





cruiseweekly.com.au cruiseweekly.co.nz Tuesday 19th Sep 2023

#### Cruise Weekly today

CRUISE Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news.

#### Silversea incentive

**SILVERSEA** Cruises has unveiled its "sell and sail" incentive for travel advisors booking two or more select oceangoing voyages.

The first 50 travel advisors who make two bookings by the end of next month will earn a suite on a three-to-fivenight close-to-home sailing for themselves and a travelling companion.

Advisors who make subsequent bookings in addition to these two cruises will receive \$250 per booking.

The trip includes a luxurious suite, complimentary dining & beverages, personalised butler service, free wi-fi, and more.

## Royal Caribbean's Utopia floats out

**ROYAL** Caribbean International's Utopia of the Seas, which the cruise line is introducing as "the world's biggest weekend" (CW 21 Jun), floated out for the first time last week (pictured).

Utopia has now reached the next phase of her construction ahead of her Jul debut.

She has moved into an outfitting dock at the Chantiers de l'Atlantique shipyard in Saint-Nazaire, where her construction will be completed.

Utopia will make waves when she debuts as the first Oasis-class ship powered by liquefied natural gas, and the second in the Royal Caribbean fleet following Icon of the Seas, which is set to enter service in May.

The ship will advance Royal Caribbean's decades-long commitment to the environment by utilising the cleanest-burning marine fuel to date.



Utopia's three-night weekend and four-night weekday getaways will be the first in Royal Caribbean's Oasis-class to offer short escapes when she debuts in Jul from Port Canaveral.

Every cruise will feature visits to Nassau and Perfect Day at CocoCay, Royal Caribbean's private island, and her new adults-only Hideaway Beach (CW 18 Sep). MS

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#### Uniworld offer

**UNIWORLD** Boutique River Cruise Collection is offering 20% off all 2024 and 2025 voyages for Australians.

The "choice is yours" promotion has been Uniworld's most successful to date, offering 10% off every sailing during the period, and an additional 10% off when paying in full within 7 days.

General Manager Alice Ager is reminding travel advisors there is only six days remaining to take advantage of the offer, which will expire by the end of next month.

"Please don't delay and remember that with Uniworld you have nothing to lose by booking early," she said.

The offer will not be available on the Rivers of the World 2024 cruise

For more information on the deal, CLICK HERE.

### Cunard the latest to add Starlink

**CUNARD** Line has announced the roll-out of SpaceX's Starlink satellite internet service across its fleet.

Starlink will provide guests with greater bandwidth across Cunard ships, allowing for photo and video sharing, streaming films, and enjoying other content on board with a more reliable wi-fi connection at faster speeds.

The roll-out began in Jun, with the service to be available in both public spaces and staterooms on all three Cunard ships by the end of the year.

It will be available aboard Queen Elizabeth in time for her Australia season, which starts in Nov, and aboard the cruise line's newest ship, Queen Anne, when she launches in May.

"Starlink will make it even easier for our guests and colleagues to stay connected," Cunard President Katie McAlister said.



Jonathan Hofeller, Vice **President Commercial Sales** for Starlink, said, "high-speed internet is critical to our modern lifestyle both at home and when travelling".

"We're excited that Cunard guests and crew will benefit from an improved wi-fi service on board wherever they are."

MEANWHILE, the United Kingdom's P&O Cruises is also rolling out Starlink across its fleet.

Britannia and Azura have introduced the service to the public spaces on board, and it will be available on Arvia, Iona, Ventura, Arcadia and Aurora in both public spaces and cabins by the end of the year. MS





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#### Connect with your clients and ramp up your social media content

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**SEAWEED** is taking over our coral reefs, but there is one solution for all the green thumbs out there -"seaweeding".

As coral dies out around the world, seaweed has been slowly taking over, and once it gets a foothold, it is hard for the coral to compete.

As the oceans heat up and reefs degrade, the trend is expected to accelerate, researchers from James Cook University have found.

However, there is one stopgap solution - seaweeding.

The process is like regular weeding, only underwater.

In three years, and after tonnes of seaweed removed by researchers, the coral had made a spectacular recovery, covering up to six times the area it had before.

#### RCI to hit the beach

**ROYAL** Caribbean International's (RCI) Antigua beach club is on course to begin construction next year, with plans to be finalised by the end of 2023, according to Minister of Tourism Charles Fernandez.

According to reporting, the beach club near Fort James. which follows on from a MOU signed by RCI and Antigua & Barbuda, is set to exceed the initial US\$100 million budget.

## Princess does Hollywood



PRINCESS Cruises is set to roll out the red carpet on three Coastal California Hollywood Insider-themed voyages, departing next month.

The cruises will bring together musicians, special effects & makeup artists, and the stars of Dallas for three voyages in Oct.

The three specially-themed cruises range in length from three to seven days, including a five-day 80's Primetime Stars cruise aboard Majestic Princess (pictured) from Vancouver to Los Angeles, which includes actors Linda Gray, Charlene Tilton (Dallas), and Sheree J Wilson (Walker, Texas Ranger).

There is also a three-day Behind the Screen EFX cruise aboard Crown Princess from Seattle to Vancouver, which features makeup and special effects gurus Michael Westmore, Johnnie Spence, and Tym Buchaarern.

Rounding out the program is a seven-day Music Connection cruise aboard Discovery Princess round trip from Los Angeles, which will be joined by The Beach Boys co-founder Al Jardine, as well as Freda Payne, Kimberley Locke, and Leo Rossi.

"As the leading cruise line on the west coast and with our connection to Hollywood as the idyllic, co-starring backdrop on The Love Boat, it's a natural fit for us to introduce a series of cruises highlighting notable entertainment industry artists who have shaped television and film through the decades," Vice President Entertainment Experience Denise Saviss said. MS

#### Carnival is vegan

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line has introduced a new vegan dining room menu, with the company's chefs to create more new food options for guests fleetwide as culinary additions continue.

The new options have just been added on board Carnival Freedom and Carnival Horizon, and will be implemented fleetwide in a phased approach through to the end of the year.

The menus will offer a selection of appetizers, entrees, and desserts, prepared without the use of animal products, with proteins made from meat substitutes.

Appetizers include Hawaiian salmon poke, stuffed mushrooms, and spaghetti carbonara, while mains feature grilled tofu steak, baked vegetable au graitin, and eggplant cutlet.

For dessert, diners can salivate over dishes such as key lime velvet cake, Dutch double chocolate pave, and cappucino pot de creme.





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