







Thursday 7th Sep 2023

Cruise Weekly today

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

Step up 4 NCL

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line (NCL) is this year calling all travel professionals for its fourth annual Walk for Wellness, which will take place for the entirety of next month.

This year's W4W is back bigger than ever, as NCL will be striving to set a world record for the longest distance achieved by a team of travel professionals in one month.

The Oct event will support the wellbeing of the travel industry, and coincides with National Mental Health Month and WHO Mental Health Day on 10 Oct - more information on the cover page.

Cruise is getting greener

THE world's shipyards will have delivered nearly 50 new Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) member ships by the end of the decade, representing the youngest, cleanest, and most technologically advanced fleets that have ever sailed, the organisation's Managing Director Joel Katz said.

Opening this year's Cruise360 conference in Brisbane, Katz said these younger, greener ships will help drive the cruise industry toward its sustainability goals, which he promised will be a key theme throughout the day.

The 44 new cruise ships set to be delivered by 2028 will add \$62 billion of combined value to the industry, which Katz said is absolute proof of confidence in the sector and its future.

With the northern summer season now in full swing, Katz reaffirmed this year will be the first in which passenger volumes surpass pre-COVID levels.

"This year we are expecting as an industry to carry around nearly 31.5 million guests globally, a new all-time record," Katz said.

"I want to thank every one of you here today for the role that you've played in bringing cruising back so strongly...in line with this, cruise line capacity is on a similar upward trajectory."

Consumer positivity across the world continues to improve, Katz added, particularly in Australia.

"We're also seeing continuing positive consumer sentiment around the world, and CLIA's most recent international research shows that the intention to cruise across key markets is once again at its highest level.

"Here in Australia and New Zealand we have just as much to be optimistic about the future," he enthused. MS



On location in Brisbane

Today's issue of Cruise Weekly is coming to you courtesy of **Cruise Lines International** Association, which is hosting Cruise360 in Brisbane for the first time ever.

CRUISE Lines International Association will today host almost 650 industry delegates from across Australia at its annual Cruise360 conference.

More than 20 speakers and panellists will take part, offering international insight and inspiration to delegates.

The event has never been held in Queensland before, and to recognise the occasion, is being supported by the Queensland Government more from C₃60 on page two.

OPEN FOR RESERVATIONS 14 SEPTEMBER, 2023

Pre-register your client's interest for their preferred voyage ahead of the official launch by calling our reservations team, emailing res.apac@oceaniacruises.com or contacting your Sales Representative.

For an exclusive preview register for our Trade Webcast on Monday 11 September, 2023 at 12PM AEST

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C360's inaugural Queensland conference

CRUISE Lines International Association's (CLIA) annual Cruise360 conference is visiting Queensland for the first time this week.

The Association today hosts almost 650 industry delegates from across Australia at the Royal International Convention Centre, with more than 20 international and local speakers and panellists set to take part.

Delegates will offer international insight and inspiration to an audience of travel agents, cruise line executives and industry supporters from across Australia and the world.

Among newcomers to the Australasian cruise scene this year will be Virgin Voyages, Disney Cruise Line, and Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours, which will all deploy ships in this region for the first time.

"This year will offer more variety and choice than ever before, making 2023-24 one of the most exciting cruise seasons in recent memory," according to CLIA Managing Director Joel Katz as he opened the conference.

Delegates were last night welcomed to Queensland with an event at Rivershed at Howard Smith Wharves, where Cruise Weekly took these pics - more at facebook.com/cruiseweekly.



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OCEANIA Cruises Vice President International Sales Jason Worth, Phil Hoffmann Travel founder Phil Hoffmann, Alison Hoffmann, and Abercrombie & Kent Head of Marketing Michelle Mickan.



AURORA Expeditions Public Relations Manager Svetlana Monastyrsky and Trade Sales Executive Hannah Charlton.



UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruises Managing Director Alice Ager and Travel The World Director of Sales Sharon Hando.



CELEBRITY Cruises Vice President & Managing Director Tim Jones and Disney Cruise Line's Andrea Robinson.



Manager Viktoryia Shliazhko.



Executive Officer Philip Holliday.





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THEY say many of today's cruise ships serve as a destination themselves, but this is ridiculous.

An eerie wreck of an abandoned cruise ship lies just metres from a beach in the Solomon Islands, and is now serving as a tourist hotspot, The Daily Mail reports.

World Discoverer struck an underwater rock in the Sandfly Passage in 2000 while cruising for Society Expeditions, and was damaged.

The ship was subsequently grounded to prevent her from sinking, and was abandoned.

World Discoverer, which used to carry up to 140 passengers, now serves as a destination for tours, which sees guests enjoy snorkelling around her.

Overwater bungalows have even sprouted up nearby!

Silversea pre-sale

SILVERSEA Cruises this morning opened an "exclusive pre-sale" on 206 new voyages for the 2025 northern summer. Scheduled for Mar-Nov 2025. Silversea's 12-strong fleet will visit 409 destinations in 60 countries, according to the cruise line's President, Barbara Muckermann.

Itineraries include two new extended Grand Voyages in the Mediterranean and North Atlantic - silversea.com.

Paul Gauguin returns to Darwin



PONANT'S Paul Gauguin Cruises has announced a new "Boutique Crossing Collection" which includes a Darwin transit for its 330-guest Paul Gauguin.

The 14-night Indonesia Immersive cruise from Singapore to Darwin departs 01 Apr 2025 and voyages to ports including Semarang, Loh Liang, and Dili.

Paul Gauguin (pictured) will call at two maiden ports in Indonesia, including Parai Beach, which offers world-class snorkelling amidst stunning coral reefs; and Surabaya, known for its historic Arab Quarter, vibrant art scene, and Javanese cuisine.

The voyage will also overnight in Singapore, Bali, and Darwin.

Paul Gauguin will then cruise the Crossing Melanesia voyage from Darwin to Lautoka in Fiji over 16 nights, departing 15 Apr.

The ship will visit Thursday Island, Samarai, Alotau, Espiritu Santo, Port Vila, and Honiara, where the ship will overnight.

Cruisers will witness the unique

culture of Papua New Guinea's Milne Bay people in Alotau, as well as the region's stunning coral reefs, tropical rainforests, and World War II historical sites.

Rounding out the new collection is a 'Crossing Oceania: Lautoka to Benoa' cruise of 20 nights, departing 17 Jan 2025.

Paul Gauguin also recently released its brochure for next season, with highlights including French Polynesia, Cook Islands, Fiji, and Tonga. MS

RWC river cruise

THERE are just 15 cabins remaining on a special Australian A-Rosa cruises river ship charter being coordinated by Gold Coast-based Zeppelin Travel for the upcoming Rugby World Cup in France.

The fully commissionable, allinclusive cruise will take place 19-29 Oct with onboard hosts including former Wallabies coach and media legend Alan Jones, as well as Wallabies great David Campese.

The package includes game tickets, excursions, meals and more - for details call 1300 786 888 or info@zt.com.au.

Pride back in Maui

HAWAI'I Tourism Authority has welcomed the return of Norwegian Cruise Line's Pride of America to Maui, with the ship's first call to Kahului taking place late last week.

Norwegian paused Pride of America's calls to Maui earlier this month to avoid stressing local resources during the Hawaii wildfires.





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