

CRUISE



WEEKLY

AGENT
UPDATE

Tuesday 24 May 2016



Lindblad Expeditions - Explorations

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seekers can choose from more than fifty itineraries in Lindblad's latest brochure.



Itineraries on Lindblad's new 96-passenger vessel, *National Geographic Endeavour II* make a debut in the 140-page guide.

A highlight is new tour, Big Picture Alaska, which takes up to 62 guests on an 11-day photo expedition through Alaska's Inside Passage.

Also new is the six-day Wild Alaska Escape, an active journey which includes hikes through forests, kayaking deep into glacially carved fjords and rafting to an ancient village.

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Another NZ cruise record

CRUISE Lines International Association today revealed a 10% increase in passenger numbers from New Zealand, with a record 66,152 Kiwis taking an ocean cruise in 2015.

CLIA Australasia commercial director Brett Jardine unveiled the annual NZ Cruise Industry Source Market Report in Auckland, which shows the ocean passenger cruise market for New Zealanders has grown almost 65% over the past five years.

The NZ release comes in the lead-up to the official Australian figures which will be made public later this week.

For the first time the statistics do not include river cruising, with CLIA electing to omit the sector in order to bring the Australasian reporting in line with CLIA's other international markets.

Newly appointed CLIA Australasia chairman Steve Odell said the NZ figures showed the equivalent of 1.4% of the NZ population took an ocean cruise last year, meaning New Zealand ranks sixth in the world for

market penetration.

"New Zealand is still an emerging source market but after another year of solid growth, which saw the nation outperform most key markets, it's clear that cruising is growing in popularity," Odell said.

The majority of the New Zealand cruisers (54%) travelled in local waters including to Australia and the South Pacific, with NZ cruise passengers spending almost 680,000 days at sea during the year.

Cruise Weekly today

Cruise Weekly today features three pages of all the latest cruise industry news and photos plus a full page from **Travel Industry Expo**.

Seabourn specials

UNTIL 30 Jun, Seabourn is spicing up the package for Aussies looking to cruise Europe between Jun-Nov this year.

Bookings on select departures will receive a \$600pp roundtrip air credit as well as half price reduced deposits.

ms Koningsdam christened



HER Majesty Queen Maxima of the Netherlands has formally dedicated Holland America Line's new *ms Koningsdam* in a ceremony in Rotterdam.

The event took place last Fri, with the Queen performing the honours by blessing the ship's bell in the Lido pool area by pouring a glass of champagne over it (pictured above).

She later pulled a rope in the

onboard World Stage theatre which released a champagne bottle to smash on the hull.

Several thousand Dutch residents took part in the special events, which also saw avid cruisers Ernest Schenk and Enrique Encarnacion named as Mariner Ambassadors to represent the important role of loyal repeat guests in the company's ongoing success.

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October
02

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From London (Tilbury), Liverpool, Newcastle



From Bristol, Avonmouth, Hull, Rosyth and Liverpool



Go-karts on Norwegian Joy

THE first Go-Kart track at sea will be installed on Norwegian Cruise Line's next vessel, *Norwegian Joy*.

Twenty karts will zoom around the ship's upper decks, 18 and 19, and the 230m track will be equipped with a viewing platform, covered pit lane, workshop, storage room, timing system and floodlights.

Built by RiMO Supply, the track will sit at 60m high and the vehicles will be electric.

"The electronically controlled engine sound as well as the

non-existent exhausts are sure to meet cruise passengers' expectations of a relaxed but varied and unique ride," said Peter Bertram, owner and ceo of RiMO Germany Group.

"Cruise ship passengers of nearly every age should be excited to have the opportunity to enjoy this one-of-a-kind amusement ride," he said.

The vessel is currently being built in Meyer Werft in Papenburg, Germany and will cater for 3,900 guests once complete.

Dream Cruises now on sale

THE first Asian luxury cruise line, Dream Cruises, has officially gone on sale in Australia and New Zealand.

Part of the Genting Hong Kong fleet, the line will cater to upscale consumers and is set to enter service on 06 Nov.

The inaugural ship, *Genting Dream*, is currently being fitted out and will debut on a six-night repositioning cruise from Singapore to Hong Kong.

Genting Dream will then commence weekly seven-night itineraries ex-Hong Kong.

From 12 Nov-31 Dec, the vessel will explore Vietnam's Da Nang and Hanoi, along with China's Pearl River Delta.

Switching it up from 31 Dec-31 Mar 2017, *Dream* will call into Nha Trang and Ho Chi Minh City.

"Dream Cruises aims to be a pacesetter in the cruise industry in the region, with the finest dining options, exceptional service, enthralling entertainment

and inspirational experiences," said Brigita Devries, assistant vp Australia and New Zealand, Dream Cruises.

On board the vessel, 3,400 guests will be accompanied by 2,000 crew, with a choice of 35 restaurant and bar concepts, six water slides, pools, a climbing wall and mini golf.

Over 70% of staterooms have a balcony and 100 connecting rooms are available.

The 'Dream Mansion' offers two floors of suites, European-style butler service and special guest privileges.

See dreamcruiseline.com.

Sea Princess delay

PRINCESS Cruises' *Sea Princess*, currently on a 103-night world cruise, will arrive into Fremantle today, a day later than originally scheduled, due to anchoring in Esperance on Sat to allow the worst of a strong weather system affecting WA to pass.

The delayed Fremantle call means *Sea Princess* will no longer visit Colombo, and will instead sail direct to Dubai to arrive on schedule.

Princess has confirmed to **CW** compensation will not be paid because the changes to schedule are weather-related.

Lindblad webinar

LINDBLAD Expeditions National Geographic will host a webinar tomorrow at 9am AEST on Baja California and the Sea of Cortez.

The session will be led by expedition product developer Michelle Graves - **REGISTER HERE**.


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Aussie godmother for APT's *ms AmaStella*

APT has announced that Bicton Travel owner Carole Smethurst will be the godmother of its new *ms AmaStella*, with a christening ceremony to take place in Germany next month (TD Fri).

The event will be held in Vilshofen on 14 Jun, with APT honouring Smethurst as "one of Australia's leading travel agents".

As well as heading up Bicton Travel, three years ago she established cruisefinder.com.au as an online cruise agency and has also added Bicton Travel Premium to the stable, targeting the luxury segment.

She'll be joined at the ceremony by APT managing director Chris Hall and APT Group company director Robert McGeary.

The 158-passenger *ms AmaStella* will sail the Rhine, Main and Danube Rivers in 2016 - more details on 1300 196 420.

Costa research plan

COSTA Crociere has announced a new agreement with the Italian National Research Council (CNR) which will see the line collaborate in research into oceanography and marine science.

The pact will also see data gathered by monitoring the sea - such as salinity, oxygen levels and temperature - will be fed to CNR for studies of climate change.

Strong 2017 for SA

SOUTH Australia will welcome 52 cruise ships next season, exceeding the state government's 2020 target for vessel numbers three years early.

The overall figure is up 15 on 2016, with Tourism Minister Leon Bignell saying 28 ships will arrive in Adelaide, along with 19 calls in Kangaroo Island and five visits to Port Lincoln.

The 2016 season wrapped up last week with the arrival of *Sun Princess* into Port Adelaide.

"The fact that we are breaking the 2020 target three years early is outstanding and is testament to the work the State Government is doing to attract more visitors and create a larger demand for South Australia," Bignell said.



P&O has been out and about, introducing its latest offerings through a series of "happy hour" roadshows in New South Wales and Queensland this month.

The four events, in Brisbane on 03 May and last week in Campbelltown, Penrith and Wollongong, attracted more than 280 attendees, with one agent at each event taking home a P&O Sea Break cruise for two.

Pictured at the Brisbane event, from left are: Jenny Magee, MTA Travel; Richard Waugh, P&O Cruises; Maria Tablan, Dalisay Holiday Shop; Pauline Kruisdijk, Escape Travel North Lakes; Emelita Woodley, Dalisay Holiday Shop and Daniella Moore, helloworld Strathpine.

CMV door to door

CRUISE & Maritime Voyages is offering the ability for cruise passengers to pre-book fixed price chauffeur transfers when departing from any of its eleven UK cruise ports.

The offer is via a new agreement with UK cab comparison service minicabit, with bookings made directly with the cab firms.



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

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| SYDNEY | |
| <i>Pacific Jewel</i> | 23 May |
| BRISBANE | |
| <i>Pacific Dawn</i> | 24 May |
| FREMANTLE | |
| <i>Pacific Eden</i> | 24 May |
| GERALDTON | |
| <i>Pacific Eden</i> | 25 May |
| AUCKLAND | |
| <i>Pacific Pearl</i> | 26 May |

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NOT quite your typical shoreside activity.

Police in Cornwall in the UK have come under fire for building a competition-winning sand sculpture of a crime scene featuring a naked woman.

Devon and Cornwall Police apologised after coping backlash for tweeting an image of their creation at the Cornwall Beach Games over the weekend, the BBC is reporting.

The sculpture (pictured below) depicts a sprawled murder victim with a spade in her back, cordoned off by police tape.



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