

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 08 Mar 2016

APT & Travelmarvel cruise products - live

APT and Travelmarvel have streamlined the online booking process for its cruise products, now offering agents instant real-time access to its inventory and booking facilities.

Partnering with tech-innovator Traveltek to deliver the new integration through Australia, New Zealand and the UK, APT executive gm Debra Fox said being able to give agents real-time access will "deliver multiple business benefits."

"We've put a lot of time and energy into ensuring this initiative delivers value to our industry partners," commented Fox.

Utilising the new tech, agents will now be able to check immediately the availability of cruise products within the APT and Travelmarvel portfolio, as well as make instant bookings and access the groups' ancillary services.

Pacific Pearl's new home

P&O Cruises' *Pacific Pearl* has found a new home with British-based operator Cruise & Maritime Voyages (CMV), where she

will be renamed *Columbus* and commence operations from 09 Jun, 2017.

CMV chief executive and chairman, Christian Verhounig, said "the successful introduction of *Magellan* in 2015 has encouraged our group to accelerate their mid-term growth plans and the addition of *Columbus* to the fleet in 2017 is another important milestone in achieving our long-term growth objectives".

"The strategic development of the group's presence in the UK and wider international markets will increase our overall capacity to 125,000 passengers in 2017,"

he continued.

The vessel will undergo a dry dock with some refurbishment and livery work to be completed in Singapore



before embarking on her inaugural CMV cruise season as *Columbus* sailing from the United Kingdom, with the ship's new program slated to go on sale via travel trade and the CMV website from 31 Mar.

Pacific Pearl's retirement from the P&O fleet was announced at the end of last week (*CW* breaking news Fri), with president Sture Myrmell describing the move as part of an "unprecedented fleet renewal program" for the line.

Pacific Pearl's final voyage as part of the P&O fleet will be the 16-day cruise to Singapore departing Auckland on 27 Mar.

Cruise Weekly today

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

RCL shore excursions

ROYAL Caribbean announced yesterday more than 18 new shore excursions will be included to itineraries cruising Australia, South Pacific & New Zealand.

"We often talk about a Royal Caribbean megaliner being a destination in itself, but the places we sail to truly bring our style of holiday to life," commented Royal Caribbean regional commercial director, Adam Armstrong.

New shore excursions include: fishing on Airlie Beach, tropical jet boating in Cairns, mountain biking in Hobart, historical town tours of Port Hedland and glow worm experiences at New Zealand's Bay of Islands.

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CRUISE

WEEKLY



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2017 EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISING

NEW FRANCE & PORTUGAL



Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	08 Mar
<i>Queen Victoria</i>	08 Mar
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	09 Mar
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	10 Mar
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	13 Mar
<i>Costa Luminosa</i>	13 Mar
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	14 Mar
MELBOURNE	
<i>Golden Princess</i>	08 Mar
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	11 Mar
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	14 Mar
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	08 Mar
<i>Queen Victoria</i>	11 Mar
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	11 Mar
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	12 Mar
<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	13 Mar
<i>Queen Mary 2</i>	13 Mar
HOBART	
<i>Diamond Princess</i>	12 Mar
DARWIN	
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	10 Mar
FREMANTLE	
<i>Astor</i>	09 Mar
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	12 Mar
ALBANY	
<i>Astor</i>	12 Mar
GERALDTON	
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	13 Mar
EDEN	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	13 Mar
CAIRNS	
<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	09 Mar
<i>Black Watch</i>	10 Mar
YORKEYS KNOB	
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	14 Mar
KANGAROO ISLAND	
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	09 Mar

Dalton will head Uniworld

FORMER Qantas Holidays/Viva!

Holidays general manager of sales, Fiona Dalton, has been appointed as the new managing director of Uniworld Boutique River Cruise Collection Australia (**TD** breaking Fri), effective early May.

Dalton, who has been with Qantas Holidays/Viva! Holiday's for the last five years, said she was "incredibly excited at the prospect of joining TTC and managing one of its most aspirational brands."



Helloworld wholesale managing director, Peter Egglestone, told **Cruise Weekly's** sister publication, **Travel Daily**, that Dalton had decided it was the right time to leave the business "having been presented with a significant opportunity to advance her career".

"This is well-deserved recognition of Fiona's expertise and also of our Qantas Holidays/Viva! Holidays business as a training ground for highly-skilled, market-leading travel professionals," he added.

Recruitment to replace Dalton's role is already underway, confirmed Egglestone.

Travel Corporation (TTC) chief executive officer, John Veitch, said he was "thrilled to welcome Fiona into the TTC family."

"Fiona has outstanding credentials for this role given her extensive industry knowledge and experience, proven leadership skills and exceptional commercial nous," he added.

Fiji supplies delivered

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises, in partnership with Rotary Club Fiji, charity Sea Mercy and the Rotary Club of Sydney Cove, will deliver much-needed food, clothing and basic supplies to the Lau Islands, following the devastating category five cyclone that tore through the country last month.

Goods will be transported directly on the *MV Reef Endeavour* vessel.

The groups will continue to raise funds so more supplies can be delivered to the Fiji Islands.

Companion Cruising

ONLINE travel agency, Companion Cruising, known for matching solo travellers to share cabins, have expanded their focus to also include regular updates on solo cruise specials, as well as deals on single cabins and more.

Sign up is free, visit companioncruising.com.au.

Latitude 33 rebrand

RECENTLY launched luxury tour operator, 33 Degrees (**CW** 18 Feb), has undergone a rebrand to Latitude 33 "due to unforeseen circumstances" - effective immediately.

Founder, Brett Dudley, said that "in hindsight he believed the new name better suited the ideology behind the name."

"We decided to change the name to better suit the meaning and make its marketing more prominent within the industry," he added.

Disney expands fleet

DISNEY Cruise Line announced last week it would add two new vessels to its fleet, slated to be completed by 2021 and 2023.

A memorandum of agreement has been inked between Disney and German shipyard Meyer Werft to deliver the two new vessels, which are slightly larger than the latest vessels *Disney Dream* and *Disney Fantasy*.

Both vessels are planned for approximately 1,250 staterooms with itineraries, ship names and design plans to be announced at a later date.

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ANOTHER DAY ANOTHER DOLLAR
Holidays of Australia and the world

Bon anniversaire Scenic!

AUSTRALIAN-OWNED cruise travel giant, Scenic, will celebrate its big 3-0 birthday over the course of the year, yesterday revealing a special logo to mark the milestone.

Having first entered the industry as a domestic coach tour operator in 1986, Scenic has

30°
YEARS
Est.1986

since expanded into specialising in cruise offerings, last year undergoing a major re-brand to reflect this.

Despite Scenic's actual birthday being in Oct, the operator will continue celebrations throughout 2016.

MSC Cruises offers wellness Experience

SWISS headquartered operators, MSC Cruises, has introduced a brand new wellness offering which helps guests onboard to achieve their personal health and fitness goals.

Prior to embarking, guests are encouraged to fill out a questionnaire followed by a one-on-one consultation with a Master Trainer who will customise each guest's cruise with shore excursions, classes and food options specific to their personal goals - [CLICK HERE](#).

CLIA clarification

CRUISE Weekly would like to clarify the Cruise Finder tool mentioned in last week's edition was in regards to the CLIA US office - not Australia - and concerns an online portal which is aimed at the group's US home based members who do not have access to such technology via franchise agreements and host agencies.

MEANWHILE pics from the 2015 Cruise industry awards are available online, [CLICK HERE](#).

Circle Line Expands

CIRCLE Line Sightseeing Cruises in New York City is introducing its first ever cruise tour that explores the history of Brooklyn.

Set to commence on 02 May, the "Hello Brooklyn" trip is focused on the Borough's pop culture, local lore and food & drinks.

Highlights include passing the Statue of Liberty, Bay Ridge, Sunset Park, Greenpoint and sailing under the Williamsburg Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges.

The launch of the two-hour cruises are tied to the addition of a new three-level sightseeing vessel to Circle Line's New York City-based fleet.

Queen Victoria tribute

CUNARD'S *Queen Victoria* liner will be illuminated in purple - the internationally recognised colour for women's rights - in celebration of International Women's Day during her visit to Sydney today.

A massive banner emblazoned with this year's campaign tagline #PledgeForParity will be displayed proudly on the liner's hull shortly after she berths in Circular Quay.

Ann Sherry, exec chair of Carnival Australia, described the tribute as a "powerful reminder" that more needs to be done to ensure gender equality in the workplace.



FORGET marching in a straight line! New Graduates of a Norwegian Navy training academy celebrated their passing grades with a surprise flash mob at the end of their ceremony over the weekend.

The dance was filmed and has gathered more than 100,000 views on Youtube having only been posted over the weekend.

The video begins with the sailors standing silently, before suddenly breaking formation as Mark Ronson's "Uptown Funk You Up" rings through the grounds of the academy.

Naval school cadets then execute their carefully choreographed dance routine (some having obviously attended more practices than others as you will see), while being cheered on by a large crowd of soldiers.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view.



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Whisky on the waterways



VR tour of Hapag-Lloyd to be launched

HAPAG-LLOYD Cruises will debut its HypeBox Europa 2 virtual reality technology at the ITB conference in Berlin this week, which will allow clients and agents to explore the ships in the fleet before booking.

Utilising the new technology, users can not only experience a virtual tour of Hapag-Lloyd's fleet, but also select destinations from around the world.

Following its debut at ITB, the new Hypebox Europa 2 will tour similar trade shows, with its cyber goggles made available to sales representatives for daily use.

For more information on HL cruise offerings, [CLICK HERE](#).

Cruise Japan 2017

ECRUISE.TRAVEL has brought back its 'White Gloves and Cheery Blossoms tour', following a successful inaugural run last year.

Dates for next years spots are now available, with ecrusing offering bonuses for those who book before 31 Mar.

The 22-night itinerary includes a 13-night cruise on Cunard's *Queen Elizabeth* from Kobe to Hong Kong, before journeying forward for a six-night escorted tour in Japan and three-night post cruise in Hong Kong before heading back to Australia.

Highlights include visits to the Kiyomizu-dera, Heian Shrine in Machiya and a day trip to Kasuga Grand Shrine - [CLICK HERE](#).

EUROPEAN Waterways has launched a Whisky Trail Cruise, which will have passengers getting into the true "spirit" on board hotel barge, *Scottish Highlander*.

The new tour will visit distilleries such as the Benromach Distillery near Forres, the Glen Ord Distillery and the Dalwhinnie Distillery located in the Cairnforms National Park.

The eight-passenger *Scottish Highlander* will cruise the Caledonian Canal between Fort William and Inverness, and has been furnished with subtle tartan furnishings.

European Waterways md, Derek Banks, said the cruise was a "unique opportunity to get a true taste of what made Scotland famous".

Visit gobarging.com for more.

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