

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 21 Jun 2016

Cruise Weekly today

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

Salary Survey a hit

OVER 600 industry personnel, including retail cruise specialists, cruise wholesalers and cruise suppliers have participated in the 2016 Australian Salary & Employment Survey conducted by the *Travel Daily Group*.

The five-minute survey opened yesterday and will be used to gauge trends in salaries from newcomers to executives.

Travel Daily Group has teamed with independent research firm StollzNow Research to conduct the poll, with participants going into the draw to win one of five Fitbit Charge HRs or one of 50 Event Cinema movie tickets.

Topics covered include employment and salary conditions, job satisfaction, future prospects and experiences with recruitment services and all responses are strictly anonymous.

Results will be published in future editions of the group's various publications.

Last year's survey saw over 1,700 respondents, finding the average travel agent salary stood at just under \$70K including bonuses and there was a clear divide with a 25% difference in take home pay reported between women and men.

CLICK HERE to enter the survey.

Pacific Dawn bus crash

PACIFIC Dawn has been given the all clear to depart Port Vila after being held in port following a bus crash yesterday afternoon.

The collision between two buses, saw 12 *Dawn* passengers injured and two members of the local Ni Van community dead.

P&O has been coordinating an airlift of 10 guests who sustained significant injuries, with the operation now "well advanced" and a Care team member and local port agent to remain on scene until it is complete.

On an update on Facebook, P&O said it "took the decision to relieve pressure on local services by coordinating the air lift to hospitals in Noumea and

Brisbane".

Pacific Dawn is proceeding to Isle of Pines which was the scheduled call for tomorrow on the current cruise, prior to her return to Brisbane.

The Vanuatu government issued a statement on the incident, advising "Vanuatu Police will fully investigate the tragic accident".

P&O are issuing regular updates on their **Facebook** page.

Critic aspiration

THE Australian version of cruise review website *Cruise Critic* has set the goal to increase its market penetration locally by 20% over the next 12 months.

Based on Australian computer IP addresses only, *Cruise Critic* receives more than 326,000 unique users per month.

"Last year there was just over one million Australian cruisers and there's over 320,000 Aussies using our website, so one in three are using Cruise Critic," Australia editor Louise Goldsbury told **CW**.

"Our aim is to get that up to one in two people by next year."

Meanwhile, Cruise Critic AU is planning to revamp certain aspects of its online presence to improve the user experience.

Goldsbury told **CW** the current *Cruise Critic* homepage was dated and around 20 years old.

"We want to improve the search function and overall experience," she said.

Norwegian Dawn refit

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line's *Norwegian Dawn* has returned to Boston following a month-long renovation, which saw restaurants, bars and lounges added to the vessel.

Los Lobos Cantina is a Mexican restaurant set to open on 01 Jul, while O'Sheehan's Bar & Grill has made its debut, along with The Cellars, a Michael Mondavi Family Wine Bar, Sugarcane Mojito Bar and the Bliss Lounge.

Dawn has an updated design and décor in all public spaces, and undergone a refurb of all staterooms including a complete makeover of the Garden Villas.

View an online album **HERE**.

APT adds Japan

APT'S latest China & Japan 2017 brochure has been released with offerings including a 12-day Timeless Japan tour aboard *MS Caledonian Sky* and a 19-day Best of Japan and Circle Hokkaido journey on *Diamond Princess*.

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Find out why APT is getting on their bike in the June issue of *travelBulletin*.

[CLICK HERE to read](#)

Plus win business class tickets to Europe with Emirates

itravel agents get to know *Aria*



LAST weekend eight iTravel agents jumped aboard *Pacific Aria* for a two-night cruise.

Sailing from Sydney to Brisbane, the group was accompanied by Zach Gregory and his P&O team.

Making the most of their time on the ship, the team learned how to make cocktails at the martini masterclass, sampled the

restaurants and danced the night away at Bianco, the cruise line's White Party.

The iTravel agents pictured in front of the Sydney Harbour Bridge are: Rebecca McHenry, Joanne Agius, Roslyn Thompson, Maddison Tyndall, Emily Todorovski, Geoff Currie, Paul Davies and Joanne Rothwell.

Ponant trips released

PONANT has unveiled its Latin America and Caribbean sailings for departures between Oct 2017 and Apr 2018.

Itineraries include the nine-night Panama and pre-Columbian Treasures trip aboard *Le Soléal* taking in the Chilean fjords from 14 to 23 Oct priced from \$4,170pp and the nine-night Christmas in the Caribbean on *Le Ponant* from 18 to 27 Dec, with prices beginning at \$5,290pp.

To view the online brochure, [CLICK HERE](#).

RCI 72hr sale on now

ROYAL Caribbean International's 72-hour flash sale is underway, with cruises available from \$83pp per day.

The offers are available until 09:59am AEST Fri 24 Jun and include discounts on selected cruises departing in Oct and Nov.

To view the specials or for more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Newcastle upgrade

THE Port of Newcastle will have its berthing capacity increased with Federal Minister for Tourism Senator Richard Colbeck announcing \$400,000 will go towards the upgrade of the mooring bollards.

"This project will support jobs and growth in the Hunter region, increasing its capacity to host large cruise ships and therefore allowing more passengers to visit the region," Colbeck said.

Funding is part of the Australian Government's Tourism Demand Driver Infrastructure program.

Scenic cruise-only

SCENIC is offering cruise-only pricing on select 2017 Europe river cruises, with prices leading in at \$4,195pp.

"This cruise only pricing allows for greater transparency and the ability to add a Scenic river cruise into existing plans where airfares may have already been purchased," said Michelle Black, gm sales and marketing.

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A screening fit for a Princess



PRINCESS Cruises' Aussie team made an appearance on the red carpet for the premiere of the film *Captain Fantastic* last week as part of the line's partnership with the Sydney Film Festival. Pre-screening VIP cocktails at Town Hall's Festival Hub warmed up the night before the group moved to the State Theatre for the Australian premiere of the

family comedy-drama starring Viggo Mortensen. Princess Cruises has been involved with the Sydney Film Festival for three years, with the cruise line holding the Travelling Film Festival at Sea and Movies Under The Stars. The Princess Cruises' team are **pictured** above strutting their stuff on the red carpet.

Fathom food details

FATHOM has revealed details of the regional cuisine and recreational activities available. Dishes at specialty restaurant Ocean Grill include Cuban Ropa Vieja, Bistec Encebollado, Pescado con Coco and Majarete Crème Brûlée. There are a range of workshops, dance and cocktail classes, leisure activities and entertainment options, including "Lifehack Bootcamp", which aims to provide the tools for getting more done in less time.

High water on Rhine

AVALON Waterways and Viking River Cruises are warning passengers that high water levels on the Rhine will impact river cruise itineraries this month. Passengers who are booked on upcoming cruises in the area should contact their cruise line for more details. Viking is posting the latest updates **HERE**.

Astor two-for-one

CRUISE and Maritime Voyages has a two-for-one deal on board *Astor* for travel to Bali during the Christmas/New Year period. Prices start at \$1,979 for the first person while the second passenger travels free. Eligible cruises include the 11-night Christmas in Bali itinerary ex Fremantle on 19 Dec and 10-night Bali Escape leaving Fremantle 16 Jan 2017. **CLICK HERE** for more info.

Outlaw cruise returns

THE second annual Outlaw Country Cruise will hit the seas in 2017, hosting over 2,500 fans of Outlaw Country, Southern rock, honky-tonk and Americana. Pre-sale has started for the four-night sailing from Tampa to Cozumel on NCL's *Norwegian Jade* from 26 Feb to 02 Mar. Double occupancy staterooms start from US\$820pp. See outlawcountrycruise.com.



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Murray Princess sale

DISCOUNTS of 25% are available on Captain Cook Cruises' Christmas in Jul cruises on board *PS Murray Princess*.

The offer applies to select three-, four- and seven-night departures, with prices leading in at \$694.50pp - [CLICK HERE](#).



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

SYDNEY	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	21 Jun
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	23 Jun
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	25 Jun
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	27 Jun
DARWIN	
<i>Coral Expeditions 1</i>	24 Jun
<i>Sun Princess</i>	27 Jun
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	21 Jun
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	25 Jun
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	26 Jun
CAIRNS	
<i>Pacific Aria</i>	22 Jun
BUSSELTON	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	27 Jun
GERALDTON	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	26 Jun
AUCKLAND	
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	23 Jun

Viking Sea's welcome arrival



VIKING Cruises founder and chairman, Torstein Hagen has been out and about, celebrating the arrival of the company's new ship, *Viking Sea* in five new Norwegian ports of call.

Viking Sea has been welcomed into the ports of Tromsø, Honningsvåg, Bodø, Brønnøysund and Ålesund with traditional maritime plaque ceremonies attended by local officials, harbour masters, directors of tourism and mayors.

During his visits, Hagen took the time to visit the northernmost brewery in Tromsø, eat freshly caught King Crab near Honningsvåg and he also went fishing for lunch in Bodø.

"Sir Richard Branson says space is Virgin territory. I say Scandinavia is Viking territory," Hagen said.

"No other cruise line can show

you this part of the world like Viking can," he quipped.

Pictured from left are: Viking Cruises founder and chairman Torstein Hagen; Bodo Port director Ingvar Mathisen; Visit Bodo's Solveig Caroline Henriksen; Viking Cruises Captain Gulleik Svalastog and Bodo Mayor Ida Maria Pinnerod.

MSC Cruises internet

THE internet on MSC Cruises' fleet is getting a boost with Marlink installing multi-band VSAT services.

Tore Morten Olsen, president Maritime, Marlink said MSC will be the first fleet-wide VSAT network to integrate "a cloud of satellite capacity".

The bandwidth upgrade has been rolled out to meet demand from guests for faster web access.

TUI boss' address

FRITZ Jousen, the new boss of TUI Group, will make the opening address at the UNWTO & WTM Ministers' Summit at World Travel Market London 2016.

He will address around 100 Tourism Ministers and senior industry executives on 09 Nov on the challenges of security and open a debate on how public and private sector can promote a safer travel experience.

TUI Group owns Hapag-Lloyd Cruises, TUI Cruises and Thompson Cruises.



FANCY a ship-wide flash mob?

The guests and 700 crew of P&O's *Pacific Pearl* have taken heed of the New Zealand police and joined the Running Man Challenge.

From bow to stern, it looks like everyone on the cruise got involved, with the video coming complete with patients and staff dancing in the medical centre, chefs rocking out in their kitchen and passengers busting a move on a pristine beach.

The vessel has issued the, challenge to *Pacific Aria, Eden, Dawn, and Jewel*, posting "let's see what you've got".

Watch the entertaining video on *CW's* Facebook page [HERE](#).

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