CRUISE WEEKLY

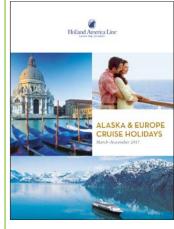
Thursday 14 Jul 2016

Cruise Weekly today

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



Holland America Line Alaska & Europe 2017



HOLLAND America Line's new Alaska & Europe sailing schedule for May 2017 to Apr 2018 marks the 70th year HAL has sailed to Alaska.

Six Holland American vessels will sail through the Inside Passage, with the company claiming to offer more Glacier Bay National Park visits than any other cruise line.

Itineraries include a choice of seven or 14-night cruises, along with a range of Land+Sea Journeys combining a cruise with a visit to the Yukon and Denali by rail and coach.

Seven HAL vessels will sail in Europe and the Mediterranean, with itineraries ranging from the Baltic to Bordeaux, the Black Sea to Greenland and an increase in capacity to the British Isles.

Voyages range from 7 night sailings through to Collector's Voyages from 14 to 36 nights more info 1300 987 321.

ecruising.travel success

SYDNEY'S ecruising.travel cruise specialist travel agency has been highlighted across the globe as a "success case" by Tralliance, the US-based dot-travel internet domain registrar.

The blog at www.travel.travel showcases chairman Brett Dudley's support for the dottravel

domain ecruising.travel

since it was introduced in 2005. ".travel made perfect sense to me," he is quoted as saying.

"When the domain was released we were thinking of expanding globally," he said, with the ecruising.travel brand successfully established as a "global brand with no boundaries". Ecruising's adoption of the

NTIA anticipation

THE Australian cruise industry is waiting with bated breath for this Sat's National Travel Industry Awards, which will see recognition across the sector. The key cruise categories in

the awards include Best Cruise Operator - Domestic Deployment, Best Cruise Operator -International Deployment and Best River Cruise Operator.

Cruise specialist travel agencies are also finalists in other categories such as Best Travel Agency Retail - Single Location, Best Travel Agency Retail - Multi Location, Best Online Travel Agency and the new People's Choice: Retail Travel Agency of the Year category.

Full details of the winners in next week's issues of *Travel Daily* and *Cruise Weekly*.

MEANWHILE we have a 'Golden Tlcket' to attend the event up for grabs, with the lucky winner getting to sit at the Travel Daily/ Cruise Weekly table.

To enter, tell us in 25 words or less why you would like to come - send your entries asap to goldenticket@traveldaily.com.au. .travel domain extension saw its traffic increase dramatically, with the site now attracting its largest share of visitors from the US, the blog reports, adding: "Brett Dudley's entrepreneurial skills and innovative thinking have turned a small local travel agency into one of the most

> thriving cruise providers in the Pacific."

Dudley attributes some of the company's success to using .travel adding "in our 17 year history, .travel has been one of my best decisions".

The .travel domain features on all of ecruising's collateral, including Dudley's iconic VW Kombi van (**above**).

Celebrity Distinction

CELEBRITY Cruises is revamping its marketing message with the introduction of a new 'Celebrity Distinction' term which will be applied to a range of products and services.

Complementing the existing 'Modern Luxury' tagline, Celebrity Distinction aims to highlight ways in which the company is different to its competitors, such as more overnight stays, Signature Event Sailings to key global events, Private Journey shore excursions, upgrades to older vessels and recognition of the Michael's Club onboard concierges.

CEO Lisa Lutoff-Perlo said "The Celebrity Distinction is our commitment to continually offer fresh, enticing and uniquely differentiated travel experiences".

American Constellation on track

AMERICAN

Cruise Lines has floated out its latest vessel, the American Constellation, about nine weeks ahead of schedule. The ship is

being designed and built in Salisbury, Maryland and is now in the process of being fitted out in the lead-up to its official debut in early 2017. With capacity for 170 passengers, American

Constellation will operate a ten night Grand New England itinerary sailing round-trip from Boston, Massachusetts. Constellation will be the company's ninth vessel.



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Nieuw Statendam

THE first steel has been cut for Holland America Line's *Nieuw Statendam* which is due to be delivered in Nov 2018.

A formal steel-cutting ceremony took place earlier this week at Fincantieri's shipyard in Palermo, Sicily, Italy.

Holland America Group's exec vice president of fleet operations Keith Taylor said it was an exciting time for the line with the steel cutting a "milestone signifying our continued growth as a company and as a brand".

Little Skippers

FRED. Olsen Cruise Lines has launched the new kids club 'Little Skippers' across its fleet.

The club which is run by qualified carers allows children to engage in activities such as craft, treasure hunts, cooking and swimming classes.

An itinerary for the club will be released on board each day.

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Costa spices things up



COSTA Cruises has deployed five new Pepper robots on board *Diadema* as it sails on a seven night cruise in the Western Mediterranean.

The multi-lingual humanoids were first launched in 2014 in Tokyo, with Pepper claimed to be "the first robot in the world able to recognise human emotions and proactively interact with the surrounding environment".

Pepper can answer passenger questions, providing information such as on board services including bars and restaurants as well as destination guidance.



SCENIC opened its new Australian headquarters in Newcastle yesterday which will house the company's 206 staff that work across all facets of the business.

The five-storey office designed by EJE Architecture includes a ground floor exclusively for guests with a dedicated reception area, two consultation rooms and a large guest meeting room.

The new headquarters comes as Scenic outgrew its former Newcastle premises.

"We have handcrafted this building so it is built to last & cope with future expansion,"said Scenic Chairman, Glen Moroney. The move coincides with both Scenic's 30th anniversary and the appointment of new executive general manager David Cottee.

Cottee who comes with over 10 years of international business development experience will oversee the daily operations of the Australian business.

"Scenic is one of the most exciting companies to be working for right now," he said.

Pictured above is Scenic's ex coo who spearheaded the office build to its completion together with the mother and father of Scenic's chairman Glen Moroney - Lillian and Reg Moroney cutting the ribbon at the official opening.

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CRUISE

Windstar president

CRUISE veteran John Delaney has taken the helm at Windstar Cruises in his new role as president, effective 19 Jul.

Delaney comes from the role of senior vice president of global marketing & sales for Seabourn. Prior to that he held positions with The Walt Disney Company and Holland America Line.

CEO of Xanterra Parks & Resorts, parent company of Windstar Cruises Andrew N. Todd said they were pleased to welcome John onboard with guests "to expect a new era of exciting, wonderful and memorable vacation experiences", particularly with the line just welcoming back the renovated *Star Pride* ship.

Daddo on golf cruise

ANDREW Daddo has been announced as the emcee on board the The Golf Touring Company's 2018 Golf River Cruise sailing from Nuremberg on 10- 17 Jul 2018, CLICK HERE for more.

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Tempo early booking

TEMPO Holidays is offering an early booking bonus on its Portraits of the Douro sailing through Portugal and Spain. Book and pay in full before 31 Aug and receive a 10% discount with prices starting from \$1,530pp twin share.

Tempo's 'Portraits of the Andalucía' also includes an early bird 10% discount with prices starting from \$,1890 per person twin share.

See www.tempoholidays.com.

HAL appointment

HOLLAND America Line has announced the appointment of Jarvis Bowers to the newly created role of vice president, digital marketing.

To be based in Seattle, Bowers will report to senior vp global marketing & sales, Joe Slattery, with responsibility to lead the development of next-generation digital communications & analytics.

Seven Seas Explorer christening

THE world's most luxurious cruise ship Regent Seven Seas' Seven Seas Explorer was christened last night in Monaco with her godmother Serene Highness Princess Charlene of Monaco cutting

the red velvet ribbon.

"Tonight we celebrate the realisation of our vision; *Seven Seas Explorer* is not only the world's most luxurious ship - she sets a new benchmark for luxury vacations and lays the foundation from which Regent Seven Seas Cruises will continue to build," Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings





president and chief executive officer Frank Del Rio said.

At 55,254 gross-tonnes and carrying only 750 guests, the allsuite, all-balcony ship boasts one of the highest space ratios and lowest guest to crew ratios in the cruise industry.

The luxury liner's maiden voyage will take place on 20 Jul with her inaugural season in

> Europe before heading to Miami for a series of Caribbean voyages.

Pictured left are the regal staircases inside the new ship and **pictured** above is Princess Charlene celebrating with *Seven Seas Explorer's* Captain Stanislas Gerard Jean Mercier De Lacombe.

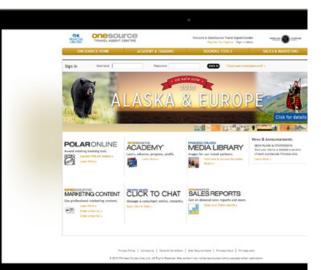
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Oceania in Cuba

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line Holdings is coming close to securing permission to sail in Cuba, according to the company's president and ceo Frank Del Rio.

Del Rio said during a news conference over the weekend that he was "literally waiting for the phone to ring to get the final approval from the Cuban government".

He expects the line's 684-passenger Oceania Regatta will sail in Cuba by the end of the year, and the 1,260-passenger Marina would start voyages there from next year.

Del Rio said Havana would be the feature port in the new itineraries.

"We want to use Havana as much as possible on anything in the broad Caribbean basin because we think it is a star attraction," Del Rio said.

If approved Norwegian would be the second major US line to sail to Cuba after Carnival Corp.

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APT releases special Christmas deals

APT is offering significant savings on board its festive European river cruises.

Book a full priced cabin before 31 Aug and receive the second cabin half price on the Magnificent Europe river cruise departing on 18 Nov, 02 Dec or 16 Dec.

Using the saving a group of four who book two cabins between them will pay from just \$7,271 per person, twin share.

APT is also waiving the solo supplement on the same three seasonal sailings, so single guests pay from just \$9,695pp.

Both offers apply to APT's 17day Magnificent Europe White Christmas and New Year's Eve which departs on 16 Dec sailing from Budapest to Amsterdam with a Christmas feast in Bamberg and a New Year's Eve dinner and celebration in Amsterdam. For further details call APT on

1300 196 420.

Ovation's new art collection

ROYAL Caribbean has unveiled *Ovation of the Seas*' all-new 11,000-piece, US\$4.5 million dollar art collection ahead of the ships maiden season Down Under from Dec.

Curated by London-based Peter Millard and Partners, the collection features contemporary pieces by artists from around the world.

Almost 20 percent of the collection featured onboard is from Australian artists, including Emma Hack, Rowena Martinich



and Joseph Marr. **Pictured** above is Emma Hack's Wallpaper



Cockatoos to feature in the ship's Music Hall, below Joseph Marr's piece Laura to star in the Solarium and above right Rowena Martinich's Paradiso sculpture which will also be positioned inside the Solarium.

CLICK HERE to view a video on the extensive art collection onboard.



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STAFF at Reef HQ Aquarium in Townsville, Queensland have been left in a state of disbelief this week after they discovered a double-headed prawn (pictured below).

The twin-headed crustacean was discovered in the frozen prawn packet while aquarist Laura Colton was getting ready to feed the fish their lunch.

At first she thought it was two prawns stuck together.

The aquarium posted a picture of the mutant prawn to their Facebook page HERE and it has attracted a lot of attention.

Scientists say the odds of seeing a two-head prawn is in the hundreds of millions.



Seabourn scents

SEABOURN and Molton Brown have launched a collection of fragrances designed exclusively for Seabourn passengers.

The scents are now available across Seabourn's three ships as complimentary bath amenities in guest suites.

The two new scents include an 'Immersive Samphire & Eucalyptus blend' and an 'Inspiring Basil & Vetiver' aroma.

The Seabourn Signature Scents will also be available for purchase in 2017.

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Celebrity Christmas

THOSE thinking of celebrating Christmas at sea can take advantage of Celebrity Cruises Christmas in July offer when booking before 31 Jul.

The deal includes a free Classic Beverage Package for two plus \$300 on board credit per stateroom when booking an Oceanview Stateroom on selected Christmas sailings.

Fares start from \$3,149pp for a 12-night Southeast Asian voyage on board Celebrity Millennium, departing Hong Kong on 21 Dec.

Uniworld savings

UNIWORLD is offering \$800 off per couple on an eight-day European Holiday Markets river cruise when booked and paid in full by 30 Sep.

The package with

accommodation in the riverview stateroom on board SS Maria Theresa is priced from \$4,594 per person twin share & includes all meals and unlimited beverages.

Excursions include the 'Taste of Christmas' program in Vienna. Available for travel on 01 Dec.

08 Dec and 15 Dec. For more information or to

book call 1300 780 231.

Learn all about Norwegian Jewel down under in the July issue of travelBulletin. **CLICK HERE to read** travelBulletin

Champagne cruises

EUROPEAN Waterways has revealed five new 'Champagne Cruises' in Champagne, France, next year on board its luxury hotel barge Panache.

The six-night itineraries are allinclusive and priced at \$7,350 per person, twin share.

The cruise takes guests along the River Marne through the heart of the Champagne region with excursions including a visit to La Maison Pannier, a renowned champagne house plus a tour of the village of Hautvillers, known as the 'cradle of Champagne'.

The 12 passenger ship has a crew of six including a guide and a gourmet chef.

For further information visit www.gobarging.com.

Lindblad Webinar

LINDBLAD Expeditions will present a webinar on Costa Rica and the Panama Canal on Wed, 20 Jul as 9AM AEST.

The session will be hosted by expedition Leader Cristian Moreno and will provide an in-depth look at what it's like to explore the region on board the line's 62-guest ship.

CLICK HERE to register for free.





Cruise₃60 Program

The official program for our 16th September Cruise₃60 conference has now been released and tickets to the event are still available for those keen to keep up with our booming segment.

The theme for this year's event is 'Navigating the Future' with panel sessions and presentations looking at the future impact of the cruise industry across Australasia and from a global perspective.

CLIA President and CEO Cindy D'Aoust will be making her first visit to Australia to give the opening State of the Industry' address in a program packed with high profile speakers.

In line with the theme, panellists from leading cruise lines will join social researcher and bestselling author Michael McQueen who will present a keynote speech on the "Battle for Relevance", addressing how cruise-focused agents can ensure future success by making the most of opportunities brought about by rapid change. Attendees will have the chance to meet with cruise line representatives and other significant industry suppliers at a business-oriented trade show throughout the day. Well-known radio and television host and leading business commentator Ross Greenwood will MC the event. For more information and to purchase your tickets, head to www.cruising.org.au.



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