

# CRUISE



WEEKLY



Tuesday 14 Apr 2015

## Cruise Weekly today

**Cruise Weekly** today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, plus a full page of cruise jobs from **AA Appointments**.

## Norovirus hits *Infinity*

**A TEAM** of inspectors from the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will board *Celebrity Infinity* when she docks in San Diego today, after an outbreak of Norovirus on board.

More than 100 of the 2,000 passengers on board the ship have been struck down by the gastrointestinal complaint, with hygiene and disinfection procedures upgraded to stem the spread of the ailment.

**MEANWHILE** Royal Caribbean's *Legend of the Seas* is also suffering from an outbreak of a disease suspected to be Norovirus, with 114 of 1763 passengers affected.

Interestingly *Legend of the Seas* is also sailing out of San Diego.

## Cruise around Japan

**ABERCROMBIE & Kent** will operate a "one of a kind" circumnavigation around Japan in a special voyage to take place 13-26 May next year.

Limited to 199 pax, the sailing will visit several UNESCO Heritage List sites in Japan and Korea, on a charter of Ponant's *Le Soleal*.

The 13-day 'Wonders of Japan' itinerary is priced from US\$14,495 if booked before 31 Aug.

## Australia key for Uniworld

**UNIWORLD** Boutique River Cruises has seen "steady growth" in its local business over the last five years, with Australia now the company's second largest market, according to gm John Molinaro.

This morning Uniworld released its 2016 preview brochure, which sees the operator's return to Egypt as well as the addition of three new itineraries in Europe.

Asia is also featured, with an expanded program including India, China, Vietnam and Cambodia.

Molinaro told **CW** Uniworld's all-inclusive model "very much resonates with our Australian guests," with the company spending 20% more than its competitors on the "design and amenity" of its unique vessels.

Uniworld president Guy Young said service was also a key element of the offering.

"We have always believed that by delivering a differentiated product and clearly focusing on the guest experience - both on board and ashore - will ensure that we remain successful in an increasingly competitive market."

Young told **CW** he was confident about the future of the sector, which has seen significant capacity increases due to its growing popularity.

Uniworld's philosophy is one of measured growth, delivering one or two unique ships per year.

"We have never wanted to be the biggest river cruise line;

rather we are always focused on growing profitably and ensuring, above all, that we deliver the experience that our guests have come to expect from Uniworld."

Earlybird deals in the new brochure offer significant savings for bookings confirmed by 30 Jun, with a choice of 30 Europe itineraries included, "more river cruise options in Europe than any other cruise line".

## Manjencic promotion

**PRESTIGE** Cruise Holdings director of destination services, Christine Manjencic, has been promoted to head up destination services across the entire Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings portfolio.

She'll now have responsibility for Norwegian, Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises, reporting to Frank Del Rio Junior, senior vp of port, destination and onboard revenue.

## Anthem handed over to RCI



**ROYAL** Caribbean International has officially taken delivery of *Anthem of the Seas*, the sister ship of the groundbreaking *Quantum of the Seas*.

Manufactured by Meyer Werft in Bremerhaven, Germany, *Anthem* is the line's 23rd vessel, and will now sail to Southampton in the UK where she will be inaugurated on 20 Apr under the

supervision of British travel agent Emma Wilby, who's been granted the honour of being *Anthem's* godmother (**CW** 07 Apr).

Senior Royal Caribbean and Meyer Werft executives are pictured above at the ceremony, including Royal Caribbean chairman and ceo Richard D. Fain and Meyer Werft managing partner Bernard Meyer.

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## Princess to South America

**IN RESPONSE** to strong local demand for South America, Princess Cruises will embark on its first ever voyage from Australia to South America as part of its new 2016/17 summer season.

Officially launched in Sydney late last week, the new adventure headlines another strong summertime presence in local waters, with five ships present.

Departing Sydney on 17 Jan 2017, the 84-night Circle South America cruise will set sail on *Sea Princess*, visiting 28 ports across 18 countries.

The voyage will offer travellers the opportunity to be in Rio de Janeiro for the iconic Carnival.

Cabins for the voyage start from \$17,999ppts, with embarkation also available in Brisbane & Auckland.

Those keen to vary their holiday can select one of three optional overland experiences taking in highlights such as Iguazu Falls, Machu Picchu or the Galapagos, rejoining the ship at a later time.

Princess Cruises vice-president Australia and NZ Stuart Allison (pictured) said the voyage will open up territory largely deemed inaccessible for most cruises departing from Australia.

"We know Australians love our

longer trips to Asia, Hawaii and Tahiti so we think they'll jump at the chance to immerse themselves in the colour and excitement of South America as part of this landmark circumnavigation."

Closer to home, the 2016/17 summer will offer a wide variety of voyages departing from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Fremantle and Auckland.



Another major highlight will be the arrival of *Emerald Princess* in place of *Diamond Princess*, adding capacity for an extra 400 guests.

The 3082-pax ship will reposition from Europe to her new summer home in Sydney with a 48-night journey taking passengers to four continents.

Fares for the repositioning start from \$7,599pp twin share.

*Dawn Princess*, *Sun Princess* and *Golden Princess* all bolster the Princess fleet for the season, the latter returning for its second year out of Melbourne, offering 16 voyages to the Pacific Islands, Tasmania and New Zealand.

The 2016/17 summer season will go on sale on 23 Apr.

"This program is packed with a record number of options which we think will really appeal to Australian travellers, Allison said.

## Insight Egypt cruising

**INSIGHT** Vacations is offering an expanded program of Egypt river cruising aboard Uniworld's *River Tosca* as part of its newly released Autumn, Winter and Spring brochure.

The program marks Insight's return to Egypt, with three Insight Gold trips all including a 3, 4 or 7 night Nile voyage aboard the luxury vessel.

## WWCC hit for six

**CRICKETING** legend Ian Healy is one of the drawcards of a new *Anthem of the Seas* package being marketed via Worldwide Cruise Centres.

The exclusive 19-day fly-cruise-and stay trip is being marketed as "Anthem, Sunshine in the Canaries" and takes in Spain, Portugal and the Canary Islands.

It's priced from \$6998ppts and departs from Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide or Perth on 12 Sep 2015.

## Edinburgh terminal?

**A NEW** purpose-built cruise terminal has been proposed for Scotland's east coast, at the site of a former coal-fired power station in East Lothian.

*The Scotsman* reports that the major project at Cockenzie would be able to handle large vessels and provide easy access for passengers to Edinburgh.

## Break ice with Quark

**RUSSIAN** icebreaker *Kapitan Khlebnikov* has been chartered by Quark Expeditions to operate four back-to-back voyages which will circumnavigate the Arctic Circle.

The entire 75-day circuit has been broken up into four sections travelling from Anadyr, Russia to Svalbard, Norway, around Greenland, through the Canadian high Arctic, Alaska and return.

For more information on the journey & inclusions, [CLICK HERE](#).

## Klaus speaks for Star

**STAR** Clippers has announced that Captain Klaus Muller will be one of the special guest speakers on three of its Mediterranean sailings this northern summer.

Muller, now retired, is a Star Clippers veteran, having taken the line's vessels across the globe during "a long and illustrious career at sea".

He will speak on subjects close to his heart, with topics expected to include tall ships, celestial navigation, Vikings, rounding Cape Horn, tsunamis and the challenges of sailing large vessels.

Muller will be on board *Star Flyer* for three Balearics sailings out of Palma, Mallorca on 11, 18 and 25 Jul 2015.

Star Clippers is offering 25% off regular cruise prices, starting from \$2899 for seven nights - more information 1800 295 161.

## Eat Asian free with Norwegian

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line has announced that many of its popular Asian onboard dining venues can be enjoyed on a complimentary basis.

The expansion of the free eateries includes Shanghai's Noodle Bar aboard Breakaway class ships and *Norwegian Epic*; Jasmine Garden aboard *Norwegian Jade*; *Norwegian Star*'s Ginza and Chin Chin which features on *Norwegian Jewel*.

It's part of Norwegian's Freestyle cruising offering which is evolving via the NEXT program,

with the cover charge and a-la-carte pricing for the Asian dining concepts eliminated across the line's fleet.

Norwegian said the move would "further enhance guest satisfaction and provide guest more freedom to create their ideal cruise vacation".

The only exceptions to the change is the popular onboard Teppanyaki restaurants which will have a per-guest cover charge, while sushi venues across the fleet will also retain "nominal" a la carte pricing.

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## Seabourn steel cut

**EXCITEMENT** is building at Seabourn about its new fleet, with the commemorative cutting of the first steel for *Seabourn Encore* at the Fincantieri shipyard in Italy this week.

The ceremony was attended by Seabourn president Richard Meadows, who said it was an "important milestone in the evolution of both our beautiful fleet and the ultra-luxury cruise segment overall".

A nice touch was the presence of crew members from *Seabourn Legend*, the last of the three original Seabourn ships currently on its final sailing with the line.

## P&O opens the doors to Pantry



**P&O CRUISES'** revolution in onboard dining will see first light in a tangible form onboard *Pacific Jewel* from Jun this year, when the line's new brand image goes live to cruisers for the first time.

Doing away with the buffet lines synonymous with traditional cruising, *Jewel* will instead offer an international food market of

sorts, dubbed The Pantry.

Self-serve stations will be replaced with eight outlets, each serving a different cuisine ranging from fish and chips, fresh sandwiches, salads, soups and worldly delights from Singapore, India, Thailand, Malaysia, South Africa and the Caribbean.

Additional offerings will include Mexicana tacos and tortillas, Asian broths at Stix, while the Fat Cow carvery will offer roasted chicken, beef and pork dishes.

Of course there will also be plenty for those with a sweet tooth, with the aptly-named Sugar Bar offering a plethora of gourmet desserts and cakes.

Each outlet will take on a different look and feel, all backed by an open plan seating layout featuring communal benches designed for socialising.

Pantry will be fitted to *Jewel* during a drydock in Singapore, with the inaugural itinerary being a 16-night return voyage to Brisbane departing on 05 Jun.

A rendering of the Pantry is **pictured** above and will begin operations in Jun when *Pacific Jewel* begins sailing in Brisbane.

## Seatrade Cruise Asia

**TWO** major Asia-Pacific cruise business forums have joined forces to launch a brand new convention focusing entirely on the growing markets in Asia.

The inaugural two-day Seatrade Cruise Asia will be hosted by the Busan Port Authority and Korea Tourism Organisation, to be held from 11-12 Jun in the Korean city.

Representatives from worldwide cruise lines, destination bodies, port agents, suppliers and more will be in attendance, with topics for discussion including market opportunities, ship construction and likely patterns for the future.

A travel agent training program, networking & social opportunities will be included in the schedule - see [www.seatrade-cruiseasia.com](http://www.seatrade-cruiseasia.com).

## Cruise Calendar

This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia.

### SYDNEY

<i>Sun Princess</i>	14 Apr
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	16 Apr
<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	17 Apr
<i>Sea Princess</i>	17 Apr
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	19 Apr
<i>Oosterdam</i>	19 Apr
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	20 Apr
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	21 Apr

### BRISBANE

<i>Sea Princess</i>	15 Apr
<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	15 Apr
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	18 Apr
<i>Rhapsody of the Seas</i>	19 Apr

### DARWIN

<i>Oceanic Discoverer</i>	16 Apr
<i>Silver Discoverer</i>	19 Apr

### HOBART

<i>Oosterdam</i>	15 Apr
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	18 Apr

### FREMANTLE

<i>Dawn Princess</i>	14 Apr
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	14 Apr

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