

explore4

Discover the world with **four offers valued up to \$2,700***

Bookings on select January 2016-April 2017 cruises receive all four offers below:*

- **FREE Signature Beverage Package** (Up to US\$2,400 VALUE)*
- **FREE Pinnacle Grill Dinner** (US\$58 VALUE)*
- **Reduced Cruise Fares for 3rd/4th guests***
- **50% Reduced Deposit***

Plus when booking a suite, receive:

- **us\$300 onboard spending credit per stateroom**
- **FREE Canaletto dinner***



Hurry, Explore4 offers end 30 October!



Holland America Line
A Signature of Excellence

* Terms & Conditions: ALL PRICES STATED ARE PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY AND INCLUDE TAXES, FEES & PORT EXPENSES and discounts. CRUISE OR ALASKA LAND+SEA JOURNEY ONLY. Fares listed are in Australian Dollars. Fares and Explore4 offers are based on Promo(s) KA/KC/JB. Featured fares are per person based on double occupancy, cruise or Land+Sea Journeys only. Subject to availability. Explore4 offers are per stateroom based on double occupancy, for 1st and 2nd guests sharing a stateroom and excludes 3rd/4th guests, except as provided herein. Explore4 offers are available for new bookings only, apply only to the cruise portion of Alaska Land+Sea Journeys, are not combinable with any other discounts, are not transferable, are capacity controlled, and may be modified or withdrawn without prior notice. Offers are applicable on select 2015, 2016 and 2017 departures. For more information about our stateroom categories and suite descriptions, and to view deck plans and for full terms and conditions applicable to your cruise, please refer to hollandamerica.com/Explore4 or the appropriate Holland America brochure. Other restrictions may apply. Explore4 offers end 30 October 2015. Ships' Registry: The Netherlands.

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 29 Oct 2015

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news, a **front full page** from Holland America Line plus a full page from:
• Voyages to Antiquity

Explore4 with HAL

HOLLAND America is celebrating the dawn under arrival of its *Eurodam* (CW Tue) by reminding travel agents about its "Explore4" deals which are valid for bookings on selected cruises departing Jan 2016-Apr 2017.

All eligible bookings will receive a free beverage package, a Pinnacle Grill dinner, reduced fares for third and fourth guests and 50% reduced deposits.

Bookings of suites will also receive a further US\$300 per stateroom credit and a free Canaletto dinner, with the Explore4 offers valid for bookings made by tomorrow, 30 Oct 2015. See the **cover page** for details.

Azamara Sydney-London

AZAMARA Club Cruises ceo Larry Pimentel - pictured in Sydney earlier this week with Heather Bone from Discovery Travel Centre and Amber Wilson of CruiseCo - is in the process of finalising the line's 2018 itineraries which will include a unique 102-day sailing from Sydney to London.

The Australian Cruise Association has hailed the voyage, as well as Azamara's tradition of more time in port including overnight stays and late nights to make the destination more of an emphasis.

Azamara will operate in local waters for the first time ever this summer, with the 686-passenger *Azamara Quest* arriving in Darwin on 28 Dec - while *Azamara Journey* will head down under for the first time in 2017.



Longer RCCL hours

ROYAL Caribbean Cruise Lines has extended the hours of operation for its call centre to also include Sundays.

Effective from now until Apr 2016, agents wanting to make enquiries or bookings on Royal Caribbean International, Celebrity Cruises or Azamara Club Cruises voyages can reach the team on 1800 754 550 between 10am and 2pm AEDT on Sundays, in addition to 9am-6pm Mon-Fri.

Athens to Athens deal

VOYAGES to Antiquity has fares for a 15-day cruise to the Greek Islands and Turkey starting from \$7,950 per person including return flights from Australia.

The itinerary includes pre, post and mid-cruise hotels, overnights in many ports, transfers and more - for details see **page four**.

Brochure Spotlight

Hurtigruten - Explorer Voyages

TWO

Hurtigruten ships will be providing in-depth expeditions to Antarctica between



Nov 2016 and Mar 2017, with the journeys featuring in this new brochure.

The *MS Fram* has sailed the Deep South for many years, and next year will be joined by *MS Midnatsol*.

MS Fram will embark from Ushuaia, while *MS Midnatsol* will take its guests to Antarctica via the Chilean fjords and Cape Horn.

The extensive excursion program ranges from landings in Polarcirkel boats, kayaking, hiking or snowshoeing and even the chance to sleep out on deck under the polar stars or in a tent on mainland Antarctica.

The adventure doesn't just happen in the Southern Hemisphere, with journeys to Iceland, Greenland, Spitsbergen and along the Atlantic and Norwegian coastline also part of the Hurtigruten Explorer Voyages program - to view the brochure online **CLICK HERE**.

Creative Cruising

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explore4

Explore your world with four exceptional offers.

- FREE Signature Beverage Package
- FREE Pinnacle Grill dinner
- Reduced cruise fares for 3rd/4th guests
- 50% reduced deposit
- Bonus Suite offers

*Select 2015-2017 sailings. Restrictions apply. See full terms & conditions.



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[OFFER DETAILS >](#)

Carnival to China

CARNIVAL Cruise Line is set to deploy two ships in China full time, with the *Carnival Miracle* to move there in 2017, followed by *Carnival Splendor* in 2018.

CCL president Christine Duffy said she believes the Carnival offering will resonate very well with Chinese passengers, saying “we look forward to bringing our one-of-a-kind, exceptionally popular cruise experience to the Chinese market”.

Itinerary details aren’t available yet, but Duffy highlighted Carnival’s expertise in providing cruises of 3-5 days in length.

Carnival’s China operations will be established in partnership with sister company Costa Asia, which has extensive experience having operated in the Chinese market for the last nine years.

Princess Salty Dog

PRINCESS Cruises overnight announced the debut of “The Salty Dog Gastropub,” pairing gourmet small dishes inspired by pub favourites with craft beers, cocktails and wines.

Initially launching aboard *Crown Princess*, the menu offerings including a signature burger were developed in collaboration with Ernesto Uchimura, the former executive chef of Umami Burger who’s now at the Plan Check Kitchen + Bar in Los Angeles.

The Salty Dog Gastropub will be presented within *Crown Princess’* Wheelhouse Bar nightly which will also feature an expansive new international whiskey menu.

Both additions will roll out to *Emerald Princess* and *Ruby Princess* in Dec, while the whiskey menu will be available in the Wheelhouse Bar aboard *Dawn Princess*, *Sea Princess*, *Sun Princess*, *Diamond Princess* and *Golden Princess* by the end of the year, and aboard all ships across the Princess fleet, with the exception of *Pacific Princess*, by mid-2016.

Carnival’s spooky sales team



CARNIVAL Cruise Line sales staff have freaked out consultants at more than 100 travel agencies in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney this week, with a “spooktacular” sales blitz to make the most of Halloween.

Half price deposits and onboard credit of up to \$400 per cabin are on offer for bookings made up to 09 Nov - while *Carnival Spirit* will also celebrate the creepy American tradition tomorrow by entering Sydney Harbour with a giant redback spider on her bow.

The massive arachnid is about ten metres wide, and features glowing red eyes and a “fearsome red stripe” along its back.

Sydneyiders are being invited to come to Circular Quay to take

a photo of the giant spider and name it on Instagram using the hashtag #CarnivalHalloween.

The most creative name will win a ten day South Pacific cruise.

The Carnival Cruise Line Australian sales team is pictured above during a scary visit to Flight Centre Narellan in NSW.



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Viking dares cruisers to compare

VIKING River Cruises has upgraded its “Dare to Compare” online tool which aims to help potential customers simplify price comparisons between the increasingly complex offerings of various operators.

The site which is now live at dare2comparecruise.com.au has been developed in response to Viking research which found consumers find the offers and discounts in the river cruise holiday market confusing.

Viking Australia/NZ managing director, Teresia Fors, said “that’s why we created a user-friendly tool to help consumers and agents research what’s available in the market, and compare the cost and benefits of each alternative”.

Featuring common Viking itineraries such as the 15-day

Grand European Tour, the 11-day Romantic Danube with Prague, and the 8-day Chateaux, Rivers & Wine, the site highlights key elements of Viking’s offering and the corresponding cruise options offered by Scenic and APT.

Inclusions such as ports of call, tours, dining, on-board services and transfers are also detailed along with the bottom line cost including air - highlighting Viking’s lower price point.

For example, for a 15-day Amsterdam-Budapest voyage in May next year in a Veranda A cabin, Viking’s price is \$11,390 - just behind Scenic at \$11,535 and APT priced at \$12,590.

“This much-needed price and comparison website reflects the Viking philosophy to deliver clear, honest communication and exceptional service,” Fors said.

HAL to unveil new “brand initiatives”

HOLLAND America Line has flagged a major announcement in New York tonight, in which it will reveal details of a multimillion dollar fleetwide upgrade.

Enhancements to shipboard programs and innovations will also be unveiled, along with new key partnerships and a new company branding initiative.

The event, taking place at the Explorers Club in East 70th Street, will also be webcast live from 11.30am New York time (2.30am AEDST) at hollandamerica.com.

RCCL execs cash in

ROYAL Caribbean Cruise Lines president Adam Goldstein has sold 90,000 shares in the company, reaping almost US\$9 million in the process.

According to a Securities & Exchange Commission filing, Royal Caribbean chairman & ceo Richard Fain also sold 80,516 shares in the company, worth around \$8 million.

Goldstein still holds 253,000 shares in the company while Fain has around 3.5 million, with both taking advantage of the cruise line’s soaring share price which has surged above US\$99.



Destination-led cruising to benefit all

WE ARE excited that Azamara Club Cruises will launch an around the world sailing itinerary from Australia in 2018, heralding the benefits of destination-led cruising. Azamara will distinguish itself from other cruise lines by including a longer time in port, more overnight stays and late nights, making the destination more of an emphasis.

This increased focus on the time spent in port by luxury cruise lines such as Azamara and Silversea will provide a greater economic benefit for our members – namely Australian ground operators, including day trip tour providers, attractions and restaurants. Regional and remote ports will also see a benefit given the smaller scale of the luxury cruise sector.

Luxury cruisers are motivated by new experiences. For Australia, that means immersing them in Indigenous cultural experiences, engaging bespoke services for private touring, chartering scenic flights into more remote areas and including local arts, specialist retail and gourmet experiences into their Australian adventure.

One of our newest members, Karen Fraser's Tourism Professionals, is already seeing the benefits of luxury small cruising by organising a welcome event in Tasmania in January when Azamara's 16-day sailing from Sydney overnights in Hobart.

Passengers will be treated to a welcome by the Tasmanian Police Pipe Band, followed by a private performance by the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra and the opportunity to meet orchestra members and the conductor.

Fraser Coast port of call for P&O

P&O will soon be dropping anchor off the Fraser Coast, with the famed Queensland sand island made an official port of call for *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden*.

Pacific Aria will first call in to Fraser next year on 03 Apr on a roundtrip from Brisbane, with sister ship, *Pacific Eden* visiting on 12 Dec on a roundtrip from Syd.

"Visiting Fraser Island by cruise ship with its 184,000 hectares of diversity from pristine beaches,

lake and sand cliffs to rainforests will be a unique experience for our cruise travellers," said Ann Sherry, ceo of Carnival Australia.

Many of the visitors are expected to undertake activities on Fraser Island while others will head into the mainland centres of Hervey Bay and Maryborough.

Interim gm of Fraser Coast Opportunities, Leigh Bennett, said the economic benefits and opportunities to create new business would be significant.

RCI 72 hour sale

ROYAL Caribbean is running a 72-hour Christmas Bonus sale until 9:59AM AEDT tomorrow.

The cruise line is offering a free Premium Beverage Package to clients who book a Balcony stateroom or Suite on a Christmas or New Year cruise, plus savings of up to 30% per person.

The sale applies to four cruises, including the 11-night South Pacific Cruise departing 15 Dec.

For more, **CLICK HERE**.

LGBT cruise line 2017

ANTEROS Cruises, a new year-round, small ship cruise line dedicated to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender travellers, is set to launch in 2017.

The line is yet to release information on the vessel, prices or itineraries, but on its website promised to be "as inclusive as it is exclusive".

A&K Europe 2016 deal

ABERCROMBIE & Kent is offering a 10% discount on select 2016 European Canal Barge departures, when booked and deposited by 31 Dec - details at www.abercrombiekent.com.au.

Darwin's record year

DARWIN is expecting a record 46 cruise ship visits in 2015-16, with 30 coming over the upcoming 'cruise season'.

The season kicked off today, with the arrival of *Voyager of the Seas*, the largest ship scheduled for the season.

"The Northern Territory's cruise industry provides an important boost for tourism in the Top End, injecting \$54 million into the local economy last financial year," said NT Chief Minister and Tourism Minister Adam Giles.

The busiest cruise ship day this season will be 20 March 2016 with two ships carrying up to 4634 passengers to be in port.

Lunch fit for a princess

PRINCESS Anne will board Cunard's *Queen Mary 2* for a lunch in support of the 250-year-old warship, *HMS Victory*.

The lunch is part of the cruise line's 175th anniversary celebrations, and will kick off an international campaign to secure the long-term future of the Napoleonic-era vessel best known for her role as Lord Nelson's flagship in the Battle of Trafalgar.



FANCY a Titanic cracker?

A 103-year-old biscuit which survived the 1912 sinking of the famed transatlantic liner on its first voyage has been sold at auction for more than A\$30,000.

Bringing the phrase "a tough cookie" literally to life, the biscuit was part of a survival kit on one of the *Titanic* lifeboats.

Designed to last a long time, the biscuit has been preserved in pretty much original condition after it was saved by James Fenwick, a passenger on the *Carpathia* which was a ship that rescued some of the passengers from the doomed voyage.

Manufactured by Spillers & Bakers, the biscuit (**below**) was auctioned in London this week by Henry Aldridge & Sons, with a spokesman saying "I couldn't imagine anything less appetising.

"But if you're in a rowing boat in the middle of the ocean, you'd



certainly eat it with the rest of them," he added.

Other items sold in the auction included the final *Titanic* luncheon menu which went for a whopping \$124,000.

A la carte items listed for the ship's literal "last supper" included grilled mutton chops, a fish, ham and beef buffet, an apple meringue pastry and a selection of eight cheeses - Curtis Stone eat your heat out.

Cruise Weekly is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication. An industry-focused PDF edition of Cruise Weekly is published every Tue and Thu, and there's also a consumer-facing email newsletter published each Wed - sign up free at www.cruiseweekly.com.au.

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- ✓ Choice of 2 open-seating restaurants
- ✓ Wine with dinner on board
- ✓ Transfers & baggage handling overseas[^]

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ATHENS TO ATHENS

COMMENCES 16 APRIL 2016

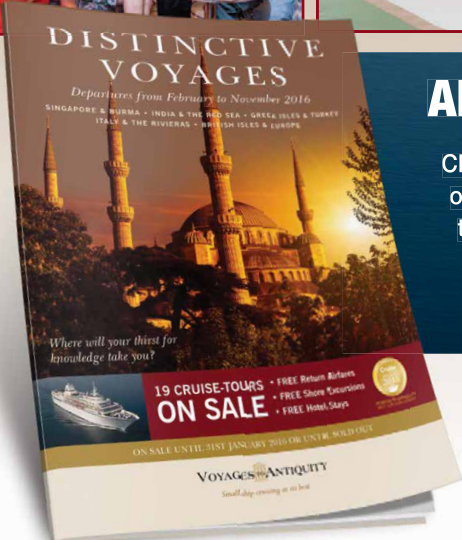
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VOYAGES TO ANTIQUITY

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