



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Oceania agent tool

**OCEANIA** Cruises has launched a free marketing solution for its trade partners, Oceania Insider Connect.

The new tool is powered by technology from Approach Guides, which is widely used around the cruise industry.

It will allow advisors to create instantly co-brandable marketing pages to showcase Oceania's itineraries, onboard experiences, destinations, ships, and latest promotions.

Advisors will also be able to create a co-branded website with real-time pricing and availability, driving actionable leads directly to advisors - **CLICK HERE** to access.

## Cruise stars in NTIA nominees list

**ALMOST** 20 cruise lines have been nominated as the 'Most Popular Ocean Cruise Operator' for this year's National Travel Industry Awards (NTIA).

The nominees, announced yesterday, include a broad range of cruise lines representing subcategories such as premium, expedition, and family.

APT, Aurora Expeditions, Azamara, Carnival Cruise Line, Celebrity Cruises, Disney Cruise Line, Emerald Cruises, HX, MSC Cruises, Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises, Ponant, Princess Cruises, Regent Seven Seas Cruises, Royal Caribbean International, Silversea, Viking, Virgin Voyages, and Windstar Cruises will be whittled down to five finalists for the 'Most Popular Ocean Cruise Operator' category by late next month.

There are also more than 10 river cruise lines nominated

for 'Most Popular River Cruise Operator', including AmaWaterways, APT, Avalon Waterways, Emerald, Pandaw, Riviera Travel River Cruises, Scenic Luxury Cruises & Tours, Tauck, Travelmarvel, Uniworld Boutique River Cruises, and Viking.

Three lines, APT; Emerald; and Viking, have been nominated in both categories, while more than 30 sales executives have been put forward for 'Most Outstanding Sales Executive - Cruise'.

The sector is also represented throughout the general NTIA categories, with Aurora, Hurtigruten Group, Lindblad Expeditions, and MSC up for the coveted 'Sustainability Award - Supplier' prize.

Cruiseo and CruiseHQ will represent cruise in the 'Most Outstanding Wholesaler - Product/Service', while Scenic is up for 'Most Outstanding Tour

Operator - Global'.

Cruise Lines International Association has been nominated for 'Most Outstanding Travel Industry Training Institution', recognising the work it does to ready the next generation.

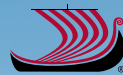
The Australian Travel Industry Association (ATIA) said judging has been further enhanced this year, supported by feedback from its NTIA custodians.

University-level independent assessors will score all entries.

"A record number of nominations, nominees and categories for NTIA 2024 reflects the Awards' ongoing significance to Travel," ATIA Chief Executive Officer Dean Long said.

"We know how much time and energy has gone into crafting submissions, and I would like to commend each and every person who has lodged a submission on their efforts." *MS*

**Hurry,  
incentive ends  
31 July**



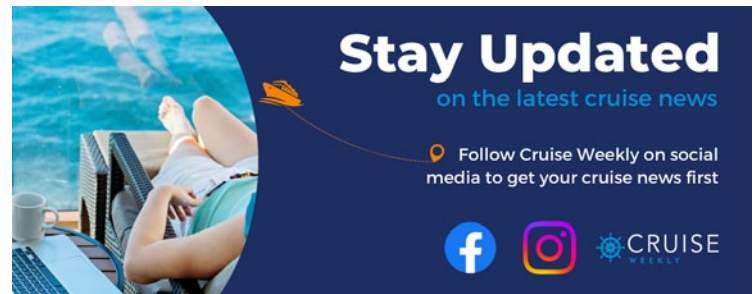
### VIKING

## THREE AGENTS WILL WIN \$5,000 & A VIKING VOYAGE FOR TWO

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**ORCAS** and other whale species have been getting a bad rap of late for their rather aggressive behaviour aimed at watercraft of different sizes.

The latest example has taken place off the US Northeast coast near New Hampshire when a whale breach capsized a fishing vessel and catapulted two men into the sea.

Thankfully, the two occupants were unharmed and rescued by another boat nearby.

In what some fisherman may describe as boastful, the whale ejected with a mouthful of fish, almost literally raining the prize catch down on the boats as it splashed back into the water.

## Cruiseabout grows

**CRUISEABOUT** is fast expanding nationally, after a bouyant first few months.

The new flagship Flight Centre Travel Group cruise brand is preparing to open more stores across Australia, in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Brisbane.

Cruiseabout GM Brad Kennedy said customer enquiry and conversion has been strong, reaffirming that cruise-goers see the value in booking with a travel advisor.

“Cruising is a unique type of holiday, and customers feel more confident when they’re booking with advisors”.

## Cruise in focus for NSW



**LAST** night saw the official launch of the new NSW Tourism Association - and cruise is likely to be among the organisation’s many priorities if the track record of its new Chief Executive Natalie Godward is any indication.

Godward, **pictured** above with CLIA’s Jon Murrie and Stephen Mahoney from Destination NSW (aboard Captain Cook Cruises’ *The Jackson* on Sydney Harbour), is well-known to the cruise sector through her former role as Cruise Development Manager for the Port Authority of NSW.

Based on the New South Wales South Coast, Godward has also been instrumental in the ongoing development of Eden as a cruise port, and has had a long-standing affiliation with the Australian Cruise Association.

In her new role, she’ll be representing the interests of the wider NSW tourism sector, with the newly minted NSW Tourism Association dedicated to supporting and advocating for the robust growth and sustainability

of the tourism sector.

The NSW Tourism Association is also the licensee of the Quality Tourism Framework in NSW, and joins a national network of state-based organisations linked to the Australian Tourism Industry Council (ATIC) which, among other activities, operates the Australian Tourism Awards.

Last night’s event was strongly supported by a wide array of stakeholders, including former NSW Tourism Minister Stuart Ayres, who is an ambassador of the organisation, which has been formed under the leadership of its current Chair Lori Modde. *BP* More in today’s **Travel Daily**.

## Philippines waiver

**CRUISE** visitors to the Philippines must now apply for an immigration waiver when disembarking for excursions and general time ashore.

The waiver is single use for stays of up to 14 days and only for pax on cruise itineraries.

## Cruise Calendar

Current ports of call in Australia and New Zealand.

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	27 Jul
<i>Pacific Adventure</i>	30 Jul
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	27 Jul
CAIRNS	
<i>Carnival Splendor</i>	26 Jul
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	30 Jul
AIRLIE BEACH	
<i>Pacific Encounter</i>	29 Jul
BROOME	
<i>True North</i>	26 Jul
<i>Silver Cloud</i>	29 Jul
<i>Le Jacques Cartier</i>	31 Jul

## Oceania East Asia

**OCEANIA** Cruises is showcasing its 2025 East Asia departures, offering itineraries ranging from six to 24 days aboard several vessels based in the region.

Hong Kong, Bali, Kyoto and Phuket are among featured destinations, with Oceania President, Frank Del Rio, noting active excursions such as trekking to China’s Tu Lan cave system, and food-focused tours such as cooking classes in Thailand, market visits in Vietnam and “Go Local” tours discovering authentic local life.

“Asia is one of the most striking regions in the world to explore by sea; the powerful contrasts between its ultra-modern and historic influences are breathtaking,” he said.