

# CRUISE



WEEKLY



Tuesday 06 Dec 2016

## Cruise Weekly today

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

## Celebrity 2018 prog

**CELEBRITY** Cruises' 2018/19 season will call into 282 destinations in 77 countries and stop by new ports of call across all seven continents.

Unveiling its European and Alaskan itineraries, from summer 2018 *Celebrity* will be based in Southampton for the first time and the line will become the first major cruise line to homeport out of Dublin when *Celebrity Eclipse* offers a mini season out of Dublin in late Apr through Jun 2018.

A series of Special Event Sailings are scheduled, including the 2018 world soccer tournament in St. Petersburg, Russia, The French Open, The British Open and The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Bookings opened Thu 01 Dec.

## Emirates cruise brand launches

### A SIGNIFICANT

new player has emerged on the Australian cruise scene, with the local launch of

Imagine Cruising, a division of the Emirates Group.

The company promoted its offerings in weekend newspapers last Sun, with a range of ocean cruise deals from Norwegian Cruise Line, Princess, Cunard, Royal Caribbean and Costa.

Imagine Cruising is promoting exclusive European river cruise offerings from A-Rosa cruises.

Operating from new offices in Brisbane, Imagine Cruising is based in the UK and is also present in South Africa.

The business was purchased by Emirates Group business dnata about 18 months ago (**CW** 12 Mar 15) and since then has undergone significant expansion including

**IMAGINE  
CRUISING**  
*Part of the Emirates Group*

the establishment of offices in Dubai and now Australia.

In Brisbane, the call centre is open seven days a week

and offers fly-cruise deals across the globe.

Imagine Cruising also offers "The Collection," a curated selection of holidays which include cruises with business class flights, transfers, pre- and post-cruise hotel stays as well as luxury train journeys.

The company is an AFTA member and is also ATAS accredited.

Other operations in the Emirates dnata Travel group include the UK-based Stella Travel Services and Travel Republic as well as investments in TMC Hogg Robinson, call centre operator Mindpearl Group and Asian inbound DMC Destination Asia.

## RCI & Celebrity fares

**ROYAL** Caribbean and Celebrity Cruises' new fare structure (**CW** breaking news) will see service charges for stateroom attendants and dining room staff included in the fare.

Discretionary purchases such as bar, spa and in-room dining will continue to attract an on board service charge.

Guests will see no change to the published cruise price.

**MEANWHILE**, *Ovation of the Seas* arrived in Perth today at 8am, at Fremantle Pax Terminal.

## Princess ship tours

**A NEW** online booking system for agents to register for ship tours has been introduced by Princess Cruises.

Agents can now signal their interest to tour any one of Princess' five local ships at any port in Australia or New Zealand via the One Source website.

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ENTICING CRUISE SPECIALS ON A VARIETY OF SELECTED SAILINGS

## Princess oil penalty

**PRINCESS** Cruises will pay the largest-ever criminal penalty for deliberate vessel pollution, the US Dept of Justice has revealed.

The cruise line has agreed to plead guilty to seven felony charges from "its deliberate pollution of the seas and intentional acts to cover it up", and pay a US\$40m penalty, the Department said.

Investigations began after a newly-hired engineer on *Caribbean Princess* reported a so-called "magic pipe" had been used on 23 Aug 2013, to illegally discharge oily waste off the coast of England, after which senior staff ordered a cover-up.

According to court papers, the *Caribbean Princess* had been making illegal discharges through bypass equipment since 2005.

Under the agreement, eight Carnival Corp brands will be under a court supervised Environmental Compliance Program for five years.

## Europa 2 2018/19 brox

**EUROPA 2** will return to Australian waters for three cruises during her 2018/19 season, a new brochure reveals.

In Jan the vessel will sail from Bali to Noumea, stopping by Darwin, Cairns, Hamilton Island and Brisbane, and in Mar will venture from Auckland to Sydney, followed by a sailing to Bali.

## Cunard wine courses

**CRUISE** passengers have long boarded cruise ships to indulge in their love of wine, but soon they will also be able to get certified.

Cunard has teamed up with the Wine & Spirit Education Trust (WSET) to offer certified wine and spirit courses.

They will initially be available on *Queen Mary 2*'s westbound Transatlantic crossings from 15 Dec and world voyages from 10 Jan and are expected to be available on *Queen Victoria* and *Queen Elizabeth* later in 2017.

# IPART's cruise report in

**THE** Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has slashed \$8,075 off its recommended maximum site occupational charges in 2016/17 for Sydney's Overseas Passenger Terminal (OPT).

In its *Maximum fees and charges for cruise ships Final Report*, IPART recommends \$72,300 be charged per call/visit to the OPT, a scale back from its \$80,375 fee per visit suggestion in its draft (**CW** 26 Jul).

A call into the White Bay Cruise Terminal could set a cruise line back \$31.10 per passenger, down from the previously flagged \$32.60 per pax, while White Bay 4 is slated to cost \$15.60 per passenger, 70c less than suggested in the draft.

IPART has put its decrease down to a higher forecast demand at OPT and White Bay after submissions noted that forecasts in the draft report were well below levels in the Port Authority's booking schedule, along with a slightly lower return on the Port Authority's cruise terminal assets and reduced inflation forecasts.

Based on scheduled visits, IPART maintains that major cruise ship operators in Sydney would save between \$1-3.5m in site

occupation costs in 2017/18, relative to the Port Authority's proposed charges.

"This is because higher charges faced by some ships at OPT are largely offset by lower charges at White Bay," the report said.

The Tribunal chose a per passenger fee for White Bay as it believed the alternative would likely deter some ships from calling in at White Bay in the short-term.

IPART highlighted the possibility of shortening turnarounds and 'double stacking' to improve utilisation at OPT and "potentially delay the need for another passenger terminal", suggesting the Port Authority negotiate a discount with operators when an evening slot could improve terminal utilisation.

The report noted the plan was met by "strong resistance" from cruise operators, with Carnival Australia stating that "it did not believe that evening slots were practically feasible and would not contemplate testing or implementing such a measure" and Royal Caribbean rejecting the notion for large cruise ships.

IPART conceded the plan "is unlikely to increase capacity at OPT by a substantial amount in the short-term".



**Royal Caribbean INTERNATIONAL**

**BEST NEW SHIP Ovation OF THE SEAS 2016**  
Cruise Critic Australia Editors' Picks Awards

# SUPERCRUISING

has arrived in Perth on Ovation of the Seas

**ONLY ON ROYAL CARIBBEAN**

The newest, biggest and most technologically advanced cruise ship, Ovation of the Seas, has made history today with her maiden Australian arrival into Fremantle Port. Only 2 weeks to go until she arrives to her homeport in Sydney.

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**ROYAL** Caribbean's *Ovation of the Seas* and sister ships, *Quantum of the Seas* and *Anthem of the Seas* have claimed the Guinness World Record for the highest viewing deck on a cruise ship.

"While the views from the top decks of most cruise ships are spectacular they only go so far," said Adam Armstrong, managing director, Royal Caribbean Australia & NZ.

"On *Ovation of the Seas*, guests can experience the North Star, a viewing capsule that gently rises 90 metres above the sea, giving spectacular 360 degree views."

*Ovation of the Seas* will arrive in her new Sydney homeport on 15 Dec.

## Carnival family sale

**THE** third and fourth occupants in a room will cruise for free on select departures under Carnival's family friendly sale until 12 Dec.

Discounted sailings from Sydney in 2017 include the three-night Weekend Sampler departing 24 Feb and priced from \$1,098 for a family of four - a saving of more than \$1,000.

An eight-night 09 May New Caledonia cruise is available for \$1,998 for a family of four, a discount of almost \$2,000.

## A&K agent freebie

**AGENTS** who book a group of five or more double cabins on select Abercrombie & Kent Antarctica 2017/18 sailings will receive a complimentary cabin on that departure.

The offer applies to Classic Antarctica 27 Dec 2017 and Antarctica, South Georgia & the Falkland Islands 12 Dec 2017 sailings - call 1300 551 541.

## Seabourn Sydney celebrate



**THE** Seabourn Sydney office raised their glasses last week to celebrate the handover of *Seabourn Encore*.

Members of the sales, marketing and call centre team enjoyed a glass of Nicolas Feuillatte, the house champagne served across the Seabourn fleet, to mark the delivery of the vessel from Fincantieri shipyard in Marghera, Italy.

Members of the local Seabourn team are **pictured**: Evan Fitzgerald, Dianna Fatseas, James Beauchamp, Carl Sagstad, Simone DePasquale, Diana Baker, Catherine Rynd, Jennifer Compton, Becci Cranston, Tony Archbold and Brooke Hamwood.

*Encore* will sail for Australia after her christening on 07 Jan.

## Evergreen Tours brox

**EVERGREEN** Tours has launched a new 2017 European Waterways Revisited brochure aimed at second time cruisers.

The 66-pager features new France and Portugal river combinations, and sailings in Eastern Europe beyond Budapest.

**CLICK HERE** to view the brox.

## Lindblad ship in early

**LINDBLAD** Expeditions has put its new ship, *National Geographic Endeavour II* into service one month early.

The ship received a traditional blessing in Guayaquil, Ecuador, hosted by Lindblad ceo Sven Lindblad before embarking on its maiden voyage on 03 Dec.

## INTRODUCING SEABOURN'S NEWEST ULTRA-LUXURY VESSEL, SEABOURN ENCORE.

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issue of *travelBulletin*.

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## Free at Sea extended

**NORWEGIAN** Cruise Line's Free at Sea promotion has been extended for all bookings made by 05 Feb.

Free at Sea entitles guests to enjoy up to five complimentary offers, depending on the accommodation booked.



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

SYDNEY	
<i>Carnival Legend</i>	06 Dec
<i>Noordam</i>	06 Dec
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	08 Dec
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	08 Dec
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	10 Dec
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	10 Dec
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	11 Dec
<i>Emerald Princess</i>	12 Dec

MELBOURNE	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	09 Dec
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	12 Dec

BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	09 Dec
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	10 Dec
<i>Sea Princess</i>	11 Dec

FREMANTLE	
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	06 Dec
<i>Astor</i>	09 Dec
<i>The World</i>	12 Dec

ALBANY	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	06 Dec

ADELAIDE	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	06 Dec
<i>Sun Princess</i>	10 Dec
<i>Ovation of the Seas</i>	11 Dec

AUCKLAND	
<i>Golden Princess</i>	08 Dec
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	09 Dec

## Sth Coast agents band together



**HELLOWORLD** Corrimal and Figtree have taken out \$5,000 cash in Scenic's 2016 agent marketing competition.

Both stores worked together to create a campaign for their Canada, *Scenic Eclipse*, Asia & Europe river cruising info sessions.

The multi-channel campaign included local press advertising, in-store promotions, a letterbox drop, a sponsored ad on Facebook, eDMs and more.

The comp was run to celebrate the 2017 Europe River Cruising & Sth East Asia River cruising season.

Team helloworld Corrimal are **pictured** above and helloworld Figtree are inset.



## MSC Bellissima cut

**CONSTRUCTION** has officially begun on MSC Cruises' *MSC Bellissima*, marked by a traditional steel cutting ceremony in Saint Nazaire, France last week.

The second of the Meraviglia generation of ships, *MSC Bellissima* is due to commence service in 2019 and is part of a €9 billion investment which will see the line's capacity treble over the next ten years.

Another new ship from the line, *MSC Seaside*, was floated out of a shipyard in Italy late last month.

## Do you need a Manager/ Senior Cruise Specialist?

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Please email me for my current resume and/or skype interview. I require a nomination 187 visa.  
(Currently from the UK in Australia on a 457 visa).

**Email: sheenatunn@gmail.com**

## Voyages speaker

**JOURNALIST** and BBC newsreader Michael Buerk will be one of three expert speakers on board Voyages to Antiquity's Seville, Morocco & Canary Islands departure on 09 Nov 2017.

Guests will be able to sit in on "an audience with Michael Buerk" evening, during which Buerk will discuss world events and his thoughts on the historical issues affecting the modern world.

Buerk will be joined by space volcanologist Peter Cattermole and BBC broadcaster Ernest Rea.



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