







cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Friday 1st Sep 2023

### Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page from Norwegian Cruise Line.

### Oceania upgrades

**OCEANIA** Cruises has announced an exclusive upgrade sale, which commenced today.

Cruisers can enjoy a free upgrade of up to four stateroom categories, as well as a 50% reduced deposit, and up to US\$1,600 shore excursion credit.

The sale is available until 01 Oct on an array of select sailings in 2023 and 2024 - call 1300 355 200 for more info.



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# NCL's biggest W4W yet



NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is this year turning its annual Walk for Wellness initiative into an industry-wide event, opening registrations to everyone from the travel sector, in an attempt to set a world record.

Speaking exclusively to CW at this week's Australian Cruise Association Conference in Wollongong, NCL Managing Director & Vice President Ben Angell announced the official opening of registrations for Walk for Wellness, ahead of the month-long Oct initiative.

He said this year's Walk for Wellness has the support of the "who's who from the industry", as the initiative attempts to bring travel together for a world record attempt of "longest distance achieved by a team of travel professionals in one month".

"We've opened it up to all the industry, not just travel agents, and we're using it to demonstrate the strength and resilience and the unity the industry has," he explained.

"Last year we got over 1,000 participants just from the travel agent community; this year we've got the support of just about every leader in the industry, and we're expected to surpass that mark quite comfortably.

"It's an undeniable show of the strength and resilience of the

industry," Angell added.

The NCL chief said he is confident a whole-of-industry Walk for Wellness will generate at least 1,500 sign-ups, which will comfortably pass last year's mark of 1,000, but it "could go much bigger than that," he hoped.

"I've always said [Walk for Wellness] is bigger than NCL, but this year it really is bigger than itself....this is about the industry," Angell added.

This year marks the fourth Walk for Wellness, with the event to again coincide with National Mental Health Month, and the World Health Organization's Mental Health Day on 10 Oct.

Participants can walk solo, with colleagues, or even take a hosted walk with their local NCL Business Development Manager via the free MoveSpring application, which syncs with a user's mobile and wearable devices.

Walkers will be invited to "Think International, Think NCL", by walking around a world map, with challenges, surprises, and prizes - including a European cruise - to keep walkers engaged, motivated, and on track.

**CLICK HERE** and head to page four to register and to find out more about NCL's Walk for Wellness, with the first 300 registrations to receive a Walk for Wellness cap.

### ACA to Adelaide

**THE** Australian Cruise Association (ACA) yesterday announced next year's conference will be held in Adelaide (CW BN yesterday).

The South Australian Tourism Commission has secured the event, reflecting the incredible resurgence in cruise currently being enjoyed by the state, which welcomed more than 100 ship visits last season.

"The committee's decision to take the conference to Adelaide made perfect sense as the state's appeal continues to grow for the curious cruise traveller," ACA Chief Executive Officer Jill Abel said - more from the Conference on page two and page three.



## with Danielle Galloway

of Travel Associates



### ACA celebrates 25th annual Conference

**THE** Australian Cruise Association (ACA) this week held its 25th annual Conference in Wollongong, with spirits high ahead of a bumper upcoming season, and the lifting of New South Wales' COVID protocols.

The Conference was appropriately titled "Full Steam Ahead", with a range of keynote presentations and panel discussions, and an exciting line-up of speakers scaffolding the program, include Cruise Lines

International Association (CLIA) Chair Ben Angell; Princess Cruises Senior Vice President Stuart Allison and Royal Caribbean International Vice President & Managing Director Gavin Smith (pictured below); and Ponant Director of Expeditions & Destination Development, Mick Fogg.

Panel session themes included "Sustainability & Destination Management", "Building for the Future", "and How is Expedition Different".

"With such a positive outlook for cruise both at home and overseas, our conference will provide the industry with the perfect opportunity to come together and ensure we are well positioned to take advantage of future opportunities including what we hope is an imminent decision around the location of the third [NSW] port," ACA Chief Executive Officer Jill Abel said.



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THE excitement is palpable within the NT tourism industry, as it gears up for







guest, courtesy of Pure Gelato.



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PERHAPS the eighth wonder of the world is appearing before our eyes!

A mysterious rock formation (pictured) has emerged on a beach in New Zealand over the past weeks, according to Nine.

The two-metre-tall formation is baffling residents, who are trying to figure out the origin of the carving.

The confusing yet impressive sculpture is located on Waipipi Beach, and resembles a skull.

Residents suspect the spooky formation was carved by local artists, but thus far its origins are unknown - perhaps it is a self-promotional stunt performed by Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson.



### New plastics trial

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has announced a three-month pilot packaging trial in a bid to reduce single-use packaging by 95%.

In a partnership with Bacardi and ecoSPIRITS, the new program will see the use of ecoTOTE aboard three Carnival vessels: Carnival Celebration, Carnival Horizon, and Carnival Sunrise.

### All the way with Wollongong



#### EXCLUSIVE

**PORT** Authority of New South Wales Chief Executive Officer Philip Holliday (pictured) has lent his support to Port Kembla over Garden Island as the site of a third cruise terminal to service greater Sydney.

Holliday described Port Kembla as a "really strong option" at yesterday's Australian Cruise Association Conference, while noting he would be spending "very little time" looking at Garden Island as an option.

"The really strong option is Port Kembla, and I think that's where we need to put our energy and our excitement and drive forward in delivering the business case to make a decision at the earliest opportunity.

"That's the work the Port Authority will be undertaking, and we'll see where it takes us." Holliday noted while the discussion about Garden Island excites many within the cruise

industry, it is not a realistic possibility "before he leaves this merry Earth".

"It's important when looking at options to ensure that you have local support as well.

"You'll be aware the New South Wales govenment recently announced, with our full support, that Yarra Bay was off the table as a potential location for the third cruise terminal, and just in case anybody's wondering, Jervis Bay has never been, and will not be, considered as a location for a cruise terminal.

"We know that we have at least the support of Cruise Wollongong, Business Illawarra, and the local member (Paul Scully), who also happens to be the Planning Minister."

Scully joined Wollongong Mayor Gordon Bradbery on Wed night to open the conference, where both men expressed their enthusiasm for cruise, and the region's suitability for the sector.

## Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

o<sub>1</sub> Sep

o8 Sep

SYDNEY Pacific Adventure

Carnival Splendor Pacific Adventure	o4 Sep o4 Sep
BRISBANE <b>Pacific Encounter</b>	o2 Sep
CAIRNS <b>Pacific Encounter</b>	o5 Sep
AIRLIE BEACH  Pacific Encounter	o4 Sep
BROOME Le Ponant	o8 Sep
DARWIN Coral Geographer Reef Prince Le Soleal Coral Discoverer	o1 Sep o2 Sep o7 Sep o7 Sep
AUCKLAND	

#### Mauritius terminal

Pacific Explorer

MAURITIUS is set to open a new cruise terminal in Nov, at Port Louis Harbour.

The new facility will become one of the largest cruise terminals in the region, able to accommodate 4,000 passengers per day.

Mauritius also plans to surpass its record of 40 calls, which was achieved in 2018. through the latest investment.

The Mauritius Port Authority has been building up its cruise infrastructure over the past decades, Acting Director-General Shakeel Goburdhone told media.

### **₩**CRUISE

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