

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Thursday 18 Feb 2016

Coral Exp into Asia

CORAL Expeditions is venturing into untapped regions of Asia, with the launch of their inaugural Asia 2016/17 program.

The seven itineraries focus on areas which are otherwise “very difficult” to get to by land, Coral Expeditions general manager Mark Fifield told *Cruise Weekly*.

“There’s only been a couple of smaller ships that have come through the area and a lot of that’s been through more of a relocation exercise whereas we’ve got the ability to have the ship stationed there for the six month period,” Fifield said.

Out of the stops in Southeast Asia, 80% are unique, new stops for the company as they look for ways to venture away from mainstream areas, he added.

“People are just looking for a different, more cultural experience and an experience that isn’t just run-of-the-mill,” Fifield said.

CLIA Aus Masters on Eden

CLIA Australasia has revealed its 2016 Masters Conference will be held on board *Pacific Eden* en route to Papua New Guinea.

The conference will kick off in Cairns on 14 Oct, with one night pre-cruise accommodation before jumping aboard *Pacific Eden*.

During the seven-night cruise, *Eden* will stop in at Alotau, Kitava, Kiriwina and the new cruise destination, the Conflict Islands.

CLIA Australasia commercial director Brett Jardine said he expected the cruise to PNG to be very popular.

“The combination of P&O’s latest ship *Pacific Eden* and Papua New Guinea, which is shaping up to be the next hot spot for Aussie cruisers, should make this year’s Masters particularly memorable,” Jardine said.

The conference combines intensive training sessions with a

first-hand cruise experience and will be led by US-based sales guru and motivator Scott Koepf.

Sessions will focus on how the cruise industry is evolving and how consultants from all demographics can take advantage of the segment.

After completing the course and a post-conference assignment, agents will be endorsed as a Master Cruise Consultant by CLIA.

The conference is open to all consultants who hold CLIA Ambassador level accreditation and are employed by a CLIA member travel agent.

Participation fees cost \$1,895pp twin share or \$2,435pp for singles, for more - www.cruising.org.au.

Cruise Weekly today

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

New APT & TM ships

BOTH APT and Travelmarvel have released photos of their new Myanmar vessels, which have sailed on their maiden voyages from Yangon to Mandalay.

Guests aboard APT’s 30-suite *RV Samatha* made use of the sundeck with swimming pool, day spa, air conditioned main lounge and bar, observation deck and two restaurants.

Meanwhile Travelmarvel’s *RV Princess Panhwar* showed off its 36 staterooms and suites, air-conditioned lounge area on the sun deck, a main restaurant, and a spa and massage facility.

RV Samatha’s bar is **pictured** below, with more on **Facebook**.



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Jill Abel - CEO

ACA Update



ACA to Florida

I AM excited that a thirteen member delegation from the Association will attend Seatrade Cruise Global in mid-Mar, reflecting the continued emphasis on promoting the outstanding experiences, destinations and itineraries on offer in our diverse and breathtaking region.

The group, including our chairman Stephen Bradford, myself and numerous representatives from the various State Tourism Organisations, Port Authorities and operators will head to this key international event, cementing our commitment to working with the cruise lines to deliver a world class base and destination for cruise vessels.

This is a great opportunity for ACA to showcase our new brand and broad membership at a time when all indicators are pointing to a continued uptick including the number of visiting ships, passengers and expenditure. We are looking forward to having discussions with our cruise line partners around those areas where we see strong growth opportunities including port infrastructure developments, homeporting, regional anchorages, increased overnight stays and late night departures. These initiatives benefit cruise pax as they have the chance to attend exciting local events and immerse themselves more fully in a destination while also providing strong economic benefits for the tourism industry overall.

We will also use Seatrade to gather content for programming for our 20th anniversary conference to be held in Sydney in Sep, 2016.

Ecruising launches 33°

ECRUSING has announced the launch of its latest venture, the "experiential luxury cruising company", 33 Degrees.

Founder and owner of ecruising and 33 Degrees, Brett Dudley said he created the company to cater for a growing demand for "exclusive itineraries".

"Ecruising's cruise tours grew at such a speed that it was necessary to create a company dedicated to these immersive high-end packages," he told more than 70 trade, media and loyalty club members gathered at a cocktail party at Balmoral Bather's Pavilion last night.

Dudley has built a team of "handpicked travel professionals" to offer a "concierge style of service to 33 degrees customers".

Royal Caribbean deal

TO CELEBRATE reaching 200,000 Facebook likes, Royal Caribbean International is offering fans a \$200 discount per stateroom on local 2016/17 sailings of five nights or longer booked before 26 Feb.

The new tours will see luxury ships chartered exclusively for guests of the travel company as well as jets and the private use of small, luxury resorts.

Dudley also announced two 'Director's Selection tours' which he will host himself.

The first of these tours is the 32-night "Seven Wonders of Africa" departing Jan 2017.

It includes private charter of planes and the Rovis Rail train, finishing off with a 16-night cruise from Cape Town back to Australia on board RMS *Queen Mary 2*.

The second Director's tour will be the 13-night "Kimberley Voyage of Discovery" dep late Mar 2017 with charter of *True North*.

See www.33degrees.travel.

TTC Cruise Promos

UNIWORLD and Adventure World have launched two new cruise promotions.

Fly Business class to Europe for just \$3,999 with Qatar Airways when combined with a Uniworld river cruise of 13+ days.

Prices inc J class air for a 15 day European Jewels cruise start from \$13,549pp, book by 28 Feb.

Save up to \$1,448 pp on Adventure World's six-day Antarctica Express Air-Cruise when booked before 31 Mar.

Priced from \$6,651 pp.

Seadream 2017 prog

NEW itineraries and ports of call are just some of the developments in the 2017 program of cruises by Seadream Yacht Club throughout the Mediterranean and Caribbean.

There are now 80 holiday options stopping off along the Amalfi Coast, the Aegean, the Greek Islands, the Balearic Islands, the Adriatic Sea, Saba, Culebrita, Vieques in Puerto Rico, St Barts, Barbados, the French West Indies, the Grenadines and the US Virgin Islands.

See the brochure [HERE](#).

Cook my catch debut

PRINCESS Cruises has launched a new culinary experience, Cook My Catch, during port of calls in Juneau and Ketchikan, Alaska.

Upon returning from select fishing shore excursions, guests can choose their preferred preparation and accompaniments for their catch, to be served up by the culinary team.

Uniworld gm departs

UNIWORLD Boutique River Cruise Collection general manager of Australia for eight years, John Molinaro will step down at the end of the month.

Molinaro said "after eight successful years at the helm of Uniworld, I plan to place a greater emphasis on personal life."

A successor will be announced shortly.



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A NATURE photographer based in Byron Bay has given Kim Kardashian a run for her money with his selfie with a pair of humpback whales (pictured).

On a whale-watching trip with his father, Craig Parry dove in to swim with the 40 tonne mammals.

It's not the first time Parry has photographed whales, recently swimming with them in Tonga.



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