

CRUISE



WEEKLY



Tuesday 26 Jul 2016

Cruise Weekly today

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

Carnival Build-a-Bear

BUILD-A-BEAR Workshop has partnered with Carnival Cruise Line to introduce pop-up workstations located within its ship's Camp Ocean facilities.

The ships' cruise directors will hold Build-A-Bear At Sea parties on each cruise, featuring bear-themed snacks & photo ops.

Workstations will be set up at designated times throughout each cruise and will allow guests to customise their bear or soft animal with outfits, accessories and a recorded "voice".

Carnival Dream will be the first to showcase the Build-A-Bear Workshop by Sea, which is expected to be available fleetwide by summer 2017.

Sydney docking charges

CRUISE ships calling into the Overseas Passenger Terminal (OPT) in Circular Quay may soon pay up to \$80,375 per 24-hour visit, a draft recommendation released by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) today has advised.

The report proposes the White Bay Cruise Terminal near Balmain would operate on a maximum per passenger charge of \$32.60, while lines docking at White Bay 4 would be charged \$16.30 per pax.

This differs to the Port Authority's proposal in 2016-17 of \$35 per passenger at OPT and WB5 (up from the current \$30 per passenger) and \$17.50 per passenger at WB4 (up from \$15).

IPART chairman Peter Boxall said the different pricing arrangements of each terminal "reflect our view that there are separate markets at these locations given the limitations

on large ships passing under the Sydney Harbour Bridge".

"We consider that a per call charge would be more cost-reflective for the larger ships that use OPT, while a per passenger charge would assist the Port Authority to increase utilisation for smaller ships at White Bay," Boxall added.

The report found the costs of providing site occupation at OPT does not vary substantially based on the ship size or number of passengers and the charge will allow the Port Authority to cover its costs for the terminal based on forecast demand.

It's estimated under IPART's proposal that 87% of larger ship visits to the OPT would pay less than or equal to the Port Authority's proposal.

IPART is seeking public comment until 30 Aug.

More on **page three**.

Jewel season on sale

PRICING has been released for *Norwegian Jewel's* inaugural Australasian season, which is now bookable online, through Norwegian Central or by phone.

Jewel's season will commence with a 39-night combination cruise from Vancouver on 03 Oct 2017 and will include a total of 15 sailings through to Mar 2018.

Also included are seven round-trips from Sydney exploring Southeast Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand.

"NCL is already a popular choice for Australians cruising Hawaii and Europe, and we expect Norwegian *Jewel's* inaugural local sailings will be well-received among Australian cruise passengers," said vice president of sales for NCL, Nicole Costantin.

Prices for *Jewel's* Tasmanian Sampler cruise leads in at AU\$1,147pp for an Inside Stateroom.

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Crystal Northwest

MARINE biologists and divers to climatologists and naturalists are just some of the 21 presenters who will be on board Crystal Cruises' first Northwest Passage voyage on 16 Aug.

The 32-day journey will venture from Seward, Alaska to New York on *Crystal Serenity*.

"Every aspect of this voyage and the route *Crystal Serenity* will travel holds historical and cultural significance, and understanding this significance while aboard this monumental journey will certainly heighten our guests' experience," said Edie Rodriguez, ceo and president of Crystal Cruises.

The mix of experts include Arctic marine mammal ecologist, Lois Harwood; marine biologist & naturalist, Linda Nicklin; polar bear specialist, Tom Smith; Expedition videographer, Kevin Freeny and archaeologist, Margaret Bertulli.

For more info, [CLICK HERE](#).

Pandaw new deps

NEW springtime Halong Bay and Red river departures have been added by Pandaw.

Now on sale, the 01 and 15 Apr 2017 Easter cruises are on the RV *Angkor Pandaw*.

A discount of 10% is available to bookings made by 31 Aug, and prices lead in from US\$2,925ppts.

MEANWHILE, Pandaw is also offering one free cabin when four are booked on its 10 & 17 Sep and 01 Oct departures of the seven-night Mandalay Pagan Packet cruise - [CLICK HERE](#).

Seadream wineries

SEADREAM Yacht Club will visit over 20 wineries in the Mediterranean during its 2017 wine voyages.

The trips include complimentary wine tastings on board and ashore, with calls to Allegrini Wines, Chateau de Cremat, Taittinger Champagne, Weingut Groebe Wines and more.

Di Pietro to Jump on Board MSC



MARIA Di Pietro from Jump on Board Travel was all smiles on Fri, celebrating her win of return flights with Etihad and a seven-night MSC Arabian Peninsula cruise on *MSC Fantasia*.

Di Pietro won the trip at MSC and Etihad's Melbourne function, which provided an update on Etihad's growing network and MSC Cruises 2017 brochure.

The cruise will depart Dubai and call into Abu Dhabi, Muscat, Khasab and Sir Bani Yas Island.

She is **pictured** above with Angelo Stoitsis, MSC Cruises business development executive and Amir Klicic, corporate sales manager, Etihad Airways.

Lindblad more deets

LINDBLAD'S sales and reservation staff in Australia, New Zealand and Asia affected by the appointment of Adventure World as the cruise line's General Sales Agent (**CW** Thu) have been offered employment by Adventure World.

A statement from the cruise line said "Lindblad is encouraging the individuals concerned to review the opportunity to continue working for the Lindblad brand, but obviously within a different operating structure".

The transfer will occur on 08 Aug & remaining functions will be based out of New York or Seattle.

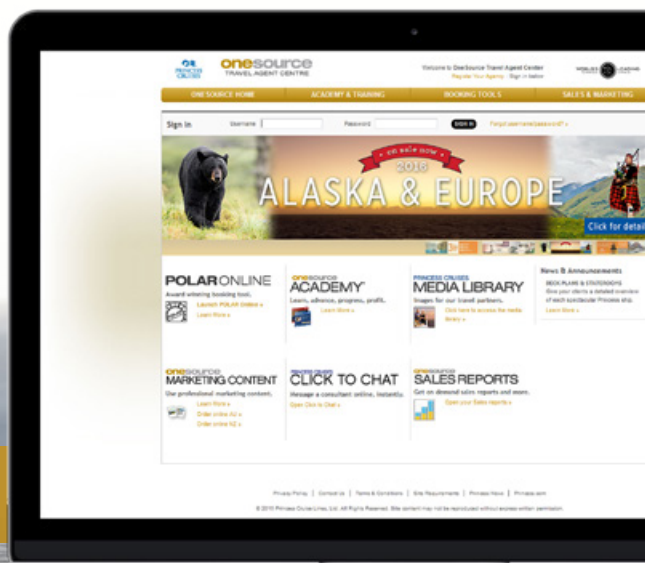
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Black Watch season

FRED.OLSEN Cruise Lines' *Black Watch* will shortly commence her 2016 Scottish cruise season, departing Rosyth on the Firth of Forth near Edinburgh on 20 Aug for a five-night sailing to the Norwegian Fjords.

The line will this year offer seven voyages homeported in Rosyth, one more than last year, with itineraries including a nine-night Taste of Iceland cruise, a 13-night Scandinavian Capitals & St Petersburg sailing and a 12-night Spain France & Portugal voyage, for more information, see fredolsencruises.com.

Traveltek addition

BLUE Lagoon Cruises can now be booked through Traveltek's live booking platform for agents and wholesalers.

The addition will allow agents to sell packaged and pre-packaged Fiji cruise holidays using their own flights, hotels and ancillaries.

Costa India details

COSTA neoClassica will homeport in Mumbai when the cruise line makes its entrance into the Indian market in Dec this year (CW 19 Jul).

Buhdy Bok, president of Costa Group Asia said "For many travellers, the holiday often starts after some sort of a long journey.

"Now like never before, Indians will have the opportunity to start holidaying - right from their doorstep - from India's largest metropolis, Mumbai."

Bali special interest

SPECIAL interest sailing trips around Bali are on the rise, Indonesian Island Sail says.

"As one of only three sailing boats out of the 500+ that offer non-diving sails in the region, it has become evident that a gap exists in the market when it comes to catering to other special interest groups," said owner and cruise director Amanda Zsebik.

Cruise outlook "uncertain"

THE Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW has raised concerns for the long-term outlook for the cruise industry, saying in a newly released report that growth in recent years "is uncertain" to be maintained.

The whopping 108-page draft report, entitled *Maximum fees and charges for cruise ships in Sydney Harbour* makes a number of observations and suggestions relating to site occupation charges (see **page one**).

"The cruise industry contributes to local economies through employment and spending from cruise operators, passengers and crew. Our recommendations on site occupation charges have the potential to affect the growth and viability of the cruise industry & the benefits this industry provides to the NSW economy," it said.

The document reconfirms that if growth in the sector is sustained, a new cruise terminal east of the Sydney Harbour Bridge "will be required", with IPART NSW saying the naval facilities at the southern end of Garden Island is the most "preferred location...if appropriate arrangements can be made with the Australian Govt".

IPART NSW said, in principle, a new unrestricted terminal should be funded by the cruise industry.

The tribunal suggested an arrangement whereby cruise operators agree to foot the bill for a minimum number of visits per season for a fixed term would be a suitable option for a new passenger terminal in Sydney.

"If the cruise industry requires a new facility then it is appropriate that they bear demand-side risks," the report said.

It found that based on a list of 22 popular cruise ports in six countries where Royal Caribbean turned around Vision Class vessels, "Sydney had the highest aggregated costs".

Other suggestions raised in the study include looking at the adoption of an 'evening slot' for ships to berth in Sydney.

"To provide an incentive, we consider the Port Authority should negotiate discounts with cruise operators where the take up an evening slot leads to improved utilisation," the study reported.

The preliminary report also determined the Port Authority "is operating and maintaining its cruise terminals in an efficient manner".

Elsewhere, the study said the Port's discounts to the cruise industry on navigation charges are too high.

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Learn all about
Norwegian Jewel down
under in the July issue
of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read

travelBulletin



Le Boat earlybird

LE BOAT has savings of up to 15% available on their self-drive boating holidays for 2017 early bird bookings confirmed by the end of Aug.

The company gives travellers the freedom to captain their own boat along the waterways of France, Holland, Italy, Belgium, Germany, England, Ireland or Scotland.

To see the itineraries and savings see www.leboat.com.au.

Fred Olsen brochure

FRED Olsen Cruise Lines has unveiled a new Exotic Fly-Cruises brochure including 17 14- to 38-night trips on board *Boudicca* and *Black Watch* sailing the Indian Ocean, South Africa, Australia and Mexico.

Guests who book trips by 31 Aug on selected itineraries will have access to a host of benefits including free flights and a free two night extension.

Newly released holidays featured inside include *Black Watch's* 28-night Maori Culture & Polynesian Paradise fly-cruise, ex Callao, Peru on 29 Jan.

Egg Island plans crack

DISNEY Cruise Line's decision to cancel plans to build a cruise ship port on a Bahamian Island has been met with support from environmentalists.

The Cruise Line told the Miami Herald it "completed a careful and thorough review of a project at Egg Island and determined that the environmental impact of our intended development would be too significant".

Cruise.co £50m sale

SPECULATION is circulating online cruise agency, Cruise.co is in talks with private equity firm Bridgepoint Development Capital about a potential £50 million sale.

Sky News is reporting a deal could be announced as early as next week.

CMV Perth special

CRUISE and Maritime Voyages (CMV) is offering family deals from \$2,999 on six-night cruises from Perth on board *Astor*.

Departing on 07 Jan the roundtrip from Fremantle visits Esperance, Albany and Margaret River via Bunbury.

For more information, visit www.cmvaustralia.com.



FERRY McFerryFace could soon be cruising Sydney Harbour.

It comes as Sydney Ferries throws the responsibility to the public to name six new vessels soon to join their fleet.

One might have thought they'd have learned from the popularity of Boaty McBoatface as a name when the Brits were given the opportunity to name a new polar research ship earlier this year.

If you want to get your two cents worth and try your hand at naming one of the ferries, head to nameyourferry.com.au.

Voting has opened and will close on 10 Aug before a panel collects and assess all entries and with final names going up for public vote from 18 Aug.



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

SYDNEY	
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	30 Jul
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	31 Jul
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Discoverer</i>	29 Jul
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	29 Jul
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	30 Jul
FREMANTLE	
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	31 Jul

Ama menu revamp

AN ENHANCED culinary offering has been announced by AmaWaterways as part of an overhaul of their Chef's Table Restaurant dinner menu.

The menu features a choice of three appetisers, a champagne sorbet intermezzo, three main courses and three desserts that draws upon regional specialties as well as traditional dishes. All meals are accompanied with wine pairings and guests get to experience a demonstration kitchen as part of the culinary entertainment.

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