

Cruise Weekly today

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

Status Quo cruise

AGEING rockers will be delighted to hear that the legendary Status Quo will perform live on next year's Rock the Boat cruise organised by Choose Your Cruise.

The band's *Aquostic Live* show will feature during the voyage which takes place in the South Pacific ex Sydney 16-23 Oct 2017, with the performance featuring a 16 piece band performing their "anthemic classics".

Other performers on the rock'n'roll festival at sea will include Angry Anderson, Baby Animals, Jon Stevens, Jack Jones and The Radiators.

For more details see www.chooseyourcruise.com.au.

Legend to homeport in Vic

CARNIVAL Cruise Line has announced it will base its *Carnival Legend* in Melbourne for the first time, with a season in early 2018 featuring six roundtrip voyages.

The move will mark the return of Carnival to the Vic capital, with its *Carnival Spirit* previously operating just two voyages ex Melbourne in 2013.

The Feb and Mar 2018 *Legend* itineraries will include three night short breaks at sea priced from just \$549 per person twin share, along with an 11 night New Zealand circumnavigation, a four night voyage to Tasmania and a ten night South Pacific cruise.

Carnival Cruise Line vice president Australia, Jennifer Vandekreeke, said the Melbourne season reflected a growing number of Victorian guests sailing on Carnival's Sydney departures.

"Homeporting from Melbourne allows us to expand our offering

to include more of our popular New Zealand cruises and short breaks, and also gives Victorians the chance to take a Carnival cruise direct from their doorstep, enjoying all the fun features that have made *Carnival Legend* such a hit north of the border".

Vandekreeke said Carnival was also preparing to launch a range of entertainment initiatives including new onboard parties, interactive games and a dedicated arts and craft area, with further details to be revealed in the coming months.

Carnival Legend has joined its sister ship *Carnival Spirit* cruising out of Australia each summer since 2014.

Norwegian free at sea

NORWEGIAN Cruise Line has launched a new 'Free at Sea' offer giving guests the choice of up to five free bonuses to enhance their onboard experience.

Depending on cruise length and cabin category the options include free unlimited beverages, free specialty dining packages, free shore excursion credits, a free 250 minute internet access package, or Norwegian's Friends & Family Sail Free offer which allows third and fourth guests to sail at no charge on select dates.

There are also extra bonuses in Hawaii on *Pride of America*.

Island Escape NZ out

ISLAND Escape Cruises has released its 2016/17 Fjordland and Bay of Islands brochure, with sales manager advising that the Fjordland National Park voyages operated at 94% occupancy last season.

"Going by the forward bookings they will do so again this year," he said.

Early booking savings of \$750 per person are available if booked and paid in full by 30 Jun - see www.islandescapecruises.com.

ecruising Cunard gong

ECRUISEING. TRAVEL was recently recognised as a Diamond agent for its contribution to Cunard in 2015.

Ecruising owner Brett Dudley said the company's 16 year relationship with the cruise line had been one of its most successful partnerships.

"It's due to the relationship and understanding our two companies have forged," he said.

Cunard's Ken Triffitt, **pictured** presenting the award to Dudley this week, said the elevated honour was due mainly to ecruising's massive success last year with its unique Three Queens package, which took



about 200 Australians to the UK exactly twelve months ago.

The ecruising package saw its passengers enjoy back to back voyages on *Queen Elizabeth*, *Queen Victoria* and *Queen Mary 2* including their historic meeting in Liverpool on 24 May 2015, concluding with a transatlantic crossing on the *QM2* to New York before flying home to Australia.

137 night RSSC RTW

REGENT Seven Seas Cruises has revealed details of a massive 137-night round the world voyage in 2018, with its *Seven Seas Navigator* to visit five continents during a four month roundtrip sojourn from Los Angeles departing 08 Jan 18.

The ship will visit Australia and New Zealand during the cruise which will offer complimentary shore excursions in all ports of call, with prices starting at US\$59,999 per person for a Deluxe Window suite.



Swan Hellenic 2016/17



THIS new brochure from Swan Hellenic aims to introduce discerning travellers to the "treasures of

Europe, the Mediterranean and Atlantic Isles".

Swan Hellenic's *Minerva* evokes the charm of an English country home, and this season will remain in the Mediterranean and Atlantic Isles rather than heading to warmer waters, allowing guests to explore the destinations away from the hustle and bustle of the summer crowds.

Itineraries offer "bucket-list adventure" such as searching for the Northern Lights, circumnavigating Ireland and venturing into the Gulf of Bothnia, with savings of up to 25%, plus another 5% for past passengers when booking by 31 May.

More info via Discover the World on 1800 623 267.

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CRUISE NEWS & VIEWS

with Brett Jardine
CLIA Australasia

Maritime Award

LAST month, CLIA accepted the 2015 Maritime Award of the Americas in Panama, in recognition for its industry-wide mandatory Waste Management Policy.

CLIA Cruise Line Members must implement this policy which specifies a range of Waste Management practices that go above and beyond existing legal requirements.

Some ships are already repurposing 100% of the waste generated on board by reducing, reusing, donating, recycling and converting waste into energy.

Careful waste management and recycling practices ensure that unrecyclable waste on cruise ships can be less than 1kg per person a day compared to the average of more than 2kg per person on land in the USA! In an average year, the cruise industry recycles 80,000 tons of paper, plastic, glass and aluminium cans.

The award was presented by a division of the Organization of American States (OAS) and accepted on behalf of CLIA Members. The award process was highly competitive reinforces that CLIA is succeeding in creating measurable outcomes and significant sustained impact.

Source Market Reports

NEXT week CLIA will deliver the annual Cruise Industry Source Market reports for Australia and New Zealand. Keep an eye out for the results – a great tool to benchmark your cruise business.



Cruise Weekly is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication.

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MSC US fly-cruise

MSC Cruises is promoting packages for Australians to experience its new Caribbean voyages, with a 'Fly, Land & Cruise' deal bookable in a single transaction.

Two itineraries are on offer aboard the *MSC Divina*, with the first including an overnight in Miami followed by a 14 night cruise to San Juan, Jamaica, the Cayman Islands, Cozumel and Nassau priced from \$4935ppts.

The second trip also includes the Virgin Islands, St Marteen and the Dominican Republic from \$5083, with both packages including flexible return flights to the USA.

Seabourn Swarovski

SEABOURN has expanded its ongoing partnership with binocular supplier Swarovski Optik, providing equipment for passengers and expedition staff to use on *Seabourn Quest*, *Seabourn Sojourn* and *Seabourn Odyssey* as well as the new *Seabourn Encore* when it debuts in Dec.

Previously the partnership saw the Austrian company provide optical equipment for Seabourn's Antarctica and Patagonia voyages, with the new agreement covering all Seabourn itineraries globally.

As well as providing the high precision long-range binoculars for wildlife spotting and landscape viewing, the Swarovski binoculars are made available for sale on board.

Shanghai surge

SHANGHAI was the fastest growing cruise port in Asia last year, with traffic up 60% year on year to over 1.6 million passengers according to the 2016-17 *Cruise Industry News* Annual Report.

TC's Celebrity experience

TRAVELLER'S

Choice bronze award winners spent eight nights on board *Celebrity Solstice* last month, calling in at Lifou in the Loyalty Islands and the Isle of Pines and Noumea in New Caledonia.

The high achievers were hosted on board by WA district sales manager for Celebrity Cruises, Bron Milsom and voyage highlights included snorkelling in the crystal clear waters of Lifou, dining at fine French restaurant Murano (twice) and watching the cocktail masters at work at the Solstice-Class Martini Bar.

Pictured from top left are: Richard Van Schouwen, Kawana Waters Travel; Jacqui Jurovic, Balnarring Travel and Cruise; Brian Bennett, Travel and Cruise Professionals; Kim Curtois, Lea's World Travel; Carol Franklin, Moss Vale Cruise and Travel; Jill Faircloth, Endeavour Travel and



Cruise; Robyn Mitchell, Travellers Choice Marketing Manager; Carol Evans, Bay Travel and Cruise; and Bronwen Milsom from Celebrity Cruises.

HAL ambassador closing down Marque

AUSTRALIAN chef Mark Best, who is a member of the culinary panel for Holland America Line, has announced the closure of his Marque restaurant located in Sydney's Surry Hills.

Best issued a statement saying "after 17 years of creative, personal and emotional investment in this small space I have decided it's time for change...the personal investment in a small business takes its toll and it's with a combination of a sense of loss, pride and relief that I bring this phase of my career to a close".

He will continue his involvement with HAL as well as at the Pei Modern restaurants in Melbourne and Sydney's Four Seasons Hotel.



EVEN if the sanctions were lifted, cruise lines may have difficulty returning to the disputed Black Sea shores of Crimea, as the beaches are being stolen by the truck load.

Officials have warned people to stop taking sand from tourist beaches for use as building material, or face prison.

In more remote locations the sand is reportedly disappearing by the lorry-load.

Sergei Aksyonov, prime minister of Crimea's Russian-backed government, is calling for everyone who is caught to be prosecuted.

"When people are stealing sand in broad daylight, what exactly are we doing about it?"

Aksyonov has also threatened to unleash Russia's Federal Security Services - successor to the KGB - to prosecute the perpetrators.

Some have even suggested reinforcing the beach sand - by mixing it with concrete - to deter the thieves.

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