

CRUISE

WEEKLY



Tuesday 29 Nov 2016

Cruise Weekly today

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

Sushi on Seabourn

SEABOURN'S first dedicated sushi restaurant will be on board *Seabourn Encore* (pictured).

Creatively named Sushi, the restaurant will serve up hamachi, tuna, prawns and other fish offered a la carte for dinner while at lunchtime the venue will feature three bento boxes: meat, seafood and vegetarian.

Sushi will also feature a private dining table for groups, away from the rest of the diners.



New polar ship for OE

OCEANWIDE Expeditions has outed itself as the cruise line behind an order for a Polar Class 6 vessel with Croatian shipbuilder Brodosplit (*CW 15 Nov*).

The 180-passenger, 107m-long vessel will be named *Hondius* and is being touted as "the strongest ice-strengthened vessel in the Polar regions".

To be delivered in 2019, *Hondius* (pictured) will be designed to cater for exploratory programs & activity-based shore excursions in the Arctic and Antarctica.

It will have two separate gangways and an indoor platform that can be used for outdoor activities such as kayaking.

One deck is reserved for an observation lounge with a separate lecture room to offer multilingual lectures and presentations.

"The *Hondius* will give us the opportunity to accommodate



more travellers, to grow as a company, and to offer new, innovative products in the Polar regions," said Oceanwide Expeditions' chief executive officer, Michel van Gessel.

Accommodation will comprise of one 33m² spacious suite, six 29m² suites with balconies, eight 22m² superior cabins with balcony, 19 22m² twin deluxe cabins, 14 twin-window cabins sized 14-16m² & 31 twin porthole cabins, two triple porthole cabins & four quadruple porthole cabins, varying from 13-16m² in size.

Oceanwide said *Hondius* would give it "new opportunities to offer innovative & quality experiences".

Silversea Aussie TVC

SILVERSEA Cruises is amplifying its promotional presence, today launching a national television campaign in Australia.

There are seven edits of the advert, which will be screened on the *SBS Network*, at select cinemas across the nation and in Qantas inflight news.

"We are extremely excited to debut this campaign, which we hope will showcase the truly memorable experiences you can create while aboard Silversea," said Amber Wilson, Silversea managing director Asia-Pacific.

"The team has worked tirelessly to bring this to life and we are very proud of the final product."

Silversea said the push is aimed at highlighting the "extraordinary personal service, vast array of unique and intriguing destinations, as well the space, elegance and comfort which Silversea is known for".

[CLICK HERE](#) for one of the clips.

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Get an update on all the latest cruise news in the November issue of *travelBulletin*.

CLICK HERE to read **travelBulletin**

ACA gets festive with a view



CRUISE industry luminaries raised their glasses at the Australian Cruise Association drinks on Thu to celebrate the end of another successful year.

Hosted at the Port Authority of NSW, guests enjoyed spectacular views over Barangaroo Reserve and out to Sydney Harbour.

ACA chair Stephen Bradford thanked ceo Jill Abel and the board for their hard work and extended his appreciation to all present including groundhandlers, STO representatives from throughout

Australia, hotels and CLIA.

Pictured are: Jill Abel, ceo ACA; Stephen Bradford, chairman ACA and Sarina Bratton, chair Asia-Pacific Ponant.

Fathom's Oz move

CARNIVAL Australia told *Cruise Weekly* there was potential for Fathom's reach and social impact to "extend into our part of the world through a shore-tour experience".

Last week it was confirmed Fathom's only ship, *Adonia* would be returned to P&O Cruises UK and the brand would continue as a shore experience on other Carnival Corp brands (**CW** Thu).

"When Tara Russell, Carnival's global social impact lead and Fathom ceo, was in Australia last month, we took advantage of starting some very embryonic discussions on what this could look like," a spokesperson said.

P&O's 55% pax surge

IN THE 12 months since *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden* joined the fleet, P&O Cruises' pax numbers have topped a record 460,000, a 55% swell on the previous period.

The two ships allowed P&O to open Cairns as a homeport in Sep and bring back Asian cruise holidays, with *Eden* offering a season from Singapore.

This year P&O has visited 17 new ports, mostly on *Pacific Eden*, including the first visits to Honiara and Gizo Island in the Solomon Islands.

P&O Cruises president Sture Myrmell said the addition of *Pacific Aria* & *Pacific Eden* marked a new era for Australian cruising.

"Not only did *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden* introduce a new contemporary look and feel for our cruise line, their arrival made it possible to extend our itinerary offering like never before and build a wide range of new destinations into our schedules," Myrmell said. "It was a big leap to expand our capacity by more than 50 per cent but we knew the demand was there and as *Pacific Aria* and *Pacific Eden* have cruised from ports right around Australia, their stylish look and exciting itineraries have helped to entice more Australians to take a cruise holiday," he added.

Scenic hosted cruises

THREE hosted river cruises have been unveiled by Scenic for 2017.

Getaway host Catriona Rowntree will sail the *Seine* on an 11-day roundtrip from Paris on 19 Jun; author and historian Peter FitzSimons will also cruise the *Seine* on 29 Jun and Ray Martin will host an eight-day Mekong river cruise from Siem Reap to Ho Chi Minh City departing 22 Aug.

See www.scenic.com.au.

American Star stuck

THE American Cruise Lines' *American Star* hit Jacksonville's Main Street Bridge in Florida on Fri, local media are reporting.

An initial review of the bridge showed the damage was "minimal", the Florida DOT said.

Vista arr in PortMiami

CARNIVAL Cruise Line's newest ship *Carnival Vista* sailed into its Miami homeport over the weekend, marking the beginning of a year-round schedule of six- and eight-day cruises to Caribbean destinations.

Prior to the ship's inaugural departure from Miami, *Carnival Vista* captain Stefano Battinelli and PortMiami assistant director Fred Wong (**pictured**) participated in a traditional plaque exchange.



CCC Fiji new portal

CAPTAIN Cook Cruises Fiji has launched a new-look website.

Pages for agents have been included where agents can complete training and access live inventory, high res images, a blog and information on the Fiji fleet. See captaincookcruisefiji.com.

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Cruise Calendar

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

SYDNEY	
<i>Explorer of the Seas</i>	29 Nov
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	29 Nov
<i>Voyager of the Seas</i>	30 Nov
<i>Pacific Eden</i>	30 Nov
<i>Astor</i>	01 Dec
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	02 Dec
<i>Carnival Spirit</i>	02 Dec
<i>Radiance of the Seas</i>	03 Dec
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	05 Dec
MELBOURNE	
<i>Celebrity Solstice</i>	29 Nov
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	03 Dec
<i>Golden Princess</i>	04 Dec
BRISBANE	
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	29 Nov
<i>Pacific Pearl</i>	30 Nov
<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	02 Dec
<i>Pacific Dawn</i>	03 Dec
<i>Legend of the Seas</i>	05 Dec
FREMANTLE	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	02 Dec
FREMANTLE	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	03 Dec
<i>Sun Princess</i>	05 Dec
BUSSELTON	
<i>Sun Princess</i>	04 Dec
PORT LINCOLN	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	05 Dec
ADELAIDE	
<i>Astor</i>	04 Dec
HOBART	
<i>Pacific Jewel</i>	01 Dec
<i>Coral Expeditions 1</i>	05 Dec
AUCKLAND	
<i>Maasdam</i>	01 Dec
<i>Dawn Princess</i>	05 Dec

MSC Seaside float out



THE first of MSC Cruises' two identical new ships, *MSC Seaside* has floated on water.

A float out ceremony was held over the weekend at Monfalcone shipyard for the vessel, which will homeport in Miami as of Dec 2017 and will sail year round in 2018 in the Caribbean.

The vessel will feature 11 dining options, a 360° ocean level promenade, panoramic glass lifts, a 30m bridge on the top deck, 934-seat theatre, six public pools and an interactive aqua park.

MSC Seaside is pictured being transferred to the wet dock.

Princess NZ program

PRINCESS Cruises has released details of its 'Across the Ditch' program, showcasing Kiwi culture, food and traditions on New Zealand cruises (CW 01 Nov).

A series of on board experiences and shore excursions will include insight into aspects of the country's Maori culture including the haka and poi dancing.

Shore excursions include food-themed walks & cooking classes.

Coral in new waters

CORAL Expeditions has begun its first series of South East Asian cruises with its newly refurbished *Coral Discoverer* sailing this week from Singapore to Myanmar.

The Asia program will involve five expedition cruises between now and Feb, visiting the coastlines of Myanmar, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia.

The 72-guest *Coral Discoverer* has undergone a multi-million dollar facelift while in drydock in Singapore, including the addition of six new Bridge Deck Balcony Staterooms and upgrades to its existing 30 staterooms.

Le Boat Nth America

SELF-DRIVE boating specialist Le Boat has launched its first North American operations serving the historic Rideau Canal in Ontario, Canada.

The 200km waterway opened in 1832 and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Le Boat will offer a fleet of 16 Horizon cruisers from a base in the scenic town of Smiths Falls.

Fred Olsen rework

FRED Olsen Cruise Lines has announced an internal restructure, creating a new division for its product and customer service functions.

The new unit will be headed by Clare Ward who has been promoted to director of product and customer services after four years at the line.

Jeremy Hatton has been promoted to head of customer services, while Neil Herbert continues to lead the sales team.

"The intention of these important changes...is to continue to put the customer at the heart of everything that we do," said md Mike Rodwell.



JAPAN is mulling over the feasibility of opening a spa-themed amusement park in Beppu City.

Known for its hot springs, the city's mayor, Yasuhiro Nagano, said the "Spamusement" park would be built if a promo video reached one million views on YouTube, *Stuff.co.nz* reports.

Just nine days later, the video is sitting on over two million views and it is currently unclear when and where the park will be built.

"We are still discussing safety issues, for example, whether we could actually run hot water inside a roller coaster," Michitaka Kubota, spokesperson for the city's tourist department told *The Japan Times* - [CLICK HERE](#).

Cruise Weekly is Australia's leading travel industry cruise publication. An industry-focused PDF edition of *Cruise Weekly* is published every Tue and Thu, and there's also a consumer-facing email newsletter published each Wed - sign up free at www.cruiseweekly.com.au.

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