

# CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 05 Jul 2016

## Cruise Weekly today

*Cruise Weekly* today features four pages of all the latest cruise industry news and photos plus a full page from *Travel Industry Expo*.

## Black Watch fire

**FRED.** Olsen Cruise Lines has warned of "significant disruptions to guests" following a fire in the Auxiliary Engine Room on *Black Watch* on Fri.

The fire was extinguished by crew but caused cabling damage on board the ship, which has prevented the other two main engines from running.

Guests have been flown home from Funchal, Madeira on three private charter jets.

The whole cruise fare and out-of-pocket expenses have been refunded to the 696 guests, who will also receive a future cruise voucher of up to 50% of the fare paid for this cruise.

## Norwegian's Aussie site

**IN A** further investment in the Aussie market, Norwegian Cruise Line has launched a new Australian website.

The site displays fares in Australian dollars, has a mobile-optimised design and a new 'Find a Holiday' search tool, which allows users to search by destination, dates, number of days, port of departure and ship.

An 'Advanced Search' has the additional options of specifying by stateroom type, number of guests, price per person and package or cruise-only.

Australia is one of the first markets to transition to NCL's new, globalised web platform, along with the US and Brazil.

Sailings on *Norwegian Jewel's* inaugural Australasian season from Oct 2017 went on sale online yesterday.

Itineraries, pricing and bookings for NCL's 2016/2017 worldwide

itineraries are also now available via the website.

The cruise line's agent portal, Norwegian Central has also been updated, featuring the latest brochures, images, videos and information.

View the revamped presence at [www.ncl.com.au](http://www.ncl.com.au), or access the tools in the agent portal, at [www.norwegiancentral.com](http://www.norwegiancentral.com).

## Seven Seas delivery

**SEVEN** *Seas Explorer* was delivered to Regent Seven Seas Cruises at Fincantieri's shipyard in Italy last week.

The vessel has approximately 55,200 gross tonnes, is 223 metres in length and is able to accommodate 750 passengers in 375 suites.

A sister ship has already been ordered, which will be delivered in 2020.

## ACA speakers named

**EDIE** Rodriguez, president and ceo of Crystal Cruises will give the keynote address at the 20th Australian Cruise Association conference, which will be held in Sydney 07-09 Sep.

Registration has opened for the conference, which will be Emceed by Andrew McEvoy, managing director of Life Media and Events at Fairfax and non-executive director at Sealink.

The conference will be themed "20 years - Our People, Our Passion, Our Success" and will focus on Destination Development.

Also at the podium will be Bruce Anderson, a founding Principal of Starcrest Consulting Group in Seattle and Fairfax journalist, Sally McMillan.

There will also be additional plenary and group workshop sessions exploring homeporting, benchmarking and the regulatory landscape, register **HERE**.

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## Lunchtime laughs with Carnival



**CARNIVAL** Cruise Line didn't pass up the opportunity to celebrate International Joke Day on Fri, hosting a group of media on board *Carnival Spirit* for an afternoon of laughter.

Punchliner comedians Simon Kennedy, Daniel Townes, Chris Wainhouse and George Kapiniaris (pictured from left) kept the

group in stitches in the ship's Punchliner Comedy Club.

After the show, the group trialed Guy's Burger Joint and Bluelguana Cantina.

Carnival presents around 25,000 comedy shows a year, with up to 20 performances on an average seven- to 10-day voyage and 25 ships in its fleet.

## Petite Crystal river yachts

**DETAILS** on Crystal River Cruises' four newbuild luxury river yachts have been revealed, with the vessels set to be significantly smaller than the recently redone *Crystal Mozart*.

While *Mozart* fits 158 guests, the newbuilds will hold as little as half the volume.

Sailing on the Rhine, Main and Danube Rivers, *Crystal Mahler* and *Crystal Bach* are "Rhine Class" yachts, at 135m long with 53 suites for 106 guests; while *Crystal Debussy* and *Crystal Ravel* will sail on the Seine, Garonne, Dordogne and Gironde Rivers and are "Paris Class" yachts, with a length of 110m and capacity of 78 guests in 39 suites.

Crystal ceo and president, Edie

Rodriguez said the yachts will create "a brand new niche in river cruising that will appeal to the world's most discerning travellers".

The new river yachts will offer all-suite accommodation as large as 70.5m<sup>2</sup>, all located entirely above the waterline and multiple eateries with open-seating dining, a full-service spa and separate fitness centre.

Each vessel will embark in spring and summer next year.

### New Costa tours

**TWO** new weekly shore tours in Naples from Costa ships to the Museo di Capodimonte picture gallery & the adjoining Bosco park will run until the end of 2017.

During the period, Costa Cruises has about 80 port calls scheduled in Naples, bringing a total of 210,000 transit cruisers.

The excursion The Treasures of Naples: Capodimonte and the treasure of San Gennaro will explore the art of the region while the Cycling in the Real Bosco di Capodimonte tour will lead guests on a 9km cycle tour inside the Real Bosco di Capodimonte grounds.

Both will end with local food and wine tastings.

### Silver Muse launched

**SILVER** *Muse* reached a milestone on Fri, launching at Fincantieri's shipyard in Genoa, Italy with a traditional coin ceremony to mark the event.

The ceremony was attended by the godmother of the ship, Costanza Lefebvre d'Ovidio, daughter of the Chairman of Silversea Cruises.

Interior fittings will now begin on the vessel, which is scheduled for delivery in Apr 2017.

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## Fincantieri inks JV

**FINCANTIERI** has teamed up with China's largest shipbuilding conglomerate, China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC), to design cruise ships specifically customised for the Chinese and Asian market, to be sold to Carnival Corporation.

The vessels will be built at one of CSSC's shipyards, the SWS facility and Fincantieri will provide consultancy services and supply certain key components, the shipbuilder said.

## Voyages appoints

**LONGTIME** manager of reservations and operations at UK Group All Leisure Holidays, Rhonda Suarez has made the jump to Voyages to Antiquity.

Suarez has taken up the role of general manager of North America and in her previous role looked after Voyages of Discovery, Swan Hellenic, Hebridean Island Cruises and Just You for more than 12 years.

## MSC Meraviglia video

**CIRQUE** du Soleil at Sea, panoramic views, a two-deck "inside promenade" and an amusement park are all showcased in a video exploring the upcoming *MSC Meraviglia*.

Launching on 04 Jun 2017, the ship will spend her inaugural summer season sailing the western Mediterranean, giving guests a taste of her 12 dining venues, ranging from Eataly, an American-style steakhouse and the Kaito Teppanyaki Restaurant. Watch the video [HERE](#).

## It's the Ship festival

**THE** line up for the world's 2nd largest EDM cruise festival, It's The Ship has been revealed, with artists including Knife Party, Peking Duk and Mashd N Kutcher.

Hosted by Hollywood mega-star David Hasslehoff, the four-day festival will see over 40 int'l and regional acts perform on *Mariner of the Seas* in Nov.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more.

## Agents salute Ovation



**A WHOPPING** 100 Aussie and Kiwi agents, together with the Royal Caribbean sales team jumped aboard *Ovation of the Seas* for her naming ceremony, sailing from Tianjin, China.

Ahead of her arrival in Australia on 15 Dec, participants tried out the bumper cars at SeaPlex, met the famous penguins from DreamWorks' *Madagascar*, soared to new heights in North Star and dined at many of the 18 restaurants available on board.

**Pictured** from left are Lara Newell, helloworld Hunter Travel Group; Louise Dann, helloworld Hunter Travel Group; Megan O'Sullivan, itravel The Junction and Amy Ryan, Royal Caribbean.

## Genting Dream events

**DREAM** Cruises has released its event highlights until Apr 2017 on *Genting Dream* with special guests including National Geographic photographers, authors and fashion stylists.

On 13 Nov, Michael Yamashita from National Geographic will host *Explore at Sea: The Silk Road*, while on 22 Jan author Liggy Webb will join for *Life Skills: Resilience & Emotional Intelligence* followed by a visit from Fashion Stylist Noni Ware on 02 Apr, who will host *Style at Sea: Dress Your Dreams*.

For more information, see [dreamcruiseline.com](http://dreamcruiseline.com).

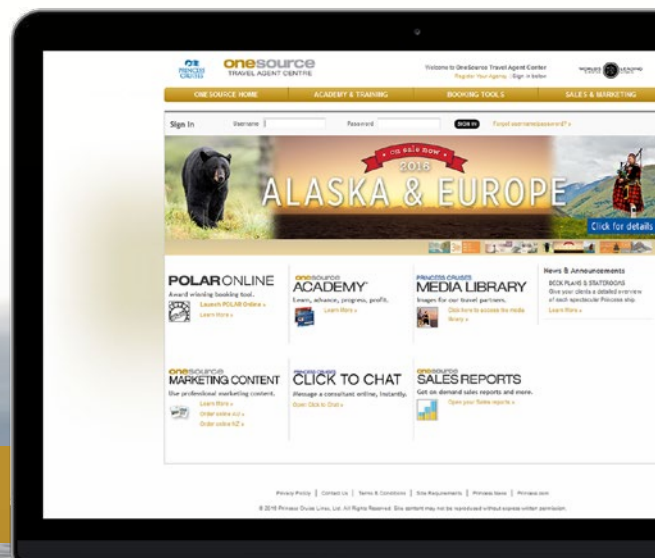
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## Lines rethink Istanbul

**CUNARD** has followed suit and cancelled calls into Istanbul following the bombing at Atatürk Airport (**CW** Thu).

Planned itineraries on *Queen Victoria* in Jul and Aug have swapped out calls to Istanbul with Thessaloniki plus a call to Volos.

Princess Cruises has also cancelled its 07 Jul transit call of *Royal Princess* to the Turkish city, while the cruise line said the smaller Turkish transit ports such as Kusadasi will remain on the schedule "for the present time".

Further calls will be evaluated by Princess "over the next couple of weeks".

Last week Celebrity Cruises, Windstar and Seabourn modified or cancelled calls.

## Indonesia shows off its islands



**THIS** group of Micro-Cruising agents sailed into untouched Indonesian islands just hours from Bali on an Indonesian Island Sail famil recently.

They visited the popular three North Gilis Islands on *Al Likai*, a traditional Pinisi wooden sailing ship built by the Buginese people.

Over 20 turtles were sighted in one snorkel off Gili Meno.

Continuing on, the agents sailed just two hours South to explore 14 deserted islands with amazing beaches and coral.

The group are **pictured** above celebrating the famil.

## Collette river cruising

**COLLETTE** has released its 2017/18 River Cruising brochure, which focuses on Europe, but also includes an itinerary in China and one in Egypt.

A highlight is the 10-day Classic Danube, which incorporates a seven-night river Cruise with three days of land touring.

The eight-day Christmas on the Danube includes a six-night voyage and the option to add on a two-night stay in Prague.

Each river cruise has at least two tour managers on board.

View the program online **HERE**.

## Anthem turns around

**LAST** week *Anthem of the Seas* returned to its homeport of Bayonne, New Jersey after an eight-year-old nearly drowned in one of the ship's pools.

Royal Caribbean said the boy had an accident and needed medical attention.

The lad is being treated at the hospital and Royal Caribbean's Care Team is providing support to his family.

## Cruise Calendar

This week's port calls of cruise ships at various destinations around Australia.		
SYDNEY		
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	07 Jul	
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	09 Jul	
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	11 Jul	
DARWIN		
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	07 Jul	
BRISBANE		
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	09 Jul	
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	09 Jul	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	10 Jul	
CAIRNS		
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	06 Jul	
FREMANTLE		
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	05 Jul	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	10 Jul	
GERALDTON		
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	11 Jul	

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