

CRUISE



WEEKLY



Thursday 11 Feb 2016

Silversea exclusive

SILVERSEA is offering agent rates on the first Kimberley voyage for 2016 exclusively to readers of **Cruise Weekly** and sister publication, **Travel Daily**.

Departing Darwin aboard *Silver Discoverer* on 28 Mar, the 10-day trip spends five days exploring the Kimberley Coast, also stopping in at Jaco Island and Wyndham.

For rates, call 1300 306 872.

HAL pegs growth in Aus

WHILE the Australian market is strong for Holland America Line, any decision on permanently basing a ship in Australia would be determined by the market, HAL president Orlando Ashford told media on Tue.

"We're increasing capacity and as the market can handle that and if it can handle more, we'll do that," Ashford said.

This season saw *ms Noordam* debut in Australia (**CW** 23 Jun) and in Oct, *ms Maasdam* will be swapped out for *ms Volendam*, with the vessel cruising Australian waters for the first time.

Ms Maasdam will be based in Australia for nearly two months longer than *ms Volendam* previously, adding capacity.

Ashford said one of the challenges the cruise line faces is the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

"We're kind of constrained. Wouldn't it be great to bring the *Koningsdam* here but we couldn't do it, we can't get it under the bridge, so there is an infrastructure challenge that we'll have to manage but if there's a

need, we'll work to figure it out."

HAL has plans for new ports-of-call in Australian waters, but Ashford wasn't ready to give away any secrets.

The smaller size of the cruise line's vessels comes with a "different flexibility", allowing them to stop in at smaller, more remote ports.

"Our guests are travellers, they like to touch, feel and taste destinations and locations and so there's some big key places that people want to go to, like Sydney...and there's some other places that are maybe more remote and are new opportunities," Ashford said.

For more, see **page three**.

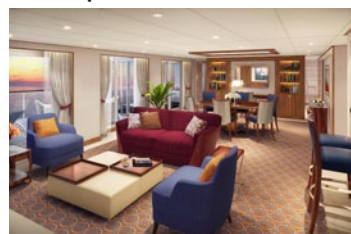
Encore's suite unveil

SEABOURN has revealed details on the two Grand Wintergarden Suites on *Seabourn Encore*.

The suites will include a private glassed-in Solarium with a soaking tub and day bed and a 23m² veranda.

Each 144m² suite will feature large windows, two bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms, two private verandas, dining for six, a convertible sofa-bed, a pantry with wet bar and espresso machine & three flat-screen TVs.

A rendering of the Wintergarden suite is **pictured below**.



Princess' new show

A NEW production for Princess Cruises' *Emerald Princess*, 'Magic to Do' will debut on the ship when she arrives for her maiden season in Australia in Nov.

The musical is the first of four set to debut across the fleet created by three-time Oscar winner Stephen Schwartz.

'Magic to Do' features Schwartz' most well-known songs, such as Magic to Do from *Pippin* and Defying Gravity from *Wicked*.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news and photos plus a full page of jobs from **AA Appointments**.

Anthem investigation

US SENATOR Bill Nelson has called for the US National Transportation Safety Board to investigate why *Anthem of the Seas* sailed into the storm last weekend (**CW** 09 Feb).

"The thing about this storm was that it was forecast for days. So why in the world would a cruise ship with thousands of passengers go sailing right into it?" Nelson said Mon on the Senate floor.

Royal Caribbean broadcast an interview with the ship master Claus Andre Andersen to all the staterooms on the RCTV internal channel the day after the storm.

Andersen assured guests of his experience and said the storm was not forecast.

He said they were expecting a "very durable" 4-5m of seas and 90km/h winds - not the 9m and 296km/h experienced.

"I'm telling you it's a weird storm that we experienced, but the ship handled it very well."

Tempo Greek deals

TEMPO Holidays is offering a 20% discount on four Greek cruises, bookable until 31 Mar.

Discounted cruises are: Aegean Odyssey, Classical Greece, Colours of the Aegean and Jewels of the Cyclades, with prices starting at \$2,320 per person.

Email res@tempoholidays.com.

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Layne's Legend fundraiser



SEVEN-TIME world surfing champion Layne Beachley challenged guests to "Beat the Beachley" at a FUNdraiser for The Layne Beachley Foundation on board *Carnival Legend* recently.

Guests set out to beat Beachley's times for basketball, putt-putt golf and sliding down water slides.

This was followed by a special Dr Seuss at Sea lunch where the competition winners were announced.

She also revealed the Aim For The Stars scholarship programs would be doubled.

Pictured from left: Cat in the Hat, Thing 2, Layne Beachley, Sam I Am, Thing 1.

AIDAcara makeover

AIDA'S AIDAcara has returned from dry dock with refurbished staterooms, a newly designed Pool Bar and Calypso Bar.

The Anytime Bar has been enhanced and updated, new carpet has been laid in public areas and the ship has been repainted.

MEANWHILE, AIDA has updated its app to include a live feed from on board the ships.

Silversea 2017 trips

SILVERSEA Cruises has released its 2017 voyage calendars, with 100 new destinations, 246 itineraries and the addition of *Silver Muse*.

Highlights include the 116-day World Cruise to Monte Carlo, which visits 62 destinations.

There are two Grand Voyages exploring South America, one departing in Jan aboard *Silver Spirit* and the other in Oct 2017 on *Silver Muse*.

Murray Xmas in Jul

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises' *PS Murray Princess* will celebrate Christmas in Jul on all three-, four- and seven-night Murray River cruises between 08 Jul-29 Jul this year.

See murrayprincess.com.au.

Island Escape drinks

FULL bar services are now inclusive on Island Escape Cruises' Tahitian Affair Cruises.

Also included is all meals, up to four excursions and use of all water sports equipment.

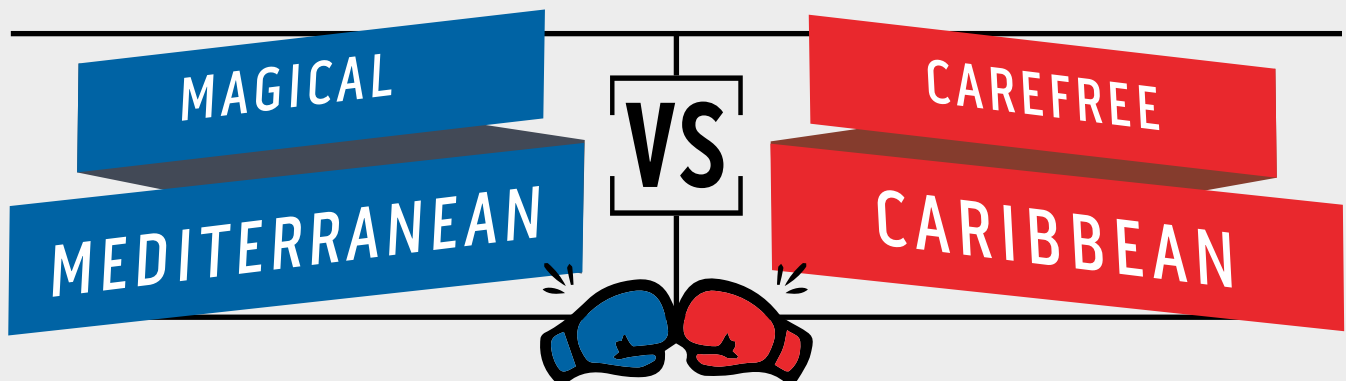
Grand Circle Cruises

GRAND Circle Cruise Line has announced the newly-acquired 89-passenger *M/V Clio* will begin cruising this summer following a \$5m refit in May.

Itineraries include the 15-day Coastal Charms of England, Wales, Ireland & Scotland and 14-day Voyage to Iberia: Lisbon to Barcelona.



CRUISE SHOWDOWN



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Ends 11:59pm AEDST 28/2/16. Click here for entry instructions and T&Cs. Permits: NSW LTPS/15/08652, ACT TP15/08055, SAT15/1983

A&K polar special

ABERCROMBIE and Kent is offering a discount of up to \$8,449 per cabin on 2016/17 Polar Cruises booked by 31 Mar. Discounted cruises include the Iceland & Greenland: In the Wake of the Vikings.

On Sat 20th Feb, CLIA will host the 15th annual cruise industry awards. There really is nothing like an awards night where achievements from the previous year are recognised.

With the cruise industry awards, the night is all about the cruise lines recognising support from the retail trade and media.

There are a number of categories including the best cruise promotion by an agency, the best cruise promotion by a network, the cruise industries rising star, consultant of the year and agency of the year, presented as a Gold, Silver and Bronze winners.

Also recognised are the media who play a part in promoting the cruise segment through the many articles that are published week after week in newspapers and magazines throughout Australia and NZ.

Finally there is always one individual who over the years has made a significant contribution to cruising that is inducted into the CLIA Hall of Fame. This award aims to recognise an outstanding contribution to the cruise industry by an individual.

This year's event will see 500 guests dressed in their finest & those who are lucky enough to be in possession of a ticket are going to be treated to a performance from one of Australia's most talented artists, thanks to a joint sponsorship effort from Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and World's Leading Cruise Lines. Good luck to all the finalists!



OCEAN-LOVERS rejoice!

An engineering company in New Zealand has created a 450-tonne underwater restaurant, *Stuff.co.nz* is reporting.

The 18m x 5m structure was built for a resort in the Maldives in the Indian Ocean and will sit on the side of a coral reef, with one side facing the reef and the other looking out to sea.

Food won't be prepared underwater, but will instead be carried from the shore and sent down to the restaurant using a dumbwaiter lift.

It will be accessed by diners via a spiral staircase from a hut above the water.

Coral is being grown on concrete slabs and will be mounted on the structure to attract fish.

The roof, sides and end wall of the restaurant will give diners underwater views.

The structure is pictured below.



HAL'S redelivered product



HOLLAND America Line (HAL) president Orlando Ashford keyed in media on the cruise line's direction at a dinner on Tue night.

Ashford said HAL has focused on taking "the things that we've historically done, which is music, wine, food and redeliver them in a way that's modern and classic at the same time".

The cruise line is in the midst of a US\$300 million brand enhancement and *ms Koningsdam* is set to debut in Apr.

The new vessel will showcase a number of initiatives which will be rolled out across the fleet.

A winemaking class, BLEND will be first introduced on *ms Koningsdam*, which includes a 30 minute education class with a sommelier on how to mix wine.

Guests then try their hand at

wine blending and will have their bottle, complete with a custom label delivered to them at dinner that night.

ms Koningsdam will also feature a multistory 270-degree LED screen in The World Stage, dedicated space for single travellers and dedicated space for families - which sold quickly - and upgraded accommodation.

"The rooms and the look and feel is that mix of some of the classic traditions that our guests would expect but creating room for a new and modern feel to some of those things at the same time," Ashford said.

Holland America Line president Orlando Ashford is pictured (right) with chef and owner of Marque Restaurant & member of HAL's culinary council, Mark Best.



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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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