise line as its new Key Account Manager.

Throughout his career in the travel industry, Morgan has represented prestigious brands, including Globus, Pandaw, and MSC Cruises.

Director of Sales Victoria Chigwidden is thrilled to have Morgan join the local team, where his experience and relationships with key partners are huge assets to Azamara's growing team.

# **CLIA welcomes Framework**

**CRUISE** Lines International Association (CLIA) has welcomed Australia's National Sustainability Framework, announced yesterday by federal, state, and territory tourism ministers.

The Framework's vision is for Australia to be a world leader in sustainable tourism, which CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz said will provide an important foundation for the country's visitor economy, allowing it to evolve in a well-managed and responsible way.

It involves four pillars, including taking a managed approach to sustainability by embedding business practices & procedures to ensure sustainability goals are achieved; implementing environmental & climate action by protecting wildlife & nature; reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and more. The Framework also emphasises respecting culture by acknowledging & engaging appropriately with First Nations people & other cultural groups, and creating positive social impact by working cooperatively and inclusively with visitors, employees, and suppliers.

"The National Sustainability Framework is aligned with the cruise industry's own commitment to the principles established by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC)," Katz said.

"The Framework adapts these GSTC principles into the Australian context, allowing the tourism industry to align around its sustainability, cultural and social objectives."

MEANWHILE, CLIA memberships for next year are open now - for the opportunity to earn rewards on your bookings, and more, see **page 3**. *MS* 

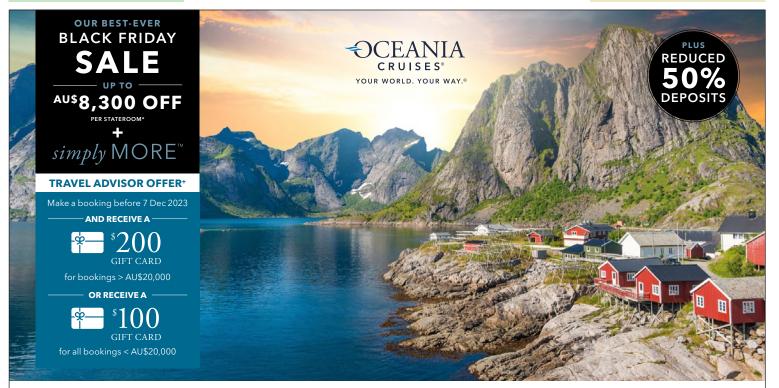
#### RCI's Icon-ic day

A NEW era of vacations is on the way, as Royal Caribbean International's (RCI) *Icon of the Seas* officially joined the line's fleet ahead of her Jan debut.

Meyer Turku shipyard recently began putting the finishing touches on *lcon*, after a celebration which symbolised the end of construction.

Marking the milestone at the celebration were more than 1,200 crew members and workers, who were joined by Royal Caribbean Group President & Chief Executive Officer Jason Liberty, RCI President & Chief Executive Officer Michael Bayley, and Meyer Turku Chief Executive Officer Tim Meyer.

*Icon* is RCI's first ship powered by liquefied natural gas, and the first waste-toenergy plant at sea.



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**ROYAL** Caribbean International (RCI) recently quarantined a furry stowaway attempting to make its way into Australia.

A pet cat was smuggled aboard RCI's *Ovation of the Seas*' voyage from Honolulu to Sydney last month.

According to New Zealand newspaper *The Post*, the cat was discovered in a guest's cabin, and is believed to be from Arizona.

The cat may have gotten away with it too, had it not been for foul weather, which diverted *Oasis* to Wellington.

It is here where biosecurity agents found the cat during an otherwise routine inspection of the ship.

The cat was "bonded" to the Captain, meaning they are officially caring for the animal while it remains on the vessel.

#### Sunny cruise boost

**SUNSHINE** Coast businesses are set to ride the cruise ship wave, with nearly 3,000 passengers to disembark from four vessels over the next three weeks.

Viking's Viking Orion, Windstar Cruises' Star Breeze, Regent Seven Seas Cruises' Seven Seas Explorer, and Oceania Cruises' Regatta will all arrive in Mooloolaba from now until Christmas Eve.

# Virgin pops Aussie cherry



VIRGIN Voyages' *Resilient Lady* (pictured) has arrived in Darwin for the first time, marking the cruise line's maiden appearance in Australian waters.

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*Resilient* made her entrance to the NT at 8am yesterday morning, with excited sailors stepping off at Darwin Port Cruise Ship Terminal to explore the tropical capital and its surroundings.

Among the Shore Things (Virgin's term for shore excursions) available in the NT are a visit to George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens or the famous Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory.

Also on offer is an eco-cruise around Darwin's waterways, an immersive food tour sampling the cultural melting pot of Top End cuisine, as well as an iconic outback pub hop via helicopter.

The stopover is part of *Resilient's* 44-day repositioning voyage, which departed Athens on 22 Oct, and has made bucketlist stops in Dubai, Mumbai, Phuket, Singapore, and Bali. *Resilient* will now journey to the eastern states of Australia, making stops in Cairns, Airlie Beach, and Sydney, before arriving into her new home port of Melbourne.

"We're finally in Australia... today marks a historical milestone for Virgin Voyages," Chief Executive Officer Nirmal Saverimuttu said.

"Reaching Darwin and entering Aussie water is an incredible moment for us...we can't wait to see what our MerMaiden voyage from Melbourne has in store." MS

#### Carnival clarifies

A CARNIVAL United Kingdom spokesperson has told *CW* the company is "categorically not making any redundancies", nor will it be firing and rehiring staff.

Media reports last week suggested the company's P&O Cruises UK and Cunard Line brands may dismiss crew members unless they accepted salary cuts and flexible working arrangements.

#### Cooking up a feast

OCEANIA Cruises has announced its first annual Culinary Masters cruise in Oct.

The sailing is to be hosted by Oceania's two French master chefs, and will include special events, a signature gala seafood brunch, and more guest cuisiniers.

The cruise will be hosted aboard *Marina*, and will sail from Valletta to Rome.





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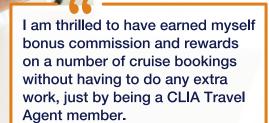
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