

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 19 Nov 2015

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features two pages of all the latest cruise industry news plus a full page from **Oceania Cruises**.

Oceania Australasia

OCEANIA Cruises is promoting a series of South Pacific, Australia and New Zealand departures, all featuring the Olife Advantage of free shore excursions, unlimited shipboard internet and onboard credits.

For details see **page three**.

HAL anticipation

HOLLAND America Line has launched a series of short videos called "Countdown to *Koningsdam*" to provide updates on the construction of its newest vessel which will launch in Apr.

Featuring cruise director Johnathan Rogers, the first video in the series is now available for viewing on our website at cruiseweekly.com.au/videos.

New Clippers regions

STAR Clippers is extending its reach, with Asia, Greece & Turkey added to its 2016/17 season.

The Asia season begins in Dec 2016 and will include Phuket, Singapore, Malaysia & Thailand, with seven nights voyages on sale priced from \$1,995ppts.

The inaugural Greece & Turkey program enables island hopping and 10- & 11-night cruises from Rome to Sicily, Malta and Tunisia.

Explorer of the Seas in MEL

ROYAL Caribbean is today celebrating the arrival of its *Explorer of the Seas* in Melbourne for the very first time, with the 3,800 passenger ship claimed to be the largest cruise vessel to be based in Australian waters.

Explorer has travelled down under from Southampton in the UK where she has been based since Apr this year after undergoing a US\$80m refit.

Royal Caribbean commercial director, Adam Armstrong, said

the 15 deck ship is packed with signature RCI features.

"We live for big ships, and the huge variety of experiences that our megaliners offer our guests," Armstrong said, adding that *Explorer* is virtually a brand new ship with features such as the new Flowrider surf simulator, a 3-D movie theatre and new specialty dining options.

Armstrong said during her five month Australian season the ship is expected to inject almost \$44 million into the local economy.

Explorer arrives in Melbourne as part of a 16-night Australia/NZ sailing, and when she arrives in her summer home of Sydney on 28 Nov will take part in an historic rendezvous with sister ship *Voyager of the Seas*.

Ask Isaac about cruise

PRINCESS Cruises has launched a new online "click to chat" service named after the most recognisable bartender at sea.

"Ask Isaac" highlights Isaac Washington from the *Love Boat* TV series, and is available now through the World's Leading Cruise Line online portal at www.onesourcecruises.com.

A video explaining the service - featuring none other than Ted Lange who played Isaac in the show - is now online at cruiseweekly.com.au/videos.

Halong Bay rebrand

PARADISE Cruises, which operates luxury overnight experiences on Vietnam's Halong Bay, is changing its name to Paradise Hotels & Cruises, reflecting an expansion of the Paradise Suites Hotel which will add 76 new rooms by Apr 2016.

Blue Lagoon bonus

FIJI'S Blue Lagoon Cruises is offering bonus inclusions as part of a promotion targeting sales from now until 15 Dec and travel through to 31 Mar 2016.

Offers include a free night at Sofitel Fiji Resort & Spa in conjunction with any four night cruise booking for two adults, or two free nights at the Sofitel with each seven night booking.

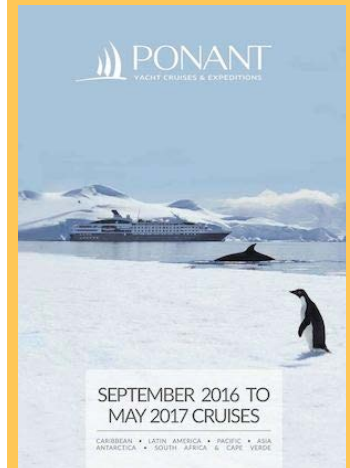
Every adult booked also receives a free Blue Lagoon Cruises-branded travel luggage set.

Use the promotional code PACK-BLC15 when booking to access the special offers - more info at www.bluelagooncruises.com.



Brochure Spotlight

Ponant 2016-17



THIS new program from Ponant Cruises details a selection of 62 luxury voyages across the globe.

Almost half of them are designated as 'Expeditions' with itineraries taking in Japan, Vietnam, Australasia, Indonesia, Borneo, Tahiti and Melanesia, as well as South America, Africa, the Caribbean and Antarctica.

Ranging between 7 and 17 nights, there are also options to join extended voyages including a 79-night odyssey travelling from Hong Kong to Auckland, 45 nights from Panama to the Antarctic Peninsula, 51 nights from Milford Sound to Osaka or 54 nights from Ushuai to the Seychelles.

Copies available by emailing reservations.aus@ponant.com.

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*select sailings and select flights, restrictions apply



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Awards Tickets on Sale

TICKETS for the 15th Annual Cruise Industry Awards are now available and expected to be snapped up quickly.

With plans for our big night progressing well, those attending will be in for an incredible night of glitz and glamour along with some sensational entertainment - **CLICK HERE** to order tickets online now.

Season in full swing

THE countdown is on to P&O's five ship extravaganza on Sydney Harbour next week. Whilst the focus is driven by publicity for the brand, the impact for all connected to cruising is significant.

The physical appearance of ships on one of the most spectacular harbours in the world can't be underestimated when it comes to media interest so we can expect to see plenty of coverage.

This will naturally drive enquiry to retail agents that promote their cruise expertise, leading to new business. There will also be a significant flow-on effect around the world as media interest is not just local. The potential appeal to international guests that a cruise into Sydney Harbour offers is difficult to dispute - and then of course other ports around the region will benefit as well.

In a nutshell: greater visibility of ships = more coverage = more interest = consumer enquiry = new business = economic impact!



Seabourn north to Alaska

"ULTRA-LUXURY" cruise line Seabourn is poised to return to Alaska in 2017, with *Seabourn Sojourn* to offer a series of 11-14 day itineraries from Vancouver, British Columbia and Anchorage.

The voyages will be the first time Seabourn has cruised in the region since 2002, with senior vice president of marketing and sales, John Delaney saying the move has "been a long time coming and highly anticipated."

"We're looking forward to sharing with our guests the highlights of Alaska, from the mountains and glaciers; to the picturesque frontier towns and

amazing wildlife," he said.

As well as visits to iconic sites, Seabourn is promising to take guests to an "uncommon Alaska, a side that few visitors ever get to see," Delaney added.

"No other line can show them in such ultra-luxury Seabourn style".

Seabourn Sojourn's Alaskan program kicks off on 01 Jun 2017 with the 11-day Ultimate Alaskan Sojourn departing Vancouver for Anchorage via the Queen Charlotte Sound, and ports including Ketchikan, Misty Fjords, Wrangell, Sitka, Juneau and more.

Fares start at \$11,499ppts.

More info at seabourn.com.

Scenic bonus reward

A BONUS \$100 worth of Scenic Rewards points are on offer for agents booking and depositing on any new 2016 Scenic luxury Europe or France river cruise between 09 Nov-10 Dec.

Agents should ensure Scenic Rewards numbers are added to their Express Book profile to get the bonus, which will appear in accounts on 30 Nov or 21 Dec.



FORGET Santa Claus - on Carnival Cruise Line this year the festive season is all about his nemesis, The Grinch.

As part of Carnival's partnership with Dr. Seuss Enterprises, the line will feature shipboard experiences by the "cantankerous curmudgeon," with the giant green character appearing decked out in his signature 'Santy Claus' costume.

Carnival president Christine Duffy said the Grinch will feature in both scheduled appearances and spontaneous pop-ups.

"He will playfully disrupt the on-board festivities and steal various items from crew members throughout the ship," she said, with the Grinch also featuring in face-painting sessions and both live action and animated versions of the Seuss classic *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* to be shown aboard on Christmas Day.

But don't worry, Santa will also appear as part of Carnival's annual holiday celebrations which will see the ships thoroughly generated with Christmas trees, wreaths and mistletoe.



NICE, Rome, Florence, Sorrento, Sicily, Crete and Santorini are must see destinations ticked off the bucket-list for a group of agents hosted on *Azamara Quest* recently as the boutique ship sailed the Mediterranean.

Escorted by Royal Caribbean Limited's district sales manager Fiona Daven, the agents had the chance to get to know *Quest* intimately ahead of her locally-based deployment.

Agents were treated to a Bridge tour and experienced *Azamara Club's* signature luxury inclusions,

including exceptional personal service, fine cuisine and boutique wines from around the globe.

Quest arrives in Darwin on 28 Dec - the ship's first time in Australia and New Zealand.

Pictured from left are Jennilee Vance Smith, Our Vacation Centre with partner Evan; Mathew Saunders; Our Vacation Centre, with partner Lisa; Fiona Daven, Royal Caribbean; Ryan Webster, Cruise1st; Michele Fraser & Aimee Vandongen from Bicton Travel and Jemma Doidge, Meridian Travel.

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Life
ADVANTAGE

FREE Shore Excursions FREE Unlimited Internet FREE Shipboard Credit
This is a world where you can be yourself, the minute you step onboard.



Outrageous Outback

SYDNEY TO AUCKLAND | 14 days
9 Apr 2017 – SIRENA

Overnight | Melbourne **New Ports** | Burnie & Nelson

AU\$ FARES per guest from:	INSIDE	VERANDA	PENTHOUSE
SPECIAL OFFER FARE	\$6,290	\$8,520	SOLD OUT
US\$ SHIPBOARD CREDIT per stateroom	\$450	\$450	\$650

Port taxes/fees as shown are included in the cruise fare: \$1,382

BONUS
5 FREE SHORE
EXCURSIONS

FREE
UNLIMITED
INTERNET
&
SHIPBOARD
CREDIT



Southern Cross Sojourn

SYDNEY TO SYDNEY | 34 days
6 Mar 2017 – SIRENA

Overnight | Bali **New Ports** | Alotau, Port Moresby, Broome, Exmouth, Perth, Esperance, Penneshaw & Portland

AU\$ FARES per guest from:	INSIDE	VERANDA	PENTHOUSE
SPECIAL OFFER FARE	\$10,480	\$12,830	SOLD OUT
US\$ SHIPBOARD CREDIT per stateroom	\$1,090	\$1,090	\$1,570

Port taxes/fees as shown are included in the cruise fare: \$2,519

BONUS
5 FREE SHORE
EXCURSIONS

FREE
UNLIMITED
INTERNET
&
SHIPBOARD
CREDIT



Divine Down Under

AUCKLAND TO BALI | 23 days
22 Feb 2017 – INSIGNIA

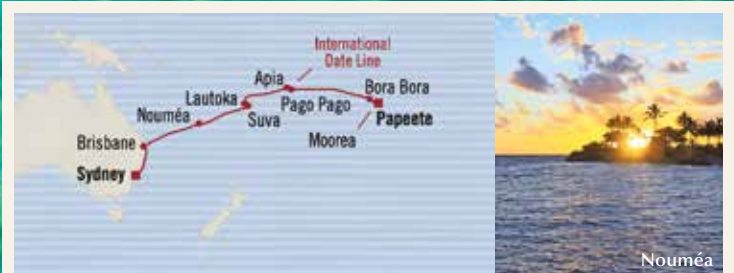
Overnight | Bali

AU\$ FARES per guest from:	OCEANVIEW	VERANDA	PENTHOUSE
SPECIAL OFFER FARE	\$7,390	\$9,260	SOLD OUT
US\$ SHIPBOARD CREDIT per stateroom	\$740	\$740	\$1,060

Port taxes/fees as shown are included in the cruise fare: \$1,813

BONUS
5 FREE SHORE
EXCURSIONS

FREE
UNLIMITED
INTERNET
&
SHIPBOARD
CREDIT



Colourful Coral Seas

PAPEETE TO SYDNEY | 17 days
16 Feb 2017 – SIRENA

Overnights | Papeete & Nouméa

AU\$ FARES per guest from:	INSIDE	VERANDA	PENTHOUSE
SPECIAL OFFER FARE	\$4,950	\$7,070	\$10,420
US\$ SHIPBOARD CREDIT per stateroom	\$550	\$550	\$790

Port taxes/fees as shown are included in the cruise fare: \$1,141

BONUS
5 FREE SHORE
EXCURSIONS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REQUEST A BROCHURE
CALL (02) 9959 1371 or visit www.OceaniaCruises.com