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# **WEEKLY**

#### Tuesday 08 Dec 2015

### Cruise Weekly today

*Cruise Weekly* today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, a **front full page** from **Carnival Cruise** Line plus full pages from Oceania Cruises and JITO.

#### White Bay success

**THE** launch of Captain Cruises' new White Bay Cruise Terminal service on Sydney Harbour (*CW* 29 Nov) drew in more than 1,000 cruise ship passengers and bookings in its first week, and is now operating to Circular Quay every 20 minutes on days when cruise ships are in port.

The White Bay mobile wharf will move closer to the cruise terminal this month as pedestrian facilities are completed.



TERNATIONAL

## **Carnival rejigs distribution**

**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line's operations across the globe will be represented by Carnival Australia from 01 Jan 2016, with the international GSA moving across from current representative Travel the World.

TTW has represented CCL in the Australian market for many years, but the launch of the line's locally based ships *Carnival Spirit* and *Carnival Legend* saw the distribution split between Australian and overseas departures, with Carnival Australia setting up local operations to sell the product.

Carnival Cruise Line vice president Australia Jennifer Vandekreeke said the move meant there would be a one-stop shop for the local travel agent community.

"Since we launched *Carnival Spirit* in the Australian market in 2012, we've been focused on the operation and promotion of our local ships," she said.

"Now that Carnival has successfully established a strong local team it makes sense for us to expand our support to sales for

## JITO jobs online

**INDUSTRY** staff are urged to register themselves on Jito.co, the dedicated travel and tourism industry jobs portal with hundreds of jobs now available. For details see the **last page**.



our internationally based ships". She hailed Travel the World as an "outstanding partner of the brand over the past decade".

TTW joint md Andrew Millmore said the company was focusing on delivering to the trade premium and luxury GSA and wholesale products including Tauck, HAL, Windstar, Chiva Som, Ponant and Silversea, with more likely to be introduced in 2016.

"We have been honoured to have looked after the international side for CCL and are proud to be handing over to the Australian office with solid foundations to allow strong growth of this wonderful 'fun' brand," he said.

## ACA venue, dates out

**NEXT** year's Australian Cruise Association annual conference will take place 07-09 Sep at Sydney's Four Seasons Hotel.

Sydney was confirmed as the 2016 location at the recent Cruise Down Under conference in Darwin, but until now the dates and venue had not been finalised.

ACA ceo Jill Abel said the Four Seasons was chosen for its proximity to the Overseas Passenger Terminal and Sydney Harbour, with registrations to be accepted online from May 2016. The conference will be

sponsored by the Port Authority of NSW and Destination NSW.

> The Auckland Hop On Hop Off Explorer bus stop is directly at front of the new Queens Wharf cruise ship terminal

Click here for more details

## **Un-cruise appoints**

SEATTLE-BASED small ship cruise line Un-Cruise Adventures has announced the appointment of Richard G. Edwards as its new vice president of sales and marketing.

Edwards takes the role of Tim Jacox, who is now Un-Cruises's new president and chief operating officer.

The highly experienced Edwards will work to strengthen relationships with travel industry partners, manage the line's brand integrity and presence as well as help boost consumer understanding of the fast-growing adventure cruising segment.

Edwards is a former director of marketing for G Adventures and helped found the organisation's Planeterra non-profit arm.



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# CRUISE WEEKLY

## **Cruise technology That gives you MOre** Traveltek Cruise is the world's leading reservation and online booking

solution for travel agents and wholesalers.

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**Creative Cruising "not affected"** 

## Bus crash kills pax

**TWO** *Celebrity Summit* passengers have been killed, and others injured, in a bus accident while on a shore excursion in the British Virgin Islands.

There were 20 on board the vehicle when it crashed on Tortola last weekend, with an investigation into the cause of the accident now underway.

Celebrity said the ship's captain was assisting injured guests and coordinating with local officials.

### **Bentours special**

SCANDINAVIAN specialist Bentours is offering extras worth up to \$1000 per couple on select Hurtigruten Cruises this month.

Bonuses include an overnight night pre & post cruise stay in Bergen or Kirkines, transfers as well as an excursion to Nidaros Cathedral.

Agents who book the itineraries will also go into the draw to win a free cruise - 1800 221 712.

THE imminent closure of Creative Holidays (*Travel Daily* breaking news) will not impact the Travel Corporation's cruise operations, with the company insisting that Creative Cruising is "fully operational and focused on future growth potential".

About 100 Creative Holidays staff were told yesterday that the business was being shut down effective from 31 Dec, due to "rapid change and unprecedented challenges in the market for a generalist wholesaler".

Creative Cruising was acquired by The Travel Corporation from NRMA just over two years ago along with other brands including Adventure World, Value Tours and Coral Seas.

Last year the company announced the shift of Creative Cruising into Creative Holidays, with Creative md James Gaskell at the time saying the move would simplify cruise/FIT combinations for agents (**TD** 02 Apr 2014). In an update this morning Travel Corporation's newly appointed ceo John Veitch said the company sees "immense growth opportunity in cruising and niche specialist FIT operations," with the company aiming to redeploy as many of the Creative Holidays team as possible into Creative Cruising and Adventure World.

veltek

The Travel Corporation also downplayed incorrect reports in other trade media which claimed Creative Holidays was being placed into voluntary administration, adding that no other brands in the portfolio were affected, including Trafalgar, AAT Kings, Insight Vacations, Contiki and Uniworld.

Agents with existing Creative Holidays bookings will be contacted by the company to discuss options, with a transition team remaining in place to look after current reservations.

## Burnie upgrade plan

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**PORT** Burnie in Tasmania is set to receive a \$1.5 million upgrade to make way for larger cruise ships coming into the region.

State infrastructure minister Rene Hidding says that the trend towards increasingly larger vessels has meant that Burnie has missed out on some of the growth in cruise ship visits.

"Cruise ship visits are of growing importance to Tasmanian tourism," commented Hidding.

"And the Liberal Government is determined that our regions also capitalise on this market."

The upgrade will allow for cruise ships of up to 315 metres in length to berth at Burnie, an increase on the current restriction of 280 metres.

Since the announcement, Hidding has revealed that four separate cruise operators, with measurements greater than the current threshold, have approached TasPorts to add Burnie to their itineraries.





## **Cruise Team trials live chat**

HELLOWORLD wholesale's The Cruise Team specialist division is currently testing a live chat system for consultants, with the group's Cruise Premium Agencies trialling the service in the lead-up to a wider roll-out next year.

The move was revealed by Qantas Holidays/Viva! Holidays national sales manager Fiona Dalton at the recent Helloworld **Owner Managers Conference in** Wellington New Zealand.

Dalton also unveiled the second quarterly edition of the Cruise Team's "Time to Cruise" mini-brochure which features a selection of hand-picked offers from the group's cruise suppliers.

The 16-page full colour program has 50 packages ranging from lead-in through to re-positioning, high-end luxury voyages, river cruising and expedition style ocean cruising.

"We will continue to renew this publication quarterly to deal with the various cruise market selling seasons," Dalton said.

She also highlighted the Cruise Team's allocations and Select Sailings which "provide a point of difference and an opportunity to work together for mutual benefit," with the selections now branded as the Cruise Team Collection.

Dalton announced that the wholesaler would also shortly bring in a cruise version of its documentation to match its FIT packs, which will be for all cruise bookings worth over \$8,000 in value, whether international or home ported from Australia.

As well, she confirmed there would be 170 places available across cruise and

FIT for the everpopular Global Achievers program which in 2016 will be hosted in



## **Cruiseco UK to push P&O Australia**

**P&O** Australia is targeting the inbound market via a new exclusive distribution agreement with Cruiseco in the UK.

The move sees Cruiseco's UK operations, which launched about three years ago (CW 20 Sep 2012), promote P&O Australia itineraries in Australia, NZ, Asia and the South Pacific, with the consortium also expected to offer flight-inclusive packages shortly.

#### Pacific Jewel problem

P&O Cruises has confirmed a "technical issue" on its current Pacific Jewel itinerary which will see the arrival of the ship into Sydney delayed today.

Now steaming into the harbour four hours late, the problem will also necessitate further engine maintenance after arrival which will delay upcoming Jewel cruise departures from Sydney and Melbourne by 24 hours.

The ship is now scheduled to depart Sydney on Wed 09 Dec and Melbourne on Fri 11 Dec, with Qantas today issuing a fare waiver allowing fee-free changes for affected customers.

P&O is also understood to be offering refunds and \$100 cruise credits to those who are unable to cruise on the new dates.



## **APT Small Ships 2017**

**APT** has released its new Small Ships 2017 brochure, with the addition of a new "Soft Expedition Cruises"



style which offers passengers the choice to be as "adventurous and as active as they would like".

A five-strong expedition team accompanies these cruises which spend more time in port, although Zodiac excursions still feature on the itineraries which cover the Mediterranean, Japan, the Baltic regions and Norway.

For the more adventurous APT continues to offer its popular Expedition Cruises product which has a 10 member expedition team taking guests off the beaten track to explore destinations such as Britain & Ireland, South East Asia and the Kimberley.

23 itineraries in total feature in the new brochure along with land extensions - 1300 196 420.

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\*Restrictions apply. See full terms and conditions. Ships' Registry: The Netherlands.

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# CRUISE ( WEEKLY

## Cruise Calendar

This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia and New Zealand. SYDNEY Pacific Jewel o8 Dec **Diamond Princess** o8 Dec Carnival Spirit og Dec Pacific Pearl og Dec Superstar Virgo og Dec Radiance of the Seas 11 Dec Carnival Legend 12 Dec Pacific Pearl 13 Dec MELBOURNE Golden Princess o8 Dec Pacific Jewel 10 Dec Pacific Jewel 13 Dec BRISBANE Legend of the Seas o8 Dec Pacific Pearl o8 Dec Legend of the Seas 10 Dec Superstar Virgo 11 Dec Pacific Dawn 12 Dec HOBART Radiance of the Seas 13 Dec FREMANTLE Astor 10 Dec Astor 14 Dec CAIRNS Superstar Virgo 11 Dec WITHSUNDAYS Pacific Dawn 14 Dec AUCKLAND Sea Princess o8 Dec Golden Princess 12 Dec WELLINGTON Explorer of the Seas 09 Dec Sea Princess 11 Dec **Celebrity Solstice** 12 Dec TAURANGA Sea Princess 09 Dec **Golden Princess** 13 Dec **Celebrity Solstice** 14 Dec AKAROA **Celebrity Solstice** 11 Dec Sea Princess 12 Dec

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### **MSC doubling Cuba**

MSC Cruises is home-porting a second ship in Havana, in bids to strengthen its presence in Cuba for the winter 2016-17 season. MSC Armonia will join the MSC Opera in Cuba from Nov next year, with the vessels sailing two separate eight-day itineraries.

The first of the new itineraries will take guests from Havana through to Honduras, before heading to Belize, Mexico and finally Isla de la Juventud, Cuba.

The second itinerary sees guests depart Havana for Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula visiting Montego Bay in Jamaica, Georgetown and Cozumel.

## P&O digital success

P&O Cruises Australia's online campaign featuring Hollywood hunk Owen Wilson reached an whopping audience of 5.5 million video views.

Carnival Australia chief executive officer Ann Sherry revealed the success of the 'exclusive to video' campaign to promote P&O's new fleet mates in Australia, Pacific Aria and Pacific Eden, at the recent Helloworld Owner Managers Conference held in Wellington.

Sherry, who was one of the keynote speakers at the event, said P&O took a gamble on the online promotion, going into uncharted waters for a locally based cruise line by "geographically barring" the ad from being viewed outside of the local region, despite the global profile of the movie superstar. She told delegates the risk had

clearly been worthwhile. "That's 5.5 million hits in Australia and New Zealand where live 28 million people," she said flabbergasted at the result.

## Do you have the Cruise Weekly app?



## Nand's the man for **Avalon Waterways**



WALTER Nand has been appointed to the newly created dedicated role of Business **Development Manager for** Avalon Waterways, reflecting the continued growth of river cruising within the Globus Family of Brands portfolio.

The highly experienced Nand joins the Globus family from his former role with MSC Cruises, with his career also including previous positions with APT, Excite Holidays and Flight Centre.



CRUISE

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> KEEP your eyes peeled for some ready cash on your next European river cruise.

In what sounds like a literal case of money laundering, police in Austria fished more than 100,000 Euros out of the Danube River last weekend.

The money was spotted by a young man who immediately dived into the water to retrieve the large denomination €100 and €500 notes.

Bystanders thought he was attempting to commit suicide and alerted emergency services which arrived just as he was pulling some of the cash out of the water.

A Vienna police spokesman said investigations so far have found no criminal act in the area which could explain such a large sum of money, and haven't been able to track down the owner.

If the search continues to be unfruitful it could be a case of finders' keepers for the man who discovered the notes on Sat.

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We don't want you to miss out so we have increased the prizes for this last week.

The first 50 correct entries sent to tb@cruiseweekly.com.au with the page number and your details will win.



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Trave Daily

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