

CRUISE



WEEKLY



Thursday 08 Jan 2015

CCL to change name

OFFICIAL company letterheads and documentation featuring a singular version of the Carnival Cruise Lines name have started appearing overseas, according to reports from the United States.

A spokesperson for the line told *USA Today* that a change to "Carnival Cruise Line" is indeed in the works but will be gradual.

The move is reportedly in line with a desire to more clearly differentiate the WLCL brands.

Legend set to stay in Aus

CARNIVAL Cruise Lines appear to be ready to position its newest locally-based liner in Australia year-round, according to long-range port booking information.

Carnival Legend arrived in Sydney for the first time in Sep last year (**CW** 23 Sep) to kick off its first temporary deployment during the peak wave seasons.

However, it now appears the 2,124-passenger ship will remain at its Sydney base through the winter from 2017, joining its sister *Carnival Spirit*, which has called Sydney home since 2012.

Legend will remain a part-time visitor in Sydney through the 2014/15 and 2015/16 seasons.

From its arrival on 11 Oct 2016 though, the Port Authority of New South Wales has the ship scheduled to berth in Sydney at varying intervals of no more than two weeks through the winters of 2017, 2018 and 2019.

During a recent visit for *Legend's* inaugural Sydney departure, then-president Gerry Cahill

hinted strongly at a year-round local deployment for the ship.

CCL vice-president Australia Jennifer Vandekreeke backed that suggestion by saying Brisbane and Melbourne were being strongly considered for future seasons.

Carnival Cruise Lines was coy on the matter when asked by **CW**, saying it "has not finalised its 2017 deployments," with details to be confirmed by mid-2015.

Cruise lines routinely schedule port bookings years in advance, especially for high-demand cities such as Sydney, which has bookings in place to Mar 2021.

Lindblad leaves town

LINDBLAD Expeditions will be entirely absent from Australia and the Kimberley region for most of 2016, with *National Geographic Orion* to instead spend much of the year operating in Europe.

Following the Antarctic season in early 2016, the vessel will head north for a series of 22 innovative week-long voyages.

The ship will explore Portugal, Spain, France, England, Ireland, the Netherlands, Belgium and the Baltic & Scandinavia regions.

Lindblad says the move is aimed at giving loyal repeat clientele "new geographies" based on calls for access to new destinations.

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50 prizes for 50 years

PRINCESS Cruises is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year with 50 prizes including a 12-night Alaska cruise up for grabs to the trade in a new agent incentive.

Entries are earned for each new booking made by agents enrolled in the Princess Academy program.

Eligible bookings must be made by 28 Feb 2015 to qualify.

Today's issue of CW

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest news & photos from the cruise trade.

The view from the top of Greece



SALES staff from Oceania Cruises' GSA Cruise Office lapped up the highlights of the Greek island of Santorini late last year during a famil aboard the line.

While not enjoying the opulence onboard, guests were left to their own devices to wander the local townships and check out the

many highlights of the region, which included great views.

Pictured above, high over the crystal clear Mediterranean and its cruise inhabitants below, from left are the Oceania Cruises team from Australia in Denise Stones, Josie Furfaro, Craig Owens and Carol Harris.



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Princess adds Emerald

PRINCESS Cruises vice-president Allison says the decision to add *Emerald Princess* to the line's Sydney fleet (**CW** breaking news) reflected the love affair Australian passengers had with the line.

The 3,082-passenger vessel will operate cruises from Sydney to New Zealand, the South Pacific & other parts of Australia for the 2016/17 peak wave season and will be the fifth ship sailing locally.

While in Australia, *Emerald* will join its fleet-mates in offering AUD as its onboard currency.

Maiden visit for Europa 2

HAPAG-LLOYD Cruises will bring its top-rated Berlitz Cruise Guide vessel *MS Europa 2* to Australia during the 2016/17 season for its maiden calls in this region, it has been confirmed.

According to the line's newest brochure for the ship, three voyages from late 2016 through to early 2017 are scheduled and now open for reservations.

Hobart will be the first Aussie port to welcome *MS Europa 2* as part of a 16-day voyage from Auckland to Sydney, with Port Arthur & Burnie also featuring in a three-day visit to the Apple Isle beginning from 26 Dec 2016.

The vessel will continue on to Adelaide, Penneshaw (Kangaroo Island), Portland and Melbourne before arriving in Sydney for the first time on 05 Jan 2017.

Australian passengers will have the chance to sail out of Sydney Harbour onboard from 06 Jan when the luxury ship departs on a 14-day journey back to Auckland via the South Island & East coast.

MS Europa 2 will then head back to Asia, calling into Brisbane, Hamilton Island, Cairns and Lizard Island en route to Bali.

Even by the time the ship arrives in Australia, *MS Europa 2* will only be four years old, having been launched for the first time in mid 2013 (**CW** 02 May 2013).

The ship was also recently classified as one of the world's cleanest and most energy efficient by ship classification firm Germanischer Lloyd.

For more information on *MS Europa 2*, phone the line's Australian GSA office Landmark Travel on (02) 9977 7100.

Farewell to Century

AUSTRALIA will bid farewell to *Celebrity Century* from this Sun as it returns to Asia for its final cruises in the line's fleet before joining the new SkySea Cruises.



NORWEGIAN cruise lines has wrested the mantle for the latest quizzical innovation to be added to cruise ships, one sure to be labelled as "cool".

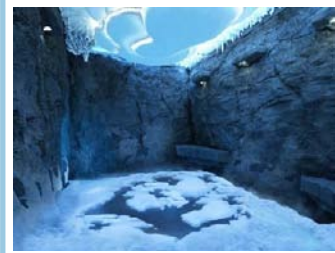
The line's newest vessel - *Norwegian Escape* - set to debut in Oct this year, will offer the line's first "snow room" as part of the Mandara Spa.

Spanning two decks, the spa will offer the largest thermal suite on the seas, designed to evoke pure relaxation to guests.

After warming up on one of 17 heated lounges, the steam room or dry sauna, guests can enter the snow room, kept between a bone-rattling -6° and a barely more pleasant 0°.

The snow room (pictured below), like its name suggests will drizzle white powder through the day, is aimed at stimulating blood circulation to build up the immune system.

More than 50 signature spa treatment services will be on offer for both men and women in the Mandara Spa on *Escape*.



CCC Fiji Cruise 7 Pay 4

CABINS are filling up fast on Captain Cook Cruises' 130-pax *MV Reef Endeavour* thanks to the line's latest summer "sail" of seven nights for the price of four.

The line's seven-night Yasawa Islands and Northern Discovery itineraries start from \$1,695ppts, valid for sale to 28 Feb, for travel from 01 Apr 2015 - 31 Mar 2016.

Use code "744" when booking.

ACL five years bonus

AMERICAN Cruise Line is marketing its fifth season on the Columbia and Snake Rivers in 2015, launching a bonus offer for pax travelling from 28 Mar and on.

A complimentary pre-cruise deal on offer includes a bonus night onboard the Queen of the West.

Bonus shore tours and activities also on offer include a private tour of historic Pittock Mansion, a visit to the Portland Saturday markets and extra entertainment.

The vessel operates eight-day journeys between Portland, Oregon & Clarkston, Washington.

Sauvee honoured

PONANT founder and chairman Jean-Emmanuel Sauvée has been made a Chevalier, or Knight, in the Order national de la Légion d'Honneur for services to France.

The accolade is the highest honour in France, first introduced by Napoleon 200 years ago.

Cunard nautical ballet

BESPOKE British line Cunard will position all three of its Queens on the River Mersey in its historical home of Liverpool on 25 May for a "nautical ballet".

The "Royal Rendezvous" will be part of celebrations for the line's 175th anniversary later this year.

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Postal address: PO Box 1010, Epping, NSW 1710 Australia

Street address: 4/41 Rawson St, Epping NSW 2121 Australia

P: 1300 799 220 (+61 2 8007 6760) F: 1300 799 221 (+61 2 8007 6769)

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Editors: Bruce Piper and Matt Lennon info@cruiseweekly.com.au

Contributors: Guy Dundas, Jenny Piper, Louise Wallace

Advertising and Marketing: Sean Harrigan ads@cruiseweekly.com.au

Business Manager: Jenny Piper accounts@cruiseweekly.com.au

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