



### Cruise Weekly today

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

### Taibel to leave role

**CARNIVAL** Corporation executive Ryan Taibel will exit his role as Vice President Sales & Partnerships, as the company reassesses its sales and marketing structure.

Taibel currently oversees Carnival Corp's P&O Australia, Holland America Line and Seabourn Cruise Line brands, and will leave his role in Sep to pursue other opportunities.

Alex Pikardt will take on the new role of Director of Sales for HAL and Seabourn upon Taibel's departure, having been a part of the Carnival Corp sales team for more than a decade.

"I am confident that Alex will be a strong partner and that you will be in good hands," Taibel told trade partners in a message earlier this week.

"I want to let you know how much I have appreciated your partnership over the past 14 years," he added.

"I will leave Carnival Australia with nothing but fond memories, rich experiences and strong friendships."

Taibel first joined Carnival Corporation in 2010 as a Regional Sales Manager, having also previously worked for Travelex.

## Ponant appoints Corbett CEO



**PONANT** has announced it has appointed Deb Corbett as its Chief Executive Officer Asia Pacific (**CW** breaking news).

Corbett's promotion is part of a number of changes to the Asia Pacific team, with former CEO Chris Hall to leave Ponant at the end of the month.

Hall has been based at the cruise line's headquarters in Marseille since Oct in his capacity as Special Advisor.

Corbett has spent seven years with Ponant, most recently as General Manager Sales & Marketing, and will be assisted by the line's management team, including new Chief Operating Officer Maxime Farrenq.

Director of Sales Julie Rogers' sales portfolio has also been extended to include Japan

and Hong Kong; and David Marionneau has been appointed to the new role of Director of Maritime Operations.

Global Senior Strategic Advisor and honorary Chair Sarina Bratton will continue to advise the APAC team, with a focus on developing the Paspaley Pearl by Ponant business, while Corbett will report to Deputy CEO Global Business Belinda Hindmarsh.

"Ponant is fortunate to have such high calibre executives to manage the APAC region and it is with great delight that Deb Corbett is appointed to the CEO role," Bratton said

"Her business experience, professionalism, and industry knowledge will ensure our growth plans are in good hands." *MS*

**Pictured:** Hall and Corbett.

### New Princess in Qld

**PRINCESS** Cruises has announced a new Queensland Sales Manager, with Debbie Monk set to expand her territory to include the state.

Monk has been with Princess for a year and a half, serving as the cruise line's representative in New Zealand, but will relocate to Australia for the new role, which she will commence from next month.

She will continue to serve her overseas market in addition to her new role in Queensland.

Monk said she is thrilled about the new job and the challenges that lie ahead.

"This is a wonderful opportunity...Queensland is such a beautiful part of Australia and an incredibly important market for Princess Cruises," she added.

### NCL new brochure

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line (NCL) has released a new brochure, 'Discover a New Destination Nearly Every Day', which will help travellers start planning their next cruise.

NCL is celebrating the new brochure by inviting travel partners to order a copy and answer two questions for their chance to win one of six double passes to experience dance production *Burn the Floor* in Sydney, Brisbane or Melbourne - **CLICK HERE** to order the brochure.



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## Seabourn's Pursuit of Australia

**SEABOURN** Cruise Line's *Seabourn Pursuit* has sailed into Australia for the first time, marking the start of the brand's inaugural season in the Kimberley (*CW* 27 Feb).

*Pursuit* sailed into Darwin yesterday morning (pictured), ahead of the commencement of her Kimberley season today.

The ship will set sail on six 10-day voyages between Darwin and Broome from Jun to Aug.

Guests will have exclusive access to sites including the island of Ngula, as *Pursuit* navigates through the Kimberley.

Other highlights will include exploration of King George Falls, the highest twin falls in Western Australia; helicopter viewings of the Hunter River en route to Mitchell Falls; and visits to Montgomery Reef; Vansittart Bay, and Freshwater Cove.

Travellers will also indulge in



immersive experiences which honour the rich cultural heritage of the Kimberley, with Seabourn having recently named the region's Wunambal Gaambera traditional owners as *Pursuit's* godparents (*CW* 19 Apr).

Seabourn will contribute a donation to help the community develop a self-sustaining industry, focused on creating and selling

authentic artwork and crafts by local artists.

*Pursuit's* arrival in Australia is the latest local development for Seabourn, following last week's launch of its partnership with APT (*CW* 07 Jun).

The two cruise lines will partner on a number of Canada and Alaska holidays next year on board *Seabourn Quest*. MS



CRUISE  
WEEKLY

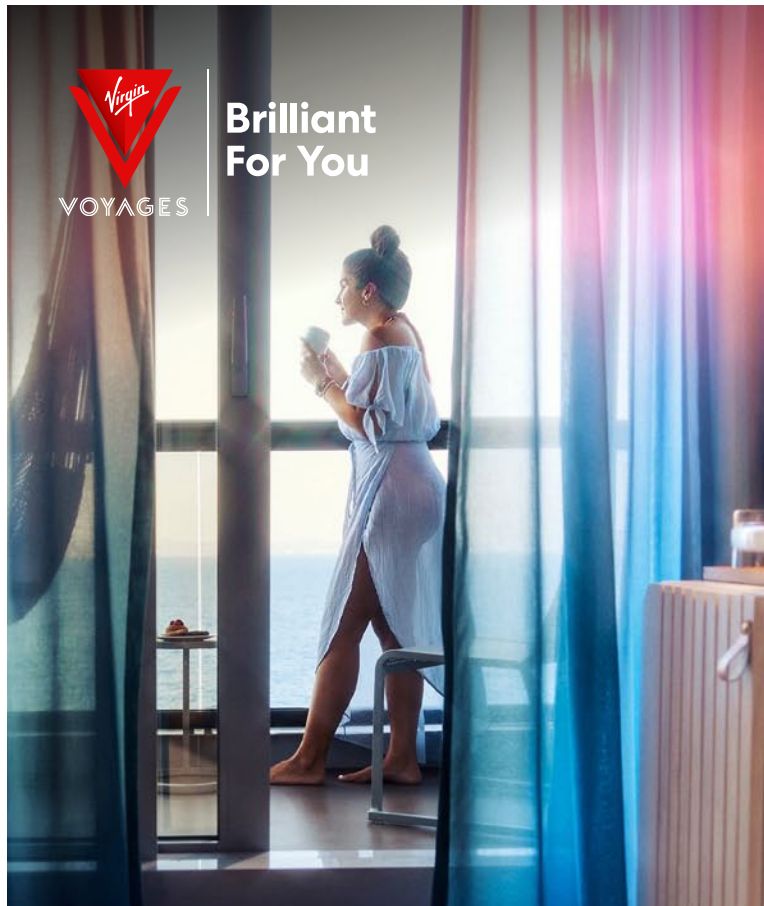
On location in  
Lisbon

Today's issue of *CW* is coming to you courtesy of Silversea, which is hosting a shakedown cruise in the lead-up to the naming of *Silver Ray*.

**SILVERSEA** is on the precipice of welcoming yet another Nova-class ship to its fleet, with *Silver Ray* to formally join sister vessel *Silver Nova* at a special naming ceremony in Lisbon.

The cruise line's impressive new ship will operate debut itineraries in the Mediterranean before shifting to the Americas later in the year.

The ultra-luxury *Ray* boasts an attractive space-to-guest ratio, enhanced onboard tech, advanced energy efficiency, and more.



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**DURING** family vacations, usually it's the parents who are struggling to get their kids ready for the next part of the journey, but the roles were reversed in this instance.

In a recent Reddit post, a teenager asked if he was in the wrong for abandoning his parents on an island in the Caribbean so he could get back to their cruise on time.

He explained that his parents had booked a seven-night family cruise to celebrate his graduation and 18th birthday.

During a port stop, the teen said despite telling his parents it was time to return to the ship, they brushed him off to continue shopping.

The teen made the tough decision to return to the ship alone, while his parents missed the departure by 45 minutes.

They needed to fork out money for flights to the next port, and were upset at their son for "not getting the ship to wait for them".

Judging by the nearly 2,000 comments on the post, the consensus was clear - the parents were the unreasonable ones in this situation.

"They are adults and need to be responsible for getting back on time," one user said.

Many also pointed out that had the teen stayed behind with his parents, they would've had to pay for an extra flight.

## New A-ROSA Euro cruises

**A-ROSA** has revealed new itineraries for next year, with the cruise line's ships set to sail a total of 40 different routes through Europe.

The cruise line will sail on the Danube, Rhine, Main, Moselle, Rhone, Saone, Seine, and Douro.

The season will combine the sceneries of the Wachau, the IJsselmeer, and the Douro Valley with plenty of time in destinations such as Amsterdam, Vienna, Avignon, and Rouen.

New itineraries include the sailings of **A-ROSA CLEA (pictured)**, which will home port in Frankfurt in 2025, sailing a number of different routes.

**CLEA** will travel from Frankfurt to historic locations such as Aschaffenburg, Wurzburg, Strasbourg, and Basel.

One of the ship's newly created seven-night cruises will combine the picturesque scenery of the Rhine Gorge with visits to Cologne and Frankfurt.

There will also be the opportunity to visit the famous Christkindl Christmas markets during the festive season, when **CLEA** sails from Nuremberg to Regensburg and Kehlheim.

**A-ROSA SILVA** has a new itinerary, the seven-night 'Main & Moselle Experience'.

The cruise starts in Cologne, and connects the towns of Cochem and Bernkastel-Kues on the Moselle with the cities of Frankfurt and Aschaffenburg on the Main.

**A-ROSA VIVA** is returning to her original cruise region, and will set off from Cologne on Northern Rhine sailings to Amsterdam, as



she is replaced on the Seine by **A-ROSA ALEA**.

**VIVA** will sail to Antwerp, Ghent, and the Markermeer, as well as on the Southern Rhine, and along the Loreley to Strasbourg, Mainz, and Koblenz.

Meanwhile, **ALEA** will depart from the centre of Paris on various five-, seven-, and nine-night itineraries on the Seine, and will now call at Le Havre on her seven-night cruises.

All A-ROSA cruises on the Danube next year will start and end in Passau-Racklau, and in addition to the popular four-, five-, seven-, 14-, and 18-night itineraries, a nine-night cruise will be introduced for the first time, with stops in Bratislava, Tulln, and Linz, as well as extra-long stays in Vienna and Budapest.

Guests can also look forward to revamped itineraries on the Rhone, with **A-ROSA STELLA** and **A-ROSA LUNA** to stay overnight in Lyon, Avignon, and Arles, on their new seven-night cruise Rhone Route Provence.

There is also a new nine-night 'Rhone Route Panorama', allowing guests to experience both Chalon-sur-Saone and Macon, which will see **STELLA** sail the northern tributary of the Rhone, visiting Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhone in southern France, as well as the famous wine-growing villages of Viviers and Tain l'Hermitage. **MS**



Your voices are powerful

**AUSTRALIA'S** cruise industry faces a challenging outlook despite strong demand.

High operating costs and inconsistent regulations deter new ship deployments and strain existing operations.

Recent announcements suggest that while 2024/25 capacity in our market will be similar to the 2023/24 season, future reductions are likely due.

To maintain Australia's appeal as a cruise destination, CLIA and our cruise lines are advocating to state and federal governments across Australia and New Zealand for more supportive policies.

These include calls for competitive cost structures and streamlined regulations that balance safety and environmental protection with industry needs.

Travel agents play a crucial role in this advocacy.

Your voices are powerful in driving change.

Write to your state and federal MPs, speak to local media, and highlight the importance of a vibrant cruise industry for jobs and local economies.

It's your efforts that can help secure a sustainable future for cruising in Australia.

By joining forces, we can push for the necessary regulatory certainty and ensure we remain a top choice for cruise lines.

