



Cruise Weekly today

TODAY'S *Cruise Weekly* has four pages of the latest cruise news, including a photo page from **Norwegian Cruise Line**.

90,000km down!

JUST a week and a half into NCL's fourth annual Walk for Wellness (W4W), participants have collectively travelled more than 90,000km.

The first weekly challenge involved walkers submitting a photo of something that makes you "Think NCL", with winners including Samantha Lang from Travel Associates and Anna Powell from Pursers Travel Group in Queensland.

The has seen walkers achieve seven milestones on their virtual journey around the world, and NCL has donated \$6,000 to Mood Active - more from W4W on **page three**.

Geelong agent hits the Viking jackpot

VIKING has declared Janet Kizan of Geelong Travel as the winner of its Rewards by Viking trade incentive prize.

The lucky advisor scored a whopping \$10,000 in prize money yesterday after her name was drawn at random.

The competition period ran between 01 Jun and 31 Aug, and was open to Rewards by Viking members across Australia and New Zealand (**CW 05 Jun**).

The incentive saw travel agents receive one entry into the draw for every river, ocean and expedition voyage they booked during the promotional period, while also doubling their Rewards by Viking points.

Kizan, who is a Rewards by Viking member, said she was "overwhelmed with gratitude and excitement" upon discovering she was the winner.

"I wish to express my heartfelt



thanks to Viking for this generous prize and to Geelong Travel for their continued support of me," she enthused.

"I recommend Viking's voyages because of their commitment to quality, product diversity, and potential for lasting relationships with satisfied customers.

"Having travelled with Viking and experienced them, I am passionate about their exceptional products."

Kizan said she will use her prize money on a white goods upgrade, as well as to treat herself and spoil her new grandson.

Viking congratulated the Victorian advisor on her hard work, and extended its gratitude to the team at Geelong Travel for their continued support.

Pictured: Joanne Cullen, Viking Commercial Manager Victoria & SA, presenting the prize to an ecstatic Kizan. *JM*

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Travel Daily

Baltic strategy

CRUISE Baltic will present its various member ports collectively as 'Northern Europe' in a bid to build cruise business and reaffirm the region's safety and attractiveness despite the lack of St Petersburg on itineraries.

Klaus Bondam, Cruise Baltic Director, outlined the organisation's strategy through until 2026 at a presentation day earlier this month.

Focusing on bringing the stories of each destination to life, the plan is to also highlight the importance of responsible cruising including the use of shore power, effective waste handling, crew welfare, and interaction with communities.

There are 32 member ports in Cruise Baltic providing exceptional diversity, Bondam said, highlighting the opportunity to experience arts, culture and architecture.

A&K reshuffle

CRYSTAL parent A&K Travel Group has rolled out more of its 'One A&K' strategy (**CW** 11 Jul) with the appointment of four new members for its global trade sales team.

All reporting to Chief Sales Officer, Marett Taylor, the additions include London-based Jennifer Charlton, Glen Rothe and Jacqueline Leyva in Florida, and former Scenic sales executive Sharla Smith as a regional US Sales Director.

Other US and LATAM internal promotions have also been announced within A&K.

The changes don't impact the Asia-Pacific region which continues to be led by Debra Fox as EVP Trade Sales APAC, supported by Tony Archbold as VP Sales, while a new Director of Sales Asia Pacific is being recruited following the addition of other local trade support positions.

MSC showcases Yacht Club

MSC CRUISES has released a new online brochure (**pictured**) highlighting the features and benefits of its exclusive 'ship within a ship' MSC Yacht Club.

The concept debuted as far back as 2008 and is now available on more than half of the MSC fleet, offering a premium cruise experience to Yacht Club passengers who cruise in a private exclusive club environment while still being able to access the huge array of leisure and entertainment that a larger ship has to offer.

The new 36-page MSC Yacht Club brochure highlights the all-inclusive experience, which includes 24-hour butler service and a dedicated concierge who can organise private shore excursions, make spa and show reservations, and book spots in specialty restaurants.

The MSC Yacht Club also boasts its own private restaurant as well as the exclusive Top Sail lounge offering the best panoramic views from the front of the ship.

There is also a private sundeck and pool only accessible to Yacht Club guests.

The new brochure is available for free online download at msccruises.com.au.

MEANWHILE MSC is also running a special Cruise Month promotion offering CLIA member travel agents a \$50 Flexi e-gift card if they book one of the company's 2023/24 hot deals.

Guests will also enjoy an



additional A\$100 onboard credit per cabin added to their booking, which can be used for shore excursions, specialty dining, spa treatments and more.

"This offer is available exclusively to CLIA members, showcasing our commitment to supporting travel professionals in providing extraordinary cruise experiences to their clients," an MSC spokesperson said.

Special deals on offer include a seven-night *MSC Seashore* departure from Port Canaveral (Orlando) on 07 Jan 2024 priced from just A\$834/NZ\$929 per person twin share.

A 13 Nov 2023 Japan cruise aboard *MSC Bellissima* leads in at A\$1,589/NZ\$1,789 per person for 10 nights ex Yokohama, while a pre-Christmas 10 Dec 2023 *MSC Euribia* cruise out of Hamburg is priced from A\$894/NZ\$1,019 for seven nights on board. **BP**

More details at mscbook.com.



We are in search of **two Business Development Managers** dedicated to representing **Virgin Voyages** exclusively through **Travel the World**, one based in Sydney and the other in Brisbane/Gold Coast. We are looking for dynamic and passionate individuals with strategic acumen and a focus on achieving results. At Travel the World, we offer outstanding working conditions within a highly supportive and vibrant team environment.

To apply, please send your cover letter and resume to careers@traveltheworldgroup.com.au.

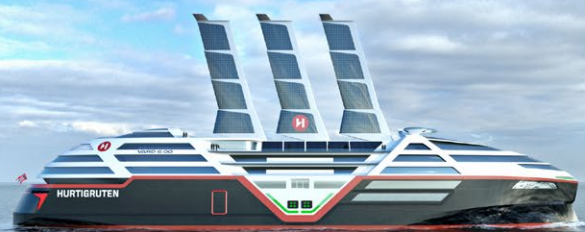
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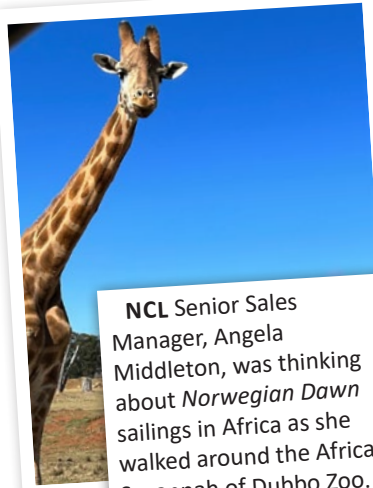
Wed 11th October 2023

NCL'S 4th annual Walk for Wellness has hit the ground running - with 21 days still left of the challenge, participants have already walked over 90,000km and achieved seven milestones (Auckland, Papeete, Honolulu, Juneau, Athens and Rome, and Reykjavik).

For the first challenge, participants were asked to snap a photo of something that makes them "Think NCL" and share why with the group chat.

Congratulations to the week one winners, Samantha Lang, Travel Associates Gungahlin and Anna Powell, Pursers Travel Group.

For this week's challenge, between 09 - 15 Oct, take three photos of local spots that remind you of a country or city that NCL visits and share which destinations they remind you of and why. The top two most creative entries will win!



NCL Senior Sales Manager, Angela Middleton, was thinking about *Norwegian Dawn* sailings in Africa as she walked around the African Savannah of Dubbo Zoo.



NCL staff members Brittany Nipperess, Peter Jeff, Erica Tremko and Dallas Baker getting a lunchtime walk in around the beautiful Sydney Opera House.



NCL'S Walk for Wellness Ambassador, Wendy Walker, also got her steps in and shared her "Wednesday Wisdom" with participants.



FLIGHT Centre's Angie Reilly 966m above sea level at Mt Maroon.



WEEK one Second Prize Winner: Anna Powell and Holly Ireland (right to left) from Pursers Travel Group, alongside NCL's Craig McLaurin.



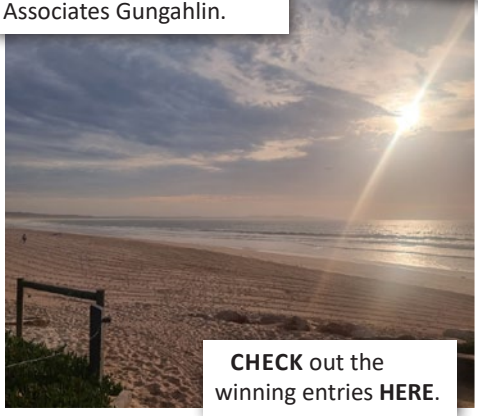
WEEK one First Prize Winner: photo taken by Samantha Lang, Travel Associates Gungahlin.

JULIANNE Gazal-Rizk of TravelManagers Willoughby at Tunks Park Middle Harbour Sydney.



CHERIE Manson of Helloworld Travel Albury opted to walk to the shops instead of driving!

NCL team members Tahlia Shaw, Matthew Hayes from OCI & RSSC, **Will Kaafi, Jacinta Baker, Kathleen Feeney** and **Sally Ding** on NCL's Friday Walk Club in Sydney last week.



CHECK out the winning entries **HERE**.



KARRYN Bartlett of TravelManagers Bulahdelah enjoying the view at Whitehaven Beach.





PORTHOLE

DRESSING up can be fun, and a group of anti-cruise protestors in France made the most of the opportunity to try out some new outfits when they donned polar bear suits, sea lion outfits and Venetian masks (**pictured**) to greet the arrival of Atlas Ocean Voyages' *World Traveller* into the port of Douarnenez in Brittany, France.

The demonstrators are implacably opposed to cruise tourism, with their colourful get-ups aiming to highlight messaging that ocean-going holidays are "indecent".

"I am fed up with luxury and expedition trips," said one 25-year-old protestor, according to *EuroNews*, while another said "we are simply denouncing this industry which has no reason to exist".

One of the disembarking passengers was sanguine about the spectacle, describing the boos and catcalls as "a useful educational experience".

"That's one of the reasons we travel - to get perspectives from other places," he told *AFP*.



Cruise Traveller Ponant polar blog



CRUISE Traveller has launched a new 10-part blog series offering an inside look at the world's first luxury icebreaker, Ponant's *Le Commandant Charcot*.

The immersive series follows renowned Australian naturalist guide, polar expert, geologist and environmentalist, David Heydon, on an expedition voyage to Antarctica aboard the hybrid electric ship.

Heydon, who is **pictured** with his wife Janice, provides a first-hand account of his experience earlier this year journeying from South America to New Zealand via Antarctica.

Viewers will gain insight into the 245-guest *Le Commandant Charcot*, launched in Jul 2021, which is capable of reaching remote areas including the North Pole, thanks to its unique ability to cut through thick ice.

The polar vessel features two restaurants, indoor and outdoor heated pools, spa, gym, sauna, snow room, panoramic lounges and bars, library and a theatre.

The first four parts of the adventure blog series are available to watch on Cruise Traveller's website **HERE**, with the remaining six to appear over coming weeks. *JM*



The Chat with Jenny

Do you know who from Season ONE has visited 122 Countries?

Catch up on episodes to find out

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A big Tassie season ahead

TASMANIA'S cruise season kicked off early with the arrival of P&O's *Pacific Adventurer* into Hobart on 20 September.

Passengers were welcomed through the Macquarie Wharf 2 Cruise Terminal, where local artisans and volunteers were ready to greet our first passengers of the season.

Fittingly, *Pacific Adventurer* will also be our final farewell of the season on 23 April 2024.

Eighty-five ships are set to visit Hobart in 2023/24, bringing 160,000 passengers and 69,000 crew to the region.

With 32 of these calls staying overnight, there will be an opportunity for passengers to experience Tasmanian hospitality and sample some of our state's world-class produce.

Burnie, on the northwest coast, is also gearing up for a great season with 41 ships delivering 74,000 passengers & 33,000 crew.

Volunteers are eagerly planning for the first cruise arrival, *MS Noordam*, on 15 November, followed one month later with the maiden call by Virgin Voyage's *Resilient Lady*, who will visit this port 10 times over the season. At 2,770 passengers, it is one of the biggest vessels to visit and much work has been put into creating a unique tour program for this younger crowd.

This year is set to be one of our biggest cruise seasons with 159 port calls planned, including the introduction of Disney Cruise Line, with Tasmania continuing to be a popular destination for cruise travellers.