

CRUISE



WEEKLY



Tuesday 09 Aug 2016

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news and photos.

Celebrity Cruises deal

THIS month Celebrity Cruises is throwing in a free Classic beverage package and US\$300 on board credit per stateroom and half price deposits on Asia sailings departing Nov 2016-Jun 2017.

Fares lead in at \$1,849ppts for an Oceanview stateroom on *Celebrity Millennium's* 12-night Southeast Asia Immersion voyage departing Singapore on 01 Dec.

Cruises are also available on *Celebrity Constellation*, such as the 10-night Thailand and Vietnam cruise from \$1,456ppts.



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Crystal's portal overhaul

CRYSTAL Cruises has reworked its crystalcruises.com website, encompassing the brands of Crystal Cruises, Crystal Yacht Cruises, Crystal River Cruises, Crystal Luxury Air, Crystal AirCruises, Crystal Exclusive Class cruises and Crystal Residences.

Video, an interactive Cruise Calendar and a "compare" feature that allows users to explore options across all Crystal experiences have been added to the online portal.

The interactive Cruise Guidebook has been updated with slide shows, information about each vessel and has been made easier to use and Cruise Calendars have received new filters and an updated design.

Edie Rodriguez, president and ceo of Crystal said "the new Crystal website reflects a standard of excellence and inspiring possibilities".

NCL Margaritaville

MARGARITAVILLE at Sea restaurants will be introduced on board *Norwegian Getaway* & *Norwegian Breakaway* in spring.

Already serving a tropical menu on *Norwegian Escape*, Margaritaville at Sea will open aboard *Norwegian Getaway* on 18 Sep in the former Flamingo Grill, and on 09 Oct on *Norwegian Breakaway* in the former position of Uptown Grill.

MEANWHILE, Crystal is rolling out its Crystal Visions Enrichment Program to Crystal Yacht Cruises.

Three guest speakers will join *Crystal Esprit* as she sails through Greece, Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Qatar, Oman and the UAE this Nov and Dec.

Sailing on the 06 Nov departure will be broadcast journalist Stephen Cole and author and filmmaker Jean-Pierre Isbouts.

Retired U.S. Marine Corps General Anthony Zinni will share his world experiences and colourful history with guests on the 23 Dec roundtrip sailing from Dubai.

AW Lindblad special

ADVENTURE World and Lindblad Expeditions have debuted a joint special, offering an exclusive air, land and expedition package to Antarctica saving clients up to \$3,711ppts.

Priced from \$16,151 per person, the 14-day Journey to Antarctica package includes LATAM international and internal flights, two nights accommodation at the five-star Grand Hyatt Santiago, plus 11-nights aboard the *National Geographic Orion*.

As of yesterday, Adventure World took on the role of Lindblad's general sales agent in Australia, NZ & Asia (**CW** 21 Jul).

For more information, visit www.adventureworld.com.

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Travelmarvel info

A SERIES of Travelmarvel consumer information sessions will be held across four states.

The sessions will provide attendees with discounts and offers when they book via a travel agent during or immediately after the event.

Clients are given the option of taking a discount voucher in store to book with their preferred travel agency.

In addition, Travelmarvel will refer customers who may not have a travel agent to a preferred agency in their area.

The sessions will be in Floreat, WA on 01 Sep; Glen Waverley, Vic on 06 Sep; Parramatta, NSW on 08 Sep & Brisbane, Qld on 20 Sep.

Agents should register their clients and list agency details, to register clients, **CLICK HERE**.

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Celebrity **X** Cruises



Virtuoso travel trends

LUXURY travel network Virtuoso has identified cruising and multi-generational travel as a key trend for Aussie travellers.

Group managing director Michael Londregan said the results show clients are increasingly becoming more interested in sharing experiences with loved ones.

Coral earlybird deal

A **DISCOUNT** of 15% for Coral Expeditions' 2017 Spice Islands departures is on offer.

The eleven-night itinerary features five-nights exploring Raja Ampat where guests can snorkel or dive in the brightly coloured reef systems.

Reduced prices lead in from \$7,803ppts and exclude airfares or visas/permits.

The code for the discount is SPICE17 and applies to sailings departing Darwin 15 Mar and leaving Biak 26 Mar 2017.

Book by 31 Aug, **CLICK HERE**.

Smooth sailing for cruise

CRUISE demand continues to grow and agents are important, is the message from the US branch of CLIA's third Travel Agent Cruise Industry Outlook Report of 2016.

The study found consultants are playing an increasingly important role in the consumer travel process as demand rises, with agents playing a vital role in matching travellers desires to the right cruise experience.

River cruising is predicted by the 700 North American agents surveyed to gain a boost, with 64% expecting to sell more river cruise packages this year and 21% anticipating a significant rise in river cruise sales.

The large ocean ship segment did not go unnoticed, as more than half of respondents (54%) forecast the segment would grow.

Overall cruise spend is showing no signs of slowing down, as a whopping 70% anticipated cruise spend to climb this year, including

18% who are looking forward to a sales increase of 10% or more in coming months.

Long term bookings are continuing to trend, as 41% said agents are seeing more bookings one year to 18 months in advance and 40% witnessing more bookings nine months to one year prior - view the report **HERE**

Carnival Sustainability

CARNIVAL Corporation is on track to meet its 2020 sustainability performance goals, according to its 2015 sustainability report.

The company has so far reduced its carbon intensity rate by 2.8%, equipped 41% of the fleet with exhaust gas cleaning technology and ordered one of the world's first liquefied natural gas powered cruise ships, as well as the first cruise ship to be powered by an LNG hybrid barge.

Lindblad Q2 results

LINDBLAD Expeditions has recorded a modest Q2, in line with the company's expectations.

Net yield climbed 3.7% over last year and occupancy levels reached 92%, a 0.1% increase.

Gross profit from tours was down to US\$24.5m due to a US\$7.9m rise in tour costs.

The company attributes a US\$1.3m decrease in revenue to a planned reduction in operating days due to the *Explorer* & the *Orion*'s planned drydocks.

This partially offset US\$5.7m of additional revenue from the acquisition of Natural Habitat.

RCI VOOM webisode

A **WEBSIDE** has been released by Royal Caribbean detailing the new fleet-wide internet offering, VOOM, which the line is championing as the fastest internet at sea.

The video provides details on what VOOM allows guests to do.

To view the clip, **CLICK HERE**.

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Get updated on all Crystal's news in the August issue of *travelBulletin*.

[CLICK HERE](#)
to read

RCI Super savings

ROYAL Caribbean is running a super summer savings sale, offering discounts up to 30% off cruises departing after 04 Sep.

Deals include 12 nights sailing *Voyager of the Seas* South Pacific and Fiji departure on 31 Jan from \$1,329ppts.

Also included is the 25 Jan sailing of the 10-night South Pacific cruise aboard *Explorer of the Seas* for \$1,049ppts.

Book by 01 Oct to avail the deal.

Seabourn campaign

A NEW visually-driven brand campaign launched by Seabourn is aiming to coax highly affluent travellers, including those who have never cruised before, aboard the luxury fleet.

Called "Extraordinary Worlds", the campaign zones in on the cruise line's destinations and on board amenities, displaying them against each other in a dual-screen format.

It will feature video, print, mobile, digital display and social.

To view the brand video, [CLICK HERE](#).

Fathom, Airbnb pact

SOCIAL impact cruise line, Fathom have partnered with Airbnb to offer new Airbnb hosts in the US a US\$250 credit for a Fathom cruise to the Dominican Republic or Cuba.

Prices for the seven-day trips to the Dominican Republic start at US\$499pp, excluding taxes, fees, and port expenses.

Crystal backs off rebuild

THE technical and commercial challenges of restoring SS *United States* to service as a modern cruise ship have been proven by Crystal Cruises as "insurmountable".

Instead of converting the 1950's-era vessel into a modern, luxury cruise ship, Crystal will instead donate US\$350,000 to the SS *United States* Conservancy's efforts to save the ship.

Six months ago, Crystal commenced a feasibility study and professional evaluation at a cost of over US\$1 million.

"Unfortunately, the hurdles that would face us when trying to bring a 65-year-old vessel up to modern safety, design and international regulatory compliance have proven just too great to clear in both a technically and commercially responsible manner," said Crystal president and ceo Edie Rodriguez.

The study found the ship would require significant changes to the hull that would pose stability challenges.

Additionally, the installation of a diesel electric propulsion plant would have required 25% of the hull to be rebuilt and reconfigured to a twin shaft-twin rudder arrangement.

The Conservancy will now pursue stationary redevelopment opportunities for the vessel.

CCL Mel Cup cruise

CUP-WINNING jockey Wayne Harris will join race caller Johnny Tapp on board *Carnival Spirit's* six-night 2016 Melbourne Cup Carnival cruise departing 30 Oct.

The cruise from Sydney to Melbourne will feature presentations from the duo about Australian racing, along with a variety of themed events.

Three days of racing festivities in Melbourne are featured, such as the Emirates Melbourne Cup and admission to Crown Oaks Day.

Fares are on sale until 29 Aug and priced from \$1,699ppts with \$200 on board credit per cabin.

Heritage Russia 2017

TEN expeditions have been confirmed by Heritage Expeditions for the 2017 season to the far east of Russia.

Itineraries venture from the Kuril Islands in the south, to Wrangel Island in the north.

For details, [CLICK HERE](#).

EW 2017 cruise rates

HOTEL barge cruise company, European Waterways has unveiled its 2017 cruise rates and departure dates.

More cruises have been added in the Champagne region of France due to high demand and a range of specials are available.

A discount of 10% off cabin and full-boat charter bookings in France & Italy for select departures in spring and summer 2017 are among the deals.

For the list of rates, [CLICK HERE](#).



UnCruise Adventures 2017/18



NEW itineraries in Costa Rica, Galapagos & Portland have been packed into UnCruise Adventure's latest brochure, along with a strong focus on wellness with themed departures in Alaska, Mexico and Costa Rica.

The program, sold through Adventure World, now includes the seven-night Costa Rica Beaches & Jungles; 15-night Ultimate Costa Rica & Panama; eight-night Darwin's Islands & Colonial Quito; and seven-night Rivers of Wine on the Columbia & Snake Rivers.

Adventure activities, tours and presentations are included with some cruise-only itineraries and others combine cruise and land. The fleet of yachts and small ships carry between 22-88 guests on expeditions from one week to 21 nights in Alaska; British Columbia; Washington state; Columbia River & more.

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Regent extends offer

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has launched a special providing US\$500 shipboard credit per suite for bookings made before 31 Aug. The deal is valid for 10 select sailings, three of which include journeys on board the new *Seven Seas Explorer*.

CLICK HERE for full details.

Anantara Krug Cruise

ANANTARA Mai Khao Phuket Villas and Anantara Layan Phuket have introduced a luxury yacht experience for guests dubbed The Krug Cruise.

The fully crewed 90-foot Yacht named *Major Affair* can accommodate up to 12 people.

Breakfast and lunch is served on board by a personal chef with free Krug champagne available all day long.

Prices start from THB520,000.

Paul Gauguin deal

LUXURY operator Paul Gauguin Cruises has unveiled a two-week sale on select 2016 and 2017 Tahiti, French Polynesia and South Pacific voyages.

Book by 20 Aug and receive savings of up to US\$4,750 per person, with roundtrip airfares between Los Angeles and Papeete, Tahiti also included in the package.

More info available **HERE**.

Seatrade Cruise Med

CLIA Europe chairman and MSC cruises executive chairman Pierfrancesco Vago and MedCruise president Kristijan Pavić have both committed to delivering keynote addresses at Seatrade Cruise Med.

The convention will take place in Santa Cruz de Tenerife between 21-23 Sep at the International Trade Fair and Congress Centre.

Cruise.co.uk sold off

UK SPECIALIST online travel agent Cruise.co.uk will be acquired by Bridgepoint Development Capital from Risk Capital Partners for £52 million.

Seamus Conlon, CRUISE.co.uk's managing director said Bridgepoint's "financial and operational expertise will power our ambitions, particularly as we look to expand internationally".

Originally part of Carnival Corporation, the company's turnover grew by 15% in 2015 to £104.5 million.

Kangaroo Is cruise

SEALINK has launched a new escorted tour which includes a Murray River cruise and an exploration of Kangaroo Island.

The nine-day 'Highlights of South Australia' tour departs 24 Mar and is aimed at 'wildlife, cruise, food and wine lovers'.

Highlights include visits to Frenchman's Rock; Seal Bay Conservation Park; coastal views along Victor Harbor & Horseshow Bay and much more.

The tour includes a complimentary hotel pick up and drop off at selected Adelaide hotels - **CLICK HERE** for more.



TURTLE shells are not a canvas for your artwork, warns the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

It comes after two of the reptiles (one pictured below) were found recently with paint on their shells.

While a brightly coloured hero in a half shell may look fun, it makes the creature more noticeable in the wild and hence more vulnerable to predators.

In addition the paint can stop them absorbing the vitamins they need from the sun, cause respiratory problems and spread toxic chemicals into their bloodstream.

In short, stick to painting your own fingernails and lay off the wildlife!



A CHEEKY new face has joined the US campaign trail - Dr Seuss' Cat in the Hat!

The feline can be spotted aboard Carnival Cruise Line's US-based ships this week in conjunction with the release of the new Dr. Seuss book, "One Vote, Two Votes, I Vote, You Vote".

Decked in his presidential attire, the cat will be shaking hands, kissing babies and smiling for selfies along with a bit of education about the importance of voting.



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

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	09 Aug
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	11 Aug
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	12 Aug
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	14 Aug
DARWIN	
<i>Caledonian Sky</i>	09 Aug
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	13 Aug
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	15 Aug
PORT DOUGLAS	
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	14 Aug
FREMANTLE	
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	15 Aug

P&O Pearl delay

PACIFIC Pearl arrived a few hours late into Sydney on Sat due to strong winds down the coast last weekend.

P&O's vessel was required to slow down on its return.

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