



Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise news.

NCLH profitable

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings (NCLH) has returned to full-year profitability for the first time since the pandemic, generating net income of US\$166.2 million (A\$254m).

NCLH made total revenue of US\$8.5 billion (A\$13 billion) for the 2023 fiscal year, a 32% increase compared to the same period in 2019.

Occupancy was 102.9% for the year, and total revenue per passenger cruise day increased approximately 17%.

NCLH noted particularly high demand for its Norwegian Cruise Line brand, with bookings and pricing at higher levels than 2023 for all four quarters of 2024.

Coral partners with Journey Beyond

CORAL Expeditions and Journey Beyond have joined to deliver exceptional Aussie expeditions.

Two iconic experiences, Coral's Kimberley Pioneer cruise, and Journey Beyond's The Ghan (pictured), will unite to showcase the best of Central Australia and the country's remote north.

The package travels from Adelaide, north into Central Australia to Darwin, and then west along the rugged Kimberley coast to Broome.

Coral and Journey Beyond are also planning exclusive experiences which pair an expedition cruise with an Outback Spirit small-group tour.

This will see land-based touring through Northern Australia connecting with a cruise to the Great Barrier Reef and Cape York departing from Cairns; Arnhem Land and Kakadu departing from Darwin; and the Kimberley



and the country's North West departing from Broome.

"We are delighted to strengthen our relationship with Journey Beyond with the inclusion of our Kimberley cruise product into the rail program from 2025," enthused Coral Commercial Director Jeff Gillies.

"This brings together two

bucket-list Australian experiences delivered by proud and long-standing experts in Australian travel and tourism."

Journey Beyond Executive General Manager Marketing & Product Justine Lally said the company is excited to be able to offer packages which take in so many incredible destinations.

"We're excited to be able to offer this fantastic Kimberley Pioneer and Ghan train and cruise package in 2025 that takes in so many incredible places and experiences," she said.

"Journey Beyond and Coral Expeditions share a strong connection with and respect for the remote and rugged landscapes of this country, and this pairing will offer guests an authentic Australian journey of discovery," Lally added.

Programs are now on sale for travel dates next year. *MS*

Regent

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OFFER ENDS TOMORROW

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VIEW OFFER



AUSTRALIAN former cricket player Ricky Ponting boarded Royal Caribbean International's *Quantum of the Seas* recently to celebrate his Ponting Wines brand's partnership with the cruise line.

Ponting visited Vintages wine bar on board for a meet and greet with the crew (pictured) when *Quantum* docked in Brisbane, to celebrate a successful debut partnership season (CW 26 Sep 2023).



Wine-lovers can raise a glass of hand-picked rose, red, or white wine from Ponting Wines on two- to -18-night getaways from Brisbane and Sydney.

Six wines are available on board *Quantum*, as well as *Ovation of the Seas* and *Brilliance of the Seas*, such as Ponting First Session Adelaide Hills Sauvignon Blanc and Ponting Mowbray Boy Tasmanian Pinot Noir.



Cooking up a new cruise



GROUP travel specialist Gullivers Sport Travel is set to welcome Australian cook Adam Liaw (pictured) aboard Silversea Cruises' *Silver Muse* for an exclusive East Asian gastronomic adventure of Japan and Korea.

Guests will embark on an 11-day journey from 26 Sep to 06 Oct which explores Japan's rich culinary heritage through five distinct destinations.

The cruise, which begins in Tokyo, will also call Busan, South Korea, as well as Kobe, Kanazawa, Hakodate, and Yokohama.

Guests will enjoy shore excursions including sake- and Kobe beef-tastings, cooking classes, and a visit to world-famous fresh fish & seafood market Jagalchi Market.

They will also benefit from six special engagements with Liaw.

Fares lead in from \$10,550 per person, with travel advisors to receive a commission of \$600 for each guest they book on this voyage, potentially earning up to \$1,200 for every suite booked.

Liaw, who has previously hosted a land tour through Japan, says

he eagerly embraces the chance to welcome guests aboard *Muse*.

"I am thrilled to host this culinary journey through Japan and South Korea for guests who wish to delve deeper into this region and return with a newfound appreciation for its rich culinary traditions," he said.

"I've planned experiences to enhance the voyage, including question and answer sessions, informative lunches and social drink events - including welcome drinks, a sake tasting, and our final cocktail party."

Silversea MD Adam Radwanski said the cruise line is delighted to welcome the Malaysian-born cook aboard *Muse*.

"Liaw's enthusiasm for Asian flavours and his knack for crafting engaging, hands-on culinary experiences epitomise Silversea's mission to offer our guests intimate and authentic connections with each destination," he said.

"We are confident that Liaw's contributions will greatly enhance our guests' experiences and leave an indelible mark". MS



Guest Editor - Port of Brisbane

AS WE head towards the end of the summer season, nowhere else has the cruise resurgence been more evident than Brisbane.

The world-class Brisbane International Cruise Terminal – the city's newest tourism gateway – has been buzzing; bursting at the seams over the Christmas months, with thousands of excited passengers heading off on their holidays or experiencing everything Brisbane has to offer.

We welcomed back old friends, celebrated new market entrants, and experienced our busiest day with record passenger numbers.

Of course, none of this happens without having the hardest working team of industry partners in the country.

Over the next decade, cruising from Brisbane will contribute over \$1 billion to the Qld economy, supporting an array of industry sectors and hundreds of jobs.

Little wonder then that recently, we worked with ACA, Brisbane Economic Development Agency, TEQ and Bob Wood Cruise Group to bring together 70 tourism operators excited to uncover further opportunities in cruise.

How we can grow Brisbane as a transit call destination is a key focus for the city, and something of a no-brainer given our (almost) perfect weather year-round.

The workshop coincided with the Australian Cruise Association's board meeting, a senior stakeholder dinner and an ESG tour on board *Quantum of the Seas*, clearly focusing all eyes on Brisbane as a major port.